

Second serve on court

Councillors give club new hope

By CLIFF GREEN

Local Manningham councillors are re-considering a refusal by council to proceed with the building of a sixth court for Warrandyte Tennis Club at the recreation reserve.

The club is challenging council's estimated cost of \$117,800 to build the new court. They believe it can be built for almost \$50,000 less.

Despite a promise to build an additional court, made by a council spokesperson and published in the August issue of the *Diary*, the club received a letter from council in early September, informing them that the court would not be built.

Council's original promise was detailed and unequivocal: "The council is committed to the extra court, not only because the money was allocated several years ago, but also because Warrandyte is one of the few tennis clubs in the municipality with an increasing membership," council spokesperson Kim Behringer told the *Diary* in August.

However, on September 5, club president Mark Bence was told by council's sport liaison officer, Bob Jones: "A report, due to go to council, has recommended that no new tennis courts be built at Warrandyte Reserve, but that upgrade works should take place at the bridge tennis courts, if an agreement can be struck between the Warrandyte Tennis Club and the Warrandyte Lions Club for the shared use of the courts."

"This recommendation comes about as a result of my recommendations and the opinions of councillors Allemand and Young that the expenditure of \$100,000 to build one tennis court is excessive."

According to club president Mark Bence, the \$100,000 quoted cost of the sixth court was council's estimate, not the club's.

"We contacted Tennis Victoria and they requested one of Melbourne's most experienced en tout cas tennis court builders to inspect the site at Warrandyte and provide an informed quote for the job," Mark Bence told the *Diary*.

"The Tennis Victoria-approved contractor recommended a realignment of the existing five courts, allowing the

additional court to be built at the western end, but with less excavation than originally planned. Their detailed costing showed the court could be built for \$68,500. This includes reconstruction of court 5, a cost not included in council's original estimate.

"Council's estimated cost for the construction of the sixth court was \$117,800."

The tennis club requested a further meeting with councillors Young and Allemand, at which a Tennis Victoria representative outlined the practicalities of the new proposal and the credentials of the contractor. "Who, incidentally, is currently used by Manningham council," Mark Bence said.

"An additional problem has been a sewer main that might be located beneath the new court. However, given the proposed siting, we may not have to build above it."

"Even so, a tennis court is not a solid structure. Building it over a sewer need not be a problem. Many structures, such as main roads, are built over sewer mains."

The Mullum Mullum Ward councillors welcomed the club's initiative, which they regard as a completely new proposition.

"Lionel Allemand and I met with club officials," Cr Patricia Young told the *Diary*. "We were thrilled to find they had come up with a better positioning of the tennis courts, which will ultimately reduce the cost of the single court project."

"However, there is still a problem with the rising sewer main. But we're hoping the new positioning of the courts will not encroach on this line. This could make the project viable."

"We'll be happy to look at this new proposition and put it to council for a vote," Cr Young said. "I want to see this court built as much as the club does."

Doncaster council's Open Space Strategy (1991) recognised "Warrandyte as the only area in the municipality where additional tennis facilities are needed".

"This was reaffirmed by council's Warrandyte Reserve Management Plan in 1993," Mark Bence said, "and since this time our membership has continued to grow. Our need for an additional court is now quite desperate. If we had another court we could field additional teams on Monday and Thursday nights. We are turning people away."



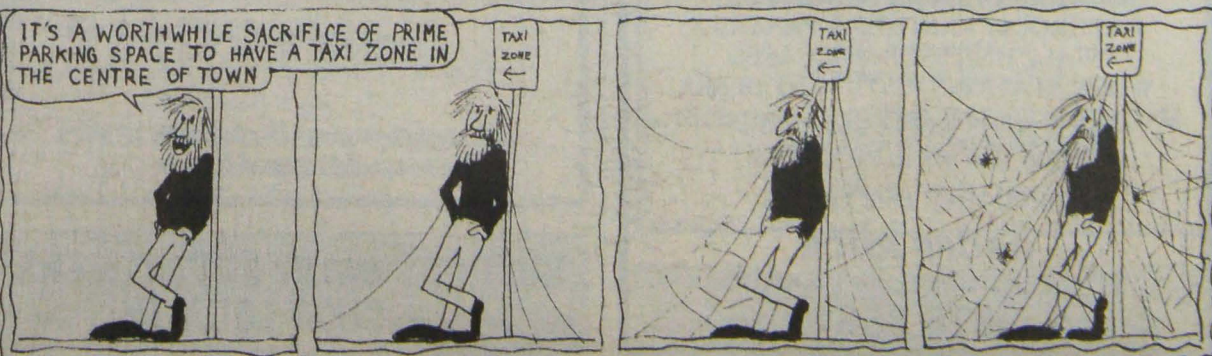
Cr Patricia Young: wants to see the new court built.



No room at the courts: Emily White's junior tennis team will have to play away from Warrandyte club throughout the coming season. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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Bingo and good on you whoever you may be!

Yes, what you may have heard about a big Tattsлото prize coming Warrandyte's way is perfectly true. A woman walked into Philip Phillipou's newsagency at West End late last month, took an 18-game quick pick, registered her entry and walked out. And bingo! Up came her numbers in draw No 1689 on September 27. She was one of seven first-division winners who each picked up a cool \$384,407 (and 27 cents). We don't know who she is and we made no attempt to find out because we figured that unless she was desperate for publicity it was her business. Neither do we know if she was aware of her good fortune before she got home from wherever she'd been a couple of days later and found a joyous message from the Tatts people on her answering machine.

To name them would be to exceed Smokey's portfolio to embarrassment, so we'll identify them merely as a local bloke and an old flame he was on the verge of rekindling. And of course he wanted to impress her, didn't he? Which meant a new bed, seeing his was a single—less than ideal for the consummation of a reblossomed romance—and somewhat saggy anyway (probably age rather than overuse). So out went the old and in came the new, a spacious double bed which promised so much. Unfortunately, it was a little too big to be comfortably manoeuvred single-handed into his rather cramped sleeping quarters and in the process of trying to wrestle it into the preferred position our lusty hero managed to put one end of it through the window. At last report, the glazier still had not arrived and the rekindled love match remained unconsummated.

Local lad Doran Moppert is a mathematics whiz, which makes your columnist quite jealous when he reflects upon his own schooldays of fiascos with figures. Doran, a Year 12 student at Parkwood Secondary College, has won a number of maths prizes during the past five years, but nothing to compare with his latest triumph—a medal for outstanding achievement in the Australia Mathematics Competition, which means he'll now train for the Australian Mathematics Olympiad team. More than 530,000 students from 32 countries entered the AMC and 42 from nine countries were awarded medals. Doran will be flown to Sydney to receive his award from the Governor-General at a luncheon on Cup Day, which is a bit inconvenient because he has maths exams the day before and the day after. Proud mum Fiona says Doran wants to give education a miss for a year "to find out about life" before committing himself to university. Then, who knows? "Perhaps he'll study astrology or carpet weaving, or even be-

IN RED & WHITE



This cute fella (we're guessing it's a fella because sexing sulphur-crested cockatoos is not really our forte) flew out of the wild and into the lives of a North Warrandyte family whose woman-about-the-house had taken to leaving birdseed out for her feathered friends. He lobs most days for a late-afternoon snack and is becoming quite chummy. The family hope to teach him the Hawthorn club song.

come a 'dish pig' at the Grand, as he has done before," said Fiona, "walking home after midnight along the river carrying a rapidly-cooling chicken Kiev."

We're not exactly in the lonely hearts business here at the *Diary*, but were so taken by a personal ad submitted by an out-of-town girl named Sue that we're giving it double exposure—here and on Page 12. Sue met this Warrandyte chap, an accountant named Andrew, at a Lygon Street nightspot last month. He was at a bucks turn and she was smitten. She desperately wants to see him again and on Page 12 tells when and where that can happen. So go for it, Andrew. But please, no long queues of interlopers using assumed names because she knows the genuine article anyway.

We were intrigued (and still are) by the restaurant review in the Herald Sun of September 23 for Mezza, of 104 Yarra Street. Reviewer Siu Ling Hui (whose very name suggests she knows her tucker) began thus: "We were filled with trepidation on the way to Warrandyte, having recently suffered a '70s culinary nightmare there." A '70s culinary nightmare? What the hell's a '70s culinary nightmare? We were not game enough to ask. Anyhow, the lady gave Mezza (pronounced Messair) a big wrap, describing it as a "breath of fresh culinary air to this suburb" and rating it good to excellent.



There's a new *Diary* in town—and are we miffed by that? Not at all. We couldn't be happier. The newcomer is the Junior Bloods *Diary*, the official publication of the very livewire Warrandyte Junior Football Club. It was launched this year and faithfully put together each week throughout the season, largely by Anthony Mirabella and Tony Morello but with a lot of help from a lot of other people. The *Diary* contained up-to-date match reports for each of the club's 11 teams and a lot of other stuff confirming that the WJFC is very big and very wise on communication. Their *Diary* has offered our *Diary* a little free advertising space when publication resumes at the start of next season and we've snapped it up.

The final 1997 edition of the Junior Bloods *Diary* asked each coach, from Under-9s to Under-16s, to nominate his funniest moment of the season and they are well worth sharing with you. Mark Watson (Under-9 Bullets) said his was calling the boys together after a game to sing the club song and congratulate both sides on a great game—then to be told that it was only three-quarter time. Gary Canham (Under-9 Bloods) digressed a little (20 years, actually) to reflect on his own playing days. "I was playing in a team which won by 20 to 30 goals each week, year after year," he said. "It was midway through the 1977 season and we were to play the bottom side. We found it most difficult to gather that pre-game motivation. We were sitting around the change room when the field umpire came in for the third time and told us to be out there in three minutes or he'd start the game without us. We looked at one another and thought, 'Good. Give 'em 10 to 15 minutes start and we've got a ball game.' Fifteen minutes into the first quarter we ran out. My motivation turned to astonishment. I ran to my opposing player and asked him what had happened with the score and he said: 'With our first shot at goal we kicked a bloody point and we've been waiting for your mob to come out and kick it back in!'"

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Facing fire threat at home

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

Remember the days of 40 degrees, long dry grass underfoot, thoughts of "do we stay or leave"?

Remember facing those stiff northerlies every 15 minutes to check the sky, sniff the air and listen for more sirens, wondering where the three Warrandyte brigades were working?

The harsh realism of bushfires, when three people died in the Dandenongs last summer, may recur.

People in fire-risk Warrandyte and surrounding areas can start their preparation for the bushfire season by visiting the Country Fire Authority's fire expo at the Warrandyte Community Centre on Saturday, November 1.

Warrandyte CFA community liaison officer, Jeff Adair, said the expo is to help increase residents' readiness for the summer. "The focus is to inform householders what they can expect from the brigades and what prevention and intervention strategies they should have," he told the *Diary*.

"Active demonstrations of pumps and firefighting equipment will be augmented by two 30-minute presentations in the Mechanics Institute Hall, showing the risks from ember attack, radiant heat and direct flame contact.

"There's everything a householder might need in the trade stands—firefighting pumps, hoses and protective clothing, Jeff Adair said. "As well, the CFA is planning an interactive display with a smoke-filled house simulation to show people exactly what happens in a house fire.

"Five hundred people came through the inaugural fire show last year. That's not many households from all of Warrandyte. People have to realise that in a bushfire there may not always be a fire tanker outside the gate."

Manningham and Nillumbik councils will have stands at the show, as well as Parks Victoria.

"Families who live in the high fire risk areas of Nillumbik and Manningham should be very



All that remained of Victoria's historic first youth hostel at Pound Bend following the 1991 bushfires.

conscious of protecting their family and property against fire," Norm Golgerth, Nillumbik's emergency risk coordinator, told the *Diary*.

"Households need to ask themselves some hard questions, such as: Do we have the appropriate equipment on hand to protect our family and home in the event of a major bushfire? Have we taken all necessary precautions possible to ensure our survival?"

"Early preparation is the key to survival and to peace of mind."

The expo will also feature information about setting up a Community Fireguard group in your neighbourhood.

"Community Fireguard is a community based initiative of

the CFA," facilitator Steve Pascoe said. "The aim is to reduce loss of life and property in bushfires. It is all about small groups of people, generally neighbours, who live in high fire risk areas, taking an active role in their own fire safety.

"By working together, with the assistance of the CFA facilitator, these groups are able to access the latest information and develop personal, family and community survival strategies which suit their particular situation."

Meanwhile, Nillumbik council and the CFA have allocated funds for the provision of a static water supply tank at the corner of Kangaroo Ground Road and Pigeon Bank Lane in North Warrandyte.

Ring road grip tightens

VicRoads are expecting to have a battle on their hands when they try to build the Ring Road connection from Greensborough to Ringwood.

"They are absolutely right, it will be a battle," a spokesperson for the Anti Ring Road Organisation told the *Diary*.

"VicRoads wants to pour concrete over Melbourne's remaining bushland and generate more traffic. But the community is opposed to this monstrous plan. We are preparing to fight hard to defend the Green Wedge."

ARRO was responding to press statements by Rob Gilpin, VicRoads Ring Road construction manager. "This is probably the last of the

sections of freeway where we will be treated as heroes," Mr Gilpin said, in reference to a stretch of the Western Ring Road just completed. He also said that the connection from Greensborough to Ringwood would be the most difficult part to build.

"The powerful road lobby will make a lot of money if the missing link is built. They are forcing this freeway folly on the people of Warrandyte," said the ARRO spokesperson.

"The Ring Road is not justified on ecological or economic grounds. Promises of economic benefit are unsubstantiated—what benefit has the Western Ring Road brought? The only

benefit would be a property speculation bonanza for a few profiteers.

"The community at large will suffer a decreased quality of life due to induced traffic and the environmental devastation of this beautiful area."

ARRO believes that as soon as the Scoresby Freeway Environmental Effects Statement is finished, VicRoads will start to talk openly about their desire to put a six lane freeway through Nillumbik and Manningham. "VicRoads is concerned that any premature revelations may put in jeopardy the construction of their beleaguered Scoresby Freeway," ARRO said.

FIRE SURVIVAL EXPO

Do you have the equipment to protect your family and home in the event of a major bushfire? Are you confident that you can survive in your home? Have you taken all necessary precautions to ensure your survival?

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Kids at risk in cars

There has been much publicity about children in the Crown Casino car park and the dangers of children being left in cars on hot days. It is time I think for the general dangers of leaving children in cars to have an airing.

The other day in the Jewell's car park I saw two toddlers alone in the back seat of a four-wheel drive. The window was down and the older of the two was on the verge of climbing out. Two of us adults ran over and found two cheerful, talk-

DEAR DIARY

ative, well-fed children telling us that their mother had just gone to pick up their brothers from school. When their mother arrived she said pleasantly, "They don't usually try to climb out". A normal happy family.

A few days later I bumped into an old friend who was just

going to put a notice in the *Diary* letterbox, a few feet from her toddler in the car. We talked longer than intended and when we looked around he was climbing over the front seat for the handbrake. Another normal situation.

Getting children in and out of cars is one of the trials of being a parent. Let's think about the consequences when we don't do it.

Louise Joy
Brackenbury Street

Greetings from Yackandandah

I grew up in Warrandyte, and still have many friends there. My parents were also early residents of your district, and all my family retain a lasting interest in our old home town. Your *Diary* helps to keep us in touch.

Each month Audrey Edwards posts her *Diary* to my mother at her hostel in Yackandandah. After she has read it, Wally and I read it, passing on any snippets of news to our married children in Canberra and Cudgewa. We then post the *Diary* to Carwarron in Western Australia, where my brother Robert Stewart and his son Glynn can enjoy the threads of connection with their old home town.

Many thanks for a fine little paper.

Sonja Wolf
Yackandandah

Letters to the *Diary* on local topics are most welcome. Real names are preferred. Pen names can only be used if actual names and addresses are included, even if not for publication.



The *Diary* stays ahead on local news.

Anyone for invisible tennis?

In reply to the statements made by Mark Bence regarding the tennis courts usage.

If as Mark states there are not enough courts to accommodate the amount of people wishing to play—children have to go elsewhere—I suggest he check the times allotted to players. If they are not being used, give that same space to others.

The last two Saturdays have been perfect weather and the courts were not used.

As to Antoinette Thomson, I

cannot help her as to where she is on a Thursday night. I can only tell her she has not been at the tennis courts.

Maybe the other ladies she plays with may be able to help her.

I am not against tennis and believe the Goldtown Tournament is one of the best events in Warrandyte but as it is once a year, I reserve the right to object and to free speech.

Shirley McCartin
Melbourne Hill Road

Hands off youth club

A lot of effort by many people, paid and voluntary, has been expended on keeping Warrandyte Youth Services going over the years since the Co-op began it as The Coffee Shop in 1982.

It is once again in danger of being amalgamated with Manningham Youth Services.

Warrandyte Youth Services needs the support of the community to retain their independence to enable them to continue their compassionate care of our young people.

The two centres obviously meet the needs of two different communities and should liaise with and support one another without amalgamation becoming necessary.

Jean Chapman
Taroona Avenue



Digging deep: Cr Patricia Young breaks ground at Warrandyte's new community garden behind the police station, assisted by Cr Lionel Allemand and Acting Sergeant Ross Timms. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

Gift for garden

By RACHEL BAKER

Development of the Warrandyte Community Garden was given a financial boost last month with a financial contribution from ward councillors of Manningham council.

A \$4000 donation was allocated by councillors Lionel Allemand and Patricia Young, in a move they hope will kickstart financial support for the project.

"Each year the council gives to wards a sum of money. It's up to the ward councillors to decide how they utilise that money," Cr Allemand said.

"We decided to support the garden because it's a community project," he told *The Diary*.

"This garden isn't only for Warrandyte or Park Orchards people. It's for everyone. That's why we decided to support it. It's a wonderful thing, for people to take out their stresses at the garden."

The garden received a permit in August, and although the community has given the project widespread support, its future depends on financial assistance.

"We thought this might prompt others to join in and support the garden financially," he said.

Cr Allemand anticipates the funding will go towards the construction of a gazebo and fence for the garden.

CLYDE & OCKER



"All those players on the tennis courts are cardboard cut-outs, Ock!"

What's On?



AT WARRANDYTE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

BUSH BAND

THE music program at Warrandyte Primary provides many opportunities for students to participate in a wide variety of performance activities. With low-keyed classroom presentations through to the more formal performances of the choirs, recorder groups, and the whole school production probably the most well known of these groups is the Warrandyte Primary School Bushband.

The band was established in 1983 by Kevin O'Mara and consists of many students from grades 5 and 6. Although there have been several music teachers since its conception, and each year brings new students, Kevin is still actively involved with this enthusiastic, talented group.

Auditions for the instrumentalists are fiercely contested as students are eager to play the lagerphones, bushbass, washboard, spoons, wobbleboard and any other instruments that may be added to accompany the songs. The singing of traditional folk songs combined with more modern Australian songs allows the Warrandyte Primary students to retain their Australian heritage.

Over the years the bushband has performed on many school occasions. Outside the school they have played at the Warrandyte Festival, in local kindergartens, for the elderly of our community, on television, at state sports championships, and with great pride for the holy Dalai Lama. Recently the band played at the closing ceremony of the Australian Schools Sport Council—National Cross Country Titles. Their



enthusiastic and energetic display had the audience (including exhausted runners) joining in the singing. This positive response to the bushband is frequently shown by audiences no matter where they

play. Viewing a performance of the Warrandyte Primary Bushband will enable you to understand the pride that the school has in this fantastic group.

Storytime

HAVE you come along to the fun of the Preschoolers Storytime? We welcome all families with 3-5 year old children to join us in this special shared reading activity.

Due to its success in meeting needs of the community and by popular demand, the Pre-Schooler's Storytime sessions in the Warrandyte Primary School Library will now be held fortnightly during Term

4. 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

Revised Term 4 dates are now:

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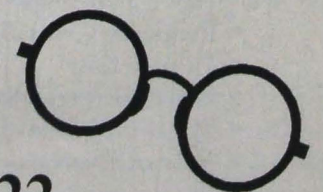
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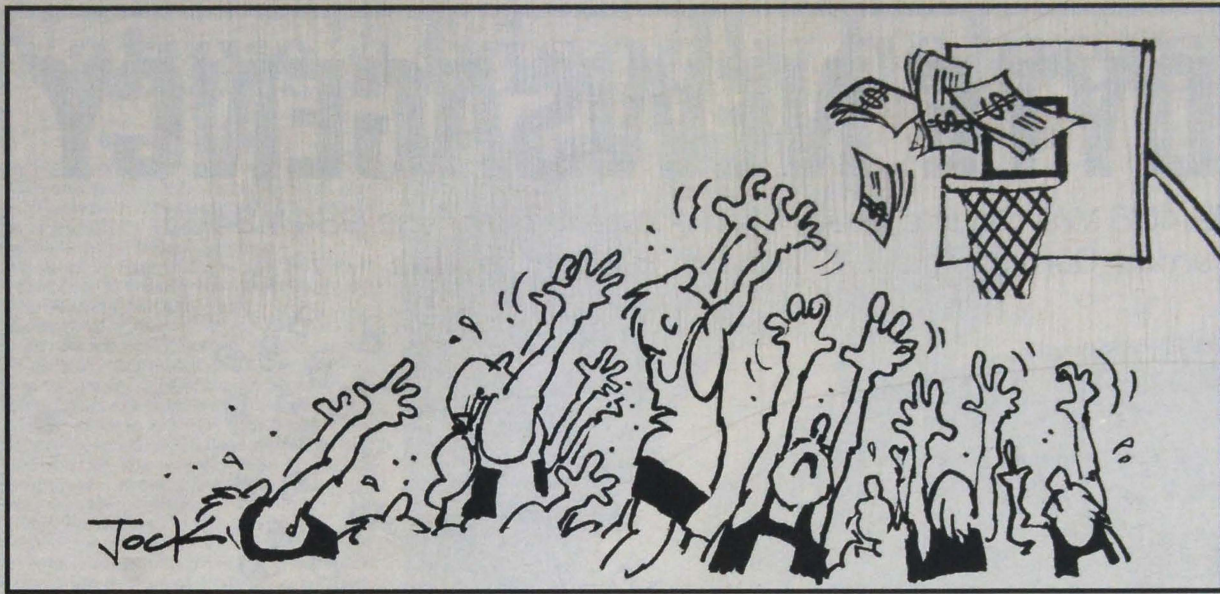
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Basketball stadium funding delayed

By CLIFF GREEN

Manningham council has made no final decision about building a basketball stadium at Andersons Creek Primary School in Warrandyte.

This follows the report in the *Diary* last month that the state government had committed \$300,000 to the project, conditional upon a \$2 for \$1 contribution from council.

Manningham mayor, Cr Bob Beynon, told the *Diary* that the possible development of a basketball stadium at Andersons Creek Primary School is dependent on securing agreement with the Department of Education and the project being "self-funding".

"We would like to ensure a satisfactory agreement can be reached regarding our continued ownership of this proposed

facility if the school ever closed," Cr Beynon said.

Meanwhile, a strategic options study prepared for Manningham council strongly recommends the building of a basketball stadium at Andersons Creek.

"Warrandyte and the surrounding region has a significant population base, including the highest proportion of children, teenagers and young family units in the municipality," the study states.

"The Warrandyte Basketball Club, which is the major community user of the Warrandyte High School stadium, has a membership of more than 400 junior and 170 senior players. It cannot accommodate its entire program at Warrandyte High School and also uses facilities at Park Orchards and Donvale.

"HM Leisure Planning Pty Ltd (in a previous study) confirmed

a strong demand for additional facilities in the Warrandyte area and recommended joint development with the Department of Education of a 2-court facility at Andersons Creek Primary School.

"The proposal to develop a facility at Andersons Creek Primary School also has the strong support of the school council, the local member for State Parliament and the Warrandyte community.

"Whilst the recommended strategy is to avoid capital contributions from council to joint developments on school land, there are special local conditions evident in the case of the proposed Andersons Creek Primary School facility."

However, the study recommends the building of a single court facility at Andersons Creek, to "limit any potential impact on the proposed regional development at Donvale

Sports Centre" (at Mullauna).

One complication affecting council's decision to commit the \$600,000 necessary for the project is believed to be the transferring, to the Andersons Creek project, of funds previously allocated for a refurbishment and extension to basketball facilities at the existing Leeds Street (East Doncaster) stadium, a few kilometres from the proposed Mullauna complex.

However, following pressure from some councillors and the East Doncaster community, council has given an undertaking to refurbish (but not extend) the Leeds Street centre. Where council funding for the proposed Andersons Creek stadium sits in all this is still not known.

Warrandyte Basketball Club are declining to comment until the situation on council funding becomes clearer.



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MANNINGHAM PLANNING SCHEME

NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF PLANNING SCHEME

Manningham City Council has prepared the Manningham Planning Scheme to replace the Doncaster and Templestowe Planning Scheme and the Lilydale Planning Scheme as it related to Wonga Park. This is required by the **Planning and Environment (Planning Schemes) Act 1996**. It is in a new format which contains selected State standard provisions from the **Victoria Planning Provisions**, a municipal strategic statement, state and local policy frameworks, standardised zones, overlays, particular provisions relating to use and development, and a number of administrative provisions and definitions.

The Manningham Planning Scheme incorporates a number of documents and contains new maps applying the standardised zones and overlays to all land within the City of Manningham.

The new Planning Scheme can be viewed and discussed with Council staff from 25 September 1997 until 29 December 1997 the:

**Manningham City Council Offices,
Koonung Room,
699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster**

The Planning Scheme can also be inspected during office hours at the:

Department of Infrastructure,
Level 3 Plaza, Nauru House
80 Collins Street, Melbourne.

- Monday to Friday 8.00am to 5.00pm
- Between 5.00 pm to 9.00pm on 30 September 1997 and 7 October 1997
- Between 10.00am and 3.00pm on Saturday 18 October 1997

Submissions may include comments on:

- How Manningham City Council has chosen to apply the State standard zones and overlays;
- the Municipal Strategic Statement and local policy framework; and
- any local schedule to standard zones or overlays.

Changes to State standard zones, overlays or State policy can only be made by the Minister for Planning and Local Government.

Any interested person may make a submission about the Planning Scheme. Submission must be in writing and addressed to:

Roger Collins
Manager-Economic & Environmental Planning
Manningham City Council
PO Box 1, Doncaster, Vic 3108.

Fax: 9840 9465
Email: roger.collins@manningham.vic.gov.au

For further information please contact the Planning Reform Team on 9840 9368. **Submissions must be received by Monday 29 December 1997.**

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Children's Drama

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SUPPORT LOCAL TRADERS

Nature's friendly helpers

By JENI WILLIS

Needing some new local plants and some advice on natural landscaping for your garden? Friends of Warrandyte State Park is one of Victoria's largest and longest running voluntary "friends" groups.

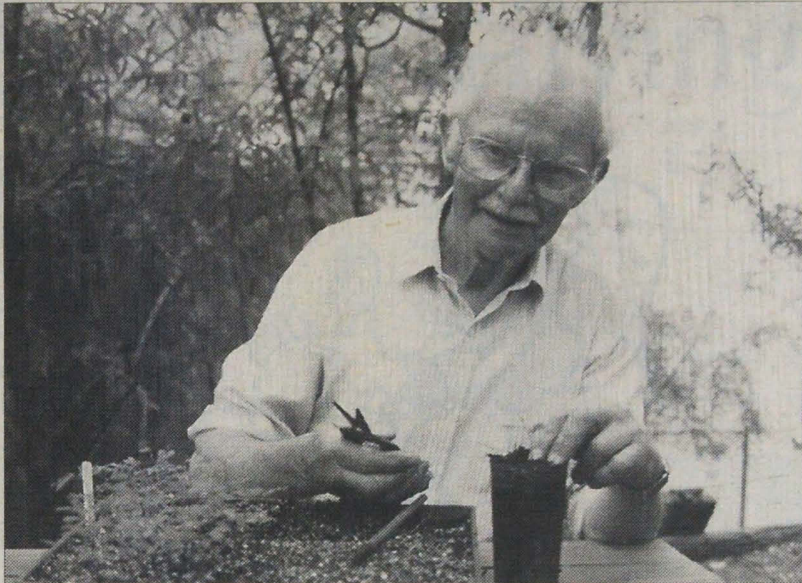
Set up more than 15 years ago, FOWSP is a collection of people who share an interest in Warrandyte State Park.

Plants propagated at the FOWSP nursery are grown for revegetation purposes but also for the community. Members are welcome to plants, depending on stock availability, for use in their own gardens.

FOWSP aims to care for and protect the native flora and fauna of Warrandyte as well as assisting the rangers to maintain Warrandyte's natural heritage. There are plenty of opportunities for all members to actively participate in the group.

FOWSP members are varied in both age and background. This diversity is reflected in the wide range of FOWSP activities. Weekly propagation sessions at the Pound Bend nursery and monthly weekend activities are held within Warrandyte State Park and sometimes further afield.

For those looking to join FOWSP, visit the stall at the Warrandyte market, where a full program is available detailing the regular Thursday and Sunday activities.



Ray Clarke 'picks out' seedlings at Warrandyte State Park. (Picture by Jan Tindale)



Once upon a time a mural was made

Children in grades 3 and 4 at Warrandyte Primary School have created a mural to decorate the exterior walls of the school library.

Titled *Once Upon A Time*, the mural is made of ceramic tiles that depict the children's interpretation of fantasy characters in literature. Completion of the mural coincided with International Literacy Day on September 8.

The mural is a tribute to the creative and diligent work of grades 3 and 4 students under

the guidance of local artist Ron Reynolds. This assistance, together with the generosity of Peter Watson who fired the tiles, allowed the idea for the mural to become reality.

"The involvement of local artists in this project reflects the links between Warrandyte Primary School and the cultural heritage of Warrandyte," said Darryl Furze, assistant principal. "We are proud of our school's long standing relationship with the arts community of Warrandyte."

Warwick about to wander the world

By RACHEL BAKER

Warwick Padgham will trade meat pies and eucalypts for snowfields and meatballs when he leaves Warrandyte next January and heads for Sweden. Warwick, a Year 9 student at Warrandyte High School, will be on exchange for one year. He hopes the experience will give him a "bit more independence".

Warwick's family hosted Shoko Kageyama, a Japanese exchange student, last year, so Warwick is familiar with what happens when a teenager packs up, leaves their family and friends and enters a foreign country, with unfamiliar language and culture.

So he's not worried. He's looking forward to "experiencing a new place and culture". He hopes to become more independent while he's away.

"I want to learn how to manage money without relying on my parents. I want to get more confidence in speaking to people."

Why Sweden? "I like the food," is Warwick's candid response. And he adds, "It seems like a nice place to go to".

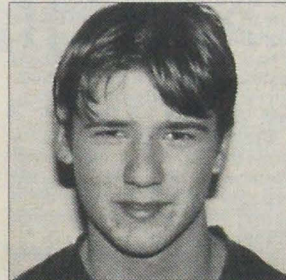
"Also, my dad's cousin's wife is Swedish, so is another

cousin's husband. So there's a bit of family there."

Warwick's family and friends will miss him while he's away, and his return at the end of 1998 will be eagerly awaited by those he leaves behind.

But now Warwick's thoughts lie in making preparations for the trip that could well be the most memorable experience of his youth. "I'm going to learn some of the language before I go," he said.

Warwick isn't sure which part of his exchange he is most looking forward to. "I haven't really thought about it. But I'm excited. I'm looking forward to it all."



Warwick Padgham

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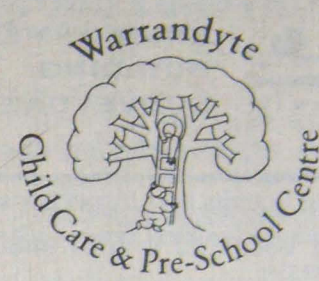
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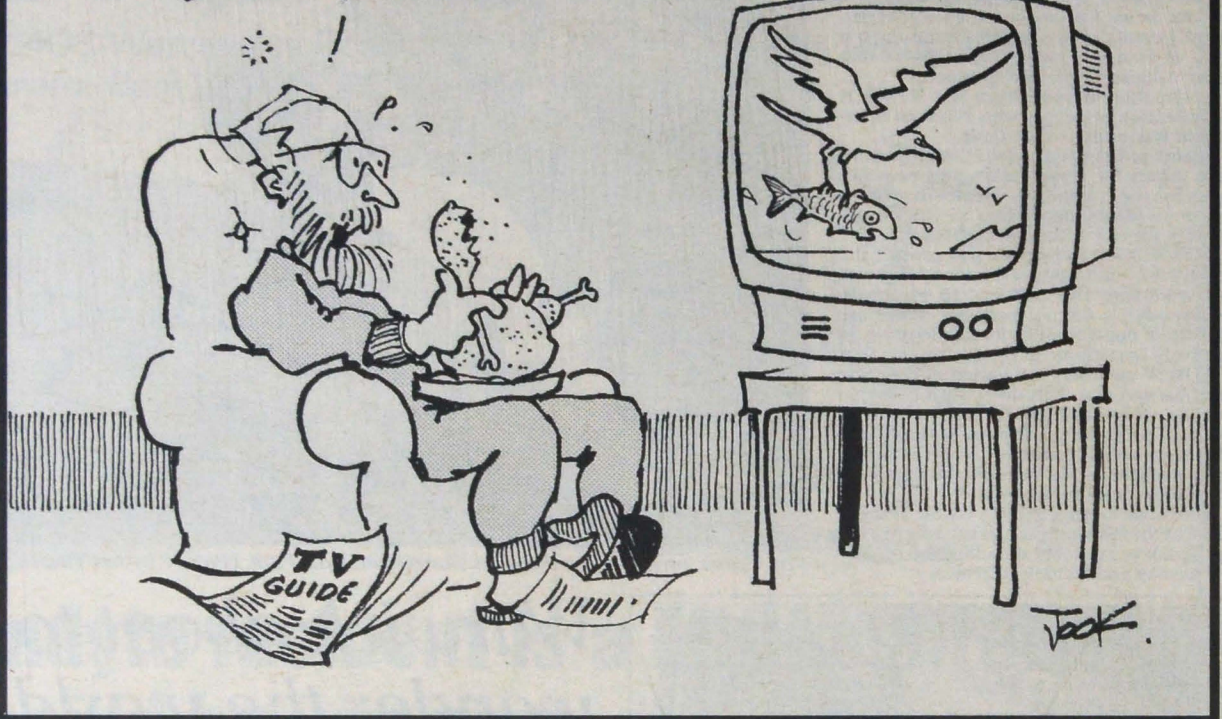
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Isn't nature cruel...



Snore through gore or bemused by news

MUST we have carnage at dinner time on a Sunday night? Herself's question begged the issue of why we would be watching TV whilst eating, instead of enjoying a civilised candlelit dinner with full silver service and Wedgewood crockery.

The reality, however, was a pizza from the local, eaten from both halves of the box, a square of paper towel from the kitchen acting as our double damask dinner napkins.

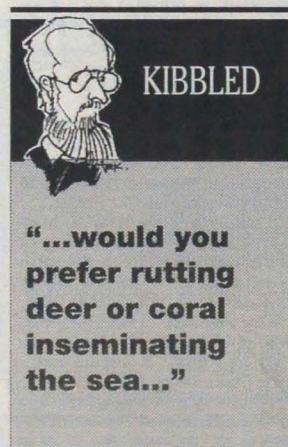
"Who wants to watch lions gouging the jugulars of wild beasts or grizzly bears making confetti from the flesh of young elks?"

"Would you rather rutting deer or coral inseminating the sea under the influence of the full moon?" I offered, not too sure that even copulating prairie dogs was what she was after.

"I don't see why we can't just have animals wandering through attractive countryside. I mean, when we have a film about life in New York or Warrandyte, we don't have graphic shots of the abbatoirs before we see the humans sitting down to dinner."

"But it's all about showing us Nature, warts and all. And killing and copulating are some of the 'warts' or 'all' depending on your predilections."

I was fixed with what I can only describe as a pre-savaging stare as Herself stated with all



"...would you prefer rutting deer or coral inseminating the sea..."

the certainty of an exclamation mark, "But it isn't necessary during dinner time".

Enough said really. And herein lies the plight of the programming director. How do you decide what type of show is best suited to which slot. Is it commercially unsound to place The Life and Good Works of Saint Herself at eight o'clock on a Saturday night? The answer is probably yes, unless it's retitled Sinning with Herself: The Ultimate Climax.

So, having changed channels away from gnawing predators to predatory blondes and boring blokes talking about more appropriate subjects like Thommo's groin injury and Jacko's exploratory surgery on his knee, I got to thinking about the big timing of life, things like,

what happens when and why.

Starting with the most important aspect of life, television. Some things are obvious, like the news programming which runs along the city traffic flow principle. That is, there's the rush period at about 6pm. This catches the Average Joe who joins the Average Joe rush period; having left work at 5pm, ready to sit down at 6pm to a diet of pie and political travel rorts.

Then there's the 5 o'clock news that catches the group who had joined the early rush in order to get the early scoop on political peccadilloes.

The 7 o'clock spot is left for the post-rush rush of professionals who need to make it home to see to whether their rorts or peccadilloes have made it to the news that night.

Other programming is more devious, however.

Channel 2 is sneaky enough to realise that the 6.30pm spot must be reserved for something suitably entertaining for those in the age group who don't like slaughter or sex during dinner. And besides, if they leave it until 7.30pm or 8pm, it might be a show wasted as their target audience will probably be kipping for the odd half hour before waking up to rewire the house or arm wrestle the cat.

No, the whole thing is fraught with imperfections. Why, for instance is M*A*S*H on at 6pm? How appropriate is a series, programmed during kiddy-watching hours, that is all about nationalism, the incom-

petence of authority, sex, cynicism, blood, gore, ineffectual religion, transvesticism, the class conflict, racial stereotyping and how to distil illegal alcohol? Four Corners or Sixty Minutes deal with some of these topics but a programmer would lose his stop watch and rating files if he slotted either of those at 6pm.

And it's not just TV programmers who have trouble. At the Exhibition Building recently, we had two sex shows. One featuring table tap dancers who charge by the garter and the other for those who practise on the interviewing couch and charge through the nose. Just imagine:

"I saw you at the Sexpo. You sly old dog!"

"No, no, no. I was at the other one; the one for medical and counselling practitioners."

"Oh yeah. Ya secret's safe with me. Great wasn't it!"

Or the program coordination of all time when the Aria Awards and the Brownlow were slotted against each other. Was this a stuff-up or an attempt to widen the division between sport and culture; both local and popular?

It seems that nothing is simple. Just when you think you've got it right, someone disagrees or double books. In times past, TV programmers got it right with the Epilogue. No longer. Today, the Epilogue is Rage.

For us, however, the solution is simple. Program all nature shows at 8pm. That way we'll snore through most of the gore.

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The birds of the air are a-whistling and a-flying

A BIRD expert I am not. In fact I have great difficulty deciphering all but the most common bird calls. It's not just a question of learning one call per species. Some birds have quite a repertoire of songs, depending on the situation.

For instance, the in-flight call of a crimson rosella is a discordant, high-pitched screech, but when passively perching, the bird emits a tuneful whistle.

Putting a birdcall into words is a challenge for authors of bird books. One option is to give lyrics to the song, such as 'knock-at-the-door' as sung by the crested shrike-tit. More often the words are just a meaningless imitation of sound which loses much in translation. By using this onomatopoeia approach, the call of the grey shrike-thrush, one of the most melodious songsters of the bush, is reduced to 'pip-pip-pip-ho-ee'. In preference, I find descriptions like trill, twitter, chirp, whistle, cackle and screech of more use. Audio tapes of bird calls are helpful, but flicking through a cassette to narrow down the possibilities can be tedious.

Guided bird walks, on the other hand, are most enjoyable. Although it can be embarrassing when you are the only one in the group who cannot spot the bird. No matter how hard you try, you simply cannot see what everyone else is pointing



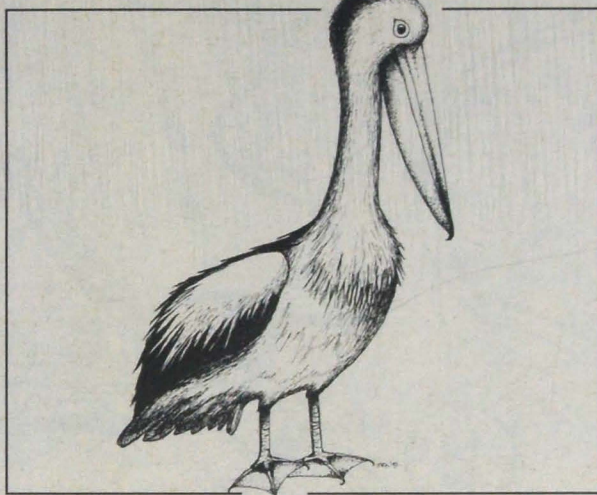
NATURE

By PAT COUPAR
Drawn by MELANIE COUPAR

at. Helpful directions only serve to frustrate: 'the third fork on the right', 'the second tree behind the first wattle', 'just in front of the dead tree'. Finally you are rewarded—a fleeting glimpse of the bird silhouetted against the rising sun, seconds before it flies off.

Not surprisingly, birds are the most intensively studied group of all animals. This is due, in part, to their accessibility. Birds can be found in cities and towns, on farmland and bushland, in freshwater and saltwater. There are birds for all places and there are birds for all seasons too. There are migrant birds which move regularly from one area to another, often travelling considerable distances, in response to seasonal change. Then there are the nomads which move around from place to place in search of food, and in contrast there are the sedentary birds which remain in the same area throughout the year.

The appeal of birds is a combination of colour, shape, sound and movement. The uniqueness of birds are their feathers. Feathers evolved from scales and evidence of this reptilian ancestry can be seen in



the scales on the feet and lower legs of modern-day birds. Feathers combined with a light frame give birds the power of flight. Such infinite mobility. Such freedom. So wild.

I sometimes wonder what it must be like to be a bird. And, if I had the choice, the bird I would most like to be is a pelican. These big, bold, beautiful birds live all over Australia, wherever there is water. Salt or fresh, they don't mind. Pelicans are sociable both in the air, with their graceful formation flying, and in the water where co-operatively they encircle and confuse schools of fish in a wonderfully choreographed display of

synchronised swimming. It is spring in Warrandyte. A busy time for birds. There is a flurry of feathered activity. The migrants are returning, the nomads are still wandering and the sedentaries have seen it all before. Tree-top troubadours proclaim their territories, while courting couples perform elaborate dances for each other. Although I may not be able to tell a weebill from a thornbill, or a quail from a rail, it's enough for me just to know that they are there—building their nests, laying their eggs, rearing their young and to know that they will do it all again next year.

Of other days: dehydrated soup and a packet of sultanas

THE girl at the checkout looked askance at my overflowing shopping trolley. I can't imagine why. Given that a normal checkout scenario is to be trapped behind someone spending their life savings on a mountain of useless-looking groceries, it seems reasonable to assume that checkout staff are accustomed to overloaded trolleys.

After ten minutes of flurried activity at the checkout, I judged it was time to edge the second trolleyful into view. I was a bit apprehensive as to how she'd take to this development. Anger? Panic? What if I got sent to the back of the steadily-lengthening queue?

In fact she got quite excited. Jubilant, you could say. Apparently she'd just notched up, not only her personal best on the till, but possibly set a new store record as well. The number of items purchased actually exceeded the maximum adding capacity of the cash register.

Customers queuing behind me were less impressed. At 8.30 on a Saturday morning, even though their trolleys were likewise chock-a-block, they'd ob-



OUR PLACE

By MARILYN MOORE

viously expected a quick shopping trip. There were at least twelve in the queue by the time I escaped.

The goods which gave rise to the great supermarket traffic jam of 1997 eventually found their way onto our lounge room floor. They remain there yet, tightly packed into an array of large cartons, awaiting the final load-up for a two-week camping trip.

Eighteen litres of UHT milk, 16 cans of fruit juice, a dozen boxes of cereal, dozens of cans of tuna, fruit and vegetables, packets of rice and pasta, flour and eggs for damper and pancakes, chocolate and muesli bars for flagging energy; the list could go on and on. Could four people really munch their way

through all this stuff?

It doesn't seem so long ago that we could fit two weeks' food for two hungry adventurers into a single backpack, along with a sleeping bag and a few changes of alpine-calibre clothes. It was an effort we repeated at regular intervals. But what on earth did we eat in those days? The present catering supplies appear to require a truck!

Well, what did we eat on epic bushwalks? Feasts of garlic-flavoured rice, instant pud that didn't set, Rosella dehydrated splodge, an entire week's ration of cracked eggs, hot oily cheese, tough dry salami, watery rice porridge with the last three sultanas floating miserably in it. Surely these were the exceptions?

It's not the first time I've tried to remember. A couple of years ago we broke a 10-year drought and took the troops on a four-day bushwalk to the Cobberas. Packs which had done nothing but collect dust for years were effortlessly filled with appropriate clothing, tents, sleeping gear, toilet paper, chocolate, port and all life's other little necessities. There wasn't a lot

of room left for food, but no problem. We're old hands at squashing a week's food into a billy.

But no. The kids would divorce us if they didn't get Weet-Bix (better take the biggest box). Milk. Nobody would touch the powdered stuff. Better take UHT. A litre a day should do. Perhaps just the one spare. What if they got really hungry? What if it turned cold? Pancake mix shouldn't take up too much room (safer to take a double quantity). Snow at the Cobberas at Easter is an odds-on bet. Mustn't forget eggs and bacon. Maple syrup for pancakes, vegemite for toast. Just one loaf of bread. And this was breakfast for Day One!

We definitely over-catered. The kids were still able to turn up their noses at meal times. Don't they know that in the bush you're supposed to be cold, hungry and happy to eat anything that doesn't actually wriggle off the plate? Where does nurturing end and education begin?

I've a funny feeling it might begin around the time we try to shift the present load into the trailer.

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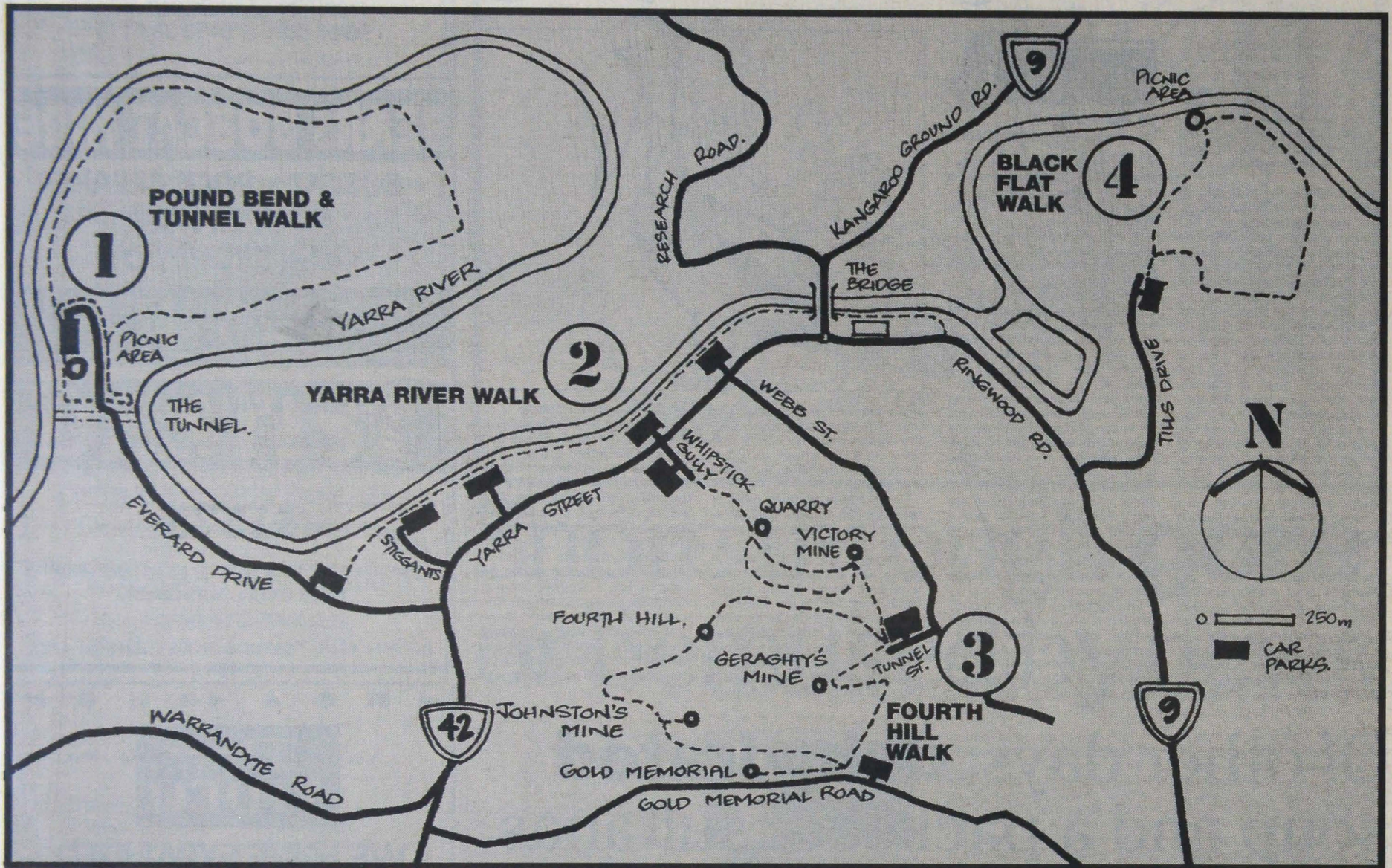
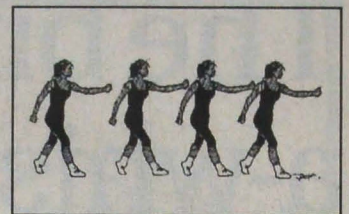
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4 Walks around Warrandyte



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.



Season of sun, rain and life

TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES TIMELINES

4 TRUE SPRING

The weather begins to stabilise with longer sequences of warm days interspersed by occasional stormy changes. Warmth and rain combine to imbue everything with an intoxicating, rejuvenated life force. Many young birds and mammals begin the weaning process and leave nests, dreys and hollows to explore the world as migratory birds arrive to glean the wealth of productivity. The flowering process moves from the hilltops and valleys to the riverbanks and wetlands.

THE droning morning chant of the common bronze-wing pigeon resonates on the tree trunks along the riparian forest. Rhythmic and deeply intoned, it is a morning mantra for the early risers—om, om, om—booming out across the river valley. Flowering manna gums feed red wattlebirds and eastern rosellas, the latter involved heavily in the courting, breeding, feeding, weaning process, a common activity for wildlife during true spring. The newly arrived migrants—sacred kingfisher, rufous whistler and satin flycatcher—busy themselves along the Yarra corridor and dusky woodswallows are already nesting.

Deep under the riverbanks in a breeding chamber of its burrow, platypus lays eggs that will soon hatch. Juveniles of the common galaxid, spotted galaxid, tupong, and Australian grayling are migrating upstream from the sea, passing silver eels and mature short-finned eels migrating downstream to estuaries.

Towards the end of true spring, the river valley becomes the focus of the flowering process with white flowers of burgan, Christmas bush, snowy daisybush, swamp paperbark and tree everlasting dominating the riverscape. Many other plants colour the riverine scene: river bottlebrush, prickly Moses, hemp bush, large kangaroo apple, and amongst the ground flora: spiny-headed mat-rush, thatch saw-sedge, hop goodenia, slender speedwell, matted pratia, matted starwort, and flowering amongst sedges are colonies of Austral leek orchid.

The yearly peak of rainfall usually occurs during true spring and this pushes the river into massive fluvial flows, submerging river islands, force-feeding billabongs and wetlands on the Yarra Flats of the Chandler basin. Assisted by the

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

snow thawing on the ranges around Mount Baw Baw, the water has the power to carve new rivershapes into the alluvial soils of the Yarra Flats, creating billabongs, although damming of the upper reaches lessens their likelihood of new billabongs forming in the future.

Wetlands are pumping productivity levels towards their peak with growing and flowering flushes of many wetland plants, such as leafy flat sedge, river club-rush, tall sedge and water ribbons. Water spiders skate across the water surface, aerially patrolled by dragonflies and damselflies that are emerging. Second layings of egg clusters of lacewings are found on the litter and vegetation around the littoral edge, along with eggs of striped marsh frogs. Tadpoles with variously developed appendages share the pools with a wide variety of invertebrates, such as water fleas, chironomids, water pennies, mayflies, caddis fly and water boatman, producing a teeming abundance of pond life. Food aplenty for growing ducklings and chicks of dusky moorhens, purple swamphen, and Eurasian coot.

Tiger snakes make their presence obvious with a short period of visibility during a fortnight or so of breeding activities early in true spring. This sudden deluge of sightings often panics users of urban parks, such as Westerfolds, into reptilian phobias of exaggerated scale.

Migrants—clamorous reed warblers—call from introduced cumbungi and white-winged trillers are busy nest building. In the Plenty Gorge Parklands, rainbow birds inspect bluestone tailings mounds for possible nest sites. Lathams snipe have returned from Japan, occasionally being killed by hitting the high voltage wires strung along Yarra Flats Park over the wetlands. Resident cattle egret in breeding plumage feed

on open fields of pasture grasses, perhaps on the huge number of young black field crickets flooded from the ground during heavy rains. A golden-headed cisticola—perched on the tall-growing, introduced Canary Island grass—warns off passing pedestrians with vigorous and angry vocalisations.

In a cool gully, wonga vine finds refuge and flowers as does Austral clematis. Migratory birds often use these sheltered sites to nest: the rufous fantail, which has returned to the same nesting site after migrating from New Guinea, the melodious rufous songlark, and the leaden flycatcher. In search of the dome nests of such birds as warblers, scrubwrens and thornbills to parasitise, is the golden bronze-cuckoo. Immature fan-tailed cuckoos are already about, having gluttonously dominated the offerings of others' parents. Mistletoebirds collect fruit from box mistletoe growing on a flowering narrow-leaf peppermint. Rarely observed in the Middle Yarra, a copperhead snake makes its way past a tall daisy in flower amidst a stand of maidenhair fern beginning to desiccate. Mosses also dry out during the later stages of true spring. Ringtail possums begin to wean their young, some of which fall from the mother's back to be rescued by Wildlife Care Network.

Across the valley woodlands, plants representing a broad spectrum of the species' rich flora, are in flower—common buttercup, candlesticks, milkmaids, bulbine lily, twining fringe-lily, chocolate lily, hop bitter-pea, creeping bossaea, common rice flower, austral bears ears, shiny cassinia, grey everlasting, trailing goodenia, spur vella, purple violet, grey guinea flower are some of the plants colouring up the ground flora. Black wattle rounds off the spring flowering season

with its usual prodigious flowering across a range of vegetation communities.

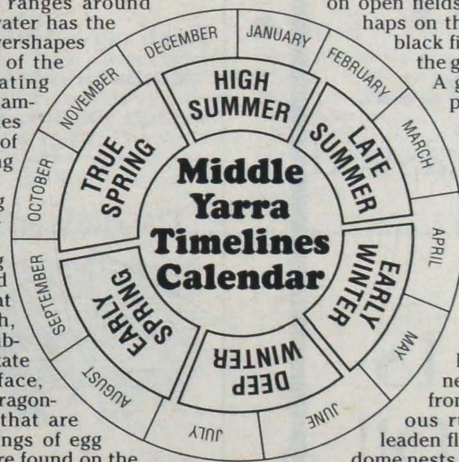
It is the season to see a great range of orchids such as purplish beard orchid, rusty greenhood, bearded greenhood, green comb spider, dotted sun orchid, salmon sun orchid, common bird orchid, cinnamon bells, and on hot, still October days of perfect true spring weather, slender sun orchids come out in their thousands.

Magpie moth and grapevine moth are busy over their food plants and termites are in flight during humid weather. Jewel spiders are a common sight as are clusters of sawfly larvae, but it is the butterflies that seem to dominate the hot blue skies. Imperial white, Australian admiral, painted lady, spotted skipper, lesser wanderer, common grass blue, common dusky blue, woodwhite, symmous skipper, yellow-banded dart and common brown bring colour and movement of heavenly proportions.

Young rabbits are prolific and provide food for young red foxes, in what seems an unbroken food web imported from Europe. Mudlarks have fledgelings which never seem to fall out of nests with the same frequency as young magpies. King parrots pass through the Middle Yarra Valley and short-beaked echidnas are often observed on long treks across their country, sometimes through backyards of the urban-rural fringe. Blue bottle wasps, the female an iridescent blue, are also regularly observed on the hot days of true spring, clambering along the ground, awaiting the male to lift her to the skies on the nuptial flight.

On hilltops more orchids are on show—alpine orchid, leopard orchid, tiger orchid, donkey orchid and brown beaks. Native flax, button everlasting, yam daisy, grass trigger-plant, common apple berry, blue pincushion and sticky everlasting add to the riot of floral embellishments on the ground. On some north-facing escarpments in Warrandyte, plum-leaf pomiderris has spectacular displays of its golden flowers. In huge migratory waves, along flight paths from breeding areas in northern Australia, comes a cavalcade of caper white butterfly, cavorting on the currents of warm spring winds.

Warm weather stimulates mole-crickets and field crickets to call at dusk. Night brings out emperor gum moths, red-lined geometrid, green-blotched moth and the granny moth under skies dominated by the stars Altair, Hamal, Achernar, Lyra and Canopus. If unusually strong northerly winds prevail during the migration of bogong moths to the mountain tops of the Australian Alps, there may be large influxes of this moth into Melbourne. Sometimes the powerful owl is heard calling strongly, but it is the almost querulous conversation of the willie wagtail, carried out on balmy true spring evenings, that captures my imagination as I wonder what timelonic observations are being made from the nest at the bottom of the garden.



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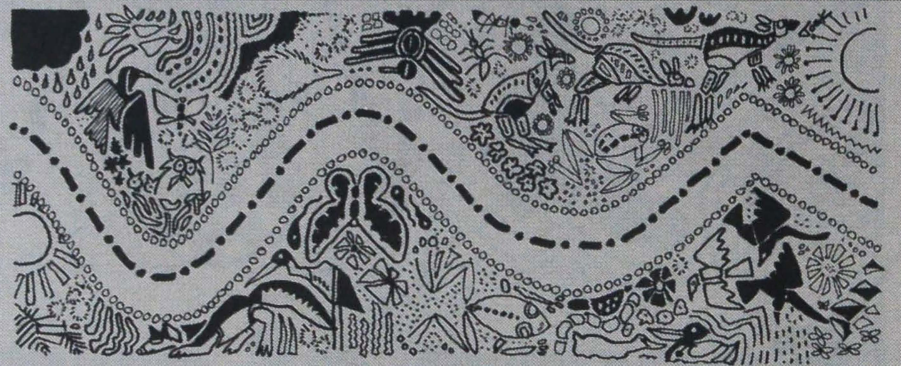
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Each card, measuring 21cm x 10cm, features one of the designs, printed in black on a distinctive background colour representing each season. Inside is the message 'Season's Greetings' and a short description of the Timelines concept.

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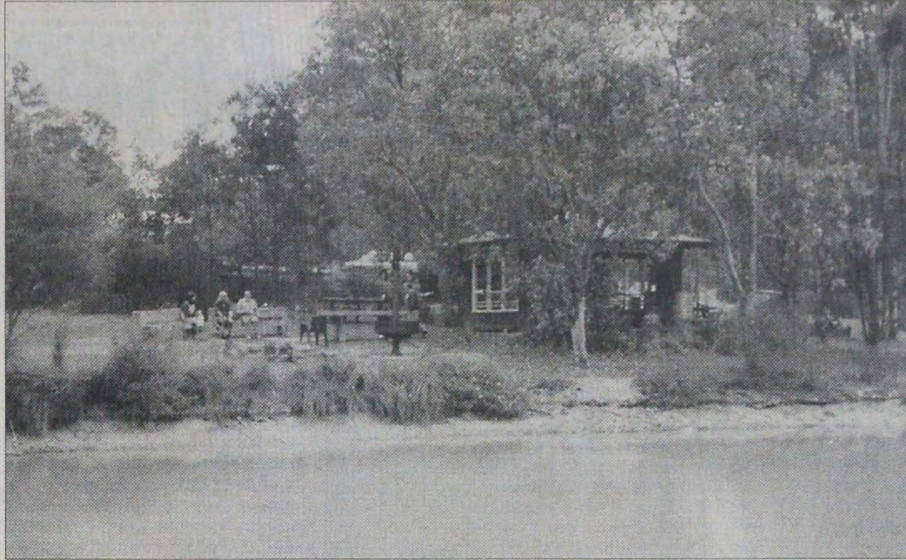
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● All profits will go to the Warrandyte Diary Equipment Fund.

● Further enquiries, call Judy Green on 9844 2096.

Women's business

Warrandyte Youth Services is presenting Celebrating Young Women, a project for women aged 17 to 25. This is a unique four-week program exploring issues relevant to today's young women. It will cover such topics as empowerment, self esteem, intuition, body image and creativity and will foster participation, discussion and creative interaction in a supportive environment. It will be held at the Warrandyte Community Centre on Wednesday evenings, October 22 and 29 and November 5 and 12 from 7.30 to 10.30pm. Cost is \$30 (\$25 concession) for the four-week program. Facilitators will be Lisa Harris and Leanne Skipsey. For registration or further information contact Lisa on 9844 2985, Mondays or Wednesdays.



Friends of Warrandyte State Park's Folly and Frogland at the park depot at Pound Bend. FOWSP membership is open to all. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

Seniors

Warrandyte Senior Citizens will present their 35th birthday concert at their clubrooms in Taroon Avenue, on Thursday, November 13 at 1pm. All welcome.

Reunion

The Warrandyte Child Care and Pre-school Centre is holding a reunion day at the centre on Saturday, October 11 from 12noon until 4pm. All past staff and families who have used the centre are most welcome.

Celebration

Warrandyte Lions Club recently celebrated their first 25 years with a dinner at the Park Orchards Chalet. Approximately 100 members, partners, past members and dignitaries attended. Manningham city mayor, Cr Bob Beynon, proposed the toast to Lions International. Formal proceedings were conducted by the club's second president, Ian Abell. Charter president Lance Vizard (deceased) was represented by his widow, June Vizard.

Fete

Anglican churches St Stephens (Warrandyte) and Emmanuel (Park Orchards) are holding their annual fete at St Stephens, Stiggants Street, Warrandyte,



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from 9am to 2pm on Saturday, November 1. Activities will include numerous stalls, games, lucky dips, a raffle and lots more.

Irish

Wonga Park Primary School will be fundraiser for the next Irish Night with Riley's Boot, to be held at Warrandyte's Grand Hotel on Friday, October 24. Arrival time is 8.30 for 9pm. Cost is \$13, including supper. Tickets can be booked on 9844 3202, and must be collected one week in advance.

Breastscreen

Maroondah Breastscreen are promoting Australia's Breast Cancer Awareness Day on Monday, October 27 to encourage women to make breast health a priority. The Maroondah service offers free screening mammograms for women 50 and over at its centres in Ringwood, Box Hill and Boronia. If you are due for a mammogram, which is recommended once every two years, call 13 20 50 for an appointment.

Nobodys

The Fabulous Nobodys Theatre Company is presenting Guys and Dolls at Karralyka Theatre in Ringwood from October 3 to 18. Bookings on 9873 8463.

Wildlife

The next Green Wedge Environment Seminar, to be held at the Warrandyte Community Centre, will be conducted by Andrew Bennet on Wildlife Corridors on Thursday, November 6. Enquiries to Bill Mallinson on 9840 9338.

Emergencies

WIN Support Services conduct an after-hours emergency service in a number of municipalities, including Manningham. The program is funded by the Department of Human Services and anyone who is aged or disabled is eligible to receive help. Call 9687 7066.

Arts

Manningham Gallery is presenting The Artist As Teacher exhibition at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster, from October 3 to 19. The exhibition explores the important role many professional artists play as teachers of their craft. Artworks in ceramics, glass, oils, pastels and watercolours will be on show and for sale.

School

Mont Albert Central-Primary School is holding a reunion and fete on Sunday, November 23, from 11am to 8pm. Ex-students and others are welcome to join in these birthday celebrations. Enquiries to Keith Johnson on 9844 1058.

INFORMATION

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Redbacks win seven, but 10 others escape

Bloods look to big '98

Warrandyte Football Club's annual general meeting will be held at the clubrooms on Wednesday, November 12, starting at 8pm.

This is a particularly important meeting for the Bloods, relegated to EDFL Third Division after winning just one game in 1977 but determined to make the return trip to Division 2 very quickly.

All members are urged to attend.

Club president Jeff Evans, who will be seeking re-election, has had discussions with a number of prospective senior coaches since Warrandyte's 1997 season ended and discussions are continuing.

A coach is expected to be appointed before the AGM, with the Bloods anxious to get on-field preparations for next season under way as early as possible.

The club will hold a calcutta night at the Grand Hotel on Cup Eve (November 3) starting at 7.30. A most entertaining evening is assured.

By DAMIAN ARSENIS

Warrandyte Basketball Club won seven premierships and had 10 runner-up teams in the EDJBA junior competition which concluded on September 13.

On a day of missed chances for several sides, three of the nine boys teams which contested grand finals walked away winners. Remarkably, all were under-11 sides, including the 11A2 boys coached by Gavin Whitmore.

Whitmore had five teams playing off for the blue flag, surely a record, and successfully steered the 11A2 youngsters to a 15-point win over Koonung. Danny King put in a solid performance and was duly named the game's most determined player (MDP).

The Redbacks' second under-11 team, coached by Dianne Godwin and Lorraine Parfitt, were also victorious. After a consistent season the boys capitalised on their opportunities at the business end to record a good win.

Kevin O'Mara's under-11s also won.

SPORT



Having won through to the big game the hard way—via the preliminary final—the boys were ecstatic at capturing the blue flag. Caydern Douglas was judged MDP.

The big day proved to be slightly more successful for the girls with four of the Redbacks' eight teams succeeding.

Again, Whitmore who was busiest, doing the rounds of three venues. Unfortunately, only his 13A2 girls were able to win. They put in another stellar performance and were always on top.

Lorraine Parfitt claimed a second championship when she guided the 13B2 girls to a hard-fought win. In a match which was close throughout the girls eked out a small lead early in the second half and were able to hang on.

Another hard-earned win came from the 9C1 girls coached by Paul Sleeth. The

little team—made up of feisty contributors—played to their best and claimed a morale-boosting victory for the club.

The 17C3 girls of Ian Hodgson also had success. Despite an injury to Kate Fricker, the girls pushed to an early lead over Marcellin. With some hustling defence they were never headed and won comfortably. Of the unsuccessful sides, Whitmore's 19B girls could consider themselves most unlucky.

Playing arch rival Heidelberg the girls lost a controversial game marred by technical fouls and questionable umpiring decisions. It was these decisions which ultimately swung Heidelberg's way as they went on to win in overtime.

Whitmore's 15A girls failed at the final hurdle in their bid to repeat as champions. The highly-fancied Bulleen side outplayed them in a tough match.

Whitmore's fifth team for the day also came up on the wrong side of the ledger. His under-11 boys were not able to repeat their semi-final success and were

beaten narrowly—despite Hamish Fox's MDP performance.

Although outplayed in the final, Wendi Hawley's under-9 boys had a great season. Regularly challenging their more fancied opponents, they were just not quite good enough on the day to win, although some compensation came in the form of Beau Tobin's MDP award.

Natalie Ansell's under-9 boys and Dionetta Arsenis' 11D1/2 girls both found the going too tough while Kerry Cleaves' under-15 boys also went down, despite the MDP efforts of Liam Comrie.

David Kerr's under-17 boys lost to Yea by 12 points—despite Rory Pearson's MDP game. The other unfortunate finalists were Aaron Jenkins and Matt Treeby's under-11 boys and the 15D2/2 girls of Nigel Walsham.

The presentation of trophies to all players from grand final teams will be held on Sunday, October 19, at Warrandyte High School stadium. Activities begin at 10.30am.

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We're bushwhacked!

By CLINTON GRYPAS

The first day of the new cricket season provided little hope of inspiration for a turnaround in Warrandyte's flagging sporting fortunes.

The Bushrangers' Chandler Shield eleven were bundled out for just 97 runs on a slow Kilsyth ground.

With our relegation-bound footballers still licking their wounds after a dismal 1997, the opening of the Ringwood District Cricket Association season had been regarded as hopefully the first step in the resurrection of this town's proud sporting history. But the first day of a two-day game against Kilsyth did nothing to suggest that.

For the first time in recent memory the weather allowed the season to start on schedule. But the sunshine was one of the few bright spots for the Bushrangers on a day in which the club's batting inadequacies of the past were again exposed.

Not since Jon Sharman led by example as captain-coach several years ago have the first-eleven batsmen been able to offer real support to their bowlers. This season does, however, offer hope for improvement, with new captain-coach Paul Montgomery and opener Nick Fazzolari joining a returning old face—Greg Tregear—in the batting line-up. These three topscored against Kilsyth with 33, 18 and 22 respectively. No other batsman was able to find his way past four.

But for a 27-run last-wicket partnership between Montgomery and fast bowler Gerald Walshe, Warrandyte would have succumbed for an embarrassing total of 70.

Montgomery remained positive despite the poor start to the 1997-98 campaign.

"I told the guys after play that

SPORT



it was certainly not the best day's cricket they were going to play this season, but it probably wasn't the worst either," he told the *Diary*.

"The real positive to come out of it was how hard we fought when we were in trouble," he said.

"Scoring runs was very hard out there, with a tough outfield and some tight bowling. A score of 200 would have been excellent and 150 very good, but 97 still gives us something to bowl at.

"If we break the game down into quarters, it was probably the second quarter which cost us dearly."

It was in this "quarter" in which the Bushrangers collapsed from 1/33 to 6/49 just before lunch.

Aside from Fazzolari's 18, the top end of the card was not pretty reading—Shane Baker caught for a duck despite a 40-minute stay at the crease, David Mooney bowled without scoring, Tony Sturesteps trapped leg-before for four, Nick Brisbane run out for one and Nigel Peterson caught without troubling the scorers.

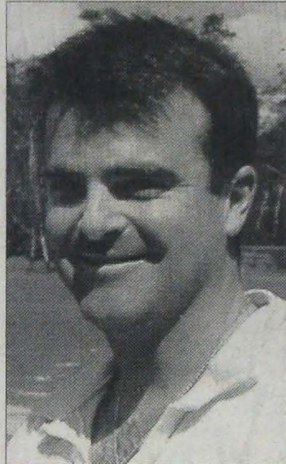
Tregear stabilised things with a typically gritty innings, but when Chris Snaidero was bowled for two it was 9/70 and desperate trouble.

Montgomery and Walshe restored a shred of respectability, however, with their last-gasp 27-run stand from 19 overs, the skipper eventually caught for a gallant 33 compiled in 106 minutes.

The scoring rate had been painfully slow, the runs coming from 74 overs at a rate of just 1.3.

Kilsyth negotiated their way through five overs to be 0/8 at

Sharman in their sights



Jon Sharman ... spectator.

Warrandyte Cricket Club officials have not given up hope of enticing former captain-coach and star batsman Jon Sharman back into the fold this season.

Sharman led the Dytes into the Chandler Shield final in 1994 before work commitments took him to England. He was an interested spectator at the Bushrangers' first game of the season at Kilsyth, heightening speculation of an imminent return.

"We're unsure at this stage if he's coming back to us," the club's new captain-coach, Paul Montgomery, told the *Diary*.

"We've certainly invited him back to play for us. We'd love to have him in the team."

"He is a former club stalwart and we'd be delighted to have him lining up with us."

Greg Tregear, another former captain-coach, has already returned to the Bushrangers. Few players in the RDCA value their wicket and defend it as staunchly as Tregear, who made 22 in his comeback innings.

"It's just great top have him back at the club

after a season off," Montgomery said. "He and Jon Sharman are probably the best batsmen the club have seen over the past 10 years."

A surprise recruit is opening batsman Nick Fazzolari, who impressed with his 18 runs in difficult conditions in 95 minutes at the crease.

"Nick's is a great story," Montgomery said. "He came to us from the Moomba Park club but hadn't played for the past four or five years."

"What got him back into the game is the fact that he lives less than 500 metres from the Warrandyte reserve. He did a Paul Meldrum, just walked in off the street looking for a game."

"He impressed us and we're rapt that he has started the season so well."

Steve Bell, one of Warrandyte's most consistent run-getters over the past two seasons, will be missing from the Bushrangers' battery until December because of work commitments with the Victoria Racing Club.

stumps.

Montgomery stressed that Warrandyte were in the competition to make the finals—"not just to make up the numbers".

"We have a number of good players coming up through the twos who will be putting pressure on the others," he said.

"There is a very good feeling around the club, not just with the firsts but with all the grades."

WCC administration manager Steve Pascoe agreed. "There is certainly a buzz around the club," he said. "The atmosphere here last Thursday night after the final pre-season training session was terrific."

"Paul has done a fantastic job whipping up enthusiasm and preparing the players for the season."

Second eleven captain David Gee described the club as a "different place from last year".

"There is a lot more purpose around the club and hopefully that will be translated into results on the field," he said.

The second eleven are in a winning position against Kilsyth, 0/25 after bowling the visitors out for 168. Veteran spinner Mark Davis did the damage for the Dytes, taking 6/60 in a marathon performance.

The three had a field day, finishing on 1/253. Luke Revell made an unbeaten 96, Pascoe retired hurt on 73 after a blow to the nose and Anthony DeLeo and Andrew Jarvis each contributed 36.

Youngsters Jason Cloke and Andy Gay were the heroes of the fourth eleven's innings of

151, putting on 71 runs for the last wicket. Cloke made 65 and Gay an unbeaten 28.

Warrandyte are on course to field six teams in the junior competition, which starts this Saturday (October 11) but still need players for the Under-16s. They are also seeking more players for the senior one-day team.

"We'd welcome new players to strengthen the ranks right down through the grades," Pascoe said.

Cricket details

FIRSTS: Warrandyte 97 (Montgomery 33, Tregear 22, Fazzolari 18) v Kilsyth 0/8.

SECONDS: Warrandyte 0/25 v Kilsyth 168 (Davis 6/60).

THIRDS: Warrandyte 1/253 (Revell 96 n.o., Pascoe 73 ret hurt, DeLeo 36, Jarvis 36 n.o.).

FOURTHS: Warrandyte 151 (Cloke 65, Gay 28 n.o.) v Kilsyth.

Fun and games at the cricket club

Warrandyte Cricket Club will hold a Trivia Night at the clubrooms on October 18. It's \$5 a head for tables of eight, BYO supper. A great chance to

air your knowledge. Melbourne Cup Eve is Frog Race Night, a fun family evening, admission free, again BYO supper



Winning grins from (left) Janine Phillips, team mascot Matthew, Michelle Gilling, Andrea White, Kim Edwards and Lyndal Mackintosh, Warrandyte's victorious women's pennant team.

Queens of the court

By JUDY GREEN

Grand final victory came to Warrandyte Tennis Club's women's Grade 5 team playing in the Tennis Victoria Pennant competition recently. They defeated Boronia, winning five of the six rubbers played.

Team members included Michelle Gilling, Janine Phillips, Kim Edwards, Lyndal Mackintosh and Andrea White. The finals series, involving five matches, was prolonged due to a washout and the replaying of a semi-final draw.

In the Eastern Region Tennis junior competition, five Warrandyte teams reached the grand finals of the winter season. Four of these were

successful.

Winners' flags were brought home by: Mixed 9 (Aiden Davey, Chris Chapman, Katrina Sochaki, Sharon Berry and Esther Waterham) defeating Donvale, six sets to two; Mixed 14 (Rod McCutcheon, Joel Drew, Josh Casey, Kirsty Moegerlein, Emily White and Linda Stanzel) defeating Parkwood Green, five sets to three; Boys 15 (Adam Atkins, Steven Parke, Brenton Rogers, Liam Comrie and Ben Naughtin) defeated Currawong, five sets to one; and Boys 19 (Will Rogers, Trent Valentino, Jonny Drew, Ben Mason and Ian Fahy) defeated Lilydale, four sets to two.

At home on the Yarra

Warrandyte High School's proud record of sporting achievements was further enhanced last month with some outstanding results in a field quite new to it—canoeing.

It had the smallest of the 14 teams in the Victorian Schools Canoe Slalom and Downriver Championships, but finished a very creditable seventh.

Warrandyte's big winners were Year 7 students Alistair Coates and Sandra Coull, who took out the under-14 mixed CS event. Their time on the course from Jumping Creek reserve to downstream of the Warrandyte Bridge was 25.12 minutes and they won by "miles".

It was a triumph for their coach, VCE student Elise Hodgson, who had worked extremely hard to get a team together for the titles.


Elise was not so fortunate, however, when it came her time on the river. She was first to finish in the girls' 16 KI in the excellent time of 20.02 minutes—but her joy was short-lived. Another competitor was declared the winner, apparently on a better time recorded in another race.

Warrandyte officials were bemused by the decision but Elise, who was also third in her slalom event, took the disappointment well.

Nellie Hodgson was fourth in a blanket finish to the under-14 girls' KI and Damien Johnston was eighth in the biggest event of the day, the boys' 16 KI, after suffering an asthma attack.



Sandra Coull and Alistair Coates receive their state championship medals.



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