

FULL 1998 WARRANDYTE FESTIVAL PROGRAM INSIDE

Service station out

Suspect fires

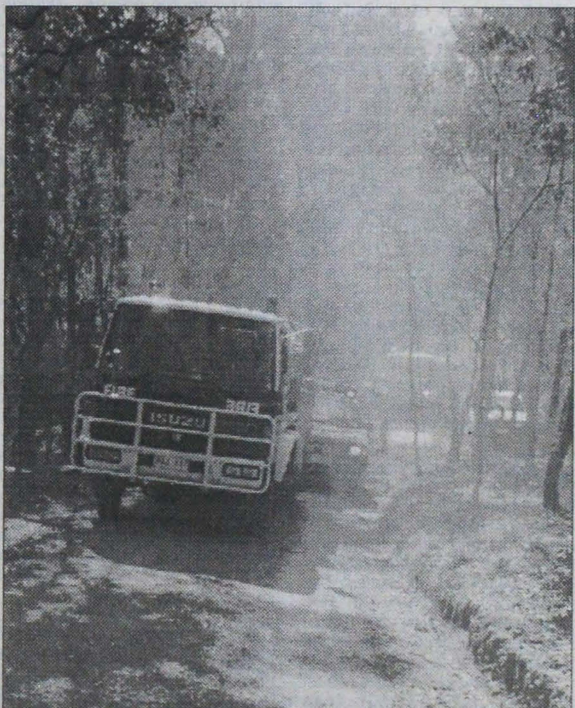
A firebug could be operating in the Fourth Hill area of Warrandyte State Park.

Units from the three Warrandyte brigades attended a fire in a gully below Webb Street early this month.

"The brigades responded quickly, the weather was calm and the fire was brought quickly under control," a Warrandyte CFA spokesperson said. A police helicopter patrolled the area and the fire was out by 5pm. About a hectare of bush was destroyed.

Then a report came through of another outbreak close to Geraghty's mine tunnel, below Fourth Hill. This was also extinguished quickly.

These fires follow a similar outbreak in Whipstick Gully late last year. "The weather was calm on each occasion," the spokesman said, "otherwise any of these incidents could have been serious." Police are investigating.



CFA units responded quickly to a fire below Webb Street. (Pictures by Judy Green)

By RACHEL BAKER

In a major victory for Warrandyte residents, the proposal to build a large service station development on Yarra Street was abandoned by Manningham council late last month.

The development—which included a 24-hour, 7-day petrol station, convenience store and 4-bay carwash—was fiercely opposed by many Warrandyte residents.

Tim Umbers, who helped organise opposition to the project, said he was "very pleased" with the result.

"(The development) was pretty much a sure thing, and (council) sprung it on us just before Christmas. But we were able to mobilise opposition in time," he said.

Resistance to the proposal came from a large number of residents, both in and out of Warrandyte. Tim Umbers believes at least 500 people signed a petition against the proposal.

"I think that our opposition was fundamental. I don't think it was the councillors at all that quashed the development—not until they saw the groundswell of opposition that arose from the residents," he said.

The development would have included 400 square metres of buildings and 750 square metres of bitumen, on land presently occupied by Riverview Motors and an adjacent house. It would have required excavations up to 4.5 metres deep, and featured a seven-metre high, illuminated "monolith" sign.

Such a proposal would have necessitated an amendment to the planning scheme, because the site is in the Warrandyte Environmental Residential Zone.

Following the overwhelming rejection of the project by local residents, council decided that the development was "incompatible with the character of the locality and the streetscape".

"The proposed development was initially considered to be of potential strategic value due to the carwash facility with a pollutant trap, and a petrol station which could better serve visitors to Warrandyte," the officers' report to council stated.

"As a result of the exhibition period, it has become clear that there are strongly held concerns about the proposal. The local community have strongly responded against the proposal and these opposing submissions have also extended to visitors to the township.

"There is a strong sense of affinity with Warrandyte's 'unique character', and a united viewpoint that the proposal is inconsistent with the locality's character and streetscape." The proposal was officially abandoned by council at a meeting on Tuesday, February 24.

However, council has indicated that proposals to redevelop the site under the existing Environmental Residential Zone will be considered, providing they do "not not lead to an intensification of the existing use; be in keeping with Warrandyte's character and the character of the neighbourhood; and be in keeping with the streetscape of Warrandyte".

"I did not approve, at any stage, of the huge development that was proposed for this site," Cr Patricia Young told the *Diary*.

"This was obviously an overdevelopment of the site and would cause a great deal of problems for the residents next door and would change the character of the area.

"However, the owners do have rights to continue running a service station there, they have a right to continue to make a living like the rest of us. There is a need to upgrade the service station, but it should not be something that dominates the surrounding area," she said.

Wedge subdivision 'still on'

By DAVID WYMAN

The latest submission to Manningham council to amend the planning scheme to allow a one lot, one house subdivision on a South Warrandyte property in the Green Wedge has been rejected.

But the matter does not end there. Council has asked the proposer, Mr Vorach Brodsky, who is blind, to prepare a more considered plan. And there is no no time limit.

It is understood that council staff have told councillors that the submission by Mr Brodsky did not conform to the requirement of the council resolution, which was made on "compassionate grounds". The *Diary* also understands that the submission by Mr Brodsky did not have any detail of how the property may be affected by the subdivision.

If Mr Brodsky makes a submission which is accepted by council, it will then have

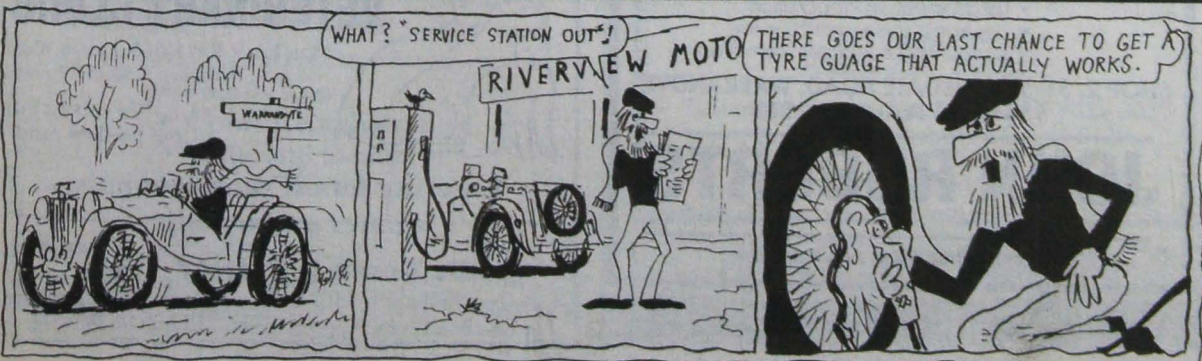
to be exhibited publicly for comment, and is certain to be opposed by many resident and Green Wedge supporters.

Council originally rejected a submission from Mr Brodsky on January 13 for a four lot subdivision of the eight hectare property at 456 Warrandyte-Ringwood Road.

● More Green Wedge stories, comment —Pages 3 and 4

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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As a yachtsman, our Neil's streets ahead

Neil Dusting, of Osborne Road, regularly accuses your columnist of victimisation. "Why don't you go pick on someone else?" he asks when his latest misadventure is laid bare on this page. "Because you are the most foible-prone person we know of in this town," we reply. "Hmmp!" says Neil. But his is a flimsy defence. We mean, who else would go on a yachting trip (should we say voyage?) and take a street directory along, as Neil did last month? We can only figure he's a pessimist who had premonitions of running aground and having to walk home. We don't know exactly where he sailed and we couldn't check it out because at time of writing he was over the border at Rich River on a golfing weekend with his tennis club mates and the respective wives. Wonder what he'll do up there to earn him a Page 2 spot next month?

Rod Legassick is no stranger to pain. A chronic back complaint forced him out of the building industry and North Warrandyte a few years back and into the more comfortable business of owning and running a caravan park at Port Fairy with wife Kerrie and the three kids. Rod's back still hurts like hell a lot of the time, but nothing to compare with what he went through after falling from a ladder and breaking his neck and both heels! He was trying to retrieve young son Justin's kite from a tree when he fell, spent five weeks in hospital and is very lucky not to be spending the rest of his days in a wheelchair. The good news is that he's back on his feet and will make a full recovery. The bad news is that he'll have to miss the Warrandyte Festival and an accompanying coldie with his many mates here for the first time in yonks.

For quite while there, Jean Chapman looked like being grandmother to an entire cricket team, but a beautiful black-haired baby named Amy Jessica has intervened. Amy arrived on February 20. The daughter of Brian and Jenni Chapman, she broke a run of six grandsons for Jean, the matriarch of Warrandyte's most illustrious cricketing family. Jean "inherited" a ready-made granddaughter (Tricia, now 21) when daughter Susie married Glenn Martin 13 years ago. Then followed the makings of a Chapman X1—John and Maxine's Matt, Tim and Chris; Susie and Glenn's Tristan and Ethan; and Brian and Jenni's Daniel (now two). And then

Warrandyte Diary

Note the subtle difference? Here we go nit-picking again.

You could never say that the wheels of local government turn slowly, crank or grind within the City of Manningham. No, by golly, they fairly whizz around! No sooner had our February edition hit the desks in the halls of power than a council singuriter was at work outside our community centre changing Warrandyte Dairy to Warrandyte Diary on the recently-erected register of tenants. Thank you, council, for responding so speedily to our nit-picking—even if the correction is in the wrong font.



IN RED & WHITE

The relentless Warrandyte under-10s. Back row (from left): Tom, Dillon, Greg (coach), Lachlan, Liam, James, Eric. Front: Patrick, Jason, Ryan, Stephen (seated), Paddy (drinking).

We've been in this business long enough to recognise a proud yet modest mum when we hear from one, and we identify Karen Elvin as such. Karen sent us a picture of the local under-10 cricket team, kids who, she said, had put in a fine effort over the season, "battling in extremely hot temperatures but carrying on relentlessly". "Under the watchful eye of coach Greg Telford, their skills have improved enormously," wrote Karen, "and they now bowl every ball (well, almost) straight on the pitch." She identifies the boys in the picture only by first names, but we'd like to know which is hers, so would Tom, Dillon, Lachlan, Liam, James, Eric, Patrick, Jason, Ryan, Stephen or Paddy Elvin please stand up.

along came Amy. "Sorry about the cricket team," said Jean, "but I think this is it for this generation. I'm now looking forward to great-grandchildren."

John Boyle, long-time president of the Warrandyte Festival organising committee, has a new baby, too—a Honda 350XL motorbike. John has been seen scooting around town and even along the Great Ocean Road with wife Kerry on the pillion. Being a somewhat diminutive fellow, he has a little trouble straddling the machine and kick-starting it. So he straddles it and Kerry does the kick-starting. That's what we call true teamwork within a married relationship.

The wonders of hi-tech tend to be wasted on us oldies. Too hard, we reckon. And so did the elderly lady who phoned Diary advertising manager Rae Danks and copped the answering machine. Asked to leave a message and Rae would call her back, the lady was heard to remark to a companion: "How can she do that—she doesn't know my number!" And with that she hung up.

Pssst! Seen the beauty in Rob Buckworth's milk bar? Wow! But before you chaps start a stampe, let us tell you down by telling you it's a painting by the multi-talented Julie Murray. Julie has taken over half the shop with her Australian Bowl Company, selling her own and other potters' ceramics, her paintings and other works of art. She told us she'd modelled nude for herself by looking over her shoulder into a full-length mirror, rounding out bits with the brush and trimming other bits to produce the body beautiful—but we reckon she's joshin'. And if this isn't a blatant free plug for a Diary editorial contributor, we've never seen one!

Next time Gail MacRae goes out in the middle of the night to investigate a car accident outside her KG Road home, she'll slip something on over the longish T-shirt she wears to bed. Woken by the commotion, Gail snuck outside to find all manner of emergency service vehicles and personnel in attendance. As she watched proceedings from the deep black shadows of her garden she badly underestimated the night vision of North Warrandyte Fire Brigade captain Paul Buck and fireman John Swindley. "Hi, Gail!" they hollered. "Howyergoin?" Doing her best to pull the hem of her T-shirt down to her ankles, Gail beat a hasty but awkward retreat.

Smokey Joe

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Pressure builds in Green Wedge

By **CLIFF GREEN** and **DAVID WYMAN**

Pressure for subdivision in the Green Wedge appears to be mounting following a series of events over the past 12 months.

One is the election of new Manningham councillors, almost all with urban backgrounds, and the unfortunate promotion by the two Mullum Mullum ward councillors of a one-off proposal for subdivision by a South Warrandyte landholder on compassionate grounds.

Another is the ignorant belief by some landholders that Manningham's new planning scheme, imposed on it by the state government's zoning provisions, may give them a greater opportunity for subdivision. But the new zones covering the Green Wedge will not allow subdivision.

A third event is the apparent renewed activity of the "landholders association" which has embraced some landholders in Wonga Park in a \$300 per member drive. Wonga Park became part of Manningham following amalgamation.

It is understood that there are about 60 landholders in Wonga Park wanting subdivision of their properties. Many of these are located along Yarra Road. Consultants have been engaged to prepare proposals for subdivision, as has occurred in recent years in Warrandyte and Park Orchards.

The Green Wedge was created by the Hamer Liberal government in 1978 to provide "green lungs" around Melbourne, to contain the urban sprawl and to encourage a diversity of lifestyle choices.

The long saga of the fight for the survival of the Warrandyte-Park Orchards Green Wedge began in 1987 when the then Doncaster-Templestowe council, responding to real estate and landowner pressure, commissioned a study from consultant Dr Deszo Benko.

Rob Gell, well-known environmental scientist then living in Warrandyte, wrote in the *Diary*: "Implicit in the commissioning



of the zoning study is that the rezoning of Landscape Interest A and Residential D zones in Warrandyte and Park Orchards is inevitable."

The major player in this game for rezoning was POLA, the Park Orchards Landowners Association. They argued that much of the land in question was deteriorating and "destitute of native trees and shrubs and wildlife".

The only solution, as POLA

saw it, was to allow smaller lot sizes so that the land could be properly cared for. POLA took their fight into the municipal arena and their president, Darryl Cox, stood for council in the Warrandyte ward on four occasions. Each time he was defeated by a candidate pledged to protect the Green Wedge.

Inspired by a full complement of anti-subdivision councillors from Warrandyte ward, council

threw out all proposals for rezoning the Green Wedge. However, they also resolved to undertake an environmental study for "the development of a conservation strategy".

The concerns of those owners who had bought their land prior to 1978, when the zones were introduced, were given special consideration, and council, in May 1994, finally agreed to prohibit subdivision in the Green Wedge, with one proviso. Properties of four hectares (10 acres) or larger, purchased before 1978, could be subdivided into a maximum of three lots, each to be no smaller than two hectares (five acres).

Those advocating subdivision in the Green Wedge were far from satisfied with this compromise, however, and a new group was formed, titled Warrandyte & Parks Orchards Environment Enhancement Association.

As any amendment to a planning scheme requires the approval of the minister, Rob Maclellan appointed an independent panel to hear further submissions and make final recommendations; back to council, then on to the minister.

This panel, comprising John Keany (chairman) and Alan Kinder, conducted public hearings in April and May, 1995 and received and heard 95 submissions. Some 53 of these favoured some kind of subdivision and 24 were opposed. There were 19 opponents to the proposed subdivision rights of the pre-1978 landowners.

The panel concluded that the Warrandyte-Park Orchards Green Wedge plays a very important role in the local and regional context. Under no circumstances would they support its abandonment.

They found no justification for any adjustments to the proposed zone (Landscape Interest) boundaries and concluded that the existing eight hectare (20 acre) minimum subdivision size should not be modified.

Manningham council supported the panel's findings in October, 1995 and the minister signed Amendment L76 to the Doncaster and Templestowe Planning Scheme in November, thus passing it into law.

STIRRING THE POSSUM



Keeping our garden green

WITH Manningham's mayor encouraging the submission of "innovative" development schemes in the Green Wedge, many residents will have cause for concern.

As always, this pressure for development takes two forms: those advocating subdivision into smaller lots so the natural environment of the Wedge can be better "managed" and "restored", and those seeking to reduce the size of their holdings for reasons of age, illness or financial difficulty.

The fallacy of the environmental restoration claim is self-evident. Once allowed, subdivision could become self-perpetuating. In order to justify the infrastructure needed—roads, sewerage, water and power reticulation and other services—the way would be invitingly open for five acre proposals to become one acre; perhaps even smaller. Bushland and countryside would be lost forever. The land would be covered with large houses, tennis courts, swimming pools, concrete drives and bitumen roads.

Any fancy "innovative" proposals, such as cluster housing, will be seen for what they are: subdivision by stealth.

It is true that some parts of the Green Wedge have been allowed to deteriorate. But subdivision will never be the answer to this problem. Owners should be required to adopt appropriate land management practices. If unable to do so, their only alternative may be to sell their land to someone who can.

Quite apart from this, the idea that even badly degraded land—eroded and infested by rabbits, weeds and blackberries—is lost forever is a fallacy. The crown lands that now comprise the Warrandyte State Park were similarly degraded 30 years ago. Smother the Green Wedge beneath a rash of development and no rehabilitation will be possible. It will be lost forever.

Of course, many owners of broad acres in the Green Wedge care for their land, believing they hold it in trust for future generations.

Owners claiming the right to subdivide on "compassionate" grounds face the same problems as anyone else, forced by circumstances to relocate.

All the arguments for subdivision have been rehearsed and played out again and again. They have been debated, investigated, tested and probed. They are no more valid now than they were 20 years ago.

Interestingly, one major incentive—huge financial gain—is never openly advanced. Since 1971, land in the Green Wedge has been available at a financial discount; precisely because it could not be subdivided. The super profits to be made if the law is ever changed—measured in many millions of dollars—is what keeps these would-be developers coming back, again and again. Once more, it would seem, councillors are listening.

Local MP Phil Honeywood has remained courageously firm on the issue and the overwhelming majority of the residents of Warrandyte, Park Orchards and Wonga Park—whether they live on broad acres or in the townships—have expressed their will again and again through the ballot box. Once more they may need to stand and be counted.

CLIFF GREEN

Councillors have questions to answer on Wedge

By **CLIFF GREEN**

Residents are wondering where Manningham council—despite their original unanimous pledge to support the Green Wedge stand.

Recent press reports indicate that Manningham mayor, Cr Bob Beynon, is now calling for "innovative developments" in the Green Wedge.

According to the Doncaster Templestowe News, Cr Beynon said councillors were keen to see developers come to the council with "innovative development plans".

"Development doesn't necessarily

mean subdivision," he said. "We don't want the wholesale subdivision of the Green Wedge—we want equity, we want to see degraded land restored."

Believing local residents have a right to know what their council has in mind, the *Diary* faxed the following questions to Cr Beynon:

● In general, what changes in Green Wedge status would result from special-use zones replacing the existing non-urban zones?

● How does council's current policy of supporting the conclusions of the

1995 Independent Panel, requiring "that the existing eight hectare subdivision size should not be modified" line up with your reported statement "councillors were keen to see developers coming with innovative development"? If the status quo is to be maintained, won't these developers be wasting their time and money?

● What do you mean, "Development doesn't mean subdivision"? How can this be possible?

The *Diary* had received no response by the time we went to press. Responding to what she believed

was criticism of her stand on the Green Wedge, Mullum Mullum ward councillor, Patricia Young, told the *Diary* she was committed to preserving "the wonderful natural bush and surrounding rivers and green areas".

"However, people to me are not just numbers or positions on a map. I moved from Doncaster years ago to get away from urban sprawl and to come to an area that offers everything anyone can want in a lifestyle.

"I am committed to keep it lovely for generations to come, but I am wise enough to realise that some green

areas are deteriorating because they are not being looked after by their owners for whatever reason.

"Council, with its LEAF program, has already put in train a small amount of help for these people to enhance the more barren areas in the so-called Green Wedge, but it is just a drop in the bucket. If you are going to live in these areas, people really need to be willing and able to either restore the area to vegetation, or allow someone else to do it, or we will not have a Green Wedge 50 years from now."

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Big kids help little kids at Warrandyte High School

Making the transition from primary to high school is often a time of great anxiety for new Year 7 students and their parents. Different travel arrangements, four times as many teachers, worries about making new friends, new rules, more homework and more responsibilities can be quite overwhelming to an 11 or 12 year old.

At Warrandyte High School these Year 7 worries and fears are being significantly relieved through the help of 32 senior students. All Year 7 students belong to the school Peer Support Program where they meet weekly, in a small group, with specially trained Year 11 leaders.

The leaders run fun and personal development activities

DEAR DIARY



that are designed to improve relationships and social skills, promote self-esteem, create a sense of belonging and generally assist their younger peers to settle into Warrandyte High School.

At the end of 1997, the Warrandyte Lions and Rotary clubs sponsored five of the school's teachers to a special training course at the Peer Support Foundation of Victoria. These teachers then conducted a training program for the 32 Year 11 students who had volunteered to act as Peer Support

leaders in 1998. The Peer Support Program, which is run statewide, has proven very successful, not only with students but parents and teachers as well.

The Peer Support Program was officially launched in February and is well underway, with 138 senior and junior members meeting once a week. The program has been a great asset to the school and has enabled Year 7 students to build their confidence and have a fun time at Warrandyte High. In the Year 2002 these same Year 7s will be the senior Peer Support leaders helping the new kids to settle in to high school.

Kelly Handson
Year 8
Warrandyte High School

Kind words from Brit

Sometime during 1996 I wrote to you. Well I'm here again and have been out from England since December 19. I see the carpark down by the river and the riverside walk have been greatly improved as also have other pathways. It was nice to be with the Senior Citizens on Thursday mornings and be greeted as a friend.

There was only one item I was concerned to see: the bus shelter opposite Goldfields was an eyesore. The print has been scratched off the back and sides and the mess on and under the seat is disgusting. There must be numbers of people using that stop daily and the shelter on the other side is so comfortable and clean!

Anyway I had a lovely holiday and hope to be back in three years.

Kay
Bristol, England

I refer to the article 'Recycled Cottage Goes Commercial' (Diary, February) and my letter in the same issue 'Cottage Looks Good'.

After reading the above article by David Wyman, I visited Manningham City Council and was given information that a planning contravention notice had been issued to the owners of the property dated October 20, 1997 which, in summary, instructed that all work cease immediately and that a permit for further work be obtained.

Whilst applauding the change in the appearance that resulted, I cannot condone the apparent disregard of a formal notice from council. I believe that, had

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.

I know of the existence of the contravention notice, I would not have written my previous letter.

However I do believe that I now understand the difficulties that Mr Crivelli is experiencing in getting a satisfactory answer as to the future use his premises may be used. I admit that the Manningham City Council has a responsibility in addressing this matter, one way or the other, as a degree of urgency for Mr Crivelli's sake. I also realise that other government authorities have a say in this matter due to its location on the river side of Yarra Street.

I wish to state that officers of the council were very helpful in enabling me to arrive at a clearer understanding of this case.

John Cox
Webb Street

They're worried at Wonga Park

The Wonga Park and District Residents' Association has expressed its "extreme disappointment" at the recent decision by Manningham council to allow a resident in the Green Wedge to make a proposal for a one lot, one dwelling subdivision.

Spokesman for the WPDRA, Philp Glenister, told the Diary that he was very disappointed with the councillors, who voted to allow a proposal for subdivision to be made.

"It's not right. Mullum Mullum Ward councillors Allemand and Young both stated that they supported preservation of the Green Wedge during the council elections," he said.

"It shouldn't be left to the residents to defend the planning scheme. Councillors ignored the good advice of their planning staff."

The decision to allow a blind resident to submit a proposal to amend the planning scheme for a one-off subdivision was made by councillors "on compassionate grounds".

Philip Glenister said: "People seem to think that age or health are a basis for subdivision—well they're not. Councillors should have been strong and said, 'we understand that you've got a disability problem, but subdivision is not allowed in the Green Wedge'."

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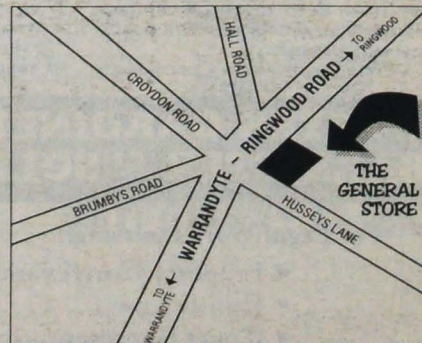
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No through road at Nillumbik

By FIA CLENDINEN

Nillumbik council declared its opposition to the controversial ring road late last month.

On February 25, Nillumbik councillors voted for a resolution which declared that a "new arterial ring road" through the shire and the "ribbon commercial development" the ring road would encourage, was "in total contradiction with council's Municipal Strategic Statement and the protection of the Green Wedge."

Nillumbik also advised the state government of its belief that "such a link, if justified, should be via a less environmentally damaging route." The council will consider pledging \$25,000 in next year's budget towards preparing a report on the issue.

The ring road, a proposed six lane freeway linking Greensborough and Ringwood has been hotly debated in the local and metropolitan papers over the past three years. As yet no definite route has been determined, although notional maps released by the state government show the route passing through Eltham, Warrandyte and Park Orchards.

Nillumbik's resolution comes seven

months after council formed the Outer Ring Road Advisory Committee. The committee, on which ARRO is represented, was formed to establish the shire's position on the proposal to build the road through Nillumbik.

Shire president Robert Marshall told the *Diary* he was very pleased at the outcome. "I'm delighted. I have long recognised that the ring road and the Green Wedge cannot sit together. One of them had to go. And this is a major step forward for Nillumbik council, that it has adopted a unanimous position."

All five Nillumbik councillors have now publicly declared their opposition to the ring road.

Nillumbik's decision to take a proactive stand has been enthusiastically welcomed by ARRO (the Anti Ring Road Organization). "It's a great step forward," said ARRO spokesperson Jeremy Loftus-Hills. "Nillumbik is to be commended for taking this position and hopefully the initiative will spread to other councils."

The resolution opposing the ring road was moved by Lex de Man, councillor for Arthur's Creek Ward. When Cr de Man was elected to Nillumbik

vinced there was very little demand for such a road, and existing roads, with a relatively small amount of upgrading, served as a perfectly adequate north-east link. "There's no doubt in my mind that if we were to put the ring road through Nillumbik and the Warrandyte area, it would do significant environmental damage."

Cr de Man said he was also concerned at the poor level of public transport in parts of the shire and wanted council to work on improving the service.

ARRO spokesperson Jeremy Loftus-Hills said he was surprised that the resolution had been moved by Cr de Man. "I'd always thought that Lex de Man would be the last person to be won over in terms of the anti-ring road cause. If Lex can be won over then there's no limit to the kind of person that we can persuade."

Cr Patricia Young, Mullum Mullum ward representative, when asked to state Manningham's position on the ring road, pointed to the North East-

ern Metropolitan Regional Road Strategy. Manningham, along with five other councils, is a signatory to the strategy, which requests an "Environmental Effects Statement to be undertaken as soon as possible, preferably within two years, to evaluate the need for improved transport links between Greensborough and Ringwood."

Cr Young also said, "As for my own opinion about supporting any freeway that might in future come through the Green Wedge area, I can assure you I would not be supporting anything that would affect the environment of any part of Warrandyte or Wonga Park and would lobby my other councillors strongly to do the same."

Mr Loftus-Hills said he was encouraged by Cr Young's position but at the same time he hoped Manningham would go further in developing a coherent transport policy for the region.

"On the one hand I'm disappointed Manningham doesn't have a position as well thought out as Nillumbik, but on the other hand Patricia Young's response is pleasing. It's a step in the right direction and I look forward to council making progress with the idea of a well resourced committee that investigates the issue of the ring road."



Cr Robert Marshall: The Ring Road and the Green Wedge cannot sit together.



Cr Pat Young: Will not support anything that would affect Warrandyte and Wonga Park.

council last year he stated plainly he did not have a position on the ring road. He said he would make up his mind only after he had listened to both sides of the argument.

Cr de Man said he was now con-

Cottage confusion

By DAVID WYMAN

The owner of the old cottage being renovated at 95 Yarra Street has told the *Diary* that he has done "all correct things" in going about the work.

In the last month's issue, a local resident, who did not wish to have her name published, criticised Manningham council for allowing the renovation work to go ahead without a permit and for possible use of the property as a shop.

Nick Crivelli, who has owned the property for nine years, said a lot of the information in last month's article was "untrue". He said a stop work order had never been placed on the property because the work in hand was a "face lift" and that a permit was not required.

But the *Diary* has obtained a copy of a Planning Contravention Notice issued to Cardvale Pty Ltd on October 20 last year

by Manningham council directing Cardvale to "immediately stop all building/construction/renovation work at the premises at 95 Yarra Street, Warrandyte" and to "seek planning approval (planning permit) for work to date and any further proposed works/renovations".

The council notice also directed that no further work take place on the premises until a planning permit was obtained.

Mr Crivelli said he was trying to keep the property in a good, sound, clean state rather than as an abandoned cottage. He said he was "only doing what council has asked me to do".

"The house has been retained as an original Warrandyte cottage and it's all in keeping with the guidelines of the council," he said. "If anything, I've made the gateway to Warrandyte look more attractive."

"It's not a commercial property as you suggest in your headline. If it was it could be used as a shop or restaurant, but arts and craft is permitted use (of the cottage) in the proposed landscape area." Cardvale has applied for a permit to use the cottage as "art and craft (herbalist)".

Mr Crivelli said he had received misleading information from all the authorities on the status and future use of the property.

● Letter: Page 4

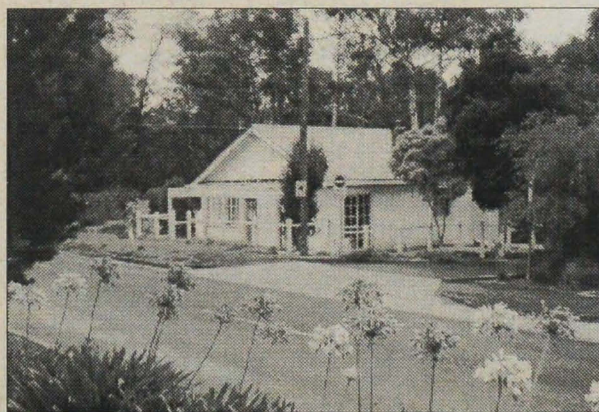
No ramp off freeway

Local MP, Phil Honeywood, has assured residents that no connecting ramps, to the west of Park Road, will be built as part of the proposed Eastern Freeway extension, unless a majority of residents indicate they want them built.

"After many years of lobbying by local residents, I am pleased that the Minister for Roads and Ports has his given assurance on this important issue," Mr Honeywood said.

Park Road, which is a residential street, has long been used by people living in the outer east suburbs as a short-cut to the city.

"If the connecting ramps were to be part of the proposed Eastern Freeway, it would only exacerbate the problem for local residents", Mr Honeywood explained.



The controversial cottage in Yarra Street.



Rebuilding of court five begins at Warrandyte Tennis Club. (Picture by Judy Green)

Tennis courts underway

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

Construction work is soon to start at Warrandyte Tennis Club on a sixth court, with play possible in July or August.

Club president Mark Bence said legal difficulties over the siting of the sixth court had been resolved with Manningham council and there would now be no easement on the Department of Natural Resources and Environment land. There is a sewerage line beneath the new site.

"Resurfacing of an existing court has begun to realign it with the other courts which will all be moved closer together to make more room for the new court", Mr Bence said.

"Construction of the sixth court should start after the April school holidays and weather permitting it should be ready for play by mid-winter. The six courts will be side by side with no dividing fence but still within the standards set by Tennis Victoria and we are discussing lighting requirements

with the contractor at the moment."

Mr Bence said Manningham council was paying the total cost of \$62,000 for the new court but the club would pay \$5000, its half share, for the cost of resurfacing court five.

Replacement and realignment of the adjoining cricket practice area at Warrandyte oval is being done at the same time, with erection of new floodlights planned for completion before the winter football season.

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WARRANDYTE FIRE BRIGADE Community Survey



The Warrandyte Fire Brigade have spent a lot of time this summer assisting you with information to ensure your safety and minimise risk in the event of fire. We are now evaluating how successful our efforts have been. Please help us by completing this survey by Tuesday, March 31. The results will be used to improve our efforts in helping to keep Warrandyte as safe as we can. If you have any questions, please ring Jeff Adair at Warrandyte Fire Brigade on 9844 3375 or 0419 877 574.

MY STREET IS

Please follow instructions for each question.

1 Please rate the level of risk you felt from bushfire in Warrandyte this summer. Tick one box.

- No risk Low risk High risk Extreme risk

2 How did you rate your level of awareness of what to do and your preparedness for a bushfire this summer? Tick one box.

- Not aware or prepared
 Some awareness and preparation
 Fairly well aware and prepared
 Very well aware and prepared

3 Please rate the usefulness of the information and assistance given by the brigade about managing bushfire and house fire. Tick one box.

- Not useful Some use Quite useful Very useful

4 Please rate your level of awareness of what to do and your preparedness for a bushfire now. Tick one box.

- Not aware or prepared
 Some awareness and preparation
 Fairly well aware and prepared
 Very well aware and prepared

5 Please give examples of what you have done to become better prepared.

.....

6 Please indicate where you obtained your information about fire awareness, preparation and safety. Tick relevant boxes.

- Community Fireguard Neighbours
 TV Radio
 Local Newspaper Other
 Operation Bushfire Blitz (street corner presentation)

7 Please tick the TWO most important types of additional information you need to become better prepared.

- How to protect your home against house fire
 What to do on days of Total Fire Ban
 How to prepare a family evacuation plan
 How to protect your house against bushfire
 Should I stay or go in a bushfire?

General comments:

8 If you have children, please rate how well informed you feel they are about fire safety. Tick relevant box for each child.

Child's Age	Low	Average	Good	Excellent
pre-school				
lower primary				
upper primary				
lower secondary				
upper secondary				

9 Please indicate where the children gained their knowledge. Tick the most important source of information for each child.

Child's Age	Family	School	Local Paper	Community Event
pre-school				
lower primary				
upper primary				
lower secondary				
upper secondary				

10 Please rate the effectiveness of Operation Bushfire Blitz (street corner presentations) in assisting you to become better informed. Tick one response.

- Never heard of it Not effective
 Quite effective Very effective

11 Please rate the effectiveness of the Warrandyte Fire Brigade's media campaign in keeping you informed. Tick one box.

- Didn't notice media campaign Quite effective
 Very effective and timely Too much, overdone

12 Please rate each statement about the Warrandyte Fire Brigade. 1 is a low rating, 4 is a high rating. Circle rating for each statement.

The brigade members are approachable	1	2	3	4
The brigade is easy to contact for information	1	2	3	4
The brigade understands the needs we have about fire safety	1	2	3	4
The brigade is actively involved in the Warrandyte community	1	2	3	4

13 How often would you like to see the Warrandyte Fire Brigade Expo? Please tick one box.

- Annually Biannually Severe summers only
 Not at all

Surveys should be returned to the following locations by Tuesday, March 31:

Warrandyte Fire Brigade
 P.O. Box 95
 Warrandyte 3113

OR

Warrandyte Fire Station
 Cnr Harris Gully Road
 and Warrandyte Road

OR

dropped in the letter slot at the
 Warrandyte Diary office
 Community Centre

OR

Information Warrandyte
 Community Centre
 Yarra Street



Town density back to council

By DAVID WYMAN

Did you write to Planning Minister Maclellan supporting Manningham council in its bid to continue the protection of Warrandyte township from dual occupancy housing?

If you did, it's likely that you had a reply, not from the minister, but from the manager of a section of the Department of Infrastructure, Peter Watkinson.

In his letter, Mr Watkinson points out that the minister had appointed an advisory committee to assess the effectiveness of the new Victoria Planning Provisions and it called for public submissions.

"In its submission, Manningham City Council raised the issue of the removal of the prohibition of dual occupancy in

the Warrandyte area under the new state standard zones," he wrote.

"The Advisory Committee dealt comprehensively with Manningham's concerns with respect to dual occupancy in Warrandyte township and the difference in the operation of the old and new planning systems, and stated the following:

"The committee can see no reason why in certain areas of its municipality the council should not have a policy of encouraging single detached dwellings, so long as this exists in the context of an overall housing strategy for the municipality, which clearly indicates where and how a range of housing choice is to be provided."

"The committee also went on

"Opposition Leader Mr Jeff Kennett visited the town last month and assured residents that Warrandyte would be exempt from dual occupancy under a Liberal Government."

Warrandyte Diary
June 1988

to say more specifically about Manningham:

"The problems previously faced in Warrandyte when

dual occupancy was as of right, no longer apply as a permit is required for more than one dwelling on any lot. It will be up to a council to demonstrate that its housing policy provides adequate choice. Balancing the need to provide such choice with the environmental characteristics of various areas should lead to logical outcomes in terms of dwelling densities."

"Consequently, Council's new format planning scheme, through well-founded housing and environmental policies, should be able to ensure that the character of Warrandyte is not compromised by inappropriate development whether it be single dwellings or dual occupancy development."

Which means that council

could have a policy of banning dual occupancy in the township. But that in itself would not guarantee it. Only a blanket law, covering the whole township, banning dual occupancy can do that.

We all know that council and councillors change, and that Manningham's councillors are predominantly urban dwellers who could favour an application for dual occupancy on a large allotment in Warrandyte township. And then, of course, there's the Administrative Appeals Tribunal which could roll a council ban on dual occupancy.

Manningham council is scheduled to review and discuss the dual occupancy issue in Warrandyte at its meeting on April 3.

CLYDE & OCKER



"Councils come and go, Ock. But Warrandyte goes on forever!"

To the rescue

On February 6, North Warrandyte Fire Brigade was called to a report of a truck rolled over, with persons trapped, at the intersection of Research and Kangaroo Ground Roads. A fully laden concrete truck had lost control, coming downhill from Research.

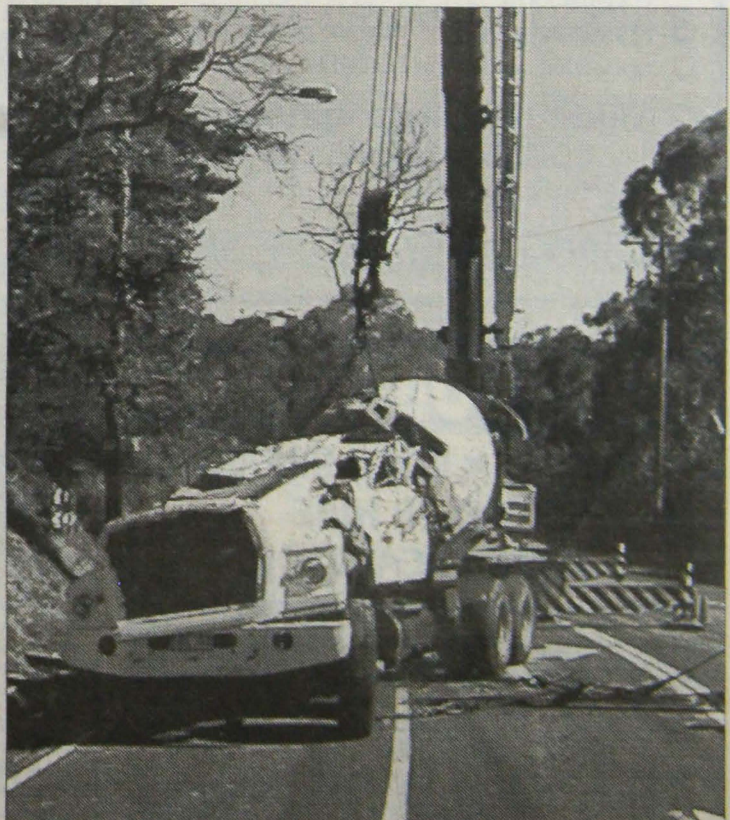
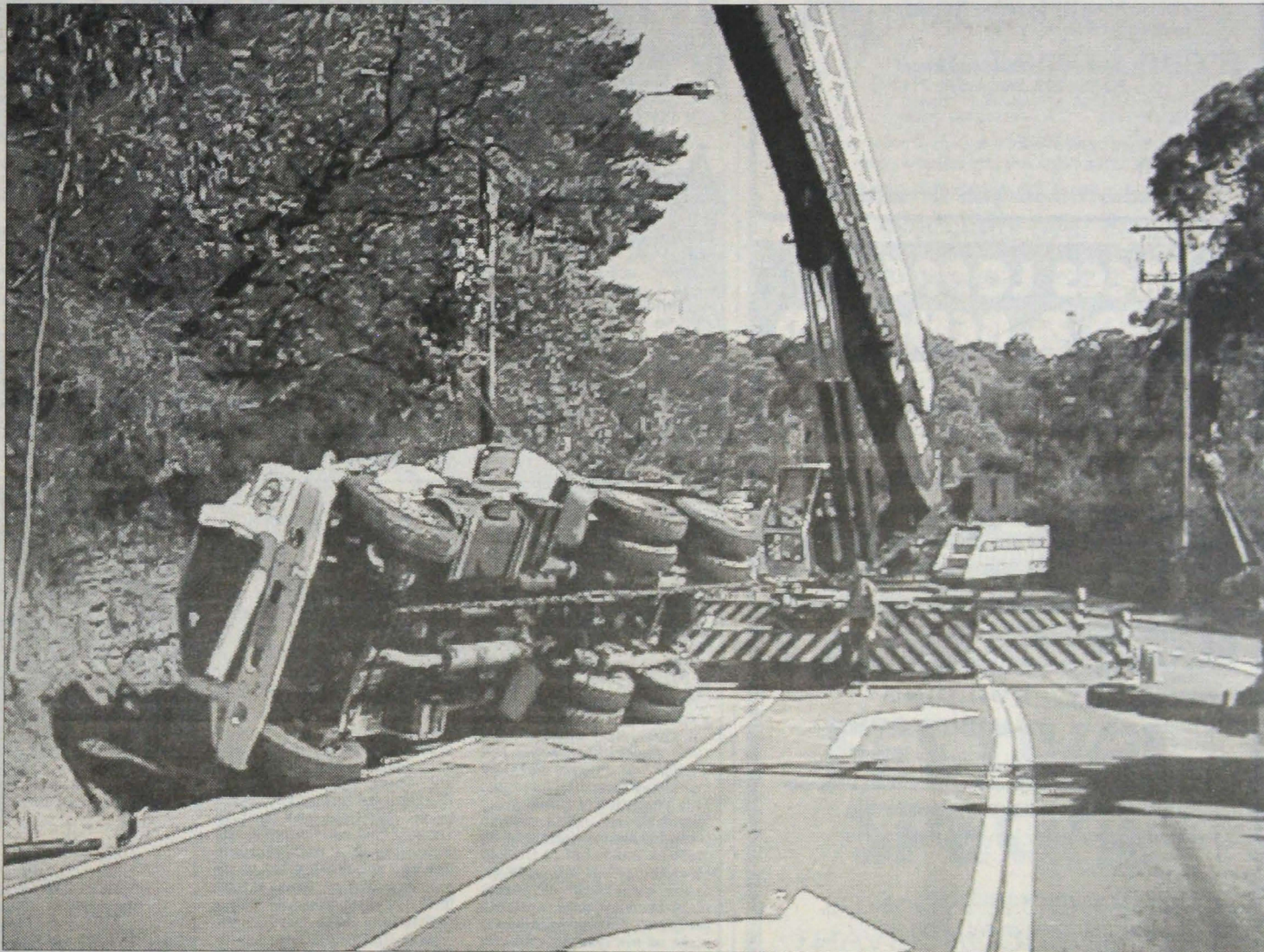
Hazards included diesel fuel and hydraulic fluid spilling from the vehicle and LPG carried for the agitator motor. Cars were attempting to move through the scene.

In all, four fire trucks, two ambulances, two SES vehicles, two police cars, four heavy salvage towing vehicles, a 30-tonne mobile crane and a council street flusher attended the accident.

Brigade members helped stabilise the trapped driver until he was freed from the vehicle and transported by ambulance to Box Hill hospital. He suffered relatively minor injuries.

In all, North brigade volunteers were on the scene for almost five hours. "We were the first to arrive and the last to leave," Captain Paul Buck told the *Diary*.

"The brigade wants to thank the majority of residents for their patience. Unfortunately, a number of people saw fit to abuse the brigade members for the delay. Some even physically threatened our members, suggesting that as we were getting paid, we should be working harder to clear the road."



PICTURES BY PAUL BUCK

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Arts
AWARD
1998-99

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Young artists who usually live in the Warrandyte area are invited to apply for the Warrandyte Youth Arts Award for 1998/99. Applicants between the ages of 18 and 25 - working in any artistic field - are eligible.

A prize of \$5,000 is being offered every two years to enable the winner to further their career as an artist.

Applications close 30 June 1998 and the winner will be announced in March 1999, during the Warrandyte Festival.

Further details and application forms can be obtained from Information Warrandyte in the community centre or by writing to:

Warrandyte Youth Arts Award
PO Box 209, Warrandyte 3113

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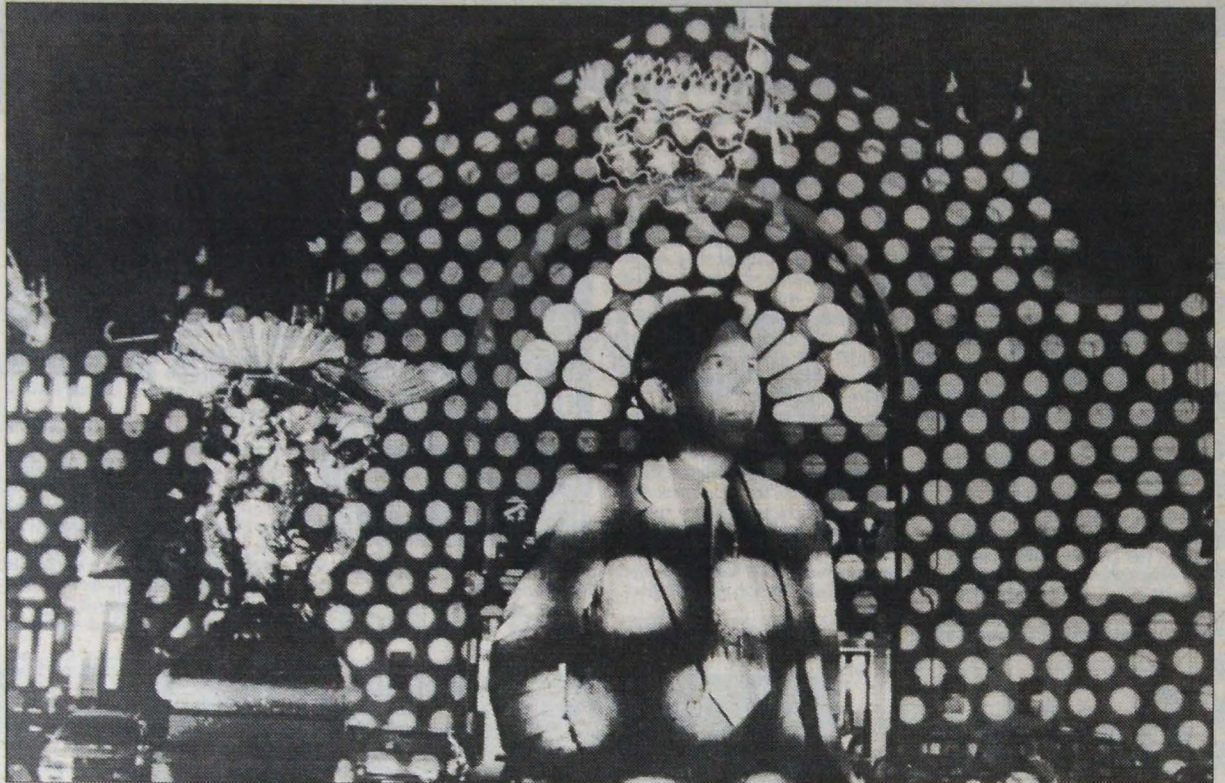
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**COPY CLOSES ON THE
LAST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH**



Light and shadow: Hugh McSpedden is presenting "Riverie" at this year's festival.

A spectacle in light and sound

This year the Warrandyte Festival will be dazzled by "Riverie"—a sound and light show presented by locals Hugh McSpedden and Glen Jameson.

The show, relating to the life of the Yarra, Aboriginal themes, the seasons, animal life, with a touch of humour and fantasy, will run on Friday and Saturday nights, on the hour, between 9pm and 12midnight.

It incorporates sound, light, water and atmospheric effects—including "Warrandyte's own Water Wall".

Hugh has lived in Warrandyte for 24 years, and despite having worked on many festivals throughout the country, he has never before staged one of his shows in his hometown.

"I have always dreamed of doing a show in Warrandyte," Hugh said.

"There is a lack of funding for the event, but if I don't do it now, I may never do it."

Hugh has developed some new highlights for the show, which have never been seen before—anywhere. One feature, he believes, will be a "lateral" effect he discovered by "breaking the rules". But Hugh will not reveal any more about the promised spectacle. "You will have to wait and see," he said.

The music for the show will be provided by contemporary composers Peter Mumme and Ros Bandt.

On Sunday evening the show will be in "static mode" for those wishing to stroll by after the fireworks.

Hugh and Glen are seeking volunteers to help set up equipment and assist with organisation. If you think you can help, call Hugh on 9844 3558.

**Festival
Briefs**



Warrandyte Theatre Company's famous Follies have been a special feature of the festival since its inception. We can't always guarantee the quality, but we can certainly promise a bucket of laughs. This year they're running the Republican Follies, which probably means there'll be almost as much fun at the old Mechanics Hall, Warrandyte, as there was at the old Parliament House, Canberra. It's a bring your own grog and grub night as always, and runs on March 26, 27 and 28 and April 2, 3 and 4. Call Laurie Shaw if you're prepared to run the risk and make a booking—9844 1376.

Between 12 and 4pm on Saturday and Sunday, Eastern Community Broadcasters—or ECB-FM—will be broadcasting direct from the Warrandyte Festival, running a supplemented program to help celebrate our special weekend. The station, which began in a caravan in 1981 and now operates out of a permanent office and studios in Croydon, will be interviewing people onsite about local activities, charities and clubs. They can be found beside the Rotary Art Show marquee.



To help celebrate the Victorian Heritage Festival's 21st year, Manningham council and the Warrandyte Historical Society are coming together to present a display of Warrandyte's arts heritage during festival weekend. There will be a photographic display of art-

ists and their work at the Old Post Office Museum, plus screenings of two historic Warrandyte films, produced in 1930, but only recently copied onto videotape for public viewing. There will be Artists in Warrandyte bus tours, and a Local Heritage bus tour to Tikalara Park and Pontville. The tours are only available on Sunday, and must be booked in advance. Call Kay Toussant on 9840 9348 for bookings and further details.

The clubroom of the Warrandyte Model Railway Club can be visited throughout the festival weekend. Situated at the community centre, through the foyer and into the courtyard, it will be open from 9am to 6pm, Saturday and Sunday. For \$1 donation you will be able to view Victoria's largest model layout of the Bacchus Marsh area, including the famous Parwan Curves, Bacchus Marsh railway station and yards, Maddingly Park, APM coal loader, Rowsley station and the 1-in-48 Horseshoe Curve. Trains run through the Inglington cutting onto the famous Bank Box Loop, across Ironbark Gully Bridge, then on to Ballarat.

Some of Warrandyte's most promising young adult artists will be showcased at Stone Paper Scissors—An Exhibition of Emerging Artists. The exhibition will be held at Potters Cottage Gallery and runs from March 12 to 29. The gallery is open seven days a week, from 10am to 5pm. For further details, telephone Potters Cottage Gallery on 9844 3078.

This year's Warrandyte Festival includes the launch of a new event— "Words Unplugged". This is a literary evening that will provide an opportunity for aspiring writers to read their original work, or the work of others, in



Warrandyte Business Association's John James presents festival supremo John Boyle with the first sample of WBA's brand new celebratory t-shirt. Information Warrandyte and Needles 'n' Pins have the t-shirts for \$12 each. Limited numbers available, so be quick.



an informal setting. The readings will take place on Friday, March 27 at 8pm, in the upstairs room of the Grand Hotel. Tickets can be purchased in advance—at the post office or riverside bakery, or can be bought at the door. The cost is \$5, which also includes nibbles. Drinks will be available from the bar. Telephone Marion Winton on 9844 2971, or Paul Haskings on 9844 1182 for further details.

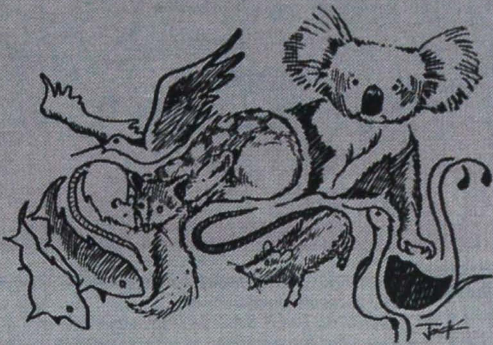
Warrandyte Tennis Club is once more staging its popular tennis serving competition, inviting would-be local stars to check their service speed against the radar—as featured at the Aus-

tralian Open at Melbourne Park. The competition will run throughout Saturday and Sunday, with championship trophies to be won. A small fee applies.

The theme of this year's festival parade is "Fur, Feather and Fins". The parade, which travels from the Warrandyte Bridge to Stiggants Reserve, will commence at 11am on Saturday, March 28. Entertainers will include the Ringwood Highland Pipeband, Ringwood City Band, Diamond Valley Municipal Band and the Wild Wacky Wind Machine, as well as the usual floats, bikes, horses, clowns and vintage cars. Call Margot on 9879 9751 for further details.



**WARRANDYTE VILLAGE FESTIVAL
MARCH 25-29, 1998**



FUR FEATHER AND FINS

Tale of two festivals

From 15 to 29 March the Mullum Mullum Creek Valley will be alive with activity as the Mullum Mullum Festival returns to celebrate this bushland area for the fourth year. For the first time, this festival will tie in with our own Warrandyte festival.

Guided walks, musical performances and various cultural events will take place along the creekside, manna gum forest and yellow box woodland areas of the valley.

On Sunday, March 29 the festival moves downstream to Tikalara Park. As this is also the final day of the Warrandyte festival, a link will be provided between the two events, with shuttle buses leaving the Old Post Office Museum at 2, 3, and

4pm, returning at 2.30, 3.30 and 4.30pm.

"The day at Tikalara is an ideal opportunity for people curious to have a look around Tikalara, which is usually locked up, and enjoy a great day at the Mullum Mullum Festival at the same time," Cameron Taylor, festival co-ordinator, said.

In the afternoon, folk groups, indigenous singers and traditional village green dancing will feature.

There will also be a talk by Glenn Jameson about the six season calendar—well known to *Diary* readers—explaining the changes underway during the transition from Late Summer to Early Winter.

**Definitely last hurrah
for Paradiddle**

This year's festival final concert will see Paradiddle—Warrandyte's favourite homegrown bush band—playing its final concert.

For many years the band has had the honour of closing the concert, and on more than one occasion they have suggested this could be their farewell.



But they're definitely not "doing a Melba" and the band insists that the 1998 festival will be their final gig.

Featuring will be Kevin O'Mara on whistles, banjo, and bush percussion; Mark Leehy on guitar; Dave Billings on bass; Michael Harris on fiddle and mandolin; Martin Hanley on button accordion and Ronny Clarke on drums.

And, to ensure that "the last hurrah is a loud harrah," founding members, Rob Fairbairn and Greg Rough, and longtime accordionist, Helmut Lopaczuk, will also be there.

The band was formed 20 years ago, and "has always had a strong connection to Warrandyte," says band member, Mark Leehy.

Their first album cover featured archival photographs from the Historical Society; Rob, Mark, and Kevin wrote nine musicals for Warrandyte Primary School; Kevin still works with the bush band and the Grade



Three members of the original Paradiddle band performing at a past Warrandyte Festival.

6 graduation song (*May We All Some Day Meet Again*)—written by Mark—was recently recorded and re-released locally and overseas.



In their 20 years together, Mark claims, the group became "Victoria's leading bush dance band." They toured, made records, and appeared on radio and television.

Band members became known outside the group. Rob Fairbairn entered a career recording solo albums and writing hits for Slim Dusty, John Williamson, and the Irish band, The

Fureys. Mark Leehy and Kevin O'Mara formed Bushfire Press, a Warrandyte-based arts education publishing company. And Judy Turner formed the Scottish Fiddle Club.

Although the band does not doubt they will be playing together again in various combinations, they vow that "this lineup will not be seen again".



**WARRANDYTE
NEWSAGENCY**

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Community Church**

Pastor: Peter Keep 57 Yarra Street, Warrandyte
Phone 9844 4148 Facsimile 9844 4018

**Welcome to any of our services
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- GOOD FRIDAY REFLECTION April 10th, 9am
- EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATION April 12th, 10am

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PROGRAM: WARRANDYTE VILLAGE FESTIVAL



PICTURES BY SANDY BURGOYNE

WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH

1-3pm: SCHOOLS' ACTIVITY DAY. Kids and parents from Warrandyte and Andersons Creek primary schools have fun with mixed tabloid sports. At Recreation Reserve. Enquiries, Luanda Pianta, 9844 2757 (BH).

THURSDAY 26 MARCH

10am-5pm: POTTERS COTTAGE GALLERY presents "Stone, Paper and Scissors", an exhibition by emerging young local artists. Free entry. Also, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea are available at Potters Restaurant. At 321 Jumping Creek Rd. Also March 27, 28, 29.

8pm: REPUBLICAN FOLLIES. Warrandyte Theatre Company's annual revue, Mechanics Institute Hall. BYO food and drink. \$12 per head. Also March 27, 28, April 2, 3, 4. Bookings: Laurie Shaw, 9844 1376.

9pm-1am: GRAND HOTEL. Party on to a live band.

FRIDAY 27 MARCH

10am-5pm: POTTERS COTTAGE GALLERY presents "Stone, Paper and Scissors", an exhibition by emerging young local artists. Free entry. Also, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea are available at Potters Restaurant. At 321 Jumping Creek Rd. Also March 26, 28, 29.

7pm: FAMILY FESTIVAL FUN NIGHT. Sausage sizzle, sideshows, games and fun for kids. St. Stephens Anglican Church. Enquiries: Barry Valentine, 9844 3174.

7.30-10pm: FESTIVAL ART SHOW OPENING. Enjoy live jazz, chilled champagne and fine food at the opening of Rotary's renowned Art Show featuring local artists. Giant marquee behind Community Church. Admission by ticket only. \$10. Bookings: John Kelly, 9850 3375

8pm-late: WORDS UNPLUGGED. An evening of readings of poetry, prose, letters, etc from the grungy to the gritty. Entry \$5 includes cheese and biscuits. Drinks can be purchased at the bar. Grand Hotel, upstairs. Bookings: Marion Winton, 9844 2971 or pay at the door.

8pm: REPUBLICAN FOLLIES. Warrandyte Theatre Company's annual revue; Mechanics Institute Hall. BYO food and drink. \$12 per head. Also March 26, 28, April 2, 3, 4. Bookings: Laurie Shaw, 9844 1376.

8-12pm: RIVERIE SON ET LUMIERE. Sound & light show hourly on the hour. Riverbank at Webb Street.

9pm-1am: GRAND HOTEL. Party on to a live band.

ALL-WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

SATURDAY 28 MARCH: 9am-5pm.
SUNDAY 29 MARCH: 10am-4pm.
unless otherwise stated.

FESTIVAL INFORMATION CARAVAN. East of Main Stage. All festival information, competition results, lost property, lost children. Buy your ducks here for the Duck Race.

ELTHAM STATIONARY ENGINE PRESERVATION SOCIETY display of working engines and machinery. Stiggants Riverbank East.

AMERICAN TRUCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY display of restored and working trucks. Stiggants Riverbank West.

HARLEY DAVIDSON MOTOR BIKE RIDES around Warrandyte. \$5 and \$10. Run by Revolutionary Harley Tours. From top of Stiggant Street.

STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE static display including local aerial photographs. Stiggants Riverbank.

3ECB COMMUNITY RADIO Outside Broadcast Van will be covering events live and broadcasting from the festival area throughout the weekend. Stiggants Reserve

MANNINGHAM CITY COUNCIL information and display tent. Stiggants Riverbank.

WARRANDYTE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION information and display. Stiggants Riverbank.

NILLUMBIK SHIRE TENT featuring North Warrandyte Landcare and Community Fireguard groups. Display to promote Landcare and other environmental groups in the Shire; building with the bush in mind. Stiggants Riverbank.

DOG CART RIDES along Riverbank by Newfoundland Club of Victoria. Small charge. Stiggants Riverbank.

WARRANDYTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM open 10am to 4pm daily at Old Post Office, Yarra Street. Continually screening a film made of an exhibition of

local artists' work held in the Warrandyte Studio of the late Penleigh Boyd in 1930.

FREE CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES and tea, coffee and cake available for purchase. Come and relax while your children are entertained. Run by Uniting Church, Stiggants Riverbank.

FESTIVAL RETREAT St. Stephens Anglican Church invites you to bide awhile in peace and quiet within its space, and enjoy the festival display of banners. Refreshments and teas available in church hall throughout weekend.

DEVONSHIRE TEAS in garden of Warrandyte Historical Society Museum, Yarra Street.

NEWFOUNDLAND CLUB DISPLAY. Dogs to see and pat, water rescue demonstrations. Stiggants Riverbank.

PARKS VICTORIA DISPLAY includes badge making activities. Come along and extend your knowledge of the park. Stiggants Riverbank.

SKATEBOARD RAMP. Watch the professionals or bring your own skateboard and safety gear and have a go. Stiggants Riverbank West.

BMX JUMP. Demos or bring your own bike and helmet. Featuring state champions. Stiggants Riverbank West.

FRIENDS OF WARRANDYTE STATE PARK. Display of indigenous plants, face painting, billy tea, damper. Free plants. Stiggants Riverbank.

CFA DISPLAY and activities, including "Dunk the Teacher". Stiggants Riverbank.

FABULOUS ROVING PERFORMERS around Stiggants Reserve throughout the weekend, including the **WARRANDYTE STREET THEATRE GROUP** of talented local buskers and entertainers.

WARRANDYTE HIGH SCHOOL display including newly-formed WASA past-students' association. Stiggants Riverbank.

FESTIVAL FEASTING. Gorge on firefighting franks & satays, hamburgers, saucy sangers, sweetcorn, German bangers, Indian food, spit roast, felafel, hot chips, pies & pasties, baked potatoes, crepes, poffetjes, home-made ice cream, milk shakes, donuts, fairy floss and the Cake Walk. Stiggants Riverbank.

MODEL RAILWAY CLUB DISPLAY. Small entry fee. Community Centre.

TWO DAY ART AND CRAFT MARKET. Open air markets. Craft, produce, pottery, plants, clothes, jewellery, leadlighting and much more. Stiggants Reserve.

IDENTIKID CARAVAN. Identity cards for young children in case they get lost. Run by Lions. Stiggants Reserve.

ROTARY ART SHOW. Featuring many of Warrandyte's famous artists. Giant marquee behind Community Church. \$2 admission.

KIDS' GIANT WATERSLIDE. Starts 12noon Saturday. Run by Warrandyte Scouts. Changing Tent. Bring togs & towel. 50c/ride or \$2 for all-day pass. Stiggants Reserve.

YARRA BOWMEN ARCHERY DEMONSTRATION. Have a go at archery. 6 arrows for \$2. In paddock, Stiggants Reserve West.

FARMYARD DISPLAY. Feed & cuddle farmyard favourites from Leigh's Animal Farm. Small charge. Stiggants Riverbank.

POTTERS COTTAGE GALLERY presents "Stone, Paper and Scissors", an exhibition by emerging young local artists. Free entry. Also, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea are available at Potters Restaurant. A free festival bus takes you to Potters. Also March 26, 27.

MINI GOLF. Obstacle golf course for all ages, Small charge. Stiggants Riverbank.

JUGGLING AND UNICYCLE WORKSHOPS throughout weekend. Stiggants Riverbank.

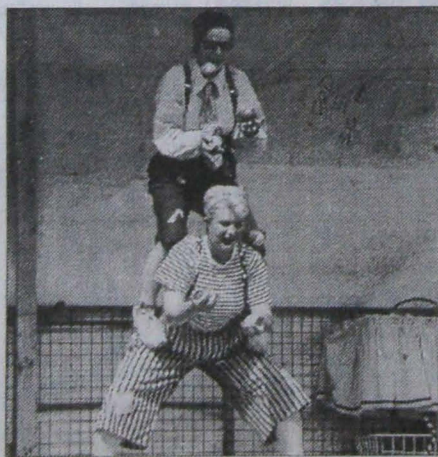
BAYSWATER WILDLIFE SHELTER display. See baby possums and joeys being fed, and learn how to care for wildlife. Stiggants Riverbank

SAVE A DOG SCHEME display, including Dog Obedience Team and Flyball team races. Stiggants Riverbank

TENNIS SERVING COMPETITION. Check your service speed by radar as seen at Melbourne Park. Run by Warrandyte Tennis Club. Stiggants Reserve. Small charge.

CHESS COMPETITION AND DISPLAY by Box Hill Chess Club. Stiggants Riverbank.

POTTER working on wheel. Kids, throw your own pots for \$2. Run by Potters Cottage school. At New Rotunda, Stiggants Riverbank.



FUR FEATHER AND FINS



WEDNESDAY 25 - SUNDAY 29 MARCH 1998

SPINNERS AND WEAVERS DISPLAY by Doncaster & Templestowe Spinners & Weavers. New Rotunda, Stiggants Riverbank.
FACE PAINTING on the riverbank. Stiggants Riverbank.
TRACKLESS TRAIN RIDES along riverbank for littlies. Small charge. Stiggants Riverbank.
FOOTY HANDBALL & LUCKY DUCK FISHING GAME run by Yarra Warra Pre-School. Small charge. Stiggants Riverbank.
NURSING MOTHERS ASSOCIATION tent for nursing mothers, and nappy changing. Stiggants Riverbank.
PLAY WITH CLAY at the Stonehouse. 3-10 yr olds. Free.
CUBBY HOUSE RAFFLE. Apex Club. Stiggants Reserve.
PONY RIDES. 3-10 years. \$2. Top of Stiggants Reserve.
POSTER COMPETITION entries display. Posters painted in primary schools prior to festival, judged, then all displayed at Jewel's Supermarket. Enquiries: Nijole Pengelley, 9844 1168.
FREE FESTIVAL BUS from Stiggants Reserve, around town, to Potters Cottage and to various tours.

SATURDAY 28 MARCH

8am: APEX FUN RUN. from Stiggants Reserve. 9km course. Prizes. Entries on the day. Meet at corner Stiggant and Yarra Streets. Be there by 7.45am. Finishes bottom of Forbes St. \$5 adults; \$2 kids. Enquiries: Gary Marsom, 9431 1302.
9am-5pm ALL-WEEKEND ACTIVITIES. SEE ABOVE.
9am-5pm MOBILE MOUNTAIN ABSEILING WALL. Run by Warrandyte Scouts. Small charge. Stiggants Riverbank.
10.30am: MARSHALLING for Parade. Yarra Street from Bakery to bridge, and along Ringwood Road.
10.50am: JUDGING of parade floats. Best overall parade entry wins Perpetual Trophy. Other categories: most colourful, most comical, most imaginative, best costumes, make-up, most Warrandytish.
11am: FESTIVAL PARADE. Bridge to Stiggants Reserve. Entertainers include bands, floats, bikes, horses, vintage cars & more. Commentaries at Community Centre, Grand Hotel and Stiggants roadside. Theme: "Fur, Feather and Fins". Enquiries: Margot Bail, 9879 9751.
12noon-5pm: WARRANDYTE TOY LIBRARY. Come and try our toys. Parental supervision required. \$1 per child. Cordial and sandwiches or sale. Stiggants Riverbank.
12noon-3.00pm: RIVERBANK CAPERS. Stiggants Riverbank Stage.
12noon-6pm: ON STAGE AT STIGGANTS. Parade acts, local schools, dance groups and community groups. Main Stage, Stiggants Reserve.
1-4pm: STONEHOUSE BAND plays Rock and Roll from the 50s, 60s, 70s at Warrell's Country Store, 321 Ringwood Road. Come and enjoy devonshire teas.
2-5pm: EXHIBITION of the art of Glass Gilding (Verre Eglomise) artworks with 23 carat gold leaf. At Signarts, 38 Yarra St, opposite Stiggants Reserve.
3.15-3.50pm: WAITERS' RACE. See Warrandyte eateries competing for the trophy. Run by Warrandyte Business Association. At Riverbank Stage Area.
3.30-11.30pm: SENSES SOUND & LIGHT YOUTH CONCERT. Live bands, two stages, buskers, entertainment. Food and soft drink from Footy Club. Free entry. No glass bottles. Large Oval, Recreation Reserve.
4-5pm: CAR RESCUE 1. Police, CFA, ambulance & SES rescue victim from crashed & burning vehicle in first combined training exercise. Riverbank Stage Area.
7-11pm ROTARY ART SHOW. Featuring many of Warrandyte's famous artists. Giant marquee behind Community Church. \$2 admission.
8pm: REPUBLICAN FOLLIES. Warrandyte Theatre Company's annual revue, Mechanics Institute Hall. BYO food and drink. \$12 per head. Also March 26,27, April 2,3,4. Bookings: Laurie Shaw, 9844 1376.
8-12pm: RIVERIE SON ET LUMIERE. Sound & light show hourly on the hour. Riverbank at Webb Street.
9pm-1am: GRAND HOTEL. Party on to a live band.

SUNDAY 29 MARCH

8.30am: FAMILY CELEBRATION SERVICE at St Stephens Anglican Church, Stiggant Street.
9am BILLYCART DERBY. Forbes St outside police station. Be there 8.45 sharp. Details: Robert Cousens 9844 2328
9.30-10.15am: DOG SHOW & PET PARADE. Dog show

with prizes for various categories. Pet parade, including cats, rabbits, hamsters, mice goldfish, birds, etc. Prizes. All welcome if under owner's control. Run by Warrandyte High School. Stiggants Riverbank. Enquiries: Sue Martin, 9844 3535.

10am-4pm: ALL-WEEKEND ACTIVITIES. SEE ABOVE.

10am-4pm: FESTIVAL FOOTBALL MATCHES. Warrandyte vs: Doncaster. Food Stalls, Novelties. Under 18s at 10am, Seconds at 12noon, Firsts at 2pm. Run by Warrandyte Football Club. Large Oval, Recreation Reserve.

10am-4pm: BASKETBALL SHOOT-OUT by Warrandyte Basketball Club. Stiggants Riverbank.

10am-4pm: ROCK CLIMBING & ABSEILING WALL. Small charge. Stiggants Riverbank.

10am-1pm: STONEHOUSE BAND plays old time Rock and Roll at Warrell's Country Store, 321 Ringwood Road.
10-11.15am: CELEBRATION OPEN AIR SERVICE. Combined Churches. Worship, entertainment and music for all ages. Main Stage. Stiggants Reserve.

10.30am-1pm: KIDS' MARKET. Magnificent muddle of stalls offering goods and fun things by local kids for local kids. Stiggants Reserve. Enquiries: Mandy Bence 9844 2859, or Maree Burns 9844 2897

10.30-11.45am: INTER-BRIGADE COMPETITION. Local fire brigades compete for 'Yarra Bent Branch'. Support your local brigade as they demonstrate firefighting and athletic skills. Riverbank Stage Area.

11am-12.30pm: HERITAGE TOUR 1. Potters Cottage, Kembala Homestead, the home of artist and sculptor Inge and Graeme King and others. Coach leaves Historical Society Museum at Old Post Office at 11am. Guide provided. \$10. Bookings essential by phoning Kay Toussaint at Manningham Council on 9840 9348.

11.30am-12.15pm: WARRANDYTE HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT BAND. Main stage, Stiggants Reserve.

12noon-3pm: RIVERBANK CAPERS. Stiggants Riverbank Stage.

12noon-5pm: CANOE HIRE on Yarra River opposite Community Church. Supervised by instructor. \$5 adults, \$2 kids. Enquiries, Adventure Canoeing, 9844 3323.

1-2.30pm: WARRANDYTE HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT BAND. Warrell's Country Store, 321 Ringwood Road.

12.30-4.30pm: SUNDAY AFTERNOON CONCERT. Main Stage, Stiggants Reserve.

1pm: GRAND HOTEL. Party on to a live band.

1-3pm: HERITAGE TOUR 2. Tikilara Park, Templestowe, where Mullum Mullum Creek meets the Yarra River, Pontville homestead. Afternoon tea. Coach leaves Historical Society Museum at Old Post Office at 1pm. Guide provided. \$10. Bookings essential by phoning Kay Toussaint at Manningham Council on 9840 9348

2-5pm: EXHIBITION of the art of Glass Gilding (Verre Eglomise) artworks with 23 carat gold leaf. At Signarts, 38 Yarra St, opposite Stiggants Reserve.

2-3.30pm: GOLD MINE TOUR. Join John Hanson for a leisurely walk & visit an 1850's gold mine. Bring torch, wear flat shoes. Run by Uniting Church. Meet at 104 Webb Street, or catch free bus from Stiggants Reserve.

2-7pm: MULLUM MULLUM FESTIVAL LINK. Final day of the Mullum Mullum Festival at Tikilara Park, Melway 34D2. Shuttle buses leave from Old Post Office Museum at 2, 3 and 4pm, returning at 2.30, 3.30 and 4.30pm.

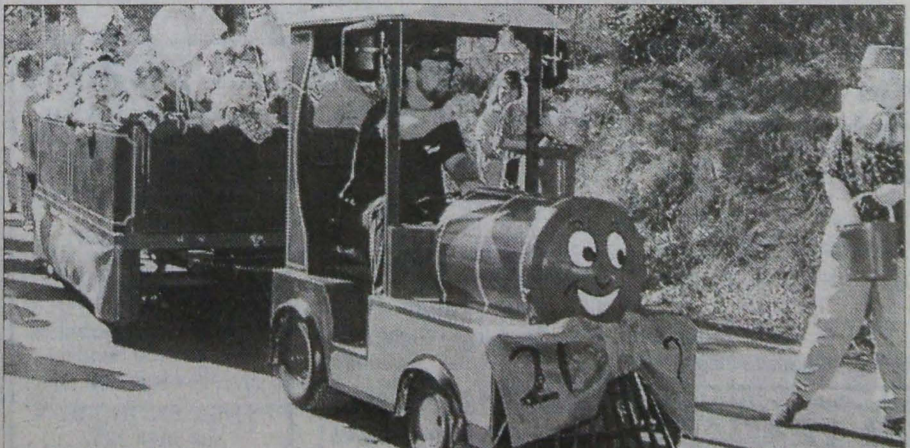
3.10-3.25pm: DUCK RACE. Ducks sold at schools beforehand, and on weekend from caravan near the main stage. Over 1000 ducks launched into Yarra at Forbes Street, finishing at Stiggant Street. Prizes. Enquiries: Andrea Brown, 9844 2032.

4-5.30pm: HERITAGE TOUR 3. Potters Cottage Gallery, Kembala Homestead, the home of artist and sculptor Inge and Graeme King and others. Wine and nibbles on return. Coach leaves Old Post Office Museum at 4pm. Guide provided. \$10. Bookings essential by phoning Kay Toussaint at Manningham Council on 9840 9348

4-4.45pm: CAR RESCUE 2. Police, CFA, ambulance & SES rescue victim from crashed & burning vehicle in second combined training exercise. Riverbank Stage Area.

4.30-9pm: FESTIVAL FINALE CONCERT, concluding with Paradiddle. Bring rugs, folding chairs, friends and family. Enjoy a picnic or BBQ tea, or buy dinner from food stalls. Main stage, Stiggants Reserve.

9pm: EASTERN ENERGY GRAND FIREWORKS FINALE. Festival finishes in a blaze of fiery colour. Best viewed from front of main stage. (Subject to CFA approval.)





WMI & AA Inc

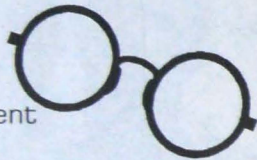
NOTICE OF AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Association is to be held in the Mechanics Institute Hall, Cnr Webb Street and Mitchell Avenue, Warrandyte, 8pm Monday 4th May, 1998. All interested persons most welcome.

WARRANDYTE EYE CARE OPTOMETRISTS

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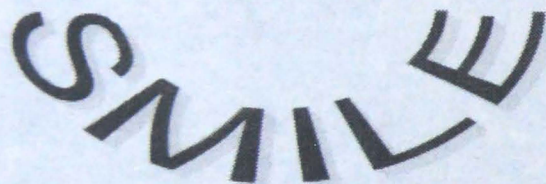
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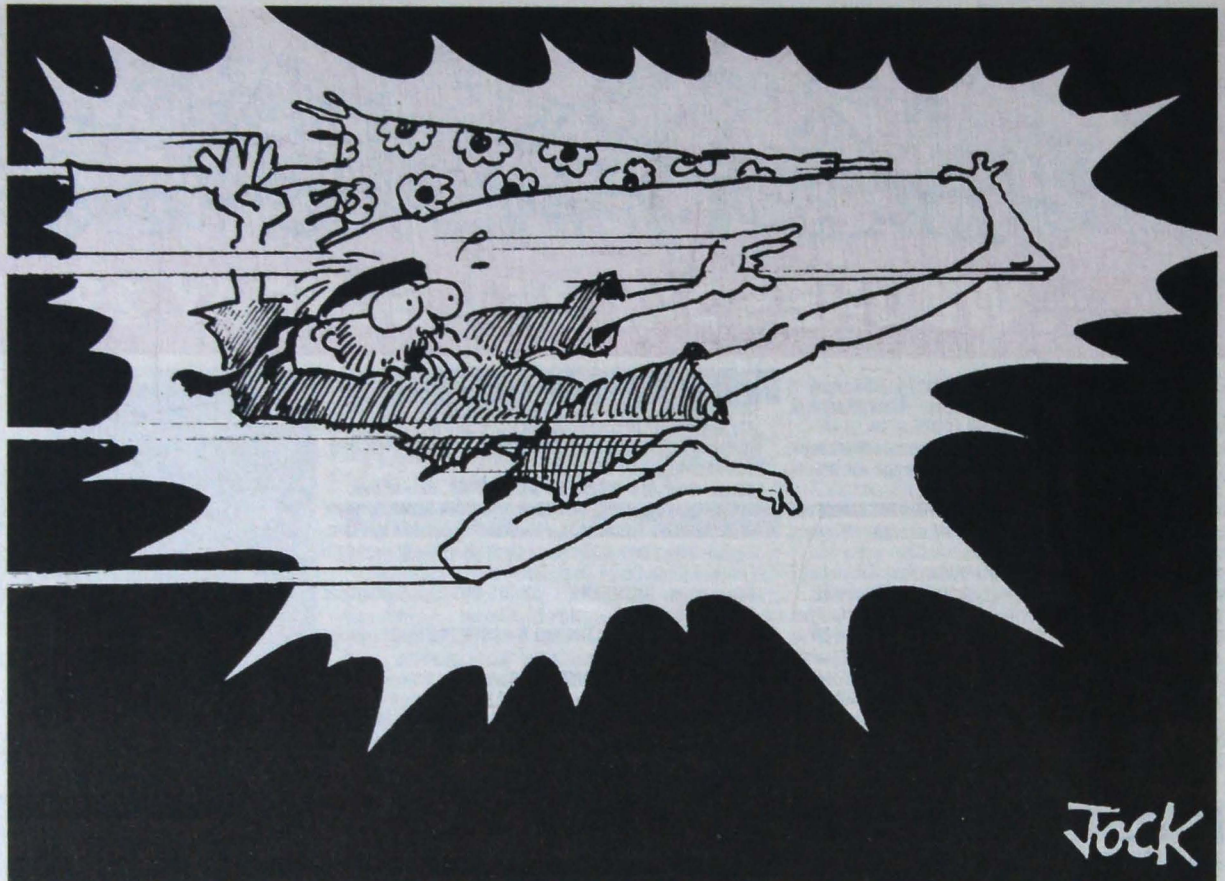
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Making light of night nasties and such

IT was when the light started turning on and off, apparently independently, that I realised that the house was not our own.

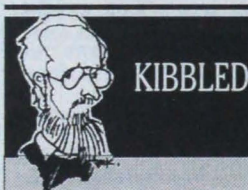
For years I have been one of the foolish few who have believed that your house is your castle and that each night you can haul up the drawbridge and remain, for the night, safe against all predators, nasties, prowlers and beasties.

Wrong! We had installed one of those wonderful sensor lights just above the front door. It was designed to provide us with a safety light when we arrived home late at night.

I read on the box that it had an effective operating zone of so many degrees from ground to unit height. All I cared about really was whether it worked when I stumbled in from the carport. This I tried and was gratified to find that as soon as I was within 20 feet of the door I was bathed in light.

"This will be marvellous," I confided in Herself. "Not that I want it, but, if we do have intruders, the light will come on and I'll be able to bolt outside and nab them before they've carried off the priceless family jewels."

"Great!" she replied. "Just don't do anything silly. I don't want you rushing outside without your glasses. You'll slip and break your leg. Even if there are intruders, you'll either get beaten up and, without your glasses, you won't be able to identify them."



"It was a very pretty umbrella made from bamboo with decorations in waterproof paint..."

Deflated but undaunted, I waited in the twilight zone between the last page of the novel and unconsciousness, ever ready for the flash of light that would indicate that, in our house, we were not alone.

Then it happened. Flash. The room was suddenly brightened by a rectangular glow as the beam passed from the safety light, through the frosted glass on the front door and along my wardrobe to the crumpled shirt and dirty socks end of the bedroom.

I bounded out of bed and

sprinted to the front door. I reached the door and paused. Then I turned, sprinted back and collected my glasses from my bedside table.

By the time I got back to the door I had the whole thing planned. The gate leading to the backyard was locked, so the only way they could go was down the driveway to the locked garage and then back the same way. If my timing were correct, I'd launch myself out the door just as the prowler was making his way back up the driveway and past the front door.

I searched around for a suitable weapon. This was no time for recriminations. I should have thought of a weapon earlier in the planning. But undeterred, I reached out and grabbed the nearest thing; a souvenir from China. It was a very pretty umbrella made from bamboo with decorations in waterproof paint. In hindsight I'm not sure whether I intended to dazzle him with the clustered roses and trailing greenery or startle him as you do when opening an umbrella in front of a horse.

With weapon in hand, I swung open the door to reveal—absolutely nothing. A passer-by might have been excused for thinking that he had stumbled onto a location for the latest Jacques Tati film. He would have seen a not-young man in bright red short pyjamas, with opened oriental parasol in hand, adopting a kung fu pose in the middle of an absolutely

desolate driveway, glasses glinting in the sensor's light beam.

Perhaps the intruder had been faster than I'd imagined, so I ran to the front of the house and looked both ways along the footpath. Apart from some Sulos and the odd parked car, there was nothing to worry a fully-armed Samurai warrior.

Unnerved, I returned to bed. "Any trouble?" Herself muttered from the safety of the doona.

"There may be!" I replied, deliberately remaining mean, moody and enigmatic.

"Was there anyone there?" she insisted.

"I might have scared him away by having the light on," I suggested.

"Are you sure it's not just the cats or possums or rats or some other nocturnal critter that's activating the light?"

"Don't be silly. They've thought of that, surely."

"Suit yourself. But both cats are outside and you know how they prowl around at this time of night."

I went back to sleep, exhausted by all that castle defending. I dreamt of spies, robbers and murderers.

Flash. I awoke, leapt out of bed and was at the door in an instant. I had it opened and had thrown myself at the disappearing shadow as I heard Herself padding up behind me.

"For heaven's sake! Get off the cat and come and get your glasses!"

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Digging deep for grub in the heart of a tree

AN insistent muffled tapping was the first sign that something was wrong. Vibrations shuddered through the tree. The caterpillar was uneasy and retreated further into its tunnel deep inside the trunk.

Outside, the yellow-tailed black cockatoo, sensing movement within, tore furiously at the bark with its powerful hooked beak.

The caterpillar could do little more, for it had reached the innermost point of its excavation. Shards of bark flew rapidly, landing in a pile on the ground as the cockatoo continued its assault on the tree.

Suddenly daylight flooded the tunnel and the furore came to an abrupt end. An ominous silence ensued. But the caterpillar's tedious tunnelling had not been in vain, the vertical shaft in which it was cornered was just deep enough to be out of reach of the bird's probing bill. Conceding defeat, the cockatoo flew off with a frustrated screech to try its luck elsewhere.

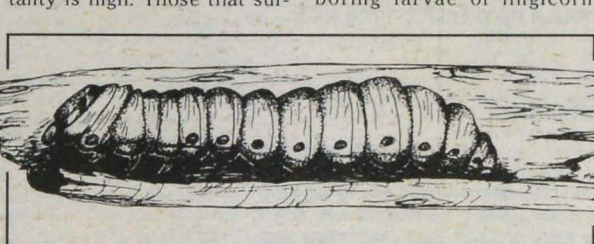
Apart from a few near-misses, the tree trunk had been a safe haven for the growing caterpillar. Thick bark provided insulation from extremes of heat and cold and protection from all but the most persistent predators. The early stages of its life,



NATURE

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

however, had been fraught with danger. Like many caterpillars, dispersal of the species is on silken threads that are carried like balloons on the wind. Mortality is high. Those that survive



and make it to a suitable tree must quickly find a crack through which they can start boring into the trunk.

At first the caterpillar feeds on the sapwood—the nutritious growing tissue just below the bark—but later tunnels downwards for security into the non-living heartwood and finally horizontally to reach the sapwood once more on the other side of the tree.

The caterpillar lives for several years unseen, roaming

these corridors of darkness inside the tree, feeding on the sapwood at the extremities of the tunnels. It grows slowly to about 10 centimetres in length, is creamy-white, fleshy and known—albeit slightly erroneously—as a witchetty grub.

The term witchetty grub is often used loosely to describe any large, fat white grub including curl grubs—the larvae of scarab beetles and the wood-boring larvae of lingicorn

wood moths. These moths are reported to be among the heaviest in the world and are often mistaken for small birds or bats. In Warrandyte they can sometimes be seen caught in confusion, flying outside lights after rain on warm summer nights.

Of all bush traditional tucker, the witchetty grub is probably the most famous. The 'witjuti', as the Aboriginal people call them, are collected, mainly by the women and older children, by levering out sections of roots containing the grubs, using a mulga digging stick or, more commonly these days, a flattened crowbar. Once the grubs are extricated they are either eaten raw or rolled in ash. Lightly roasted witchetties are said to have a skin like crispy chicken and a taste like almonds.

Most white Australians, however, find the thought of eating a witchetty grub revolting. Strangely, there are no qualms when it comes to swallowing raw oysters or fish eggs.

There was a time when Warrandyte's witchetties were a food item eagerly sought after by the Wurrundjeri tribe as they travelled through the area. Today these highly nutritious larvae are still a local delicacy but, alas, only for yellow-tailed black cockatoos—that is, if they can reach them.

beetles. Strictly speaking, though, the genuine article is a central Australian species of caterpillar which feeds on the roots of wattles. Warrandyte's witchetty is similar in appearance to its arid inland cousin and belongs to the same genus called Xyleutes.

The giant Xyleutes grub of both species turn into dark mottled grey moths that are also of Goliath proportions and known, because of the feeding habit of their caterpillars, as

Waking up to the benefits of alarm devices—sporting eight hairy legs!

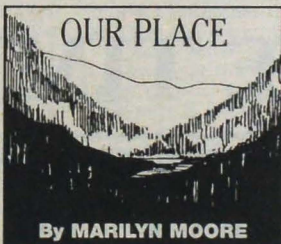
ONE never knows exactly where one will wake up in the morning. Not at which address (this column is a gossip-free zone, folks) but at which juncture of one's morning routine.

After emerging from the bundled doona which separates sleepy warmth from autumn chill, it's generally in the shower that consciousness is fully restored.

Sometimes it happens later, like when you discover yourself standing non-plussed with a jar of peanut butter, a slice of cheese and an empty cereal bowl. Then bingo! Millions of little cylinders kick in. No, it's not breakfast, you're cutting somebody's lunch.

The final chance to mentally snap to attention for the day is on the road. Although the car navigates quite happily on autopilot, the average automobile (and mine is very average indeed) has no precise idea of its destination on any given morning. There's nothing like finding yourself en route through Templestowe when you're running late for an appointment in Ringwood.

The obvious cure for early morning vagueness is to hit the sack earlier. But given the im-



OUR PLACE

By **MARILYN MOORE**

possibility of the obvious, various means of kick-starting the brain have to be investigated. What we are looking for is an acceptably gentle, early morning fright, one which will lead us along that bonny path between sleep-drugged stupor and heart-thumping shock. It's not easy to find.

A clock radio alarm set to 'radio' is the least useful device. Nearly everybody can sleep through cheerful music and gentle chat. Turning up the volume is no use either. The resultant shock is not conducive to positive thought, and nobody can start the day with a pulsating negative aura.

The clock radio buzzer option has the same violent effect as the clanging alarm on an old wind-up clock. It always precedes urgent action—a plane to catch, a breakfast rendezvous,

a major sporting carnival—and can therefore be used only on mornings when the excitement of the occasion overrides the side-effects of the rude awakening.

In contrast, the gentle electronic beep of a small alarm blends sweetly with the cacophony of bird noise outside. However the concept has an intrinsic design fault. In order to do its job, the alarm needs to be within close earshot of the pillow. A little under an arm's length is just about right.

We had proof of the failure of this device recently. Impatient with the electronic chirping which penetrated to even the furthest corners of the house, various members of the household descended on the rogue alarm, determined to put it out of its misery. Just short of the bedroom door we became aware of muffled thumping and bumping and fumbling about. Suddenly there was a decisive swot, and a little voice mumbled, "Got it!" before resuming its barely-disturbed slumber.

Of course there are a few sure-fire ways to get the adrenalin pumping full pelt. Our CD player automatically restarts on resumption of power after

even the shortest blackout.

When the CD in the drive includes the soundtrack of a helicopter expedition complete with screaming engine drone and commando-style talk-back between pilot and base, you somehow leap from dreamless oblivion to full military alert in microseconds. The trouble with relying on this method of waking up is the timing. The dawn raid might descend at 3.41am tomorrow, or it might not happen until next week.

But do not despair. We have lately discovered the mother-of-all strategies to trigger the old brain. Cunningly silent at first, not prone to power failure or over-winding, this alarm even beats the wake-up you get at a certain camping ground near Townsville, where huge green tree-frogs plopp down into any shower that's functioning.

Yes folks, in our very own bathroom, we've road tested the giant-huntsman-hiding-in-the-facewasher-type kick start. And the verdict? Unconditionally guaranteed to wake the entire household.

Unless, of course, the unlucky body in the shower was arachniphobic and thereby rendered speechless due to heart failure. But arachniphobes in Warrandyte? Surely not.

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Kel

Your letter stirred memories.
The dripping bush on an April afternoon.
Gum leaves glistening.

"Why isn't Dad home from work yet?"
"He was meeting Kel at Jimmy Watson's."
So we mushroomed in Mundy's paddock
Till the car came up the road and it was dinnertime.

And Kel drove on to Warrandyte
To the house above the river,
Rebuilt bush-green and fireproof
On blackened stones,
All that remained after a scorching, searing, blazing summer
When the sky was red by day
And by night exploding houses made fireworks on our horizon.

Kel came home from Singapore,
Hair as white as the ashes of the house he'd built on the hill.

Other ashes flow in the river now.
Fire cannot burn him.
The bush drips softly on an April afternoon.

SUSAN BROWN

The poem KEL refers to the death on April 11, 1985 of Kel Arnold. His ashes were scattered along the river by his three sons, steeply below his and his wife Ann's home off Kangaroo Ground Road. In the fires of 1962 their first home was completely destroyed. Only hours after the fire my wife and I could find nothing more on the site than an axe head and a shovel blade. Long threads of window glass festooned blackened trees. When Kel died in Box Hill Hospital at the age of 60, I wrote of his death to our daughter Sue who was then living in the United States. She had known Kel and Ann since her childhood. This poem was her response to my letter.

DON CHARLWOOD



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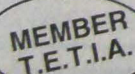
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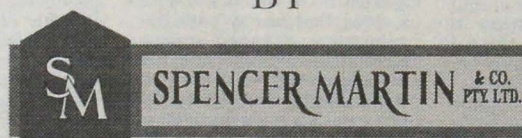
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The leaning store of old Jack Moore

By RICHARD WARWICK

HOW many milk bars are there in Warrandyte? This is a commonly asked question at trivia or quiz nights around the town. The answer of course is three—near the bridge, near the hotel and the one at South Warrandyte.

Warrandyte has always had at least a couple of milk bars at any one time. The Golden Gate milk bar operated at the West End for many years into the late 1980s. Now its former building stands empty and unused.

Jack Moore operated the Warrandyte Store, located opposite the Grand Hotel in Yarra Street on the site of the present car park. The store leaned ominously. As the late Harry Hudson wrote, if the store was straight then you'd had too much to drink.

The store was a favourite meeting place for the locals who would sit on or near its rubbish bins and picket fence. The store was burned down one night in the 1950s and was never rebuilt. It is interesting to note that the business doubled as an estate agent.

Aggie Moore's tea rooms were located on the corner of Yarra and Webb Streets, where the community centre now stands. It was called the Central Tea Rooms and sold fruit, confectionery, vegetables and soup, as well as—no doubt—lots of tea, coffee and scones to the many tourists who visited the area. After it stopped being tea rooms, it became part of Lloyd Holyoak Motors, then Getsons Motors, then the Warrandyte Co-op, before being demolished to make way for the new community centre.

A study of contemporary photos shows the many and varied signs adorning the front of the shop and evokes many memories of the time. Soft drinks could be purchased from one of many makers who existed before the large conglomerates that exist today were formed.

Such names as Tarax and Cottees have their signs up, but there were also Marchants, Ecks and HP. Of course, the ubiquitous Cocal Cola

bottle was displayed on the window. Ice cream was another commodity available from "Peters—the Health Food of a Nation". Another variety available at the time was Sennits, whose logo was a polar bear licking an icecream—although they don't appear to have had the selling rights at Aggie Moore's.

The Cherry Ripe chocolate bar was available then, but in those days it was made by a company called MacRobertson's whose factory was located in Collingwood—it is my distinct recollection that they tasted as good then as they do now. Chocolate bars were made by a larger number of manufacturers than exist today—such names as Hoadley's and Fry's come to mind.

The other product that is prominent in advertising material is headache powders—there are signs for *Bex* and *Aspro*.

These were also the times when all our milk was purchased in bottles and the homogenised variety sold in paper cartons was still unheard of. However, milk shakes were all the rage and they came in all the usual flavours—with the addition of blue heaven!

During the late 1940s, Scott's General Store occupied the building that is now Warrandyte Cellars and contemporary photos show that not much has changed since those days. It must have been a "general" store in the literal sense of the word, as signs out front advertise radios and electrical parts, as well as groceries. Another interesting aspect of the photo is the telephone number for the store—"Warrandyte 82". We don't have numbers like that any more.

As Warrandyte has always been a tourist destination, there have been, and still are, many cafes to cater for the passing trade. The more famous of these were the Warrandyte Recreation Reserve Cafe and the Kia Ora Cafe next to the bridge—both operating during the 1930s.

● Interested in local history? Call in at the Old Post Office Museum in Yarra Street any weekend afternoon, or phone the Warrandyte Historical Society on 9844 3662.

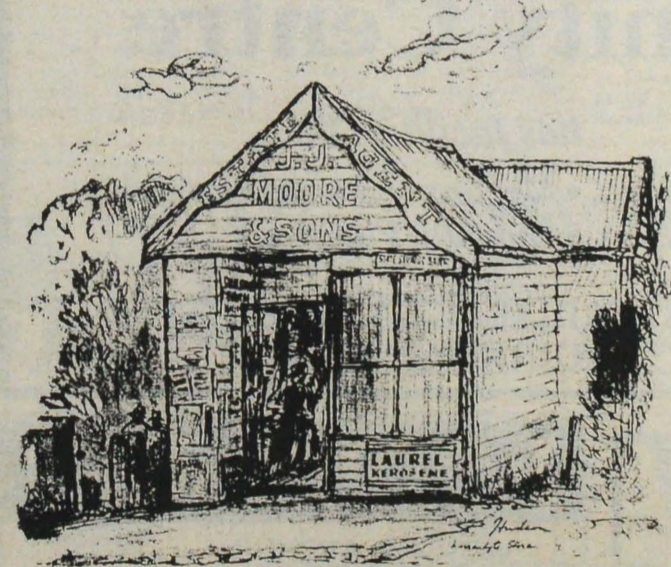


Illustration by the late Harry Hudson

Rex Arthur remembered



Anyone who has lived in Warrandyte for 40 years or more will be saddened to hear of the passing of Rex Arthur at the age of 68 years, six days before his 69th birthday. He came from Yelarbon, Queensland with his parents, brother Wilfred and sister Lorna, to live at 306 Yarra Street, in his early teens.

He spent his youthful years and early 20s in Warrandyte, working at Frank Nankivell Motors and Aggie Moore's milkbar as fill-in jobs while learning his trade as a carpenter.

He left Warrandyte with Barry Williams for an around-Australia trip. They only got as far as Bowen, Queensland, where Rex met Marcia. They married and had two children, son Robert and daughter Wendy, to whom we extend our sympathies.

HILDA MITCHELL

Many thanks for the dance of life

By YVONNE REID

AFTER leaving many Warrandyte winters for the Top End, Hilda Mitchell and husband Lyn had lived the last two years with son David on the famous Darwin Crocodile Farm. When Hilda died in Darwin on January 7, 75 years' connection with Warrandyte came to an end. The enormous gathering of people who joined at St Stephens, Warrandyte in celebration of her life, suggests that the spirit of that connection lives on.

Hilda used to recall that she first came to Pound Bend to visit her grandfather, Otto Draeger, on the soldier settlement farm of Uncle Charlie and Auntie Bertha Day, when she was six years old, making the last part of that journey in Bill Hussey's horse drawn coach.

In 1942, while Lyn moved between army camp, a barge on the high seas and Bougainville, Hilda brought two small girls—my sister Bev and I—to live in a little cottage on the edge of a cliff in North Warrandyte, overlooking the river and the market gardens of Pound Bend.

It is easy to romanticise those times of lamplit evenings and the still quiet and unspoiled bush, with no electricity and no telephone, and as my sister Bev recalls, there was much love and laughter during and after those difficult war years.

But our mother's lot was not easy—much closer to the life of an early settler than now—as she chopped wood for the copper, anxiously watching the summer water levels in the tanks and sent us off alone to walk the two miles to school. The cottage, much extended when our Dad came home, was burnt in the 1962 bushfire and the Mitchells, like most others, rebuilt on the spot.

As a visiting hairdresser in the late 1940s, 50s and early 60s, Hilda was famous for her walking. Once she walked, with Dorrie Day, eight miles to Eltham High School to see their kids in the school sports—with baby David in the pram.

Betty Hipwell remembers her calling greetings as she briskly passed their cottage at the bottom of Sloane's Hill: "She was a great girl—she always gave me a lovely feeling of belonging—the spirit of Warrandyte", and Joan Golding says that she was a little surprised to learn that her new hairdresser had come four miles across the hill! Hilda also cut and set Warrandyte's hair in a bathroom at the pub and at Aggie Moore's shop verandah.

My mother gave many a feeling of deep acceptance—her grandchildren and great-grandchildren have been marvelling at how she managed to make each one of them feel special.

She was a great community contributor. She worked, at first as a volunteer



at the Araluen Day Training Centre, to which she was introduced by the family of Rodney Edwards* after she had given him several splendid haircuts. At 56 she began her teacher training, continuing at Araluen until formal retirement and beyond. Colleagues from those days recalled her capacity for carrying on several conversations at once without losing the thread of any one of them, and at the same time carrying out some complex practical task.

She began her long adventure with sport by cheering my father on when he played hockey in the 1930s, and went on to support son-in-law Brian Day and his brother Geoff and another generation of footballing grandsons. Then of course son David was admired as footballer, coach and umpire, both in the south and in Darwin.

She went to just about every play and concert any of us performed in, for a period spanning nearly 30 years—from Shakespeare to the WAA Christmas party revues—and she joined the drama group in the 1960s to spread her capacity for fun and inventiveness backstage. She designed and made costumes for the annual "Children Love to Dance" recitals.

She knitted endless jumpers and cardigans for every relative and many friends, remembered everyone's birthdays, had a prodigious memory for everything, and a sense of humour which seldom deserted her.

She was a great gardener of plants and people. At her memorial service, son-in-law Irving Reid remarked how he had once asked her about her green fingers in growing cuttings—did she use special fertilisers? "No", she sincerely told him, she merely gave them water. And Irving went on to say, "And that she did religiously and unfailingly. Surely this exemplified Hilda's approach to everything in life. Nothing fancy or fashionable, but give what living creatures need and give it with all your heart, strength and commitment".

He echoed the spirit of us all in giving thanks for her her life when he said, "What a presence she has been in our lives, how irreplaceable and unforgettable, how vibrant and vital—what a life force."

Thank you, our Hildi, for the Dance of Life.

*Rodney's obituary appeared in last month's *Diary*.



Arts award winners hit new heights

The Warrandyte Youth Arts Award, conducted by the *Diary* in conjunction with the Lions Club of Warrandyte, is once more underway. The \$5000 prize, offered each two years, is available to an especially talented young person, usually resident in Warrandyte, who intends making a career in the arts.

The last award—for 1996-97—was won by sculptor Malcom Laurence. A selection of his work, along with that of other award finalists Rachel Swift, Baden Hall and *Diary* wildlife artist Melanie Coupar can be seen at an exhibition at Potters Cottage Gallery from March 12 through to March 29.

Isla Shaw, who won the 1994-95 award, is now in her second year at Wimbledon School of Art in London, having completed the foundation year in 1996, and the first year of the BA honours course in costume and set design in 1997.

Only 22 students were accepted into this course from 400 hundred applicants from around the world. The going is tough; if the

students don't keep up their assignments, or their standards are too low, the school asks them to leave.

"We don't have exams until the final year," Isla told the *Diary*, "so the pressure is on all the time. This is quite deliberate on the school's part because they are training the students to cope with the theatrical world, which is very hard work, and long hours if you manage to get employment."

She is sharing a house with two young Australian men, an English girl, and her first cousin Ben. She misses Warrandyte, so for her 21st birthday Isla's mother made her a video of her home, the village and her friends.

● Full details of how to enter the 1998-99 Warrandyte Youth Arts Award are set out on Page 8.

Isla Shaw's costume design for *'Messenger' from Everyman*



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**Kooris to be
honoured**

Nillumbik council has appointed several members of the community and Wurundjeri Elder Joy Murphy to its Reconciliation Committee.

The committee was formed following general community and councillor interest regarding the status and culture of Wurundjeri and other Aboriginal people following the Reconciliation Convention last year.

The Nillumbik Reconciliation Committee is planning several initiatives to implement a sincere and ongoing reconciliation process in the Nillumbik shire. The shire recognises that the Wurundjeri people were the occupiers of Nillumbik land prior to white settlement. At the last census, 120 residents of the shire were identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

A Statement of Recognition, Apology and Reconciliation will be formally adopted by council, forming the basis for all future shire activities affecting Aboriginal citizens, significant sites, culture, education, history, recognition and disadvantage. The document will also contain specific recommendations and initiatives, and will be available to members of the general public.

One of the first events planned by the Reconciliation Committee is a public forum to be held in late March. Various Aboriginal people will speak about reconciliation issues, and members of the public will be able to ask questions and put their views.

A public event, called Nillumbik Gayip, will be held on Saturday, May 9 in Wingrove Park, Main Road, Eltham. The Gayip, a Woiwurrung word meaning a celebration of joy and unity following differences between groups, will have the theme of Reconciliation through Recognition.

The Gayip will commence at 12 noon with the Community Walking Together from Alistair Knox Park down Main Road to Wingrove Park, where visitors will be welcomed by smoke

fires and a display of wirrups (message sticks). This will be followed by a Tanderum Mernda—a traditional welcome to the people to come onto the land.

Following this, there will be a presentation of the Nillumbik shire's Statement of Apology and Commitment to the Wurundjeri people.

Various local and Aboriginal artists, musicians and dancers will provide continuous entertainment and there will be some excellent indigenous cultural and environmental displays, as well as food and other stalls.

A feature of the Gayip will be several collaborative entertainment and cultural projects between local schools and the Aboriginal community, including the production of wirrups, a song by Wurundjeri Elder Joy Murphy with the Eltham High School Symphonic Band, a children's choir and Aboriginal musicians, a photographic and video recording of the event and a banner project.

Another feature will be the profile given to traditional culture through music and dance, displays and participation.

The Nillumbik Gayip is the first reconciliation event in the shire, and it is envisaged that in the future more such events may take place in other parts of the shire.

The committee has chosen Wingrove Park for this event because of its traditional spiritual nature, with historic manna gum trees and the Diamond Creek flowing nearby. Future sites will also be chosen for their special qualities relative to the traditional culture.

The Reconciliation Committee is hoping some of the 120 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders in the shire will contact the committee, so that their issues and their input can be included in reconciliation programs.

Contact Elizabeth Savage Kooroonya or Kim Graham at the shire on 9433 3126 or 9710 1471 for further information.



Genevieve Hassall

**School recruits
ex-students**

Warrandyte High School's past students group—WASA—is well on track to establishing itself.

WASA, which stands for Warrandyte High School Alumni Student Association, had its first meeting last month, and office bearers, including president, Genevieve Hassall, were elected.

The association hopes to establish a database, publish a newsletter, raise funds, and organise celebrations for the high school's 20th anniversary this year.

Genevieve, one of the school's original students, recently returned to the school for the first WASA meeting.

"It is completely different now," she said. "When I went to the school, there were only 42 of us. The school was made up of a carpark, portables, a field, the bush, and the mud. Now it has architect-designed perma-

nent buildings, a professional theatre, fully networked computers in classrooms, established native gardens, a music room and even a homepage!

"It has really moved on from its humble beginnings," Genevieve said.

WASA members hope the association will also be able to "move on" and become a larger group.

"We are keen to involve as many past students and staff as we can and we would love to hear from any of them," Genevieve said.

● If you are interested in becoming involved in the association, telephone president, Genevieve Hassall, on 9344 8649, or executive officer of Warrandyte High School, Barbara Mills, on 9844 4509.

If you wish to have your name entered on the mailing list, telephone Chris Van de Velt on 9384 1374.

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Chapel celebrates

Warrandyte's Gospel Chapel is 50 years old this year. Formerly a place of worship for the congregation now known as the Warrandyte Community Church, and now a furniture salesroom, the historic old building at 103 Yarra Street is celebrating its half-century with a special birthday party on Saturday, March 28 at 2.30pm. There will be a sausage sizzle and Glen the performing clown will present magic tricks and fun-making balloon specialities. The first church on this site was destroyed by fire, and the chapel was rebuilt in 1948. Thanks are due to the Trezise, Thomas and Drysdale families who donated the colourful leadlight windows.



Lorna Hemmings celebrated her 90th birthday with friends at Warrandyte Senior Citizens Club. Congratulating her are fellow nonagenarians (from left) Ina Broadbent, Blanche Bullingham, Lorna, Hans Pecher and Isobel Bradford with Maisie Temple at the piano.

Surfers

The Lions Club opportunity shop is running a special competition, leading up to the Warrandyte Festival. Shoppers spending \$10 or more are invited to enter. The prize is a return trip for two to Surfers Paradise, donated by Greyhound Pioneer. The winner will be drawn on Sunday, March 29 and will be notified by post. The trip can be taken any time until March 31, 1999.

Musicals

The Grand Hotel's next fundraiser—in aid of St Stephens Anglican Church—will be A Musical Experience, on Friday, April 17. Excerpts from a variety of musicals will be performed by the Die Pratersterne Group from the Austrian Social Club. Cost is \$13 including supper. Bookings at the hotel: 9844 3202.

Childcare

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House Occasional Childcare Centre operates at the community centre during the morning—Tuesdays to Fridays—and on Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Cost is \$3 per hour (\$2.50 for Neighbourhood House class participants). Bookings are essential and can be made on 9844 1839 or in person at the centre.

Seminars

Green Wedge Environment Seminars, sponsored by Manningham council, are being held on the first Thursday of each month at the Warrandyte Community Centre, commencing at 7.30pm. Entry is free and supper is provided. At the next



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.

seminar, on April 2, Bruce Fuhrer will talk on fungi. Gerry Marantelli will discuss frogs on May 7.

Parents

Warrandyte Sole Parents Support Group operates such activities as family camps, fun days and guest speaker evenings. Information can be obtained from the Neighbourhood House on 9844 1839.

Thanks

Helen and Bill Ward have asked us to thank all those who congratulated them on their diamond wedding, celebrated on December 11 last year. They received a card from the Queen and letters from the Governor, the Prime Minister and MP Kevin Andrews.

Golfers

Warrandyte Lions Club has secured the Dorset Community Golf Course for a charity golf day on Sunday, April 5, to raise funds for local community projects. Winner and runner-up prizes will be awarded in various categories. The major prize for the handicap player with the best net score is a gold-plated putter. The fee is \$20 per player, covering one free drink and a ticket in a raffle for a case of wine. Entry forms can be obtained from the Dorset Golf Course, Trawalla Road, Croydon, or by ringing John McLean or his secretary during business hours, on 9873 1144, or Tom Blackburn after hours on 9844 3884.

Dance

The next South Warrandyte Social Dance in the South Warrandyte Hall, Hall Road, will be held on Saturday, March 14, from 8pm to midnight. The Easter dance will be on April 11. Enquiries to 9723 3892.

Mums

Warrandyte Nursing Mothers are holding their next morning coffee get-together at the Warrandyte Maternal and Child Health Centre in Taroon Avenue on Wednesday, March 25 at 10am. Information on the group's activities can be obtained from Sandi on 9844 1933.

Follies

A further reminder that the Festival Follies are being once more presented by the Warrandyte Theatre Group at the Mechanics Institute Hall on March 26, 27 and 28 and April 2, 3, and 4. Bookings can be made on 9844 1376.

Gardens

The autumn sale at the Kevin Heinz Garden Centre, 39 Wetherby Road, Doncaster, will be held on Saturday, March 21, from 9am to 1pm. The centre provides recreational gardening for people with disabilities. An extension to the building will be opened by Kevin at 11am, following his "potting up plants with children" session at 10am.

Textiles

Web, Warp, Weft, Woof is the title of the current exhibition at the Manningham Gallery, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster. The exhibition, which focuses on female artists who have chosen to express themselves using textiles, runs until March 20.

Birthday

Brett Stone, eldest grandson of longtime Mitchell Avenue residents, John and Shirley Holland (now Shirley Hughes), celebrated his 21st birthday at the Warrandyte Cricket Club social rooms on Saturday, February 7.

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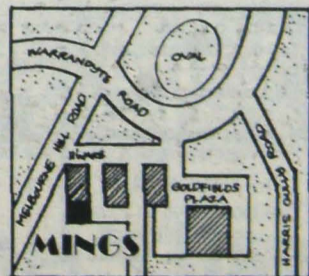
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Owners warned of penalties for wandering dogs

Nillumbik council has warned residents to take more care in ensuring their dogs are securely confined and under their effective control at all times.

"Roaming pets can pose many problems for the community, including as a traffic hazard; danger to other residents, including children; danger to other animals, including sheep and cattle; and a threat to the natural environment," a council spokesperson said.

Residents can be fined if a dog is not securely confined to the owner's premises, meaning gates must be shut and the dog must not be able to leave the property.

"Pet owners will face a \$50 on-the-spot fine if their dog is roaming during the day, and \$150 for dogs roaming at night," the spokesperson said. "These fines will be levied in addition to the dog

being impounded, and the owners being charged for the dog to be released.

"Most dog attacks on adults are caused by dogs wandering in the street or dogs rushing out from their property. Even if the dog doesn't bite someone, the owner can be prosecuted if the dog rushes at someone or chases another animal."

The owner of livestock and council officers are able to destroy any dog found at large in the vicinity of the livestock without incurring civil or criminal liability.

"The only safe way is to make sure dogs are kept indoors at night," the spokesperson said. "The potential danger to other people, animals or property is just too high."

"Many residents are under the impression that council officers do not patrol the shire at night. This is



incorrect. Council officers are on call 24 hours a day, and will fine owners if their dogs are roaming outside their properties.

"Residents cannot become complacent about their dogs. They require constant care and attention, otherwise owners will be faced with fines or worse."

Responsibility for referendum and election material in this issue is accepted by Cliff Green, 23 Webb Street, Warrandyte.

Stay or go?

Self-reliance is paramount for home owners living in the high bushfire risk areas. The message from CFA throughout summer has been that planning and preparation must be undertaken by each family so that on high fire risk days, particularly days of total fire ban, there is a clear understanding of what to do and where to be.

Without a clear and practised plan, lives and property may be lost. Without a plan, people wait around hoping to be told what to do.

"There is still a belief in the community that CFA will order an evacuation when the going gets tough," Yarra Area risk manager Michael Hill told the *Diary*.

"CFA's policy has been strongly spelt out; residents will not be ordered to leave their properties, or advised to evacuate at the last minute."

"Last minute evacuation in the face of a bushfire can be fatal," he said. "Each household must make its own decision to either stay and defend a well prepared home, or leave the area early on high risk days."

There will never be a guarantee of safety in a bushfire but two things are clear:

- People can save a well prepared home, and a well prepared home can save people.
- Evacuation at the last

minute is a very poor survival option which may expose people to the deadly effects of radiant heat.

"Do not wait for someone to tell you what to do," Michael Hill said.



Local CFA battles a blaze off Webb Street this month.

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SUNDAY: Cocktail Night

STRICT DRESS STANDARDS APPLY

Where now, Bloods?

By LEE TINDALE

Warrandyte Football Club, relegated to Eastern Football League Third Division after winning only one senior game last season, could find themselves back in Division Two next month.

Circumstances beyond the club's control could see fixtures for the First, Second and Third Divisions redrawn only three weeks before the April 4 start of the 1998 season.

As this edition of the *Diary* went to press, the EFL (formerly Eastern Districts Football League) board was meeting to unravel the situation.

At the core of the problem were doubts about the ability of two clubs—one in Division One, the other in Second Division—to field under-18 sides in the new season.

Under EDFL rules, each club in Divisions One and Two must be represented in the under-18s competitions or face relegation. Warrandyte were under that threat before the start of the 1995 season, but an intensive recruiting campaign saved the day and the club are comfortably placed this year.

Last Friday, March 6, was the deadline for each club to submit a list of 20 under-18 players for the new season. It is understood that the First Division club fell considerably short of 20 and that the Second Division club was also having a lot of trouble mustering numbers.

Both clubs could be relegated to Third Division and Warrandyte invited back into Division Two, although the league might be reluctant to redraw fixtures at such a late stage.

"It's a bit of a nightmare," WFC president Jeff Evans told the *Diary*. "If a return to Second Division became an option we would have to call a special committee meeting to discuss it. At the moment we just don't know where we'll be playing in 1998."

The existing Third Division draw has

Camera...action!

Wanted: A moviemaker to lend his or her talents to Warrandyte Football Club's thrust for glory in 1998.

The Bloods are seeking someone with a video camera to film their senior games this season for analysis by coach Lex Munro and his staff. "This is part of the professional approach Lex is taking," said WFC president Jeff Evans. "He wants to be able to sit down with the match committee and players, view the tapes and point out mistakes and areas for improvement." "We'd love to hear from anyone out there with a video camera who would be prepared to help."

Evans can be contacted on 9722 1111.

Warrandyte at home to Upper Ferntree Gully in the season's opener. The division has been expanded to 11 teams with the inclusion of the well-performed, Box Hill-based Whitehorse Pioneers, which means most clubs—including Warrandyte—will have two byes during the season and play only 16 home-and-away games.

The Bloods are still talking with several prospective recruits to strengthen their new premiership campaign.

The ranks have been reinforced by the return of three senior players, including burly ruckman Scott Parnell, who came to Warrandyte last season from Bairnsdale but left after only a handful of games.

Also back in the fold is talented young key position player Chris Quinlan, who played his junior football here, impressed at senior level and spent last season at Warracknabeal.

And defender Brendan Smith has returned after a year overseas.

"Training has been excellent," said Evans. "The numbers are up and that, of course, means

Warrandyte Football Club's 1998 draw

(● Fixtures subject to a possible late redraw)

SENIORS AND RESERVES

- April 4: v Upper Ferntree Gully (H)
- April 18: v Doncaster East (A)
- April 25: v South Croydon (H)
- May 2: v Whitehorse Pioneers (A)
- May 9: v Forest Hill (H)
- May 16: Bye
- May 23: v Knox (A)
- May 30: v Kilsyth (H)
- June 13: v Coldstream (A)
- June 20: v Southern Cobras (H)
- June 27: v Wantirna South (A)
- July 4: v Upper Ferntree Gully (A)
- July 11: v Doncaster East (H)
- July 18: v South Croydon (A)
- July 25: v Whitehorse Pioneers (H)
- August 1: v Forest Hill (A)
- August 8: Bye
- August 15: v Knox (H)

UNDER-18s

- April 4: v Mt Evelyn (H)
- April 18: v Rowville (A)
- April 25: v South Croydon (H)
- May 2: v Norwood (A)
- May 9: v Fairpark (H)
- May 16: v Upper Ferntree Gully (H)
- May 23: v Knox (A)
- May 30: v Kilsyth (H)
- June 13: v Southern Cobras (A)
- June 20: v Coldstream (H)
- June 27: v Heathmont (A)
- July 4: v Wantirna South (H)
- July 11: v Doncaster East (A)
- July 18: v Mt Evelyn (A)
- July 25: v Rowville (H)
- August 1: v South Croydon (A)
- August 8: v Norwood (H)
- August 15: v Fairpark (A)

greater depth. And we are still speaking with a number of interested players from other clubs."

The first real indication of Warrandyte's potential will go on show in a practice match against Mt Evelyn on March 15, the first of three Sunday home games leading into the season.

The Bloods will play Norwood on March 22 and Doncaster on March 29 as part of the Warrandyte Festival.

A 1000-can raffle will be drawn after the

Doncaster match.

● Meanwhile, the Warrandyte ground is expected to be fully floodlit within six or seven weeks. The extension of lighting to the outer side of the ground will greatly enhance the playing surface on the pavilion side by allowing the club to use the entire oval for unrestricted training.

Manningham council has provided \$20,000 for the project and the football club \$10,000.

Better not quite good enough



Paul Montgomery: 'Progress, but we need more.'

By RACHEL BAKER

Warrandyte Cricket Club fell short of the RDCA Chandler Shield finals — but captain-coach Paul Montgomery believes the Bushrangers "came a long way" in 1997-98.

While admitting there was plenty of room for improvement, Montgomery said the first eleven had taken significant steps.

"In previous seasons they were just trying to avoid relegation, but this season, they were finals contenders until the last few weeks," he said.

"Next season the club will be trying to build on the improvements we made this year.

"I'm happy with this season's progress. I learnt a lot about the club, and the club learnt a lot about me."

Warrandyte needed to win their last two home-and-away matches—against South Ringwood and Croydon North—to have a chance of taking part in the finals action but lost both.

They finished seventh in the 12-team competition, with five wins and six losses to finish

SPORT

with a 5:6 win:loss record.

Over the coming months the committee and the coach will be getting together to discuss means of improving on that performance in 1998-99.

"Our batting is one major area that has got to improve," Montgomery said. "We made progress this season, but we need more.

"There were only three centuries made in the season and none of them in the firsts. That's one thing all good teams have—strong batting—and it's something we need to work on," he said.

But the coach is keeping sight of the bigger picture and is committed to achieving long-term improvements at the club.

"It's a long journey and we're only part of the way there," he said.

The second eleven flew Warrandyte's flag in the finals

but were comfortably beaten in their semi by South Ringwood.

The Dytes compiled 191 runs from 78 overs on the first day of a two-day game at home—a respectable score considering a top-order collapse that had them reeling at 4/25.

They lost their first two wickets at 20 and two more at 25, and the alarm bells were ringing.

They were still sounding at 8/99, but a young gun and a veteran—in the respective shapes of Justin Edwards and Mark Davis—got together to salvage the innings.

The diminutive Edwards, an outstanding young all-round sportsman who plays senior football for Warrandyte, made 44 and Davis was unbeaten on

46 in a 92-run partnership.

But 191 was not nearly enough against the strong South Ringwood battery, which cruised to victory with seven wickets in hand off just 60 overs.

Still, it was a commendable season by the seconds, who won eight of their 11 games leading up to the finals.

Davis had been in great form with the ball in the final home-and-away games, taking 6/53 off 23 overs against South Ringwood and 6/57 off 29 against Croydon North—a thriller which Warrandyte won by five runs—with his off-spin.

The third and fourth elevens struggled throughout the season.

CRICKET DETAILS

FIRSTS: Warrandyte 284 (Tregear 71, Bell 61) lost to South Ringwood 9cc/316 and 0/43. Warrandyte 169 (Bell 54) lost to Croydon North 8cc/286 and 2/152.
SECONDS: Warrandyte 161 (Valentine 30, Chapman 28) lost to South

Ringwood 191 (Davis 6/52). Warrandyte 177 (Chapman 51, Gee 34, Day 30) d Croydon North 172 (Davis 6/57).
Semi-final: Warrandyte 191 (Davis 46 no. Edwards 44) lost to South Ringwood 3/195.

A Geed-up administration

Warrandyte Cricket Club have a new president and a restructured committee.

David Gee, who was elected unopposed at the club's annual general meeting on February 19, told the *Diary*: "I wanted to review the committee, to find better ways of organising the work."

Positions were not allocated at the meeting. "We worked out the roles of the committee members later," Gee said.

The meeting saw several of the club's younger members become involved in the administration.

Matt Chapman is the new secretary, Greg Tregear treasurer, Trevor Taylor junior administrator, Dave Mooney bar manager, Steve Bell social administrator and Brett Kline cricket manager.

Kline was also made a life member.

The nomination of younger players to the committee was in accordance with the wishes expressed by Steve Pascoe, the retiring administration manager, before the meeting.

He warned that many people on the existing committee would not be renominating and urged

members to "stand up and be counted".

Gee paid tribute to the contributions made to the club by Pascoe and outgoing president Russell Dorning.

"They have given a lot to the club over the years," he said.

Issues raised at the AGM included debate over the proposed verandah at the front of the clubrooms.

"There are several issues surrounding what we will do," Gee told the *Diary*. "We are still discussing the alternatives."

The cricket club's top priority next season will be to consolidate the improvements made this season.

"We had improved on-field performance this year," Gee said. "That was largely due to the efforts of the coach, Paul Montgomery, who has been reappointed."

The club will also be seeking more involvement from the local community.

"There are still many local residents who play cricket elsewhere. We want to get Warrandyte people involved in the club," the president said.



David Gee: looking for better ways.



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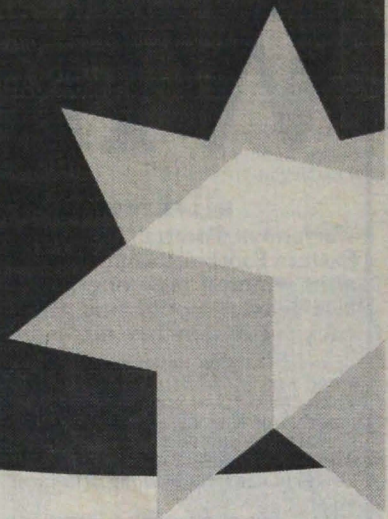
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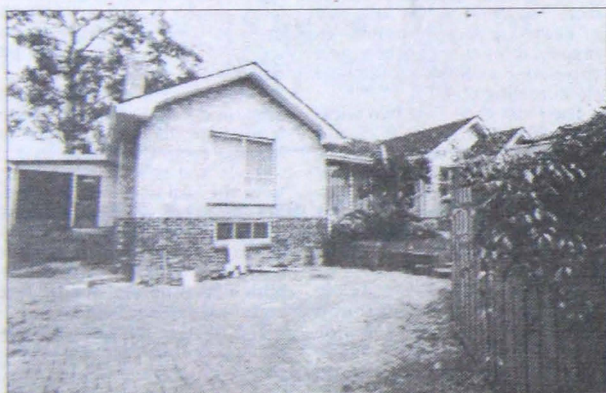


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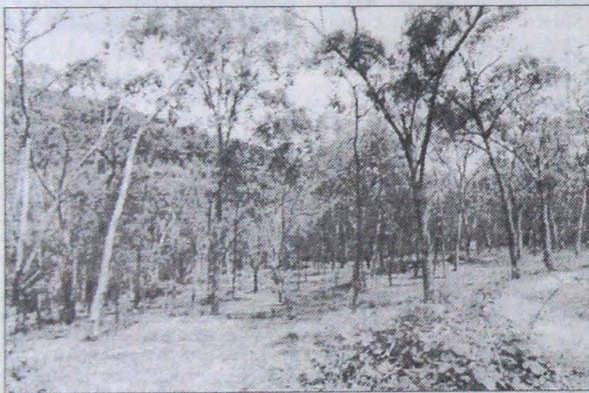


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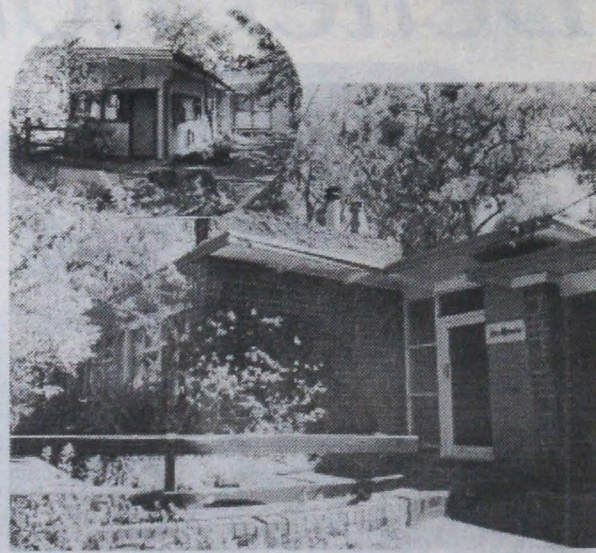
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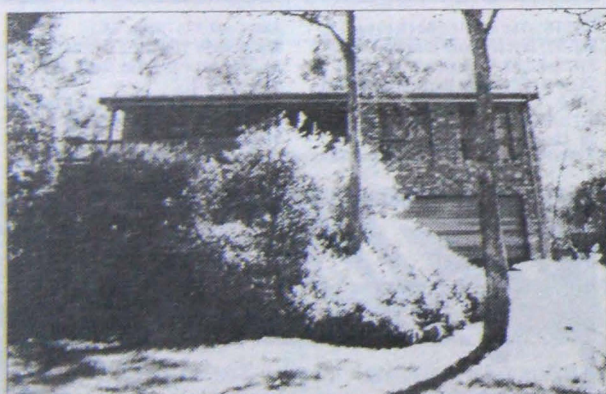
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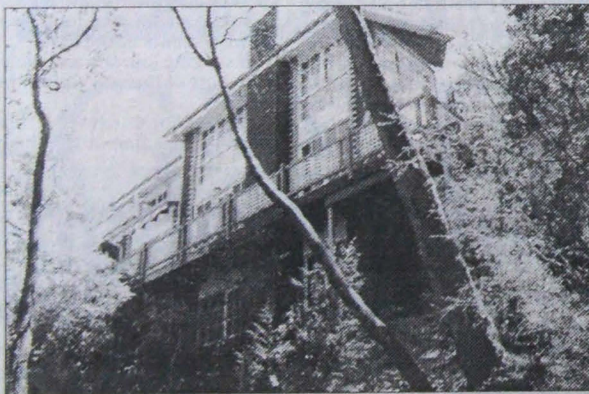
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