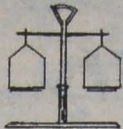


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DIARY



WARRANTYTE HARDWARE

9844 2622



No. 297, April 1998

PRICELESS 28th year For the community, by the community Advertising: 9844 3819 Editorial: 9844 3719 Fax: 9844 4168

Stadium to be built

Second home for basketball club

By CLINTON GRYBAS

A new basketball stadium is to be built at Andersons Creek Primary School in Warrandyte.

This follows Manningham council's decision, on April 7, to provide up to \$600,000 towards the project, ending seven years of frustration and anguish for the club in their quest for a second court in Warrandyte.

The stadium will be built on unused land at the school, close to Goldfields Plaza.

Council's decision to provide funds complements two grants obtained by local MP, Phil Honeywood, who successfully lobbied for \$200,000 from the state government's Community Support Fund and \$100,000 from the Education Department, who will also provide land for the project.

The decision ends an agonising wait for the club, who since 1992 have regularly had their hopes lifted and then dashed, as proposals and plans to build a new facility in the Warrandyte area were formulated, then abandoned.

Club president Bruce Macdonald struggled to grasp the reality when the vote was passed on Tuesday night.

"To say we're absolutely delighted is a big understatement," he told the *Diary*. "I have said in the past that I will only believe it is true when I see it. But now I have seen the site pegs and this decision convinces me that it is going to happen."

"It's wonderful for the whole community, not just the basketball club and the school but other potential users."

"It has been a joint effort to make this happen. It's testimony to Cr Patricia Young's enormous endeavours that this has gone through, while Phil Honeywood was the one who was instrumental in getting it back on the table and organising a large share of the government funding."

Phil Honeywood said the partnership has worked well. "The project has been a wonderful example of how state and local government can work together," he said.

"Cr Patricia Young and I have co-chaired a working party and have been able to work through to a successful conclusion. In these days of tight funding we have been able to achieve a true 50-50 partnership. The state government's \$300,000 and provision of land have matched the grant from council and this should hearten local residents."

He said the dire need for the new stadium was drummed home to him in the lead-up to the 1996 state election.

"All the mums and dads were coming up to me and saying how popular basketball was and that they needed new facilities. This is a win-win situation whereby the school can use the stadium by day and the club by nights and on weekends."

He said the \$200,000 grant from the Community Support Fund, money generated by the state's gaming machines, filled the gap in the project and meant that neither the school nor the club had to seek a loan to make up the shortfall.

The partnership was stitched up when an agreement was reached whereby the stadium would keep operating should the school ever close.

Bruce Macdonald said local traders would reap a major spin-off from the project, with upwards of 700 people using the stadium for play or practice each week. "It will be an absolute boon for local traders—really breathing life back into the Goldfields area."

"The stadium will also provide us with the chance to run primary school competitions and expand our senior programs, including enabling senior players to train for the first time ever. "We hope to be bouncing basketballs there within 12 months."

The club expects to have a meeting room, kiosk and property shop built into the facility, which Mr Macdonald says both the club and council are keen to see it blend in with the bush environment.

The club will continue using their existing court at Warrandyte High School.

● **Background: Page 7**



WHEEE—! Flying high at the Warrandyte Festival. Stories, lots more Sandy Burgoyne pics inside

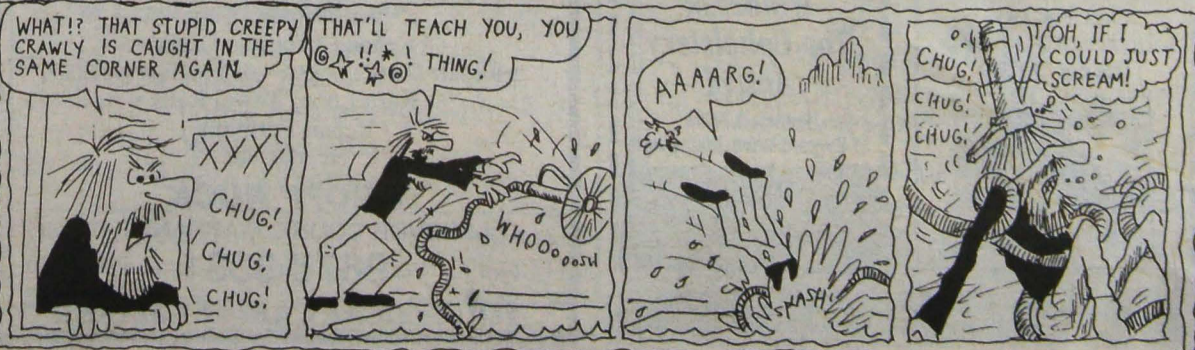


Clinton's back

Clinton Grybas, who has been writing for the *Diary* since Year 10 at high school, is back in Warrandyte after a year on radio in Perth. Clinton has been promoted to a Melbourne-based ABC sports position, broadcasting national basketball (men's and women's) and VFL football on television and AFL football and the 3LO Monday Breakfast Session sports report on radio. Appropriately, he's back on our front page!

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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Fur flies at the festival as ferret goes ratty




The Warrandyte Festival Dog Show And Pet Parade, run each year by Claire Bloom, from the high school, traditionally has its difficult moments. This year was no exception. A confrontation could have been avoided if the judges had been aware that the rat and the ferret are natural enemies. Putting them side by side for the judging was not a great idea because the ferret had not had breakfast and took a very strong fancy to the rat. Quick work in separating the pair meant that the judges did not have to award prize categories for the fattest ferret and the fastest disappearing rat.



Perhaps the best-patronised festival attraction were the heritage tours, which sold out long in advance. Long-suffering David Hogg, of the festival committee, took a phone call at 10 o'clock on the Saturday night from an irate woman who was unable to get an answer from Manningham council when she phoned to book. "Well, it is 10pm on Saturday and the council offices are closed," David told her. "So how do I book?" she demanded. "Just turn up on the day and they'll take your money," David replied. Did that mean she'd get on the bus? "No," replied David, "but they'll take your money anyway." "I don't think that's funny," said the woman, a split second before slamming down the phone. We'll never know if she got on the bus.



Judy Finger, from Warrandyte Primary School, was responsible for the festival food stalls this year (no jokes about finger food, please—they've already been done to death) and did an excellent job refereeing the fights between stallholders who all wanted a different site to the one allocated. She was also responsible for renting the two-way radios, and when she called to pick them up there was some reluctance on the part of the hire company to hand them over. It may have had something to do with the fate that befell the radio on loan last year to the SES. It fell off the back of their truck during the parade and was squashed flat under the wheels of the following vehicle. It may also have had something to do with David Hogg's sense of humour when he phoned the hire company to report the mishap and asked: "Do you mind if we return one of the radios with a flat battery?" "No, that's fine," they said. "And do you mind if the rest of the set is flat too?" asked David. But the good folk of Just Communications came to the party again this year and the SES people returned their set in A1 condition.




Despite assurances bordering on guarantees, Neil Dusting never did believe that regular exposure in this column would develop him into a local cult figure and folk hero. Now

IN RED & WHITE





Neil Dusting: fame was only a matter of time.


he knows. Neil was manning the handball competition at the festival for North Warrandyte Kindergarten on the Sunday afternoon when a woman he didn't know from Adam (should that be Eve?) approached him. "Excuse me," she said, "but are you the famous Neil Dusting?" We think Neil owes us a thank-you and an agent's fee.



It's not often that the rescuer has to be rescued, but it happened on festival Sunday during the SES's car rescue exercise. An ambulance officer leaning inside the vehicle to reassure the "victim" was stung by a European wasp. Funny that because he'd spent a good part of the day dealing with the victims of the very same little nasties.




The description of their display sent in to the festival committee by the Warrandyte Nursing Mothers' Association for inclusion in the program included the words "Breast-feeding councillor available". Good heavens! Which councillor? And which council—Manningham or Nillumbik? What they meant was "breast-feeding counsellor".




Easyrider, our man on the buses, has checked in quite breathlessly with some astonishing news. "On the 8.47 am out of Warrandyte on April 1," he reported, "blokes actually stood up and gave women their seats!" April 1, eh? Sure it wasn't an April Fools Day stunt? we asked. "No way!" Easyrider assured us. "This was fair dinkum. The fellow in front of me started it and it became an epidemic. It swept through the bus like a Mexican wave. I counted five blokes, ranging in age from young to middle, and there may have been more. Unbelievable! Next thing you know, schoolkids will be standing up for the aged, invalid and heavily pregnant and the whole fabric of society as we have come to know it will have been destroyed. And what will happen then?" We don't know, Easyrider, but you are a terrible cynic.



We ran into Lawrie Sloan at the first footy match of the season and he gave the *Diary* a mock tut tut for referring to his bunch of off-field volunteers who will help out at home games this season as 'Dad's Army'. "Dad's Army indeed!" he said. "Our correct name, now officially adopted, is Blood-stained Angels." Nice one, Lawrie. We also suspected there was a touch of the poet about the long-serving former Bloods president.



And it's a warm Warrandyte welcome to Beau Leslie Fisher, eighth grandchild of *Diary* founder Cliff Green and Judy. Beau, second child of Fiona (youngest of the Green's three daughters) and Mark, weighed in at a healthy 7lb 1oz on March 15. And if anyone out there questions the right of *Diary* staffers to get stuff like this into the paper, let us remind you it is our only perk of office, in lieu of pay.



If former *Diary* editor and amateur thespian Ken Virtue is to further his theatrical career, we suggest he finds himself a wardrobe assistant. Ken was one of three blokes in a Full Monty sketch in the Festival Follies and the plot had them bringing down the curtain on their act by stripping to Union Jack jocks. His mates got it right on opening night, but when Ken got the gear off he was wearing the basic black. Brought the house down, as they say in showbiz.



Lawrie Sloan: a most unlikely angel.

Smokey Joe



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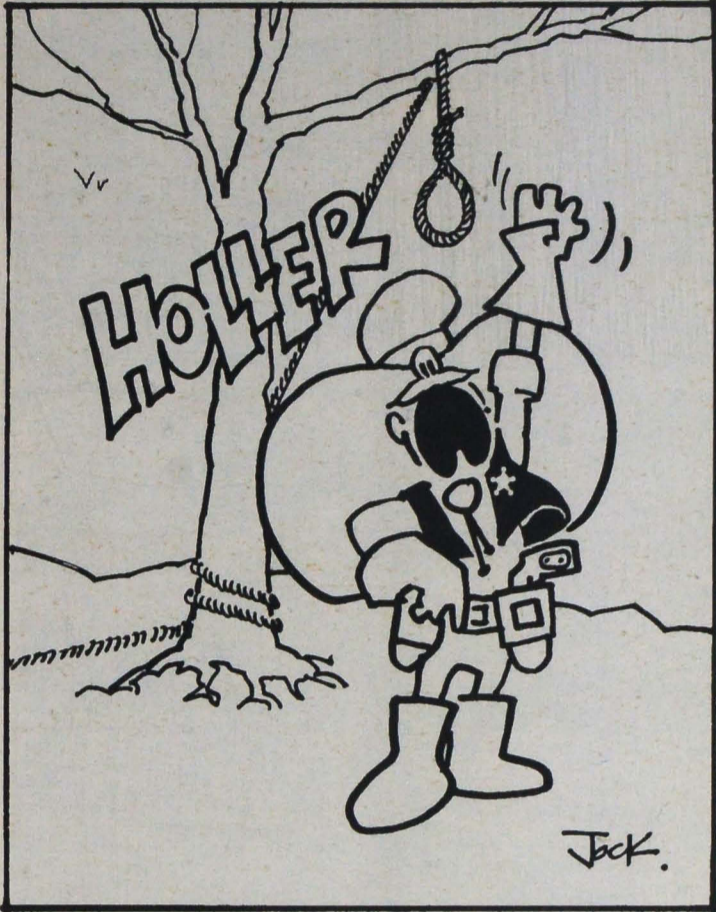
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Democracy at risk in Nillumbik



By FIA CLENDINNEN
 Shire president Robert Marshall has reacted with outrage to the final stage of the state government inquiry into Nillumbik.

Commissioner Abraham was appointed by the Acting Minister for Planning and Local Government in December last year "to investigate a breakdown of relationships between the mayor, councillors and senior staff and its effect on good governance at Nillumbik Shire Council".

Mr Abraham has already conducted 64 interviews with various witnesses but concluded his investigation by summoning Mr Rochford, Cr Marshall and Cr Graves to give evidence under oath at an open hearing.

While Cr Marshall stressed he had nothing to hide, he told the *Diary* that many of the questions put to him by the counsel assisting Mr Abraham concerned details of his life irrelevant to the workings of the Shire. Cr Marshall was described as an "activist" and questioned at length on his personal philosophy.

"For me to be questioned as to what I think and what I believe in a legal trial is an outrage of the first order in a free, democratic society. It's scandalous," said Cr Marshall.

"They call it an inquiry but that's part of the window dressing. It's an inquisition. It's a political inquisition at that."

Cr Marshall pointed out that in his 21 years as a councillor he has never been a member of a political party. He joined the ALP during the

time of commissioners but resigned soon after.

Nillumbik is under threat Cr Marshall believes, because the shire's conservation policies prevent developers from making considerable profits. Such people would welcome the council's downfall.

"Some see the Green Wedge as ripe for the plucking. They see a lot of money to be made and they want it," he said.

"For people to try to destabilise the entire council because they personally stand to gain hundreds of thousands, and in some cases millions, of dollars from suburban expansion I believe is an outrage. And this is what a lot of the problem is at the moment in Nillumbik council."

Cr Marshall also alleged he received two faxes threatening him against giving evidence at the trial. These faxes, described by Cr Marshall's lawyer as using the "grossest and basest language you can imagine," have been referred to the police.

Events over the past weeks have caused great concern amongst the community. Some residents are convinced, rightly or wrongly, that the whole council will be dismissed and Nillumbik will be divided up among neighbouring municipalities.

But Kahn Franke, chairman of the Green Wedge Protection Group (GWPG), said that although the situation was serious he was reasonably confident of a positive outcome.

"I really don't think they're going to have the grounds to bring the shire down; there's nothing there," he said. "They're obviously having

difficulty coming up with anything because they're running around making mountains out of molehills. Nillumbik has attempted to do everything within the guidelines of the local government act, there's no grounds of bad governance."

But Mr Franke also said that he was a realist and the GWPG were preparing themselves for the worst possible outcome. "We're working at strategies to put into place depending on the scenarios that eventuate."

Mr Franke said he thought it was very likely that Barry Rochford, Nillumbik's CEO, would be sacked. Giving evidence under oath Mr Rochford revealed he had sought a "golden handshake" of \$170,000 tax free, as well as a car and other items, as part of a redundancy payout from Nillumbik. At the same time he was negotiating another job with Brisbane City Council rumoured to have an annual salary of around \$160,000.

"I think the government would be pretty stupid if they didn't sack Barry," said Mr Franke. "He had another job and then he sought out a redundancy package. He had another job to go to. He didn't need a redundancy package."

Cr Marshall said he was receiving strong community support through Nillumbik's crisis. Late last month he was re-elected as shire president for a second term. The result has pleased many residents, who feel continuity throughout the investigation is critical.

As the *Diary* went to press, Cr Marshall was to spend two more days in the witness stand. Commissioner Abraham is hoping to release his report before Easter.

Which bank to close? Not ours. Not yet.

By DAVID WYMAN

Rumours that the Commonwealth Bank branch in Warrandyte would close were "only rumours", a chief manager of the bank has told the *Diary*.

"We have got no plans at the moment to close Warrandyte in the short term," the bank's chief manager, personal banking (northern area), Frank Rosbrook, said.

"What might have stirred the rumour is that we, like some other banks, are closing a

number of smaller-type branches through suburban Melbourne as part of the rationalising of our network," he said. "I can imagine people in Warrandyte, where our branch is relatively small, might think 'we're next'. In our present planning, we have no intention to close Warrandyte."

Mr Rosbrook said that he could not say that Warrandyte's Commonwealth Bank branch would never close. "Like all our branches it will continue to be the subject of an on-going review of our overall representation," he added.

Mr Rosbrook said the Lower Plenty branch had been closed on March 27 and this may have fuelled speculation about Warrandyte.

He said the bank had to adopt a responsible approach to its business, to maintain a cost structure which would see the Commonwealth Bank as a viable business into the future.

"The ever-increasing trend to electronic banking means that some 70 per cent of all banking transactions are now done electronically. There is greater competition from existing and new banks which will run a bank without a branch network as we now have and that puts a lot of pressure on our cost structure," Mr Rosbrook said.

CLYDE & OCKER



"The only banks we'll have soon, Ock, are the ones along the river!"



Best prepared for 15 years, says CFA chief

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

Good preparation and an increased alertness by Warrandyte residents have contributed to one of the quietest summer seasons for the Warrandyte Fire Brigade.

Rob Kilkenny, the brigade captain, told the *Diary* he'd never seen the local area so clean of dry fuel in 15 years.

"The potential was 10 times greater to have a significant fire this summer than it was in 1996-97 when the disastrous bush fires occurred in the Dandenongs," Mr Kilkenny said. "It was a good surprise to find residents so prepared and not taking risks."

Rob Kilkenny said people were more aware of the season and not burning off when they shouldn't be or grinding metal and mowing lawns on rocky slopes which could cause sparks.

"In the 1996-97 summer Warrandyte was caught by surprise with 91 fires attended by

the brigade. This summer there were 59 calls. A combination of media, the Expo and Community Fireguard has certainly spread the message and any fires were caught a lot earlier.

"In the past, people used to sit inside with the curtains closed, watching television. This year they've been far more alert, looking outside, with all their senses working."

Mr Kilkenny said local councils and energy companies had continual programs of roadside and powerline clearance, reducing the amount of fuel.

Fire restrictions were lifted early in April (6th) on the south side of the river and will be eased on the northern side at the end of the month. Mr Kilkenny said residents should apply for burning-off permits in order to start clearing summer debris before it's too wet to burn.

A third fire truck, which was stationed at Warrandyte this summer, returns to the CFA next month.



Firefighters competing at Warrandyte Festival.

How you answered

A year-long program dealing with house fires and other fire risks is planned by Warrandyte Fire Brigade, following a survey of residents this summer.

The danger of house fires caused by heaters and white good appliances is quite high, according to Jeff Adair of the Warrandyte brigade.

"Most Warrandyte residents were well prepared this summer, protecting under homes, buying knapsacks, mops, installing roof sprinklers, pruning trees close to their houses," he said. "But there's still a high risk of house fire, especially as we go into the colder months."

The survey, the first by the brigade, showed there was still a need to educate some householders, with 86 per cent perceiving the fire risk as high or extreme in their area.

"Seventeen per cent of respondents did not notice the media campaign," he said. "The im-

portance of an annual fire expo, which will help those new to the area, was very obvious.

"Residents heeded warnings about fuel reduction, the need for a fire plan, clearing and blocking gutters and investing in buckets and mops to deal with spot fires. Ninety per cent found media information, street corner presentations and Community Fireguard very useful."

But Mr Adair said some people found it too hard to minimise fire risks. A more open Community Fireguard network with wider exchange of information might help. "The brigade will be targeting these people with random door-knocking and information sessions in high-risk areas."

"We'll also be pushing three main fire safety issues—fuel reduction, water supplies close to home and the importance of a fire plan. The risk of fire doesn't stop with the summer months."

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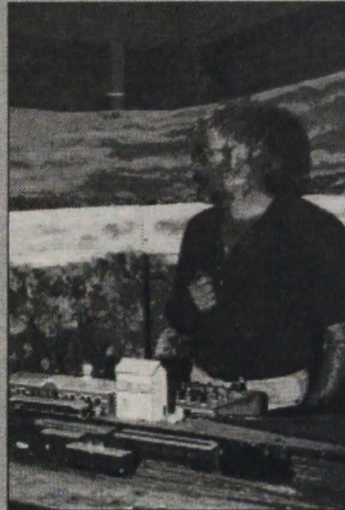
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'98 Festival Photo Album

by SANDY BURGOYNE





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Pre-loved pets

I'd like to introduce myself, my name is Elisabeth Anne, and I have been a resident of Warrandyte for two years. I am soon to be travelling overseas, and am unsure as to when, or if I will be returning. At the very least I will be away for several years.

While I am excited about this opportunity for me I have decided sadly that it is best to find permanent new homes for my pets. I have two cats and one dog who are now very much in need of finding someone to love them and take them into their homes. They are all affectionate, healthy and house-trained creatures who I know would be an absolute delight to anyone with a big heart and room for them in their lives.

Casey is a seven year old blue heeler-whippet cross, she has the heeler colouring though more of the slighthness and grace of the whippet. She is desexed, and has a delightful temperament, she loves company, is playful and energetic. She loves to go for long walks and to swim. She loves space, but is more in need of loving people. She's a house dog, not an outside pet, and ideally needs to have access to indoors and out. She's not an old dog by any means. Despite her age, most people think she is only just out of puppyhood. She doesn't dig up gardens either!

Chiron and Jinny are mother and daughter, three and two year-olds, both desexed. These two are very much a pair and I will not separate them. Chiron is a beautiful white, grey and

ginger. Jinny is black with white. They are both friendly and affectionate, though each has her own personality as far as how much affection and attention they want, and when!

If you have been considering a new pet, or pets, or know of someone who is, please call to arrange a meeting with them. I love these creatures very much and I wish for good homes for them. I leave in mid-May, so if you can help, please call me, ASAP. I don't want any money, just the satisfaction of knowing these friends of mine will be loved and looked after. Thank you folks for reading this. Elisabeth Anne. 9844 1617 or 0419 589 749.

Elisabeth Anne
Brackenbury Street

Say 'bye-bye' to pokies

It is interesting to see that all 27 poker machines have been removed from the Warrandyte hotel. This says a lot for our community in realising that most gamblers lose. However as a consequence these machines will probably be moved to an area where people are more gullible.

John Hanson
Webb Street

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.

DEAR DIARY

Seniors' happy guests

I would like to drop a note to you regarding the Warrandyte Senior Citizens Club. We have been going to them just on 12 years. In 1986 they took us in one very hot day, over 100 degrees. We were trying to find shelter outside the old timber football stand when they saw us and called us inside the lovely hall that they have.

The folk we take out in the coaches are frail and elderly folk from the Gwennap Home for Aged, Uniting Church, Geelong Road, West Footscray.

The Warrandyte folk are so kind and friendly to us it is a pleasure to visit them at all times. We are going back again on November 9 to their full dress rehearsal. We have lost some dear friends up there over the years, but we're very sorry to hear the loss of Rodney Edwards. He always asked to be at the hall when we came up there.

If the weather turns bad in Melbourne, we only have to ring Maisie or Helen, and we are most welcome. The Gwennap folk are in their 80s and 90s, so you can understand how much we appreciate the folk up there.

Enid Thomas
Footscray

Where once we shopped

Richard Warwick's article in your March edition stirs up my memories of shops that have operated in Warrandyte since I first arrived here in 1947.

The cafe near the bridge was called The Bridge Cafe, not Kia Ora. Kia Ora was situated near the old bakery and, according to Joyce Bellingham, the Millers, who at one time owned it, sold simple style meals there from time to time.

I remember Scott's General Store, but the advertisements for radios and electrical parts belonged to the tiny radio re-

pair shop which was annexed off Scott's store and which was Jack Griffiths' business. That small shop was later to become the base for Warrandyte Taxis which was run by Phil and Joan Moore and later by Ron Belzer.

I have fond memories of Aggie Moore's Central Tea Rooms and her "spiders", a popular drink she prepared and sold, plus the graphics on the wall behind the counter which depicted a Laurel and Hardy-like character and a spider in its web with the text, "Give my spiders a fly". Aggie also always had plentiful

hot milky coffee in big saucepans ready at interval for the audiences from the movies which were screened three times a week at the Mechanics Institute. (Before TV of course.)

Another milk bar not to be forgotten was Les Gilholme's opposite the bridge in what is now Folkart. There was also a milk bar run by the Bennetts and several other people in the shop that is now Scandless.

Thanks for stirring up the memories.

Jo Laurence (nee Garratt)
Kangaroo Ground Road

Willows weep

Hi Diary, great to see you on the net! I can't resist a comment from afar about the article I have just read in the Maroon-dah Post about the remaining willows being taken out of the Yarra at Warrandyte! It seems incredible just weeks after the Heritage Listing of the river above the bridge—which seems to underscore that the denuded banks below the bridge were unworthy of a listing.

Now willows and concrete ramps!! Vale Warrandyte.

Judy Macdonald
(e-mail)

Festival thanks

Once again congratulations to John Boyle and his committee for the hard work and organisation that has gone into another successful festival. Thank you all for your commitment.

Ann Riley
Betton Crescent

Yarra Street memories

Regarding the article in the March Diary, "The Leaning Store".

The store was not rebuilt on the same site but a new store was erected on the corner of Mitchell Avenue, on land belonging to Aggie Moore. It was a self-service store.

We still had our shopping delivered every Thursday and it was still the agent for the State Saving Bank.

After Jack Moore passed away, the shop was then the ANZ bank for many years, and is the Op shop now. Aggie Moore's tea rooms were on the corner of Mitchell Avenue and Yarra Street.

Len Retchford had the garage on the corner of Webb Street and Yarra Street then Frank Nankivell had it for many years and then Lloyd Hollyoak ran it for a lot of years. It was sold to Getson Motors and then the Li-

ons club took over to run our first Op shop.

Where the Warrandyte Cellars is now, was run by people named Airds in the 1920s, 30s and early 40s. Then it was Webbs store for years, then Butterworths, and I think the cellars took over from them.

Rob Buckworth's shop was a hall called the Merry Makers. It cost us sixpence as entrance fee.

The bank next to it was built by a Mrs Scott and run as a milk bar and afternoon teas.

It was then taken over by Sargeant Hardware and Plumbing. Then it was altered, so it turned into the State Savings Bank, now the Commonwealth Bank.

Love your Diary, can't wait for it to arrive. Hoping what I have written will help you.

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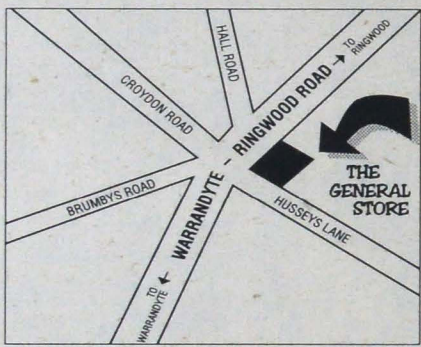
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DONCASTER AND TEMPLESTOWE
PLANNING SCHEME

NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT L126
(PART 1 AND 2)

Planning and Environment Act 1987

The Minister for Planning and Local Government has approved Amendment L126 (Part 1 and 2) to the Doncaster and Templestowe Planning Scheme. The amendment came into operation on 26 February 1998.

Part 1 of the amendment affects land known as Lot 2 on PS 411634Q (formerly part of 37-39 Yarra Street, Warrandyte). The amendment introduces a site specific control to allow a planning permit to be issued for the subdivision of the subject land into 7 lots and common property. However, a Statement of Compliance for the subdivision must not be issued until all relevant requirements under Planning Permit No. 9089 have been met.

Part 2 of the amendment affects land at 857-859 Doncaster Road and 2-4 Acacia Street, Doncaster East. The amendment proposes to insert a site specific provision into an existing Supplement to the Business 2 Zone. The site specific provision will clarify that a planning permit is not required to enable the use and development of the land for the purpose of 3 dwellings, in conjunction with a proposed office/showroom development.

A copy of the amendment can be inspected, free of charge, during office hours at:

Manningham City Council, Municipal Offices,
699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster, or

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

Any queries related to these amendments should be directed to Ben de Waard, Economic and Environmental Planning Unit on 9840 9469.

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BASKETBALL CLUB DID SEVEN HARD, LONG YEARS

Stadium was their goal

By CLINTON GRYPAS

The history behind Warrandyte Basketball Club's push towards a new stadium is a story of plans and promises but precious little action.

It is a path littered with wasted money. Thousands of dollars have been consumed, across seven years, by consultant reports that all ultimately said the same thing: the club desperately needs a new court.

A couple of years after the 1987 opening of their present home at Warrandyte High School it became obvious that one court would not be enough to cater for the sport's local popularity.

The first real hope of a new stadium came in 1992 when the then Doncaster-Templestowe council mooted plans for an indoor court at Warrandyte Reserve as part of the reserve's management plan. This was vetoed at a public meeting on January 20, 1993, however, when local residents protested that it would bring too much traffic and noise with insufficient car parking.

The club was appeased somewhat when Kristen Allen, council's recreation planning officer, said the club would get a new court "sometime in the near future".

Later in 1993 council released its Indoor Sport and Recreation Plan—suggesting that an extra court with meeting and social facilities be built in the car park alongside the high school stadium. The report placed the new facility in the "immediate to medium" priority time-frame.

When nothing eventuated the Redbacks

decided to go it alone. In 1994 they put to council a submission for funding—a basic \$340,000 to \$360,000 to build a new court at the high school.

Council refused the request, preferring to follow a grand vision for an elaborate 3000 seat \$8 million mega-stadium at Rieschieks Reserve in Doncaster; an eight-court major centre for basketball in the municipality. This despite the release of another council commissioned investigation—the Regional Multi-Purpose Indoor Sporting Facility Report (1994)—which supported a second court at the high school.

"We endorse the principle of constructing second courts at a number of centres, including Doncaster Reserve in Leeds Street and Warrandyte High School," the report said.

In 1996 council commissioned a further study. This came to the same, not-so-remarkable conclusion: that Warrandyte needed a new court. It said in part that "It is now considered more appropriate for each club to expand its existing facilities or facilities in its local community than to pursue construction of a centralised regional facility. The Warrandyte Basketball Club requires an additional court at the current venue with any local site (i.e. in Warrandyte) being acceptable."

Council's manager for cultural and leisure services, Wendy Dunstan, said in June that "the report clearly shows there is a need for a new stadium. The commissioners want this. A sport like basketball has the potential to pay for itself. We have to ad-

dress the needs which are clearly out here."

An idea emerged for a court abutting Goldfields Plaza shopping centre. The Warrandyte Business Association supported the plan, and in the middle of 1996, Andersons Creek Primary School offered to "host" the stadium. They suggested an unused corner of the school grounds, close to the shopping centre, and it won widespread support.

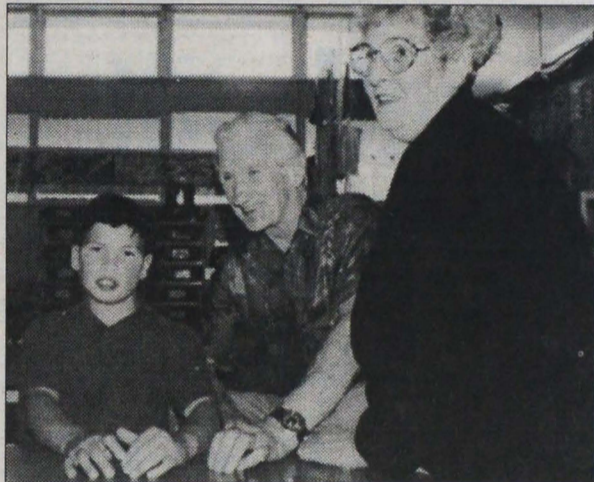
School council representative Jim Pasinis told a meeting with the club, local MP Phil Honeywood and Wendy Dunstan that the school was "very keen".

"We have land we can't use at the moment for security reasons and we want to see better use of it. Our school council is committed to using its resources fully," he said.

The club responded by furnishing council with a detailed submission on the benefits of their new home being established at the school.

In February 1997 club president Bruce Macdonald announced that yet another report had been prepared. "It again confirms that there is a real and clearly identified need for additional indoor basketball facilities within the Warrandyte and Park Orchards area," he said.

Over the past 12 months Phil Honeywood has enlisted state government financial help while co-chairing a working party with Cr Patricia Young; helping the club towards their goal after seven years of hype, hope but—until recently—very little action.



Tauri Anana with grandparents, Frank and Elva McCormick

Grand family day

Hundreds of grandparents descended on Warrandyte Primary School for Grandparent's Day—one of the features of the school's program for Senior Citizen's Week.

The children invited their grandparents to a special afternoon at the school to watch them working in their classrooms, followed by a performance of the bush band.

Assistant principal Darryl Furze said: "The response to the day was overwhelming with an estimated 400 visitors. It was fantastic to see so many grandparents—even a number of great grandparents."

Grandparents came from all

over Victoria, one traveling from Sydney by bus to participate.

Some came from a lot closer. Tauri Anana's grandparents—Frank and Elva McCormick—live within walking distance in Warrandyte. Tauri's connections go back through each generation to the school's beginnings. His mother (Barbie Robson), grandmother (Elva McCormick), great grandmother (Elva Ilsley) and great great grandfather (George Sloan) have all been students at the school and George's father (James Sloan)—who arrived in Warrandyte in 1856—helped to construct the stone building.

Kids tackle drugs

Warrandyte High School has been described by MP Phil Honeywood as "one of the leading schools in the state," chosen "to develop an Individual School Drug Education (ISDES) program in 1998".

"As part of the state government's \$100 million Turning The Tide anti-drug program, Warrandyte High School will introduce drug education as a key component of their curricular in 1998", Phil Honeywood told the *Diary*.

Schools developing ISDES will be assisted by a team of 20 regional drug education facilitators, to establish drug education as a core component of the school curriculum, and to develop programs and policies addressing drug and related student welfare issues arising in the school community.

Funding will be provided for

teachers to receive drug education training, and parent information sessions will be held.

"By developing individual strategies through Turning The Tide, schools can ensure that they offer educational programs which meet the specific needs and concerns of students and their communities. It is encouraging to see so many schools embracing drug education and wanting to find solutions at a community level," Phil Honeywood said.

"Other initiatives of the Turning The Tide program continuing this year include the Backgrounds project, which identifies drug-related issues relevant to school communities with diverse cultural populations, and the Connect project, which looks at ways for schools to help vulnerable students continue their education."

Salvos seeking our help

The Salvation Army has had no doorknock appeal in Warrandyte since 1994. Captain Eddy Holman, Commanding Officer of the Doncaster Salvation Army, said he is delighted to advise the Warrandyte residents that Mr John Cox has accepted the appointment as District Chair for the Warrandyte district.

"Already a number of organisations have been contacted by Mr Cox and he has received positive indications of support

in re-establishing the Red Shield Appeal," Captain Holman told the *Diary*. "This is a great opportunity for the strong community spirit of Warrandyte to express itself again in service to the wider community."

Organisations and groups wishing to join in helping the Salvation Army's Red Shield Appeal can contact Mr Cox on 9844 2702. The appeal doorknock dates are May 23 and 24.

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\$5,000

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.

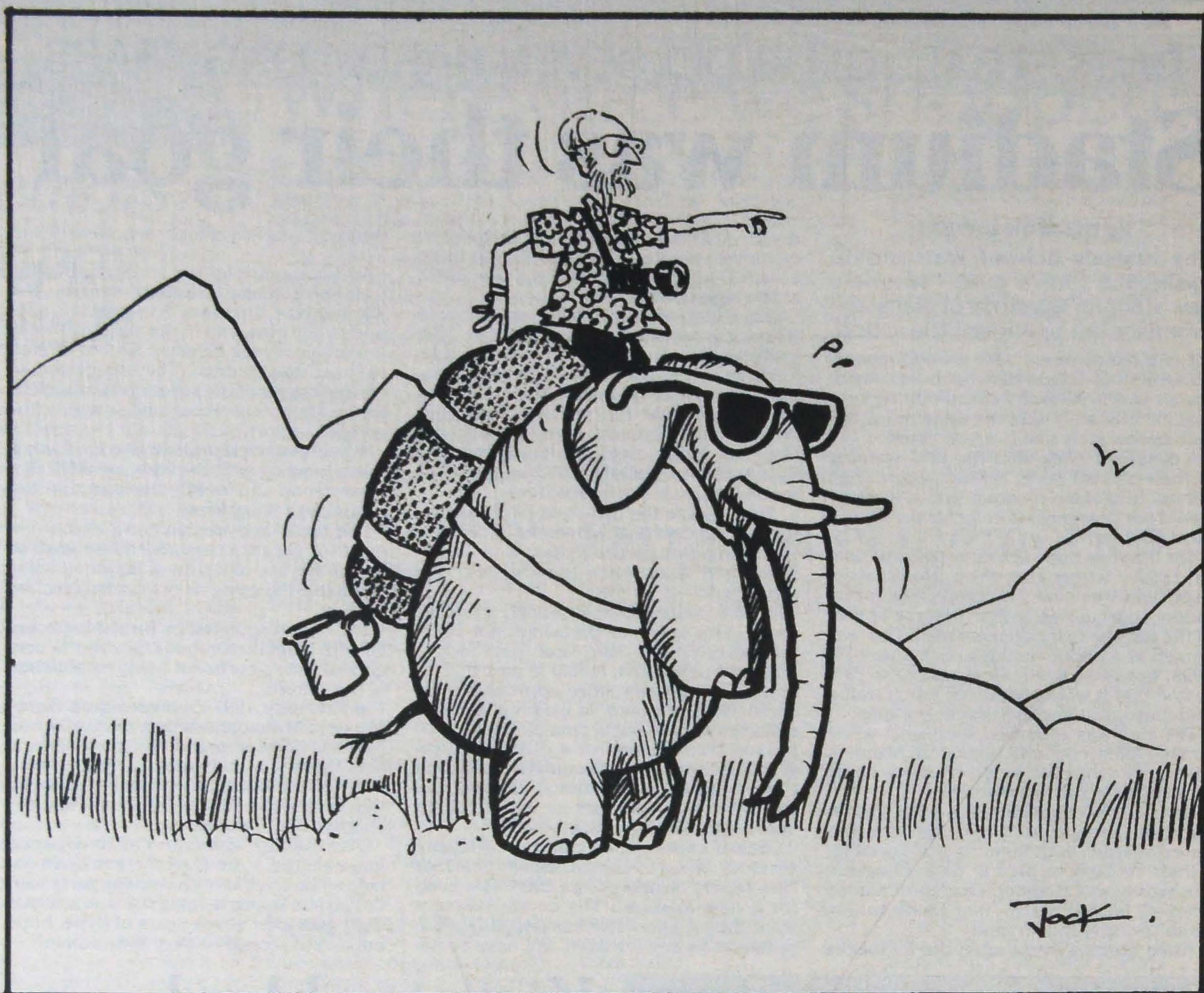
Applications close 30 June 1998 and the winner will be announced in March 1999, during the Warrandyte Festival.

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

**Warrandyte Youth Arts Award
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"No! It can't be red or yellow or lime green or anything that looks a little bit hippy."

"What did they do in the 70s? There must be a whole generation of neurotic elephants. The world was awash with psychedelic shapes and garish colours. You don't think you've got it wrong?"

The sales lady looked on, bemused. What were these two idiots doing, worrying about the appropriateness of the colour of a couple of collared T-shirts. And at Phillip Island. And about elephants.

It was Phillip Island because we were there and I was concerned about elephants because, by the time you're reading this, I'll be straddling an elephant in Nepal, looking for any stray tiger that may still be surviving in the Chitwan jungle park. The brochure made it abundantly clear that bright colours are to be avoided and Herself's suggestions about the bright red and bright yellow didn't seem to gel with an elephant's fashion sense.

"But the brighter colours will make you more visible if you get lost on the trek. It's much easier to see the bright colours against the grey of rocks or the white of snow."

KIBBLED

"There must be a whole generation of neurotic elephants. The world was awash with psychedelic shapes and garish colours."

"I have no intention of getting lost. I'll be sticking to the designated paths, following the Sherpas for all I'm worth. And I'm not going to take one set of shirts for the trek and another for the elephants. I'll just take the brown, grey and dark blue and that'll be fine."

No doubt the elephants will appreciate the domestic haggling that went on. In fact, it's clothing that is the bane of my travelling life. I can never get it right. The usual problem is that I take far too much. I envy those

world travellers who seem to have nothing more than a light tracksuit and a bum bag. You know the ones I mean. Retired explosive experts who took up bicycling and roller blading at 70 and who have taken up the challenge of walking around the Equator with their only luggage, apparently, the plastic Safeway bag they carry alternatively when climbing mountains or scuba diving.

Then there's me. I pack for all eventualities. And that's why reading Lonely Planet is my downfall. Vietnam, for instance. I read that the South would be hot, humid and definitely shorts and T-shirt weather. The North, however, would be different—cold and windy, requiring Melbourne winter gear.

The sausage bag was suitably apartheid—light stuff up one end and heavy stuff the other.

One hour into our tour in Ho Chi Minh City and I knew that LP was right. However, as we travelled up the coast, I started to have doubts about the weight lurking in my bag.

"Unseasonably fine weather," I was assured when we reached half-way up; coats, scarves, the lot.

We alighted expecting Arctic winds to bite through to the bone. We were wearing T-shirts and light cotton pants and, secretly, I was hoping to find myself scrabbling for the heavy end of the sausage bag. It didn't happen. Each night I looked manevolently at the excess luggage and wondered when I'd get

it right.

The pattern was set in 1982 when we lived in England for a year. Again, we had been warned about the inclement weather and had prepared ourselves. We bought two tea-chests and crammed them with jumpers, thermal underwear and heavy coats. They remained unpacked for most of the year. What we had failed to understand is that the weather may be inclement but instead of heavy gear, you need layers. Everywhere is so heated that you only need a light topcoat to protect you from wind and rain and then this is removed once inside.

Tokyo was the same so it is with some trepidation that I have been surveying my clothing for Nepal. This time I'm with layers; thermals, shorts, T-shirts and some heavier gear for nights. This time I'm determined that I'll get it right although I have a sneaking suspicion that I may have substituted clothing excess for medicine excess.

I've been reading all about the dangers of my destination. I've had all the shots. I've got anti-diarrhoea, anti-constipation, anti-malaria, anti-everything pills including anti-inflammatory and anti-bacterial creams. However, this time, if I get back to Melbourne with unused equipment I'll be happy.

Given the potential dangers, colour-conscious elephants will be a doddle.

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A chilly wander down a weedy watercourse

THE instant my foot touched the water I knew it had been a mistake to wear thongs and not gumboots. After a series of chilly star-studded nights, so typical of early autumn, the creek was as cold as an alpine stream.

The creek was Andersons, and I had come to share its journey for a while. A journey that had begun several kilometres away in a humble suburban reserve in Ringwood North. I joined Andersons Creek at the picnic area along Gold Memorial Road, near the cairn that marks the first discovery of gold in Victoria in 1851.

In ankle-deep, gently rippling water, I headed downstream, stepping carefully between algae-covered rocks of emerald green. Pomaderris trees formed a leafy canopy which filtered the sunlight, producing shimmering filigree patterns on the water.

A party of small, hyperactive birds flitted in and out of the foliage, darting from branch to branch, hovering and swooping occasionally to pluck some tiny insect from the air. As an uninvited guest at their party, the birds tolerated my presence with remarkable trust.

Amongst the menagerie were fantails, wrens, pardalotes and red-browed finches—compact little finches with a startling crimson rump and the distinctive red eye-strip for which they are named.

Although placid now, the creek has a violent side to its nature which surfaces only af-



NATURE

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

ter heavy rain. In a show of temper even the naughtiest two year-old would be proud of, the slow-moving stream becomes a raging torrent so powerful that any log or other debris in its way is gathered up and carried along by the force of water.

The legacy of its last rampage lay before me obstructing the creek—a conglomerate mound of leaves, twigs and small branches bound together with silty mud that had piled up behind the prostrate trunk of a fallen tree.

Along one bank of the creek was a wall, a green living wall of wandering jew. Layer upon layer of shiny green leaves and brittle, succulent stems, so thick that nothing could penetrate it. The prolific South American import, whose natural habitat is the rainforest floor, was in flower and the attraction was obvious—three snowy-white petals forming a triangle around a spray of white stamens and yellow-tipped anthers. This plant is so easy to propagate it will grow from a portion of stem placed in a glass of tap water in semi-darkness, no wonder it is a major environmental weed.

Wandering jew gave way to creeping buttercup, another troublesome immigrant, this one from Europe. Also a ground cover, it has flowers of deep

golden yellow and leafy runners which have the ability to take possession of, and obliterate, all other plants in its way. The introduced buttercup relishes disturbed damp areas and, like the wandering jew, has escaped into the bush from gardens or been dumped in garden rubbish.

Despite the enormous competition, a few natives

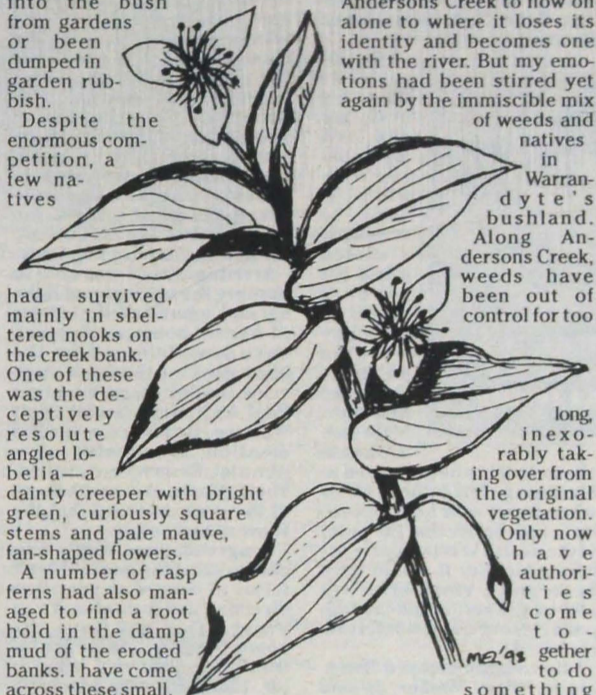
had survived, mainly in sheltered nooks on the creek bank. One of these was the deceptively resolute angled lobelia—a dainty creeper with bright green, tufted ferns in similar situations along other creeks in the area and on the banks of the River Yarra. Warrandyte, it seems, is somewhat of a stronghold for rasp

ferns which are surprisingly uncommon in more typical fern country.

I did not complete the journey with the creek. My feet were numb with cold and I was beginning to shiver. So I left Andersons Creek to flow on alone to where it loses its identity and becomes one with the river. But my emotions had been stirred yet again by the immiscible mix

of weeds and natives in Warrandyte's bushland. Along Andersons Creek, weeds have been out of control for too

long, inexorably taking over from the original vegetation. Only now have authorities come together to do something about it and although for some species it is too late, for others, like the angled lobelia and the rasp ferns there is at last some hope for their future security.



Australians all eat ost-rich-es in a land that's dirt by sea

NOW that the festival is over we can have a breather from wondering where our kids have disappeared to.

Admittedly, it's unlikely that any would get seriously misplaced, since they pack roam in close orbits focussed on the pocket money dispensers. Everybody knows everybody else, and the minute a parent pauses with knitted brow, a passer-by is likely to oblige with the information that not two minutes ago the offspring in question was here or there or half-way to somewhere else.

And isn't it amazing that a child who is more or less brain-dead until lunchtime on an average school day can, on the morning of the festival parade, be up and itching to go at first light? Not only fully clothed but fully accessorised, with watch (for the purpose of rendezvous), camera, water bottle and wallet bulging with coins from its piggy bank. Never again will I declare that this child cannot get itself organised.

Children always seem to have the last word. Take the recent Republican Follies segment in Search of a National Anthem.

The writers did a lively job,



OUR PLACE

By **MARILYN MOORE**

but did they realise that there was a well-worn home-grown anthem right under their noses? For years on a Monday morning, until someone put her on the right track with the proper words, one of my little treasures would put her hand over her little heart and lustily sing the following lines:

"Australians all eat ost-rich-es. For we are young and free, With golden soil and Welford Oil, Our home is dirt by sea! A roundabout with nature strips, of beauty rich and rare—In hist'ry's page let every stage Advance Australia Fair. In joyful trains then let us sing: Ad-vance Aus-tra-lia Fair!"

Well you might laugh, but, with the possible exception of the golden soil, this earthy version of our esteemed anthem

makes a lot of sense to a five year-old. OK, so they may wonder when they will be initiated into true Australian citizenship and finally tuck into a plateful of ostrich stew, but at least it's something they can visualise.

Being young they identify with, and even if they cannot possibly know what it means to be free, it sounds good. After all, aren't they used to watching interminable ads promoting freedom, free stickers, giveaways, a baker's dozen, free wheel alignments, free air, buy any two and get one free? The best things in life are definitely free.

Forget the inexplicably gilded soil and the unheard-of oil, the next line is a little Aussie ripper. I defy anyone to come up with a more taciturn description of our populous eastern seaboard than "dirt by sea".

It is, however, a description which scarcely befits Warrandyte, situated as it is on the banks of the old brown Yarra.

But the next phrase mentions an immediately recognisable icon: a roundabout with nature strips. For many locals it is the most important focal point on the daily journey to school. The

bridge is merely a milestone: once across it you are nearly there. But that all-important roundabout, he of the large circumference and gravelly visage is the Fat Controller of traffic, and he alone determines whether or not you will be late for school (or, worse still, on a Monday, late for assembly). Small wonder we pay homage to him.

And Warrandyte is undoubtedly full of beauty: rich (presumably those mansions down beyond the high school), rare (the egret which occasionally roosts on our deck rail) and abundant other beauties (e.g. "Bewdy, mate!" when the Bloods boot home another six-pointer).

Finally, it's not hard to imagine a train load of joyful little nippers belting out our anthem. The festival parade delivered something pretty close. A truck load of Warrandyte PS bush band performers collected the prize for Best Overall Entry, so didn't they have something to sing proudly about?

Maybe the anthem of our five year-olds isn't so silly after all. Maybe they are more perceptive than we give them credit for.

WMI & AA Inc

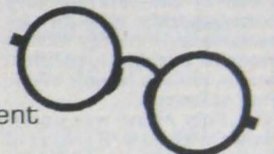
NOTICE OF AGM

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.

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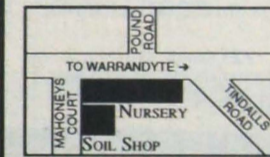
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Pollies fun at the Follies

REVIEWING the Follies is like taking a notepad to a neighbourhood party. The commitment of the players, under the tight direction of Keith Cook, ensured that the show was entertaining, but the material was too often uneven and outdated. However, the audience responded to the mood and raw energy of the evening.

Ken Virtue introduced the Republican Convention with his usual authority and the first item on the agenda was the choice of a national anthem, with Warnie For President getting the audience vote. Several items, such as the polling booth sketch and the new Australian flag managed to convey the contradictory Australian traits of apathy, inventiveness; of energy when it comes to pushing a political barrow, and the laconic aussie sense of humour.

The Poly Show was entertaining, with its well observed characterisations of Eddie McGuire, Sam Newman, Pauline Hanson and little Johnny Howard, but with a wealth of material ripe for lampooning, the performers deserved lines with more satirical bite, building to notable punch-lines.

'You Can Always Count on Me', sung beguilingly by Christie Lawrence, was the type of torch song a young Shirley MacLaine might have performed in the late 50s. It was difficult to feel on side with the sentiments expressed, or those of a further 'woman as powerless victim' number, although equally well per-

THEATRE

By MARION WINTON

formed by Alison Leitchford.

Alison's husband had apparently danced off with a girl who looked like Marilyn Monroe, leaving her to look after seven children and one on the way. An enlightened 90s audience couldn't help wondering why they didn't ditch the men and seek counselling. Our only lament was that two such attractive and talented performers didn't have more relevant material to work with.

What can I say about the trio of Australian Mounties?

By the time they arrived on stage the audience was claret-warmed and ready to clap along to the raunchy, 'You Can Leave Your Hat On', and shamelessly encouraged the on-stage bump and grind of Ken Virtue, Mark Maddocks, and Matt Allgood as they executed the three-quarter Monty, with twist. Such a number will always have a place in

which has a quality at times reminiscent of Joan Baez, responded well to Chris's accompaniment. I believe this second generation of singers, whose parents have entertained Warrandyte audiences for many years, will continue to grow in confidence and musical ability.

The Committeemen, part of the Melbournaires, a most professional group of unaccompanied singers led by David Buck, gave a huge lift to the evening. Their barbershop quartet style of singing never seems dated and, combining vocal dexterity with lots of personality, the group's renditions of songs like 'Hello My Honey', and 'Alexander's Ragtime Band' had the audience shouting for more.

I found myself losing both my pen and my patience when it came to reviewing a sketch about parents meeting their gay son's partner for the first time. Must heterosexuals

continue to be portrayed as blustering, Ted Bullpitt idiots when faced with homosexuality? I appreciate that the point of the sketch was to expose homophobia, but it would have been much more effective played as a serious piece, with puns removed and subtlety introduced.

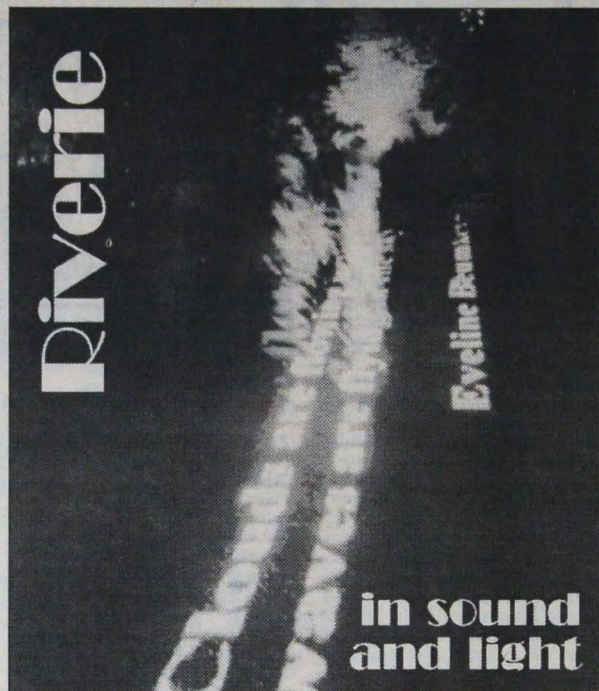
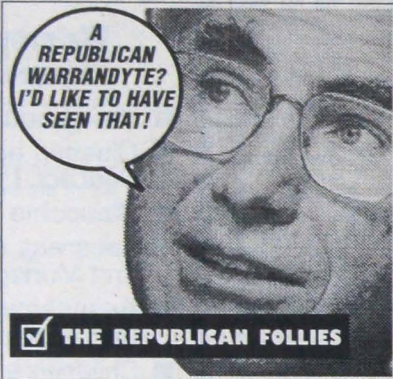
I thoroughly enjoyed listening to Hilary Walker, as solo singer, with Chris Cornell (guitar and vocal). Hilary's voice,

which has a quality at times reminiscent of Joan Baez, responded well to Chris's accompaniment. I believe this second generation of singers, whose parents have entertained Warrandyte audiences for many years, will continue to grow in confidence and musical ability.

Craig Carthew's 'Les Jazz Hot' was the quintessential, theatrical high camp revue number, performed with wit and great control, and one which deserved an encore. To successfully assume a transvestite persona it is not enough just to cross-dress, it has to be done with elegance, timing and, above all, performed seriously, all of which Craig did. I understand this show-stopper had to be scheduled late in the evening to allow Craig to finish a hairdressing assignment. Do give up your day job, Craig.

Arriving early I was able to observe the setting up of lighting and sound and the efforts of front-of-house staff, which were later followed by the hard work of the back stage crew, under stage manager Phyl Swindley. Pianist Scott Wallace, deserves a special mention, along with saxophonist Bronwyn Ventura. Their efforts, along with those of the crew, ensured that the show ran smoothly.

Congratulations, Keith. You chose one of the most difficult forms of theatre as your first directing assignment and you proved that you have the comic timing and sense of ironic possibility to bring it off. I look forward to seeing more of your work, hopefully with stronger material.



Festival-goers were treated to a rare experience on the riverbank below Webb Street when Hugh McSpedden presented his light and sound show Riverie on the Friday and Saturday nights.

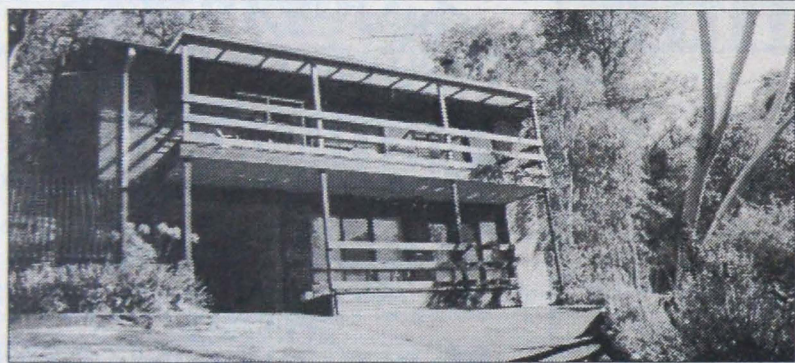
"Hugh's irrepressible genius discovered new ways to illuminate the patterns of nature," *Diary* writer and Hugh's collaborator Glen Jameson said. "He put in more than 500 hours developing and running the show."

Riverie depicted, in magical lighting, water and sound effects, the life of the river: Aboriginal themes, the seasons, and animal life; along with a touch of humour "for the young at heart".

Music for the show was provided largely by contemporary composers Peter Mumme and Ros Brandt.

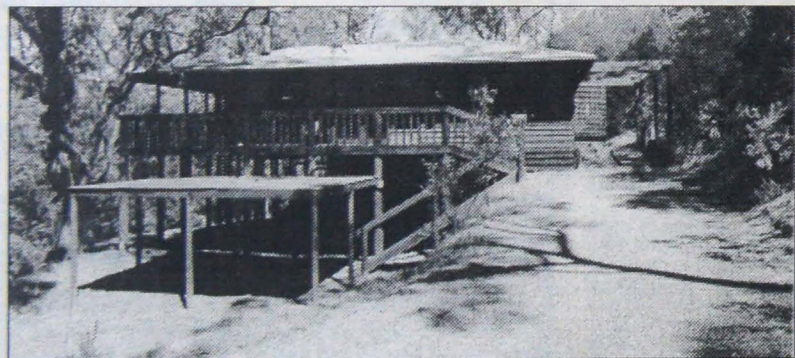
As well as Hugh and Glen, a number of volunteers "helped considerably", including Tom Bone, Alan Noy, Ken McMahon and Dylan Osler. Bob Bird, Rob Kilkenny and the Warrandyte CFA assisted with the marvelous waterwall effects.

Sponsors who helped included the Grand Hotel, Warrandyte Newsagency, Folkart, Warrandyte Pharmacy, Spencer Martin, the Soil Shop, Liberty service station and Warrandyte Hardware. Hugh McSpedden also wants to thank the festival committee—especially John Boyle.



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Festival '98

Words by RACHEL BAKER • Pictures by SANDY BURGOYNE

The Warrandyte Festival has once more come and gone—for the next 12 months, anyway.

Despite threateningly grey skies, the weather remained fine for the whole weekend, and program manager, David Hogg described the festival as "another huge success".

The famous Festival Parade, held on Saturday morning, attracted a record 63 entries. The "best entry" prize was awarded to Warrandyte Primary School's Bush Band. Other prizewinners included Warrandyte and District Pre-school, for most Warrandytish; and Anderson's Creek Pri-

mary School, for Best Costumes and Make-up. Warrandyte Street Theatre Group took away the prize for the Most Imaginative entry. With its face-painted and costumed stiltwalkers, the group of young performers was a main attraction of the "Fur, Feathers and Fins" parade.

There were some "first-ers" at this year's festival. The Riverie sound and light show was held on the riverbank, and, with its premiere on Friday evening, "helped to kick off the festival to a spectacular start," David Hogg said.

Another new event was Words

Unplugged—an evening of poetry at the Warrandyte Hotel on Friday. A number of local poets and authors entertained the audience with their work.

This year's festival also included an event that will never occur again. The well-known bush band, Paradiddle, performed their final and "best concert ever" on Sunday night.

Festival committee's president, John Boyle, was very pleased with the whole weekend. "There's just something about the atmosphere," he said. "Everyone's happy and relaxed, and it shows on people's faces."

Youth Concert

A sea of young people strewn over the football oval... eight hours of incessant, loud, hard rock music... mosh pits circled around two blaring stages...

The annual Warrandyte Festival Youth Concert had all the ingredients required for teenagers' bliss. Ask any of the young locals that attended and they will tell you, "it went off!"

Beginning at 3.30 on Saturday afternoon, the concert showcased a variety of local bands that have established their success both in and out of the region. They were Torpid, Grumble Goosh, Isheda, Monkey Spank, Crack, Rhizome, Bug Dust and Pandora.

For the first time, however, there was an additional stage included to unveil groups of young Warrandyte musicians described by concert organiser, Rick Gordon, as "garage bands." "These groups don't usually get the chance to get up and perform like this, so we put up the second stage, so the kids could play between the bands on the main stage," Rick said.

Nacissis, Fritter Fat Boys, Charlie Parker, Rasputin and Rodent Blitzer were the bands invited to play on the second stage.

Although intended as an opportunity for the bands to get experience, the audience was surprised by the quality of the performances.

"They've been great," Rick said. "The audience loved them. When Rasputin was playing, the whole crowd was surrounding them, and really getting into it. And the final band, Rodent Blitzer, has been popular, too."

Rodent Blitzer is made up of five local boys who went to Anderson's Creek Primary School together, and have kept in touch since. They spoke to the *Diary* soon after their performance.

"We got together about four months ago," Andrew Gordon said. "Josh (Dawson) rang everyone up and asked them if they wanted to start a band, so we did."

Josh plays the drums, Andrew is on bass, Nick Leong is the vocalist, and his brother, Jonathan, plays guitar.

The band plays a combination of original and cover music. Their own songs, including 'Struggle', 'Maximum Funk', and 'Rodent Blitzer' were produced through the combined effort of all the band members.



Billycart Derby

Despite a few bumps and scratches, this year's Billy Cart Derby was a runaway success for all the organisers, competitors, officials and spectators involved.

Held on Forbes Street, outside the police station—and with a St John's Ambulance crew close by—the contest was divided into two sections: Supercart and Standardcart. For those less knowledgeable of the billycart profession, "Supercart" basically means those carts with large wheels, while "Standardcarts" have smaller ones.

However, because of a late scratching due to injury, the Supercart section was left to only one racer, Jake Humble, who took away the medal without contest.

So the race was down to the Standardcarts.

After several heats, close finishes and re-runs, the gold medal for the fastest Standardcart was presented to Jordan Gauder. The indivisible Jace Ranson and Chris Burris came equal second, and Evan Pottenger came in at a tight third.

Jordan Gauder—on his simple, yet quick, red and blue billycart—sped from the main road to the gravel at end of the Forbes Street in 12.8 seconds. The cart was designed and built by Jordan and his dad about two years ago.

"We brought it down," Jordan, now 8, told the *Diary*. "But I was only 6, and when I saw the hill, I was too scared, so I pulled out."

"But we came back next year," Jordan's dad said.

Pet Show

A chaotic throng of furry, four-legged creatures of all descriptions gathered on the banks of the Yarra for the annual Dog Show and Pet Parade, organised by Warrandyte High School.

There were prizes for various categories, including the dog with the loudest bark, the longest/shortest/waggiest tail, most appealing eyes, and best grooming.

But Sheba, a seven-year-old female Border Collie, stole the show when she won the ultimate pet prize: the "Best Dog" award. Alex, Sheba's owner, was understandably exalted by her dog's achievement.

So what's so special about Sheba?

"I think it's because she looks great," Alex said. "She's shy, but she appeals to everyone."



Kids' Market

This year's Kids' Market attracted youngsters from all over Warrandyte. They slaved over hot stoves, creating gastronomic delights: jelly-cups, chocolate-chip cookies, and "cups of dirt"—with genuine worms and bones, were just a few of the items on selection.

Sean Johnson and Jack Bullaid got together to "make a mint" with their "Jaffa Smash" machine. For 20 cents, you got two Jaffas. They were placed, one at a time, at the top of a long, twisting pipe. They rolled down, and as the name suggests, you had to whack the Jaffa with a mallet when it ran out the bottom of the pipe.

If you smashed both of your Jaffas, you got your 20 cents back, plus two free Jaffas. (You actually got to eat those.) But the game was not as easy as it sounds. So, to encourage the less-quickly reflexed punters, even if you didn't smash any Jaffas, you still got a free one.

Another new addition to this year's market was Fiona Coull's Massages, which, at 20 cents a minute, were top value by anyone's standards. Fiona, aged 7 (nearly 8), assured the *Diary* she was an accomplished masseur.



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Emerging talent

REVIEW
By RHYS JAMES

THE artistic spirit of Warrandyte beat strongly through Stone Paper Scissors, an exhibition of emerging artists held at Potters Cottage Gallery from March 12 to 29.

Curated by young artist Malcolm Laurence, last year's winner of the Lions Club sponsored Warrandyte Youth Arts Award, the works of nine locals were on display as part of the Warrandyte Festival celebrations.

Diversity best describes this showing of mixed media which included painting, sculpture, printmaking, ceramics and jewellery.

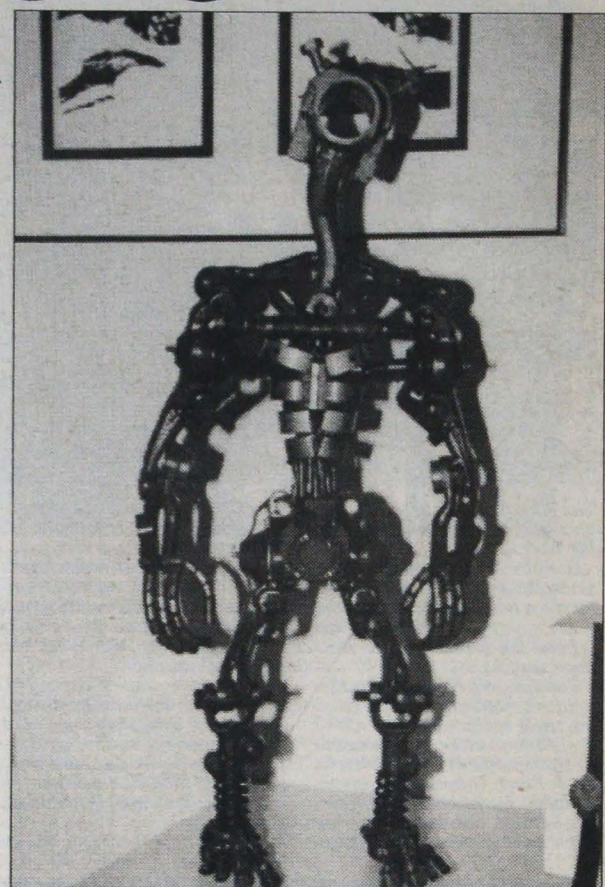
As the title suggests, it is important to recognise that the emerging artists involved are at an exciting and challenging point in their careers; most have pursued further study in their chosen fields.

In the case of the printmaker Georgina Colvin, overseas experience following her time at RMIT has developed a certain rigour in her work. Her acid perspex landscapes, though quite abstract, make for interesting studies of composition and negative space.

Damian Fitzgerald and Rachel Swift's ability to express themselves, both two and three dimensionally, was another impressive aspect of the exhibition. Fitzgerald's pencil work in particular provided a sensitivity of treatment that was lacking in his larger works, including the very 'Mambo-esque' acrylics Pandora's Caravan and Road Movie Soundtrack.

As can sometimes be the case with artists finding their feet, influences can occasionally be misconstrued as being too derivative and too prevalent in the early work of artists.

The almost chocolate box subject matter of painter Wesley Daniel Morgan



Sculpture by Malcolm Laurence

seemed a bizarre choice for an artist originally from Papua New Guinea, though his confident use of colour was very bold and effective.

Elongated landscapes by Andrew Horne were beautifully executed, in particular Waterfall Creek, and he should be commended on his technique. Themes from nature proved very popular and one cannot but help wonder if the respect and passion in Matthew Winzler's, Rachel Swift's, Andrew Horne's and Malanie Coupar's works are a result of having grown up in the area.

Ceramicist Adrian Morgan displayed a varied body of work whose forms and glazework showed potential. Curator Malcolm Laurence

showed much skill in his welded pieces in steel, successfully combining many elements to create figurative forms, adding a little refreshing humour to the exhibition.

Baden Hall, the only jeweller on show, contributed a body of necklaces, rings and pendants. As he completed his diploma in art and design at Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE only last year, he should be pleased with this selection of his work.

Overall, this exhibition should be applauded for providing a forum in which to view, discuss and encourage the future artistic directions of our local emerging talent. Congratulations to all involved.

DIARY MINI ADS

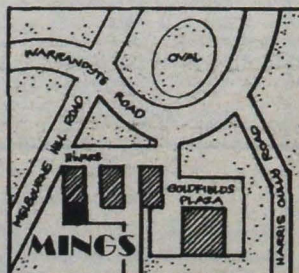
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Easter services

Warrandyte churches are combining to present a Stations of the Cross service at Stiggants Reserve at 10am on Good Friday. Other Easter services include: **Community Church** (9844 4148)—Good Friday, 9am; Easter Sunday, 10am. **Uniting Church** (9844 3727)—Thursday, April 9, 7.30pm; Good Friday, 9am; Easter Sunday, 10.15am. **Anglican** (9844 3473)—Good Friday, 8.30am (Park Orchards); 2pm (Warrandyte); Easter Sunday, 8am and 9am (Warrandyte); 10.45am (Park Orchards). **Catholic** (9876 1509)—Tuesday, April 7, Communal Rite of Reconciliation, 7.30pm (Warrandyte); Thursday, April 9, Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7.30pm (Warrandyte); Good Friday, Individual Rite of Reconciliation, 12noon to 1pm (Warrandyte); Commemoration of Passion, 3pm (Park Orchards). Prayers of Round the Cross, 8pm (Whitefriars); Saturday, April 11, Vigil of the Lord's Resurrection, 8pm (Park Orchards); Easter Sunday Mass, 10am (Warrandyte).



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.

Bookings at the hotel, 9844 3202.

Dance

The next South Warrandyte social dance will be held in the South Warrandyte Hall on Saturday, April 11, 8pm to midnight. Old-time dancing, with some new vogue and modern to a superb band. \$5 for adults. BYO drinks and supper, tea and coffee supplied. Any enquiries, call 9723 3892.

Bridge

A friendly bridge club meets each week in Eltham—on Monday afternoons at 1pm and in Templestowe at 7.30pm on Thursdays. Partners are not required and lessons are available. Call 9439 2270 for further information.

Thanks

St Stephens Anglican Church has asked us to thank those who supported their church pie stall, Big M van, banner display and afternoon teas at the Warrandyte Festival. Raffle winners were G. Whiteside, P. Clarke and Mrs Ashton.

Rabbits

All 21 property owners in the upper part of Webb Street participated in a rabbit poisoning project early in March. The State Park also destroyed harbours and fumigated burrows on adjoining land. Rabbit numbers in the area have been drastically reduced.

Frogs

The next Green Wedge Environment Seminar will be held at the Warrandyte Community Centre on Thursday, May 7 at 7.30pm. Gerry Marantelli will talk about frogs.

Clean up

More than 50 bags of general rubbish and recyclables were collected in Warrandyte during Clean Up Australia Day last month. Main areas cleaned up included the riverbank from Stiggants Reserve to Stonehouse and along the lower stretch of Andersons Creek. Organiser Peter Hanson has asked us to thank the schools, churches, Scouts, Guides, walking groups and the general public who participated.

Fundraiser

All four district CFA brigades will benefit from the next fundraiser at the Grand Hotel. It will be a matinee performance on Sunday, May 24 at 2pm featuring Elvis impersonator Andrew Portelli at a rock and roll dance and floor show.



Youth Services at the Warrandyte Festival

Wyena

Wyena Adult Riding Club is hosting the 1998 Horse Riding Clubs Show Jumping Day on Sunday, May 17 at Wandin Park. The event is expected to attract over 200 competitors, with riders competing in three phases of showjumping—equitation, AM3 and top score. Among the attractions will be trade and food stalls, raffles and a Pal fly dog team demonstration. The club is seeking sponsors for the day. If you are interested, please call Lisa Duggan on 9876 4311 or Kerrie Reid on 9879 9448.

Paper

The next Manningham council waste paper collection in Warrandyte will be on Friday, April 24.

Youth

Warrandyte Youth Services, with sponsorship from Manningham council, is conducting an April school holiday program for young people aged 12 to 25 years. On Tuesday, April 14, there will be horse riding at Uncle Nev's (cost \$25). Go-carting, laser games, mini golf and bowling will be on Thursday, April 16 (\$21); Dark Zone laser games and movies on Tuesday, April 21 (\$12) and a visit to Luna Park on Thursday, April 23 (\$10). For details and bookings phone Lisa or Wendy on 9848 2977 or Cathy on 9844 2985.

Playgroup

Warrandyte Westend Playgroup is a friendly, self-run group, meeting behind the Uniting Church in Tarroona Avenue. They are looking for lots of new members and invite you to enjoy adult company while your children (0-5 years) play inside or in the big outdoor play area. Phone Meredith Bubner on 9844 4533 for further information.

Annual

The annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute and Arts Association will be held at 8.15pm on Monday, May 4 in the Mechanics Institute Hall.

Paintings

The next exhibition at the Manningham Gallery will be paintings by Nel Ten Wolde, entitled Australian Land Shapes. Opening night will be Thursday, April 9 from 6.30 to 8.30. The exhibition will continue until April 23.

Indigenous

There will be a series of indigenous workshops with Waak Waak Jungi and Gerry Bostock at Monsalvat, 7 Hillcrest Avenue, Eltham, on Easter Sunday and Monday. Cost for one day is \$25, two days \$40 and final concert \$10 (\$8 concession). Bookings are essential and can be made on 9439 7712, 9730 2043 or 9730 1030.



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Chris White's winning painting: "Above the Waterfall, Walwa".

High school teacher takes out art prize

Highlight of the Rotary Art Show at the Warrandyte Festival was the judging of the best exhibits. First prize went to Chris White for his painting "Above The Waterfall, Walwa".

Chris is well-known as art teacher at Warrandyte High School and as director of the school's outstanding annual musical productions. This is the second time he has won the Warrandyte award.

"Painting is possibly my most important pursuit," Chris told the *Diary*. "The winning painting was painted on location at Walwa on the Upper Murray, a location I return to two or three times a year."

"My style could best be described as 'romantic impressionism' and I have worked exclusively in oils for the past 15 years."

Award for Joan

Long-time Warrandyte resident, Mrs Joan Golding, received an award late last month for her outstanding contribution to HIV/AIDS education.

Joan's son Martin died from AIDS in 1989. Joan was a primary carer and following his death, has related her own family's experiences and the local community's reactions to the presence of HIV and AIDS. She has addressed numerous community, medical, religious and education groups on issues relating to HIV/AIDS in Victoria and interstate.

Presenting the award, Mr Bob Newey, of Sexual Health Speakers, said: "Joan is evidence that a single dedicated person can make a difference to our community's attitude to HIV/AIDS. She is also very dear to those affected by this disease".

Anzac Day in Warrandyte

Warrandyte RSL's traditional Anzac Day march and memorial service will be held on April 25.

The march will begin at 10.30am from the car park beside the old Gospel Chapel and the RSL sub-branch reminds all ex-service people and currently-serving members of the forces that they are very welcome to take part.

The service will be held at the war memorial in the club grounds and all residents are invited to join with the RSL on this occasion of remembrance.

Refreshments will be available in the clubrooms at the conclusion of the service.

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Bloods blow Round 1

By LEE TINDALE

It was a less-than-ideal way for Warrandyte Football Club to launch their 1998 premiership campaign, but the home game against Upper Ferntree Gully on April 4 promised much better things to come.

Back in EFL Third Division for the first time since 1993, the Bloods went down by 10 points after trailing by six goals early in the second quarter and leading by seven points late in the third.

That third-term comeback was a remarkable transition—on both sides of the fence. Warrandyte players who had made most of football's basic mistakes in the first half suddenly found touch and home supporters who had watched almost mute from the terraces suddenly found booming voice.

"A disappointing result," said coach Lex Munro. "We let them get the jump, but the third quarter was very good."

"We have so many new players that it might take a little time for it to all jell. But we have certainly shown the rest today that we can play football."

That opinion was echoed by club president Jeff Evans. "Yes, disappointing," he said, "but basically half the side today were new faces who have to learn to play together."

Certainly, the team which lost to Upper Gully is not the best one Warrandyte will be putting on the park this season.

SPORT

To return are 1993 premiership players Dale Vitiritti and Glen McCartin, regular senior Tony King and likely seniors Christian Renfrey, Chris Ferguson and Matt Chapman. And yet to debut for the Bloods are three late signings—new assistant coach Steve Mellor, a former Dandenong (VFA) player, Willie Bell (Drysdale) and Richard Bloom (North Heidelberg).

Relegated from Division 2 after winning just one game last season and committed to Division 3 after circumstances beyond their control had threatened last-minute, wholesale redraws of EFL fixtures, Warrandyte looked distinct Fourth Division possibilities for 1999 in the first quarter against Upper Gully.

The visitors had their first goal on the board within seconds, their second nine minutes later and their third just a minute on.

They goaled again at 19 minutes and the goal umpire at our end had not even started to earn his afternoon's pay.

Captain John O'Brien brought blessed relief when he accepted a pass from young Liam Riley and kicked truly. But Upper Ferntree Gully, teaming much better and capitalising on loose Warrandyte defence, goaled three times before Bloods full-forward Scott Parnell put through our second after being

Under-18s kick off with a bang

The 1998 football season got away to a dream start for Warrandyte's Under-18s and their new coach, Vic Cosmas.

The young Bloods beat Upper Ferntree Gully by 142 points, 25.20 (170) to 4.4 (28).

"It was very much a team effort," said Cosmas, but he made special mention of Damien Johnson (six goals from centre half-forward), centreman Glen Carle (four goals) and full-forward Campbell Peberby (four).

The Warrandyte Reserves were overrun by UFT, going down 21.11 (137) to 7.10 (52).

● Warrandyte Football Club will be training Tuesdays and Thursdays at Domney Reserve in Park Orchards during April while Manningham Council resurfaces the Recreation Reserve.

The Bloods' next game is at East Doncaster on April 18.

The club will hold a cocktail night in the clubrooms after the home game against South Croydon on Anzac Day (April 25).

Winner of the 1000 can raffle drawn on festival Sunday was Travis Brogan. He suddenly has a lot of new friends.

SOS goes out for Under-14 players

Warrandyte Junior Football Club urgently need Under-14 players if they are to field a team in that division this season.

Failure to muster an Under-14 side was the low point in an otherwise fine start to the Yarra Junior Football League season on April 5.

"We're very short of players in this age group and may not be able to put a team together," said WJFC president Terry Pieper.

"Any eligible boy who would like to play footy

for Warrandyte can contact me (on 9844 1340)."

The club, who cater for Under-9s through to Colts (Under-17s), had nine teams in the season's opener for five wins, three losses and a "non-event" when fixtures confusion sent the Under-17s to the wrong ground.

Highlight was a 19.12 to nothing blitz of Greythorn by one of the two Under-10 sides.

"It was an excellent start for us," Pieper said. "Even the beaten sides were very competitive."

freed in the pocket.

At the first change it was 7.2 to 2.3.

Warrandyte drew first blood in the second term, Parnell marking in front two minutes in for his second, but UFG responded almost immediately, making amends for missing a sitter.

When they goaled again a few minutes later, the scoreline had blown out to 9.3 to 3.3, which improved marginally when Brett Thompson bounced

through a long one.

Parnell kicked his third midway through the quarter and when Chris Sharp took a great mark right in front and converted things were back on a much more respectable footing at 9.9 to 6.3.

Still, the visitors were looking very ominous, with little to show for having peppered their goal. They broke their "drought" with a goal at 23 minutes, but Parnell got that one back from a free just before the

interval.

Warrandyte's half-time deficit of four goals (10.10 to 7.4) became five when UFT scored a minute into the third term, but Chris Quinlan nullified that with one of his own three minutes later.

A new sense of urgency and professionalism appeared to have found its way into the Bloods' game and it surfaced halfway through the quarter when Quinlan set off a goal rush.

Redbacks mass for finals glory



Young Redbacks strut their stuff in last month's Warrandyte Festival Grand Parade.

By DAMIEN ARSENIS

Warrandyte Redbacks Basketball Club carried high hopes into the Eastern Districts Junior Basketball Association grand finals, which were being played as this edition of the *Diary* went to press.

The Redbacks had 13 teams (seven girls, six boys) involved in the big day.

Perennial finalists, the U16 A1 girls, went in with the chance to do it all again. Playing in the prestigious A grade, they have been coached this season by US college aspirant Maree Vincent and were looking forward to repeating past seasons' successes.

Other highly-graded "blue flag" chances were the U12 A1 girls coached by Redbacks championship coordinator Gerry Pearce. After just missing out on playing in the highest division, they have excelled all season.

The U14 A2 girls of Damien Arsenis also looked forward to the ultimate prize in a home final at the high school. Compet-

ing at the highest standard, the girls made the second section final after a poor start to the new year.

However, they appeared to have finally got it all together and were rated a strong chance of winning on the day.

Callum Anderson's U16 AR boys were also in with strong claims. They had started to look particularly menacing since reaching the finals, playing aggressive, up-tempo basketball.

The U18 BS boys coached by Graham Drake scraped into the finals after an indifferent season but were on the improve and definite chances for a flag.

After upsetting ladder leaders Eltham in a semi-final, the U12 B1 girls of club coaching director Gavin Whitmore were regarded as a good bet to win their division. So were Warwick Armstrong's U12 C2/1 girls second team, who had been most impressive throughout the season.

The other girls grand finalists were Anne Mulcahy's U12 D1/1

team, Lizzy Jenes' U14D2 outfit and the U18Cs of long-time Redback coach Ian Hodgson.

Lorraine Parfitt's U10 DD boys and the U14 DM boys of Terry Whittington were also in the big ones.

Grand final details will be in the May issue of the *Diary*.

Presentation day will be held on Sunday, May 3, at the Warrandyte High School stadium, starting at 10.30am. All grand finalists will receive trophies.

Riding high

Warrandyte rider Laeleigh Benson, 19, has made the Victorian team for the national polocrosse championships at Warwick, Queensland, in June. Laeleigh, who plays each week for Sunbury Polocrosse Club and travels all over the state with her horse, is one of four Victorian girls selected to play in under-21 mixed team.

Seconds best for tennis club

By JUDY GREEN

Young 'uns go tabloid

The two local football ovals were alive with activity on Wednesday, March 25, as children from Warrandyte and Andersons Creek Primary schools kicked off this year's festival with a picnic and tabloid sports day.

The youngsters rotated through a number of activities including a sack race, bocce and skipping.

"It was a day that focused on fun and a wonderful way to start the Warrandyte Festival," said co-organiser Denise Farran, from WPS.

Junior and senior teams at Warrandyte Tennis Club posted disappointing results in recent grand final matches.

Despite three senior and 10 junior teams finishing in the top four and seven of these being represented in the grand finals, the club managed to bring home only runner-up flags at the end of the Eastern Region Tennis summer season.

In the Saturday morning junior competition, Warrandyte's Mixed Section 7 hopefuls (Aidan Davey, Chris Chapman, Alex Thomson, Katrina Sochacki, Esther Waterham, Tamara Valentino), who were in number one position all season, lost a closely-fought match to the second team on the ladder, Lilydale.

Mixed Section 22 (Brenton Rogers, Adam Atkins, Steven Parke, Iliada Philippou, Katie Barrett), who also finished on top, lost to Blackburn. Mixed Section 25 (Liam Comrie, Ben Mason, Trent Valentino, Kate Simpson, Monica Sochacki, Stacey Freedman) lost to North Ringwood.

In the Sunday morning junior competition, two Warrandyte teams, both of whom finished in first

place on the ladder, were defeated in hot, windy conditions. Boys Section 6 (Josh Casey, Philip Brown, Paul Colosimo, Stuart Mathews, Mark Swift) lost to Doncaster in a tight match and Boys Section 7 (Tom Naughtin, Ben Naughtin, Jerrod Gibson, Cameron Gee, Travis Brown) went down to St Francis Xavier.

In the Saturday afternoon senior competition, Mixed Section 3 (Neil Sprout, Adrian Caspersz, Brian Cleaves, Barbara McBain, Robin Edwards, Pauline Dusting) lost to Monbulk and Mens Section 7 (Carey Nichol, Rob Thomson, Phil Meade, Michael Clarey, Greg Waugh, Bruce Turner, Graeme Burge, Walter Dewe) lost to Serpell.

The tennis club's midweek ladies invite any women interested in a friendly social game to join them on Wednesday mornings from April 29.

Play starts at 10am at the courts in Tarroona Avenue, and a big welcome to all is assured.

● The Warrandyte Uniting Church tennis team have won the premiership in Section 2B of an eastern suburbs church competition. The team is John and Bev Hanson, Andrew Curwood and Lyn Thomas.



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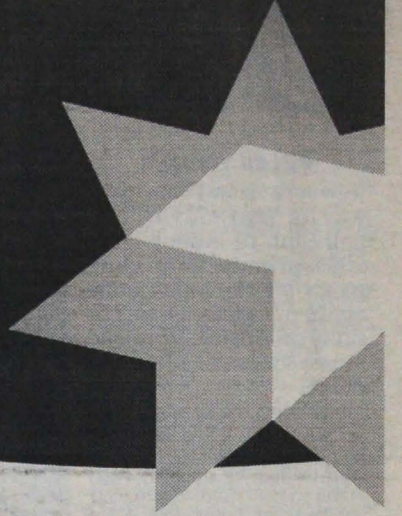
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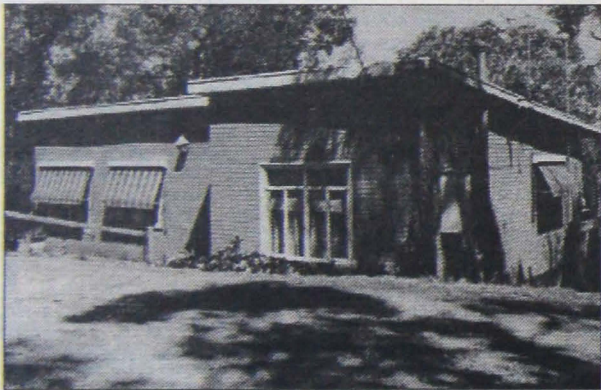
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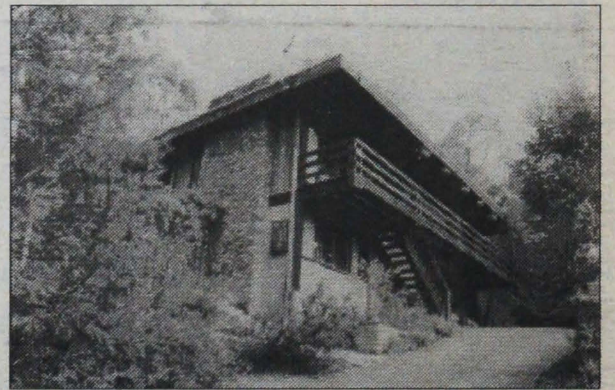
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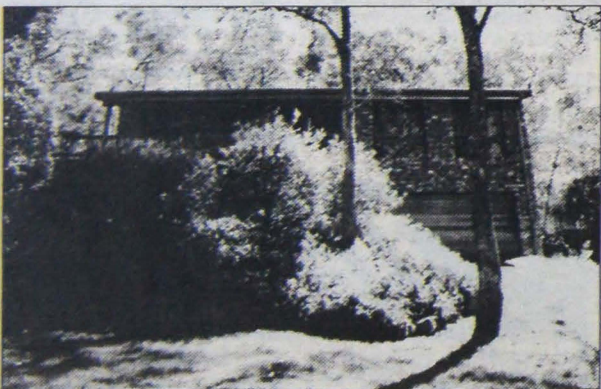
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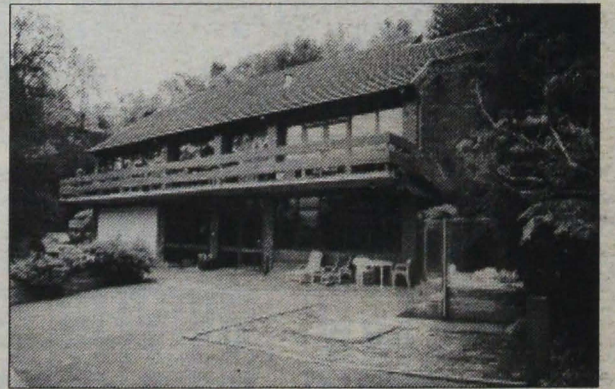
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