

# Grand plans for club



## Young sweethearts die in freak accident

Warrandyte and Park Orchards are in mourning following the sudden deaths of Christie Lawrence and Luke Mayall when a tree fell on their utility near Devlins Bridge on the Melba Highway, between Glenburn and Yea, on Sunday, June 8.

Both aged 21, Christie, of Leber Street, Warrandyte, and Luke, of Frogmore Crescent, Park Orchards,

Christie Lawrence and Luke Mayall

were high school sweethearts.

The *Diary* extends deepest sympathy to Gloria and Greg Lawrence and to Marlene and John Mayall, their families and all their friends.

A joint funeral service will be held at St Stephens Anglican Church, Stiggant Street, Warrandyte, at 10.30am on Thursday, June 11.

● Full tributes to both young people will be published in the next issue.

## Local sports fans could be winners

### EXCLUSIVE

By CLINTON GRYBAS

A section of Warrandyte's historic Grand Hotel looks set to be turned into a sports club as part of a bold venture being planned by the hotel and Warrandyte Football Club.

Club Warrandyte—incorporating most of the existing hotel facilities—would feature a club bistro, members' bar, function room and gaming lounge. The bottle shop and public bar would remain as part of the Grand Hotel.

A planning permit for the "change of use of part of premises to a club" has been sought from Manningham council.

The football club would lease the premises of the sports club from the hotel, while a management company would run the facility on the club's behalf.

Warrandyte Football Club president Jeff Evans told the *Diary* the deal is a major coup in keeping the football club financially viable for the long term.

"It's a very exciting plan," Mr Evans said. "There is still a long way to go to work everything out, but we are delighted to be involved. Once we have worked out a few more details we will be holding a public meeting to give people an opportunity to participate."

He said that football club members would not be the only people benefitting from the new club.

"We're hoping to arrange reciprocal members' rights for all of the local clubs—sporting and others. More than three quarters of the people in Warrandyte belong to one club or another and we would like them to have the opportunity to join."

Like most sporting clubs, members will have to sign in upon entry and adhere to dress regulations, but there will be no cost to enter the club.

Mr Evans said he envisages that any profits emanating from the club would go back into improving local sporting amenities and facilities.

"It will be a good thing for the community, not just for the football club," he said. "The money will go back into the community."

The planning permit applied for is for minor interior alterations to the hotel—to the value of approximately \$1000—for partition walls to form part of a new members' bar at one end of the bistro.

Those behind the plan are confident that the formation of Club Warrandyte will see the return of poker machines to the complex.

The machines were removed from the Goldfields Gaming Lounge earlier this year. The *Diary* understands this was due to the machines not delivering the turnover that provider Tattersalls had expected.

The proposed gaming lounge would succeed the Warrandyte Saloon, which replaced the poker machines in March. The saloon features amusement games and billiard tables.



Friends at the market: Betty Oke (left) and Joan Broadberry on duty at the Friends of Warrandyte State Park stall at Warrandyte Market. ● Special market report on pages 6 and 7. (Picture by Austin Polley)

## APOLOGY

In issues 297 and 298 of April and May 1998 we published two articles headed 'Democracy At Risk In Nillumbik' and 'Nillumbik Council Is Still Under Pressure' respectively.

It may be felt that the articles suggested Mr Barry Rochford sought a redundancy package in a wrongful fashion and was likely to be sacked or should be sacked because of this incorrect allegation.

Ms Clendinnen, Mr Green and the *Warrandyte Diary* did not intend that the publication of the newspaper articles should in any way reflect upon Mr Barry Rochford. We assure Mr Rochford that it was never our intention to impute any suggestion that he acted in any way likely to be interpreted as anything other than professionally.

We sincerely regret if any such imputation was made. We sincerely apologise for any hurt, distress or loss of good reputation these articles may have caused to Mr Barry Rochford.

## CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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EDITORS: Cliff Green and Lee Tindale

PUBLISHER: Warrandyte Diary Pty Ltd, (A.C.N. 006 886 826) as trustee for the Warrandyte Arts and Education Trust.

POSTAL ADDRESS: P.O. Box 209, Warrandyte 3113.

EDITORIAL: Chief of staff Jan Tindale, 9844 3719.

ADVERTISING & ACCOUNTS: Rae Danks, 9844 3819 or 0414 745 212.

CIRCULATION: Peter Norman, 9844 3268.

FAX: Editorial and Advertising, 9844 4168.

DIARY OFFICE: 168-178 Yarra Street, Warrandyte, 9844 0555

PRODUCTION: Rachel Schroeder, 9725 6699.

PRINTING: Streamline Press Pty Ltd, 155 Johnston Street, Fitzroy, 9417 2766.

Published on the second Friday of each month (except January).

**ADVERTISING RATES**

\$4.10 a column centimetre (casual), \$3.85 (permanent), \$500 full page, \$280 half page, \$150 quarter page, \$50 front page "ears". Preferred positions: page one 100%, page two 30%, page three and back page 20%, other nominated pages 10%. Mini-ads: \$3 for four lines, then \$1 each additional line. Mini-ads pre-paid unless by prior arrangement.

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# How Andrew arrived in the un-nick of time

Warrandyte Primary School's annual Trivia Nights are invariably rollicking good fun affairs and organisers have come to depend a good deal on the skills of Andrew Wilson, the biggest man in local real estate in at least one respect. Andrew runs the evening's fund-raising auctions with rare flair—although he did run off the rails a couple of years back by inadvertently selling wife Christine a vasectomy. Organisers of this year's event were wishing for a while there that Christine had given hubby that vasectomy voucher and insisted that he use it because just a matter of hours before the big night on Saturday, May 30, she gave birth to the Wilson's fourth child, Samantha. What rotten timing! How were they going to find a substitute for Andrew? How could he do this to them? But, never one to let the school down, the Big Fella made it—in the nick of time and with a police escort who announced his arrival with a blast of the siren. We suspect that Andrew had made a brief head-wetting, vocal chord lubricating stop at the Grand Hotel on the way. But the show went on, the auctioneer was in splendid voice, valuable funds were raised for the school and a jolly fine time was had by all.

Your columnist and the lady variously known as The Better Half or The War Office were among the few non-family folk privileged to be invited to an 80th birthday lunch on May 24 for Jimmy Harris at the Grand Hotel bistro. And a lovely occasion it was, the guest of honour even managing to break a life-long tradition by cutting his speech to a tolerable length. It was not, however, totally sensation free. We'd barely sat down before Jim made a terrible public confession: he'd cheated (a habit he no doubt picked up in the course of the couple of zillion holes of golf he's played since he first picked up a club in his mid-40s and had an instant birdie). No, it wasn't really his birthday. In fact, it wasn't anywhere near his birthday. That's on July 9. Then why the deception? we asked the grand old fella of Pound Bend. Well, a few of the family—including daughter Wendy, who'll be in the far north of Western Australia—wouldn't have been able to make a July 9 celebration. And besides, it had been Jim and Lorraine's 56th wedding anniversary the previous day. Okay, Jim, you're forgiven. And we reckon any anniversary is ample excuse for a good nosh, a cold beer and a fine wine or several.

Local lad Evan Giosis was planning to watch a Price Is Right recording session at the Channel 9 studios recently with girlfriend Michelle Anderson, but when she pulled out at the last minute he decided to go it alone. And of course, he found himself up there on the stage, didn't he. Not only that, he won

**IN RED & WHITE**




Jim and Lorraine Harris celebrate his 80th birthday that wasn't.

a minor prize and a \$13,000 boat, qualifying for a \$40,000 showcase play-off. He missed that by a fraction, but is he complaining? Not a bit. He plans to sell the boat, upgrade his car and put the rest of the loot in the bank. Nice going, Evan!

'Twas not only Mulga Bill from Eaglehawk who caught the cycling craze. Our own John Ryan was similarly afflicted and, just like Banjo Paterson's immortal character, lived to regret it. Rhino, the effervescent plumber of David Road, decided that a daily dose of pedal pushing could only be beneficial to his fitness—and a damn sight less tortuous than jogging—and took to the road, with his wife, the lovely Julie, in tow. Their initial workouts were modest enough, along the flatter reaches of upper Webb Street, but Rhino got all ambitious one early evening and decided to fly solo to visit his mate Tom Kerkhof in Mitchell Avenue. The trip there was uneventful but the return journey, a couple of beers later, not so. His bike developed a nasty case of wheel wobble and threw him—into a deep and dirty puddle. How he managed to find such a puddle when it hadn't rained for yonks is beyond explanation. Some say it wasn't rain water at all but sludge, but in the black of night, not even Rhino can say for sure.

Easyrider was on the 8.04 bus out of town which arrived at the scene just minutes after a nasty traffic accident (reported elsewhere in this issue) at the corner of Batskos Drive and the main drag late last month. And our ever-diligent commuter filed a heart-warming sidelight to the unfortunate event. "The road was totally blocked," he said, "and as we

sat there wondering how long it was going to be, a young bloke obviously in fear of the sack if he was late for work walked the length of the bus asking every other passenger if he or she had a mobile phone he could use. Amazingly, in this age of mobile mania, nobody did. Either that or they were too bloody mean to lend it. Anyhow, just as this kid abandoned hope, the woman driver said: Here, use mine!" Which he did, very likely saving himself from becoming the latest statistic in the unemployment figures. Great driver, this lady. Heart of gold, too."

Do you reckon we'd be pulling your leg if we said we'd heard there's a police camera going into place in Yarra Street to catch the many people who flout the law on a daily basis by turning right out of Mitchell Avenue? Or do you reckon we're fair dunkum? Think about it.

Don't be surprised at all if two of the best-known names in football in this town over the last several years are back in their boots in time for this season's finals. No names at this stage because Bloods treasurer Norm Carrington has sworn Smokey to muteness and you don't double-cross Stormin' Norman. Secret men's business.



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# Safety demand by riders

## Horse tragedy underlines dangerous road conditions

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

Local pony clubs are calling for Manningham City Council to improve safety conditions for riders, following the death of a horse on the road.

The horse, a thoroughbred mare, was being ridden along the riding track on Warrandyte-Ringwood Road when she fell backwards over an embankment onto the road. The horse had to be destroyed and her rider taken to hospital with minor injuries.

It is believed road traffic has increased substantially in Manningham, with 10,000 vehicles per day now using Jumping Creek Road. Three years ago there were 3,000 vehicles using the route.

Ms Lisa Duggan of Wyena Pony Club in South Warrandyte, said there was also an incredibly high possibility of horses running into trouble when using Brysons Road and Jumping Creek Road.

"About 15 of our riders make the trip along Brysons Road to the club for rallies twice a month. There's no room for a car and a horse, let alone two cars and a horse, to pass each other. The riding track alongside the road suddenly stops, putting riders onto the asphalt on this narrow two-way road."

Ms Duggan said riders from Wonga Park have to transport their horses to Wyena because of the dangerous road. "Riders in Warrandyte can't get to

Wonga Park without using roads and as a driver I'm always afraid of horses jumping out at me.

"The original riding tracks along Husseys Lane and Gold Memorial Road are overgrown and no longer accessible and cars often put riders off the side. We also have real concerns about children crossing the road at Fiveways in South Warrandyte, which is extremely dangerous."

Ms Duggan called for better equestrian facilities for riders in Warrandyte. "It seems only dogs and walkers are catered for—there should be tying-up areas by the Yarra, drinking troughs and far more access for horses."

Riders in the Donvale area are petitioning Manningham council for improved safety conditions at the Mullum Mullum Creek bridge on Warrandyte-Heidelberg Road.

Ms Cheryl Stevens of Crystal Brook Caravan Park, which is next to the bridge, said the speed of drivers in both directions, poor visibility and the narrowness of the bridge, mean an accident is waiting to happen.

"There are lots of near misses at this bridge. There are kids on bikes, prams, cyclists and pedestrians always wanting to cross either the road, or bridge, or both."

"Recently I saw a mother with a pram and two or three children trying to cross there and they were forced onto the road. Last week there were two horses on each side of the road wait-

ing to cross at the same time. It's heavily used."

Ms Stephens said on another occasion a rider signalled to a car driver to slow down but there was no reduction in speed and the horse jumped out in front of another vehicle in fright.

As well as coordinating the petition, Ms Stephens is preparing a report to council outlining the problem, with possible solutions.

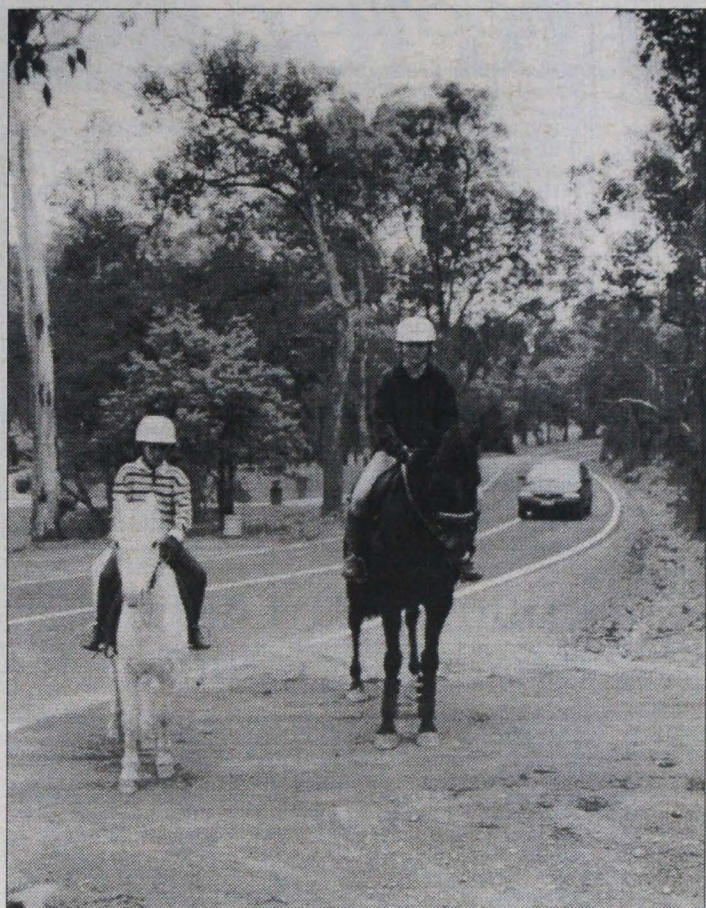
Ms Virginia Fowler, of Donvale Pony Club, joined the call for better riding conditions in Manningham, saying lights on the corner of Springvale and Reynolds roads would make a big difference to riders' safety.

"The Mullum Mullum riding track comes out just opposite the club's grounds in Reynolds Road and it's very dangerous to cross. Sometimes parents have to stop traffic to escort children safely across the road."

"Donvale Pony Club's got a good relationship with council, but we were staggered when a vast new sports complex was built across the creek from our grounds. We've been operating for years from the same tin shed."

Ms Sue Neale of Manningham City Council says a consultant is investigating equestrian issues in the municipality.

She says a draft of proposed provisions for horses will be released for public comment later in the winter.



Riders find themselves unable to cross Jumping Creek Road safely. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

## Holiday care at school

Warrandyte Primary School has been approved for Commonwealth government funding for 45 places for vacation childcare. This was announced last month by Kevin Andrews, MP for Menzies.

"From the start of the second term school holidays, all vacation services that were jointly funded by the Commonwealth and State governments will be transferred to the new Commonwealth childcare assistance system," Mr Andrews said.

"In future, families using the services will be entitled to the new Childcare Assistance, making care more affordable for low and middle income families."

Mr Andrews said that for the first time, families with incomes between \$27,000 and \$65,941 (or up to \$94,378 where there are three or more children in care) will be eligible for Childcare Assistance in the school age sector.

He said that people could ring the Childcare Hotline on 131524 for more information.

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

## She's a mine of information on local highlights

By RACHEL BAKER

Warrandyte has always been a popular tourist destination. Restaurants, cafes, craft shops, and—perhaps most noticeably—traffic, have all become prominent aspects of any Sunday in Warrandyte.

**CLYDE & OCKER**



"I'd like to tell the tourists where to go, Ock!"

So how do all the tourists get the word on the best places to eat, the prettiest walks to take, the bed and breakfasts, and the craft shops?

Julie Cooper is Warrandyte's tourist information officer. She spends every weekend and public holiday in the Information Warrandyte office, answering queries and offering information to tourists (and locals!) who want to know more about the area.

The average month brings about 430 people into the office, with close to 700 questions.

Most tourists—75 per cent—have travelled to Warrandyte from other parts of Victoria, 3 per cent are from overseas, 1 per cent are interstate travellers, and 21 per cent are Warrandyte residents.

The most commonly asked questions are those relating to the community centre (27 per cent); 20 per cent are about shopping, 15 per cent are about walks, 13 per cent are to do with parks, 6 per cent are about places to



Julie Cooper's clients include tourists, locals and visiting—and lost—dogs. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

eat, and 18 per cent fall into miscellaneous categories.

Julie handles the lot. Her job description is sometimes stretched to include such bizarre activities as dealing with lost dogs.

"There is a lot of diversity in my job. That's one of the things I love about it," she said.

Julie loves interacting with people, and, thanks to her 15

years in the education department, she has a "strong nervous system" and always stays cool, calm and collected.

Julie's temperament, combined with her qualifications—including information management, customer service and tourism—mean she is exactly what a lost and confused tourist is looking for when they find them-

selves in Warrandyte.

And the fondness is mutual: "I really love coming to work," Julie said.

Julie likes working with the tourists. She said they create a positive mood because they are always happy to be where they are, and look forward to doing things.

"It's a great job to have," she said.

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# Correspondent defends Nillumbik councillors

Fia Clendinnen's article 'Nillumbik council is still under pressure', (Warrandyte Diary, May 7, 1998) berates Crs Woodley and de Man for being responsible councillors. She implies it was some sort of plot to add extra conditions to Commissioner Abraham's "minimum requirements for returning to good government but all parties were requested to insert further conditions," and all parties did so. Cr Marshall "told the *Diary* that he, Cr Graves and Cr Margaret Jennings welcomed Mr Abraham's minimum requirements." "We accepted them ...", but suggests the other parties didn't. The reverse is true. Mark Hayes, on behalf of Crs Woodley and de Man, accepted the nine point process in its entirety as "an appropriate process for council to adopt." On the other hand, counsel for Crs Marshall, Graves and Jennings totally rejected point 3, which stated, "In relation to council meetings, Local Law 3 be applied with no suspension of standing orders for question time ...". It is also wrong to say Crs Woodley and de Man made a condition to change the balance of power in council. Commissioner Abraham asked all parties this question, "Would Nillumbik be better served with seven or eight councillors?" Mark Hayes, counsel for Crs Woodley and de Man responded that they had no position on this point,

but believed that if shire boundaries altered after a review, then councillor numbers would automatically be altered. The article censures Crs Woodley and de Man for being in favour of development when they are merely implementing council's own policy. To suggest that this somehow makes them anti-green wedge is illogical, because it is only by confining population increase to urban areas that the green wedge can be saved. The shire's document guiding planning, 'The Municipal Strategic Statement,' was passed by council last year. It anticipates a population increase of 10,000 in the next 20 years, requiring 3000 extra households. (MSS, page 7). This extra population will be accommodated by closer settlement in the urban areas of Greensborough and Eltham and rural townships. It is therefore appropriate that council approve suitable plans for this development. Crs Marshall, Graves and Jennings have all approved such permits, not just Crs Woodley and de Man. Funds were also designated in the 1997/8 budget to develop the Diamond Creek Strategy to "...identify the ultimate growth limits of the township." (MSS, page 33). To reproach Cr Woodley for "shaping up as a pro-developer" is quite unjust. As the councillor for Diamond



Creek, she is rightly involved in this process. The Diamond Creek Strategy itself sensitively and jealously protects indigenous flora and fauna, habitat links, significant landscapes and riparian areas (Diamond Creek Urban Growth Review Study, Executive Summary). It is correct to say Crs Woodley and de Man requested, through counsel, that the shire president, Cr Robert Marshall, stand down until March 1999 to promote reconciliation, because he no longer has the confidence of all councillors. Cr Woodley stated at the inquiry and repeated in council, April 8, 1998, that she believed he had wrongly maligned her good character and given false evidence against her. I hope these facts further amplify the process and background referred to in Fia's article. The misrepresentations contained therein might help explain why Eugene White, counsel for the shire president, rejected Crs Woodley and de Man's extra condition that, "No councillor should publicly criticise any other councillor or any member of council staff."

June English  
Eltham

## Filling in our local landscape

The Park Orchards Landowners' Association Inc (who would otherwise like to be known as 'The Green Wedge Environmental Enhancers & Protectors') are at it again. Founding president (and three times unsuccessful council candidate) Mr Daryl W. Cox has lodged a Permit Application (9486) with Manningham council to dump 1200 truckloads of fill on his eight hectare Green Wedge property in Rainbow Valley Road, Park Orchards. He must have been inspired by the landscape improvement resulting from one of the last decisions our commissioners made, namely to approve a similar scale example of modern land management on his neighbour's property (following an earlier example on the intersection with McIntyres Road). While absentee owner Mr Cox collects the tipping fee cheques from his Safety Beach letterbox, we residents won't object to this third landscape beautification in our road, or that the children can rush out to watch the trucks as they compact our privately built roadway. Consequently, having just notified us, council has decided to make a decision on this permit as early as June 9. Compliments from your cynical reporter,  
Allan Stark  
Park Orchards

Letters to the Diary on local topics are most welcome. Real names are preferred.

## A critic criticises the critic

Marion Winton's review of the Warrandyte Follies ('Pollies fun at the Follies,' *Warrandyte Diary*, April) says, "It was difficult to feel on side with the sentiments expressed" by the songs sung by Christie Lawrence and Alison Leitchford—"those of a ... woman as powerless victim." She says, "An enlightened 90s audience couldn't help wondering why they didn't ditch the men and seek counselling," and her "lament" is that the material wasn't "more relevant". Relevant to what? When the singers sang the songs, each song was like an excerpt from a play, and the singers were portraying characters from those plays. The sentiments expressed are



those of the characters, and do not necessarily reflect those of the singers, the songwriters, or for that matter, anyone else in their right mind. The aim of the performances was not to get the audience on side with the characters' attitudes but to entertain, portray the characters convincingly and maybe even provoke some serious thought. In fact, they did all of the above, as Marion Winton's review shows. That is why they were a complete success.  
W. Scott Wallace  
Mitchell Avenue

## Councillor: 'I am not developer, builder'

June English's letter to the May edition of the *Diary* continues her long-standing flurry of salvos fired towards me. June claimed in this most recent inaccurate attack that despite my "concern for unit development in the Green Wedge and the destruction of bushland" that "he himself had just received a permit to build nine units in Main Road, Hurstbridge

which required the axing of eight significant trees". The truth is that I am the architect only for this sensitively designed project. I am not the developer, not the builder, not the applicant, not the owner. One significant tree is to be removed, not eight.  
Robert Marshall  
Nillumbik Councillor

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# Minister launches school master plan

By CLIFF GREEN

Warrandyte High School has launched its exciting "master plan", designed to provide facilities that will cope with the educational challenges of the 21st century.

Included among the proposals is the provision of a considerably enlarged theatre, to include a fly tower—allowing greater flexibility for stage settings—a new entry foyer closer to Alexander Road, air conditioning, audience seating increased to 400, projection facilities for films and full refurbishment.

The school also hopes to build a dedicated study and social space for VCE students. This would provide senior students with a greater sense of independence as well as easier access to computers, staff and other resources. The centre



Phil Honeywood: 'gearing itself well as a school of excellence'

would also be available for after hours courses and community programs and provide a facility for conferences.

Improved sports facilities are included in the plan, with provision for better drainage of the existing oval, a new oval at the front of the school for hockey and soccer, tennis courts and jump pits.

The school's administration area would be extended, with separate parent and student access and a conference room.

Already underway is a \$200,000 project for a system of fully networked computers throughout the school.

As reported last month, the school believes that some funding will be available from the Education Department. However, much of the finance will need to come from community sources, including local fundraising, commercial sponsorship and private endowments.

The master plan was launched by Phil Honeywood, local MP and minister for tertiary education, at a function in

the school theatre early last month.

In his address, Mr Honeywood highlighted the need for the plan to be seen as a true partnership between parents, local businesses, graduates of the school and state and local government.

"Warrandyte High has already achieved an enviable reputation for some of its innovative programs for students, in such areas as the arts, Japanese language and information technology."

Mr Honeywood said he was pleased to provide a \$200 "starter" donation to launch a building fund, which "Once built up with other support, will go a long way to achieving some of the ambitious programs planned for the school."

"Based on my many visits to the school, I am certain it is gearing itself well as a school of excellence for the new millennium."

## Signing on...

Two weddings of strong local interest were celebrated recently.

David Green of Webb Street married Mary Gloufchis of North Box Hill (pictured right). David, only son of long-time Warrandyte residents Cliff and Judy Green, went to school locally. Mary is the younger daughter of Lou and Luba Gloufchis.

The wedding, which was held at Kenloch in Olinda, featured both traditional Macedonian music and dancing as well as the modern ballroom variety. They honeymooned in Bali, are now living in Kensington and operate a fashion store in the Southgate shopping centre.

Jason Beringer and Michaela Dommissie (pictured below) were married at a civil ceremony at Pound Bend Reserve.

Jason lived in Warrandyte for 23 years, where he attended Warrandyte High School and participated in several of the school's musical productions. He also coached and refereed for Warrandyte Basketball Club and was a member of North Warrandyte CFA.

Jason and Michaela will make their new home in Fairbanks, Alaska, where they will both pursue post doctoral research work.



## Landscape warning

Nillumbik council has issued a reminder to residents to abide by council's planning controls or face prosecution following a successful hearing in the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) recently.

At the hearing, council successfully claimed that illegal works done on private land in Cottles Bridge without the necessary permit should be restored and replanted.

The tribunal ordered that a dam wall be removed and the soil be recovered and returned to its original location, and that 120 trees be planted to replace the 40 trees illegally removed.

In its determination, the AAT referred to Clauses 118-3 and 118-6 of the Nillumbik Planning Scheme which provides that: "A building or works must not be constructed or carried out unless a plan for the development of the land is prepared to the satisfaction of the responsible authority", and "Except with a permit, native vegetation must not be removed, destroyed or lopped".

Council's development approvals manager, Michael Bismire, said: "This case serves as a salutary reminder to the community that works undertaken without planning approval are subject to review by the AAT and that prosecution may result."

"It is always necessary to enquire with council whether planning approval is required before commencing any work as the remedies can be considerable."



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A prize of \$6,000 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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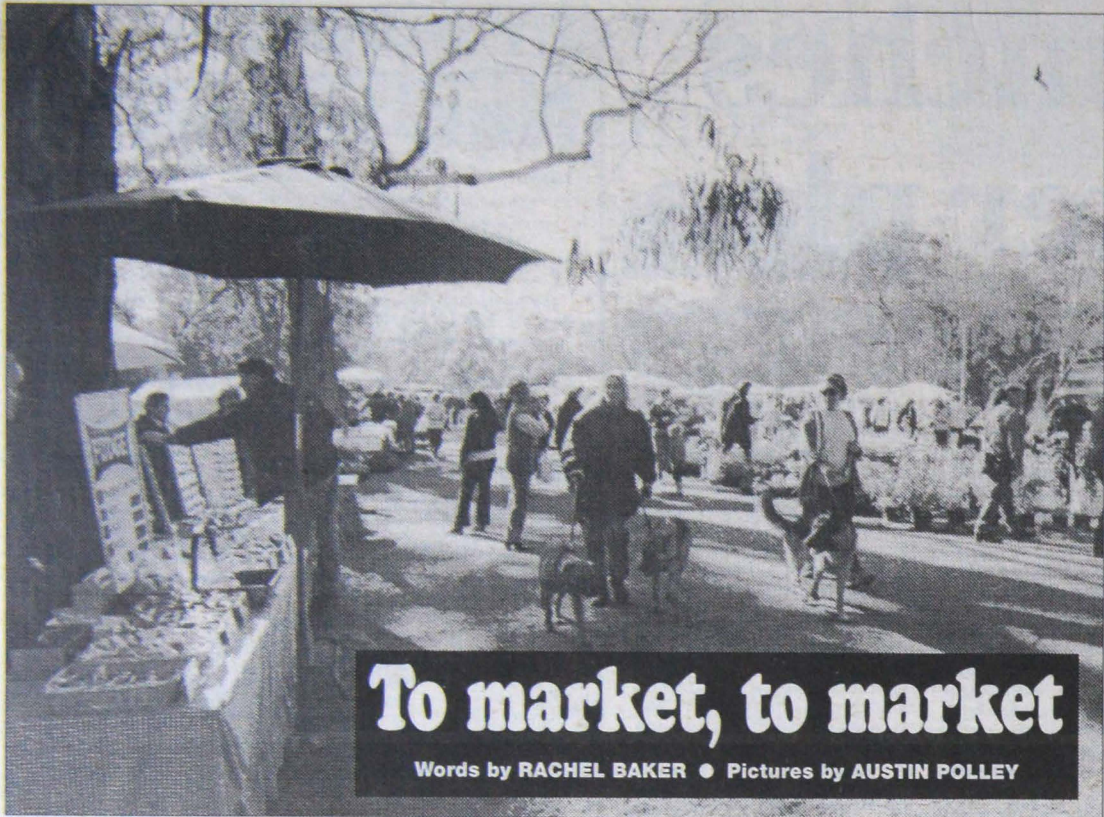
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## To market, to market

Words by RACHEL BAKER • Pictures by AUSTIN POLLEY

Warrandyte Community Market, which has been running for 17 years, is renowned for its "hand-made only" policy.

"It's a totally craft market," Margory Lapworth, secretary of the Warrandyte Market committee, said, "There are no manufactured goods; everything has to be hand-made or home-made." This policy is evident in the range of products available from the 90

permanent and 30 casual stallholders.

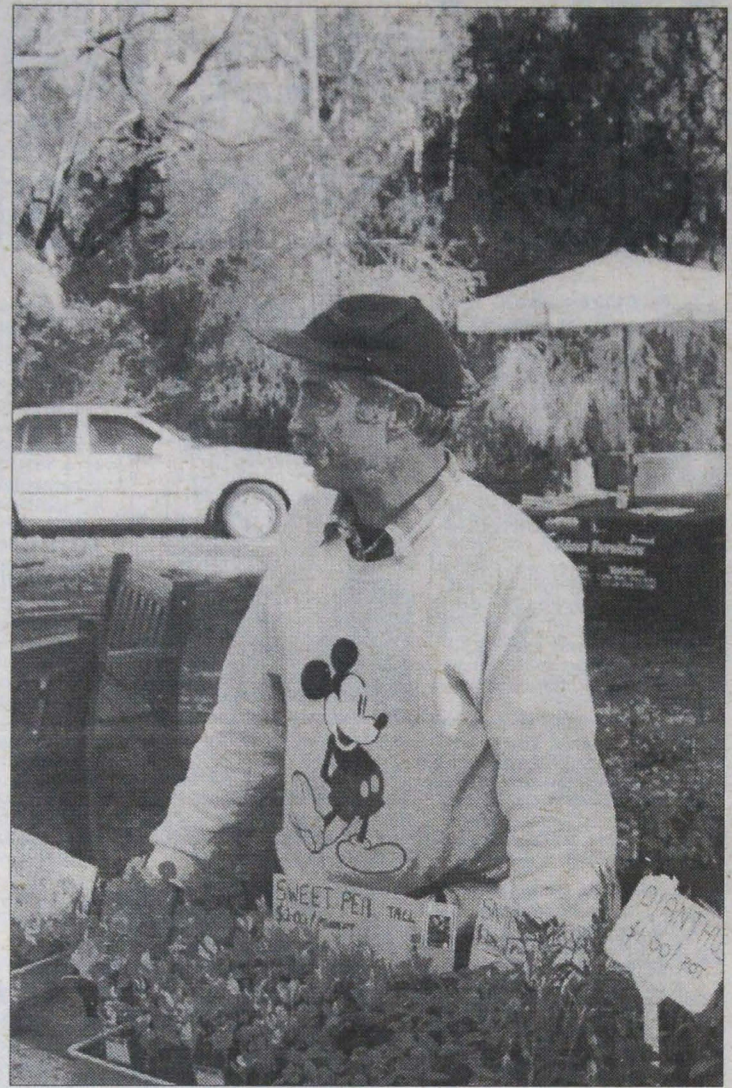
The home cooking and organic vegetables available create a decidedly bucolic feel, which suits the market's riverbank setting.

This location, at the bottom of Stiggants Reserve, is a recent one. Previously the market was located at the top of the reserve. "We moved down by the river

about three years ago," Mrs Lapworth said, "and there was a very good reaction from the stallholders."

The flatter ground and the carpark is something that everyone appreciates. The special atmosphere created by the bushy, riverside location makes the market quintessentially Warrandyte.

Profits from site rentals all go to local community groups.



▲ A hobby that began about 12 years ago and "got out of hand" is now Roger Treen's principal interest. He has a large range of vegetables and flowers, although during autumn there are fewer vegetables, so flowers feature more prominently on his stall.

With such a huge number of plants, how does Roger keep them all in such great condition? "I store them in my backyard," he said, "and for watering, I just let the rain do it. If it rains, they get watered, if it doesn't, they don't."



◀ After spending all morning walking from stall to stall, hungry shoppers need a place to rest their feet, sip coffee, and nibble on scones. The Warrandyte Model Railway Club has tapped into these needs and provides devonshire teas and other snacks for the market-goers.

"We always have scones and sometimes there are fairy cakes," club member Tim Joy, said. And scone-eaters can be assured all the railway club fare is fresh from the kitchens of Warrandyte homes. "This morning it was (all made by) wives of club members; other times it's club members," Tim said.

The club has been coming to the market for about three years and it has proved to be a good arrangement for them: "It's not far, so it suits us. And we don't have many members, but we can maintain it," Tim said.



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▲ The sound of didgeridoos just seems right amongst the eucalypts and along the Yarra River in Warrandyte, and Michael Lane knows this.

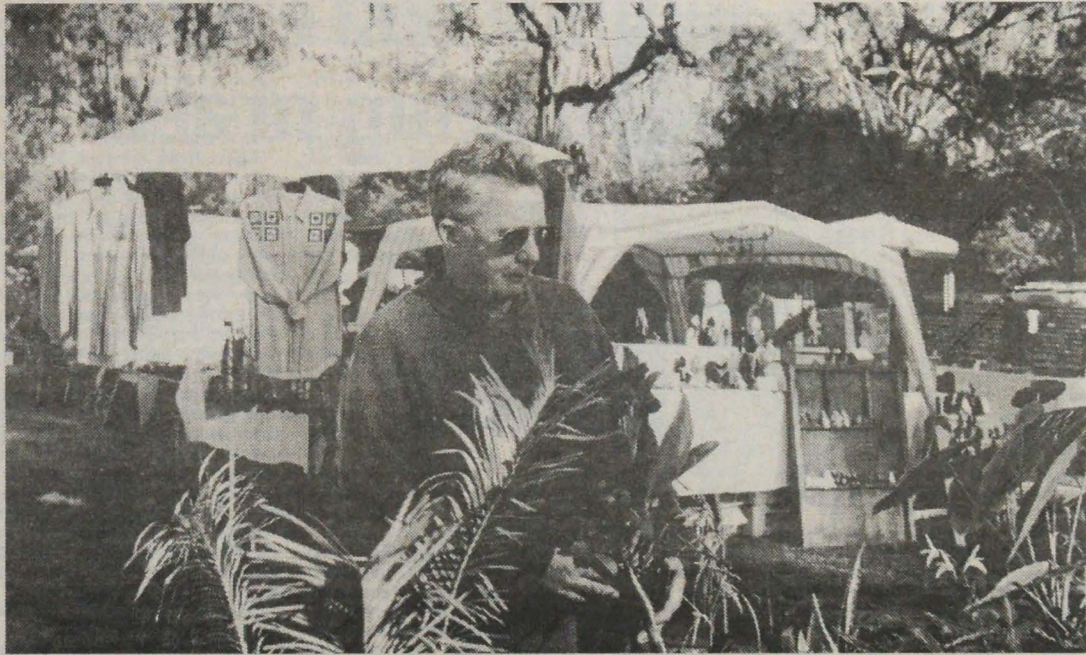
He has been coming to the Warrandyte Market for "a couple of years", selling instrumental music

with indigenous tones, and playing along to his CDs with a didgeridoo. Michael goes to other markets as well: "I go to the Victoria Market, Greville Street, St Andrews. But people seem more receptive to it here. It's certainly better business-wise. I love it out here."



▲ The Tarago River Cheese Company brings cheeses of many descriptions all the way from Gippsland to Warrandyte's riverbank for the market. Brie, camembert, blue, and chevre are just some of the varieties Pat McPhie has at her stall. "I've been coming here for a few years now," she said. "The location certainly makes a difference."

▼ Richard and Catherine Pender are a father-daughter pair who share an unusual combination in their plant and craft stall. Richard's profession is in horticulture; he is a member of orchid societies, and has written and judged in the field. He sells plants in pots and customers can be assured of expert advice on how to care for their new purchase. His daughter, Catherine, has done a course in fashion and design, and in her spare time makes craft for the stall. "It's all home-made," her father said, "which is good."



▲ Alison Thom has been a regular at the Warrandyte Market for almost as long as the market has been around. She sells pottery, which she

makes herself, and sells exclusively in Warrandyte. Her interest is a life-long one: "Since I was a little child, I was interested in this," she said.

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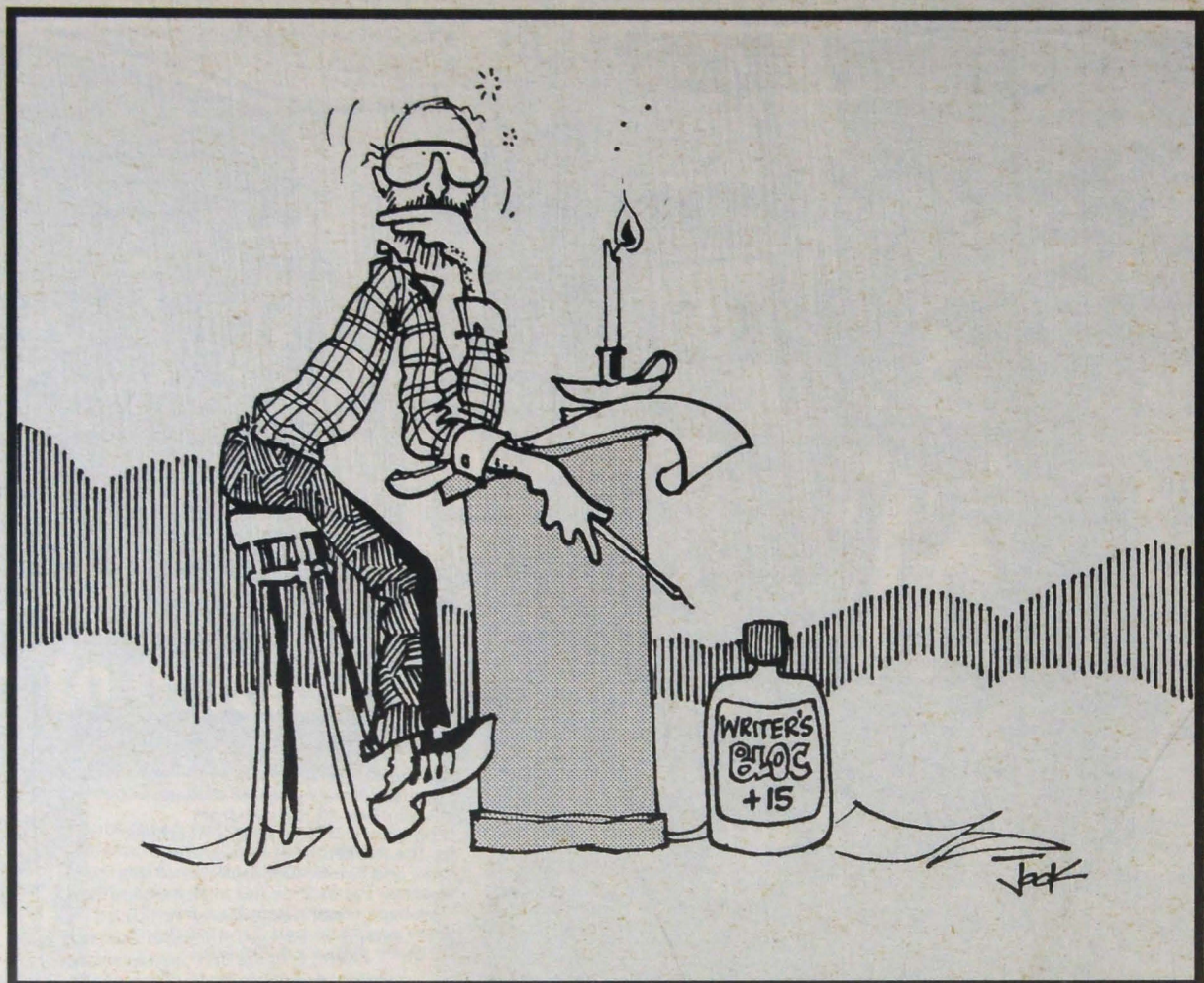
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# Writing a column when you can't write a column

**A**S usual I had left it to the last minute. I used to be better organised and have it finished halfway through the month but lately, what with the pressure of age and sloth, I had begun to get sloppy.

"You've already done this!" Herself said as we were half way to the *Diary* office.

"No I don't think so," I offered, my heart sinking to the level of my accelerator heel.

"Yes. Even to some of the same imagery. See 'guerilla warfare' and 'fight or flight'. No, it's definitely the same, except this time you've substituted a shillelagh for an umbrella."

"But we've had another robbery since then." My last hope faded as I slowed the car and did a U turn. On the outside I was philosophical and calm, but inside I was stomping and swearing and flailing myself for being so forgetful and stupid.

"So what are you going to write about?" Herself was only being helpful, but at that time I was not in a well-it's-done-so-let's-get-on-and-fix-it frame of mind.

"Something will spring to mind no doubt," Herself said as she headed off to the kitchen for lunch.

I sat in the TV room and brooded. I decided to watch TV and clear my mind. I looked at the TV and the space where the VCR used to be. We had taken it to the other house because



**KIBBLED**

**"So what are you going to write about?" Herself was only trying to be helpful."**

we never seemed to watch videos. Anyway, I always seemed to muck up the recording.

I searched around for the remote control for the TV. It took me a good five minutes to locate it. It was hiding under the couch behind my slippers. Trying to find one remote was bad enough, but I couldn't imagine what a household must be like with more than one! How could you remember?

We had been out to a dinner party the previous night and one of the other guys was 'into' electrical black goods. In the course of the conversation he let it slip, or should I say, his

wife did, that in their living room they have eight remotes!

There were remotes for the TV, the VCR, the CD player, the radio, cable TV (two) and something else that probably hasn't been mentioned yet. He is quite capable of managing them all, but his wife isn't. When the Gadget King is away, his wife is so terrified by the prospect of dealing with the remotes that she goes to bed to watch the only vaguely user-friendly set in the house.

This thought calmed me, so I decided that the time had come to put my bruised ego to one side and confront the blank piece of paper.

Normally, once I start the article it begins to write itself. But this time, all I could think about were the mistakes life had forced upon me in the past. Like the futile trip to the city to see my favourite play.

It was winter and I had been involved in a lot of wood chopping, fire setting and generally useful-man things. It was only that I happened to be called to the phone that I spotted the calendar with that day's date circled, with the letters MTC printed above. Melbourne Theatre Company. Tickets. Time of show? Time now. Distance to the city? Favourite play.

"Bother!" or words to that effect propelled me from the house, into the car and into the hour-long trip to the city.

I arrived ten minutes into the production. Above the entrance

to the auditorium was a very large sign that stated that late patrons would only be admitted at interval. Until then we were free to watch the production in the foyer on the in-house television transmission.

Apart from the fact that the interval was an hour away, the TV screen flickered and the sound dropped in and out without any apparent logic. There I was, in Russell Street Theatre, in ragged clothing, feeling ill-at-ease, watching a barely audible flickering screen, waiting for Waiting for Godot to reach a meaningful pause. Tired of waiting, I left.

Had it not been for winter and had it not been for a temporary and uncharacteristic memory lapse I would not have found myself, driving home to Warrandyte, harbouring less than pleasant thoughts about what I would say to the first person who asked me how I enjoyed the MTC's production of my favourite play.

"How's it going?" Herself asked.

"Not bad, but I still think they'd like to read about how you had your handbag stolen from the car. I could warn the mums about the dangers of pick-up time at schools."

"That'd be about as boring as Waiting for Godot."

I felt my heart tighten and I started searching frantically for the TV remote.

**ROGER KIBELL**

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# Marvellous mammal lays eggs and eats worms

**T**HE first and only time I have come close to a platypus was about five years ago at Healesville Sanctuary. I was among a small audience that had gathered at the platypus exhibit to hear first-hand about the life and times of one of Australia's strangest animals.

I remember standing transfixed in speechless fascination as the keeper rolled up his sleeve and plunged his arm into the large glass tank. Almost instantaneously, a platypus appeared, wriggling wildly in excitement. This was Jangles. Repeatedly, with dog-like devotion, Jangles pushed his silky head into the keeper's outstretched hand, demanding attention.

I tried to imagine the feeling of running my own hand down that sleek, flexible body—stroking the thick waterproof coat which, we were told, consists of two layers of fur to trap air for additional insulation during the cold months.

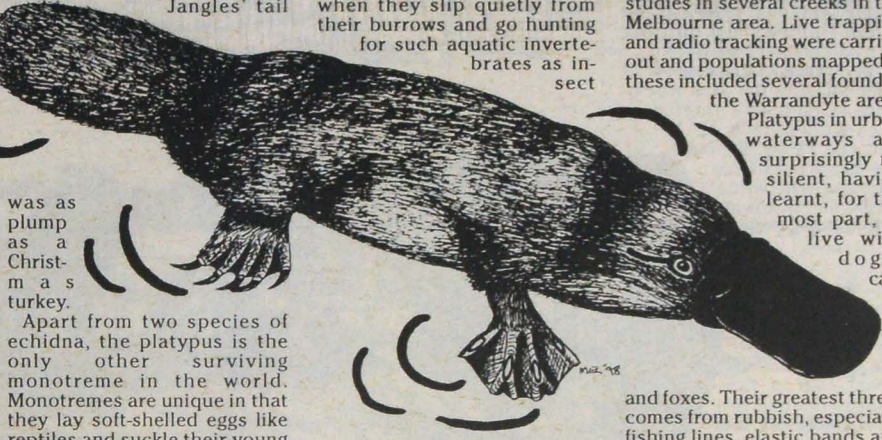
Jangles continued to nuzzle playfully. How would it feel, I wondered, to touch that broad upturned bill? The keeper explained that the unique structure was actually quite fleshy and extremely sensitive, being able to detect tiny electric impulses generated by muscle activity of potential prey. A kind of sixth sense.

Through the walls of the tank we were privileged with an underwater view of the splayed webbed feet and paddle-like tail of the platypus. Apparently the tail stores fat which provides



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

extra food in winter. The keeper said that a thick tail is an indication of a healthy platypus—Jangles' tail



was as plump as a Christmas turkey.

Apart from two species of echidna, the platypus is the only other surviving monotreme in the world. Monotremes are unique in that they lay soft-shelled eggs like reptiles and suckle their young like mammals.

Another unique feature is the venomous spur, found only on males. The hollow spur is located on the inside of each hindleg and enlarges during the breeding season when males become aggressive towards each other. Little is known about the composition of the venom, which is lethal to other platypus and dogs, and in humans causes severe pain and swelling.

I learnt much about the platy-

pus that day and it sparked my interest in these shy, secretive creatures. It is easy to assume that platypus are rare in the wild. They are not. In fact they can be found in most waterways of eastern Australia, but they are elusive, spending up to 17 hours resting in their burrows. The animals are most active around dawn and dusk when they slip quietly from their burrows and go hunting for such aquatic invertebrates as insect

book on romantic fiction than in scientific literature—Dr Melody Serena.

Melody has been studying platypus in the hills east of Melbourne for almost ten years. In 1995 she turned her attention to urban waterways and with other members of the Conservancy, Melbourne Water and volunteers she conducted field studies in several creeks in the Melbourne area. Live trapping and radio tracking were carried out and populations mapped—these included several found in the Warrandyte area.

Platypus in urban waterways are surprisingly resilient, having learnt, for the most part, to live with dogs, cats

larvae, worms and snails. Fish, frogs and other small vertebrates are also included in their extensive diet.

Until three years ago there had been no official survey of platypus numbers in metropolitan Melbourne. Then came 'Project Platypus'—a joint initiative between Melbourne Water and the Australian Platypus Conservancy. The driving force behind this venture was, and still is, a lady with a name that would be more at home in a

and foxes. Their greatest threat comes from rubbish, especially fishing lines, elastic bands and six pack holders: instruments of slow strangulation and eventual drowning.

It is reassuring to know that platypus are living and breeding in the Yarra River and its tributaries. But we cannot afford to be complacent. Platypus will only continue to inhabit our urban and semi-urban waterways if their freshwater habitat is conserved. What Melody and her team have given us is a gift of time; and it should not be wasted.

# Mum's taxi shuttles sports crazy kids in quest of fame and fitness

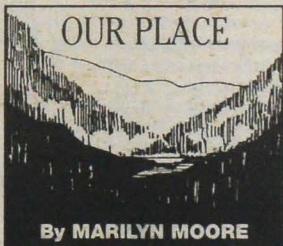
**W**E all know why sport for our kids is so worthwhile. They love it. It fosters fitness, coordination, confidence, sportsmanship and team spirit.

It develops social and leadership skills, it involves fresh air, does wonders for the digestion, exercises the brain in otherwise little-used directions, and it's a great way of dissipating surplus kinetic energy. Best of all, it keeps you-know-who from spending the weekend sprawled in front of the box.

I have to remind myself of this rather often lately. The logistical manoeuvring required to get one little person from A to B at a given time, properly attired and fully equipped, can involve a degree of difficulty sufficient to turn Stormin' Norman pale.

Things were different a generation ago. We just moseyed on down to the tennis club on Saturday mornings and did the best we could.

Most of us had about ten tennis lessons to get us going when we first picked up a racquet. The furthest we travelled for a match was Templestowe, nestled in orchards along the



**OUR PLACE**

By **MARILYN MOORE**

big-dipper one-rabbit track that was Reynolds Road. Nobody bothered if you turned up in a purple-patterned skirt and shirt because you didn't have a tennis dress. On the whole, playing any sort of sport seemed a relatively low-key way to spend Saturdays.

Not any more. Coaching, training up to five times a week, kids playing in multiple teams, matches at Albert Park, Geelong, or Brighton. Who the hell devises the fixtures? I bet they've never had to get from Warrandyte to Hawthorn by 5.40 on a Friday night!

It takes considerable perseverance to stick with some teams.

In a sport which had better

remain nameless, we have, over the last five or six weeks, had two early Friday night matches at Hawthorn (why do they never come to our venue?), had a three-hour round trip on a Friday night to a match which was cancelled, survived an 8am Sunday start at Albert Park, coped with mud, rain and last minute team changes which undid all our finely-tuned transport arrangements, had our car broken into during a match, and been caught with a uniform in one car, sporting gear in another, while the child in question was stranded at a bus stop more than 20km from the match venue. To confuse things even further, the team has no regular coach, and team lists and fixture booklets appear to be non-existent. Apart from all that, the boys are doing really well and having a fabulous time.

And that is one sport for one child. Multiply by a couple of sports, then multiply again by the number of children, introduce a few time clashes, committee meetings and big-deal championship events, and you start to get the picture.

Theoretically, sport is only what we do to fill up a few odd

timeslots during the week. However for some families these timeslots turn out to be very odd indeed. Imagine having one or more children with 5am swimming training five mornings a week. Another probably has a late night Friday basketball match (at Rosebud or Werribee), and yet another with an 8.30am tennis match on Saturday at Emerald, Woori Yallock or Royal South Yarra. Worse still, it's your turn to drive the team, and one of the other aforementioned children now has to be at school at 6.30am for an 8.30am hockey match in Geelong. Nobody else is available to meet the return bus from Geelong and the tennis team is stuck with trying to finish their match on only one court.

Admittedly, that sort of clash doesn't happen every week. It tends to happen only on days when you absolutely have to go to work, take your mother's dog to the vet, and clean up the mess in the laundry resulting from the hot water service having blown a valve during the night.

We must be mad. But it's definitely worthwhile.

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**Extraordinary General Meeting**

10am Saturday, June 27

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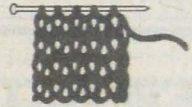
**Purpose of meeting:**

- to receive reports from the Public Officer and Treasurer
- to discuss the future of the League
- to resolve a motion to wind up the League (Doug Seymour)

Meet in the foyer of the Community Centre.

Doug Seymour, 5127 6068 (AH)  
Alison White, 9844 2403 (AH)

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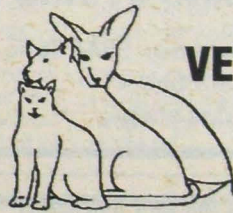
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# Digging deep at the old Caledonia mine

By RICHARD WARWICK

**M**UCH has been written about the gold mining past of Warrandyte. If you didn't already know, Warrandyte (or as it was known at the time, Andersons Creek) was the site of Victoria's first officially proclaimed goldfield in 1851.

There were a large number of gold mines in the area which were worked with varying success between 1851 and the 1950s. By far the most extensive, and also the most profitable, was that operated by the Caledonia Gold Mining Company, located in what is now known as Tills Drive. In the 1850s all the mining was alluvial, that is, the miners panned the river and creeks seeking specks of gold that had been washed there over millions of years, out of the gold bearing quartz rock upon which Warrandyte has been built.

Alluvial mining spawned such ventures as the Evelyn (Pound Bend) Tunnel, the diversion of the Yarra River at Thompsons Bend (just upstream of the bridge) and various attempts at building coffer dams along the river. It is interesting to note that with the current drought and the low levels in the river, an old coffer dam has become visible behind the old post office.

As alluvial mining declined and technology improved, the miners began digging into the

ground to find the gold bearing quartz underground. Much of the general Warrandyte area (particularly south of the river) had been mined by about 1900 and there was enough mining being done at that time to sustain two water-powered crushing plants on the river. In 1902,

in the history of the town as the main street was decorated for the occasion.

There is a detailed account of the day in the Evelyn Observer. There were reported to be a lot of cabs (presumably horse-drawn hansom cabs), coaches and a "huge motor bus" possibly one of the

congratulated the mine operators and then proceeded to comment on the government business of the day—anti-gambling and liquor bills, and Premier Tommy Bent's "cautiousness" with the state's finances. At its peak, the mine employed about 250 men.

Plans exist of the mine itself, and these show that there were tunnels on six different levels, the deepest shaft was 600 feet deep, and the mine was operated using lots of steam-driven equipment to crush the quartz, pump the tunnels dry, operate the winches to lift out the mined rock and so on. Many of these shafts and tunnels are still under our roads and homes in Warrandyte.

By the end of 1908, profit levels were reduced and it became uneconomical to continue. The main problem with the mine was that it kept filling with water, due to the relatively high water table and, no doubt, its close proximity to the Yarra River.

Over the life of the mine there were 12,653 tonnes of quartz excavated and crushed to extract to gold valued at 51,089 pounds—about \$45 million in today's terms.

(Based on material researched by the late Bruce Bence.)

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.



operations commenced on what was to become Warrandyte's largest, deepest and richest gold mine—the Caledonia. The mine was originally known as the New Haven and it was not until 1905 that any decent returns were made on the investment.

The mine was officially opened on 14 September 1906 by a whole range of political heavyweights of the time. It must have been a major event

to visit the town. At 2.30pm sharp, a Mrs Fritsch broke a bottle of champagne on the flywheel of one of the large steam-operated machines and declared the mine open.

Afterwards, 50 "gentlemen" had dinner and listened to speeches in a large marquee erected for the purpose. In the official speeches the minister for public works, Mr Cameron,

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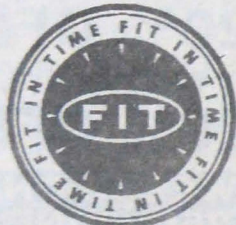
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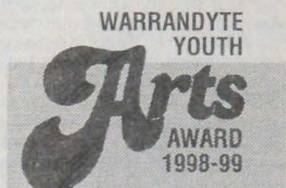
FOR ADVERTISING CALL 9844 3819

## Last call for youth arts award

Applications for the 1998-99 Warrandyte Youth Arts Award close at the end of this month. Now valued at \$6000, the award is a joint project of the Warrandyte Lions Club, the Diary and the Warrandyte Arts and Education Trust.

Offered each two years, the award is open to any young artist who usually lives in Warrandyte, aged between 18 and 25 (as at June 30, 1998).

The term 'artist' includes



painters, potters, sculptors, craftspeople, dancers, singers, actors, musicians, writers, filmmakers and any other young

person intending to make their career in some form of artistic endeavour.

Previous awards have been won by a jeweller, two painters, a dancer, a singer, a theatre designer and a sculptor.

It is intended that the \$6000 prize money, which is donated by the Lions Club, should be used in ways that specifically suit the needs of the winner. This could include tuition fees, a study tour abroad, a short-

term basic living allowance or the purchase of equipment or materials.

Entries close on June 30 and the winner will be announced immediately prior to the Warrandyte Festival in March 1999.

Further information and entry forms are available at Information Warrandyte in the Community Centre, or by writing to the Warrandyte Youth Arts Award, PO Box 209, Warrandyte 3113.

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# Warrandyte Community Centre

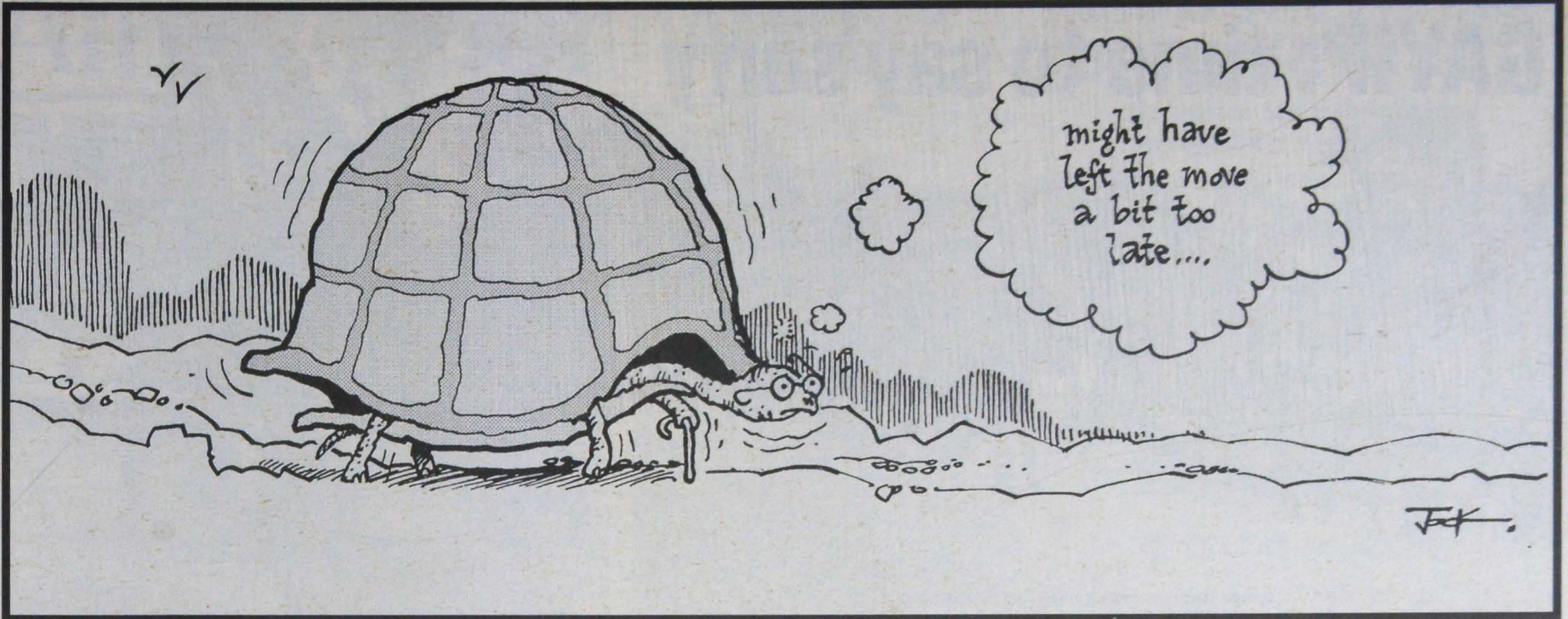


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# When it's time to leave

Story by DON CHARLWOOD • Illustration by JOCK MACNEISH

## LINES TO A WIFE: JANUARY 1998

**Y**OU think we should go? Yes, yes; I see that too. Upkeep here is getting beyond us, and beyond our means to have more done. Forty-seven years since we came here, since we bought an acre for 450 pounds with a hundred lemon trees thrown in.

Forty-five years since your father built our War Service home and we laboured for him. Only four or five lemon trees left now, but we still refer to "the orchard". Can it be true that I grubbed all the rest and planted these others? Silky oak, hoop pine, macadamia, hakea—several hakeas. But mostly eucalypts: citriodora, rubida, nicolai, fibrosa.

Six bear names of children and grandchildren: Richard's tree, Yasmin's tree. Sometimes after morning exercises I lie on the floor and gaze through their branches to clouds passing and wattled birds plummeting. At some level I feed on them and fancy they have dependence on me. Occasionally I lean from the terrace and pat the nearest rubida, tell her I trust her not to fall on us.

This last hot week citriodora stripped herself shamelessly, dropping her winter clothing at her feet. I found her seductive in the dawn, stood watching as the sun came up and lighted her. Two weddings she has seen, each bride and groom standing between her and her companion crepe myrtle.

No doubt we must go. Each summer I find it harder to stoop to pick up bark, some strips of it as long as my own bent body. And my shoulders ache from raking leaves, from sawing branches, tasks that used to be nothing at all.

A place near a tramline, you think? Near shops? Makes sense I daresay. If only it were possible to bring it about quickly, in the twin-

gling of an eye, without too much thought about what we are leaving.

The treefern, *dixonia antarctica*, what will become of her? Remember I bought her to mark our 40th wedding anniversary, called her Ruby because I couldn't run to a real ruby for you? Would a developer bulldoze her? For that matter, would he bulldoze the house? After all, it's not a mansion in the style prevailing here now.

A simple wooden house. We were much under the influence of Robin Boyd, remember? Our place to raise a family away from suburbia. At your father's urging I had to finalise the plan in a night. Next day you turned it end for end. Before long your father started and our labours began. I was also trying just then to finish my first book, as well as work in air traffic control.

We chose to face northeast down a valley of orchards bounded by windbreak pines. Beyond the pines were blue ranges: Mount St Leonard, Mount Dom Dom, Mount Juliet. Twenty years now since we could see them from our windows, since the orchards were bulldozed and houses hemmed us. Our outlook became limited within our acre.

But how fortunate to possess such an acre! I used to reckon it insurance for old age, but then I didn't detect old age approaching.

All these years northeast has brought us winter sunrise, the first rays reaching the far wall of the lounge, filling the sun gallery. Some mornings I remember to incline my head eastward with thanksgiving. And full moons have scrutinised us through rubida branches, the orchard a place of pallid mystery. Remember we used to see the moon reflected in a dam down the hillside from us?

We could count ten dams from our roof when we were up there raising the ridge beam—the pair of us balancing, full of strength and pride. All night there were pulsating sounds as wa-

ter from dams was pumped onto rows of peaches, pears and nectarines. Cherries, too. Remember the pop of cherry guns, that sound meant to keep birds away?

A retirement village, you wonder? The heavier gardening would be done for us; there would be company. No youngsters, just coralled ancients. A bit like barracks life. Which reminds me of our friend at the RSL village who says, "The flag is so often at half-mast".

The piano. Where ought the piano go? Remember the nights when the three girls practised in relays? And nights when Sue played her french horn on the terrace, its echoes returning, returning across the valley, across misty orchards? Though her horn has gone, she drops in still, sits to the piano, strikes a chord, gives us Chopin, Mozart.

Out there, remember, under the liquidambar, Doreen used to groom mad-headed Ben, then ride him through orchard hillsides in the vanished world. Perc Rasmussen would shake his head to me. "Your daughter passed my place again, galloping. Hard horse to hold, hard to hold."

Jim at his potter's wheel under the house at 14 or 15, throwing rebellion-charged pots, his hair almost hanging in the clay, the pots you use still in the kitchen. Only Kay Scott at the Potter's Cottage School understood him just then.

Three daughters we've raised here and a son. Adolescent storms, two broken marriages; from one a newborn babe, her mother, her four year old brother here, you and I changing nappies again as we come up to 70. Family Court cases, anguish, richness, weariness.

This room of mine, The Writer's Kennel, as Jan's poker-on-driftwood sign says on my door. Successive labradors have lain here at my feet, Sheena the last of them. Here, when she was 15, Derek Fairley came to give her the last of

her injections. Jim came home to dig her grave beside earlier pet graves. We reminisced about Ree's death by snail bait and Gyp's adventures—the time he was swept through Pound Bend tunnel in a flood, the time he pulled Jim himself back as a child from a water-filled grave at the cemetery.

What ought I take from The Kennel? What books? What pictures? Here is a photograph of a Lancaster taking off at night from a Lincolnshire runway for Berlin. And here Frankston State School Number 1464, my mother's school, my three brothers' school, my own school, the school I had in mind as I wrote *All The Green Year*. This woodcut is my great-grandfather's shop—"Bookseller & Printer, 7 Bourke Street East, Estab. 1851".

Twenty-five years ago, before this became The Writer's Kennel, it was my mother's room and next door was your father's room; she lived here to 86, he almost to 97. You cared for them both, as well as our younger children. And you worked in the city still. I can't fathom how you did it. Four generations this house has seen, you at the centre of it. Three generations flow here still.

Remember June 8, 1994? Fifty seated here for our Golden Wedding. A culmination, a realization: we had run the race and not done badly. I didn't realize then that it would soon be time to leave.

## APPENDUM: JUNE 8, 1998

Here we are at our 54th anniversary. You know, I'm beginning to realize that we have left our move too late. At our ages I don't believe it's worth the trauma of moving for so short a time. Better to stay, to ride it out, to let the flow of family continue around us. What do you think? Can't we borrow on the place if need be for fuller upkeep? Let's start one last era here!

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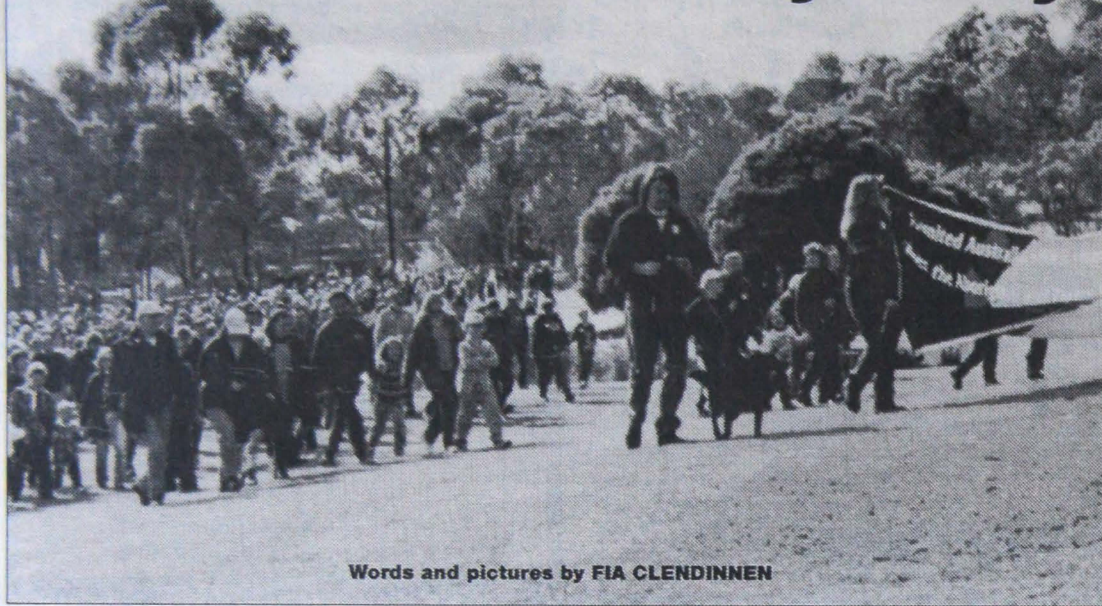
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# GAYIP: time to say sorry



Words and pictures by FIA CLENDINNEN

**T**HERE were nearly a thousand of us: men and women, young people and old, parents and children. It was a sunny day and we were like a tribe. We walked out, announcing our arrival with clapping and singing. We were led down the hill to a special site, a clearing by a creek where the manna gums were huge. Symbolic fires were burning and we walked through their smoke and along an avenue of beautiful message sticks. We carried no weapons, we came in friendship. This is how different aboriginal tribes traditionally visited the local Wurundjeri people, before the white man came. And on May 9 at Wingrove Park in Eltham, under the direction of the Nillumbik Reconciliation Committee (NRC) a group of local residents acted out the symbolic celebration,

called a Tanderum. In the words of Elizabeth Savage Kooronnya, NRC coordinator, "a Tanderum is a Wurundjeri ceremony of welcome and granting freedom of the bush to visitors and strangers. It is a ceremony of peace and honour, trust and sharing. It is a ceremony that has rarely been performed since the coming of European invasion." The crowd gathered in a big tent to be welcomed by Bill Nicholson, elder of the Wurundjeri people. Mr Nicholson and shire president Robert Marshall shared water from a tarcoola, a traditional bark bowl. Then Cr Marshall, on behalf of all the residents of Nillumbik, read out a document of apology. This document, signed by all five councillors and the CEO, "recognises that the Wurundjeri willam clan of the Wurundjeri people and the Kulin na-

tion were the occupiers and traditional owners of the land that now comprises Nillumbik shire prior to European settlement." It also states that "Nillumbik shire council apologises on behalf of its residents, unreservedly and sincerely, for the pain, the grief and the suffering experienced by the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as a result of past laws, government policies, actions and attitudes." And Nillumbik shire council "confirms the spiritual and material relationship that indigenous people have with the land and the water," as well as committing "itself to an ongoing Aboriginal reconciliation process." The audience cheered and clapped long and hard in response to Cr Marshall's speech. Many people told the *Diary* the ceremony had been a deeply emotional experience. Cr

Marshall said he had "nearly burst into tears" while he was reading the document of apology. Mick Hoare, an Eltham resident, described the Gayip, "as the most exceptional community meeting I have ever been to, because of its significance." Anton Baker, a lifelong Warrandyte resident, said the event marked a turning point. "It's about time," he said. "I was very moved." Anton, with Sebastian Jorgensen and Sally Grice, performed an interpretation of ancient Wurundjeri songs. They were among a range of musicians and dancers who entertained the crowd once the formal part of the Gayip was over. Wingrove Park was the main aboriginal meeting ground in the shire. Rainbow lorikeets flew amongst the tree-tops high overhead, whistling loudly. People sat on the grass with friends

and ate lunch. Ian Hunter, a representative of the Wurundjeri people, told stories and jokes around a campfire. Sorry Books were available for residents to sign and to add their own messages of reconciliation. Warrandyte resident Glen Jameson had constructed a village of six willams. He had placed these traditional bark shelters in a circle, all facing east so that they caught the first sun of the morning. Elizabeth Savage Kooronnya, who worked so hard to organise the Gayip, told the *Diary* she was thrilled with the way it had turned out. "I can't stop smiling," she said. The reconciliation process still has a long way to go. But on that day of friendship and music, woodsmoke and birdsong, a positive step was taken. It was a good feeling.

## Associate pastor for community church

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Warrandyte Community Church, formerly known as the gospel chapel. The church has remained an important part of the community, offering a helping hand to those in need, and providing a friendly Christian environment for the variety of activities it hosts.

As Warrandyte has grown, so has the church, resulting in the need to develop a pastoral team, led by Pastor Peter Keep. "In May," Pastor Keep told the *Diary*, "the team expanded to include Geoff Hall who takes on the role of associate pastor." Geoff's new role is a dramatic change from editing television programs, his previous employ-



Ben, Simon, Rachel, Dianne and Geoff Hall.

ment, but a natural extension of his interest and concern that the people of the community discover the many ways in which the church can serve them." Geoff, his wife Dianne and their three children came for a three month visit to the

Warrandyte area two years ago, and stayed for over a year. They have now returned on a permanent basis and are dividing their time between working for the community church and producing video programs for Wycliffe Bible Translators at Kangaroo Ground.

## We didn't forget the Salvos

Sixty volunteers tramped the hills of Warrandyte last month, knocking on doors and collecting a total of \$3784 towards the Red Shield Appeal for the Salvation Army.

Local groups who took part included South Warrandyte CFA, Lions and Rotary clubs, Warrandyte Basketball Club and Warrandyte High School.

This is the first time for several years that Warrandyte has been doorknocked for the Red Shield Appeal. Captain Eddy Holman, of Doncaster Salvation Army, has advised the *Diary* that organisations participating will receive a letter of appreciation, while individual certificates will be presented to those who took part.

Local appeal chairman, Mr John Cox, has asked the *Diary* to pass on his deep appreciation to everyone who helped.



## Western front at school

As part of Warrandyte High School's Education Week Open Night display, Year 10 Social Science students Evie Gough, Amber Church and Marissa Deeble set out to recreate an Australian trench on the Western Front during World War I. After months of studying authentic photographs, drawings and movie clips, the girls scrounged around for essential

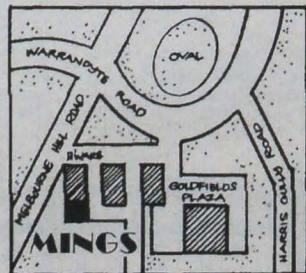
materials such as hessian sacks, corrugated iron and barbed wire, and then enlisted the help of handyman, Mark Gough to build a trench. Social Science coordinator, Claire Bloom, helped the girls obtain a model soldier, complete with an authentic First World War uniform, including gas mask and bayonet, to complete their display.

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# All over for WEL?



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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.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Warrandyte Environment League is to be held at 10am on Saturday, June 27 in the foyer of the Warrandyte Community Centre. The league, which operated in Warrandyte for 25 years, is considering winding up due to lack of interest. Contact Doug Seymour on 5127 6068 (AH) or Alison White on 9844 2403 (AH) for further information.

## Breakfast

"The Art and Science of Retail" will be presented by Deborah Templer at a breakfast seminar at Potters Cottage on Wednesday, June 17. The seminar is supported by the Warrandyte Business Association, the local enhancement scheme and Manningham council. Cost is \$20 per head, including a cooked breakfast. Commencing time is 7.15am for a 7.30 start. To confirm bookings, ring Trish at Needles & Pins, 9844 1720.

## Dance

The next South Warrandyte social dance will be held on Saturday, June 13 with a wintry theme. The following dance, to be held on Saturday, July 11, will feature a footy theme. Dances are held in the South Warrandyte Hall, Hall Road, from 8pm to midnight and cost \$5 per head. Further information from 9723 3892.

## Incorrect

The formation of a local poetry group was publicised in last

## Maria on the mend

**Maria McGhee, president of Information Warrandyte and Neighbourhood House, is recovering in Box Hill Hospital from serious injuries sustained in a local road accident late last month.**

Ms McGhee, who turned 46 this month, bruised her heart and suffered seven broken ribs, a broken nose and kneecap when her car ran into a low-loader at the corner of Batskos Drive and Warrandyte-Heidelberg Road shortly after 8am on May 21.

She was in intensive care for several days.

Friends believe her life was saved by running into a wheel of the low-loader—which was carrying



Maria McGhee

earthmoving machinery and apparently turning right out of Batskos Drive—rather than under it.

Apart from her community work, Ms McGhee, daughter of former Warrandyte postmaster Fred Prince, is particularly well known in cricket circles.

She played for the local women's eleven for many years and served on the Warrandyte Cricket Club committee.

mary School. Book on 9844 3202 or through the school.

## Arts

The previous committee of the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute and Arts Association, with Ken Virtue as president, was re-elected at their recent annual general meeting. The association consists of a number of groups in various arts fields—pottery, painting, craft, tap dancing, music and the theatre company. For further information call Ken on 9844 2795.

## Seminars

Green Wedge Environment Seminars are held on the first Thursday of each month, under the sponsorship of the City of Manningham. They take place at the Warrandyte Community Centre at 7.30pm. The next seminar, on July 2, will be conducted by Tim Doeg on aquatic invertebrates.

## Hiroshima

Manningham Gallery is displaying an exhibition of documentary photography, recording the Second World War bombing of Hiroshima and its aftermath, until June 18. The gallery is at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster and is open from 10am to 5pm, Tuesday to Friday and 2pm to 5pm on weekends. This exhibition is donated by the Aichi Peace Committee.

## Breastscreen

Maroondah Breastscreen reminds all women over 50 that a breast x-ray is free and the procedure takes only 20 minutes. Call 13 20 50 now to make an appointment at your nearest breastscreen clinic.

## Abuse

There will be a meeting of Advocates for Survivors of Child Abuse at St Thomas More's church meeting room in Belgrave on Friday, June 12 at 7.30 pm. For information phone Gwen Breen on 9754 8987. ASCA is a self-help group for adults who were abused as children.

month's Out Of The Box with an incorrect phone number. Anyone interested can contact Robert Braby on 9439 9015.

## Bridge

A bridge club meets on Monday afternoons at 1pm and on Thursday nights at 7.30pm. Lessons can be given and no partner is required. Enquiries to 9439 2270.

## History

The Warrandyte Historical Society is seeking new members. Single membership is \$10, concession \$7. Anyone interested can contact Gina Bevan-Jones on 9844 3662.

## Disco

A country and western Blue Light Disco, featuring Silverwater, will be held at the South Warrandyte Hall in Hall

Road on Saturday, July 18 commencing at 8pm. Cost is \$10 per head (no children) with BYO drinks and supper. Money raised will go back into the community for the kids. For further information contact Jane Link (9844 2014), Keith Walker (9844 3231) or Andrew Wilson (9844 3085).

## Trivia

The Warrandyte Pre-school is holding its annual trivia night and auction on Saturday, June 13. Bookings for table or individual tickets can be made by phoning Cindy Wilson on 9844 4214.

## Blues

A Blues Brothers night is to be held at the Grand Hotel on Friday, June 19, arrival time 8.30 for 9pm. Tickets are \$13 including supper and funds raised will go to the Andersons Creek Pri-



## Kids demonstrate in shopping centre

To celebrate Education Week 1998, Grade 5/6R from Warrandyte Primary School relocated their classroom for the entire school day to the Pines Shopping Centre in East Doncaster. Class teacher Debbie Rainbow and assistant principal Darryl Furze were enthusiastic to take the children to the shopping centre.

The children took with them their tables, lockers, books and computers to create an authentic classroom environment. They participated in a normal school day, with activities including literacy, music, mathematics, art and integrated studies. A number of parents assisted with activities throughout the day.

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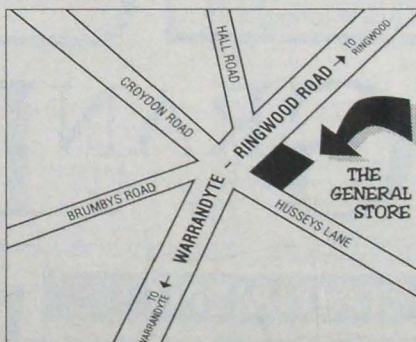
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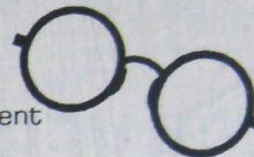
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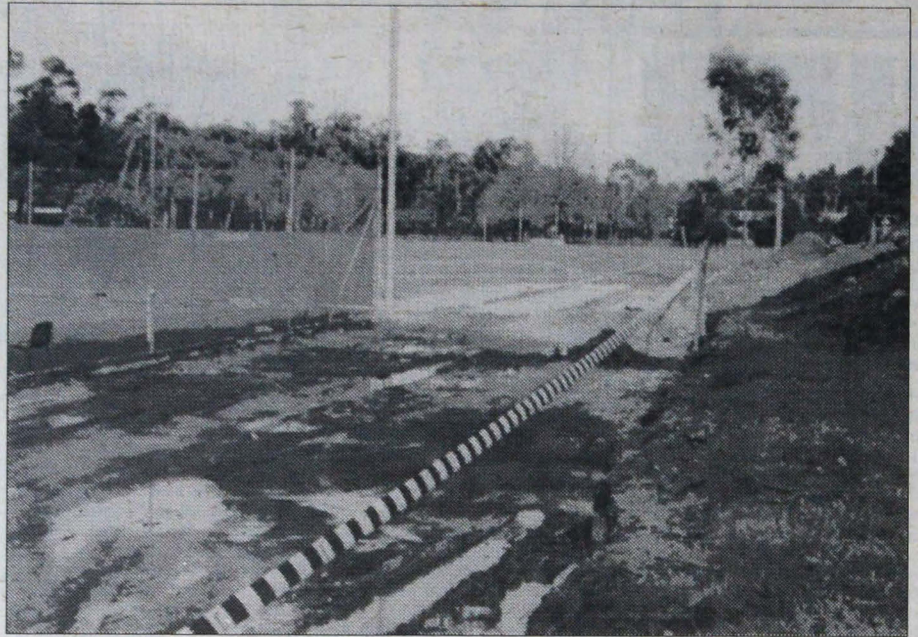
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# Council pitches in



The new practice pitches (background) take shape at Warrandyte Reserve. In the foreground is the foundation work for Warrandyte Tennis Club's new court. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

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By CLINTON GRYBAS

Warrandyte Cricket Club members are pleasantly surprised by Manningham council's efforts to upgrade the practice net area at Warrandyte Reserve.

Three full-length concrete pitches have replaced the previous half-length pitches, and according to long-time Warrandyte player and administrator Steve Pascoe, they will be of great benefit.

"It's more than we were expecting. We were hoping for concrete at the bowler's delivery area but we weren't anticipating full-length pitches," he told the *Diary*.

"We've been working with council for quite a while to try to upgrade the practice facilities and to get the run-ups off the ground as much as possible.

"With the extra court now being put in for Warrandyte Tennis Club, it gave us the opportunity to undergo the change."

Pascoe said the bowler's run-up for one or two of the nets would no longer be from the ground itself, which would alleviate the wear and tear on that part of the oval, pleasing both the cricket and football clubs.

Training for the new cricket season begins in late July with indoor sessions.

### The Racketeers shine by night

By JUDY GREEN

A number of Warrandyte Tennis Club teams played in finals of the recently-completed Lilydale and District Night Tennis Association competition in both men's and mixed sections.

Final winners in Section 8 of the Tuesday night men's competition were Racketeers (Greg Lawrence, Frank Waites, Rashmi Somu and Tim Oriander) who defeated Bogong, another Warrandyte team.

In the Ferntree Gully and District mid-week women's competition, Warrandyte's Section 4 team (Jenny Bennett, Judy Brent, Elaine Greatrex,

Sue McGinty and Sue Shepherd) were defeated by Upwey South in a very closely-fought match.

The club's juniors have made a promising start in the Eastern Region Tennis winter competition, with 12 of the 13 teams in the top four.

Four Warrandyte teams—men's sections 5 and 10 and women's sections 3 and 6—are currently playing in Tennis Victoria Pennant competitions on Sundays, with mixed results.

At the club's annual general meeting last month, retiring office-bearers Mark Bence (president), Pauline Dusing (secretary) and John Roberts (treasurer) were re-elected.

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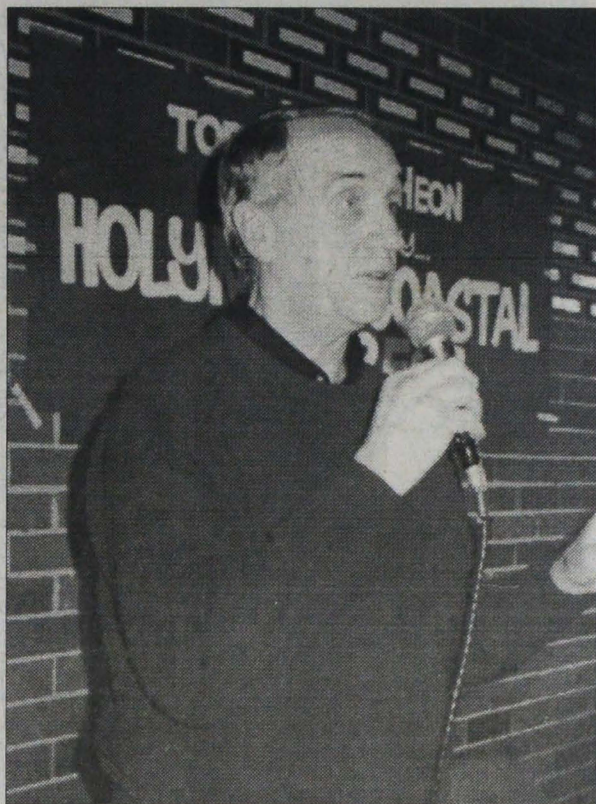
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# Bloods are on the boil



Geelong legend Fred Wooller was special guest speaker at a Warrandyte Football Club luncheon hosted by the past players at the clubrooms on May 30. Wooller, Geelong's last premiers captain (1963), gave local football supporters an in-depth insight into his many years with his beloved Cats as a player and board member. And he left no doubt about the best players he has seen at Kardinia Park—Gary Ablett and Polly Farmer, of course. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

By LEE TINDALE

Warrandyte Football Club are poised to play a major role in the race for the 1998 EFL Third Division premiership.

The Bloods have strung together five impressive wins after dropping their first two matches to make the four for the first time this season and stamp themselves as undeniable chances for at least a place in the finals.

It is a very tight competition at the top of the ladder, with only a game separating six sides.

Coach Lex Munro is confident Warrandyte can maintain their winning streak and finish the first full round at 8-2 with six home-and-away games remaining.

He admits the testing time will then come, with competition leaders Doncaster East and Upper Ferntree Gully the next opponents.

## SPORT

"I'm confident of making the finals and I think the players have the ability to go all the way," Munro told the *Diary*.

The coach largely attributes Warrandyte's radical improvement—albeit in a grade down from Second Division, in which they won only one game last season—to an influx of new blood.

"With a few wins under their belt, our players are growing in confidence all the time. They'll take on anything," he said.

"It's a matter now of bringing them back down to earth after every win.

"Other sides will be looking to knock us off now where previously they hadn't worried about us because we hadn't done anything."

Munro said the Bloods had a lot more depth this season,

which was illustrated by the improvement in the reserves side.

"We are also far more flexible," he said. "Guys can play in different positions. Last year we were more or less fixed."

Warrandyte's depth will be further improved by the return to action after two years of dual best and fairest winner Steve Carroll (back from an extended round-Australia trip) and Trent Ferguson.

Carroll resumed with the reserves against Kilsyth on May 30 (club fixtures were suspended for an interleague game over the Queen's birthday holiday weekend) and is not far off senior selection. Ferguson will also come back through the two.

Prime movers in the Warrandyte renaissance this season have included on-baller Mack Clarkson and the versatile Chris Quinlan, both back in the red-and-white after a two-year absence.

Other major acquisitions

have been full-back Willy Bell, recruited from Drysdale, and rover Eddie (The Eagle) Marin, who simply walked in off the street and asked if he could get a game of footy.

"A few of last year's juniors— notably Andrew Brown, Liam Riley and Justin Edwards— have also taken the next step to become very valuable players," Munro said.

WFC president Jeff Evans said things were "going well" both on and off the field. "That's a result of the work we've put in over the last couple of seasons," he said.

"Five out of seven? Yes, we're pretty happy with that.

"Lex has varied training this season and that has been a key."

Evans said the long-awaited floodlights on the scoreboard side of the recreation reserve would be in place by June 20.

The lights will allow the entire ground to be used for training and considerably ease the wear and tear on the playing surface on the pavilion side.

## Junior stars make 'big league'

Warrandyte Junior Football Club will have five of their stars in an inter-district competition on July 5.

They will represent the Yarra Junior Football League against the Waverley district at a venue yet to be announced.

The Yarra league have invited Warrandyte to nominate a player for each of five divisions— Under 10, 12, 13, 15 and Colts.

"This is an annual competition involving several junior district leagues and we're delighted to be involved," WJFC president Terry Pieper told the *Diary*.

The junior club are enjoying a buoyant season,

with four of their seven championship teams (the two Under-9 Tackers sides do not play finals) in their respective top fours. The Under-15s and Under-11s are on top of their ladders, the Colts second, the Under-12s fourth and one of the two Under-10s only a game out of the four.

And the Under-9s covered themselves in glory in a recent round-robin competition in Bulleen, recording five wins and a draw from eight games.

"The club are faring very well," Pieper said. "We have a lot of young stars coming through and the level of parental involvement is very good."

WJFC will hold their annual auction and dinner dance on August 1. Inquiries: 9844 1340.

## Take the coach to the big one

Warrandyte players and supporters can leave their cars at home and enjoy an "armchair ride" to and from the Bloods' next game, at Coldstream on June 13.

The football club have chartered a coach, which will make two runs to Coldstream. The first will leave the recreation reserve at 10.30am and the second at 12.30pm, both picking up at the Grand Hotel.

The \$10 return fare includes admission to the ground.

Warrandyte will hold a Trivia Night at the clubrooms after the Coldstream game and have organised a Trots Night at Moonee Valley for July 18. "Bucky" Rodgers is taking bookings for both events.

Meanwhile, the Warrandyte Recreation Reserve clubrooms have become a smoke-free zone in compliance with council by-laws.

And football club president Jeff Evans says the response from supporters has been excellent.

"We're finding that more and more people are now coming into the rooms after games," he said.

"After a recent match against Forest Hill it was packed in there, yet at 9 o'clock it was still fresh air."

The comfort level in the rooms has been even further enhanced by the installation of air-conditioning.

# Redbacks struggle to find their best

By DAMIAN ARSENIS

Warrandyte have begun the new Victorian Junior Basketball Championship season in sluggish fashion. After some great efforts during the grading phases, most Redback teams have fallen off the pace.

The U12 East 2 boys have had an interrupted start to the regular season. They played outstanding basketball under temporary coach Damien Arsenis in grading games but have been plagued by a drop in form and the unsettling experience of having a procession of coaches.

Arsenis was replaced by Gerry Pearce at the season's start, but to release him for coaching duties with the U14 Metro 3 team, Pearce in turn handed the reins to long-time Redback player Matt Treeby, who hopes to turn around the team's fortunes after a horror start which has seen them thrashed by teams they had previously beaten.

The U16 East 3 boys have also had a miserable start. They too have gone through a change of coaching staff, with former Redback Tristan Messerle, who has returned to the club after playing with Coburg for a number of years, replacing Kerry Cleaves.

Messerle has signalled his commitment to give the team the stability needed to make an immediate impact in their division.

Jessie Parfitt's U16 Division 5 girls are looking at a long season. They have struggled since the season began and are in third-last position, but a ray of hope emerged with a recent win over Mornington.

This season may be a learning experience for the girls, who are not finals contenders but show plenty of promise.

## Basketball clinics to nurture primary kids

Warrandyte Basketball Club have launched a series of clinics in local primary schools to help boost the profile of the sport within the community.

The Redbacks are looking to develop a local primary school competition—to coincide with the completion of the new basketball stadium at Andersons Creek in April next year—to further nurture young local talent.

"Basketball is a great sport involving both team and individual skills," said Damian Arsenis, who is responsible for the clinics.

"With developing the skills of local youngsters in mind, the club are looking towards a

bright future."

Clinics at Andersons Creek Primary School on May 26 and 27 saw all the preps and first and second graders participate in a variety of skills and activities as part of Education Week. The half-hour sessions were devoted to dribbling, passing and shooting—with the able assistance of some Grade 6 pupils.

Earlier and equally-successful clinics were run at both Andersons Creek and Warrandyte Primary and others are being considered for other local schools, including Warrandyte South and Milgate Primary.

For further information, Damian Arsenis (9846 7640).

The exposure to championship basketball can only improve them.

In an up-and-down start to their season, Graham Drake's U14 East 3 boys are sitting mid-ladder but are far from happy with their form. They are quite capable of making their way back into the top bracket.

The same can be said of Malcolm Anderson's U18 Metro 2 boys. After a disappointing grading season in which they just missed out on making Metro 1, the boys have been playing inconsistently and have been hurt by the absence of the emerging Ben McKellar.

The tide, however, may have turned for them. With newfound enthusiasm and direction from coach Anderson, the

team have lifted to post some impressive results and are making a surge towards the top of the ladder.

Scott Morrison's U20 Metro young men have made a solid start, mixing some good wins with some narrow defeats to be mid-ladder.

They are good enough to make the finals, a lot depending on their ability to restrict their opponents' score. Strong defence and a bit of luck should see them make inroads.

Lorraine Parfitt's U16 Division 3 girls are playing good basketball, sitting in seventh position after going down to competition leaders Mornington by just six points. The difference in the end was three missed free throw opportunities.

## New honour for O'Brien

Much-decorated Warrandyte Football Club captain John O'Brien (pictured) added yet another honour on June 6 to his long list of achievements.

O'Brien, three-time Bloods senior best and fairest winner, vice-captained the EFL representative Third and Fourth Division team in an interleague match at Epping against Diamond Valley Second Division.

He started at full-forward and became one of the game's stars when moved to centre half-forward in the second half.

The EFL won by four goals. Warrandyte were also represented in the curtain-raiser, the Under-18s, by Liam Mulcahy, who started on the interchange bench but did some useful things in a losing side when given his chance.



Playing with a lot of confidence and expectation, the girls are looking to a fruitful season and to making their mark in the September finals.

Also playing well are Gerry Pearce's U14 Metro 3 boys. Although currently sitting just outside the six, the boys, with giant centres Hayden Wall and Jake Humble calling the shots, are looking to stamp their authority on their competition.

They have regained form after losing some close contests and should continue to win as they meet some of the weaker sides in their division.

Warrandyte's best-performed team are the U12 Metro 1 boys of Gavin Whitmore.

After breezing through the grading phases with an immaculate record, the boys began the season in lack-lustre fashion and although experiencing a tough patch at the moment they continue to win.

They are well placed, with continued improvement under Whitmore's guidance, to regain their rightful place at the top of the ladder

## Record run

A record number of students took part last month in Warrandyte High School's annual Fun Run at Westerfields Park, a fundraiser this year for the Kids Under Cover Program.

The days activities included a barbecue, a staff versus students tug-o-war, volleyball and mini-golf. Special guest was Collingwood AFL captain Gavin Brown.

Fun Run winners: Tom Fricker (U14 boys), Tana Griffiths (U14 girls), Mark Spiliotacopoulos (U16 boys), Bery Fricker (U16 girls), James Riley (Open boys) and Melissa Lynch (Open girls).

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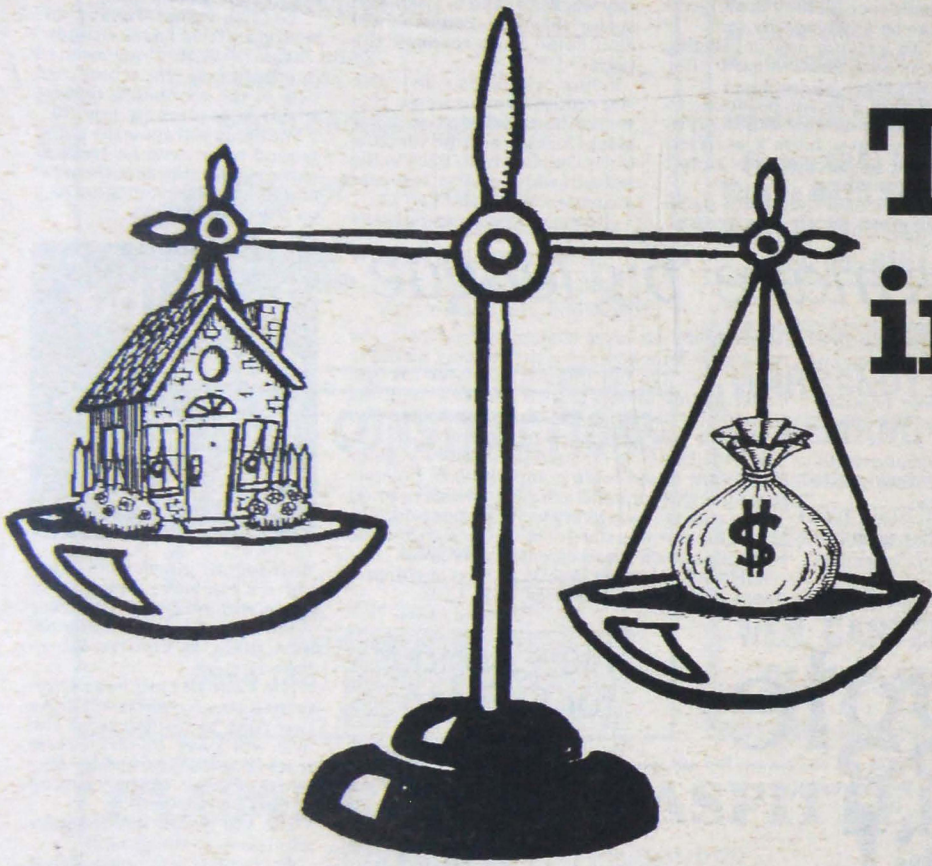
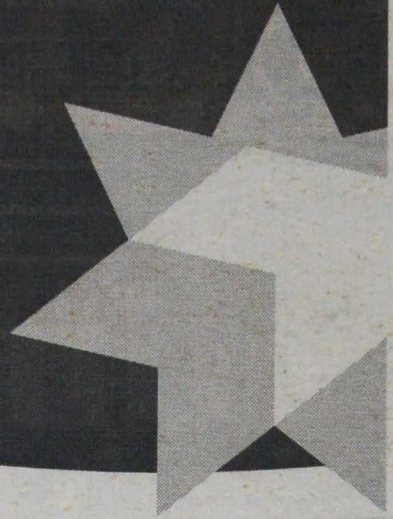
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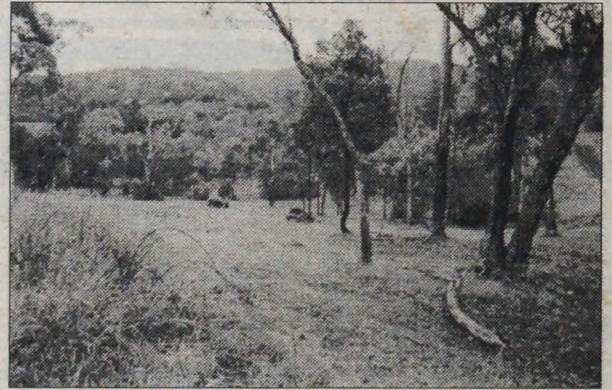
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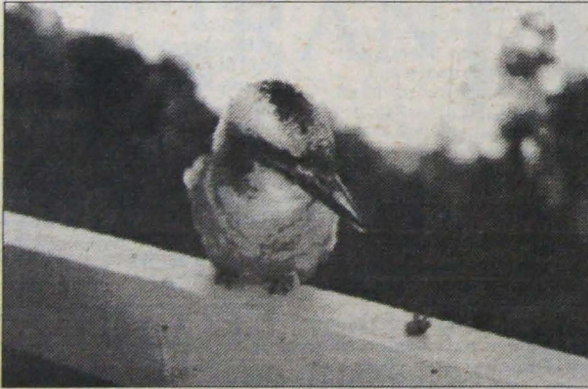
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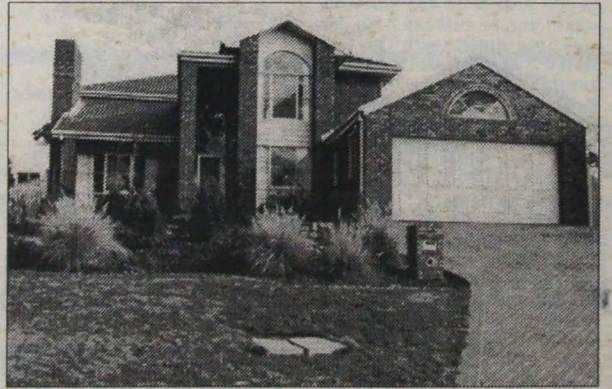
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