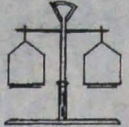


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DIARY

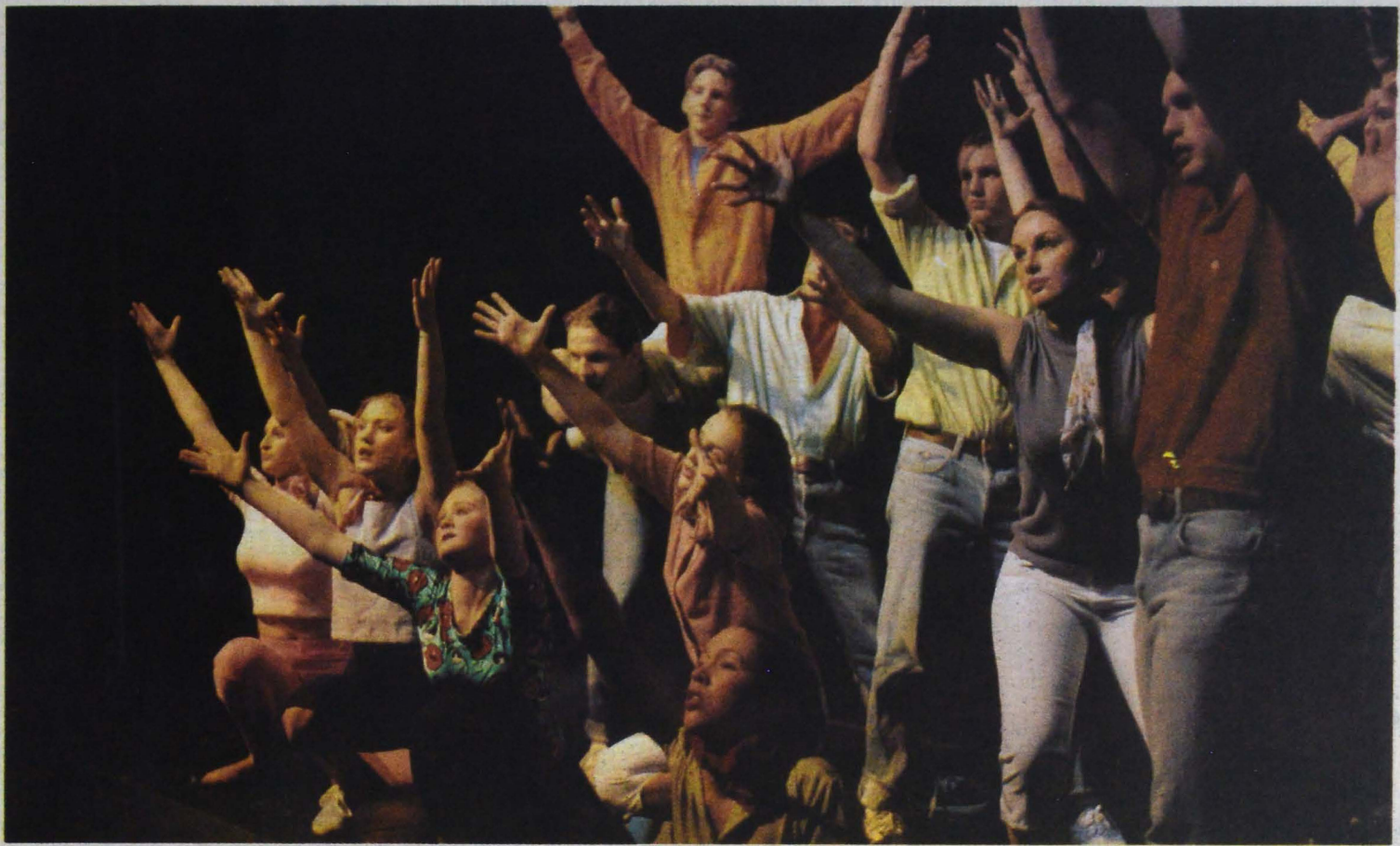
No. 303, October 1998

WARRANDYTE HARDWARE

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High kids go west!

Warrandyte High School thrilled local audiences last month with a superb presentation of the musical *West Side Story*. According to our critic, the production "captured the essence of the time: of Coke and hot dogs; of an America beginning to confront its racist attitudes and the need for change."

● Review, more pics on Page 6.

(Picture by Greg Ruthven)

Opposed to school

By CLIFF GREEN

Two of the major users of the Warrandyte Community Centre are opposing the proposed establishment of a private school at the centre, one requesting a public meeting on the issue.

Universal Learning College has applied to Manningham council for a planning permit to open a primary school at the centre next year. However, Warrandyte Neighbourhood House and Information Warrandyte have lodged formal objections to the project.

The school proposes to begin with one infant class—Preps and Years 1 and 2—gradually extending to a second class through Years 3 to 6. Classes will be accommodated in the large multi-purpose room at the rear of building.

"The primary school will be small, with 20 to 25 children in 1999, and a maximum of 45-50 students in the year 2000," co-ordinator Margaret Harley said in a letter to tenants of the centre.

But the objectors are concerned about a number of issues, including

Community centre group calls for public meeting

toilet accommodation, noise and garden damage.

Jenny Chapman, president of Neighbourhood House asks: "Has there been consultation with all other users on the effect of 50 children using the centre every week day—playing on the carpark, lawn and paved areas before and after school and at lunch and playtimes?"

In her letter, Margaret Harley assures tenants "there will be a low noise level as the children will play games in the lower paved levels and on the gravel area at the back of the building where there is a community netball ring. There will be no loud speakers as a handbell may be rung at recess times".

Neighbourhood House operates the child care facility at the centre. Jenny Chapman asks: "Has the Occasional

Child Care Centre been consulted on the removal of the swing and (its) replacement with climbing ropes?"

"Have they been consulted on sharing the area? Has thought been given to the close proximity of the child care centre and the youth services centre?"

Louise Joy, president of Information Warrandyte, believes "the toilets are insufficient for the number of children; noise level of the children will affect the clientele of the bureau" and "the gardens will be inevitably damaged by the children's play".

"There are general concerns over adequate supervision of the children in the confines of the building," Louise Joy said.

The *Diary* believes cars would be excluded from the gravelled carpark during school hours so that it can serve

as a playground for the proposed school, leaving the sealed carpark for other users.

"Parents and children will access the multi-purpose room from the sealed carpark," Ms Harley said.

The centre's sealed carpark holds up to 30 cars. She claims the centre's man-

agement committee conducted a random survey of the carpark.

"The school's peak hours of cars in the carpark will be between 8.30 and 9am and 3 and 3.30pm. There were four cars parked between 8.30 and 9am and 10 cars between 3 and 3.30pm. We are also expecting parents to 'pool' their cars."

The *Diary* understands that the school will be required to return the multi-purpose room to its original condition each evening, so that other users will have unencumbered access.

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House has requested that a public meeting be held at the community centre, "as this (proposal) will have a great effect on all other users".



Council axes West End trees

● Full report, pics: Page 3
● Letters: Page 4

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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In one careless moment, local police-woman Kim Dixon has set up a classic re-enactment of the fairytale Beauty and the Beast. The beauty, of course, being Senior Constable Dixon and the beast Alan (Coatsy) Koetsveld, who likes to think of himself as being ruggedly handsome but could probably make a tidy living haunting houses when he gives up building them. Fresh from a spectacular gig at the Grand Hotel, where he damped down the volume of the live entertainment in most unorthodox fashion, Coatsy bobbed up at the RSL Club (where else was there left to go?) and as he chewed the fat and shot the breeze with a few mates, the subject of Crop A Cop cropped up. Before you could say "Four pots, one with a dash of Coke", our hero had offered to be shorn for the cancer kids. Kim was there on the night of Saturday, September 5, and watched in startled semi-belief as Geoff Feltham and Harry Southall took to Coatsy's head with scissors and razors, exploding the myth that what sat above his craggy countenance was a wig alloyed of barbed wire and steel wool. She was also there on September 24 to accept a cheque on behalf of Crop A Cop for \$1300 which Coatsy's crusade had raised. Which brings us to the careless moment.

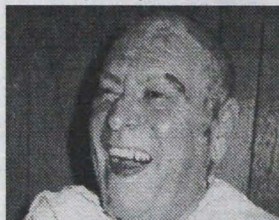
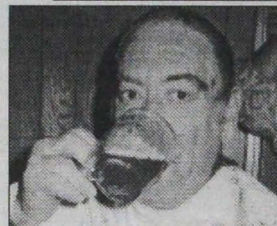


"We're looking for a volunteer for a haircut next year, Kim," Geoff said in jest, "and we thought you might like to be it." "Oh yeah," she said. "Oh yeah. That'd cost you \$10,000!" Sold! "Oh God! What have I said? What have I done? I'm getting married in April. What will Chris (Detective Chris Bridger, fiancé) say? What will my mum say?" We don't know, Kim, but it's a done deal. Nobody's going to send her off on her honeymoon with a polished pate because, hell, people would talk and Chris might wonder if he'd married a gorgeous gal or was getting into bed with Kojak. But Warrandyte has 12 months in which to raise the 10 grand necessary to see her lose her locks. Given her popularity and the worthiness of the cause, we reckon it's very gettable. Lots of things are being planned and we'll be keeping you posted. And when the time comes, please dig deep. Don't let Coatsy upstage the law.

IN RED & WHITE



Going, going, gone. The comprehensive cropping of Coatsy. And (hopefully) the next victim, Senior Constable Kim Dixon.



The Diary got a bit of mail from the One Nation Party in the run-up to the election, addressed in each case to the Warrandyte Dairy. We assume Pauline Hanson was chasing the cow cocky vote.



days were like watching a slow-motion video of a building collapse. The carport got leaner, leaner and leaner until the roof came to rest on Thursday on the Sulo. Rae now has a new carport which stands straight, proud and tall.



The gas crisis has brought out the best in some of us, including a North Warrandyte bloke who had never got along too famously with the folk next door. He phoned them on Day 3 of the drama and said look, I know I haven't been the best neighbour in the world, but if you're on gas you're very welcome to use our shower any time you like. They said we're on electricity but thanks heaps.



Rae Danks, our advertising/accounts lady, admits that the carport of her Ringwood Road home had developed a bit of a lean and at the insistence of her good mate Denise Farran she at last decided to have it replaced. Which meant son Cameron carting away the heap of stuff he'd left in it when he flew the nest. As Rae was to find out, that stuff was all that was holding the thing up. It left on Monday and she says the next few



Diary chief-of-staff/photographer Jan Tindale shuns personal publicity, particularly on this page because she says the last thing she wants is to become as famous as Neil Dusting. But her latest adventure must be recorded. Jan went shopping at Ringwood the other Sunday afternoon for a particular brand and gauge of whipper-snipper cord—and came home with a cute black male Wantirna South poodle named B.J. On the corner of Ringwood Street and Loughnan Avenue, out back of Eastland, she saw this ball of fur leap out the rear window of the car in front of her, hit the bitumen and stand there very bewildered and in grave peril of becoming the late B.J. as his owner—a young woman quite unaware that she had just lost her passenger—drove on. Jan pulled over into a bus stop, got out, waited for the red light to stop the traffic and hollered "Here boy!" Whereupon B.J.

skipped across the road and jumped into her arms. What to do now? Take him home and dial the phone number on his collar tag. A joyful reunion took place at Jan's place a few hours later after the owner had driven the streets of Ringwood fearing the worst.



Kevin Luttick, of Beauty Gully Road, has moved up in the golfing world since he quit the workforce. He used to be a Saturday morning green fee player at the RACV Country Club at Healesville with the RSL Club chaps but is now a full member at Eastern in Doncaster and hits the little white ball around quite regularly with his great mate and near neighbour John Knox. And Knoxie tells us that Kevin is known at Eastern as The Arab. Spend most of his time in the sand.



Easyrider, our roving Warrandyte bus correspondent, has checked in with a shocking tale of lawlessness on the 4.50 out of Melbourne. "The National buses are always spotless," he explained breathlessly, "and one of the reasons for this is that eating and drinking on board is forbidden. Yet yesterday this cute young brunette sat down in front of me and ate a small tin of Goulburn Valley peaches with a teaspoon!" Really, we said. And why tell us this? "Well," he said, "I'm thinking of testing this regulation out with a couple of stubbies and half a kilo of unshelled prawns. Reckon I should give it a go?" In a word, Easyrider, no.



And blooming in Joan MacMahon's community centre garden, opposite Harvey World Travel, right now is *Hardenbergia violacea*, commonly known as the purple coral pea, a long, flowing, climbing plant indigenous to Warrandyte. A hybrid is sold in the shops as Happy Wanderer, but it's not a patch on the real thing, which is also grown in the State Park nursery. Come take a look.



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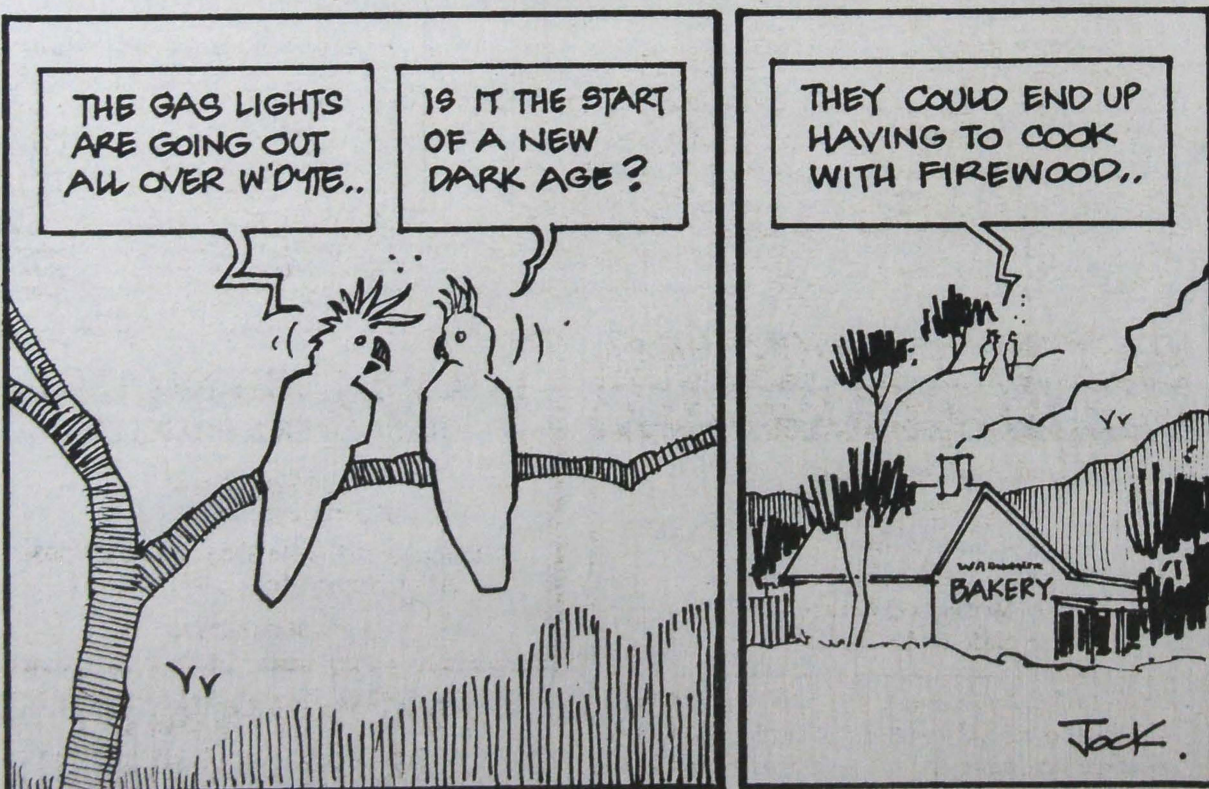
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OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



West End trees axed

By DAVID WYMAN

Many Warrandyte residents have been shocked and angered by the rapid removal of five mature gum trees and start of earthworks for a roundabout at the Harris Gully and Warrandyte Roads intersection.

Manningham councillors voted to proceed with the controversial roundabout at its meeting on Tuesday evening, September 22. Early on Wednesday morning, contractors moved in and started removing the trees, including a very old manna gum, which many regarded as a fitting western "gateway" to Warrandyte.

"It's indecent and we are very upset," a resident who phoned the *Diary*, said. "We don't want this roundabout. It's been forced upon us by a council who seems hell-bent on urbanising Warrandyte."

Council's decision followed an extended period of "consultation" with community and environment groups which were enlarged to include those who initiated the protests about tree removal and roundabout construction early in August.

But it is interesting that the founders of the new Warrandyte Awareness Group (WAG) were never invited to take part in the consultation meetings.

Yet Peter Curry, Leonie Ulbrich and Murray Baker were among the first residents to formally write to Manningham council stating that the intersection was "one of the most picturesque and lovely bends in the road," offering suggestions for improvements to make the intersection safer.

WAG chairman, Peter Curry, told the *Diary* that he and other founders of WAG were never invited to join in the consultation process. "I feel terrible about it (the tree removal) because people were under the impression that there was hope to avoid a roundabout," he said. "We believe that council had it in their minds to build the roundabout from the start no matter what we and other people did or said. We would have liked it to have been informed before this happened. There has been a lot of anger and concern expressed to us by residents."

"Vic Roads have said that they don't consider the Harris Gully-

Warrandyte Roads intersection to be a priority—but it's obvious that the council did," Peter Curry said.

"I've looked at some accident statistics from the Vic Roads' web site and found that the intersection is certainly not the worst in the City of Manningham."

"I understand that any suggestions that came up at the consultation meetings with council were shot down by council staff using safety audit data. The panel was told that none of the other intersection treatments we suggested would meet safety and engineering requirements."

The \$400,000 roundabout now under construction will include "kerb and channelling, drainage work, pavements and footpaths, road resurfacing, additional lighting and the provision of a right turn lane into Blair Street".

The Warrandyte community and environment groups which met with councillors and council staff to discuss improvements to the intersection were "put on the spot" by a request from council for a "position paper" on the issue.

Produced under pressure, this paper called for a "round table" meeting, including Vic Roads senior engineers, which would certainly have added engineering clout for a roundabout. In addition, enquiries by the *Diary* indicate that much of the "facts" about the intersection's safety record and traffic density have been exaggerated to assist the roundabout cause.

In a statement tendered to the consultative panel by local residents, Mr Sven Erikson, a retired professional engineer, who held senior positions at Vic Roads in traffic planning investigations, suggested that:

- the Warrandyte Road and Harris Gully Road intersection not be treated as an independent section of road, but should be considered as part of a longer precinct, in particular between the Tarroona Avenue intersection with Warrandyte Road and the Everard Drive intersection;

- the treatment of the intersection consider a range of devices that will slow cars entering the intersection and provide an appropriate measure of safety;

- the solution of a roundabout for the intersection be



tempered by the consideration that it should not be the only answer and that all needs will be better met with a creative, broader approach that could use rumble strips, painted islands and good vehicle path delineation with lane marking.

Bruce Douglas, director of infrastructure at Manningham council has advised objectors: "Arising from the concerns raised and extensive consultation undertaken, I am pleased to advise that as a part of the roundabout construction project, significant new indigenous planting will be undertaken to ensure that the vegetation and amenity of the area is enhanced on completion of the roundabout. Development of the landscape plans for these works is to be undertaken with input from Melbourne Water and the reference panel."

● LETTERS—Page 4



Unseemly haste: workmen removed the five trees within hours of council's decision. (Pictures by Jan Tindale)

Councillors abandon Wedge slice-up plan

Manningham council has abandoned further investigation of an application for a one-lot subdivision on an eight-hectare Green Wedge property in South Warrandyte.

This move follows determined community protest against the proposed subdivision. Fifteen submissions were received when the plan was publicly displayed, with only one supporting the proposal.

The earlier council decision to allow Mr Vorach Brodsky of 456 Warrandyte-Ringwood Road to submit a proposal for a subdivision was made on

"compassionate grounds" because he is blind. The proposal was sponsored through council by Mullum Ward councillors, Patricia Young and Lionel Allemant.

Heide Ward councillor Geoff Gough was reported as saying, "Are we saying to everybody we do not want a Green Wedge any more? The judgement should be made on a more strategic level".

The decision to abandon the proposal was made by an overwhelming majority. Only Cr Young and Cr Allemant voted for the proposal.

Dual occupancy fate still unknown

By DAVID WYMAN

An advisory panel is expected to report on the future of dual occupancy housing in Warrandyte towards the end of November.

The panel was appointed by, and will report to, the Minister for Planning, Mr Maclellan. It reviewed Manningham council's Municipal Strategic Statement which includes setting up a Special Use Zone to replace the Environmental Residential Zone banning dual occupancy

in Warrandyte.

This was necessary because the government's new urban planning zones do not allow prohibition of dual occupancy anywhere.

The panel heard presentations from five people in favour of the Special Use Zone early in September. It also received 62 written submissions in favour of the zone, including a petition signed by 824 people.

Local MP, Hon Phil Honeywood,

took the unusual step of appearing before the panel, arguing the case against dual occupancy.

One written submission was in favour of dual occupancy.

In its submission, Manningham council said the Environmental Residential Zone applied to those areas with particular environmental constraints, qualities and characteristics that needed to be absolutely protected rather than left to the "vague and penetrable

shield commonly known as discretion".

Council described Warrandyte as a "hamlet nestled within bushy hills of the non-urban area...characterised by hilly and steep areas so that any cutting and filling becomes especially obvious as does the associated removal of vegetation".

"Council does not accept that other decision makers will approach the issue (of dual occupancy) with the same degree of

knowledge and sensitivity as does the responsible authority. This involves a high degree of risk of allowing dual occupancy and the like because a single site might be appropriate."

In general comments, council said, "Given the submissions made to the planning authority (the council), it is the community which is demanding the outcome (a special zone) preferred by the planning authority."

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Love affair with 'George'

When I read your article in the *Diary* a couple of weeks ago (Pub Needs Club To Bring Back Pokie Profits: August, 1998), I got very emotional.

Six years ago I started a hot, passionate love affair with "George." In conservative terms I, Gabriela Byrne from Warrandyte, was addicted to poker machine gambling. I had a few minor problems when I first met "George", nothing important. But when I was with "George", for just this short period of time, I forgot all about my problems. I think that is OK—you decide to do the same thing when you slouch in front of the TV after a stressful day at work. The difference is that at the "George" venue everything is deliberately set up so that you lose your senses, if you choose to or not. You don't

have a choice.

I met "George" a lot of times at the Warrandyte hotel. As you can imagine, I was the only one putting something of value into this relationship! This affair cost me a lot of money, almost ruined my marriage and drove me to the edge of suicide. Based on my personal experience, lots of studying and the grace of God, I was able to develop a program that enabled me to "free myself" from this "one-sided" relationship. I called this program the "Free Yourself Program" and I have been successfully teaching this program now for more than two years to other "George" addicts.

For many people, playing the pokies is maybe just a fun night out. Most people can handle it. It doesn't matter if you spend your money there or go to the

DEAR DIARY



movies, etc. Well, if you think that way—please ask yourself the following question: Have you ever heard of anybody who lost all their possessions, left their family or committed suicide because they went to the concert too often? Wouldn't you agree that an entertainment that has the potential to ruin lives should not be promoted as a socially accepted form of entertainment, especially by a sports club?

Warrandyte has so much to offer. We live in a beautiful place where most people appreciate the natural beauty and the pres-

ervation of history. People come to Warrandyte to escape the noise and the busy environment that they normally live in. They can get in touch with "George" in hundreds of other places. Do we, the community of Warrandyte, need pokies to demonstrate that we, too, are supportive of the government's dependency on gambling? Wouldn't you rather be in Warrandyte amongst friends? Not pokies!

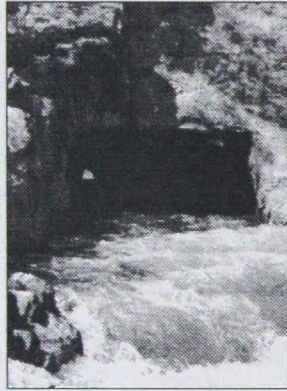
If you are interested in signing a petition against the transfer of the liquor licence to the Warrandyte Football Club and installation of poker machines, please write to me at 19 Kruses Road, Warrandyte, telephone 9844 3875 or 0414 844 387.

Gabriela Byrne
Kruses Road

Which tunnel was that?

Thanks to Mr Richard Warwick on the good story on the gold days at Pound Bend Tunnel. It's a pity whoever printed the 1998 Manningham council calendar with a picture of the Fourth Hill Tunnel and got its name wrong by labelling it the Pound Bend Tunnel. I have been a Scottish Warrandytian since 1953, and picked it up. Anyone else notice that mistake?

Tom Bone
Warrandyte



In mourning for trees

The arrogant attitude of Manningham council to the Warrandyte community knows no bounds. Disregarding the proposals for a cheaper and just as effective alternative to the proposed roundabout at Harris Gully Road, council decided on September 22 to proceed with their original plan.

With what can only be described as stealth, by 9am the following morning, tree-loppers were destroying a part of Warrandyte's history with the destruction of a towering 100 year old gum tree. Why such haste and when was the order was given for the operation? Was it already issued so

as to give no opportunity for those opposed to this environmental vandalism to voice their objection in a democratic manner? Was Melbourne Water given appropriate notice?

Were wildlife officers on site to ensure some protection and, where possible, removal of wildlife housed in the tree?

A councillor elected to represent this unique area and its community has chosen, on several occasions, to support changes vehemently opposed by local residents. Who does this person really represent?

Dorothy Bale
Anderson Street

I wish to express my outrage at the clandestine and hasty removal of the 150-200 year-old tree in West Warrandyte. I'm astounded at the lack of genuine community consultation. Is this what's meant by taking "a hard look" at the intersection's options?

It appears a smooth bureaucratic path was cleared for the removal of this ancient manna gum. Arborists uniformly agreeing on the danger and weakness of the grand old sentinel. Consultants deciding that the "significant" tree doesn't provide vital habitat for creatures large or small and finally, tree removalists ready at such short notice.

The Manningham council meeting was held on the night of Tuesday, October 22, objec-

tions seem to have been minimal or erased and luckily, the contractors were available to cut down the trees at six o'clock the following morning!

It sounds like a bad Irish joke: how long does it take to grow a 200 year-old tree? There are now so few broad-girth trees left in Warrandyte. Between the ravages of fire and human constructions, there's little chance for even 70 year-old trees to survive here. I know of at least two places in Victoria where government signs are placed in logged forests stating "Here once stood the tallest living tree..." I wonder if the councillors would sign their names to Warrandyte's version of these ironic plaques?

Lee Speedy
Research-Warrandyte Road

Crash corner alarm

I am a resident of Yarra Street in Warrandyte and there is a lot of concern as to the number of car crashes on the bend of Yarra Street at the intersection from Yarra Street into Stiggant Street.

It was only last Friday night (September 11) that the second major car accident occurred since I have lived in the area—approximately 18 months. On both occasions the drivers have been extremely lucky to escape with their lives. On this latest occasion, a young driver

driving towards Melbourne hit a four tonne truck heading in the opposite direction in wet/damp conditions.

The *Diary* is surely aware of what impact a death from a car accident can have on the community. Is it possible that the *Diary* could provide some awareness of the accidents that have occurred at this intersection to possibly reduce the number of incidents.

Kerry Cleaves
(by e-mail)



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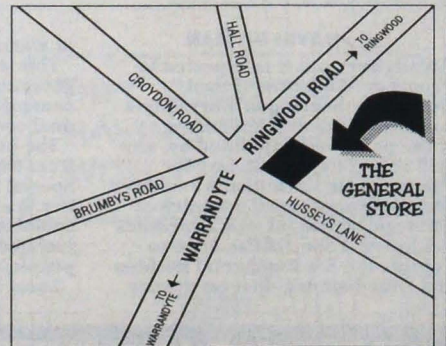
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Freeway could lead to ring road

By FIA CLENDINEN

Warrandyte community groups concerned about the impact of a ring road on the Green Wedge have publicly criticised the Scoresby Environmental Effects Statement (EES), describing the process as seriously flawed and calling for a genuine evaluation of a public transport option.

Anti Ring Road Organisation (ARRO), Bend of Islands Conservation Association (BICA), Friends of Warrandyte State Park (FOWSP), Warrandyte Awareness Group (WAG) and Wonga Park Residents' Association (WPRA) have endorsed a "submission in response" which condemns the Scoresby EES.

They say it "ignored the most serious strategic planning issues raised by the proposed Scoresby Freeway and failed to consider any genuine alternative to building the freeway".

As reported in the August issue of the *Diary*, the recently released Scoresby EES has recommended a \$800 million freeway be built from Frankston to Ringwood. If the 38 kilometre freeway is constructed, just a small gap, the "missing link" between Ringwood and Greensborough, would need to be closed in order to complete VicRoads grand plan for a ring road round the heart of Melbourne.

The submission in response to the Scoresby EES was coordinated by the Public Transport Users Association (PTUA) on behalf of 41 environment and community groups. These in-



clude four peak groups, the PTUA, Australia Conservation Foundation, Environment Victoria and Friends of the Earth, as well as 37 local groups from both along the Scoresby corridor and within the Green Wedge.

The submission states: "the Scoresby Freeway is part of a plan for a ring-freeway around Melbourne. If built, this would be the most expensive single public infrastructure project ever seen in Australia. It would trigger the most dramatic change in land-use patterns in Melbourne's history.... However, information gathered during the course of the EES re-

veals that a viable alternative, based around a small but significant shift to public transport, does exist."

ARRO spokesperson Jeremy Loftus-Hills said he was "delighted" with the submission and the widespread community support it had received.

"It's never been more important that all the different interest groups in this area work together," he said. "It shows promise for the future."

Mr Loftus Hills said the Scoresby EES claimed to have undergone a community consultation process but this had been effectively exposed as a "sham".

ARRO's concerns that the state government intends to build a ring road through the Green Wedge "by stealth" have been dismissed by Geoff Craigie, Minister for Roads and Ports, as "absurd".

But the four other community groups from the Warrandyte area told the *Diary* they had similar fears.

"We're horrified by the fact that this Scoresby Freeway going ahead basically means that there's a much stronger likelihood of the ring road going ahead," said Cathy Willis, FOWSP secretary.

"We're very worried about the ring road. We've got to mobilise people now, before it's too late."

Peter Curry, spokesperson for WAG, stressed that for his group the important issue was learning more about the ring road and helping to educate the community.

"I think that public awareness needs to be highlighted," he said. "From what we've seen the ring road is a concern and we've got a responsibility to let people know about that."

Flora Anderson, spokesperson for WPRA, said she was not surprised five groups from the Warrandyte area had come out in opposition to the Scoresby Freeway because Warrandyte has a long history of defending the environment. "How else would Warrandyte have stayed as it is," she said, "if it hadn't been for people objecting all the time to incursions, erosions of the Green Wedge?"

She also pointed to the importance of fighting the proposed Scoresby Freeway while it was still in the planning stage. "It's a good time to start now," she said. "It's a good thing that people haven't weakened, that people are still protesting. It's excellent."

Alan Bonny, BICA president, said his group had been happy to endorse the PTUA coordinated submission because of their grave concerns about the impact of a ring road.

"We think the ring road would be a bit of a disaster regionally, because it would be coming through the Green Wedge area somewhere."

"On a more direct level it could perhaps even go through Bend of Islands," he said. "So for that reason we see the ring road as being significant and anything that can be done to push that issue is something we would support."

Bush corridor to Kinglake

By RACHEL BAKER

A project to restore riverbank vegetation between Warrandyte and Kinglake has received funding and commenced late last month.

Developed by the North Warrandyte Osborne Peninsula Landcare Group (an umbrella of several local environmental groups) the project aims to link up patches of "pristine bushland" with areas that have been cleared or developed, to "establish a strong habitat corridor" along the Yarra River and Watsons Creek between Warrandyte State Park and Kinglake National Park, Mrs Margaret Burke, proponent of the project and head of the NWOPLG, told the *Diary*.

The scheme, costing in excess of \$1 million per year over three years and including more than 40 hectares of land, will involve planting 63,500 trees, constructing 12 kilometres of rabbit-proof fencing, and removing exotic species, which will lead to "enhancement and enrichment of species which should be quite dramatic," Mrs Bourke said.

Funding for the project includes a \$193,000 Federal Government grant as part of the Natural Heritage Trust, as well as support from Nillumbik and Manningham councils, Melbourne Water, Greening Aus-

tralia and Warrandyte State Park. "It will empower local groups and individuals, enabling the changes they always wanted but were unable to bring about," Mrs Bourke said.

Over 180 plant species—including at least 80 rare or endangered species—will be grown by the Landcare and Friends groups involved, using local seed and material.

Mrs Bourke pointed out that many aspects being undertaken as part of the project will have a high impact in a very short time, and residents should notice some changes immediately.

One of the first steps has been the removal of willow trees along the Yarra River, resulting in improvement in water quality and local platypus habitat.



Federal environment minister, Senator Hill (centre) launches the riverbank restoration scheme.

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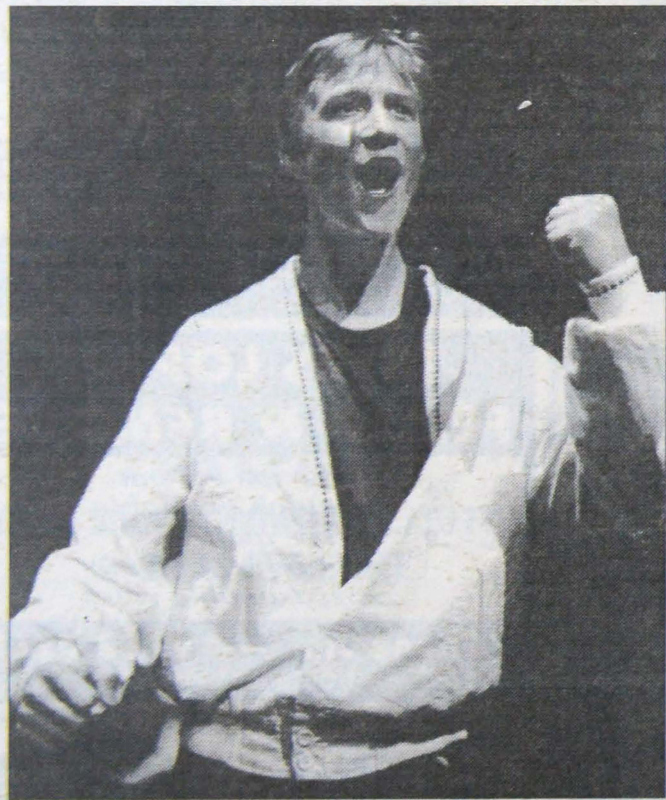
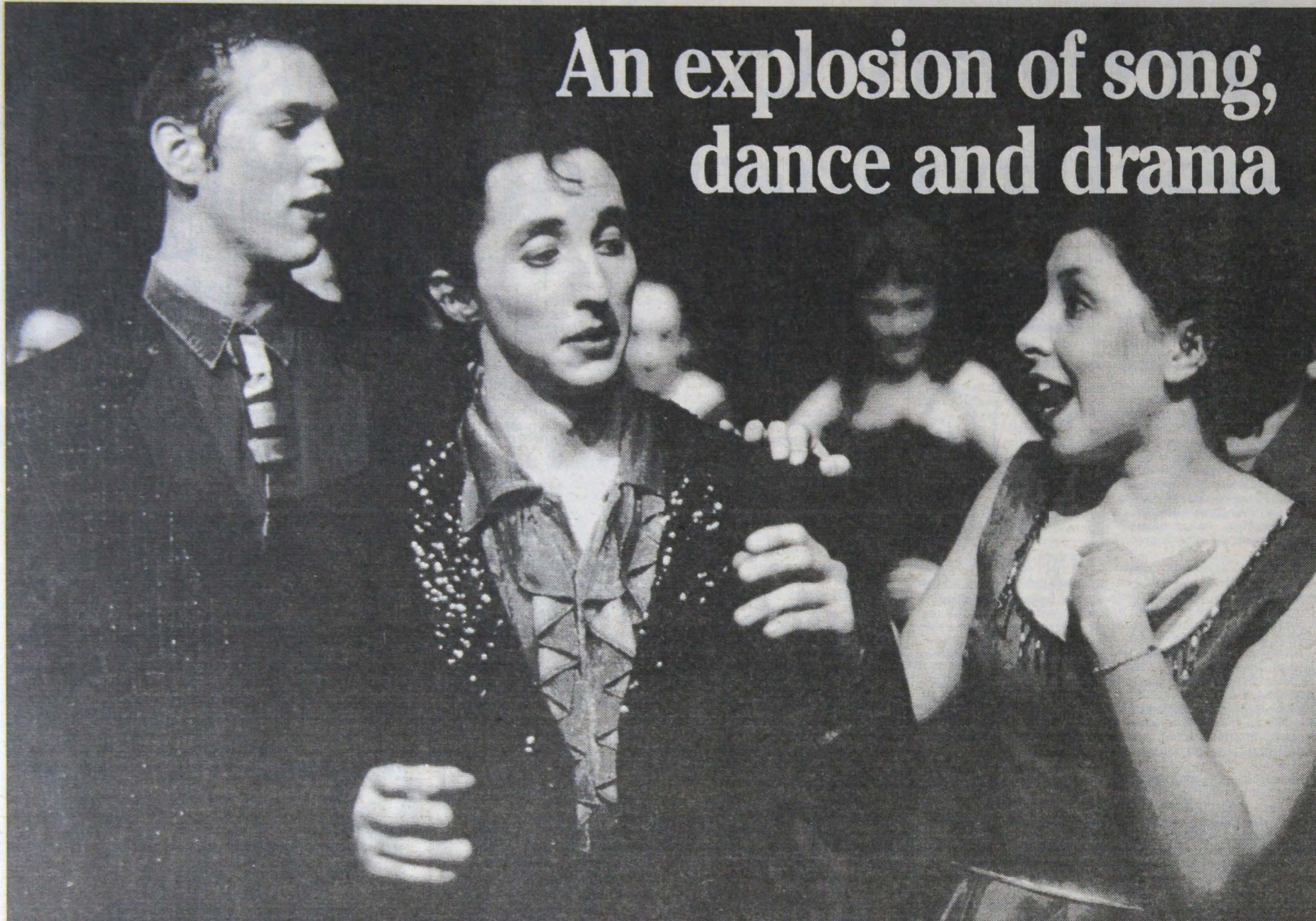
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An explosion of song, dance and drama



Pictures by Greg Ruthven

LONG before the curtain went up on what many regard as its most ambitious production to date, Warrandyte High School's enthusiasm for its latest musical, *West Side Story*, was evident in the pre-publicity—but could it live up to its claims?

When this 1950s musical first exploded onto the American stage, it challenged the assumptions of musical theatre: the score no longer relied on a few melodic tunes; music was complex and, at times, discordant; dialogue no longer merely served as a cue for a song; realism had replaced fantasy—with no guaranteed happy ending. Only multi-talented performers need apply. Could a high school production meet these criteria?

There it was—The Prologue—Bernstein's wonderful dissonant opening notes setting up the tension, as a love story based on the Romeo and Juliet tragedy unfolded against the background of New York's racially intolerant and depressed west-side. And it worked. Five minutes into the opening and the on-stage atmosphere was electric as rival gangs, the Jets and the Sharks, confronted each other.

That this tension was maintained throughout the production was due in no small part to the up-front direction of husband and wife team, Chris and Lynette White. Their belief in, and commitment to the show, was so palpably evident and so professionally expressed, the audience found it easy to become involved. The performers, obviously inspired by this direction, gave of their best and what they, at times, lacked in vocal ability, they made up for with enthusiasm and sincerity. Sound and lighting effects were excellent, reinforcing the on-stage drama.

Chris White's sets were used to great effect by the actors as they slid down fire escapes, scaled wire fences and, in the case of Anybodys—played appealingly by Jacqui Moore—crawled in and out of a drainpipe. From the opening it was evident that Drew Hanna, as Riff, was extremely comfortable on stage; his experience really showed in dance routines like 'Cool' and I'm sure he has a continuing future in musical theatre. I was also aware of Nic George's contribution as Action; Nic put a lot into his role, particularly in the witty send-up of Officer Krupke and social workers ('I'm deprived on account of I'm deprived'). The role of

THEATRE

By MARION WINTON

Krupke, played by teacher Don Harrison, gave the students a chance to reverse the tables, which they seemed to relish.

It was in the group numbers—'The Prologue', 'The Dance at the Gym' and 'The Rumble'—that the students were at their best. Lyn White's choreography was executed with youthful but disciplined exuberance, and the cast obviously revelled in these routines. Chris White almost stole his own show as the master of ceremonies Glad Hand.

Richard England (Tony) and Megan Fitzgerald (Maria) brought great charm to their leading roles. I was moved by the sincerity of Richard's performance and felt he handled the complex musical numbers ('Something's Coming' and 'Maria') well. The role of Tony would challenge an established actor and I hope Richard will feel encouraged when I suggest it is one I would like to see him attempt again with further vocal experience. Megan Fitzgerald was a perfect foil for Tony, her versatile soprano voice lifting the musical duets ('Tonight' and 'One Hand, One Heart'). Megan is a graceful actress who showed great promise in her first major role.

I see Nadia Spiliotacopoulkos "hopes to have a future career in the theatre". Nadia is the quintessential modern performer—one who can act, dance and sing. I was most impressed with the authority of her performance in the taxing role of Puerto Rican, Anita: her dancing in numbers like the spirited 'America'; her voice and her sensitivity to the lyrics, so well demonstrated in 'A Boy Like That'. Nadia has natural talent and a presence which would grace any stage. Good luck in your future career, Nadia.

Is there any role Greg Stewart cannot play? With his effortless acting skills, teacher Greg continues to be an inspiration to young actors, this time as the prejudiced, authoritarian Lieutenant Schranke, representing law, order and white America. I thoroughly enjoyed his exchanges with Riff and the Jets.

Although the action took place around, rather than in, Damien Gason's

drug store, he was effective as the philosophical Doc. While I would also like to mention Tom Fitzgerald (Bernardo) who moved well on stage, Gizelle Manoli, who brought charm to the role of Rosalia (which included the difficult solo piece 'Somewhere') and Natasha Simpson who was animated and supportive in the role of Consuela, I want to congratulate all players for their part in this demanding musical.

Warrandyte High's production captured the essence of the time: of Coke and hot dogs and Kennedy For President; of an America beginning to confront its racist attitudes and the need for change. It seemed absolutely right that the show be performed by students of high school age. For co-directors Chris and Lynette White, I believe it was a personal best; they managed to achieve a highly professional feel to this moving and exciting production. Congratulations to them, to musical director Kirk Skinner, and to everyone connected with this fine production.



She created the face of our city



A VISIT to Deborah Halpern's place in Dingley Dell Road is an experience in bright, bold and wild art. Even the gate that keeps in the family dog is a piece of art. Her sculptures are familiar outdoor landmarks and are a backdrop for many a tourist photo.

The enormous two-headed, three-legged beast, named Angel, which stands in the moat outside the National Gallery of Victoria, is one of Deborah's best known works. Another is the large, bold and tiled mosaic sculpture Ophelia. She can be found near the main river entrance to Southgate.

Ophelia is the face of Melbourne—the Melbourne Convention and Marketing Bureau use her as their logo. Originally, Deborah was asked to design a sculpture for the Southgate development. Ophelia was from Hamlet, and she took her own life by drowning in a river. However, the sculpture—according to Deborah—is Ophelia before that wistful feeling. The story isn't tragic—more romantic.

The Fitzroy Nursery in Brunswick Street stands out, with colourful 3D metal angel entrance gates. On this project, Deborah worked with Alister Knox Jr (son of the famous mudbrick house designer) who was then working in metal. Deborah designed and painted the gates.

"Very large sculptures don't happen all the time," explains Deborah. "I make smaller things that people can put in their houses and gardens. My work is represented by the Christine Abrahams Gallery in Richmond."

Before making Angel for the National Gallery of Victoria, Deborah was "making ceramic sculptures from floor to ceiling. As they were modular I could do them on my own". When commissioned to design a public work that would complement the gallery and attract attention of passers-by: "I felt terror! One is terrified of the unknown and the prospect of failing. The arts community can be very critical." At 30, Deborah was still young in her career. "It was a leap into the unknown."

"I saw that you can stand in, not knowing

VILLAGE PEOPLE

Words by **LORRAINE WARREN**
Picture by **AUSTIN POLLEY**

and just go and find out what there is to know. I didn't know about steel, concrete and tiles." Deborah had been working in ceramics, using clay and a kiln.

The project "took three years and we kept running out of money." However, she saw it as a learning experience. In the end, "I had more success in raising money for the project than the gallery did".

Finally, the day came when Angel was ready to move from its shed at the docks. Deborah recalls the excitement of being up at dawn on Sunday; the police escort, the cranes, and her family and friends huddled in blankets.

Angel was "a turning point in my career. It set me up to see that I could do anything—big things and little things. Even though I always kind of get nervous—I want to do the most wonderful thing. To thrill myself, the client and to come up with things so surprising that we are amazed by it. It's a high expectation of myself. I have to keep giving up any anxiety and going for the vision."

Deborah grew up in Warrandyte. Her father had emigrated from Poland with engineering qualifications that were not recognised here. He looked for a career, and found ceramics. Her mother had earlier given away secretarial work to train in ceramics at RMIT.

Her parents went on to be founding members of Potters Cottage. In doing so, they gave Deborah the knowledge that "I didn't have to question that you could make your living through your artistic endeavours and live a peaceful lifestyle".

"I've been making my living through sculpture since 21. At first, I wanted to be a writer. I went to university and RMIT and did journalism. I couldn't see how I was going to make a living as nothing was pub-

lished."

"My parents said, 'Why not make some pots to support your writing?' So, I learnt how to throw pots. I went to Potters Cottage School and for a year learnt the essentials of ceramics. Then, when I was 21, I had an exhibition in the city. It was such a success, but still I thought I was going to be a writer. But I realised that I wasn't doing any writing! It took a couple of years to get to realise that I really liked ceramics. When I faced this I began to take off.

"I have had an agreement with myself to always do what I like doing. Sometimes I find myself doing something that doesn't turn me on. And I have to stop to choose again, to re-create it or to give that thing up. This applies to life."

Deborah's sculptures are bold, humorous and eye-catching. She constructs a steel frame that is then covered with either concrete or fibreglass. Brightly coloured ceramic tiles decorate the exterior. All her works feature an eye, as she feels this connects the viewer with the sculpture.

Deborah lives with her partner, Malcolm Laurence, and their seven-month-old baby Artek—Art for short. The property is unique in its appearance as it houses sculptures left over from exhibitions.

Malcolm, also a sculptor, recently won the Warrandyte Youth Arts Award. The gate to the property is his creation. It has lines of steel coming out of an exhaust engine that turn into flowers. It operates like a drawbridge, with the car engine as the counterweight. A handle draws the gate up and the vertical lines of steel fold back.

Over the hill in Kangaroo Ground is Malcolm's studio. "He has a good collection of what looks like good junk to him." His medium is metal. "He uses car parts and has a marvellous lyrical imagination and creates curly organic forms." His commissioned works include furniture and balustrades featuring twists of steel.

From her home studio, set high on a hill and surrounded by native trees, Deborah works in a peaceful environment. Artek has been teaching her how to be organised, and perhaps he, too, will become an artist.

FIONA MARGARET GOW

Fond memories of 'Fuzz'

By **JULIE MURRAY**

WARRANDYTE mourned the passing of Fiona Margaret Gow on Saturday, September 12, 1998. Fiona fought a courageous battle with cancer. She was a fighter in life: she fought for life, she'd fight for you, and she fought to the end.

Close friends, Alison Aldehoven and Jenny Southall, presented eulogies in celebration of her 41 years, at the funeral service held at the Warrandyte Uniting Church.

Civil celebrant John Byrne, who married Fiona and Doug Gow in June 1996, conducted the service in a style befitting our loved friend and true to her memory.

"You can't think about Fuzz without remembering the many incidents and capers we either saw, heard about or were involved in. Some embarrassing, some ridiculous but none forgettable," he said.

"We never had to question how she felt or where you stood, it was always black and white with Fuzz, middle



ground was for cowards.

"She was always concerned with how everyone else was feeling. Even during the last months of her life she would take the time to send friends cards or make phone calls to reassure her mates that it would be alright in the end."

Fiona, or Fuzz as we all knew her, was born in Williamstown on February 25, 1957. She was aged four years when her parents, Pat and Jack Barr, came to

Warrandyte to settle and raise their family.

She loved Warrandyte and involved herself in many community activities: the youth club at the old White House; she was a committee member of the football club; one of the volunteers to hand-deliver the first edition of the *Warrandyte Diary*.

She was a team player in more than one sense of the word. She started in junior netball and played right through to the seniors, was a member of the women's cricket team, and not only played basketball but was the first secretary of the club.

She was a great supporter as well. A voice always to be heard, barracking for friends at the tug-of-war during the festival.

She left work to care for her mother, Pat, when Pat herself was fighting cancer.

Fiona attended Warrandyte Primary School, and went on to Norwood High with lifelong friend, Jenny Southall.

"The rebel in her was well and truly established by the end of primary," Jenny said. "She was a generous person with her time and her willingness to help others. The first person you

could rely on if you were in trouble.

"I was proud of her courage when she was told she had cancer. She faced up to the challenge with true Irish fighting spirit."

Fuzz renewed her closeness with her father, Jack, before she died, and had some wonderful conversations. Her aunts, Betty and Edith Kewley, were a constant source of love and support.

Close friend Ingrid Manley said, "She has left a void because we were so close. She was the big sister I never had."

There is no doubt Fuzz was one in a million. She had a heart of gold and meant different things to different people. Special in many ways, but never anything but herself—and that's to be admired.

Above all, Fuzz had the courage to live a life of "Tell it like it is". In line with her philosophy, the final words of tribute—the result of years of knowing friendship—come from her basketball mates: "Good women are hard to find, and soft souls are rare".



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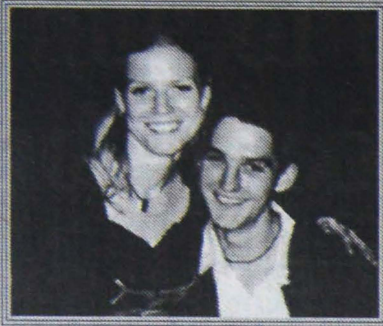
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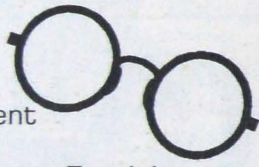
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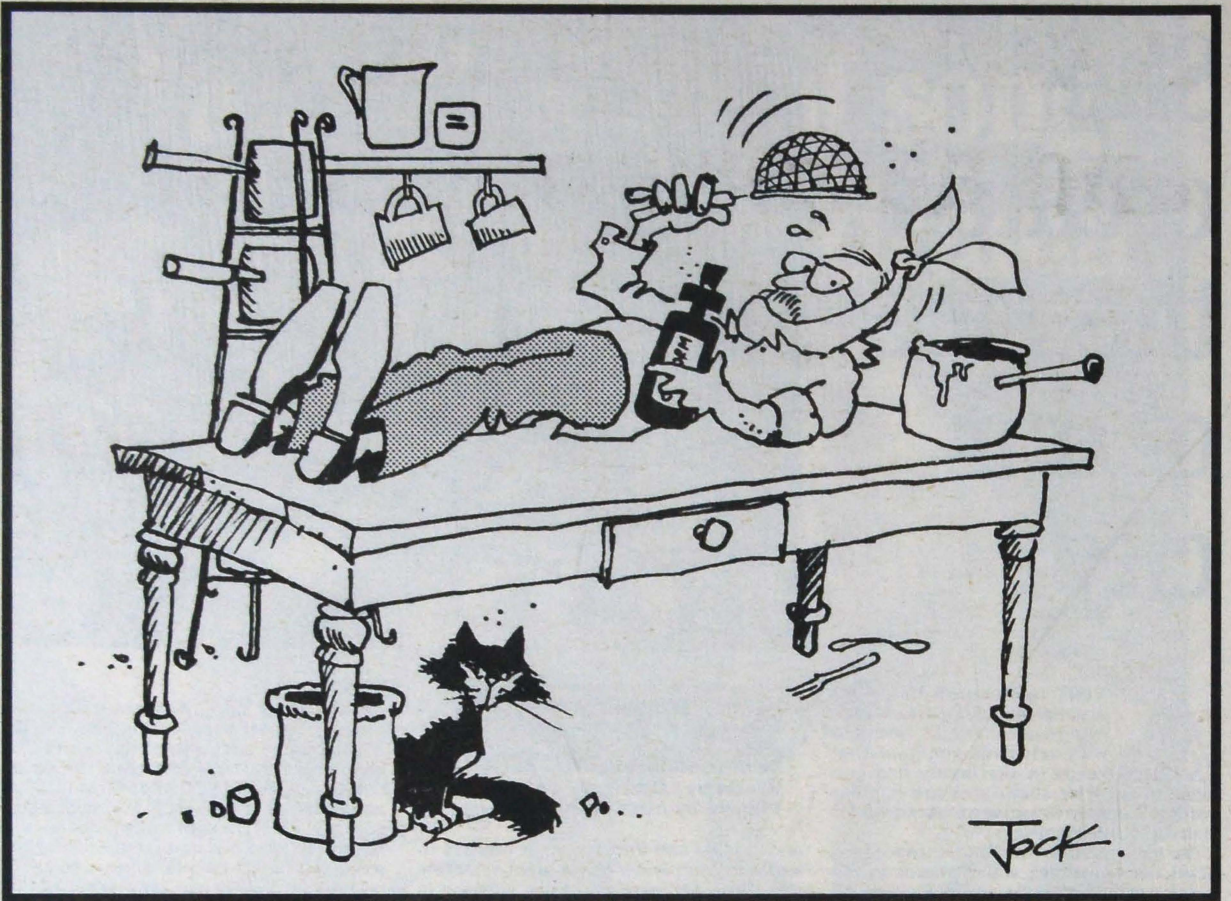
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The losing of wisdom in the comfort of home

NATURE, so it's said, abhors a vacuum. By this, I assume it means that any available niche left in the ecosystem is filled by some organism or another, striving to make a mark for itself.

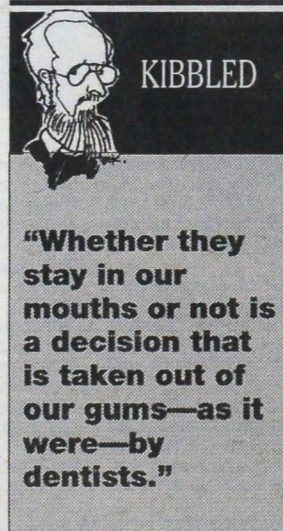
You dig up a bit of lawn leaving some bare earth. Immediately, words get out on the vegetation internet and, whammy, what once was a bare patch of soil is now filled with all manner of entrepreneurial weeds.

As we are part of nature, it's obvious that our behaviour follows the same pattern. Beginning from the premise that there are always needs and wants, there will always be those quite happy to oblige by satisfying those needs. We need food to survive so, hey presto, the gap is filled by farmers, then village markets then frozen TV dinners.

Whereas weeds are happy to remain relatively unchanged over the millenia, we seem programmed to seek variety. We crave novelty, sometimes masquerading under the disguise of development or technical improvement.

We certainly have managed to cement our niche in the ecosystem by improving our longevity, but there is a point at which you begin to reflect upon whether all the changes and developments have been necessary. With most daily items the answer is probably "maybe", but with some things the answer is a deafening "for sure!" Which brings me quite logically to the topic of teeth.

We need teeth. Some people want to change their shape and colour but the choice about



"Whether they stay in our mouths or not is a decision that is taken out of our gums—as it were—by dentists."

whether they stay in our mouths or not is a decision that is taken out of our gums—as it were—by dentists. Now I'm not talking about the "let's take out all those nasty natural teeth that are a bit uneven and dull and replace them with computer designed and laser crafted, titanium pinned, Hollywood approved, Vogue-worthy mouth accessories," but the "they'll have to come out unless you want to die" variety.

Being from superior genetic stock, unlike the rest of my domestic family, I have not had out my wisdom teeth. It's true that I have had teeth extracted, but my wisdom has remained in my head. Herself had her wisdom removed about 15 years ago, Boy Wonder lost his about

seven years ago and Gorgeous Creature was similarly rendered wisdomless just a few weeks ago.

Now, not having my cleverness tampered with, I don't really know what it must feel like to be ordinary. But fortunately, because of my early experience with tooth removal, I can marvel at the changes that have taken place with extraction over the years.

My tooth extraction was at home. Having been approached by a dentist wielding a three feet long hydraulic drill he called a needle, I fought tooth and nail until it was decided that his surgery could do without me. Via anaesthetic was the only way he was going to approach my rotting chompers. In those days, the kitchen table was as good as a hospital, so it was there that it happened.

I had tried hiding under the kitchen table when I heard his knock on the front door, but it didn't take long to have me out, up and flat on the table. A handkerchief was placed over a kitchen sieve. That was held to my face as drops of chloroform saturated the hankie.

My struggle was countered by "If you don't like the smell, blow it away!" I did, not realising that to blow, you have to breathe. I awoke feeling nauseous, with an aching mouth and a lifetime dread of needles and men in white.

Several centuries later, Herself had to have two wisdom teeth removed. She drove to the surgery, had to wait half an hour, so "just had to buy" an antique clock in a nearby shop, returned, had some local anaesthetic, the teeth removed and

drove home. She had a little, manageable pain and we had a bill not only for what she had lost but also for the clock that we had gained.

It was with Boy Wonder that we discovered impacted wisdom teeth. The impact was certainly not just his. We learnt that for such teeth, hospitalisation is necessary. Evidently, the pneumatic is still required but it's "better for everyone concerned" if it's performed under the safest (and costliest) conditions.

Boy Wonder was about 174th in line that afternoon. He emerged with an outback Australian drawl and, within a day, he looked like he was incubating emu eggs in his cheeks. It took him a few days to get over the pain and swelling but it took me about a year to get over the shock of the bill.

Not to be outdone, Gorgeous Creature had to wait until she turned 25; no longer covered by our health insurance, Medicare or any money in the bank before she was told that they'd have to come out.

Hospital, of course, was de rigeur and when she emerged she was sporting a mesh headband, up and down, not around, with dinky little ice things that stopped her from swelling. Painkillers, a few days R+R and she was off and firing.

So, over the years, gaps in knowledge have been closed and improvements have been made. Nature's vacuum has been filled. I just wish she'd devote a bit more time and energy to the one in my bank account.

ROGER KIBELL

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If this sounds interesting please ring Pat on 9844 1650 or Cathy on 9844 1841 to find out more.

A tale of rings and wings and all sorts of things

I WAS eighteen, a trainee nurse in a London hospital. She was a patient, dying of cancer, enduring unimaginable pain with courage and dignity. She was kind, gentle and not much older than my mother. We developed, for whatever reason, a rapport that went beyond the usual nurse-patient relationship. A bond of unspoken communication existed and we both recognised it.

The day I left the ward to move to another, she pressed some money into my hand. I guess it was her way of saying thank you and I couldn't refuse. Instead I told her I would buy something special, something that would always remind me of her.

So I bought a ring. It was blue and radiated brightness like the smile of this beautiful, brave lady. The ring was set in silver with a small portion of a butterfly's azure blue wing embedded at the base of a smooth, solid semi-circle of solid glass. The glass acted like a tiny magnifying glass on the silky blue wing.

It was common, particularly in the 1960s, for jewellery and ornaments to be made from the wings of morphoes—dazzling, iridescent blue butterflies found in the tropical rainforests of central and south America. To justify the commercial harvesting of millions of butterflies, it was argued that the practice did not affect populations, as only the brightly coloured males were collected. The females, being duller in colour, were not taken and were left to lay their eggs or mate with the few remaining males. These days it is more likely that the butterflies are bred for the

NATURE
By PAT COUPAR
Drawn by MELANIE COUPAR

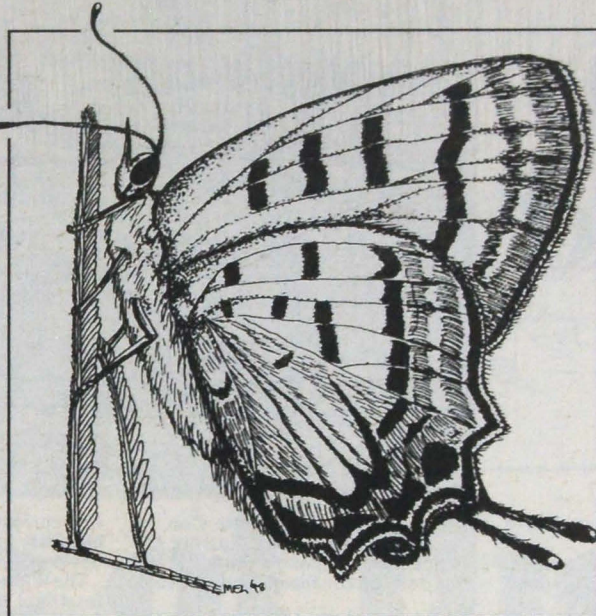
purpose under artificial conditions at special butterfly farms.

Australia has its own brilliant blue butterflies, the most famous of which is Ulysses which has been adopted by Dunk Island, on the Great Barrier Reef, as its logo. This species, like the morphoes of South America, belongs to a predominantly tropical family known as swallowtails.

Warrandyte has blue butterflies of a different family, the Lycaenidae, which includes not only 'blues' but also 'coppers', the rarest of which is the Eltham copper butterfly. Also in this family is Australia's most common and widespread species—the grass blue—which is as much at home flitting around suburban lawns and veggie patches as in undisturbed bushland.

Larger and slightly more spectacular is the imperial blue, another Warrandyte resident. Cryptically coloured in shades of buff and black on the outside of its wings, it reveals flashes of silvery blue on the inside of its wings in flight. Fine, white-tipped black tails, called hair-streaks, at the base of each hindwing, mimic the butterfly's antennae and fool predators into making a harmless attack on the wingtip rather than a fatal bite to the head.

The colours and patterns of these most favoured insects are created by pigmented scales which are arranged on the cuticle of the wings like tiles on a



roof. The coloured pigments are formed either from chemical substances within the insect itself or else derived from the foodplant ingested by the caterpillar. So delicate are the scales that even the lightest touch will dislodge them, leaving coloured dust like pollen on the fingertips. Once lost, scales cannot be replaced; however it does not affect the butterfly's ability to fly. The colourful markings are there to attract a mate and, as is the case with birds, it is the males of the species that are most flamboyantly attired.

The scales of the iridescent blue butterflies are different. They contain no pigment, but rely on a trick of the light for

their colour. The intense silky sheen is due to the structural character of the scales which refract light. In other words, light waves are broken up. It is the same principle of physics which produces colours in a soap bubble or a rainbow.

A natural instinct of our species is to collect beautiful things and lustrous-winged butterflies, like gold and diamonds, have an irresistible allure. Unlike pigmented colours that over time fade on exposure to the sun, iridescent colours never dull. After 30 years I still have the ring I bought to remind me of a gracious, gravely ill patient. It still shines as brightly as ever, keeping alive my memories of that special lady.

They're riding, to the far horizon

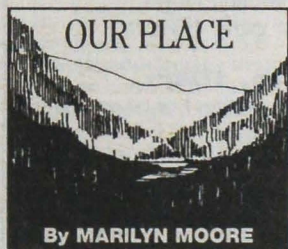
AFTER the September holidays, we'll be either vastly fitter or crippled for life.

Desperate for some meaningful exercise, fresh air and sunshine, we (in a weak moment) bravely ditched our long-planned camping trip and signed up for the Great South Australian Bike Ride. We must have been temporarily deranged.

Cunningly seductive, Bicycle Victoria's brochure teemed with phrases such as "majestic Barossa", "sweeping plains", "historic towns and pubs", "sun-drenched vineyards" and "sensational music festival". It was convincing stuff. Four hundred kilometres in eight days suddenly seemed quite achievable, even to a couple of 40-something fogies like us. Unfit fogies at that, with a couple of enthusiastic but rather youthful team mates in tow.

The trouble with late entries is that one's training schedule doesn't get very far off the ground. In fact it gets about as far as four new pairs of bike pants and four gadget-infested bikes.

The first weekend's effort was by necessity a toe-in-the-water job. Could anybody still ride



uphill? One out of four. Did all the gears and brakes and little adjustment things work smoothly? No. Were all the seats and handlebars the correct height? Of course not. Did we have lights, parcel racks or pedals that remained attached to the crank whilst the wheel was in motion? No. Could we ride for 40 kilometres without frequent stops? Only just. Could we have got on a bike again the next day? Most definitely not.

After driving the bike shop experts crazy all week, weekend number two looked a bit more promising. In fact our pleasant 50 kilometre route took almost no effort at all. Isn't it amazing what properly-adjusted gears and one training ride can do?

A most fallacious conclusion, of course. Cycling downstream along Dandenong, Scotchman's and Gardiners Creeks before another downstream sprint along the Yarra was bound to be easy. In fact we could've just about finished this trip without pedals. But it all helped to keep the enthusiasm levels up.

Afterwards we sprawled on the verdant banks of our beloved brown Yarra and gingerly disentangled bits of squashed lunch from soggy Glad Wrap. It must have been a heartwarming sight: a typical family enjoying Sunday in Melbourne. One tourist thought so, anyhow, as he gleefully snapped us from the safety of the 'Melbourne Princess'.

Inclement weather on weekend number three proved a serious threat to the training schedule. Only two rides to the Big One, and we still hadn't covered a few basics like traversing mountain ranges, riding distances of 80-90km daily, and the nagging problem of how to carry the wine.

The promise of a break in the weather saw us load up the bikes and drive off to Westerfolds for some introductory hill work. However, another downpour caused us to detour to the

bike shop, which by now was beginning to feel like our second home. Little gadgets, minor adjustments, spare tubes, more gadgets—if we couldn't ride, at least we could iron out a few technical hitches.

Eventually, when a shaft of pale sunlight split the black storminess of the afternoon sky, we unloaded the bikes and raced breathlessly along a puddlesome path bordered by rain-heavy bushes and quivering droplets. Net result: wet pants, filthy bikes and mud-spattered everything else. Probable training value: nil.

Meanwhile, to add to the pressure, the South Australian trip profiles turned up. Hells bells! Day One starts with a precipitous 12km climb! I wanted a refund, but it was too late.

For better or worse, we concluded our training with another flat ride, 90 odd kilometres, including a 13km levee-bank bash and about an hour of rough sand tracks, liberally sprinkled with ancient tree roots, unannounced steps and overhanging boughs. Ouch!

So finally, here we are at our pre-ride base camp, vigorously re-fuelling at local bakeries and putting the finishing touches to our wine-sampling technique.

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Gareth Neilsen grew up in Warrandyte. He attended the local high school, joined the RAAF, completed pilot training, became a flying instructor, and because of his superb flying skills, was enlisted into the Roulettes, the RAAF's crack aerobatics team. He is now a squadron leader, in charge of the Roulettes. This story tells how he has recently swapped wings for wheels...

Our Gareth has reached for the sky



By PETER MEEHAN

HE may not look like the great European cycle ace Jan Ulrich or Aussie Tour de France hero Stuart O'Grady, but RAAF Base East Sale can boast its own cycling numero uno in Squadron Leader Gareth Neilsen.

Each morning, the new Roulette leader rides from home to work at Central Flying School, rain, hail or shine. Does he fancy himself as a future champion of the French Alps?

"No," says Roulette One. "It's all part of fitness for the job and my newly expanded role as father for the second time. Baby Sheridan arrived late July just 15 months after my wife Michelle

gave birth to our first child Kimberley".

With this rapid rate of family expansion, perhaps Gareth should spend more time cycling.

Educated at Warrandyte High School in outer suburban Melbourne, Gareth Neilsen graduated as a pilot in 1989.

With a science degree from Australian Defence Force Academy in the mid 1980s, Sqdrn Ldr Neilsen went on to fly the F-111C with Numbers 1 and 6 Squadron and C-130E Hercules with No 37 Squadron.

He graduated from No 118 Flying Instructors Course in 1994 and served two years as a PC9 Instructor at No 2FTS Pearce WA.

Today, as B Flight Commander at Central Flying School, with additional

responsibilities as Roulette One, he has a huge task ahead. Nurture the Roulettes' history and culture and further develop the team's steady evolution.

Sqdrn Ldr Neilsen says: "To 'lift the bar' on Australia's foremost aerobatic display team won't be easy—our prime role is teaching flight instruction and external examining.

"We are in fact extremely busy 'lifting the bar' in areas of flight safety and standardization". CFS instructors go out and assess other units' qualified instructors.

Another CFS duty is syllabus development for the re-emerged CT4 trainer, back in East Sale skies after an absence of seven years. The leader draws breath: "Then comes the Roulettes!

Our current displays have many new elements but there is always room to develop manoeuvres."

The Roulettes display shows the professional level of flying skill in the RAAF and the solo display showcases the remarkable PC9 aircraft. From the season kick-off, Roulette One is keen to bring new insights and operational focus to the display team that has become a national asset.

Also, Roulette members hope to be seen more around Australia. Gareth Neilsen says: "A display at Wyalkatchem is just as important as one over Sydney Harbour. We are about developing new friends, fostering community liaison across Australia and maintaining existing relationships."

"Our Roulettes website opens late this year, so there will soon be another contact point for service personnel, fans and the aviation industry alike."

He added: "The new season has just commenced with a significant display schedule ahead, including the likelihood of many end-of-century commitments and all the hoop-la that will go with the new millennium, it's a very exciting time to be in the Roulettes".

Many air miles from Warrandyte High School? Perhaps. But like all crack pilots, Gareth dreamed of flying from his earliest years.

"Reach for the sky" are the words of wisdom he would offer all young hopefuls today. Perhaps we will see the Roulettes over Warrandyte, one day soon.

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Best regards, Brenton Trezise

Dear John and Glenn,

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The lie of the land

Story by GLEN JAMESON • Illustration by JOCK MACNEISH

ONCE upon a valley, not all that long ago, when beauty and magic governed the land, a creek chose its way to the Yarra River.

Flowing through the mists of time, the creek followed its sinuous twisting fate of slow change over millions of years, evolving with climatic conditions. The more rain fell, the higher the water flow, the quicker it cut its way deeper into the valley. Its rhythm was the rhythm of all the living things around it. It was a youthful force, energetic, naive and intoxicated with life.

Water flowed to this confluence, as did all life forms. It was the mandala for all the animals who came to drink its sweet waters, or feed on the lush plant growth that grew along its banks, even in the long dry summers of El Nino or during the high water flows of the wet summers of La Nina, when rainbow parrots swarmed down south in their thousands to reclaim hollows that had been empty since the last rhythmic shift in flow.

Its waters were the sweetest of waters and the valley air so fresh and vital that it was manna itself. Plants on the banks grew in rich profusion, regrowing after they were eaten to provide food for others. It provided a productive structure, a billabong of opportunity for all who needed it; a place

for all those who wanted to roll out their Matilda under the stars of the Southern Cross.

They spoke of it as Reedy Creek, due to the luxuriant growth of streamside plants that protected the banks and cleansed its flowing waters. The creek radiated such an aura of beauty that it was often the forum for the humans who needed a place to commune with nature and worship the mysterious powers of the fertile mother earth. A place to acknowledge where we have come from and who we are. All celebrated the richness and diversity, harvesting the shellfish, fish and yabbies or Rakali the Water Rat. The wisdom of Reedy Creek was not to harm the productive wealth of the creek. The creek was part of them, the living fabric of everything—what happened to the creek happened to them.

Then some humans thought they smelt gold in the creek. They chased the heathen metal like some clunking Ice Age crustacean with arms of steel, shovels and picks that left clumsy gouges in the ground, a landscape of trenches, a no-mans land of destruction. Ignoring the magic and beauty of the creek, they dug relentlessly into the bed of the creek, ripping the belly of its being and throwing up soulrock intestines onto the creek banks to die.

Fuelling the gold hunger, they bit into the creek's forests until the soil ran from the broken tree

roots, muddying the water. With the economy of the ecology in ruins, the banks slumped, and towering manna gums fell to the earth in ruin. Then those thirsting for gold forgetfully spoiled the waters with arsenic and other poisons so that diversity could not survive, losing the minute insects, animals and the disturbing spirit that dwells in nature's richness.

The miners, happy with their speculation and spoils, baptised it Greedy Creek.

Ravaged by gold fever, Greedy Creek lay like an open wound along the valley. Functioning as a drain, the stream was ill, its biological processes failing. Where was the renewal it had known in the past? Where was the healing, the communion?

Settlement grew quickly along the valley and soon numerous houses occupied all the land. All their waste water followed the same route as before; however, the water they used was dirtied, discarded and then directed to the creek. Everybody hopped in for their chop, for their share of the wealth. Wood for fires, a place for rubbish, soil for gardens and even the huge tree ferns were plundered as the last gems were taken from the valley. An abandoned and solitary existence was the creek's destiny as the humans forgot who they were and where they came from.

Locally it became known as Weedy Creek.

The whole valley was deeply

traumatised by the changes as destructive shock waves reverberated up and down the land, setting in motion a cascade of instabilities and relentless destruction of the natural values of the creek valley. Its once radiant spirit dimmed. Laying there like a deeply traumatised, yet still living entity, the creek valley's beauty, deranged with the strange juxtaposition of the damage it had taken, the creek still offered some delight in the small remnants that remained.

As it lay dying, some humans came to appreciate the valley and the creek. Rocks were carefully placed to restore the riffles and pools that had long gone from the structure of the creek bed. Revegetation began to arrest the destruction and erosion of the creek banks. The birds and mammals found the newly created habitat and began returning to use the creek. Platypus found that the new riffles and pools provided opportunity and haven for hope. The creek glimmered with the feel of contact with the humans, glimpses of what was and could be, shimmered through the creek valley.

However, it was not to be a place to celebrate the fertility of mother earth. Instead, rumblings of monster machines jolted the earth in a roadmaking rage. They assaulted the creek valley, laying its shape to waste, cutting into the time-sculptured spurs, obliterating undulating ridges—

vanishing forever glens, gullies and dells. Huge gashes gnashed the lovingly shaped sides of the earthen valley as all the dangerous curves were torn from existence. All was rendered flat and barren as the landscape was shaped for the car. A vast tomb of concrete and asphalt rolled over once fertile verdure.

On the day that it opened, thousands of cars queued up to drive over the body of the creek, the Very Important Person cut the ribbon and named it the new Speedy Creek Freeway.

For humans communed with their car, not with nature. They knew who they were—cars spoke for them. The freeway signs told them where they were going and where they had come from. Freeway promised to bend time; the faster we drive, the more time we have, as long as we keep our sanity in focus between the white lines of the road. They droned in angry thousands as a harvest of poison fumes eddied across the valley and streams of oily wastes rolled into the gutters. Hungry cars sucked the last bits of energy from the once productive valley as they sped over its concrete mausoleum.

They even gave the creek its own laneway. Imprisoned in an industrial design, it was laid to rest just beside the new road in a steep earthen drain with a couple of rocks and a few plants to remind it of the old days when we all knew who we were.

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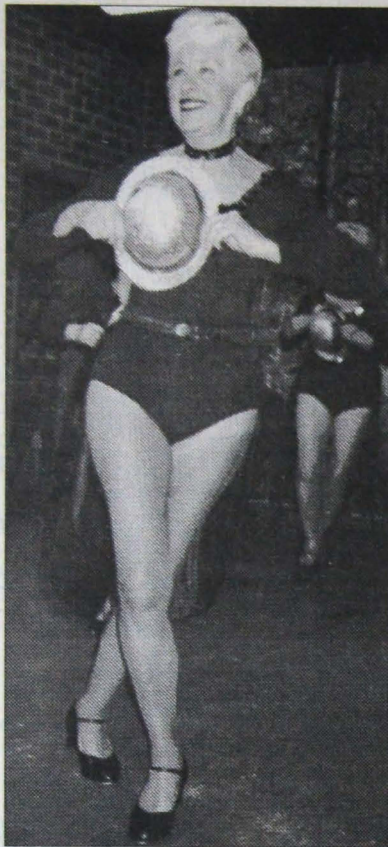


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Our youngest olds

Warrandyte Senior Citizens' Club celebrated their 36th birthday and the Year of the Older Person on Thursday, October 1 in their clubrooms in Taroona Avenue. Jan Tindale went along and took these spirited pictures.



Warrandyte Cellars

Peter's Selection for OCTOBER

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Fete is in our hands

St Stephens Anglican Church Fun Fair and Gala Fete will be held on Saturday, November 21. Anyone wishing to help with donations, please call Ann Riley on 9844 4151. Raffle tickets are available from parishioners and local shops. First prize is a family hamper of goods, services and entertainment; second prize is a car package, including an advanced driving course and two free driving lessons; third prize is a photography package with an album, two rolls of film and a portrait sitting.

Neighbours

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House have a variety of classes planned for fourth term. These include a selection of crafts, yoga and fitness classes. There are also computer courses for beginners and an introduction to the internet. Enrolments close on Thursday, October 8, so you'll have to be quick. Call 9844 1839 for further information and booking details.

Fundraisers

The next Grand Hotel fundraisers will be A Tribute To Elvis on Saturday, October 24 for the Phantoms basketball team and Calcutta On The Cup, with Martin Walker and Paul Haskings, on Monday, November 2 for the Warrandyte Football Club. Bookings can be made at the hotel on 9844 3202.

Propagate

Friends of Warrandyte State Park meet every Thursday at 10am for propagation and other nursery activities. No experience is necessary. If you wish to be involved call Mike Coupar on 9903 9567 or Ron Taylor on 9844 4285.

Services

St Stephens Anglican Church, in Taroona Avenue, have changed their service times. They are now: Sunday—Holy Communion, 8am and 9.30am; Sunday School, 9.30am. Wednesday—Holy Communion, 10am; Meeting Place/Coffee Shop (open to all), 11am. On Thursday at 7pm there is a healing service and on Fridays at 7pm, CEBS and GFS—boys and girls from 7 to 14 years are welcome.

Concert

A benefit concert to raise funds for the Christie Lawrence and Luke Mayall Memorial Fund is being held in the Warrandyte High School Theatre at 7.30pm on Saturday, October 10. There will be a champagne supper, tickets are \$40 and bookings can be made by calling Vanessa on 9844 1176 after 6pm. Black tie, please.

Carnival

Kangaroo Ground Primary School is marking their 120th



Gerry Burton, who recently moved to Warrandyte, is welcomed into Rotary by David Greenwood, shown here presenting Gerry with Rotary information. Gerry brings the number of new members to four in the last four months. Rotary meets every Tuesday for dinner at the Grand Hotel, Warrandyte. Anyone seeking more information should contact David Greenwood on 9844 2864 or mobile 018 330 065. Correspondence to PO Box 55, Warrandyte 3113.



Conducted by JUDY GREEN

Drop your news in the letterbox in the front door of our office at the Community Centre, fax it to 9844 4168, or post it to PO Box 209, Warrandyte, 3113, by the last Friday in the month.

year with a country carnival on Saturday, October 10, commencing at 11am and running through until 7pm. Shenanigans Bush Band and the Victoria Police Highland Pipe Band will be featured. Other attractions include gourmet food and Yarra Valley wines, market stalls, pony rides and a sideshow alley.

Butterflies

Friends of the Eltham Copper Butterfly are calling for volunteers to help with their fourth annual larval count. An endangered species, the butterfly is found in only three isolated populations in Victoria, one being the Eltham-Greensborough district. The counts are held at several of the Eltham colony sites every Tuesday and Thursday night during October, commencing at 7pm. Further information from Anna Richtarik, 9411 5158 or Beverly Van Praagh, 9284 0200.

Awards

Nominations for the 1999 Menzies Community Australia Day Awards close on December 4, 1998. Inaugurated by Kevin Andrews, federal member for

Menzies, in 1995, the awards recognise the valued contribution of many people to the local community. Information booklets, including nomination forms, are available from Kevin Andrews' office at 651 Doncaster Road, Doncaster or by ringing 9848 9900.

Bowls

The Donvale Bowls Club invites you to a free family open day at the club, corner of Reynolds and Springvale Roads, on Sunday, October 25. This promises to be a fun day for bowlers of all ages. Further information from John Pepper (9844 2434), Val Spargo (9844 3345) or Leonie Horne (9844 2685).

Bridge

If you wish to play bridge in a friendly environment—no partner required, lessons if you desire—call 9439 2270. The club meets at 1pm on Mondays and at 7.30pm on Thursdays.

Pastels

The Pastel Society of Victoria will be holding their 1998 annual exhibition at the Manningham Gallery from October 13 to 18. The official opening will be from 6 to 8pm on Tuesday, October 13. The gallery is at the rear of the municipal offices, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster.

Mah Yong

If you wish to join a friendly group to play mah yong on Thursday mornings, call 9439 2270.

Reunion

Any local residents previously associated with Holy Trinity in Port Melbourne are invited to

join in a reunion on Sunday, October 18. Call Joan on 9878 4556 or Bev on 9592 8984 for further information.

Tell us

The *Diary* is your newspaper and we love to print news of your group's activities. Jot down all the details, including date, time, venue and contact number and drop it through our letter slot at the community centre, fax it to 9844 4168 or by post to PO Box 209, Warrandyte 3113. We close copy on the last Friday of each month for publication in the second week of the following month.

Newsletters

Looking for a simple way to keep the *Diary* informed of your group's activities? Put us on your newsletter mailing list.

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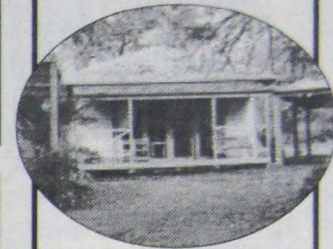
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Enquiries to 9844 4495, or write to PO Box 158, Warrandyte 3113, enclosing a stamped self-addressed envelope.

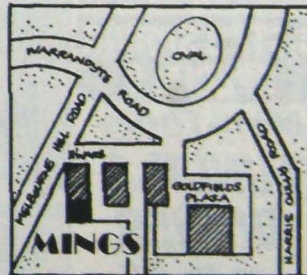


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Redback girls on finals rampage!

By DAMIAN ARSENIS

Warrandyte Basketball Club's girls have taken the EDJBA finals by storm, winning eight of the 10 flags they contested.

Included in the haul on grand final day last month was the success of the U17A girls team, taking out the perpetual trophy. In a glorious day for the Redbacks, the boys also brought home four premierships from eight grand finals.

Maree Vincent guided the U17 WR1 girls to glory, emulating last season's triumph.

One of the performances of the day belonged to the U9 WR1 boys coached by Gerry Pearce.

With stand-in coach Wendi Hawley at the helm, the boys skipped away to a handy first-half lead against Eltham before the Wildcats clawed their way back and surged to an ominous eight-point lead on the back of 10 unanswered points.

But the Redbacks showed great courage and heart and with less than a minute on the clock regained the lead thanks largely to some inspirational work by Mitchell Hawley (MDP).

A last-ditch effort by the Wildcats saw them miss an opportunity at the line to give Warrandyte a one-point victory, 36 to 35.

Lorraine Parfitt's U15 A2 WR1 girls also had a tough encounter against an intimidating Balwyn outfit.

The Redbacks jumped out of the blocks for an early eight-point advantage and led 12-6 at half-time, but Balwyn lifted a gear after the resumption, hauling in Warrandyte to take the lead.

But the Redbacks remained composed in a tight finish, a strong lay-up in the last 15 seconds giving them the game 25-23.

Paul Haskings' U9 B1 WR1 girls had plenty of the ball early in their grand final against Ivanhoe but failed to translate that on to the score sheet. The Knights took full advantage with a late scoring flurry to lead 7-3 at half-time, but the Redbacks came out firing and barnstormed their way to a commanding advantage.

A spirited late challenge by Ivanhoe was not enough, Jessie Bradbury sealing Warrandyte's win with a slashing drive to the basket in the last minute. Ashlee Robinson was named MDP in the 15-9 victory.

Malcolm Anderson guided his U17 AR WR1 boys to a comfortable win over Heidelberg and the U13 A2 WR1 girls of Wendi Hawley, who went into their grand final against Eltham as overwhelming favourites, didn't disappoint, winning 35-19, with Natasha Jovanovic MDP.

The U11 B1 girls of Damian Arsenis survived a real cliff-hanger against Doncaster. Led brilliantly by Ellen Bradbury, they were able to eke out a small half-time advantage, but the Doncats closed to three points as our girls dropped their guard.

Foul trouble was costing the Redbacks dearly, Bradbury fouling out with six minutes to go. All seemed lost until Amy Lewis and Elizabeth Lavery stepped up, the latter nailing big-time free throws to hold off the Doncat charge by just one point.

The U9 D2 WR2 girls coached by Kelly Pollard and Ellie Parfitt also came up big in

the ultimate game of the season, carrying on their dramatic improvement.

The U15 C2 WR2 girls, who lost only three games for the season despite more than their share of injuries, did coach Bill Bottomley proud by bringing home the blue flag and former Redback player Tristan Messerle, back with the club after a stint with Coburg, steered the U17 B2 WR2 girls to a well-earned victory over Balwyn.

Messerle also had the U15 BB WR1 boys in the grand final, but it wasn't to be their day. A similar scenario was to unfold for the U17 CS WR2 boys of Laurie Cookson, who found Eltham too good on the day despite Nathan Kerr's scoring efforts.

The U11 C1/2 WR2 girls of Lizzy Jenes were gallant in a narrow defeat and will be all the better for the grand final experience.

Redback teams also made supplementary finals. Peter Gigliotti guided both the U11 DA WR5 and U13 BB WR2 boys into the big ones, the latter unfortunately losing out. Rachel Treeby's U11 DM WR4 boys won their final but brother Matt's U11 CS WR3 boys were unable to emulate the success.

The Redbacks' first Twilight Presentation Day will be held at Warrandyte High School on Sunday, October 11, starting at 5pm.

Former South East Melbourne Magic premiership captain Darren Perry will be on hand to present the trophies after joining the club as junior development officer. All grand finalists will receive trophies.

Other activities include an exhibition game by local women's teams from Thursday night competition and a barbecue.

Four in with title chance

By GERRY PEARCE

Four of Warrandyte Basketball Club's seven championship boys teams will be carrying the Redbacks banner when finals action begins on Friday, October 9.

Gavin Whitmore's U12 boys have been Warrandyte's pacesetters, sitting comfortably in second position after taking the big step up from East to Metro 1, and are strongly fancied to take the flag.

Whitmore coached all these boys last year and, with the addition of David Thomas, they have formed a tough, uncompromising unit with immense confidence in each other.

The Under-12 boys coached by Matt Treeby finished in the bottom half of East 2 but have turned on some great basketball in what has been a learning year for them.

Gerry Pearce's U14 Metro 3 side have had an up and down season but are in the top three and good enough to go all the way.

Only Waverley managed to beat them twice and both were close encounters, with Warrandyte missing pivotal players—centre Jake Humble in the first and Myles Pearce in the second.

The other U14 boys team have been coached into the finals by

Graham Drake. They started well, put in an indifferent mid-season, but are playing their best basketball at the right time of the year.

Warrandyte's U16 boys have had a disappointing season. They lost coach Kerry Cleaves before the start and two of their bigger players pulled out for various reasons, leaving the side short of numbers.

Tristan Messerle, who stepped into the breach as coach, hopes to make a big impression with the boys next season, with the side welcoming back some former players.

The U18 Metro 2 boys coached by Malcolm Anderson have done very well. Sitting third, they were to play Hoppers Crossing before the finals, with the chance to take over their top spot, although a second-placed finish would also assure them of the double chance.

Their prospects have been dented by injury to centre Ben Walsham, who has rebroken his leg, but even without him they could bring home the bacon.

Losing the close ones has apparently cost Scott Morrison's U20 Metro 2s a place in the finals, but they are to be congratulated on their season-long commitment

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Owzat for openers?

By RACHEL BAKER

The glorious uncertainties of cricket were amply illustrated when Warrandyte's new season opened on October 3.

Drawn away against reigning RDCA Chandler Shield premiers Croydon North, the Bushrangers were facing a big run chase with the home side 4/170.

But that's when our bowlers took over.

They took the last six wickets for just 38 runs—Gerald Walshe, Chris Snaidero and Greg Tregar each finishing with three—to set what appeared to be a very achievable target of 209 to win. They day's drama, though, was not quite over.

The Warrandyte innings started disastrously, the first two wickets falling with a solitary run on the board. At stumps, the position had been somewhat retrieved at 2/19.

"The game is in the balance," said Bushrangers captain-coach Paul Montgomery. "It depends on how well we bat next week.

"I thought we went pretty well

Bats hold key to our season

SPORT



today. We got into a bit of trouble early but we managed to get ourselves out of it.

"With Croydon North 4/170 we were looking down the barrel, but the guys did well.

"Then from 2/1 ourselves we worked our way back into a position where either side can win."

Warrandyte, who last won the Chandler Shield in 1983-84 and finished seventh last season, have their sights firmly set on a place in the finals. But Montgomery admits it can only be achieved by improved batting performances.

"I think it is more than possible that the batting will improve enough to see us finish in the top four," he said. "It will require steadfast training by all

players."

A plus for the Bushrangers is the return of quality batsman Jon Sharman, a former Warrandyte captain-coach who recently has spent time overseas.

Montgomery regards Warrandyte's early matches as crucial to his finals goal. "They will set the tone for the whole season," he said.

He aims to win at least two of the first three games to be "well-positioned for the season".

That means defeating at least one of last season's top two teams, Croydon North and, in the third round, runners-up Ferntree Gully.

Training began in late July with pre-season indoor sessions and progressed to outdoor training three times a week at the beginning of September.

"Training so far has been quite encouraging," Montgom-

ery said.

It is now held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and new players are very welcome.

Anyone interested in trying out for any of the club's four regular senior teams or the one-day side (which is struggling for numbers) is invited to call Montgomery on 9801 5821.

Warrandyte's second eleven face a daunting chase when their opening game resumes on October 10. They spent the first day chasing leather as Croydon North amassed 8/334, Steve Pascoe the best of the bowlers with 2/51.

And the thirds and fours may both be in for long seasons

Details:

FIRSTS: Warrandyte 2/19 v Croydon North 208.

SECONDS: Warrandyte v Croydon North 8/334.

THIRDS: Warrandyte 9/89 dec v Croydon North 2/91.

FOURTHS: Warrandyte 58 v Croydon North 5/207.



Paul Montgomery: 'Game is in the balance.'

Her fantasy fulfilled...



Maree Vincent: rewarded for her years of training.

By RACHEL BAKER

Childhood fantasies tend to be forgotten. We all grow up, become adults and get on with our lives. But last month local girl Maree Vincent flew to America to play basketball and make real her long-held fantasy.

"I always used to watch Americans on the telly playing basketball," Maree said, "and playing there has always been something I wanted to do—like a childhood fantasy."

Maree, 18, of Brackenbury Street, has just started a four-year scholarship at Seattle Pacific University which she hopes will allow her to realise her potential as a basketballer.

Although she has not developed an exact game plan for her future in the sport—she does not know what she will want in five or 10 years time—she does have one ambition: "To be the best basketballer I can be."

Her possible career paths include sports psychology—her major study in Seattle—or she may follow her mother's footsteps and become a primary school teacher.

Maree has also considered entering health promotion, mainly in schools, to encourage children to be more active and healthy. "It will let people

get much more out of life," she said.

But whatever turn Maree's future takes, she will bring back to Australia the knowledge and experience she gains from her time in America, because, she said, "You always have to remember where you come from."

In the days before her departure, she was feeling excited and nervous, but also sad to be leaving Warrandyte. She has promised to keep everyone here informed of her progress.

Another part of Maree's emotional muddle was relief: she was relieved that she had finally received some reward for her years of training and been given a chance to prove her talent.

"I've always been one of those people who just sit around and watch their friends go up," she said, "so I'm glad I've got my chance now."

Maree was also excited about this very real chance to be independent. Her parents had always been there for her, "hand-under-bum sort of thing, pushing me up," she said, and she had craved a time when she would have to "cope on her own".

"I hope this is it," she said. "And I hope the experience will make me a better person."

By LEE TINDALE

Sadly, the very promising football career of Stephanie Simpson appears to be over—but not before she has made quite a name for herself in the local junior ranks.

Stephanie, 11, of Leber Street, was equal third in Warrandyte Junior Football Club's Under-12 fairest and best award for 1998, but because there is no provision for girl footballers in a boys' world beyond Under-12 level, she'll now be a spectator.

An Andersons Creek Primary School student and a product of the local Auskick program, of which her father Peter has been a principal, she kicked off competitive football in the Under-10s and rose through the ranks.

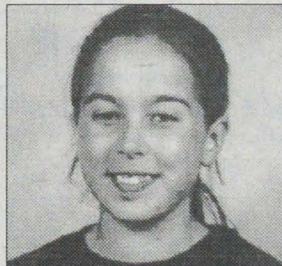
Her love of the game goes way back.

"We used to take her to the league footy as a very little kid," said Peter.

"She's a big Carlton fan. She's got letters from Anthony Koutoufides and other Carlton players."

And her best position? "Centre half-back."

The junior club, which had its most successful season in memory (with premierships in the Under-11s and Under-17s) held its presentation day on September 16.



Stephanie Simpson

Trophy winners:

UNDER-9 BLOODS: Best and fairest: Tyson Fitzgerald 1, Daniel Large 2, Thomas Maddocks 3. Most courageous: Luke Saunders. Most determined: Edward Pettigrove. Coach's award: Tyson Rees.

UNDER-9 WARRIORS: Best and fairest: Daniel Skurnik 1, Jeremy Andrews 2, Nicholas Crosbie 3. Most consistent: Rees Turner. Most determined: Shaun Coghlan. Most courageous: Lee Pieper. Coach's award: Nicholas Meade.

UNDER-10 GOLD: Best and fairest: Luke Ebzery 1, David Wildsmith 2, Beau Tobin 3. Most courageous: Tom Robinson. Coach's award: Dion Mullet-Treloar. Most improved: Kelly Beaumont. Encouragement award: Chris Harrington.

UNDER-10 GREEN: Best and fairest: Liam Telford 1, Gavin Hales 2, James Pasinis 3. Most consistent: Tulloch Greve. Most determined: Joseph O'Mara. Most courageous: Ryan Hoiberg. Encouragement award: Paul Burgoyne.

UNDER-11: Best and fairest: James Davis 1, Stephen Christopher and Dylan Matheou 2, Tom Jameson 3. Most consistent: Grant Godwin. Most courageous: Daniel Andrews. Coach's award: James Singh. Most improved: Robert Morello.

UNDER-12: Best and fairest: John Burgoyne 1, Richard Carroll 2, Tristan Maddocks and Stephanie Simpson 3. Most consistent: Andrew Briffa. Most determined: Dean Heller. Most improved: Jordan Canham. Coach's award: Alistair Bains.

UNDER-13: Best and fairest: Tom Urbano 1, Hayden Wall 2, Tom Naughtin 3. Most consistent: Rick Bourke. Most improved: Josh Eyre. Coach's award: Julian Timms. Encouragement award: Daniel Mirabella.

UNDER-15: Best and fairest: Andrew Gordon 1, Joel MacDonald 2, Lucas Barnes 3. Most consistent: Luke McKee. Most determined: David Symons. Most improved: Sam Griffith. Best clubman: Brendan Vernon.

UNDER-17 (COLTS): Best and fairest: Shaun Irvine 1, Aiden Davey 2, Luke Naughtin 3. Most consistent: Rick Templeton. Most determined: Liam Mulcahy. Most improved: Craig Dick. Coach's award: Harvey Brown.

Under-11 Perpetual Shield: James Davis. Scott Bellinger Memorial Shield (Under-12): John Burgoyne. Under-13 Perpetual Shield: Tom Urbano. Malcolm Eyre Perpetual Shield (Under-15): Andrew Gordon. Eric Houghton Perpetual Shield (Under-17): Shaun Irvine. Eddie Houghton Memorial Trophy: Liam Mulcahy. Gary (Madge) Allsop Best Clubperson: Bernie Bowen. 100 Game Medal: Aidan Davey (138 games, club record), Andrew Griffiths.

Why Stephanie must hang up those boots

'Old firm' to stay in business



Jeff Evans

Few surprises are expected at Warrandyte Football Club's annual general meeting on November 11.

Jeff Evans will be standing for a third term as president and is likely to be re-elected unopposed. Treasurer Norm Carrington and secretary Robert (Noddy) Ireland are also expected to be returned.

The meeting will be held in the clubrooms, starting at 7.30pm.

The club's presentation night will be held in the upstairs function room at the Grand Hotel on Friday, October 16, from 7.30.

The cost of \$25 includes a three-course meal, season highlights on the big screen and drinks at bar prices.

Bookings are essential and can be made with Evans (9722 1111), Ireland (9725 5065, 019 146 811) or Bucky Rodgers (9844 2159, 0411 519 671).

The function room will also be the venue of the club's Melbourne Cup Calcutta Night on Cup eve, November 2. Entry is free and tickets for the Calcutta sweep can be bought on the night.

Some light entertainment and snacks will be provided.



Robert Ireland



Happy? Why shouldn't they be? They've just won a premiership. Warrandyte's Under-11s proudly display their flag after beating Beverley Hills in their Yarra Junior Football League grand final on August 30.



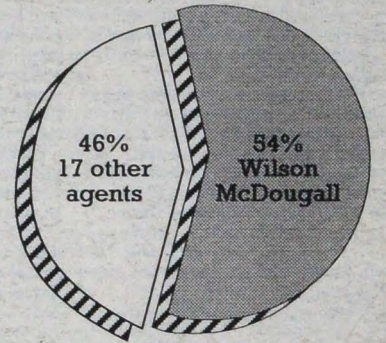
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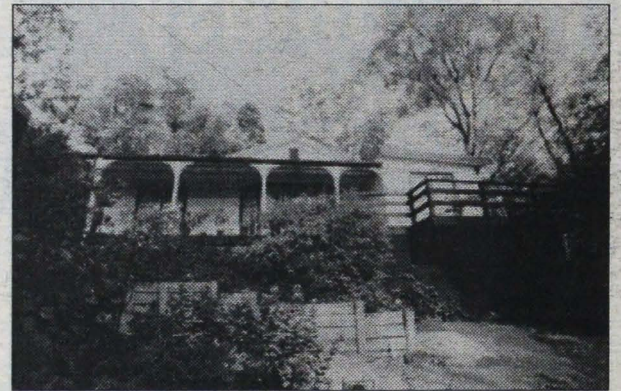
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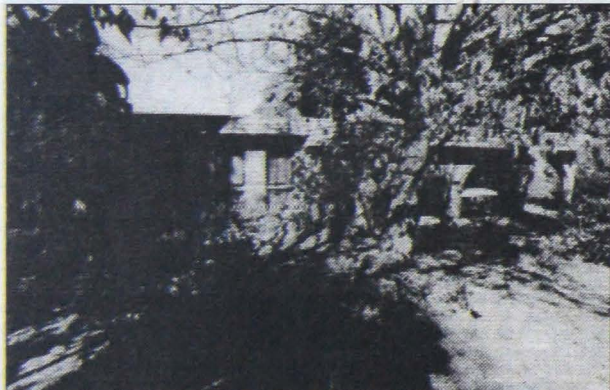
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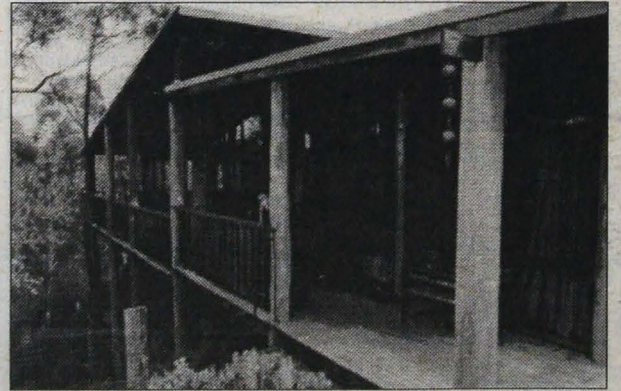
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