

New planning victory

Green Wedge and township controls remain in force

By DAVID WYMAN

Manningham council's new planning scheme is now before the planning minister, Mr Thwaites.

If approved it will maintain the status quo for controls on dual occupancy in Warrandyte township, and controls on subdivision in the Green Wedge.

A council spokesman told the *Diary* that the Manningham Planning Scheme sought to regulate the ways to retain existing controls over subdivision in both areas.

Council's new commitment to subdivision controls follows years of debate and uncertainty over the Green Wedge, culminating in full support for a ban on subdivision of 8-hectare and smaller blocks by a government panel in 1998.

The retention of the ban on dual occupancy in Warrandyte township was announced by the *Diary* last August after intervention by local MP, Phil Honeywood, with the strong support of Manningham council. This followed the reform of the state's zones by the previous government. None of the proposed zones in the new planning provisions prevented dual occupancy.

"This (new) zone has also been applied to all of the one-acre lot areas in Manningham—areas where sewerage disposal is an issue and where a low density is required to maintain landscape character," the council spokesman said.

"These areas are in Wonga Park, Park Orchards, Donvale and Templestowe. The zone prevents more than one dwelling on each allotment."

For the non-urban Green Wedge areas, council had proposed a Special Use Zone, but this was changed, after rejection by the former coalition government, to Environmental Rural Zone.

"The same subdivision con-

trols that apply now—that is an 8-hectare minimum subdivision—will apply in the new scheme," the spokesman said.

"That's been through a panel process and was backed up very firmly by the independent panel and advisory committee (which reviewed the planning scheme and public submissions in 1998).

"Council's adopted planning scheme carries a municipal strategic statement which has very strong strategies, objectives and actions to reinforce the Green Wedge issues as well as the Warrandyte township issues.

"The existing schemes have zone controls over subdivisions, dwellings, etc. They are retained in the scheme, but in addition to that, there is a very strong policy framework to support these controls."

A main difference in the new planning scheme will be to "allow more than one dwelling to be applied for on land in the Environmental Residential Zone", the council spokesman said. Subdivision would remain prohibited and there would be strict controls on the situation, and prominence of a second dwelling.

"It would be totally discouraged if a second dwelling required substantial natural vegetation removal.

"It would only be allowed if it was totally compatible with the environmental objectives for the zone. There will be further policy work done on that issue."

The *Diary* believes this "second dwelling" provision has been designed to accommodate genuine family needs, such as a retirement cottage or a first home for a son or daughter. It could also prove advantageous to people seeking to run a bed and breakfast establishment.

However, local environmentalists will remain vigilant to ensure it does not trigger a new push for subdivision.



Right: Walter Magilton and Denise Bedford work on their painted festival umbrella. ● More Jan Tindale pics, Page 12

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CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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Dark and dirty doings on the 6.45 from town



Do you reckon Easyrider, our man on the buses, isn't nice and dark on the National company's new timetables! Not half as dark, though, as someone who made a silent statement of protest on the 6.45 out of Melbourne on the evening of Friday, March 3. Let Easyrider tell you the whole sad, sordid story: "Right, well for starters the timetables are bloody pathetic!" (Please watch your language. This is, after all, a family newspaper.) "Yeah, sorry. Pathetic. There were signs up in the buses before these things came in on February 21 saying the National was proud to announce the launch of its new, improved timetables. Improved? Have they got a sense of humour or what! For one thing, they've cut out the 7.54 am from Warrandyte to the city, so now there's nothing between 7.33 and 8.35, which means that if you were in the habit of catching the old 7.54 you've now got to get out of bed about half an hour earlier to make the 7.33 and it's so bloody crowded, sorry, so crowded you get to town about the same time anyway! And if you're thinking about getting the bus home after a night out in town to take in a show or something, forget it because whereas the last one used to leave the city at 11.18 on week nights it's now 9.46, so you'd have to leave your show at interval to make it! And they have the bloody cheek, sorry, cheek to classify Route 305 as a Warrandyte service when the vast majority of the bloody things, sorry, things start and terminate at Deep Creek! So what do you reckon about that?" *Lamentable, Easyrider, but do tell us about the silent statement of protest.*

IN RED & WHITE



(Thank you, Easyrider, we get your point.)



Sue Dyring moved into North Warrandyte from Templestowe last year and reports that chivalry is far from dead over her side of the Yarra. Sue was walking her elderly dog Clancy along the river the other day and the poor old thing (Clancy, not Sue) couldn't make it up a steep section of the bank. A bloke swimming in the river offered to help, which was very nice of him and very brave as well because he was naked. Starkers. "What could I say?" says Sue. "I threw him his towel after the event, thanked him and cackled all the way back to my car. It wouldn't happen in Templestowe!"



Don't let anyone ever tell you that driving the Nullabor Plain is boring, says Phillip Johnstone, of Brackenbury Street. The first crossing Phillip and wife Judy made, 20-plus years ago, was lowlighted by holing their petrol tank on the old dirt road about 60 kilometres from the WA-SA border. Second time around the Commodore towing their campervan made it on just four of its six cylinders and this summer, during their third trans-continental odyssey, Phillip found a small fortune in "funny money" blowing in the wind in the middle of nowhere. The Johnstones had driven 650 kilometres from Balladonia east to the Nullabor Roadhouse, deep into SA, this particular day and Phillip, stiff in the legs from the marathon, hopped on his bike for a loosening-up ride in the desert. A few kilometres on, something caught his eye, something that looked like a \$50 note. He slammed on the brakes and picked it up. Yes, it was a \$50 note. Phillip Johnstone's lucky day! But that was chickenfeed.



Phillip looked around and realised there were \$20s, \$50s and the occasional \$100 bill blowing about and snagging in the saltbush and spinifex. Un-

believable! Then he saw they were originating from a plastic supermarket-type bag. His delight turned to dread when he saw the bag bore the name "SA-WA Border Village Roadhouse", which had burnt down in very suspicious circumstances a few days earlier. Suddenly, he felt very vulnerable. What if someone knew the loot was out there and had seen him ride in that direction from the Nullabor Roadhouse? Oh Gawd. Instinct told him to trust nobody so as he furtively pedalled back to base with the stash he hatched a plot whereby Judy would talk very loudly to a fictitious friend on one of the two public phones there while he very quietly called 000 on the other next door. He got through to the cops at Ceduna and they were very interested in his find but not quite sure what to do about it. They asked him to call back in five minutes. Phillip paced up and down like an expectant dad, but when five minutes had elapsed, one of the phones was being used and a roadhouse staffer was cleaning the toilets well within earshot. Our reluctant hero had his camera with him and to kill time and divert attention he wandered out into the middle of the Eyre Highway and took photos of the sunset. Then someone called his name. A chill ran down Phillip Johnstone's spine.



His name had been called by a bloke named Terry, the roadhouse manager, who'd had a phone call from the Ceduna cops to fill him in. Trust nobody? Phillip had no choice but to trust this guy. Terry asked him to discreetly bring the bag of money around the back to his office. That done, the two of them and a couple of roadhouse employees set off on a circuitous, red-herring route back to the scene of the find. On the way, Terry explained that \$80,000 was missing from the safe at the charred Border Village Roadhouse and there was a suspect. There were still plenty of banknotes floating around out there and Terry told Phillip as the Johnstones were pulling out next morning

that the total pick-up amounted to about \$20,000. Phillip and Judy learnt later that a Japanese tourist had found a like sum and handed it in to Eucla police. The cops, who had arrived a few hours after Phillip's phone call, were tickled pink. Now they had something with which to nail the suspect and they'll be flying Phillip back to Ceduna for the court case. The Nullabor boring. You gotta be kidding!



Just when publicity-shy, entrepreneurial local plumber Alan "Scruffy" Edhouse (pictured) thought it was safe to show his face again, up bobbed *Diary* advertising/accounts manager Rae Danks. Being somewhat incident prone, Alan is no stranger to this page—a distinction he vigorously shuns—but we'd lost track of him since he sold the ranch near the high school last year and moved up along Ringwood Road, a couple of doors from Rae's place. The two had not met until Alan was walking the dog a couple of weeks ago when Rae arrived home. "Hi," he said, "I'm Alan Edhouse, I'm just checking out the neighbours." "You're Scruffy, aren't you?" asked Rae. "I'm a mate of Smokey Joe." Scruff clasped his brow and said something like "Good grief" and "Sacre bleu", which was quite surprising because we had no idea he was multilingual. So keep yourself nice, pal, because we're on to you again.



The lack of response to Cathy Willis' beautiful idea last time to create a water garden at your place indicates (more's the pity) that nobody in this town possesses a pond. Never mind, we'll try again. "Everyone has a grey-water run-off area," says Cathy, "and the Friends of Warrandyte State Park nursery at Pound Bend has several water-loving ground-cover species. They include *Pratia pedunculata* (Blue Pratia) and *Neopaxia australasica* (White Purslane)." Want some? Give Cathy a call on 0418 142297.

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OUR NEWSPAPER

The *Warrandyte Diary* was established in 1970 as a small local newsletter. Although it has developed over the years, it has retained its strong community character, being produced by volunteers with only one aim: to serve its community. Financed solely through advertising, it guards its non-profit, non-commercial status and its independent voice. The *Diary* carries a strong editorial bias towards the people, environment and character of the place it serves. Its monthly circulation is 3700 copies and it is available in Warrandyte, North Warrandyte, South Warrandyte, Park Orchards, Wonga Park, Warranwood, North Ringwood, Kangaroo Ground and Research.

A SPECIAL PLACE

Warrandyte (approximate population 8000) is situated on the Yarra River, some 35km from Melbourne. The site of the first official gold discovery in Victoria—in 1851—it soon established its character as a small, self-sustaining community set in a beautiful river valley. Around 1900 the miners, orchardists and tradespeople were joined by a number of young painters who were founding the Australian nationalist arts tradition. Although now a commuter suburb of Melbourne, the natural beauty, community spirit and sense of independence of Warrandyte has been largely retained. This newspaper is the voice and true expression of that spirit.

OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



Border skirmish 'our mistake': Nillumbik

By FIA CLENDINEN

Nillumbik mayor Bill Penrose's tone was apologetic when he said, "We admit this council didn't put the effort into getting it right".

Cr Penrose was addressing an angry meeting of residents at the Warrandyte North Community Hall earlier this month. "There should have been more consultation in this area," he admitted. "But that's history. Let's look to the future. We are going to push for what you want."

The meeting, packed to overflowing, was called by the shire to address what it described as "some community concern" over boundary changes.

As reported in last month's *Diary*, many North Warrandyte residents have had their address changed to Research or Kangaroo Ground. It was even revealed that some ratepayers—those living towards the end of Glynn Road—now live in Eltham.

The boundary realignment has sparked widespread outrage. Residents are furious at the complete lack of community consultation, with many people discovering they now have a new address only by reading the *Diary*.

Among the reasons for concern were the fact that stationery would have to be altered, the possible devaluation of property and doubts over the continuation of mail delivery services. Currently no mail with a Kangaroo Ground address is delivered and residents have to drive to the Kangaroo Ground post office to collect their letters.

But the main reason people gave for their dismay was an emotional one. "I like telling people I live in Warrandyte," one resident announced at the meeting with obvious pride. "I'm a snob about it."

The new boundary realignment puts the Professor's Hill Reserve, near the corner of Research and Stony Creek Roads, into Kangaroo Ground, a situation described by local botanist David Cameron as "ludicrous."

"Professor's Hill was acquired expressly on the understanding that this was (the old) Eltham shire's contribution to public open space in North Warrandyte. The council spent a quarter of a million dollars, which in those days was a huge sum of public funding. The idea that Professor's Hill is not in North Warrandyte by dint of some arbitrary bureaucratic demarcation is a nonsense. It makes no historical sense, it makes no community of interest sense, it has no geographic logic."

As well, the Chase Eagle Reserve is now in Kangaroo Ground.

Mr Cameron also raised the issue of the North Warrandyte Fire Brigade, another local landmark with a new address.

"The fire station built on Glynn's Road now sits outrageously in Research. Why does Research need two fire brigades and North Warrandyte none?"

At the public meeting a show of hands quickly established that a consensus wanted their address changed

back to Warrandyte.

Cr Penrose advised that the council was beginning a review process and urged everyone to write to the council to "request that the boundary be redefined".

"We will do exactly what you want if it meets the criteria. Council will support you," he said. "But we have to solve anomalies."

Cr Penrose said he thought there was "every chance" of getting people back their original addresses. He said the council would draw some draft maps and present them for community consultation at another public meeting to be held in a few weeks.

He also stressed that the boundary realignment which had happened right throughout the shire was part of a nation-wide process.

Cr Penrose dismissed claims it was the council's responsibility to inform ratepayers that their address had been changed. "Bluntly, it was not our job to notify you," he said.

He pointed out the council could not

possibly afford to let people know about every new policy implemented by the state government or other agencies.

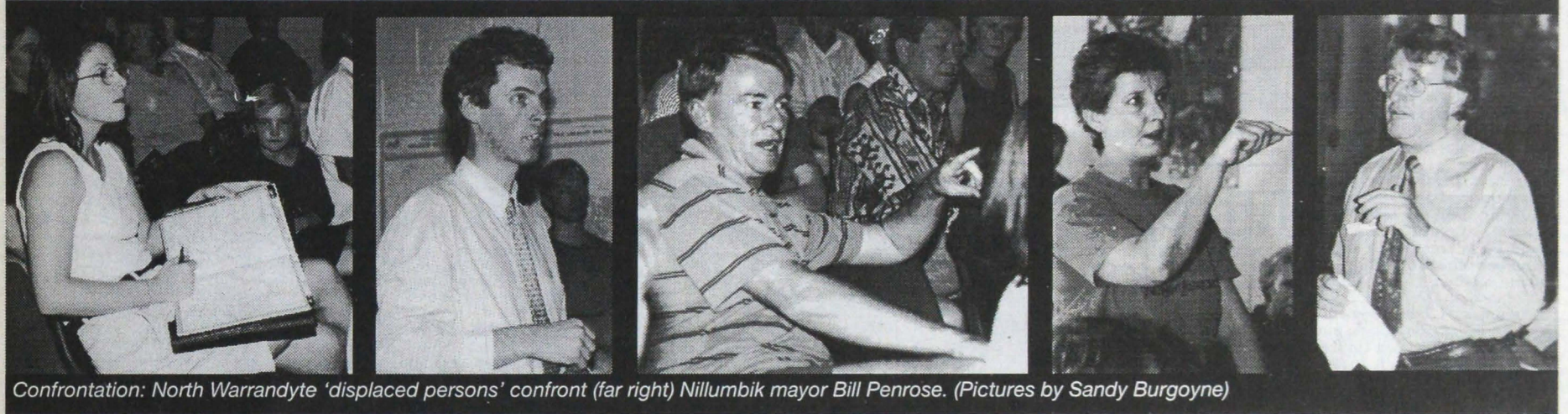
"We cannot send a letter every time something happens," he said.

He said maps showing the new boundaries had been published in the *Diamond Valley News*, which he now realised was inadequate as very few people in Warrandyte read this paper. "We will use the *Diary* in future," he promised.

Professor John Parker, the Registrar of Geographic Names with the Department of Natural Resources, the responsible government agency, told the *Diary* he was not surprised at the depth of feeling aroused by the boundary realignment, describing it as an "emotive issue".

"In the Western suburbs there were threats of Molotov cocktails being thrown and all sorts of things," he said.

But like Cr Penrose he stressed that, "there is a process where people can resolve these problems".



Confrontation: North Warrandyte 'displaced persons' confront (far right) Nillumbik mayor Bill Penrose. (Pictures by Sandy Burgoyne)

Council plans advertising for bus shelters

CLYDE & OCKER



"Poor old, Bill Posters, Ock. Always being prosecuted!"

Manningham council has awarded a contract for the supply and maintenance of 195 bus shelters throughout the municipality to Adshel, an outdoor advertising firm.

This announcement coincides with a growing community backlash against the proliferation of signage in the Warrandyte area.

"Some will carry advertising and others, in more sensitive areas, will not," Manningham mayor Cr Lionel Allemand told the *Diary*.

According to a council spokesperson, "dirty, graffitied bus shelters will soon disappear".

"Waiting for the bus in exposed weather conditions will also be a thing of the past for many patrons with 36 additional bus shelters to

be built at new sites over a period of 12 months," the spokesperson said.

"The 15-year agreement has the potential to return up to \$10 million and deliver a program of replacement, cleansing and maintenance of all shelters."

Until the contract commences in April or May this year, council and the National Bus Company will continue to clean and maintain shelters for which they are each responsible.

"The community will receive the highest standard of shelter at no cost to council and Manningham residents will benefit from the return on advertising revenue," the spokesperson said.

Cr Allemand described the contract as "a coup for the Manningham community".

"The locations of advertising shelters, the siting of shelters generally and the types of advertising will all rest with council to determine," Cr Allemand said. "We remain very much in control of what happens through this contract."

Manningham council—on the same day they announced corporate advertising on bus shelters—declared they will "no longer tolerate the growing trend of announcing events, concerts, sales or other activities through the fixing of posters to poles".

"The days of event promoters placing advertising on poles at prominent intersections are over," Cr Allemand said. "It is visual pollution that seriously impacts on the tidiness and amenity of the

municipality and is a potential road hazard.

"We are determined to eliminate this practice from Manningham and will act quickly to clean up the city and take action against those responsible."

"As a sign of its commitment, Manningham has fully funded a program of poster removal," a council spokesperson said. "Council's local laws officers will take swift action against bill posters and is currently taking evidence of offenders and will consider prosecution as necessary."

"It is a huge challenge for the entire community," Cr Allemand said. "Posters are being erected as quickly as we are removing them. They appear overnight. But that will not deter us in the battle

to remove them from this city."

"There are many other ways that this information can be conveyed to the community."

"Council will also be examining how local media can be better used, saving our environment from unwanted posters."

The community campaign against the proliferation of signage in the Warrandyte area appears to be having some effect.

Ward representative, Cr Patricia Young, told the *Diary*: "I have already asked for a strategy to be drawn up to limit the amount and types of signs that can be displayed in the Warrandyte area. It should be available for community comment within the next few months."

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Pamela's commitment

I am standing as Mullum Mullum Ward candidate in the City of Manningham council elections to be held by postal vote from March 1 to 17, 2000.

I lived in Park Orchards in my late secondary school and university years, and returned to Warrandyte to establish a family home in 1986. This area is a very special environment with unique communities. I am married with three school-age children and work as a research scientist and educator. I chose to come back and bring up my children in this special environment and community so I have a strong interest in working to protect it and enhance it.

I am a member of the Anderson's Creek primary school council, a former vice-president of the Warrandyte pre-school management committee, a member of the Friends

of Tindals Wildflower Reserve and a founder of the No Phone Tower Action Group for Warrandyte. I am involved with the environment seminar series, the local environment assistance fund program, and participated in Manningham's property planning and management course.

I have held office in a number of community organisations and participated on committees for improved community activities and facilities, educational outcomes, lobbying, and accreditation. I am not a member of any political party. I have been encouraged to stand by a community team with members from Warrandyte, Doncaster East, Park Orchards and Wonga Park.

I am committed to work for better educational, cultural, health and sporting facilities for

DEAR DIARY

all ages. I am concerned to preserve our heritage, the character of the area and to contribute to the quality of life of Mullum Mullum Ward. I am keen to enhance and protect the bushland, wildlife, public spaces and the Green Wedge. I am mindful of the need for the support of small business and for efficiency, effectiveness and accountability in financial matters of the council.

I offer you good representation, community awareness and commitment and seek your support to serve you as a councillor. My contact telephone 9844 3249.

Dr Pamela Dry
Timbertop Ridge



Whose version of the river do we prefer? Ours or Clara Southern's?

Resident slams council policies

There is something very wrong with our council. This latest Cemetery Road subdivision was approved despite the strong opposition from the community. It is not a question of whether it should be a five or a seven lot subdivision, it should not have been approved at all.

Patricia Young is on record to have opposed the seven lot subdivision, but did she totally oppose any subdivision? It would be interesting to know where our other councillor for Mullum Mullum, Lionel Allemand, stands on this issue. Both Pat Young and Lionel Allemand have on a previous occasion voted for a subdivision (in the Green Wedge) which fortunately did not go through.

Has a precedent been set? Are we now going to see more undesirable subdivisions and developments? Is the council being pressured by the CEO and the city planners? Perhaps we need a more transparent and accountable council.

Council elections are coming up shortly, and maybe it would be appropriate to have a fresh team of councillors who can and will act independently to preserve the interests of the community and maintain the unique situation which exists in Warrandyte.

I fully support the *Diary* in its attempt to get the candidates to state their views on the various local issues, as listed in your February issue.

G. Jeppesen
60 Melbourne Hill Road
Warrandyte

WRONG!

In a letter we received from the Humphreys family of Kangaroo Ground Road, which we published last issue, we spelt the name of their daughter "Nonna". This should have read "Donna". We apologise for this error.

Letters to the Diary on local topics are welcome. Real names preferred. Pen names only if actual names and addresses are included.

Boycott pokies call

It comes as no surprise that even though hundreds of people objected to the return of the pokies in Warrandyte—the people of Warrandyte will get them back.

It is unfortunate in our community that money and greed seem to outweigh more and more values like honesty, fair play, etc.

Even good fun and skilful entertainment will have to make way for the electronic, money-hungry bandits.

Club Warrandyte and the hotel management obviously don't care about the feelings and opinions of our small community!

I will boycott the Club Warrandyte (with the 27 poker machines) and ask all people who objected to them to join me in my protest.

If anyone is interested in openly demonstrating his or her protests against the poker machines coming back to Warrandyte, please join us in our protest at the Warrandyte Festival.

We will be marching after the last float in the parade and any assistance in making a banner, etc., would be greatly appreciated. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Gabriela Byrne
Kruses Road

Litter shocks

The litter left around the riverbank near the Whipstick Gully carpark is an absolute disgrace. The area I mean is the popular swimming spot behind the historical society museum.

The "no alcohol" signs placed on the pathways were stolen the same week that they were erected, and the amount of empty cans and bottles left on the banks after a hot day is incredible. Not that I object to people having a drink by the river, as most try to do the right thing and place their litter in or near the bin.

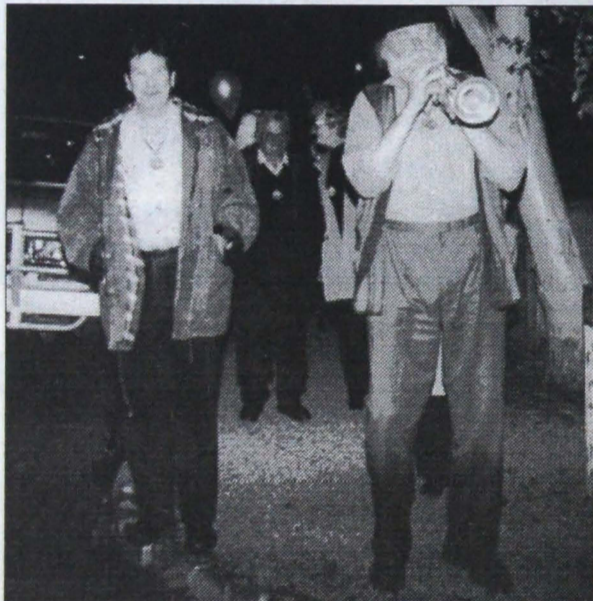
But there are always the selfish morons who leave their rubbish for someone else to pick up. So, as is often the case, someone who cares about the place we live in picks up the rubbish, only to find the one solitary bin is full to the brim, and twice as much garbage again is stacked up beside it.

To make matters worse, the council empty this bin only three times a week. This leaves plenty of time for the animals to spread it all over the place.

Surely if the council cannot find the time to empty the bin more often over the summer months, then it can supply more bins to increase the capacity to hold rubbish. The area is such a great place to take the kids, but after a hot weekend it looks like a tip.

Please let us be able to do the right thing.

J. Vaughan
Yarra Street



Memories of New Year's Eve 1999.

'Real' river or signboard?

Walking along the river, you are confronted by a large signboard. We find, upon reading the board, that we are advised to compare the view with the painting! This is rather difficult as the board obscures the view of the river.

Perhaps we could put in a lengthy signpost with a continuous depiction of the river. Then we could do away with the river. The advantages are numerous. No more floods. No more smelly, mudcourse requiring constant redesign, upkeep and expensive landscaping by our council. No more local urchins screaming with glee as they leap in the river. This could be

a Proper, Tidy Spot, admired by thousands of tourists!

This sign, just below the Chapel carpark, is a part of the "Heidelberg School Artists' Trail" Regional Project (involving Parks Victoria, Banyule, Nillumbik and Manningham councils, Shire of Yarra Ranges and Tourism Victoria). An admirable project intended to give greater recognition to local artists—a worthy and often neglected cause. However, it is unfortunate that pursuit of this project has resulted in such incongruous positioning.

Various groups were involved in decisions about the sign: the statutory planning department,

the regional tourism committee, Manningham council, Vicroads, Melbourne Water and the Warrandyte Awareness Group.

While the intention is laudable, the result is a great big sign blocking one of the best spots for viewing the river.

In the end, we have so many signs—due to the tourism plans for the region—what's one more? And we have it on good authority from the council that they are planning two more signs to help us find the carparks on the riverbank!

Kass and Wayne Harding
Leber Street

For Auld Lang Syne

I was privileged to be part of Warrandyte's New Year's eve celebrations.

With pride in my beloved home town, I now wear Jock Macneish's superb commemorative medal.

My first memories of the The Merry Makers' New Year's eve parties date from 1939. Mrs "Rec" (short for recreation) Miller hosted the gathering in the old hall at the Warrandyte cricket/football ground.

A Scottish piper always led the merry procession to the old box-timber bridge where the highlight of our welcome to the incoming year was the linking of hands as we all joined in Auld Lang Syne at midnight. Then everyone embraced and kissed each other as a few crackers were let off.

As depicted on page 11 of your February issue, Scottish-born Tom Bone and some of his

family, myself and a few other stalwarts, are trying to revive this ancient and hallowed tradition.

Perhaps the cyclists and parents with pushers, and other people, who stood on the riverbank watching the fireworks spectacular, could have co-operated for three minutes for Auld Lang Syne.

For the past 33 years I have been a farmer at Sedgwick. In our local hall, 12kms from Bendigo, Auld Lang Syne precedes the bride and groom leaving the reception to depart for their honeymoon and life together.

Much of the Australian tradition seems to disappear in the large metropolis which Melbourne has become.

Audrey Dreschler
(nee Walsh)
Sedgwick

Thanks... and thanks again More litter

Through your paper, may I thank the person who found my wallet in the West End carpark on the morning of Friday, February 4 and took it to the chemists who, through a piece of inspired reasoning (not having a contact phone number in the wallet) rang a friend who informed me, to my shock, that my wallet was at the chemist's shop.

I immediately retrieved the wallet with its contents intact, including (for me), a large sum of money. Again my heartfelt thanks to all concerned.

Neal Tessier
Second Street

A very big thank you to all those kind people who, over the last few months, have rescued our wandering black staffie, Tessa. The kindness of the people in Leber Street, Melbourne Hill Road, Lynette Avenue, Houghton Avenue and the vets has been much appreciated. We hope we have now fixed her "Houdini" act for good.

Emma Greenwood
Melbourne Hill Road

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

As a lover of Warrandyte and a very long-time local I took some interstate visitors to my beloved Yarra River for a walk along the great paths that are provided for the public.

This was on Saturday, February 12 about 10am and, to my disgust and embarrassment, the garbage bins were overflowing and more rubbish piled up beside them.

Seeing that it was a very hot weekend I hate to think what it would be like by Sunday evening and what the many people who visit this area would think of this smelly mess.

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Firefighting showdown

LATE NEWS

By RACHEL BAKER

On March 3, the Warrandyte Fire Brigade was informed that the state government (following consultation with the United Firefighters Union) plans to bring in full-time professional firefighters and remove the community support facilitator (CSF).

The role of Warrandyte's CSF, Jeff Adair, is to liaise with the community and media, conduct education programs, and create fire prevention plans.

"It's extremely important for the community in helping them become more fire-aware," Mr Adair said.

The Warrandyte brigade previously agreed to receiving two professional firefighters (see story below). Late last

week they learned that the CSF will be moved to another brigade once the new staff arrive.

Professional firefighters will not be allowed to work in the same brigade as a CSF. The union plans to have professional firefighters perform the CSF's role.

Jeff Adair does not believe a firefighter could do the job well enough.

They are required to respond to emergencies, so could not devote enough time to community liaison.

"I don't think they could do the huge amount of evening and weekend work that I do," he said.

Peter Marshall, the Victorian branch secretary of the union, believes a professional firefighter would be more effective than a CSF.

A firefighter has extensive knowledge

and experience of what they are teaching and talking about, Mr Marshall said. "It's the kind of knowledge you can't just get from a textbook."

Combining the roles is also more cost-effective. "A firefighter can perform all the functions of a CSF, as well as those of a firefighter," he said.

Mr Marshall believes it is "misinformation" to claim that a CSF is the only person who can perform community liaison roles.

Rob Kilkenny, captain of Warrandyte Brigade, claims the union was putting its own interests before those of the community.

By removing CSFs (who are employed by Skilled Engineering, which has a contract with CFA) and replacing them with firefighters, the union would increase its membership.

Mr Marshall said claims that the

union just wants to boost its membership are made frequently, but are "rubbish".

He said Warrandyte residents and businesses are paying for the brigade (the CFA is partly funded through insurance premiums) and deserve the best service possible, provided by professional firefighters.

He said computer records show that professional firefighters are consistently faster than volunteers. "That's not being derogatory to volunteers."

Mr Marshall said Warrandyte is not getting the value it deserves from the CFA. Residents pay a 21 per cent levy (as part of home insurance) to the CFA; for businesses, the levy is 50 per cent, he said.

"The people of Warrandyte should ask where this money is going," he said.

The main cost of a fire brigade is labour, and as Warrandyte is staffed by volunteers (except for the CSF), labour costs are low.

Other costs are buildings and vehicles, but maintenance costs are also low, Mr Marshall said.

He believes CFA is a large bureaucracy, syphoning off money. Would the community prefer their money to be going to a large bureaucracy or to fire protection?

The Warrandyte brigade has vowed to fight the changes.

Rob Kilkenny believes that, although the addition of professional staff would help, the Warrandyte community is best served by the present CSF.

He has asked community members to protest the changes by contacting the State Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Andre Haermeyer.



Morale low at local CFA station

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

Morale is waning among volunteers at Warrandyte fire station as the United Firefighters Union pushes to expand coverage by the Metropolitan Fire Brigade.

It was announced last May that two professional firefighters—a leading fireman and a qualified fireman—would join Warrandyte to cover the day shift when enough volunteers are often unable to respond to fire calls. But Warrandyte captain Rob Kilkenny says continual "CFA-bashing" by the union is definitely affecting morale.

"There's an underlying fear that career staff are querying the CFA's ability to provide an adequate fire service," he said.

"The volunteers are feeling tops within themselves and teamwork and spirit at the station is still alive and kicking. But the constant bashing of CFA and volunteers by the unions makes us angry. The union is often speaking for the CFA, but ultimately they are against us. It's getting us down."

There was a feeling among volunteers that once career staff began at CFA brigades the volunteers would have to go, with the possibility of stations closing.

"Where they put two career staff in, then they'll put in three. Eight career firefighters won't give a better service if they live out of the area and you

Local firemen know which way to go. Warrandyte units head for a fire on Fourth Hill.

won't get a big turnout to fires," Mr Kilkenny said.

"Suburban fires are generally static, whereas in Warrandyte a house fire becomes a bushfire and a shed fire becomes a grassfire. CFA volunteers know the area, they live in the area and they're more than just firefighters—they prevent fires as well."

CFA volunteers and a fulltime community facilitator promote fire safety through fire prevention committees, expos, talking to community groups, working with the primary schools and through a "youth crew" at Warrandyte High School.

"Warrandyte CFA is providing a top-class fire service and there have been no complaints from the community," Mr Kilkenny said. But "this could lose the voice of the CFA".

Area manager for the CFA, Trevor White, hopes the issue will be settled within the proper forum of a review of fire services by the Emergency Services Commissioner, Mr Andre Haermeyer. "The CFA is providing a service and no-one is complaining," Mr White said.

The Warrandyte brigade hopes work will start in mid-May on extensions to the fire station, which will see an extra engine bay, a day room, an extra office, change room and improved parking. A new fire truck for the brigade is still being designed.

Negotiations are continuing between the CFA, UFFU and the government for the two career staff at Warrandyte.

● The Diary would appreciate readers' comments on this issue.

Fire danger still prevalent in March

By CLIFF GREEN

According to Warrandyte CFA, the fire danger season is far from over.

"Despite recent heavy rains, March can still be a hot, windy month," Jeff Adair, local community facilitator, told the *Diary*. "Some of the state's most devastating fires have occurred late in the summer season."

In recent days, Warrandyte CFA has received a number of phone calls, enquiring if the fire restrictions have been lifted as a result of the rain.

"Some people believe that because it looks green, there is no risk and they should be free to burn accumulated summer fuel," Mr Adair said

"This is clearly not the case. Fire restrictions will remain in force throughout the month, until we receive reliable rain associated with the autumn break."

Lush green growth has been produced in roadside reserves and other grassed areas which have been cut earlier in the season.

"The forests are still crisp and dry and will support the outbreak of fire, which, with the right weather conditions, could turn into a disaster."

The brigade is concerned that the community could be "lowering its guard" as a result of the unseasonal greenness.

"This year, conditions appear to be less critical, due to

the rain, but we do not want to see the community relax just yet. It is unlikely that fires will be of substantial size," Mr Adair said.

"However, even a small fire has the potential to destroy property and claim life. Small fires can quickly develop into large fires in this type of country."

The brigade believes that many people could be caught unaware and offguard as a result of the speed at which a fire can spread on steep, dry, heavily fuelled blocks.

There are still perceptions that the CFA will issue early warnings of approaching fire. "We can sound the siren, but this is open to misin-

terpretation, unnecessary panic and uncertainty as to the fire's location and severity." The siren's primary intent is a "call to arms" to alert CFA members that they are required at the station.

"The weather forecast is the best and most reliable early warning system available, informing everyone of conditions that will support fire," Mr Adair said.

"On hot, windy days, upon hearing the siren, residents should be on the lookout for signs of smoke, fire truck activity and falling ash or embers."

They should then activate their bushfire plan, which may mean wearing protective clothing, checking avail-

able water supplies, confirming the location of family members and securing pets, removing flammable outside furniture close to the home itself, closing windows, bringing in doormats, wetting down gardens and turning on sprinklers.

"The local community has demonstrated its awareness and preparedness over the last few summers," Mr Adair said. "It is critical that this level of vigilance should be maintained."

● The Warrandyte CFA community facilitator can be contacted—for property evaluation and Fireguard information—on 9844 3375 or 0419 877 574, week days and evenings.

ALL FIRE CALLS: 000

FIRE BRIGADE INFORMATION

General Fire Information: 131 559	Warrandyte: 9844 3375
Kangaroo Ground: 9712 0241	Wonga Park: 9722 1486
North Warrandyte: 9844 8283	Warrandyte Fire Social Club:
South Warrandyte: 9844 3673	9844 3661

Your Council your vote

Manningham City Council elections

March 2000

Watch out for your ballot pack

A ballot pack of voting material is being posted from 29 February 2000 to every voter on the voters' roll for Koonung, Mullum Mullum and Ruffey Wards.

When you receive your ballot pack, please read the instructions, complete your ballot material, and post it to the Returning Officer in the reply-paid envelope without delay.

If you do not receive your ballot pack by Tuesday, 7 March, or if your ballot material needs to be replaced, telephone **(03) 9840 6786** without delay.

Your completed ballot-paper must reach the Returning Officer by 6.00 pm on Friday, 17 March 2000 or it will not be counted.

Who has to vote?

Voting is compulsory for residents of the City of Manningham who were enrolled on the voters' roll for Koonung, Mullum Mullum and Ruffey Wards by 29 November 1999.

There will be no voting for Heide Ward because the election for this ward is uncontested.

You do not have to vote if you are:

- 70 years of age or over; or
 - a non-resident voter,
- but you are encouraged to vote.

Any enquiries?


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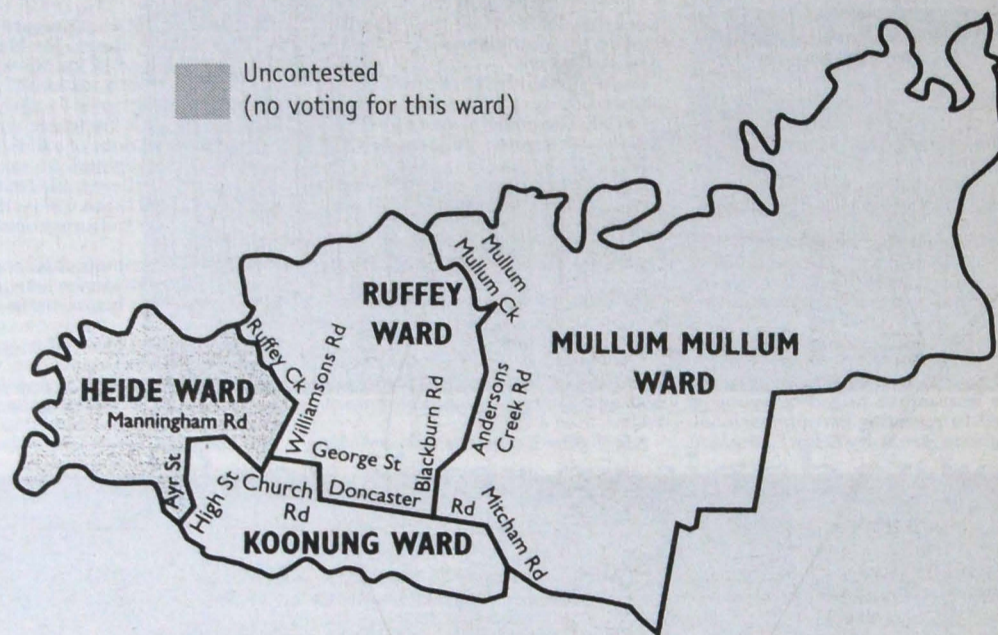
David Cook
Returning Officer

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- Italiano 9209 0104 Italian • Македонски 9209 0105 Macedonian (Slavonic) • 國語 9209 0106 Chinese (Mandarin)
- Српски 9209 0107 Serbian • Soomalii 9209 0108 Somali • Español 9209 0109 Spanish • Türkçe 9209 0110 Turkish
- Việt-ngữ 9209 0111 Vietnamese • All other non-English languages 9209 0112

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Victorian Electoral Commission 



Your candidates

Heide Ward

(Elect two Councillors)

GOUGH, Geoff (Unopposed)
BRUCE, John (Unopposed)
There will be no voting for this ward.

Koonung Ward

(Elect two Councillors)

GOONAN, Irene
HALE, Audrey
MIOT, Rosa
CHAN, Derek
LARKIN, Bill

Mullum Mullum Ward

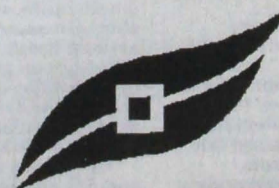
(Elect two Councillors)

MILWARD, Karen
YOUNG, Patricia
DRY, Pamela
ALLEMAND, Lionel

Ruffey Ward

(Elect two Councillors)

LEUNG, Kam W.
EISENBISE, Julie
ASQUITH, Keven
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Mullum Mullum voters' guide

All said 'yes' — with one 'no show'

By **CLIFF GREEN**

Four candidates are standing in Mullum Mullum Ward in the Manningham council elections, currently underway.

They are Karen Milward of Polaris Drive, Doncaster East; Patricia Young of Betton Crescent, Warrandyte; Pamela Dry of Timbertop Ridge, Warrandyte; and Lionel Allemand of McGowans Road, Donvale.

Young and Allemand are retiring council representatives in the ward and Allemand is the retiring mayor.

In our December issue, we announced the intending candidacy of Peter Curry of Blair Street, Warrandyte. Mr Curry has since decided not to stand. He told the *Diary*:

"I feel that I cannot commit the time required to serve the community effectively on council and maintain commitment to my family, particularly since my wife has just announced that she is pregnant with our second child.

"I believe that continued involvement with the Warrandyte Awareness Group and the FOWSP committee would deliver the best outcome for both Warrandyte and my family."

All voters in the ward should have received their "ballot packs" by now. "If the voters have not received a ballot pack by Tuesday, March 7, they should telephone me on 9840 6786," returning officer David Cook said. Voting is compulsory and completed ballot papers must reach the returning officer by 6pm, Friday, March 17.

Last month, the *Diary* surveyed all four Mullum Mullum Ward candidates, putting to them 10 questions we consider of special local interest, as shown by issues canvassed in the columns of this newspaper.

Three of the four responded, and the questions and their answers are published on this page, along with the photographs and personal statements we requested.

Cr Lionel Allemand had not responded at the time the *Diary* went to press.

We gave the candidates the opportunity to qualify any answers. None chose to do so, however Cr Young appended a statement to each answer, setting out her record, as a councillor, on each particular issue.

On paper, it would appear that the three women candidates have all pledged to oppose subdivision in the Green Wedge, dual occupancy in the township, a ring road through the area, insensitive development in Warrandyte and a phone tower at the wildflower reserve.

All three are prepared to work to protect the Warrandyte streetscape, for the limitation and rationalisation of signage, for environmentally sensitive streetmaking and for council financial assistance for a retirement village.

All have indicated their willingness to consult with this community and its advocacy groups

WHERE THEY STAND		KAREN MILWARD	PATRICIA YOUNG	PAMELA DRY	LIONEL ALLEMAND
1	Would you support the retention of the Green Wedge and oppose all moves for its subdivision?	YES	YES	YES	NO RESPONSE
2	Would you oppose all proposed insensitive and inappropriate developments in the Green Wedge?	YES	YES	YES	NO RESPONSE
3	Would you oppose any moves to reintroduce dual occupancy housing in the Warrandyte residential zone?	YES	YES	YES	NO RESPONSE
4	Would you work to protect the Warrandyte streetscape and the historical and natural environment of the Warrandyte areas?	YES	YES	YES	NO RESPONSE
5	Would you oppose the building of an Eastern Ring Road through Warrandyte and/or surrounding areas?	YES	YES	YES	NO RESPONSE
6	Would you support a council program to limit and rationalise signage in Warrandyte?	YES	YES	YES	NO RESPONSE
7	Would you oppose the erection of a mobile phone tower at the Tindals Wildflower Reserve?	YES	YES	YES	NO RESPONSE
8	Would you support a new regime for environmentally-sensitive streetmaking in Warrandyte?	YES	YES	YES	NO RESPONSE
9	Would you support direct council financial assistance towards the development of a residential complex for elderly citizens in Warrandyte?	YES	YES	YES	NO RESPONSE
10	Would you be prepared to communicate with the Warrandyte community and consult with the Warrandyte Advisory Committee and the Warrandyte Awareness Group?	YES	YES	YES	NO RESPONSE

KAREN MILWARD



I have lived in Manningham for many years. The lack of community participation and representation in council business has encouraged me to stand in the March 2000 local council elections.


I have 10 years local government experience through employment with a local council and the peak body for local government, the Municipal Association of Victoria, working towards improving relationships between communities and their local councils.

This commitment to local government has empowered me to ensure that the needs of people at the grass roots level are included in the planning of our community.

With your vote, I will ensure you are consulted and involved in the following important issues: cultural heritage, environment and community safety; employment and economic development; access and equity; young people.

Please feel free to contact your "community voice", Karen Milward, 17 Polaris Drive, Doncaster East 3109. Phone: 9841 9497, fax: 9841 6442.

PATRICIA YOUNG



I am Patricia Young, development manager, ParaQuad Vic, member FIA and AIM. I was elected in 1997 to listen to and represent residents of Mullum Mullum Ward, pledging to preserve the Green Wedge, wildlife and heritage, prevent dual occupancy in Warrandyte township, encourage tourism and business, increase recreational facilities.

Achievements: Preserved Green Wedge/ no dual occupancy, Warrandyte township. Jumping Creek Road bridge, roundabouts. Warrandyte tennis courts, Warrandyte sports stadium. West End shopping centre. Wonga Park playspace. Virtual library. Discouraged erection of telecommunication towers in inappropriate areas.

Through ward allocations financially supported schools, sporting clubs, fire stations, police, Donvale Living and Learning Centre, arts society, tourism, neighbourhood houses, business associations, historical society.

Advocated Wonga Park school bus route, environmentally sensitive housing design, Manningham Green Print. Discouraged overdevelopment. Worked on horseriding, bicycle, heritage strategies. Currently researching aged/disability needs, skatepark in Warrandyte.

PAMELA DRY



I have lived in the Park Orchards and Warrandyte area for 20 years. This area is a very special environment with unique communities. I am married with three school-age children, and work as a research scientist and educator.

I have held office in community organisations and participated on committees for improved community activities and facilities, educational outcomes, lobbying, and accreditation. I am not a member of any political party. I was encouraged to stand by local community groups.

I am committed to work for educational, cultural, health and recreation facilities for all ages; enhance and protect the bushland, wildlife, public spaces and Green Wedge; preserve our heritage, the character of the area and to improve the quality of life of residents in Mullum Mullum Ward; support for small business and efficiency, effectiveness and accountability in financial matters of the council.

I seek your support. Telephone: 9844 3249.

LIONEL ALLEMAND

NO RESPONSE

Scaling the heights of Mt Lofty



After major works totalling \$200,000 Mount Lofty, near Wonga Park, is open for visitors to enjoy the unique wonders of the Yarra River as it enters Warrandyte Gorge. The area, part of Warrandyte State Park, has undergone a major transformation. Extensive walking tracks and trails now cover most of Mount Lofty, from Lower

Homestead Road to Wittons Reserve. "Mount Lofty is an important conservation and recreational park for the local community with excellent fishing and picnicking areas for the whole family," said Andrew Nixon, of Parks Victoria. "The area is also a significant wildlife habitat and we

hope that the numbers of native animals in the park, including eastern grey kangaroos, wombats, echidnas, wedge-tailed eagles and possibly koalas increase," Mr Nixon said. "Dogs have been excluded from the area to encourage the return of native fauna," he said. A boardwalk over existing

wetlands at the eastern end enhances the peaceful atmosphere that Mount Lofty provides, belying the fact that the visitor is only a few minutes from suburbia. Picnic tables and information shelters have been erected to accommodate visitors to the park.

Pictures by JAN TINDALE



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No freeway ramps

Park Orchards residents are concerned that on and off ramps on the proposed Eastern Freeway extension could be built onto Park Road, thus dramatically increasing traffic through the area.

"Only one of the four options released in a community consultation involves the construction of a long tunnel under the Mullum Mullum Creek with the tunnel opening located west of Park Road," local MP Phil Honeywood told the *Diary*. "This option is also the most expensive at a cost of \$363 million."

"The remaining three options all indicate significant on and off ramps from the Eastern Freeway onto Park Road, with the tunnel opening to the east of Park Road intersection."

According to Mr Honeywood, there is a very real danger that the state government "will only extend the freeway from its current terminus at Springvale Road to Park Road".

"This staged approach would transfer all of the traffic headache onto Park Orchards, thereby ruining its sensitive environmental character," he said.

The Park Orchards community has campaigned strongly for there to be no ramps from the Eastern Freeway onto Park Road. Mr Honeywood successfully lobbied the former Minis-

ter of Roads on this issue. The minister confirmed in writing that the ramps would not be constructed.

"Unfortunately, my stance on the Park Road ramp issue did not gain the support of all Manningham councillors," Mr Honeywood said.

"A number of local council-

lors actively lobbied in favour of the ramps at the time it was first mooted."

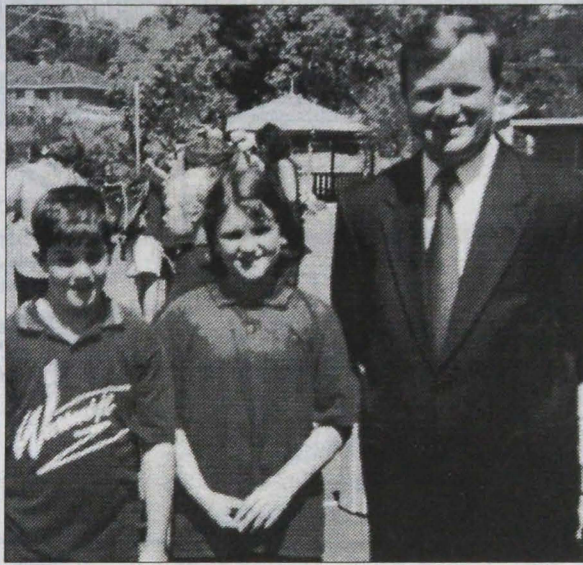
Mr Honeywood said that if Park Road became a through road onto an extended Eastern Freeway, "then traffic from as far afield as Mooroolbark and Lilydale would be encouraged to use

that route in preference to Maroondah Highway and Doncaster Road".

A recent meeting of the Park Orchards Ratepayers Association unanimously endorsed the view that the only government option that should be supported involved a long tunnel commencing west of Park Road with no ramps.

All VIPs at this school

Local MP Phil Honeywood was guest of honour at a recent special assembly at Warrandyte Primary School when school captains for the year 2000 were installed. Mr Honeywood spoke to the children about the special qualities of the school—its strong sense of community, rich history, spectacular setting and environmental awareness. Pictured with Phil Honeywood are captains Matt Camm and Samantha Hassell.



Optus 'out of order' on tower

By RACHEL BAKER

Plans for a mobile phone tower in Warrandyte contradict Manningham Council's Planning Scheme, the No Tower Action Group has said.

Optus has proposed a tower and base station next to the Tindals Road Wildflower Reserve, at the corner of Tindals and Warrandyte Roads, but Pamela Dry, of the NTAG, has said the facility would have a visual impact on the area, so should not be permitted.

In 1992, the City of Doncaster

and Templestowe commissioned a report, Environmental Studies East of Mullum Mullum Creek: Study of Visual Significance.

The report led to changes to council's planning scheme: certain areas, including the area of the wildflower reserve, were defined as environmental significance overlay.

According to this overlay concept, the site should be protected:

- The area contains two plant species of regional significance

— *Cynoglossum suaveolens* (Sweet Hound's Tongue) and *Vittadinia muelleri* (Narrow Leaf New Holland Daisy).

"These plants were once prevalent in Melbourne, but are now restricted to only a few pockets," Dr Dry said.

- The reserve is a gateway to Warrandyte; the report stated that gateways should reflect the character of the town, and create a positive image and a sense of arrival.

The planning scheme also states that telecommunica-

tions facilities should not be obtrusive.

Optus' proposal is flawed for another reason, Dr Dry said.

The planning scheme requires that the permit application provides three alternative sites. Optus did this, but Dr Dry argues the alternatives were inappropriate.

The sites near Anderson's Creek Primary School and in Warrandyte Recreation Reserve (near the pre-school), were not technically feasible because of their low position in the valley, she said.

The third alternative, on Fourth Hill in Warrandyte State Park, would have received opposition for environmental reasons.

The three sites, then, should not have qualified as alternatives, Dr Dry said.

The *Diary* tried to contact Ross Monaghan, community relations manager of Optus, but he was unavailable.

However, Mr Monaghan has previously defended Optus' planning process, claiming it was always open and honest, and that they never deliberately offered inappropriate sites.

Dr Dry said Optus' plans for a full-sized tower are also unnecessary for technical reasons. New micro cell technology, which is much smaller and inconspicuous, is now available and in use around Melbourne.

If Optus does decide to change its plans, it should begin a new consultation process with the Warrandyte community, Dr Dry said.

At the time of going to print, Manningham council had not yet received Optus' permit application.

SO —!

By SYD & ONA

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The Annual General Meeting of the Association is to be held in the Mechanics Institute Hall, Mitchell Avenue, Warrandyte, 8.15pm Monday 10th April 2000. All interested persons most welcome. Enquiries: Pauline Cross 9439 1775



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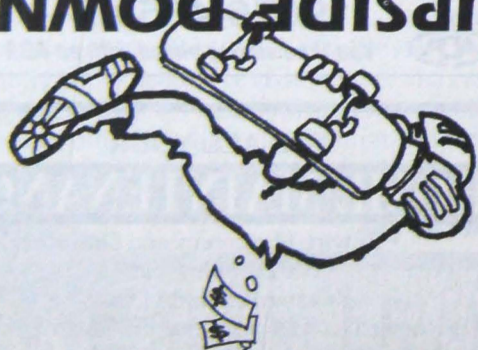
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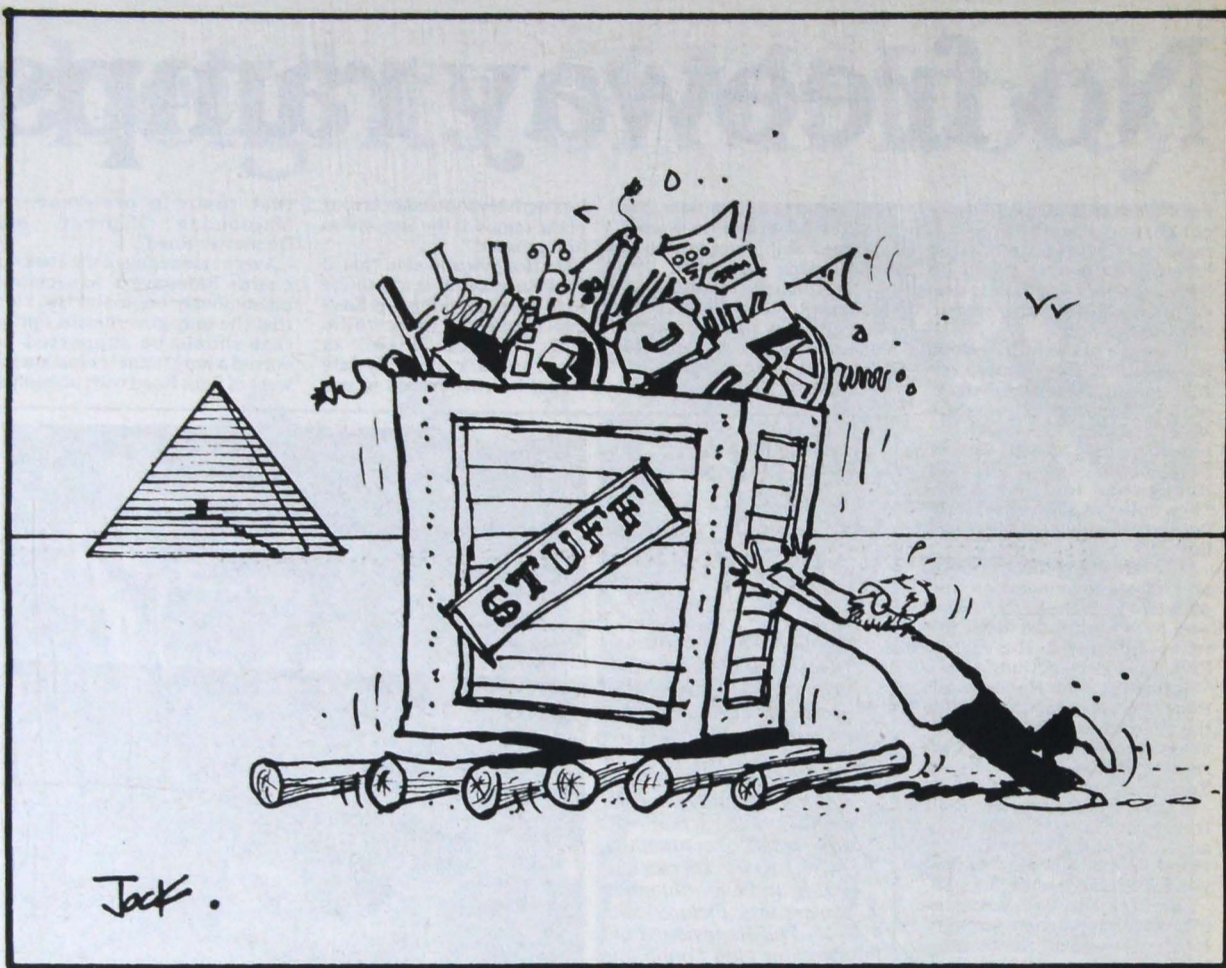
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**A shed built to weather
the sands of time**

FOR years, historians have got it wrong about the pyramids. We have been told that they have religious significance—that they were built to house the remains of the pharaoh. Here he was to transcend his earthly life and become at one with the afterlife. Wrong! The truth is that pyramids were the equivalent of the Aussie backyard shed. True, they may be slightly larger and less accessible than the average shed, but that's what they are. Which only leaves us to ponder the reason we need them.

It seems a genetically inherited characteristic for us to hoard. The issue is about how we perceive the results. What some people call stuff or rubbish, others call "collections". And herein lies the problem. If an unnamed member of the family calls his stuff "a collection", how can he dispose of it without creating domestic chaos?

Obviously Mrs Pharaoh had the solution.

"Tutenkamen, I'm getting sick and tired of all this rubbish hanging around the house. I've asked you time and time again to get rid of it, but you either don't listen or you are deliberately trying to annoy me."

"But you just don't understand. It's not rubbish, it's precious. All this has been hand-made by local artisans to exacting specifications. I've been collecting all these treasures all my

KIBBLED

"If they're not out of here by the time I come back from shopping—your death will be sooner than you think!"

life. I've got a miniature farm set, a whole navy, slaves, workers, furniture and replicas of my palaces—all essential items if I'm to live after death."

"If they're not out of here by the time I come back from shopping—your death will be sooner than you think!"

"How can I possibly have them out of the house? There are far too many items and if they're out in the street they're liable to be stolen by any passing carpet salesman. Anyway, the Nile's ready to flood and you know our insurance doesn't cover acts of gods. The assessors reckon the Inundation isn't covered. If I leave the collection outside they'll develop mould and the wooden

ones will just float away."

"Well, make them heavier. Cover them with gold and they'll stay where you put them. Whatever. I don't care. They're to be out of the house by this afternoon. Do something creative. Build a mud hut or dig into the walls of the valley or use some of those rocks hanging around to make a stone lean-to. I don't care. Just get them out of here!"

And we all know what happens when obsessive people start any project. One teddy bear soon becomes a menagerie. One thimble soon becomes walls full of shadow boxes. One fishing rod or golf club soon becomes tomorrow's Rebel store.

Tutenkamen was both obsessive and scared. He took the job to heart. Admittedly, it took him a bit longer than the afternoon to get rid of his collection, but he did it.

He decided to build a shed, but was a bit suspicious about global warming, so he made the roof really steep to avoid problems with torrential downpours. He was also apprehensive about vermin damage so he made the walls of stone so rodents couldn't chew through. But most importantly of all, he didn't want Mrs Tutenkamen poking her nose into his shed, so he constructed booby traps and secret doors so she couldn't sneak in when he was out. Because he was confident of his sanctuary he had some guys paint interesting pictures

on his walls. A few of the other locals got to hear about his shed and its wonders and tried to take a look when he wasn't around. To stop this, Tutenkamen spread the word that his shed was cursed and that anyone who snuck in uninvited would be turned into a scarab beetle or even worse, into a hippopotamus.

Back then, there were lots of houses around Tut's shed. Many were built of mud or wood and have since disappeared, but Tut's shed and those of a few of his mates have survived. A few with less perfect proportions and built of crumbly stone were not quite as successful.

Which is why I'm in a quandary about the building material for my new garden shed. It's not even worth discussing whether I need a shed, the important questions are about size, location and building materials.

Like Tut, mine needs to be waterproof, vermin proof and well-sited. Herself seems to have some concerns about the "look" of the thing, so we'll probably end up with a pergola with garden around it and a paint job to match the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

On reflection, praise has gone to the wrong person. Instead of admiring Tut for his collection and his shed, we should be praising Mrs Tut. Without her, I, like millions of other collectors, might be shedless.

ROGER KIBELL

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Warrandyte Village Festival

NEWS

4-PAGE LIFTOUT WORDS: RACHEL BAKER PICTURES: SANDY BURGOYNE & JAN TINDALE GRAPHICS: JOCK MACNEISH

When the banners go up along Yarra Street, we know festival time is here.

IF a kid bumps you with their half-melted mega-size ice-cream, or blows into a water-filled birdsong maker non-stop for three hours—then you will know you are in the true spirit of this year's Warrandyte Village Festival.

The theme is Children Are The Future. The whole weekend will try to remind us how wonderful children are.

The traditional elements will be there: kid's market, billy-cart derby, the rock concert, and, hopefully, the water-filled birdsong makers.

But some things will have a new, youthful edge. Like the parade. (If it's possible to make a procession of kid-filled trucks any more childlike.)

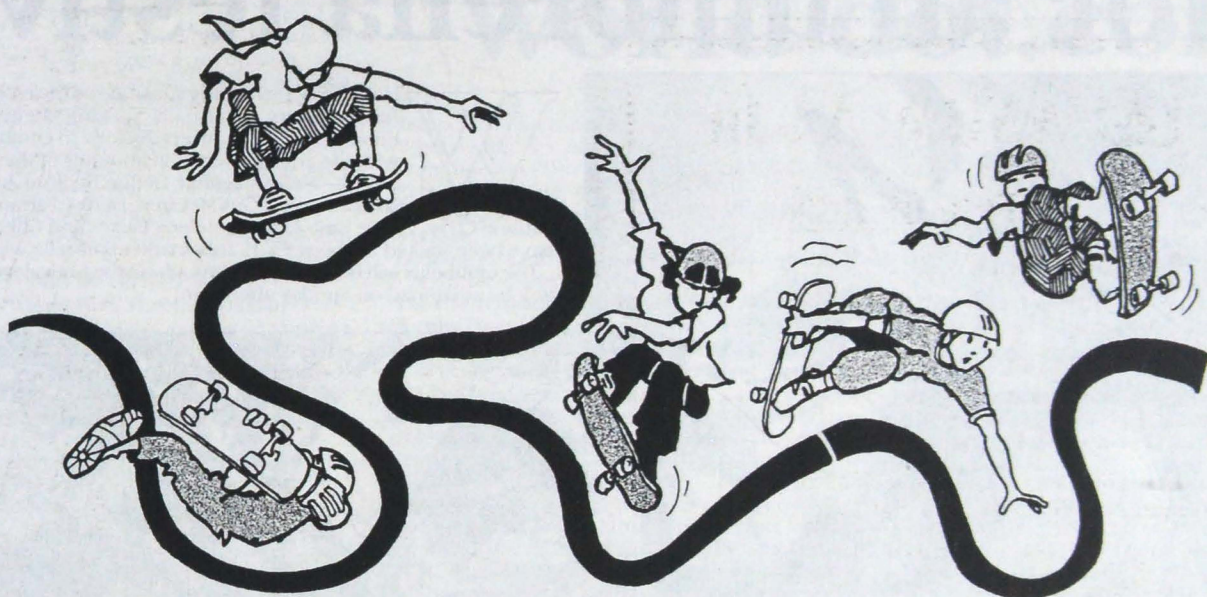
And there will be a few things to take adults back to their childhood—back to the days when Mum washed your clothes.

The president of the festival committee, John Boyle, believes the children are where Warrandyte's life and fun come from.

He says the festival is a time for all Warrandyteans to celebrate their town and catch up with friends.

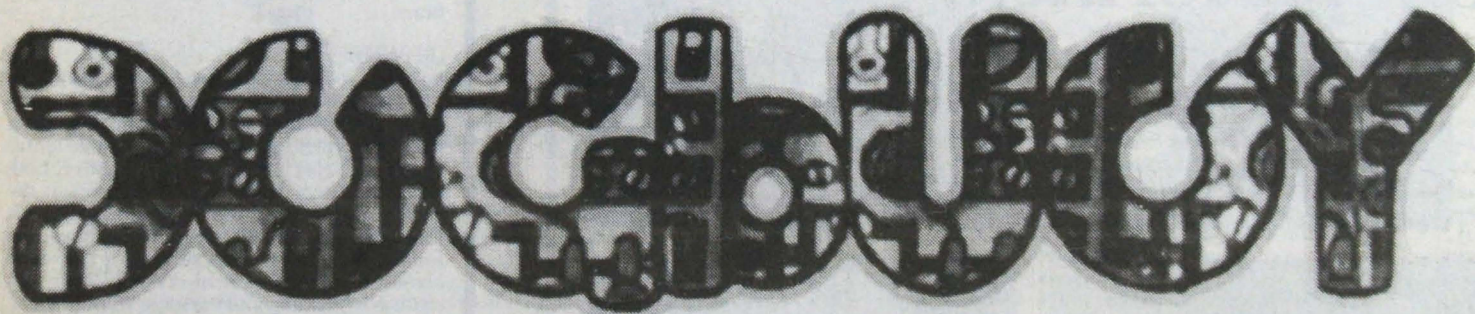
The festival is organised and run entirely by volunteers, which is rare nowadays for community festivals. Most have paid co-ordinators, and the dedication of locals is an indication of how much Warrandyteans appreciate their town, John said.

"It's a big party for all the people who live here."



the children are
the future

Top band and local groups feature



*Performing on the Rock Stage,
Saturday, March 25.*

FESTIVAL 2000 is focusing on children: painted faces, water-slides, and crayon pictures. But we mustn't forget teenagers. They need "their own corner" of the festival, says rock concert organiser, Rick Gordon.

This year's concert will feature Dogbuoy, and, like last year, will be held on Saturday afternoon (from 12.30 to 8pm) on the riverbank, near the Tarroona Avenue bridge.

The concert will also include nine local bands, including Rasputin, whose members are Warrandyte High School students, and Tort.

DJ Sam will make his debut this year, mixing "electronic grooves" in between bands.

There will also be the skate ramp, which will be in use all weekend.

Rick says the concert serves two purposes: entertaining the audience, as well as giving local bands an opportunity to perform.

"It tends to be a highlight in the year for young people in Warrandyte," he said.

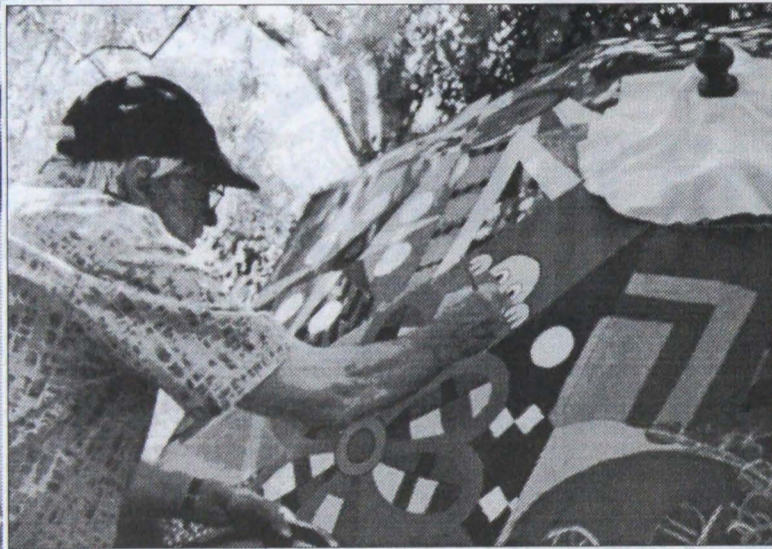
Warrandyte Village Festival

NEWS

Our artists are painting for an umbrella festival



WHETHER it's scorching sunshine or (heaven forbid) rain, festival-goers are usually seeking shelter from some thing. Festival organisers decided to combine that need with the artistic talent that abounds in the area. Various artists—Walter Magilton, Denise Bedford, Jock Macneish, Nijole Pengelly, Sandra Harvey, Gus McLaren, Denise Farran, Chris White, Pauline Cross, Annie Keil-Taggart, Helena Paizes and Cherri Manders—have been invited to shower a 10 foot market umbrella with their work. The umbrellas will be on display throughout the festival weekend. They will be auctioned on Sunday afternoon.



Umbrella art: Cherri Manders (left) and Gus McLaren (above) putting paint to cotton polyester for the festival.

Children join performers with words and music

WHO says wisdom comes with age? This year's festival-goers will be able to listen to the wise words of children in Spoken Word, a new element in the music program.

Linda Carroll, who organises the live music on the riverbank and main stages, will weave children's perspectives on home and identity with acts like Gerry Hale, Uncle Bill's Band, and Monica Weightman.

Children from local primary schools will stand up and read their poetry and prose.

Global views will also be offered, when local kids read out work from overseas students, who communicate by the internet.

Linda says this year's program, which includes Bluegrass (Australian songs with a twist), the Ross Hannaford Trio, and Take Four (a quartet of 18-year-old jazz musicians), plus many more, has something for everyone.

She says it is a credit to Warrandyte that such renowned artists wanted to play at the festival.

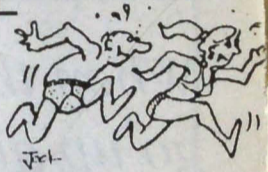
"A lot of them have played in Warrandyte before; they like coming to the town and they like the attentive audiences," she said.



Stand by — Warrandyte's wonderful weekend is almost here!



FESTIVAL BRIEFS



BILLYCARTS AWAY!

The billycart derby continues to be a very popular feature of the festival. But this year, the fun won't be restricted to the kids. A parents' race is programmed, with a Kinchrome tool kit for the fastest mum or dad. Winner of the main event will take home a full-size soccer game, valued at \$350. The derby will be run on Sunday morning, commencing at 9am, on Forbes Street, outside the police station. Give Robert Cousens a call on 9844 2328 for further information.



WORDS ALIVE

Local wordsmiths will be reading original and favourite works across a wide range of styles at Another Grand Read at the Grand Hotel on Wednesday, March 22, from 8pm till late. Entry fee of \$5 includes light refreshments. Tickets at The Old Bakery Cottage Bookshop, 189 Yarra Street—or at the door. Like to be a reader? Call Joan Rogers on 9844 1744.

YOUNG AT ART

Warrandyte Youth Centre is running a youth art show in conjunction with the festival. The exhibition will be open all day Saturday and Sunday, at St Stephens Anglican Church Hall, Stiggant Street. Ring Aaron or Bron on 9844 2985 if you want to know more.

SERVE YOU RIGHT!

How fast can you serve a tennis ball? The speed serving competition—as featured at the Australian Open—has proved to be a popular and closely contested festival event. Conducted by the Warrandyte Tennis Club at Stiggants Reserve, the competition will run on Saturday, from 12noon until 4pm and on Sunday, from 10am to 4pm. Trophies to be won in all sections.

ON PARADE

Festival weekend marches into town with the big parade, from Warrandyte Bridge to Stiggants Reserve, at 11am on the Saturday. Marchers will be gathering at the bridge tennis courts, vehicles and horses at Tills Drive, both at 10am. There will be commentaries at the community centre, the hotel and Stiggants roadside. A perpetual trophy will be awarded for the best float, with prizes for the most colourful, most comical, most imaginative, best costumes/makeup and the most Warrandytish.

DOWN BELOW

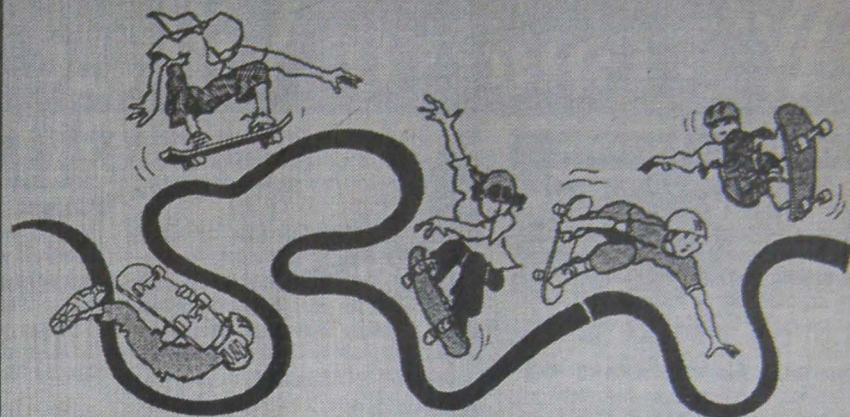
Have you ever wondered what it would be like to walk down an 1850s gold mine tunnel on Fourth Hill? John Hanson gives you that opportunity when he leads his ever-popular gold mine tour on festival Sunday. Running for 90 minutes, the tour leaves 104 Webb Street at 2pm. Bring a torch and wear flat shoes. John promises "a leisurely walk".



DUCKS AHOY!

The legendary duck race is on again. More than 1000 ducks (plastic, not feathered!) will be launched into the river at Forbes Street, finishing at Stiggant Street, at 3.10pm on Sunday. Ducks will be sold at schools beforehand and at the information caravan during the festival—\$2 each. Prizes for the winners.

FROM WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 22 UNTIL
SUNDAY, MARCH 26



KIDS' PIX

The artwork of local school kids has long brightened up supermarket windows in Warrandyte. Hugh McSpeddon, who creates the festival's sound and light spectaculars, got his inspiration for this year's projections from the crayon and texta masterpieces of the younger generation. He plans to project slides of local children's artwork onto shop windows over the festival period. "I've always admired the kids' artwork, and I thought it would be great to incorporate that into the festival," Hugh said. The display will run from dusk to midnight, over ten nights, and Hugh is hoping to secure the co-operation of local businesses. "I want to cover as wide an area as possible," he said.

MAGIC MOMENTS

All this revelry can make even the most energetic festival-goers weary. If the kids need a break from Mum and Dad, they can escape the sensible adult world and descend into the fun and enchantment of the magic tent. On the riverbank all weekend, the tent will have stories, music, dancing, and mind-reading tricks.

SLAPSTICK COMEDY

If you are keen to get revenge against your worst enemy, this year's festival could provide the perfect opportunity. The premiere of the pie fight will take place on Saturday at 3.15pm. Teams of three will assemble and, with three plates each, will aim and fire. Points will be awarded for hitting various body parts. Of course, in the spirit of Warrandyte greenness, environmentally friendly cream will be used and all the mess will be carried away on a tarp.

MUD IN YOUR EYE

City folk often joke about the strange behaviour people "out in the sticks" get up to. One particular event is sure to fuel that fire for a long time. The mud bath will make its debut this year. For a small charge, participants can humiliate friends, or indulge weird fantasies, and be answerable to no-one. John and Kerry Boyle, who are behind the concept, say it will be flexible. "We will just put it there, and people can do what they like," they said.



ART FOR SALE

Artworks by talented local and other artists can be purchased at the Rotary Art Show, situated in the big marquee on Stiggants Reserve, behind the Community Church. The grand opening, at 7.30pm on the Friday, features live jazz, chilled champagne and fine food. Admission \$10. The show will be open on Saturday, from 9am to 5pm and on Sunday, from 10am to 4pm.

TRAINING

Are you a model railway fanatic? Ever fancied running your train on the Warrandyte Model Railway Club's extensive layout at the community centre? You will have this opportunity between 1 and 2pm, Saturday and Sunday. Apart from this, the club is well worth a visit, on Saturday between 9am and 5pm and on Sunday between 10am and 4pm. Entry by donation.



FIERY FINALE

We always have to wait until last for the best event at the festival—the finale concert and fireworks display. This year the concert—beginning at 5pm on the main stage—will feature Gerry Hale and Uncle Bill. Bring a picnic meal or patronise the food stalls, then look skywards at 9pm (CFA permitting, of course) and the night will light up with a spectacular pyrotechnic event.

Complete History of the World dot.com

“YOU are a real, living human being and this is the French revolution, and the odds are you're going to be shot.”

The director is stamping her foot, slapping the stage, and yelling out instructions.

The performers are trying to remember the steps, the words, the directions...

But that's not enough.

"I want feeling! Give me feeling!" she yells.

The Follies are on their way.

The Warrandyte Theatre Company's annual season of hi-jinks, humour, singing and dancing will open on March 23, to coincide with the festival, and run over three weekends.

The director, Sue Dyring, is counting the days and hours of rehearsal left.

"Rehearsing is always a huge rush," she says.

Auditions are held in January and per-

formers start practising in mid-February.

"I got a script last night," Sue says.

With four weeks to go, she is still casting.

According to Sue, who has had a career in TV acting, "people can't afford to have inflated egos here."

Both the cast and program are "bumper", with 48 performers and 38 items.

The title is History of the World from the Year dot.com, covering major historical events of the first two millennia, and there is enough variety to accommodate all the actors. (Everyone who auditions gets a role.)

There's God's Creation, a pre-historic beauty parade, the Trojan War, the French Revolution, the discovery of gold in Warrandyte, and 33 others.

Sue, who appeared in the television shows Phoenix, Neighbours, Janus, and Simone de Beauvoir's Babies, as well as directing Cosi for the Maroondah Theatre Company, is pleased with how many new, young faces have joined this year's Follies.

"It's a great learning ground," she says.

Community theatre is becoming more and more important. "As the world becomes more technological, face-to-face contact becomes

rarer, and people need things like Follies to communicate and interact."

Sue has been involved with Warrandyte Theatre Company since 1983, and this is her third Follies, but she only moved here, from Templestowe, in October last year.

Another new resident is Jack Stringer, the show's musical director, who moved to Warrandyte from Surrey Hills in January.

A more enduring local is Ken Virtue, president of the Warrandyte Arts Association.

The association, which owns and operates the Mechanics Hall, raises most of its funds every year through the Follies. The kitchen and floor have recently been renovated, and now the roof needs to be redone.

According to Ken Virtue, "this hall is a fundamental part of the Warrandyte streetscape."

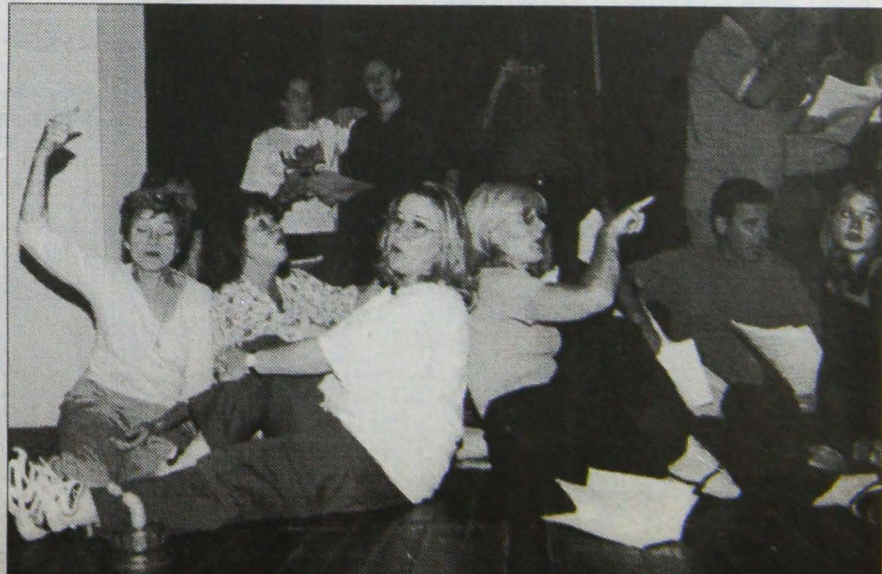
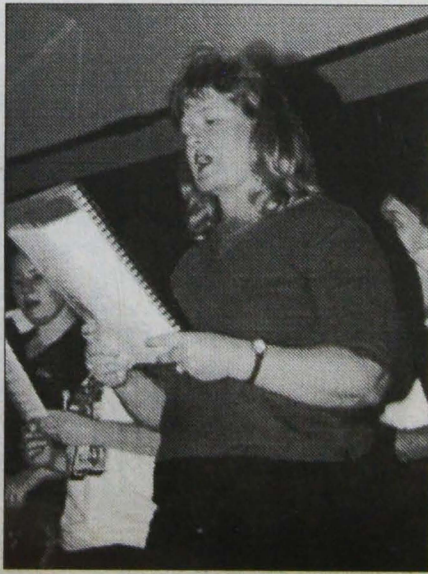
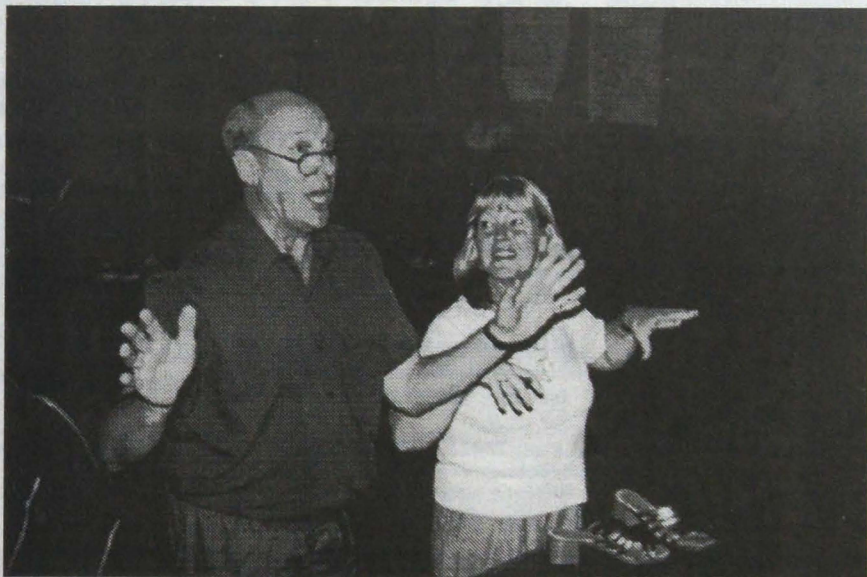
It is also where many Warrandyteans have made memories: weddings and birthdays have been held there, as well as classes for dance and martial arts groups.

Ken believes the Follies are essential for the hall, which is essential for Warrandyte.

But it's also about fun.

"We try to entertain the audience, and we end up entertaining ourselves as well," Sue says.

*'tis folly to
be wise*



Sweet pittosporum turns sour in our hidden gully

TRAVEL is addictive and I am unashamedly hooked. Before one trip is over I am already planning the next. Whether it be a week, a weekend or just a day, a dose of travel quells my unrest. With the hunger satisfied I can return home refreshed in mind and body for I am not, by nature, a true nomad.

Travel programs rate highly on Australian television. Holiday options are seemingly endless, with an array of accommodation ranging from luxury five star to a swag under a billion stars.

For me it is the natural beauty, the wildness. I am knocked out every time, on every trip, by the astounding diversity and adaptability of Australia's native flora and fauna. Sometimes seeing familiar plants in unfamiliar places can give a different perspective to our known and well-loved Warrandyte environment.

On a recent visit to Victoria's East Gippsland—nearly a day's drive and over 500 kilometres away—one of the first eucalypts I saw upon reaching my destination was red box, the blue-green trademark tree of Warrandyte. And one of the first sounds I heard was the ping of bell miners (bellbirds) resonating from the dense understorey of burgan—the shrubby trees with which these pugnacious birds seem to associate.

In Warrandyte, burgan is an indigenous weed—at least in my opinion. Such a contradiction in terms can be explained. Burgan is a local native plant, but in Warrandyte, due to the disturbance and fire, the species has proliferated to the extent where it is now out of balance with the



NATURE

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

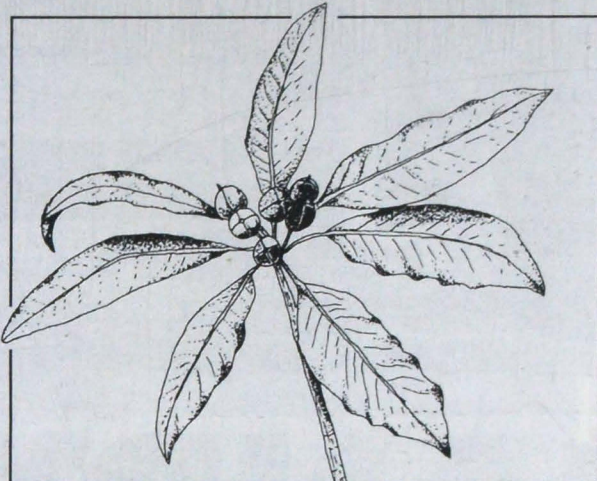
rest of the environment.

While doubt hangs like a shadow over burgan's place in Warrandyte's bushland, there is no question about another of East Gippsland's native plants, sweet pittosporum, which grows naturally in the warm temperate rainforests east of the Mitchell River. It is one of Warrandyte's worst woody weeds.

This decorative tree with its broad aromatic leaves and pleasantly perfumed, creamy flowers is probably familiar to many people in the local area, although its impact on native bushland is not so well recognised.

Those who find it by chance growing on their property, or even worse, plant it—for it is still available for sale in some nurseries—are often reluctant to remove it. The tree provides shade and its brightly colored fruit attracts birds. But it is from our very gardens that the tree has made its escape in collaboration with another alien—blackbirds, for what fruit-eating bird in its right mind could resist the succulent orange berries on offer.

In the Timber Reserve section of Warrandyte State Park, not far from the end of Webb Street, but well out of sight of the road, is a gully. Six years ago this secluded gully was lined with hundreds of sweet pittosporum, from large adult trees to willowy juveniles. The ground be-



neath the heavy canopy was barren. Even eucalypts struggled to rise above the pittosporum's leafy roof.

Unlike some weeds, sweet pittosporum does have one redeeming feature, it is easy to control, provided the right method is employed: a stem injection of herbicide (a procedure known as drill and fill) around the trunk below every branching stem. Cutting the trees will only cause them to sprout vigorously from the base. Those in Timber Reserve were systematically drilled and filled and within weeks their glossy green leaves turned jaundice yellow. The sickness was terminal and a few months later the trees were all dead.

Warrandyte State Park committed funds, not only for the removal of this woody weed, but for the building of a rabbit proof fence to encompass the gully. With the light let in and

the rabbits kept out regeneration has been astronomical. Trees, shrubs, grasses, sedges, creepers and wildflowers that had been displaced by the pittosporum forest returned. The pity is that so few people know or have witnessed the Cinderella-like transformation that has taken place in this hidden gully.

It is somewhat hard to comprehend that an Australian native plant—Victorian at that—has become one of Warrandyte's worst woody weeds. Over the years I have pulled out many hundreds of young sweet pittosporum seedlings when walking through various parts of the State Park. On my recent travels to East Gippsland I encountered the plants growing in their natural environment. It didn't seem right and I had to strongly resist the urge to pull them out, purely as a reflex action.

Snake-charming paralympics

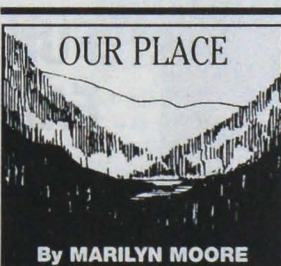
SOME weeks are more drama-filled than usual. This one began with an accident on Sunday, tearing tendon and fracturing bone. Shock. Hospital. The next couple of days passed in a haze of pain, and pain killers for one little person.

By Tuesday she was able to sit up at home in bed without feeling faint. By now, realisation of the severity of the injury and acute disappointment kicked in.

Until the accident there had been so much to look forward to: bushwalking trips, cycling events, state and national athletics championships. Surely months of enthusiastic and conscientious training could not just end here, flat out, like this, swearing at ice packs and eagerly awaiting the next dose of Panadeine?

Fortunately for the strained backs of those involved in lifting and carrying the patient, things improved quickly. On Wednesday, gingerly crawling out of bed became possible. By Thursday, we were ready for anything, finally managing to hobble awkwardly downstairs on crutches, then plonk! into a wheelchair.

What fun the wheelchair



OUR PLACE

By **MARILYN MOORE**

proved! Nearly as exciting as a BMX racer, but much less manoeuvrable. In fact I would never back anything called "Faulding" for a winner: it would be too unpredictable. Fauldings go forwards and backwards pretty well, but a straight line is nearly impossible on carpet. It's much easier to turn on the spot, or tilt the chair back onto its large wheels to ease the small front wheels over a doorstep. Amazing how many people round here have been sprung just having a "little go".

The lounge room proved to be something of an obstacle course, being littered with armchairs, coffee table, music stand, various instruments, books, electrical cords and a half-played game of poker (Mo-

nopoly money having yet another lease of life). Unfortunately, the wheelchair couldn't get upstairs to the light switch, and it was like the Black Hole of Calcutta down there. I have no idea how dark this famed Black Hole is, but if it's anything like our lounge room with all the windows and curtains drawn against the heat, then it's bloody dark.

Now, all you need when you're in pain, in a wheelchair, in this lounge room in the dark, is to meet a snake. A large hissing tiger snake, no less. Tiger snake? Arrggghh!

The question is, can a person with an avulsion fracture of the pelvis leap out of a wheelchair and, in a trice, disappear over the horizon?

You bet they can. The torrent of amazing snake yarns this episode has unleashed has kept the phone lines buzzing ever since. One intriguing fact which has come to light is the number of people who just happen to have a shotgun handy.

My long-suffering mother, who was valiantly holding the fort at the time, is not exactly noted for her desire to entertain uninvited legless guests of any description. She very sensibly

decided against wielding a shovel (blood on the carpet is not a good look) or a shotgun (tragic for the furniture, and not guaranteed fatal for the snake). Anyway, we don't have a shotgun, and by now Joe Blake was comfortably coiled beneath the piano.

Fortunately the poor chap had no idea of the consternation he'd aroused. It's difficult to explain fear. A brown snake which lives by our front doorstep doesn't bother anybody. But there was something undeniably chilling about this tiger snake inviting himself indoors.

The saga ended happily when the local snake-catcher arrived, clad in shorts and T-shirt (which teamed beautifully with his young assistant's carefully-chosen miniskirt and thongs), and, bare-handed, carefully extracted the harmlessly snoozing reptile from his lair.

"He's an old 'un. Full size. Been there a while, I reckon. At least a day or two." Never again will any of us wander around the house in the dark, practise on the piano barefoot, or leave the outside doors open. Never, of course, will probably last only two weeks, until the shivers wear off.

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DRAWN 31 MARCH 2000



Look who our Catherine found along the road! Jason and Catherine outside the rear of their townhouse in Coolum.

She's not actually cooling off in Coolum

AS planned, I find myself replenishing savings by returning to the work force during the wet season, and am now working as a spare parts courier driver in what must be one of the most beautiful parts of Australia. I did not quite make it to Darwin as originally planned. I have set up home for a while in a bright, airy, three bedroom, two storey townhouse in Coolum, on Queensland's Sunshine Coast.

I write to you dressed in comfortable board shorts and a bikini top appropriate to the high humidity, and feel thoroughly relaxed by the colourful, easy-going atmosphere that surrounds me in this tropical holiday paradise. Coolum, located between Maroochydore and Noosa Heads, is a small beach-oriented tourist town that delivers all you would expect from the tropical north—sun, surf, and a long white arc of sandy beachfront.

I have also had visits from two of my cousins and their friends, as well as my Mum and Auntie. I have even returned briefly by plane to Melbourne for a madly social week of get-togethers and catch-ups with old friends, topped off by a big party for my step-father's 40th birthday, which was not to be missed, despite the distance.

Now back in Coolum, I find myself with the space, and time, to reflect on a few of the characters who have given my journey its own individual flavour.

I was at a service station, inland from the Gold Coast, when another biker levelled up, grabbed a chocolate bar and (as bikers tend to do when one is travelling alone) sat down beside me, striking up a conversation. He was from Sydney and

OPEN ROAD

By CATHERENE SELBY

had not ridden his BMW for five years. He was taking the opportunity to travel to Brisbane for a wedding, and was travelling enormous distances in a very short time, with a deadline such as I had not experienced for months.

The hours passed and the banter continued, who knows what about what. When I needed to make a move he asked if I wanted to join him at the wedding? A very polite, friendly kind of question, explaining that as we were going in the same direction. The offer, though tempting, I declined, and set off on my merry way. It was only later I realised, I never did get his name.

I recently toured Fraser Island in a hired 4WD with three young German backpackers whose fondness for telling off-colour dingo jokes was only exceeded by their continual ravenous hunger. Although we brought what I thought was ample food for our three day trip, our rations ran out on the second. Our army to conquer Fraser Island definitely travelled, like Caesar's, on its stomach.

And just the other day I was driving, delivering parts, stopping at a set of lights, when another car pulled up on my right side. The driver, obviously a bit of a character, pointed at me as if to show he knew me. I picked up on the joke and after a moment to recover, returned the required surprised "Oh hi!" and threw in a little wave for geniality.

The teenage girl in the front passenger seat wound down the window for us to

chat. We exchanged small talk about the weather and where each other was going, before the daughter asked how we knew one another. We both told her, "We have never met before". Poor girl, as the lights changed and both cars disappeared in opposite directions, she quickly wound up the window. In my rear vision mirror I could see her sink into her seat and read her lips exclaiming "D-a-a-a-d!!!!" I bet he embarrasses her all the time.

To conclude; what is living in Queensland really like. Every day's temperature is between 20 and 28 degrees and it's humid. It can't be too difficult to be a meteorologist here. Restaurant food is not up to the comparative standards of Melbourne, but the tropical fruit is divine. Variety is not the spice of life, but the sun is. The '80s rule, maybe with a slight sprinkling of the '90s, but life is glitzy and image is important. Service priorities are yet to find their way this far north. All this aside, I love the relaxed atmosphere.

The lifestyle that incorporates time for myself, the many outdoor markets and events that are at my fingertips, all with the dramatic backdrop of the Glass House mountain range that beckons to be explored at the weekends. Yes, folks, I really do have a weekend now I don't have such a demanding job—just 8-5 Monday to Friday. I can go for a ride, have coffee or a meal in some small tucked away cafe or country pub in the hinterland, with views of a hidden waterfall or a wide river in a valley surrounded by rainforest. I enjoy the ocean, but my heart really does belong to the bush and rivers which I learned to appreciate in Warrandyte.

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Survival



Under branches feathery arches and a summer evening's spasms of lowering light, returning cars rumble and rattle across a tree-rooted, rutted track. Teenagers meet in huddles on stone wall corners, mature couples stroll hand in hand, dogs at their feet. Children's cries and sounds of bathwater running escape from windows beckoning between trees. A ribbon of rooftops lines the rim of a hillside; a woman stands watching sun sinking to a deepening reddening glow. Dusk: daylight-draining; darkened and night-masked, tree trunks stand: guardian towers of the night.

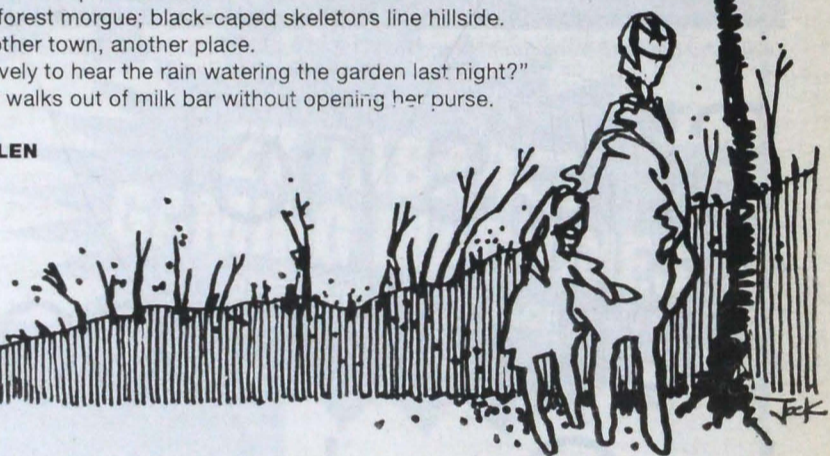
Dreamer moving slowly into morning rhythm, Indian skirt feather-brushing her perspiring skin. Pale-faced child, breath rasping, lightly sleeping, panting pet dog, ginger cat sprawling stretched out on pine floor at its feet. Motionless, soundless, wearily weighted, nauseous heat a heavy still. Pedestal fan hypnotically neck creaking, spiralling spokes a fiery blur.

Door to wooden decking, a hot gusty breath wings young mother and washing; storm-capped, they fly with bark and leaves. Under her feet, hurtling and buffeting, whiplashed feathery forest is creaking and moaning in gale forced heat. Sickening and suffocating, stomach cramping, "Bushfire wind," she tremors to herself. And looks below her decking into the forest with fear. One moment, nature is sighing; the next comes in with a sudden blare.

Her small child has recently awoken: "Why is someone building a bonfire at the bottom of my garden?" The wah-wah of sirens screeching and blue lights flaring, red ribbon convoy of fire engines streaking through the bush. Rumbling thick wheels, dragging large engines, at the top of their steps beyond their front door, at the bottom of their block beyond their back door—echo ever afterwards in mind and in memory, single mother and sick child emergency red encircled, custody held.

Neighbourhood new, window blinds down—partner confiding, sharing the load. Protecting themselves inside. Danger encroaching, indefinite intensity—helicopters roof circling, continually vibrating in mother's ears. Dusk falls. Wind drops. Rain falls. Sundown a forest morgue; black-caped skeletons line hillside. Sunrise: another town, another place. "Wasn't it lovely to hear the rain watering the garden last night?" Fire survivor walks out of milk bar without opening her purse.

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CHARLES WILTON

A pioneer potter passes on

BY JO LAURENCE

CHARLES Wilton was born in Scotland on August 4, 1916. He died at Croydon on February 1, 2000, aged 83 years.

Charles came to Australia at the age of six with his parents, who migrated from Scotland and settled in Melbourne. Because of the Depression, Charles was taken out of school by his father when he turned 14 and put in a job to help with his family's finances. That job was to lead Charles onto the career he loved and stayed at until his retirement in 1994.

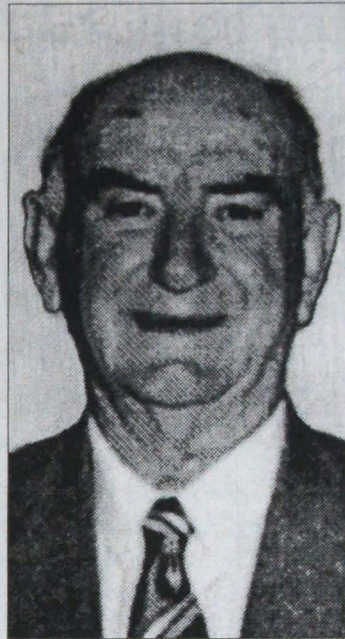
The job was at Fowlers' pottery and Charles spent his first two years cleaning biscuit ware, then graduated to bowl making with the "jolly". By the age of 18, he was dedicated to making pottery and eager to learn more, so he enrolled at RMIT. But after a while he realised he knew as much as the tutors and would learn more on the job.

He later worked with the potter Eric

Juckert in his Caulfield studio from 1938 until 1940. The Second World War interrupted his potting when he enlisted and served in the RAAF until war's end. By 1947 he had set up a pottery business at Lilydale and lived at Warrandyte, where, in 1955 he set up his own studio in Taroon Avenue next door to the Uniting Church.

In 1958 he joined forces with other local potters, Reg Preston, Phyll Dunn, Gus McLaren and Arthur Halpern, plus architect John Hipwell and his wife, Betty, to set up a co-operative called Potters Cottage, in Moonlight Cottage in Research Road, with the aim of promoting handmade Australian pottery.

The venture was such a success that after two years they found it necessary to find another location and they bought the old Zoch farmhouse on the corner of Jumping Creek Road and their business really took off. In 1969 they established their Potters Restaurant as well as Potters School, both of which complemented the pottery gallery. Eventually, in 1982, they sold the



business to John and Margaret James, and the potters continued to make and supply their work to the gallery.

Charles continued to make his pots for Potters Cottage until he retired at the age of 78. He always had excellent organisational skills, which stood him in good stead in business as well as in his work practices. He was a production potter and his prolific work was always popular. He made a wide range of domestic ware which sold at affordable prices.

Charles was a keen and talented sportsman, competing enthusiastically over many years at cricket and football. Perhaps it was these experiences that helped develop his great sense of "fair play". He was a devoted husband of Jean and proud father of Pamela and Ian. He is survived by only Ian and six grandchildren. (Sadly Jean and Pamela pre-deceased him).

Charles was a highly respected man in both his professional and personal life and is missed by a wide circle of friends and family.

Chloe's sweet success

By CLINTON GRIBAS

U PSTAGING teenage golf sensation Aaron Baddeley is a tough thing to do these days. But it can be done—just ask Chloe Ballinger.

Fourteen year-old Chloe, of Trezise Street, beat a strong field, which included the Australian Open champ, to be named Young Citizen of the Year at the Maroonah Australia Day awards.

While on the surface this may appear a shock result, upon closer inspection it's clear Baddeley, who hails from Wonga Park, was beaten by one special person.

Chloe has taken community service and duty to new heights over the last 12 months, prompting Maroonah mayor Maureen Naylor to label her an excellent role model for young people.

Her resume includes raising funds to sustain a foster child, the collection of toiletries for Anglicare, holding sausage sizzles to raise funds for refugees from Timor and Kosovo and assisting in making a series of hampers for families involved in the Salvation Army appeal over Christmas.

But it was her recent contribution that created most interest. Chloe was the brains behind the collection and distribution of more than 400 Chupa Chups to our troops in East Timor, who were missing the niceties of home.

"Mum is a veterinary nurse



Chloe and her grandmother (Mrs Barbara Gurry) share a special moment at the Australia Day awards.

and one of her clients' sons is over in East Timor as a peace-keeper," Chloe told the *Diary*.

"His mum said that all the troops loved Chupa Chups and conditions over there are really bad and they just wanted Chupa Chups.

"I got the girls at school to bring in Chupa Chups and we sent them off."

Chloe and her classmates at Tintern Anglican Girls Gram-

mar School posted off more than 400 of the sweets for the troops to enjoy.

So what inspires her to produce these gestures of goodwill?

"I don't know, just to help people I guess. I will probably do some more this year. If I hear about things that need help I think of stuff to do about it."

The former Warrandyte Pri-

mary School student moulds these fund-raising activities around her other spare-time interests, which include art and playing the flute and saxophone. And she shines there too, with some of her art already having been exhibited.

"I've been into art most of my life. At the moment it's just sort of a hobby which I like doing," she said.

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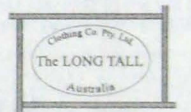
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Young artists who usually live in the Warrandyte area are invited to apply for the Warrandyte Youth Arts Award for 2000/01. Applicants between the ages of 18 and 25 - working in any artistic field - are eligible.

A prize of \$6,000 is being offered every two years to enable the winner to further their career as an artist.

Applications close 30 June 2000 and the winner will be announced in March 2001, during the Warrandyte Festival.

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

Warrandyte Youth Arts Award
PO Box 209, Warrandyte 3113

Organised by the Warrandyte Diary in conjunction with the Warrandyte Arts and Education Trust.

Sole sponsor: The Lions Club of Warrandyte (Inc)

Dogs will run free at river



Dogs enjoy the river too, but they should always be under effective control.

More signs are to appear along the River Reserve and on Stiggants Reserve. These will designate on and off-lead areas for people walking their dogs.

"Hopefully the signs will cover most of the entrance points to the reserves so that all users will be aware that they are entering an area where dogs may be off-lead," Doreen Burge, Dog Walkers Group spokesperson told the *Diary*.

"However this does not mean that dogs are free to do what they like", Ms Burge said. "Off-lead dogs must be under effective control. Dog owners should be aware that it is against the law for a dog to rush a person or another dog, even if it is done with no aggression and in a friendly way.

"Off-lead dogs should not be permitted to approach other dogs until you know the owner is happy for this to happen.

People have a right to walk their dogs on lead without being bothered by other dogs. Try putting your dog on its lead as soon as you see other dogs ahead.

"Please keep in mind that if there are enough complaints about the behaviour of off-lead dogs - both from dog-free users and from dog walkers - we run the risk of losing this area for off-lead exercise of our dogs."

Manningham council is working towards the installation of dog faeces disposal units.

"Progress is very slow because all alternatives are being

carefully assessed to try to ensure that the most effective and environmentally-friendly method is put in place," Ms Burge said.

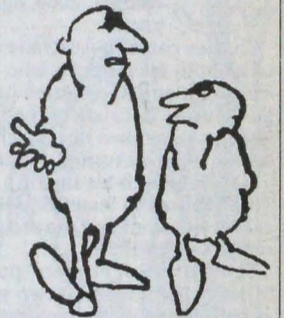
"Meanwhile, please try to remember to take your plastic bags or some other collection method and use the green bins for disposal."

Doreen Burge invites residents to call her on 9844 2512 for further information or with any comments - "good or otherwise" - or queries about dogs and the River Reserve/Stiggants Reserve.

"If anyone is interested in adding their name to the Dog Walkers Group, please let me know," Ms Burge said.

'This does not mean dogs are free to do what they like.'

CLYDE & OCKER



"I thought Dogbuoys was a pet-walking service, Ock!"

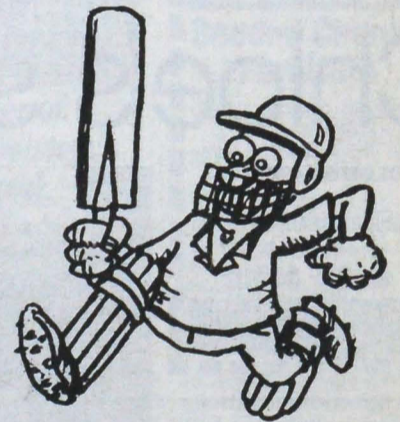
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Cash for a skatepark



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.

The Warrandyte skatepark facility, to be located adjacent to the football ground carpark, is now proceeding through the design stage. Fund-raising is also in full swing, with the community needing to raise \$16,000 to match an equal contribution from Manningham council. Towards this end, the committee have organised for families and businesses to buy an engraved brick or paver which will be displayed at the site. Cost is \$90 for families and \$100 for businesses. Contributions can be sent to Skatepark Warrandyte, c/- PO Box 18, Warrandyte 3113.

Donations

A further fundraising plan for the skatepark involves a large transparent tube, which will stand on the stage throughout the festival for the donation of gold and silver coins. A skateboard, skate padding and a canoe ride will go to those who guess closest to the amount donated.

Celebration

On Wednesday, March 22 at 7.30pm, Warrandyte High School will be celebrating the successes of 1999 and introducing their program for 2000. All are welcome to celebrate with the school, situated in Alexander Road.

Bereavement

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House announce the formation



Congratulations were in order for Fred Knibbs (left), winner of the 1999 Warrandyte Senior Citizens carpet bowls championship. On the far right is runner-up Martin Quarendon, with club president Maisie Temple keeping the two rivals apart. (They were winner and runner-up last year, as well!)

of a Bereavement Support Group for people who have experienced the death of a significant person. The group will be facilitated by grief counsellor and educator Katherine Byrne and will meet fortnightly on an ongoing basis, commencing in April. Please phone Leanna Francis on 9844 1839 or Katherine Byrne on 9712 0046.

Dance

The next South Warrandyte Social Dance will be held at the South Warrandyte Hall in Hall Road on Saturday, March 11. Cost is \$5 with BYO supper, tea and coffee provided. Good music is assured. The April dance will be on Saturday, April 8. Enquiries to 9723 3892.

Auditions

The Warrandyte Arts Association theatre company are conducting auditions for Habeas Corpus by Alan Bennett on Tuesday, March 28 at the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute Hall. Enquiries to 9844 3608.

Insects

The next Green Wedge Seminar, to be held at the Currawong Bush Park conference room, will be entitled "Insect conservation—the other 99 percent". It will be conducted by Ian Endersby from the Entomological Society of Victoria, on Thursday, April 6, commencing at 7.30pm. Admission is free.

Grants

Federal MP Kevin Andrews advises that the Australia Council's new Support For The Arts Handbook 2000 is now available. The council is the federal government's principal arts funding body. The handbook explains how local artists can apply for grants. It is available free from the Australia Council on (02) 9215 9123, toll-free on 1800 659 291 or online at www.ozco.gov.au and in audio and disc format.

A Capella

The Ruby Tuesdays, an on-going A Capella singing group, meets in Croydon on Wednesday evenings. For further information call Alannah on 9722 1402 after hours.

Medea

It's Us Productions is presenting Medea at Ruffey Lake Park, Victoria Street, Doncaster, on March 10, 11, 12; 17, 18, 19; 24, 25 and 26 commencing at 8pm. For bookings phone 9537 0995.

Textiles

The current exhibition at the Manningham Gallery, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster — Social Fabric: Women and the Greek Textile Tradition — will remain open until March 26, with a variety of special events on particular days. Call 9840 9367 for more information.

Care

If you are interested in providing companionship and support to a frail, disabled or aged person in the community, please call Do Care on 9871 1532.

Tell us

The *Diary* is your newspaper and we love to publicise 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.

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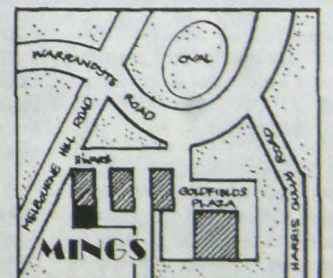
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Warrandyte Community Market

Under the gum trees, beside the Yarra on Stiggants Reserve, Yarra St, Warrandyte 1st Saturday of each month - except January, 9am-1pm.

Come and join in! Hand-crafted gifts of all kinds, toys, art works, pottery, plants, clothing, gift cards, leatherwork, cakes, jams, honey, fruit, produce.

Ample parking. Light refreshments available.

Bring along your family and friends.

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



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GARAGE SALE: Great opportunity to buy a computer desk, fine china, baby cot, toaster oven, bedroom dresser, and many other quality items. Saturday March 18th, 9am until noon - NO earlybirds. Park at the bottom of the driveway of 7 Brogil Road, and walk up.

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Bloods' sights on Div 2 finals

By LEE TINDALE

Warrandyte Football Club begin their 2000 EFL Second Division campaign on April 1 with their sights set on a finals berth.

The Bloods begin the new season at home to Mulgrave, the game to be preceded by the unfurling of the 1999 Third Division premierships flag.

"We're very much looking forward to Second Division," club president Jeff Evans told the *Diary*.

"This will be a year of consolidation for us, but we are aiming for the four. We will be looking particularly for continuing improvement from our young players."

Warrandyte will hone their preparation for the resumption of hostilities with three practice matches, all at home. They are:

• Friday, March 21, under lights against Division 2 club Doncaster.

• Sunday, March 19, against Norwood, last season's EFL Fourth Division premiers.

• Sunday, March 26 (Warrandyte Festival Sunday), against Upwey-Tecoma, reigning First Division premiers in the Yarra Valley Mountain District Football League).

SPORT

Warrandyte's cricket season over, training now reverts to the traditional Tuesdays and Thursdays at the recreation reserve.

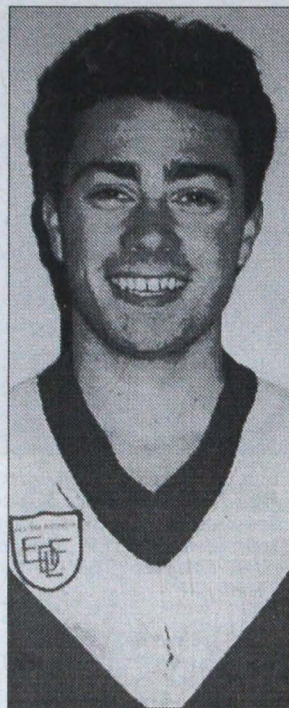
"We've been training Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights and it's been very good," Evans said. "We're certainly fitter that we were at this time last year."

That is partly attributable to new playing assistant coach Scott Hunter, a physical education teacher who has been working the players with the assistance of fitness adviser Dale Wilson.

"We've been particularly pleased with the performances on the track of last season's award-winning Under-18s Aidan Davey, Rick Templeton and Craig Dick," said Evans. "The three of them are in for a big season."

One key player missing from this season's line-up will be Liam Riley, another product of the Under-18s, who will be overseas.

But the Bloods have recruited quality footballers in Hunter (who played centre half-back for East Burwood in last season's First Division



Liam Riley: missing from action in the new season.

finals), Rocky Armstrong and Leigh Brown and when this edition went to press were

still negotiating with at least three other well-credentialed prospective recruits.

Warrandyte are still struggling for numbers at Under-18 level, a long-running problem heightened this year by a tough EFL stance threatening heavy fines and loss of senior premierships points if games have to be forfeited.

"We urgently need players," said Under-18s coach Alan Vitoritti. "The ones we have are enjoying their training, loving it, but we certainly need more."

"We're training on Tuesdays and Thursday evenings from 4.30 until six and anyone who'd like a game is more than welcome to turn up. Or they can phone me at home on 9876 2428."

Warrandyte are now offering the Under-18s reimbursement for football gear and are guaranteeing transport to and from training and matches in needy cases.

The Bloods' Sponsors Night, which will include the draw for naming rights on the jumpers, will be held at Club Warrandyte on Tuesday, March 21 (the contact is Jim Yarwood (0407 396526).

And stand by for the return of poker machines to CW on March 17. They will be unveiled at noon.

Progressive juniors name a club captain

By DENNIS HOIBERG

Warrandyte Junior Football Club have taken another step in their development by appointing Andrew Gordon their first club captain.

The innovation reflects the club's seriousness in creating a positive club culture.

Andrew has represented the WJFC since he joined at Under-12 level and is now an important member of the Colts (Under-17s) squad. He has won several best and fairest awards, has represented the Yarra Junior Football League and has been a member of a number of "train on" squads for the Eastern Ranges.

"In seeking a suitable candidate as club captain, we wanted a person who would be a role model for our younger players and be able to represent our club," said WJFC president Matthew Matheou.

"We have many fine young people in the club and we are proud of each and every one of them. It was a very difficult choice, but we believe Andrew will be an excellent club captain."

"The role of the club captain is both ceremonial and developmental," Matheou said.

"We see Andrew working with the younger players in helping them develop skills as well as working with the management committee to ensure we are aware of the player needs."

"Communication within the club is critical to its health and Andrew will play a big part in ensuring this happens. He will also play an important part in attracting and working with our sponsors."

Matheou said the captaincy was a great honour for Andrew and a reflection on his contribution to the club.

"Of course, we see all boys of

There's money for moo poo and that's no bull!

A committee comprising Warrandyte Junior Football Club and the local community has been formed to raise funds for the club and the proposed skateboard park at the recreation reserve.

And at the centre of it all is a fresh cowpat! In a promotion called Moo-Poo for Cash, tickets will be sold for a square of ground on the Number 2 oval at the reserve.

"We will be releasing a well-fed cow and the person who has 'bought' the patch nearest to where the cow does its ... err ... um ... business wins a valuable cash prize," said committee member Tony Morello.

Fellow-committeeman Bryan Handson predicts it will be a great promotion which will benefit both groups. A limited number of tickets will soon be released through the community and cow released on May 20.

"The tickets will be priced around \$10, with a first prize of about \$2000," Handson said. "I would urge all people to support this activity, but be quick—we are only releasing 1000 tickets."

He said the cow was "under day-long protec-

tion and in heavy training" for the event.

"We were both looking at ways to raise funds—the junior football club and the skateboard park—and we thought, why do something separate, why not do a joint thing and share the benefits?" said WJFC secretary Dennis Hoiberg.

"At the end of the day we are both trying to do the same thing: create a safe and positive environment for our children—us through the football club and them through the skate park."

Morello said of Moo-Poo day: "Just imagine a large number of people enjoying themselves over a barbecue, having a great time with their friends on a beautiful May Saturday, eagerly waiting for a cow to determine by natural means who wins the cash."

"Of course, the judges' decision will be final and we are not concerned with quality or quantity—only 'nearest to the pin', so to speak."

For further information on Moo-Poo for Cash, call Morello on 9846 2222 or Handson on 9890 0571.

his age to be leaders and we will seek to use all of them to represent the club wherever possible. By creating this position at the club we have also given all the other players within the club a position of leadership to aspire to."

• Junior registration day at the Tarooma Avenue clubrooms on February 13 drew a strong response, reports registrar Brad Curtis.

"We have a large number of new players registered," Curtis said. "Of course, there is always

room for more, especially around the Under-12 and Under-13 levels.

"Anyone who wants to register or who has friends who would like to register with us is invited to contact me on 041 833 3979."

Curtis said a particularly pleasing aspect of registration day was the number of parents who volunteered for the range of jobs that needed to be done to ensure the teams ran smoothly.

"We have just under 160 fami-

lies involved with the club," he said. "This is a real community effort and having so many parents wanting to be involved just adds to the family feel around the club," he said.

All coaches for the new season are in place and week-night training started recently. A trial match will be played on March 19 and the season kicks off on April 2.

For more information on the activities of the junior club contact secretary Dennis Hoiberg on 041 838 4619.

Club at crossroads

Departures from top rock failed Bushrangers

By ADAM WHITE

While Warrandyte Cricket Club have avoided relegation from the RDCA's top-level Chandler Shield competition, the Bushrangers have been rocked by news of the departure of both their coach and first eleven captain.

There will also be major changes on the committee next season, with president David Gee and others electing not to continue their administrative roles.

Paul Montgomery, who has led the club as both coach and captain of the first eleven during his three seasons at Warrandyte, has decided to move on, as has this season's captain Greg Tregear.

With other senior players also contemplating their futures, the future of the club itself is at the crossroads.

There has been talk that a small group of passionate Warrandyte supporters who played for the club during the halcyon days of the early to mid-1980s are keen to resurrect its future. But no one is saying as much, with the annual general meeting only a couple of weeks away.

On the field, the Bushrangers struggled throughout the just-completed season, winning only a handful of games and struggling to fill four senior teams. Only a few seasons ago, they had too many players for six teams!

The first eleven, who appeared to have got things back on track after the Christmas break with two solid victories, fell back into their all-too-familiar bad habits, losing their last three matches despite the threat of relegation from Chandler Shield cricket for the first time in the club's history.

The Bushrangers' season ended on March 4 with another home defeat, this time at the hands of Ainslie Park.

Warrandyte won the toss and started brightly, Stephen Bell and Brendan Baker batting with a good deal of authority to have the visitors on the back foot.

The good start was consolidated by Adam White, who



Going, going... from left, president David Gee, captain Greg Tregear and coach Paul Montgomery.

seemed to recapture some of the form which has eluded him for most of the season.

At 3/100 and White and Tregear at the crease, things looked encouraging approaching tea, but a rush of blood to the head saw both Tregear and Tony Sturesteps stumped to spin and a golden opportunity evaporate, Warrandyte going into the adjournment at 5/103.

Those two wickets just before tea were to prove decisive, as the Bushrangers never recovered, bowled out for just 135 in a characteristic batting collapse.

White (39) and Bell (27) were the only batsmen to make an impact on the Ainslie Park attack but again were unable to turn a good start into a really significant contribution and lay the foundation for a total in excess of 200.

While Ainslie Park had no trouble seeing out a brief session at the crease on the first day, it was a different story on the second day as Warrandyte tore through the top order to have them reeling at 4/32.

A combination of consistent bowling by the tireless Gerald Walshe and Montgomery and a positive approach from the Warrandyte fieldsmen put the home side in with a realistic chance of ending their season on a high.

But unfortunately the Bushrangers could not capitalise on that great starts, Ainslie Park settling, consolidating and finishing at 8/230.

"I think they showed us a little bit about mental toughness today," Montgomery said after stumps were drawn, "When it wasn't easy they dug deep and worked their way out of it."

"They really showed our boys a thing or two about the difference between us and a team who will be playing in the finals this season."

Captain Tregear echoed the coach's sentiments, saying it was very disappointing to finish that way after promising so much earlier in the season.

"What I can say is it's really disappointing to finish the way we did," Tregear said.

"I have said all year that we weren't as bad as what our results indicated, but in the end we have no one to blame but ourselves."

"We just aren't prepared to work hard enough."

In the lower grades, the second eleven finished the season with a win and a loss, the win (against Ferntree Gully) a result of contributions with bat and ball from a number of players.

Youngster Matthew Gamble earned his first cap in the senior eleven with a fine 53 against the Gully, accompanied by a brilliant 79 from veteran Steve Pascoe.

In the bowling department, Andy Gay returned to form with three wickets against Ferntree Gully and also performed well in the final match, against Ainslie Park.

Brett Kline confirmed his unwanted status as one of the best cricketers playing in the RDCA third eleven competition with another century against Ainslie Park.

Two centuries and a bundle of wickets for the season made him the shining light in a season sadly lacking individual highlights. John Prengley continued his good form with the ball in the thirds' last two games.

Not even David Gee's wonderful year with the bat and ball could get the fourth eleven over the line in any of their games. While Gee continued to make runs and take wickets, he lacked the support to turn promising situations into wins.

Cricket details

FIRSTS: Warrandyte 82 and 143 (White 30, Tregear 38) lost to Ferntree Gully 191 (Walshe 3/22) and 0/38. Warrandyte 135 (White 39) lost to Ainslie Park 8/230 (Tregear 3/58).

SECONDS: Warrandyte 225 (Pascoe 79, Gamble 53) d Ferntree Gully 193 (Gay 3/29, Baker 3/43). Warrandyte 167 (Creber 40, Chapman 34) lost to Ainslie Park 8/283.

THIRDS: WARRANDYTE 147 (Smead 37) and 4/146 (Kline 46, Gay 34) lost to Ferntree Gully 156 (Kline 3/36, Prangley 3/38). Warrandyte 6/247 (Kline 115, Wellesley 46) d Ainslie Park 5/153.

The Redbacks sweep it clean

By TONY OLIVER

Warrandyte Basketball Club have swept their new home clean in the opening games of the 2000 junior championship season.

The multi-purpose Warrandyte Community Sport Centre in the grounds of Anderson Creek Primary School hosted the season's start—and all four local teams were successful.

It is a first-class stadium for basketball, providing good visibility for spectators and an excellent playing surface for competitors.

The honour of the opening game was given to Lorraine Parfitt's U14 girls, made up of five players from her successful team of last year and three who have stepped up from the U12s.

They did it in style, beating a Banksia combination 34-8 and giving every indication that they are ready to carry on from where they left off in 1999.

The girls have gone right on with it since opening night and are undefeated.

The Redbacks are fielding six teams in the Friday night competition, with four boys and two girls sides competing in the Metro, North West or Eastern Conferences.

The second girls team are the U16s under the guidance of Tristan Messerle, Warrandyte's director of coaching. Their opening game at the new stadium also produced a big win, 34-12, over Banksia. Especially pleasing was the strong defence against a taller Banksia centre.

The U16s have continued on their winning way,

dropping only one of six matches so far. Fast, skilful attack and tight defence have been features of their play.

Messerle is also coaching the top-age U16 boys, who have been strengthened by the return of Tim Givens, unavailable for the recent Eltham tournament.

Their season's opener saw them victorious in a titanic struggle with a strong Sunshine Unit, the Redbacks prevailing 29-26.

Malcolm Anderson's U11 boys—the youngest Redbacks in the competition—have also started the season well, with impressive wins against taller opposition.

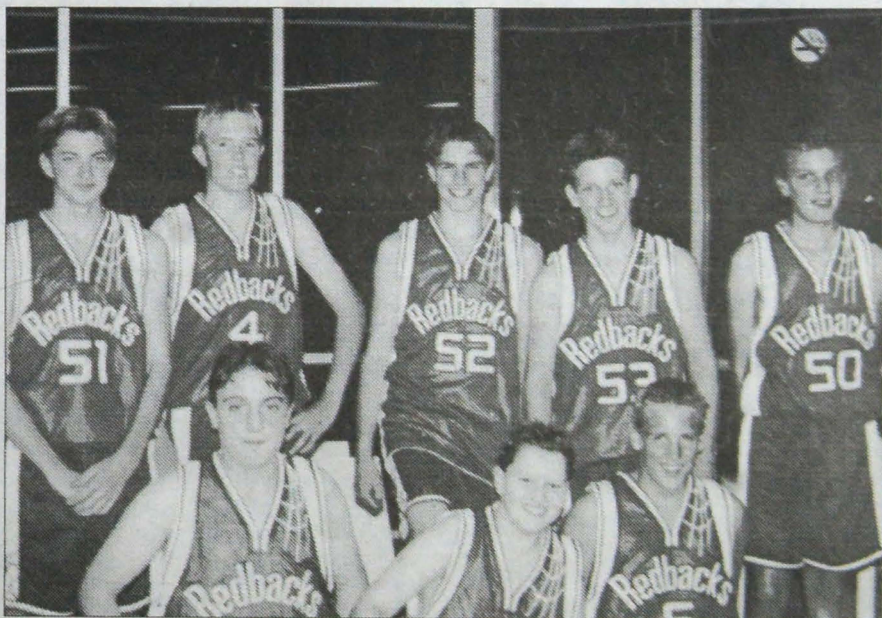
A recent victory over Westernport at Frankston was a highlight, all players scoring and stepping up in performance as a team.

They reproduced that sort of stuff in their latest game, defeating Sherbrooke 36-15 at home.

Gavin Whitmore is coach of one of Warrandyte's two U14 teams and early wins have set the pattern for a good season from the boys, who are likely to be competing in the more challenging Metro grade.

The second U14 unit, coached by Martin Clark, also got away to an excellent start, applying late pressure in their opening game to run away for a 24-14 win against Keilor.

To prove it no fluke, they have won four of their first six games—often in taller company. Their latest outing was a strong win against Craigieburn at the new stadium.



The Redbacks U16s show off their new uniform. Back row (left to right): Jake Templeton, Tim Given, Darren Woodster, Nick Cowdry, Che Pianta. Front: Daniel Friggi, Luke Drake, Gavin Hennessey.

Juniors make a fashion statement

The Warrandyte Redbacks have taken a step up in presentation and fashion with the delivery of their new junior championship uniforms.

The top is red with white edging and a spider on the left shoulder.

Both boys and girls are kitted out in the same

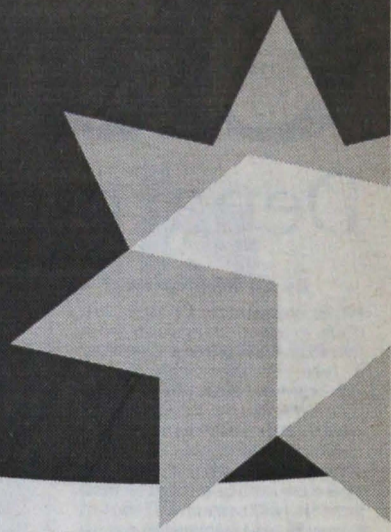
uniform.

A feature of the top is that it is reversible, which means there will be no problems with "clash" singlets in future.

The uniform is a big hit with the players and recent improvements in form have been put down to the new strip.


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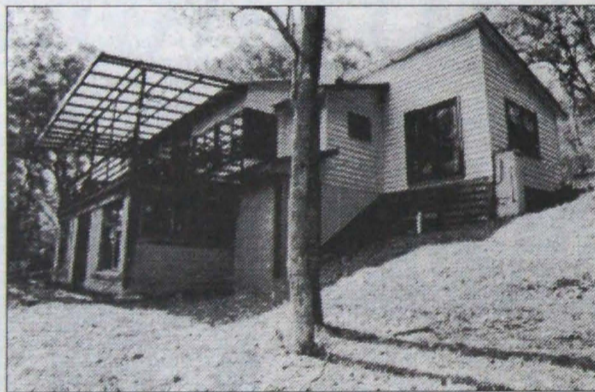
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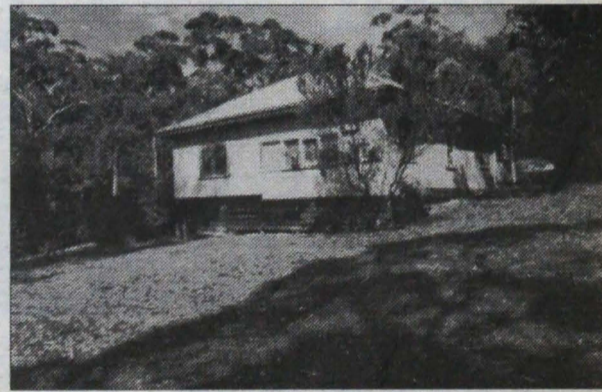
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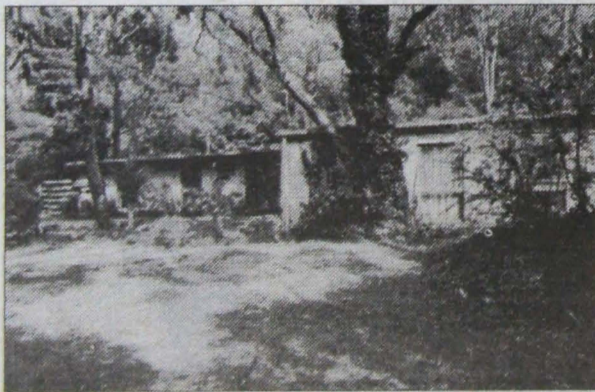
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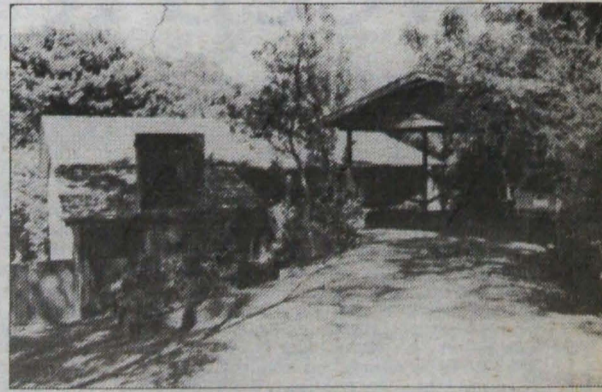
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