

# Keep Jeff on the job

## Our CFA facilitator at risk

By **CLIFF GREEN**

Warrandyte Fire Brigade is heartened by the level of local support for their campaign to keep the Community Support Facilitator at Warrandyte CFA.

Early last month, the brigade learned that a state government proposal to appoint two day-time career firefighters at Warrandyte was conditional on the CSF, Jeff Adair, being relocated.

Brigade captain, Rob Kilkenny, supports the stationing of day-time staff at Warrandyte, but not at the expense of Jeff Adair's continuing role in the community.

"Over the past three years, Jeff has delivered educational programs, liaised with other agencies and the media and created fire prevention plans.

"A major part of his role has been the formation of more than 50 new Community Fireguard groups." Members of these groups are at the forefront of the campaign being waged to retain the CSF at Warrandyte.

"Without such initiatives as

Fireguard, street corner meetings and property evaluations we would not have the level of fire awareness or preparedness that we currently have," Mr Kilkenny said.

"Jeff Adair is not only available during daytime weekday hours, but after hours and at weekends. This is essential if the community is to be properly served," Mr Kilkenny said. "I believe that this level of community liaison may not occur if the CSF is replaced by career firefighters."

As previously reported, the United Firefighters Union has declared that a community facilitator will not be allowed to work in the same brigade as professional firefighters.

Jeff Adair has been very active in promoting fire safety and awareness in local schools, including a youth crew program at Warrandyte High School.

"Obviously, the priority for career staff is responding to fire and other

emergencies," Jeff Adair said.

"Although they could be available for such daytime educational programs, when they receive a fire call, this will take instant priority and the class would stop and have to be re-scheduled. This would play havoc in school timetabling and the continuity of these programs."

The local brigade is not opposed to the introduction of day-time career staff.

"Although community volunteers will always respond, the availability of permanent staff will strengthen the brigade's ability to answer emergency calls," Mr Kilkenny said.

"However, firefighting and community liaison are not necessarily the same. Jeff Adair's experience, qualifications and personal skills make him the ideal person for this vital task. He has served these brigades and this community well. We will resist all ef-

forts to have him shifted."

Warrandyte is still awaiting a decision by the minister. "We still do not know what the outcome will be," Mr Kilkenny said. "We have every reason to be concerned and appeal to local residents for their continuing support."

The "Hands Off Jeff" campaign has galvanised public opinion in Warrandyte.

Many Fireguard groups and a number of local residents have written to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, Hon Andre Haermeyer, deploring any moves to shift the CSF from Warrandyte.

Close to 500 signatures were obtained to a petition in just 17 hours during the Warrandyte Festival. Several deputations have waited on the minister.

A number of municipal councils—including Manningham—have ex-

pressed their support for the CFA being able to maintain community facilitators in stations where career firefighters are to be appointed.

The United Firefighters Union believes that combining community liaison and firefighting is "more cost-effective". "A firefighter can perform all the functions of a CSF, as well as those of a firefighter," Peter Marshall, secretary of the UFU, told the *Diary* last issue.

"Our argument is not just based on cost-effectiveness," Jeff Adair said. "It's about cost benefits. It's about developing partnerships between the CFA and the communities. It's about establishing the balance between prevention and suppression of fires."

"It would be more cost-effective to have both roles working together; professional firefighters and community facilitator complementing each other."

"This community has never been better prepared to meet a major bushfire," Mr Kilkenny said. "If the CSF is removed from the Warrandyte station, how would this community measure the cost in fire safety?"

## The children were the festival

It's always been a special weekend for the kids, but Warrandyte Festival 2000 gave youngsters star billing. Children Are The Future was the theme, and this year they took full advantage of their enhanced status.

Special events included a pie fight and a mudbath, as well as such old retainers as the kids' market, billycart derby, waterslide and duck race.

And, as shown by the happy faces in our Sandy Burgoyne photo, youngsters dominated the grand parade.

● Lots more festival pix and stories inside.



### CYRIL

By **PAUL WILLIAMS**



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# How Bozo managed to light up Tiger's life



When two cult heroes of Smokey's creation get together, what do they expect? A publicity blackout? We don't think so. John "Tiger" Laing and Neil "Bozo" Dusting just about keep this column afloat with their individual adventures and misadventures, but in tandem they are doubly effective and their performance in the Warrandyte Festival parade was pure comedy-drama. We told you a couple of issues back that Tiger was going to be among the army of Australians to carry the Olympic torch a kilometre on its way to Sydney. There are actually four local folk so honoured—the others being Ian Cleland, Gail Dick and Rachel Treeby—and festival committee supremo John Boyle thought it'd be nice to recognise their achievements in the parade. Unfortunately, he commissioned Bozo—a very clever man engineeringwise but inclined to be accident prone—to fashion a replica of the torch, which would be carried along Yarra Street to the plaudits of the throng. A damn fine-looking torch it was, too, so good that Tiger, who is not averse to hogging the limelight, decided quite selfishly to make it his own and to steal the show. Again unfortunately, the torch's design was quite flawed and instead of burning in the direction of up, the flame ran down the stem, burnt Tiger's hand and he dropped it like the proverbial hot coal. That'll teach him to be greedy! Never mind, Tige, it'll probably be all right on opening night.

## IN RED & WHITE



If you know Tiger Laing at all, you'll agree that Rachel Treeby here is a lot easier on the eye.

ers and judges all wore evidence of fast and furious exchanges in the Pie Ring. You couldn't help notice the bemusement of the kids as they watched the "olds" making idiots of themselves. Would these adults never grow up? The Treat Throwers made up of the Nixon clan (Andrew's a local park ranger) triumphed and were presented with the inaugural Boyle Sash by a fearful John Boyle, who had already copped one faceful and didn't fancy a second helping.



Jason Price dutifully showed up at the Tarooma Avenue Kindergarten festival stall with the biscuits lovingly baked by wife Natalie and put in his two hours flogging lucky dips and assorted goodies to the multitudes. Meanwhile, parents serving on the Yarra Warra kinder stall were getting a bit narky at the failure of one of their rostered volunteers to turn up. Seems Jason was unaware there were two kindergartens in Warrandyte and had lobbied at the first one he saw. Not to worry, mate, the Tarooma Avenue parents are very grateful for your help and Yarra Warra somehow managed to cope without you.



Another hugely-successful Warrandyte Festival has come and gone, another triumph for good over evil. How good was it? Well, local police chief Sergeant Keith Walker got notes from out-of-town cops who had been rostered for duty here during festival weekend thanking him for the opportunity to work in such a lovely place with such nice young people. And a regular Warrandyte Market stallholder who works at festivals and shows all around Australia reckons it's one of the very best in terms of atmosphere and enjoyment. John Boyle and crew, you've done it again.



It was a waste of 80 litres of perfectly good jelly and 24 cans of whipped cream and it didn't send out to the world an appropriate message about waste not want not, but the festival Pie Throwing Competition was enormous fun. Contestants of all ages, spectators, pie mak-

val stage and covered in signage entreating you to "Save Our Jeff". What, had our local rag come out of the closet to declare its allegiance to our recently-departed Premier? Bit late to save him, eh? Not too late, though, to save Warrandyte Fire Brigade's community support facilitator Jeff Adair, whose position, as we told you in last month's issue, is under threat.



Denise Farran, who is not unknown to readers of this column, was driving home very gently to Hall Road the other day when the constabulary manning a booze unit outside the strawberry farm invited her to give them a sample of her breath. Perfectly willing to cooperate, Denise wound down her window—or thought she did. A polite clearing of the throat from outside alerted her to the fact that she had actually wound the window up and had the nice policeman's hand holding the breathalyzer inescapably clamped. The young policeman in the tag team started to giggle, which quickly escalated into all-round laughter. Denise, blood alcohol reading zero, eventually went on her way.



Those first real rains we had the other night were the signal to start planting out your garden again after the ravages of summer and Friends of Warrandyte State Park have just the little babies for you at their Pound Bend nursery. They suggest Pink Bells (*Tetradlea ciliata*) and Red Box (*Eucalyptus polyanthemos*) just for starters, but there's lots of other beautiful native stuff to choose from. Give Cathy Willis 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.

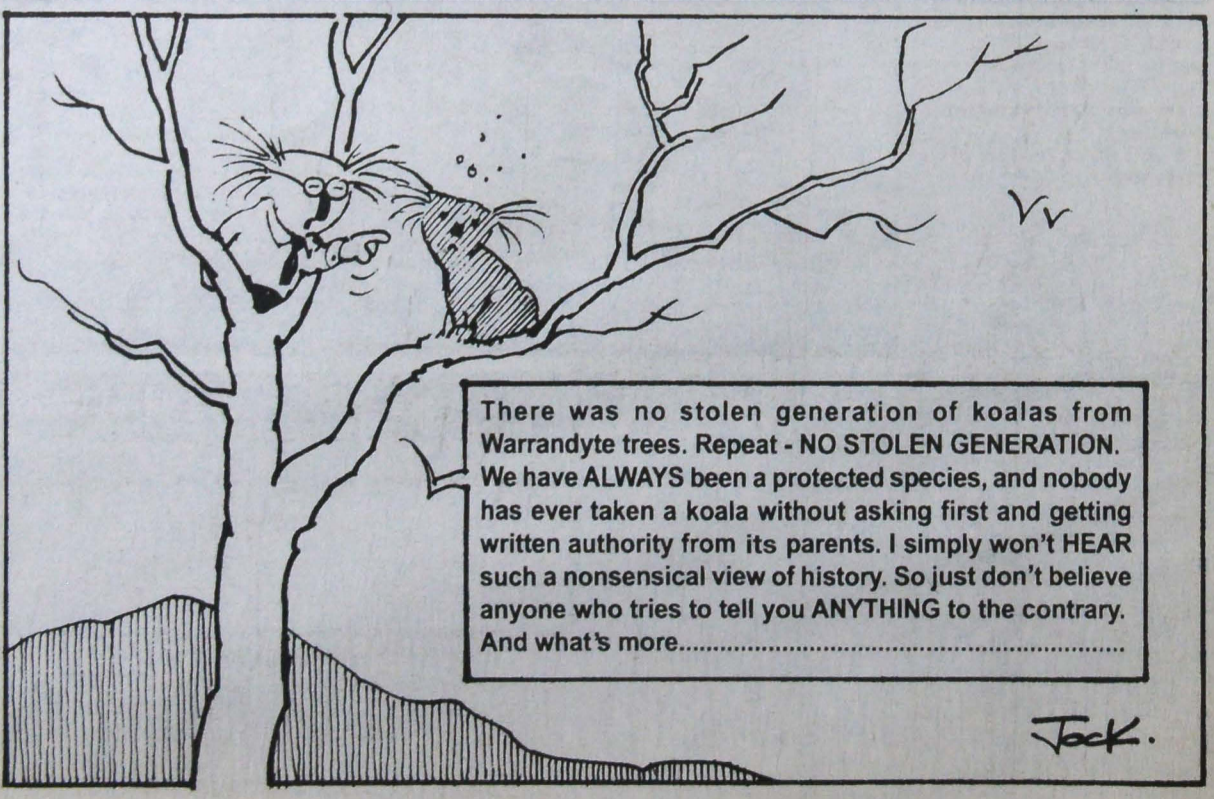
### A SPECIAL PLACE

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.

## SUPPORT YOUR NEIGHBOURS — SHOP LOCALLY

### OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



There was no stolen generation of koalas from Warrandyte trees. Repeat - NO STOLEN GENERATION. We have ALWAYS been a protected species, and nobody has ever taken a koala without asking first and getting written authority from its parents. I simply won't HEAR such a nonsensical view of history. So just don't believe anyone who tries to tell you ANYTHING to the contrary. And what's more.....

Jack.

# They're pushing back boundaries out north

By FIA CLENDINEN

North Warrandyte residents are energetically lobbying Nillumbik council in a battle to have controversial new suburb boundaries abandoned.

As detailed in the February and March issues of the *Diary*, Warrandyte boundaries on the north side of the river have been redrawn, with the result that many locals who have lived in North Warrandyte for years now find their address has changed to Kangaroo Ground, Research or even Eltham.

Residents have been telephoning and doorknocking their neighbours as they discuss the implications of the boundary changes and prepare coordinated campaigns.

Rowan Williams, from Glynn's Road, was critical of Nillumbik council's handling of the boundary review process, claiming that the shire had been largely unsympathetic to community outrage and this showed, "a disconnection with the residents. They really need to take residents' interests much more closely to heart than that".

Mr Williams wrote a joint submission to Nillumbik council on behalf of people in his street. Half of Glynn's Road is still in Warrandyte but properties on the west side, including the North Warrandyte fire station, are now in Research. Properties towards the end of Glynn's and Overbank roads today have an Eltham address.

Mr Williams said there was a strong sense of community amongst the Glynn's and Overbank roads neighbours, with residents organising annual Christmas street parties, as well as participating in Community Fireguard. "Those sorts of activities bring the street together," he said.

Mr Williams also pointed out that there was a marked ecological difference between the steep, heavily wooded slopes of North Warrandyte

and the more open, level farmlands of Research and this formed a natural boundary. "The fact that there is a lot of natural vegetation retained is probably because of the poor soils," he explained. "In general you'd say there's a North Warrandyte feel on the eastern side of that high point in Research-Warrandyte Road."

Geoff Neagle, from Research-Warrandyte Road, was also very critical of the new boundaries, describing them as "absolutely ridiculous".

Mr Neagle said, "It appears as though somebody in one of the government departments had some work experience kid they wanted to keep busy and so they gave him a map of Melbourne and said redraw some boundaries for us. There seems to be absolutely no logic at all in what they did. Fancy putting Kangaroo Ground down the bottom of the hill!"

Although Mr Neagle lives only 200 metres from Glynn's Road his address has always been in Research and remains unaffected by the boundary changes. But he is one of a group of locals who are lobbying to have the boundary pushed further north.

Mr Neagle said despite their Research address, he and his family have "always had a lot more in common with the Warrandyte people".

"The kids all went to school down there, and played in the tennis clubs and the football clubs. My wife has been on the primary school and the high school committee. The vets and the doctors we go to are all in Warrandyte. As well as shopping and the post office."

Mr Neagle said he had discussed the issue with his neighbours and they all definitely agreed that the current boundary between Research and Warrandyte did not reflect the existing community.

"We all started ringing each other, saying let's get the boundary put up where it should be, further towards Research. If they are changing bound-



North Warrandyte CFA at the festival. Their fire station is now in Research! (Picture by Sandy Burgoyne)

aries, we want to extend North Warrandyte back to its true geographical boundary which is somewhere up on top of the hill there."

Mr Neagle also said that Nillumbik council had seriously underestimated the strength of feeling residents have for this area.

"Council really has no idea how much Warrandyte people are passionate about the place they live in and how much they stick together. And I think they got the shock of their life

when this furore developed."

Justin Napier, communication manager with Nillumbik council, advised residents whose properties fall within the new boundaries to continue to use their old address. "What we are saying is where possible hold off on that, treat (the new addresses) as interim, if you like."

Mr Napier also revealed the council had determined to reopen the whole boundary review process and letters will be sent out to all ratepayers in the

municipality, whether or not they had been affected, asking for their views.

He said maps of the former boundaries and the current gazetted boundaries were currently on display at Information Warrandyte, Emergency Operations Centre, Kangaroo Ground, the Eltham library and the Eltham Community Health Centre.

"Hopefully later this year we'll have some adopted boundaries that will reflect community interest," Mr Napier said.

## Hooray for the biggest pumpkin in town!



Jack and Charlie Bullard and their giant pumpkin.

If you've strolled along the river near Forbes Street recently, you probably noticed a giant pumpkin growing in the community garden. It belongs to Warrandyte Primary students Jack and Charlie Bullard and is being grown to enter a Biggest Pumpkin Competition at the year 2000 Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show

to be held between April 12 and 17 at the Exhibition Building.

All Victorian schools were invited to enter the competition Yates supplying pumpkin seeds of the Big Moon variety. Growing hints were also provided.

A number of Warrandyte primary students took up the challenge and Charlie and Jack decided to grow their pumpkin at

the community garden because their family has one of the beds there.

The pumpkins will be judged at the show by well-known garden personalities Kevin Heinze and Jane Edmonson. Prizes will be awarded for the "biggest" and "best dressed" pumpkins. If you go to the show, look out for Jack and Charlie's pumpkin.

## Return of councillors

By CLIFF GREEN

Retiring Mullum Mullum Ward councillors, Lionel Allemant and Patricia Young, were re-elected in the Manningham elections, held last month. This pattern was repeated across the city, with all serving councillors retaining their seats.

The status quo was maintained when all retiring councillors re-nominated and exchanged preferences.

In the count to fill the first vacancy, Cr Allemant, the retiring mayor, scored a clear majority with 7657 first preference votes. Dr Pamela Dry followed with 4751 first preferences. Cr Young and Karen Milward registered 3260 and 1970 first preferences respectively.

However, Cr Young ob-

tained 5594 of Cr Allemant's second preferences and was declared elected to the second vacancy. Final totals for the second vacancy were—Young: 8854; Dry: 6230; Milward: 2554.

Karen Milward was one of three declared Aboriginal candidates standing in municipal elections in Victoria.

Cr Irene Goonan was elected to the first vacancy in Koonung Ward, with Cr Bill Larkin holding second position even after distribution of preferences.

In Ruffey Ward, Cr Bob Beynon was elected to the first vacancy, with Cr Julie Eisenbise coming in third to Conrad Xanthos. However, Cr Eisenbise held her seat with the help of Cr Beynon's preferences.

Cr John Bruce and Cr Geoff Gough were re-elected unop-

posed in Heide Ward.

In a *Diary* survey prior to the elections, Cr Young promised 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 in the wildflower reserve.

She pledged to work to protect the Warrandyte streetscape, for the limitation and rationalization of signage, for environmentally sensitive streetmaking and for council financial assistance for a retirement village.

Cr Allemant did not respond to our survey.

Lionel Allemant has been re-elected, by his fellow councillors, mayor of the City of Manningham for a second consecutive term.

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# Pamela thanks her supporters

Thank you to the Warrandyte community of Mullum Mullum Ward who supported me as a candidate for councillor in the City of Manningham elections in March 2000. My primary vote was 4751 votes, second to the mayor, Lionel Allemand, with half the voters giving me their first or second preferences.

Thank you to my great team of helpers, who encouraged me to nominate as a candidate, who offered suggestions and information for the campaign process, delivered brochures where normal distributors do not and acted as scrutineers on the day votes were counted.

It has been a great learning experience, from the analysis of the way the preference voting system works and realising, as a new candidate, the uphill battle I faced to be elected, to understanding the finer points

## DEAR DIARY

of many council policies. I've certainly met many wonderful people in Mullum Mullum Ward in the election campaign and I thank them for their support.

I'd like to congratulate the successful candidates in Mullum Mullum Ward. I do ask them to consult with the communities about new proposals, to enhance and protect our bushland, Green Wedge, public spaces, wildlife, and preserve the character of the unique communities of Mullum Mullum Ward. I do wish them a wonderful time as councillors.

Pamela Dry  
Timbertop Ridge

# Is pittosporum innocent?



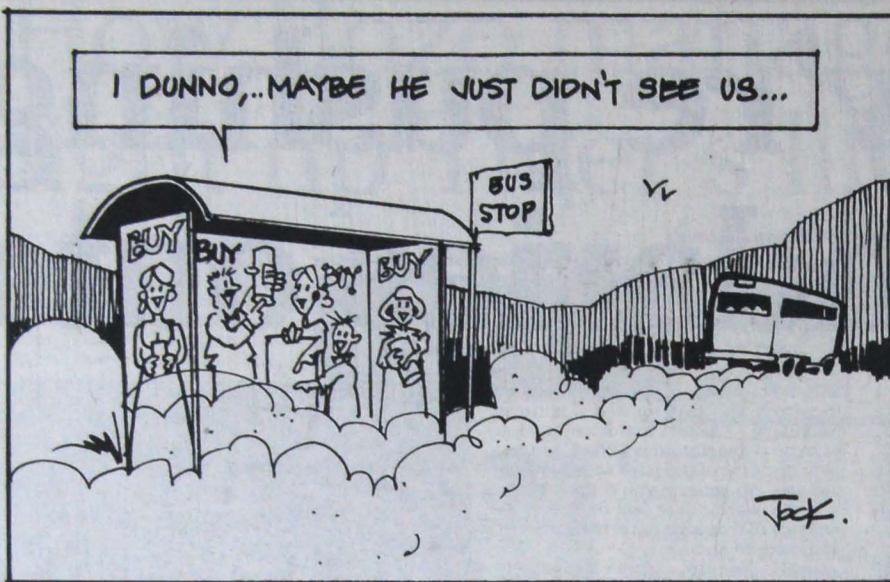
I am concerned that Pat Coupar (Sweet pittosporum turns sour in our hidden gullies; *Diary*, March) is killing the real indigenous plants of Warrandyte because she doesn't realise that vegetation location is not static but shrinks and expands with climate change.

Seventeen ice ages and greenhouse periods over the last two millions years wrought such changes. Then Aboriginal colonisation made a profound interruption of these natural processes. Since Aboriginal burning stopped, fire sensitive rainforest plants like pittosporum have been recolonising

their natural range. Will our manic desire to control stop this natural process?

Pat also seems not to understand "ecological succession", or she would know that indigenous burgan is also a primary coloniser that is trying to address the havoc of "disturbance and fire" to increase fertility and shade so that secondary succession shrubs will establish and finally a stable, climax vegetation of trees.

June English  
Eltham



# Not much shelter beneath 'excuses for hoardings'

I guess nobody at council has ever used a bus or waited for any length of time in an Adshell bus shelter (not that I have but I feel able to comment with one right outside my not quite Warrandyte office).

Yes, I concede they are more pleasant on the eyes, if you exclude the plethora of additional signs. But there is a catch.

Maybe council should go

and sit in one of these "shelters" and see what sort of protection is afforded by the new roof overhead before letting another contract.

Consider protection from the hot sun: yes it works fine at midday, but with the roof constructed so high, shade disappears soon after. Now let's all see council sit under the new "shelters" during a downpour (I realize downpours are uncommon these

days) and see how they like getting soaked through with the slightest of breezes.

I do not think our matured residents should be expected to stand on a raised seat to keep dry or shaded under a so-called shelter.

The designers of these excuses for hoardings must surely be fair weather friends.

Robert Humphris  
North Warrandyte

# Home news welcomed

My name is Chris Chapman. I am 16 and I am a resident of Warrandyte who is currently in Bolivia on a year-long exchange program.

I just thought you might like to know that I am very appreciative of the *Diary* website, which keeps me up to date with what's happening in my town. Thanks a lot.

Chris Chapman  
by e-mail

## CALLING 'NOT BIASED'

The *Diary* has received a letter on the subject of career firemen from "Not Biased", Warrandyte. Would this correspondent please telephone Cliff Green on 9844 2096?

# Border row in Bendigo

The City of Greater Bendigo provided an opportunity for areas within its boundaries to comment on the municipality's response to the proposed geographic name changes.

As a gold-mining field, most gullies had names that had been in use for more than 140 years. Loud were the cries of outrage when it was suggested that some of these be dropped altogether.

Public meetings attracted large attendances. The director of Greater Bendigo council customer services, Barry Secombe, attended the meeting in the Sedgwick public hall. Here residents tried to reach agreement on boundaries of adjoining land districts.

Country Fire Authority personnel were ruthless in demanding that their jurisdiction be the criteria.

Further meetings of Ace Creek residents were held in our private homes. Residents were canvassed.

Eventually Barry Secombe arranged for a deputation to present its case before a panel, which included councillors and heads of all emergency services.

My advice to residents is "Fight to Remain Warrandyte citizens". God speed your cause.

Audrey Dreschler  
Sedgwick

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

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

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# Students face a year of change

By RACHEL BAKER

You are staring down a long, dark tunnel and you can't see a light at the end of it. You spend all your spare time gazing at a computer screen. Every word you write and number you crunch will affect the rest of your life.

You are a year 12 student. But the lives of year 12s are set to be easier this year, according to the Victorian Board of Studies (BOS), which has revamped the VCE.

CATs (Common Assessment Tasks) are out, and SATs (School Assessed Tasks) are in.

The old system had three CATs for each subject: a combination of exams and written projects or essays. In the new system, students are still assessed through exams, but also through SATs, which could be an essay or other project done at school—and coursework.

The idea is that students do their assignments at school, in class time, rather than spending hours and hours drafting material at home.

The new system also aims to reduce cheating. BOS hopes students will be less able to get tutors and parents to do their

work for them.

Warrandyte High School's VCE students are still coming to terms with the changes.

"Since the beginning of year 9 we've been preparing for the old system; we knew it really well," Jess Barber, in year 12 at Warrandyte, said.

"Most year 12 students don't even know how it works," Kate Single, another student, said. "They're confused."

VCE coordinators, Jenny Devitt and Sally Venables, have been trying to help the students adjust. "We've been teaching the kids exam skills, how to deal with 'going blank'," Ms Venables said.

In most SATs, students are presented with a task, which they have not previously seen, but which is based on skills they have developed in class.

They then work on the task for several classes, using plans and notes they have developed, and are able to research and work on the task in between sessions.

Although BOS hopes to stamp out plagiarism and excessive outside assistance, students believe it is still possible to cheat.

For example, teachers could not stop students going into the SAT, rewriting the topic question, going home, getting someone else

to write an essay, then bringing it into the next session of the SAT and rewriting it.

"They say they watch you to see you're not writing down a whole essay, but they can't watch everyone all the time," Giselle Sharko said.

Teachers believe the new system will produce different kinds of students. Better at exams, but "less rounded in other ways—team work, research," Ms Venables said.

Also, because teachers have to rank the students as part of the assessment, students will be more competitive, she said.

Some students, like Danielle Ide Tobin, feel they would get better results under the old system. "I find it easier to work on something over time, with re-drafting," she said.

Students and teachers believe that having assessment during classes leaves less time for coursework. "We have to have early morning classes to fit in all the work," Kate Single said.

But there is more time out of school. "I've had a lot of spare time," she said.

But it seems that the old caffeine-addicted and chained-to-the-computer scenario won't disappear. "The students who want to do well will still do a lot of work," Ms Devitt said.

# Grim lessons of bushfire reality

Over the past few weeks, all students from Warrandyte Primary School have undergone an intensive fire safety course under the direction of Warrandyte CFA's community support facilitator, Jeff Adair. This was part of the Brigades in Schools program, a priority of the CFA.

"Brigades in Schools aims to pass on knowledge, skills and appropriate behaviour during an emergency, a school spokesperson told the *Diary*.

The course teaches personal fire safety, home fire safety, outdoor fire safety and bushfire preparedness. It also introduces children to the CFA's role in the community. Jeff Adair sees his role as two-fold. "We're aiming to educate the children, but we're also getting the message home to their parents," he said.

Both the school and Jeff Adair have committed a considerable amount of time to this important project, with each class, from grades 3 to 6, having two class-based lessons with Jeff, followed by a visit to the fire station to inspect the fire engines and other associated technical gear.

"A visit to the school by the fire engine was the highlight for the Prep to Grade 2 chil-



The community has rallied to support CSF Jeff Adair.

dren," the spokesperson said.

"Students, teachers and parents have greeted the program with enthusiasm."

Young Sebastian Dewhurst commented: "Jeff came to our school and he talked about fire safety and whether to stay or go early in a bushfire. I am more aware of

the fire hazard now."

Callum Glendenning believes his knowledge of fire safety has improved. "I had never known what to do if a fire came around when I was at home or in bed." Georgia Nichol said she "learnt a lot, like roll out of bed and crawl on the floor when there is a house fire".

## Youth art award on again

Applications are now being called for the 2000-01 Warrandyte Youth Arts Award. Sponsored by the Lions Club and organised by the Warrandyte Arts and Education Trust, through the *Diary*, the award is worth \$6000.

Run every two years, it aims to assist young artists with outstanding potential pursue their careers. It was established to mark Warrandyte's special place in the history of Australian art.

Selection of a winner follows assessment of each entrant by noted experts and leaders in each particular field.

Past winners have been: Bridget Liddell (jewellery design) 1989, Gabrielle Davidson (ballet dancer) and Andrew Horne (painter) 1991, Peter Davrington (painter) and Katherine Adcock (singer) 1993, Isla Shaw (theatre designer) 1995, Malcolm Laurence (sculptor) 1997 and James Egglestone (singer) 1999.

• Full details of the award, including application procedures, are published on Page 10.

SO — !

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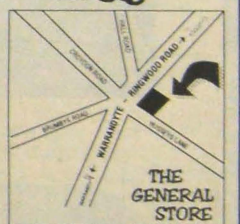
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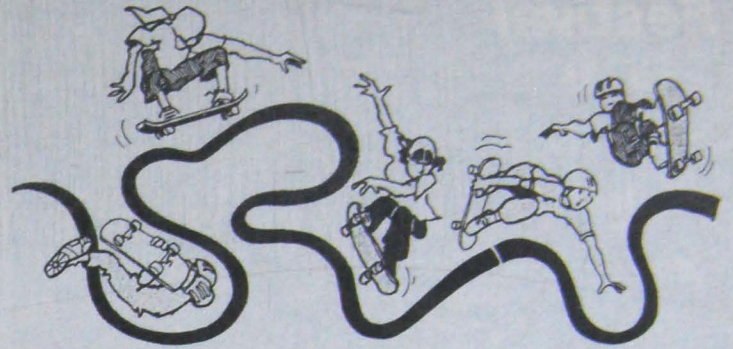
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ABOVE: The kids were king and queen of Warrandyte Festival 2000. (Pictures by Sandy Burgoyne)



## FESTIVAL 2000: RESULTS

### Tennis (serving speed competition)

#### OPEN

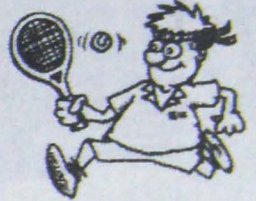
Men Aaron Nolan (193kmph)  
Women Annette Tully (149 kph)

#### BOYS

16 & under Ben Telford (171 kph)  
14 & under Joel Drew (166 kph)  
12 & under Justin Cleaves (155 kph)  
10 & under Tristan Valentino (126 kph)

#### GIRLS

16 & under Katrina Sochacki (137 kph)  
14 & under Linda Stanzel (124 kph)  
12 & under Lauren Reid (104 kph)  
10 & under Ashlee Robinson (101 kph)



### Rotary Art Show

1st Helen Edwards  
2nd Do Noble  
3rd Lorraine Wigrift

### Youth Art Show

Painting: Kain Picken  
Drawing/Sketching: Peter Boyle  
Sculpture: Kate McKee  
Photography: Jo Nixon  
Pastel: Alicia Teather

### Pie Throwing

"Treat Throwers"  
(Nixon family)



### Duck Race

1st Dane Barber  
2nd Jack Eadie

### Parade

Best Overall: Warrandyte and District Pre-school  
Most Colourful: Warrandyte Primary School  
Most Imaginative: Junior's Farm Child Care Centre  
Best Costume: Anderson's Creek Primary School  
Most Warrandytish: 1st Warrandyte Scout Group  
Most Comical: Warrandyte Football Club



### Billycart Derby

1st	Jace Ransom	DADS	1st	Dion Borg
2nd	Casey Carter		2nd	Ian Ransom
3rd	Sean Pinder		3rd	Doug Hodges

# Memories of festivals through the ages

EVERY year, the people of Warrandyte have their festival. The elements are so familiar: it starts with the parade and ends with the fireworks; there's a lot of music in between; the waterslide is set up about 50 metres east of the main stage and there's never a shortage of ethnic food and hippy jewellery. But, somehow, every festival is different.

The festival is 23 years old now. A generation of Warrandyteans share this age; they have grown up with the festival.

A 20 year-old has a completely different two days now than they did 15 years ago. Then the parade wasn't lots of squealing kids and banked-up traffic, it was a performance.

To look back on it now, things are very hazy: balloons, face paint and trucks. And fun. Everything was fun.

But any moment could quickly become terrifying. If Mum or Dad disappeared in the crowd, even for a second, the five-year-old's life flashed before their eyes. They wished they had never left their bedroom that morning.

RACHEL BAKER, who has grown up at the Warrandyte Festival, remembers how it used to be.

This dependence on Mum and Dad didn't last long. As a pre-teen, they were allowed out on the Sunday night, because Mum and Dad were going out, too. Mum had packed a lovely dinner: cold chicken and salad and bread. Yippee. The 11-year-old wanted a giant candy dummy for dinner.

And no, they didn't want to sit on the picnic rug with Mum and Dad and watch Paradiddle. They wanted to have fun. They wanted to run off into the darkness. And they wanted one of those fluorescent tubes that all the other kids had around their necks. But Dad said, "No, you're not getting one of those things, it'll give you cancer".

But the family was still good for a few things. You could still hit them for a plastic cup of lemonade and some money for hot chips.

Some time before this phase of frustration was the period of gadget obsession.

No longer a child, the festival-goer was a "kid". And kids wanted things. They didn't want clothes or things that decorated their bedroom, they just wanted useless pieces of stuff.

Like a water-filled birdsong maker. They came in all sorts of colours and patterns. They were shaped like little birds; you filled them with water, then you sang away.

At this stage, the festival-goer still liked their parents. But they could get grumpy very quickly if Mum and Dad didn't share their logic about the absolute necessity of a magic dream-catcher.

A big change in the life of the festival-goer happened when they were allowed to go to the rock concert. No longer stuck with Mum and Dad; pestering for a drink or a glow-in-the-dark tube, or hanging around and annoying older brothers and sisters. Now they could do their own thing.

They arranged to meet friends next to the bridge or the bus shelter. They would stand outside in the freezing cold night, pretending not to notice the temperature, clutching illicit

(and freezing cold!) drinks in cans.

The police would waltz by every now and then. Being under-aged made the teenagers feel so old. They whinged about not being old enough to drive and buy alcohol, but they liked being in that in-between place. It meant they had more fun than real kids did, but they weren't boring like adults.

Around this time, the festival was the highlight of the local social calendar. Young people would sit in social science class and think about it. Whose house will we stay at? Will we walk down or get Mum to drive us? They would endeavour to get the teacher to set assignment due dates well after festival weekend.

But this phase didn't last long. Soon they had part-time jobs. This meant they spent their own money at the festival. No more running back to mum for every snack and gadget. But it also meant they had to work. The whole weekend was no longer theirs.

Before long, going to the festival became a bit of an effort. After selling newspapers or milkshakes or shoes all day, they didn't really feel like walking up and down the hills,

looking at toffee apples and listening to folk music.

And who would want to go to the rock concert? A bunch of kids, running around in Doc Martens, drinking cheap alcohol.

During the life of a Warrandytean, there are phases during which they feel they don't belong. But nostalgia still draws them back. Wouldn't it be great to catch up with so-and-so, and have a cup of coffee?

They go and look at the kids going down the waterslide: that looks so cold, how can they do it?

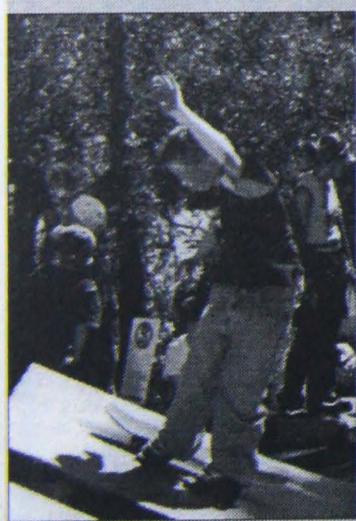
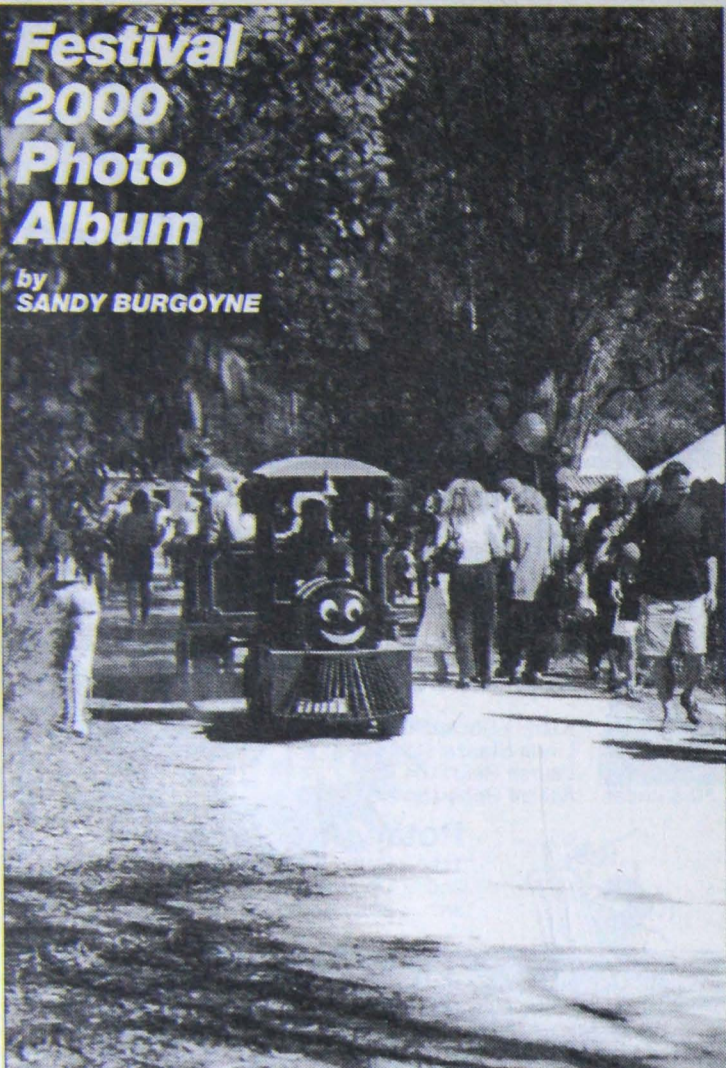
Now, on the cusp of adulthood, the Warrandytean has a new experience of the festival.

They walk around the homewares stalls—not at all bored, but thinking how they would love to have a house with that timber coffee table in it. They hear kids screaming, and they're not annoyed. They're remembering how the simplest things excited them.

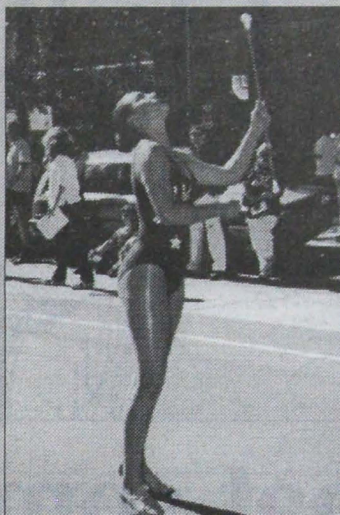
And they wonder what it will be like, one day in the far away, distant future, when they watch their own children, with fairy floss and a painted-on possum face, running around at the Warrandyte Festival.

# Festival 2000 Photo Album

by SANDY BURGOYNE







Copies of these and many more festival pix available from Sandy Burgoyne: 9844 2680.



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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  
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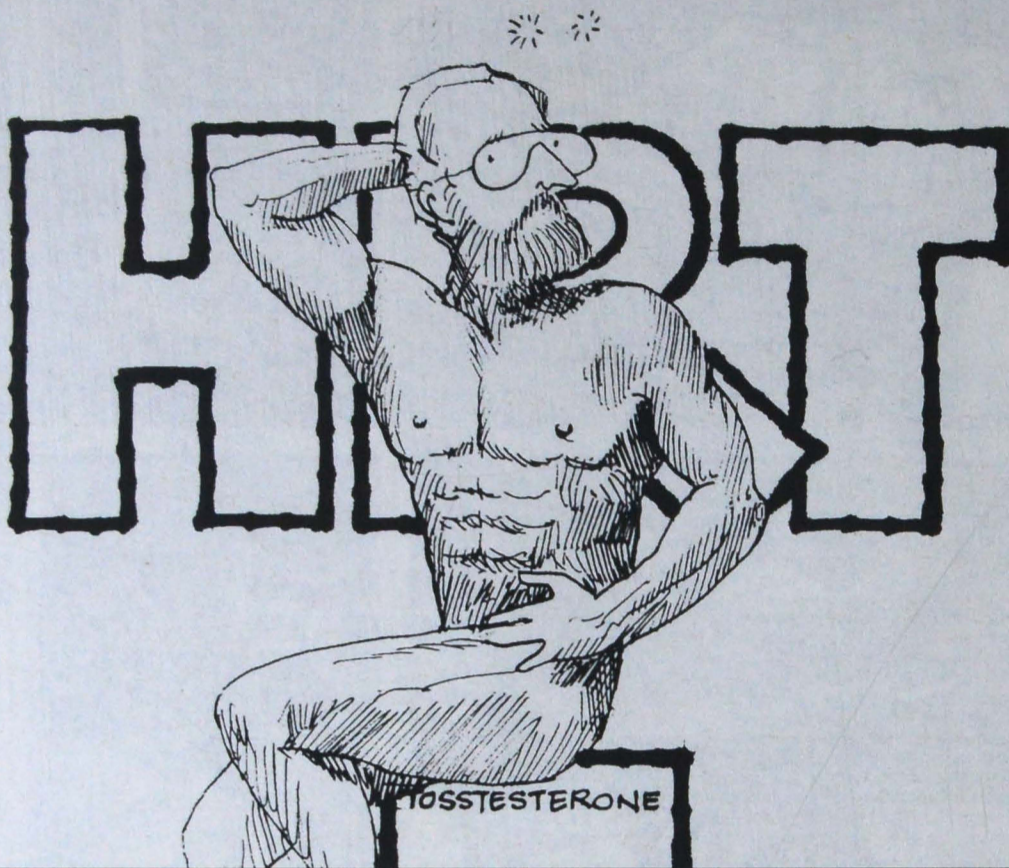
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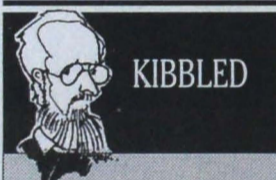
**What comes naturally, is a natural part of life**

**W**HY is it that Nature is always spoken of as a mother? Mother Nature decides this and Mother Nature doesn't like that. As far as I can see Nature is anything but a mother.

Real mothers are supportive. They are solicitous of their children's welfare. They stop offspring from self-harm and from the evil machinations of others. Agreed? Well, if that's what ordinary mothers are supposed to do, then it only stands to reason that Mother Nature should be super caring and super concerned about not allowing harm to come to her offspring. She would be arrogant enough to produce a faultless product; one that doesn't require mending, fixing or replacing. A casual reminiscence about one's life is evidence enough to prove that the gender theory about Nature is a load of old cobbles.

My theory is that nature, at best, is a grumpy old man who has had a gutful of the milk of human kindness and has decided to take it easy and let the whole kit and kaboodle run down a bit.

For millennia he was fired with the enthusiasm of youth. For aeons he produced perfect specimens of human kind. His products were the Greek gods and goddesses. The marbly-limbed creatures who drifted through life, never ageing and never contracting any illnesses. Falls from unicorns led to



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**"Nature, at best, is a grumpy old man who has had a gutful of the milk of human kindness."**

wounds that healed instantly, to fractures that mended into limbs even more beautiful than the originals. Fussed over constantly, by a young, enthusiastic Nature, humans never aged. They developed more wisdom and their faces developed character without wrinkles.

All this was possible because Nature cared. He'd just finished his apprenticeship as a humanist, working part-time with God whilst attending the local TAFE college two days a week. He enjoyed the aesthetics and reproductive aspects of the course but he easily became bored during the health and ethics lectures. He often skipped classes and on those occasions could be found sneaking into Heaven to watch

The Old Master playing around with seeing how many angels he could fit onto a pin's head or how He could have birds die without falling out of the sky in unattractively large numbers.

When it was Nature's turn to play around with humanity, he got most of the jobs done reasonably but because there were gaps in his training, he was a little hazy about all the details so he fudged a bit. He was very slick when it came to surface finish but the internal workings were a bit wonky and had to be regularly serviced. In other words, unless he was on the ball all the time, faults began to show up and God began to receive letters of complaint about Nature being unfair and at times, downright cruel.

By the second millennia, he'd become a bit like me; cranky, and just a bit careless about details. Which is why I shouldn't be surprised that I have to go to the local witch doctor for something to stop me from wanting to sleep all the time. Well, not all the time, but more like as soon as I come home from work, during Saturday and Sunday afternoons, late into the mornings, just a quick nap during the seven o'clock news, whilst waiting at traffic lights, between the courses at dinner time and during the impossibly long time that it takes for the cat to eat her dinner.

Herself, in her normal understanding and concerned fashion, attempted to solve the problem by tipping me off the

couch, dribbling water on my face, yelling "Boo!" just as I was drifting into the arms of Morpheus and by some heavy arbitration about the consequences of me continuing my self-indulgent kipping.

I tried to argue that it was natural and that there was nothing wrong with the occasional zed. Until she came up with unimpeachable evidence from a magazine she had just read in the hairdressing salon. Evidently, men too, can benefit from HRT.

When women get to the age when Nature ran out of energy and decided to call it quits, modern witch doctors come to the rescue by providing hormone replacement therapy to compensate for Nature's supervision slackness. Evidently, this stops them from becoming tetchy, from putting on weight and generally wanting to chew on and spit out nails.

Males, so the article stated, need a bit of testosterone boost once they reach the magic birthday. Without it, they may want to sleep too much, realise that the motor is running but feel that the hand brake is full on and wish they could remember why a Viagra shot would be a great idea.

Grudgingly, I've agreed to give HRT a go and in doing so I've discovered my reflexes are still as sharp as ever.

Perhaps Herself Replacement Therapy wasn't what she had in mind.

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# The art of curling leaves and spinning wheels

**T**HE time had come for the leaf-curling spider to find a new home. Her dead leaf shelter was damaged beyond repair, but there were plenty more to choose from littered across the forest floor.

Under the cover of darkness the spider abandons her ragged leaf and sets out in search of a suitable site for her new residence which, like a kit home, she would have to assemble herself. Finding a desirable location, between low vegetation on a narrow foot track, she spins a silken scaffolding onto the foliage. Then, abseiling down to the ground, she selects a fallen leaf, attaches a thread and hauls it up pulley-wise to the woven frame, tethering it in position with ropes of silk. The leaf, now slung like a hammock between the two bushes, must next be curled.

Once again this ingenious spider makes use of her unlimited supply of silk by spinning threads from one side of the leaf to the other. As the silk dries it shrinks, thereby pulling the two edges of the leaf together to form a cylindrical refuge. With the home-building complete she retires for the day into the deepest corner of her brand new abode.

As darkness returns and the temperature falls, the leaf curler goes to work on construction of the wheel web. First come the radials, the spokes of the wheel—over 60 of them. These are painstakingly followed by the cross-threads. To avoid getting trapped by her own sticky spiral, the spider builds a platform of non-adhesive silk, suspended from the scaffolding. Unlike some orb-weaving spiders, the leaf curler's web is a messy affair,



By PAT COUPAR  
Drawn by MELANIE COUPAR

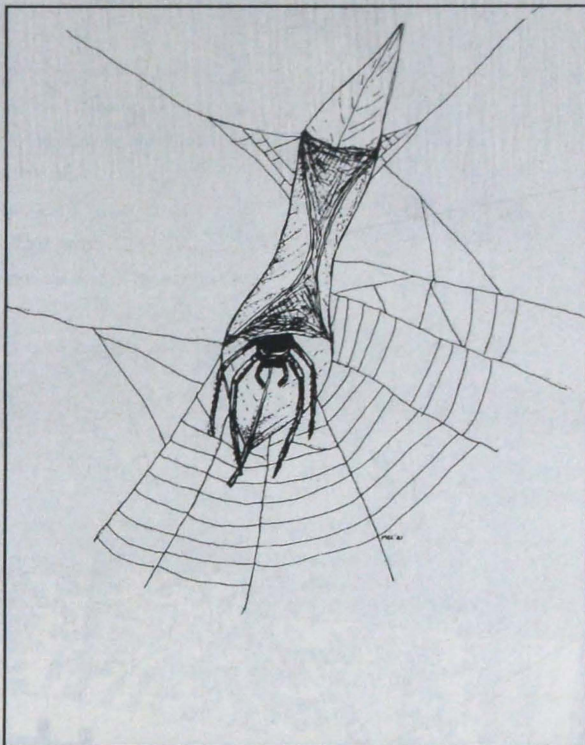
incomplete due to the presence of the leaf shelter which adds security and sophistication at the expense of symmetry.

With the last strand of her snare in place, the spider returns to the curled leaf, positioning herself just inside the entrance of the hideaway. Her spindly front legs protrude through the small opening—tarsal claws, like fingertips, remaining in contact with the gossamer filaments ready to detect the slightest vibration which could mean a meal or even a mate.

The meal arrives first—a fly has blundered headlong into the net. The nimble spider sprints out to confront the struggling insect and, panning out reams of silk, swaddles it in silver-white ribbons. Once the fly is immobilized the spider bites it, injecting venom through her needle-sharp fangs. The unfortunate victim is then dragged back to the security of the retreat to be eaten at leisure.

The spider's venom contains digestive fluids that break down the tissues of the prey—spiders are not equipped to eat solid food, their diet is strictly liquid. Using the base of her fangs she squeezes the internal juices from the fly's body. A row of hairs on her upper lip act as strainers to filter out solid particles of food as they are siphoned through the mouth into the stomach.

Her suitor, when he comes, approaches cautiously. He does



not want to be mistaken for her next dinner. For some spiders, mating is an unavoidable act of suicide, but the leaf curler tolerates her mate better than most, she may even invite him into her leaf shelter for a brief honeymoon period. But his days are numbered anyway, they are a short-lived species and even the females do not live much beyond a year.

The leaf-curling spider is one of the commonest spiders of suburban gardens and open for-

est, although the spider itself is seldom seen. Sometimes their rolled dried leaves will catch onto clothing as we walk through the bush. We brush them off, unaware for the most part, of the arachnid hiding inside. The best way to see these spiders in action is by going out after dark with a torch. Only then is it possible to appreciate the mastery of the weavers as they carry out their craft of curling leaves and spinning wheels.

## Stating the delightfully obvious

**O**NE of the things that Douglas Adams' legendary alien Ford Prefect always found hardest to understand about humans was their habit of stating and repeating the very obvious, as in "It's a nice day", or "You're very tall", or "Oh dear, you seem to have fallen down a 30 foot well, are you alright?"

At first Ford had formed a theory to account for this strange behaviour. If human beings don't keep exercising their lips, he thought, their mouths probably seize up. After a few months' consideration and observation he abandoned his theory in favour of a new one. If they don't keep on exercising their lips, he thought, their brains stop working.

Mr Prefect got things back to front. Nothing kicks the brain into top gear like having to make a speech. And whilst a fully prepared lecture on differential calculus might cause no more than a few palpitations, for most people an impromptu speech on even the most trivial subject is guaranteed to trigger a dose of third degree panic.

Yet as Ford noticed during his time on Earth (researching the



next edition of Hitch-hikers' Guide To The Galaxy), humans don't have a problem with casual chatter. I wouldn't mind a dollar for every time somebody smiled and said "Nice day" down at the festival last month. And contrary to Ford's observation, they weren't necessarily stating the obvious. They were merely summing it up in time-honoured fashion. Perhaps it's a bit subtle for the uninitiated. "Nice day" at the Warrandyte Festival is shorthand not only for expressing relief at the gorgeous weather, but also appreciation of the huge crowd, delight in the colourful market stalls, pleasure at the sight of familiar faces, pride at waving to assorted offspring in the parade,

vast enjoyment of festivities in progress (not to mention a bag of steamingly delicious CFA donuts), combined with a glow of gleeful anticipation for the forthcoming entertainment at the follies.

There is in fact a whole paragraph of meaning implicit in this use of the expression "Nice day". In contrast, stating the obvious would entail boring people to death by enumeration of all the contributing factors.

Take another example. Let's say the festival parade had been washed out. In the following conversation, each person would understand the other perfectly:

First person: Lousy weather. (Pity about the rain. We certainly need it; if only it held off until after the fireworks. All those poor kids who got soaked during the parade probably didn't get home into dry clothes for hours. What a mudbath! And this wind must be giving the stallholders hell. The proceeds will be down, which is a great shame for all the fundraising groups. Still, can't be helped. Wish I'd brought an umbrella though. Might head home in a couple

of minutes.)

Second person: Yeah. Been busy? (It's good to catch up with a few people. Take yourself, for instance. I haven't seen you since last year's festival. Are you still employed/married/living in Warrandyte?)

First person: Pretty much the same. (Haven't seen this guy for ages, but the name keeps cropping up in the school newsletter, so they're still around.) Yourself? (Wasn't one of his kids in some sort of trouble?)

Second person: Good. (We've had our share of problems...) Yeah. (... but nothing I can't deal with.)

No wonder giving an impromptu speech seems like a near death experience. When people say "Unaccustomed as I am to public speaking..." what they mean is "Accustomed as I am to communicating with you in a manner which avoids any direct statement of the obvious..."

Thus it seems Ford Prefect couldn't have been further from the truth. And I must admit that's a bit of a relief, really. It probably means that, despite his conviction to the contrary, the world won't end on Thursday after all.

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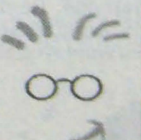
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Sunday, February 13, 2000

Greetings from France.

I found the attached letter from a family in Warrandyte amongst the things left by my mother-in-law who died in August 1998.

We live in a small village near the border with Belgium and close to the town of Ypres which was the scene of violent fighting in the First World War. I know that many Australian soldiers came to support the French and that many of them stayed on to live permanently in France.

My mother-in-law was five when the troops arrived in France (1917) and I have no more information dating from that time.

It really is a small world and I had never heard of your small village on the other side of the world.

With kind regards,  
Christian Clement

Note: the name on the letterhead is Robins, Warendyte (?) I have tried to decipher the writing.

(E-mail, translated from the French.)

ROBINS  
WARRANTYTE

28th April 1917

Dear Madame

*I'm writing to thank you for everything you are doing for my husband. He has often told me about your kindness and how comfortable he feels in your home.*

*Australia is very far away from you, but I hope that one day it may be possible for me to thank you in person.*

*No-one can relax while this war continues, but I feel some consolation knowing that my husband is among friends.*

*Our small son sends his best wishes to your little girl. He is too young to write a letter.*

Kind regards and thanks,  
Edith Boyd

(Translated from the French.)

# Words across the world

**T**HE people of Ypres still remember the Australians. Since February 1915, British troops—mainly Welsh and Northumberland miners—had been “mining” Hill 60, two and a half miles from the Belgian town of Ypres, close to the French border, in an attempt to penetrate deep beneath the German front line.

It was a desperate underground war in which the dangerous occupation of mining was made even more deadly by the presence of enemy troops, perhaps in drives above or below, or frantically digging towards the sounds of approaching tunneling. Hand-to-hand fighting, cataclysmic explosions and deliberately collapsed workings all added to the miners' daily hazards. Enemy gas shells were dropped down ventilation shafts and fired up tunnels, greatly increasing the ever-present danger of naturally occurring gas.

The 1st Australian Tunnelling Company replaced a Canadian unit on November 9, 1916. The soldiers were mostly working miners, led by officers who were qualified mining engineers. They soon made their presence felt. Operating pumps and manning listening posts hard against the deep German bunkers was never challenging enough for the diggers. “These Australian companies were exceptionally effective, provided they were given some vital task to work off their energies,” a senior British officer reported, somewhat patronisingly.

Theodore Penleigh Boyd joined the AIF at Ascot Vale, Melbourne, on November 25, 1915. He was 25 years of age. His place of residence was Warrandyte, his “trade or calling” artist. He named his wife, Susan Edith Gerard Boyd, also of Warrandyte, as his next of kin. He was posted to the Mining Corps.

Penleigh's father, Arthur Merric Boyd, studied to become an engineer, but had never worked in that profession and was by this time recognised as a landscape painter. Although Penleigh had settled in a gold-mining district, there is no evidence that he ever worked underground. He arrived in France on May 5, 1916. Army records suggest that he may have been employed as a “motor driver” in the Elec-

As Anzac Day approaches, CLIFF GREEN tells the story of a young Warrandyte artist who, in 1917, suffered on a battlefield in France.

trical and Mechanical Mining Unit, to which he was transferred on October 7, 1916; in time for active service in the hell-wracked battlefields around Ypres.

We do not yet know the name of the French family who befriended and billeted Penleigh Boyd during this period, but we do know that Edith Boyd felt moved to write—in French—from Warrandyte (see letter, this page), thanking them and commenting, “No-one can relax while this war continues, but I feel some consolation knowing that my husband is among friends”. Edith concluded: “Our small son sends his best wishes to your little girl. He is too young to write a letter”.

The “little girl” cherished this letter. Following her death in August 1998 her papers passed to her son-in-law, Christian Clement. He noted the heading, “Robins, Warrandyte” found the Diary on the internet and made contact. At first it was thought that “Robins” was a family name, but when the material reached this office, we realised it referred to The Robins, the charming attic house Penleigh Boyd built, just across the bridge in Kangaroo Ground Road. The house is still standing.

The great mines complex at Hill 60 was destroyed by the Australians in a series of massive explosions on June 17, 1917. The resulting craters were 60 feet deep and 260 feet wide and 90 feet deep and 334 feet wide. The Germans lost 687 men and officers, killed by the explosions.

Sergeant Boyd remained in the war zone for 11 months, until he was wounded in action—gassed—on September 6, 1917. He was evacuated to a hospital in England where, although he appeared to have recovered from the direct effects of the gas attack, he was diagnosed as suffering from a “cardiac disability”.

His brother Martin Boyd, later well known as an Australian novelist, met him at Sutton Veny following his release from hospital. Martin was serving as a subaltern in the Royal Flying Corps and had also recently returned from active service in France.

“My brother, who was more courageous but less insensitive than I had become, was oppressed by the thought of the accumulated pain of the war. There was a weight of sadness on our meeting, especially in these surroundings far from home...and also because every meeting during the war was likely to be the last,” Martin Boyd wrote.

Penleigh Boyd was invalided home. He embarked on the troopship Euripides for Australia on January 30, 1918. He was discharged from the AIF on April 27, 1918 and returned to live in Warrandyte with Edith and his small son Pat.

Theodore Penleigh Boyd was born at Penleigh House, Wiltshire on August 15, 1890. His father (Arthur Merric) and mother (Emma Minnie) were professional artists. Penleigh studied at the Melbourne National Gallery School, painting at Warrandyte during weekends. He arrived in London in 1911 and was soon exhibiting at the Royal Academy.

During a period in Paris, Penleigh occupied a studio next to E. Phillips Fox, who introduced him to his model, the painter Edith Susan Gerard Anderson. Edith's beautiful red-haired image has been celebrated in a number of Phillips Fox's most notable paintings. Penleigh and Edith married in Paris on October 15, 1912.

Their first child, son Pat, was born before the war. He was to become a Second World War air ace, was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and became test pilot for TAA.

Penleigh wasted no time on his return to Warrandyte in 1918. In 1919, their second son, Robin, was born. He was to become one of Australia's most celebrated architects and a leading social commentator. Also in 1919, Penleigh painted Breath Of Spring, an inspired portrayal of wattles along the Yarra at Warrandyte, now in the collection of the National Gallery of Victoria.

The Robins was a happy meeting place for

many of Penleigh's talented friends and relations. Among them was his cousin Joan A'beckett Weigall (later Lindsay), then a student at the National Gallery School, and his brother Martin Boyd.

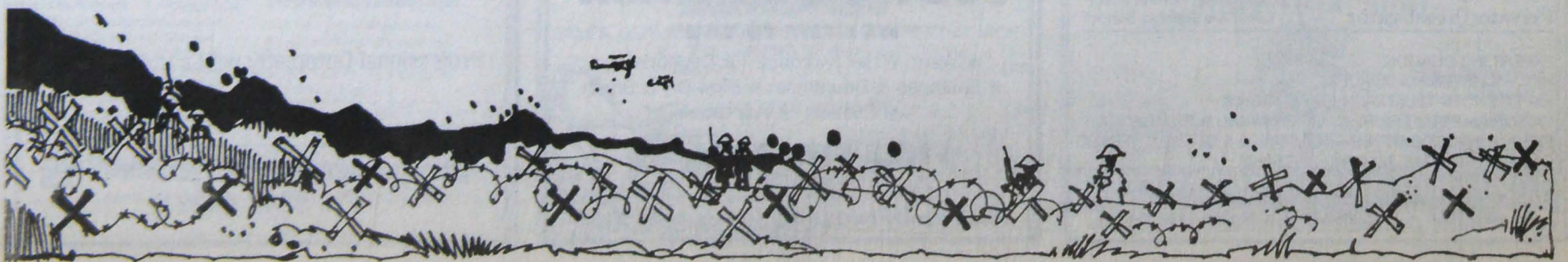
“My brother Penleigh was at this time at the height of his success, which was to end so tragically within two years,” Martin wrote. “In his own way, he has since been treated in Australia much as Rupert Brooke in England. He lived at Warrandyte, and his closeness to and love of the natural world he expressed with the lyrical loveliness that is anathema today, but which will return, and quite soon, as it is an eternal part of man's longing.” Martin was to immortalise The Robins and Warrandyte—“the place of the sad saplings”—in his novel *Outbreak Of Love*.

Although still suffering the effects of gas and a damaged heart, Penleigh staged one-man shows in 1920, 1921 and 1922. In September 1923 the federal government sponsored him on a trip to England, where he chose works for an exhibition of contemporary European art to tour Australia, including pieces by Augustus John, Sir William Orpen, William Strang and Dame Laura Knight.

He was driving to Sydney in connection with this exhibition when, on November 23, 1923, his car overturned on the Princes Highway near Warragul and he was killed. He was buried in Brighton cemetery. Was he yet another victim—among the millions—of “the war to end wars”? Had his battle-damaged heart failed him at this critical moment? We will never know.

Eighty-four years on from the time when this young, sensitive interpreter of the natural world was thrown willy-nilly into a choking, blinding, burning holocaust, a family living in a village, perhaps much like our own, has reached out across cyberspace and made contact in a spirit of gratitude and warm friendship. Another small tile falls into place in the mosaic that is the Anzac legend.

● Thanks to Richard Morton (historical research), Hazel Rice, Helena Adair, Heather Farmer (French translations), Sandy Burgoyne (internet editor).



DON CHARLWOOD marks Anzac Day 2000 with the fervent hope that the century of world wars has passed.

**D**URING the last minutes of the old century we joined the crowd moving in the dark down Yarra Street to the bridge. The old were holding arms or hands; there were infants in prams and all the ages between. As we stood together above the river we counted the 20th century down. We embraced, joined in Auld Lang Syne, surging back and forth across the grass, then watched showers of fireworks arch from the bridge into the new night.

Gone, I thought, is the century of two world wars! As the earth turned there would be outpourings of hope in country after country, hope that such cataclysms would never happen again. Wars there would still inevitably be, but surely never such world-wide convulsions. For our generation and our parents' generation they had been monstrous markers in our lives; everything else was related to them. "Before the war", we said, and, "After the war".

Parents born 100 and more years ago first used the terms. "Tom married just before the war"; "Julia died the year after the war". Those parents meant the First World War, the Great War of 1914-18, the "war to end war". That was their war. Its sacrifices had made our world safe; we revered the Anzacs for it. But then Nazism was spawned and the unthinkable came: our war. Ever after that our generation has looked back nostalgically on a halcyon youth before the war—before 1939. In the new century these expressions will soon vanish. May they never return!

In the war I knew awhile, with the RAAF in Bomber Command, men avoided using "after the war"; it would have been reckoned tempting providence. A poet\* of the time wrote a sonnet that spoke for us. It began:

*We are now masters of the present tense,  
Having imposed upon ourselves a law  
Prohibiting the future...*

Even so, I remember clear signs of hope among our aircrew. I noticed them in September 1942 when we arrived at the Royal Air Force station Elsham Wolds, high in Lincolnshire. Our posting was to the heavy bomber squadron there, the culmination of 18 months of training; now we were to "dice with death", as common parlance had it. We were allocated beds in a long, camouflaged hut, desolate-looking in the late afternoon light. The aircrew sergeants already occupying most of it were out; their grey blankets were folded around their pillows in the regulation way. The hut was cold, the pot-bellied stove long out. Beside each bed was a low chest of drawers. On most of these was a photograph of a girl, the girl of some unknown man's longings, the one with whom he shared intimate secrets, probably the girl he hoped to marry. Intimations enough, surely, of hope for life after the war.

Most of the photographs had been taken in studios and were back-lit in the manner of the day, the girls' hairstyles resembling those of contemporary film stars, their eyes longing, their lips slightly parted. Most were girls from the British Isles since most aircrew on the station were RAF. Besides, Dominion men tended to carry photographs in their wallets to minimize their load of kit. The photographs contrasted with everything else in the hut—the uniformity of folded blankets, the bare floor-

boards, the folding metal beds, the ash spilled from the dead stove.

We already knew that RAF men could see their girls any time they went on leave. At first we envied them, but now we realised this wasn't as good as it seemed: to say goodbye to a girl in the early hours of the morning with the likelihood of flying over Germany that same night had a terrible unreality to it, a possible but unutterable finality.

*...The once immense  
Treasure of words is halved as we withdraw  
Into this moment only, now, today...*

On the evening of that first day the absent men came tramping back into the hut, their manner subdued. They had not long been briefed for a target somewhere in Germany.

There was little opportunity to do more than exchange names with a few of them. Predominantly they were RAF, but there were Canadians and Australians among them and a couple of New Zealanders. With their arrival the hut looked for all the world like the senior dormitory of a third-rate boarding school. Some of the men, in fact, had actually come from school straight into the Air Force. Their average overall was between 22 and 23. Some of us pulled the average up: I, a navigator, had just turned 27, my pilot was 26.

We regarded these men with respect: they were already operational; some had done 10 or 12 operations over Europe of the 30 required of us. We had not even started our four-engine conversion. We looked at them as if

their demeanour might tell us something of ourselves in another couple of weeks. They were restrained, monosyllabic, preoccupied. We wished them luck as they left. After dark, as we were settling to sleep, we heard their planes roar overhead. At the sound we drew our blankets closer.

In the early hours of the morning we were aware of the operational men returning to the hut, aware too there weren't as many of them. I had feelings of unreality: we had seen no battle, no stricken planes, the loss was so quick, so unobtrusive, so out of place in this secure hut. When we got up the survivors were still sleeping; several of the beds near them were empty. The girls smiling from these photographs had no-one to cast them the usual affectionate glance.

Before we left for breakfast three men from the euphemistically-named Committee of Adjustment came in and emptied the contents of chests of drawers into each missing man's kitbag; there too went the girl of his hopes for life together after the war. The bedclothes were taken, the bare metal bed left for a newcomer. Somewhere girls were waking to this day not yet knowing.

Within a couple of weeks most of the operational men around us vanished, their girls' photographs vanishing with them. This was it then. For most of us there wasn't going to be an "after the war". Replacements streamed in, men from many countries. The supply seemed endless—the best of men, carefully selected, thoroughly trained, most bringing photographs to replace those gone. Few of the men lasted long enough for us to get to know them. We were soon among the senior operational crew.

We moved out of barracks into rooms, all seven of us. The skipper and I, the only Australians in the crew, roomed together. The rest of the crew were RAF; three of them were making the ultimate gamble on living after the war; they were married. Our rear gunner's wife was pregnant and suffering much anxiety. In the end her baby only lived an hour. An unrecognized casualty of war.

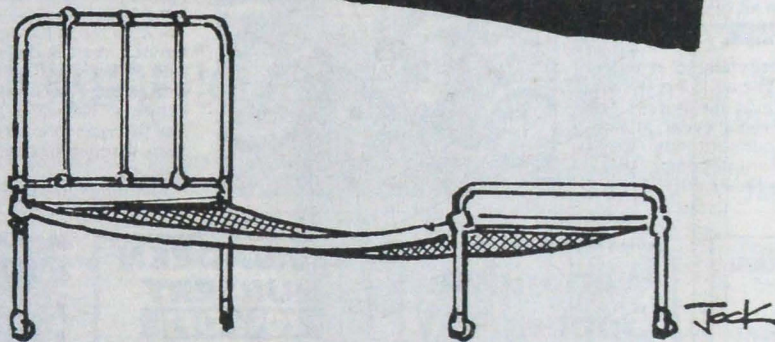
In the room we shared I did as others had done: put a photograph of the girl I hoped to marry. It became a talisman for me. I stood it in its leather holder at the back of the navigator's table of our Lancaster and raised a cup of coffee to it each time we neared home. One night, low over the Danish coast, light flak missed it by inches, leaving a jagged hole in the fuselage, wounding the wireless operator, putting his set out of action. A day or two later I saw the holed panel on a hangar floor where the Lancaster was being repaired. On an impulse I retrieved it and put it into my kitbag.

*...The silence aches  
With unuttered dreams of child and home  
and peace  
And life at last together...*

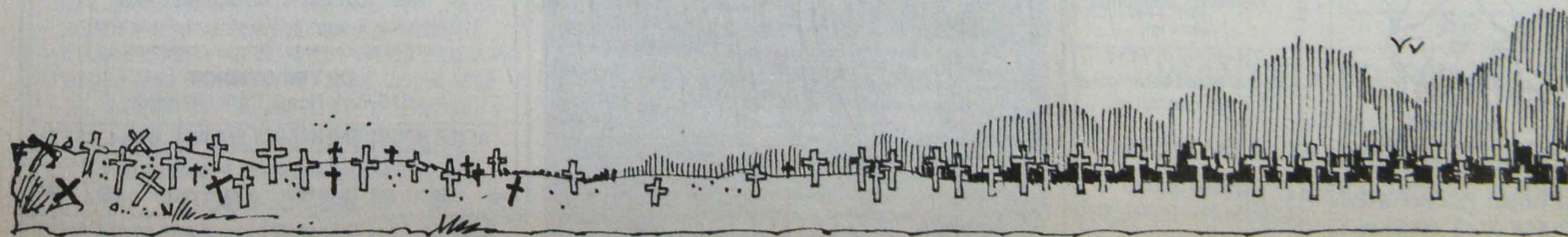
Anzac Day 1943; I am taking off in a Lancaster for the last time. Not for Germany; all that is over for us, our 30 operations are completed. A friend is flying me south on a new posting. "Half your luck!" he says. I answer, "I bequeath you the lot." Alas, it proves unavailing.

But enough! I want to escape to the present, to the reassuring river. At this desk where I write I can glance at the photograph in its leather holder. The holed Lancaster panel of 1943 kicked about our home for 50 years, then, unannounced, the girl of the photo had it mounted for my 80th birthday, the names of our crew beneath it. I'll look at it again this Anzac Day and think, Never again! Never again a world war.

\* Marya Mannes



## Of a time well gone



# Toy library charms kids

Words by KARA WILLIAMS  
Pictures by SARAH JONES

Did you know there was a children's toy library in Warrandyte? Located at the North Warrandyte Community Centre, which is also the home of the Yarra Warra Pre-School, the library has been serving local kids for 20 years.

Designed to give young children the opportunity to borrow stimulating and enjoyable material, it has a selection of more than 500 toys, books and puzzles for 6 to 8 year olds. "The toys are exciting," committee president, Cathy Puls, told the *Diary*. "They're bright and colourful, and for a couple of weeks, kids enjoy having them around the house."

The Warrandyte Toy Library has recently received a \$2000 grant from the Manningham council, as well as a donation from Warrandyte Lions. The library committee plans to purchase new toys, as well as canvassing mothers' groups in the hope of signing up more members.

"The toy library numbers were going down," Mrs Puls said. "So they've given us the money to buy new toys to help promote this wonderful facility."

Borrowing sessions, which are on Wednesdays, between 11am and 12.30pm, and Saturdays from 10 to 11.30am, allow members to borrow items for a period of two weeks. The sessions are designed to allow children to "try before you borrow" or alternatively, avoid buying expensive



toys which are sometimes out of reach for the average family.

The library hall is packed with fun-filled and colourful toys for children of all ages. But there's not just toys. The library's motto, "learning through play" ensures that they also have a large range of books, CD discs, puzzles, dress-up clothes and parents' resources. Outside the hall is a playground, just waiting for the happy screams of children.

"Kids always have a lot of fun," Mrs Puls said. "We have great facilities and there are always a lot of children playing with toys—and bike riding—in every session."

Although primarily aimed at young children, the toy library is a great way to meet other young mothers in the area. "It's a great social event, and being a part of the committee is a great way to do things for our community—and our kids," Ms Puls said.



# Nellie at home down south

By KARA WILLIAMS

For Warrandyte teen-ager Nellie Hodgson, the small South American country of Paraguay was home for a year; a year full of excitement, happiness and a few tears.

For the past 12 months, Warrandyte High School student Nellie has been on exchange in Paraguay. Staying with a host family, the Lopez-Roys, Nellie lived in the town of Concepcion, in a large house with her host parents and two host sisters, Irene and Rubi.

Compared to some families, who couldn't afford the luxury of a car, Nellie's family was well-off, living in the town's market district.

"My family sold electrical goods and little motor bikes," Nellie said. "Compared to most, my family was rich."

With the locals and her host family speaking Spanish and Guarani, it was hard for Nellie to pick up the language. However after six months she was able to speak fluent Spanish. Starting her year off at an all-girls school run by nuns, Nellie then changed to a co-education school only three blocks from her house.

School life in Paraguay was very different. On week days, Nellie attended school between 1.30 and 6.20pm, as well as Saturday mornings. "We had 16 subjects," Nellie explained. "It took me half the year to work out that I had the same teacher for chemistry, maths and physics."

Spending Christmas and New Year in



Nellie Hodgson with a Paraguayan friend.

Paraguay was a different experience. The Paraguayans celebrate Christmas on December 24. The traditional Christmas meal was followed by a visit to their grandparents to exchange gifts and then everyone goes out and celebrates all night long. Similarly, New Year's Eve is a night of festivity. "New Year is just like Christmas," Nellie said. "You spend it with your family, then you go out and party until noon the next day."

On weekends, Nellie was busy with her best friend Helga and boyfriend Oscar. "There's no age limit in Paraguay so we'd just all go to the pub," Nellie said. "Parties over there were so different, they'd start at 2am, the time we are normally leaving!"

Not only did Nellie have the opportunity to see Paraguay, she also went on a trip to Brazil. Throughout the year, her class at school raised the money to make the journey together. "Brazil was definitely the best part of my trip. The beaches are beautiful, and it was just so much fun!" she said.

Although at times homesick, for Nellie, the most difficult thing about leaving Paraguay was going away from her friends. "When I got to Melbourne airport, I just wanted to turn around and go straight back to Paraguay!" she said. "But the hardest part was when you're in the plane between the two countries. You really don't know where you want to be. But it was still the best experience of my life."

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# Finest festival follies

## THEATRE

By MARILYN MOORE

**Y**OU must be mad!" somebody exclaimed to Sue Dyring on hearing she was to direct the follies again. And they certainly knew what they were talking about.

Bringing together 45 people, many of them strangers to the stage, from a variety of backgrounds, and moulding them (and assorted untried scripts) into an entertaining and tightly-produced show in seven short weeks is the sort of challenge few would care to face.

Celebrating the millenium edition of this uniquely Warrandyte production, Sue, aided most capably by Rae Danks (producer), Jack Stringer (musical director) and a dedicated and efficient crew, delivered us a wonderfully funny pageant depicting The Follies Of The World From The Year Dot.com.

In the professional style we have come to expect from the follies team, the show buzzed with energy from the rousing opening chorus to the very last echo of the closing medley.

The unusually large cast and number of items on the program could easily have caused the show to lose momentum during scene changes, but with clever lighting (Brian Laurence,



Follies cast in the festival parade.

Gail Macrae, Rae and Sue) and stage positioning, the pace never faltered. The production was as seamless as the best in professional theatre.

Held together by recurring appearances from a string of such delightful characters as Nostradamus in Pyjamas (acted brilliantly by David Howell, written by Keryn Wood), talented singers Pat Anderson and Lisa Upson, beauty parades through the ages (written by Prue Dewé), the strangely violent Warrandyte Women's Alternative History Society (brainchild of Adrian Rice), the program was simply bursting with variety, humour and talent.

The musical items were particularly well-written and performed. The madrigal singing (Pat Anderson, Jan Nance, Lise

Moran, Noelene Cooper, Lisa Upson, Malcolm Needham and Bill Mitchell) was exquisitely harmonious. Little Erik's witty ditty (written by "everybody's favourite little Viking" Alan Cornell) roused some members of the happy audience to join in with notable enthusiasm.

Cosmic Girl (Hilary Walker and Chris Cornell) provided yet another change of mood and tempo. It is always a great pleasure to listen to Hilary's lovely blues-style voice and Chris's accurate harmonies, and over the past few years it has been wonderful to watch them improve in confidence and range.

The one serious item on the program, African Tribute, was truly moving and quite deservedly brought the house down. Reliance on imitation of ac-

cents to deliver humour is always a risky business, but the Pythonesque Cook & Cook, the perfectly disgusting Peasant Sunday Morning and the cleverly written Poet's Write-off were all very funny indeed. Ken Virtue's pseudo-French characters (Jean Howard, Pierre Harvey and Eddie Le Guire amongst many others) were equally well appreciated.

This Follies season marked Bill Mitchell's first appearance on stage, and he certainly made an impression as a talented singer and very capable actor. His renditions of John Howard were an undisputed highlight.

Adding greatly to the variety of the line-up were the evergreen Tappers (whose performance under the guidance of Roz Gaffney is becoming more polished year by year) and the short silent film Gold by Sam Marston and Alan Cornell.

This film was of a calibre certain to earn it a place in the local archives for the profound contribution it makes to the definition of the character of Warrandyte!

Jock Macneish's well-loved sense of weni wedi weci bloody dot comedy wrapped up the show. Nowhere were the hazards of www more apparent than at the Internet Café, and nobody who saw the Safe Sex skit will ever again be able to listen to a flight attendant's safety spiel with a straight face.

If you missed the show, start kicking yourself right now. It was the best follies since the year dot.

## Memories of Jeannie

By BETTY LAVENDER

**I**T is with much sadness that I write this small farewell to a very dear friend and Warrandyte resident, Jeannie Tisdal, who died February 4, 2000.

Jeannie, with husband Allan, came to Warrandyte in 1950. They didn't take long to join, with all of us with young families, in creating a pleasant lifestyle in a semi-rural setting: raising funds for a kindergarten to be built, taking part in Country Women's Association activities.

Jeannie also helped to form a drama group and played an active part in this area. I remember when I was asked to speak to the group on how to involve members in play readings, creative dance and singing, how enthusiastic Jeannie was.

We later spread our wings and formed the Warrandyte Arts Association. We held our first meeting at the Golden Gate Café at the West End. Both Jeannie and Allan played a very active role in those early

days of WAA. Jeannie was secretary for many years and Allan was a member of the Barbershop Quartet.

Both also "trod the boards" as part of the musicals Hilda Barbour produced. Jeannie and I sang together in both a trio and a quartet and came home with a few prizes for CWA, I recall.

Her love of literature took her back to tertiary level as a mature student. This she enjoyed immensely. Her opinion on books and writers was always clearly presented and all with her ready smile and delightful sense of humour. We enjoyed many a discussion, enriched by her generous hospitality.

Jeannie and her family are part of the story of Warrandyte in the 20th century. Sleep well dear friend.

● A feature story on the life and times of Jeannie Tisdal is in preparation.

Jeannie Tisdal, as older Warrandyte residents would remember her.



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## Manningham City Council elections

### Declaration of results

At the elections held by me on 18 March 2000 for the Manningham City Council, the following Councillors were elected:

Heide Ward  
GOUGH, Geoff  
BRUCE, John  
(Elected unopposed)

Koonung Ward  
GOONAN, Irene (1st elected)  
LARKIN, Bill (2nd elected)

Mullum Mullum Ward  
ALLEMAND, Lionel (1st elected)  
YOUNG, Patricia (2nd elected)

Ruffey Ward  
BEYNON, Bob (1st elected)  
EISENBISE, Julie (2nd elected)

David Cook  
Returning Officer  
18 March 2000

These elections were conducted by the Victorian Electoral Commission on behalf of the Manningham City Council.



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## Meeting a new, friendly face at our neighbourly house

By KARA WILLIAMS

The Warrandyte Neighbourhood House has a new coordinator. Leanna Francis, who has a background in childcare, will help ensure all the facilities at the "house" are running smoothly.

"My ambition is to help to get the Neighbourhood House well-known again in the community," she told the *Diary*.

Situated at the Warrandyte Community Centre, the Neighbourhood House is responsible for the Occasional Childcare Centre. This program, which costs only \$3.50 an hour, is run by qualified staff and is designed to provide parents with a safe child-minding centre, which is also stimulating for the children. "It's open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday," Ms Francis said. "It's there for parents who just wish to take a break, or if they're participating in our classes."

Neighbourhood House also runs the book exchange, where people can bring in



Leanna Francis (Picture by Sarah Jones)

their old books and pick up new ones.

"It's my responsibility to make sure both occasional care and the book exchange run according to regulations," Ms Francis said.

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House provides a wide range of activities for people within the community. "Together with the community centre, we run classes on all sorts of topics: computer courses, art and yoga classes among lots of others. We even have a walking group."

The "house" is conducting a survey to try and discover what the community wants. Leanna believes it is extremely important to get in touch with the people of Warrandyte. "Whatever the community's needs are, we want to meet those needs."

• *Anyone interested in doing volunteer work, or taking part in classes at the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House, can contact Leanna on 9844 1839.*

### WARRANDYTE NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE PROGRAM: TERM 2, 2000

**MIND & BODY**

Yoga: 8 weeks, Mondays & Tuesdays, from May 1, 7-8pm & 8.15-9.15pm. \$48.

Walking Warrandyte: 1 session, Thursday, May 4, 9.30-10.30am (Jenny Stone) \$1.

Introduction to Meditation: 4 weeks, Tuesdays, May 30, June 6, 13, 20; 1-3pm (Sandi Steward) \$40.

Smart Play—Women's Participation Workshop: 8 sessions, Thursdays, from May 4; 10am-12noon.

**INTERESTS & HOBBIES**

Introduction to e-mail: 1 session, Saturday, May 27; 10am-12noon (Claire Bloom) \$20.

Craft Group: Tuesday afternoons, commencing May 2; 1-3pm.

Budget Travel For All Ages: 1 session, Thursday, May 18; 8pm (John & Bev Hanson) \$5.

• Call Leanna Francis on 9844 1839 for course bookings and further details. Fax: 9844 4088. Office hours: Monday 10am-4pm; Tuesday to Thursday 9am-4pm; Friday 9am-12noon.

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

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Please phone Greg Lawrence on 9844 2498 or Jock Macneish on 9844 4164 for application forms.

Donations may be sent to the Christie Lawrence and Luke Mayall Memorial Fund, PO Box 150, Warrandyte, Vic 3113. Cheques can be made payable to C. Lawrence & L. Mayall Memorial Fund.



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# Easter in Warrandyte



Conducted by **JUDY GREEN**

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

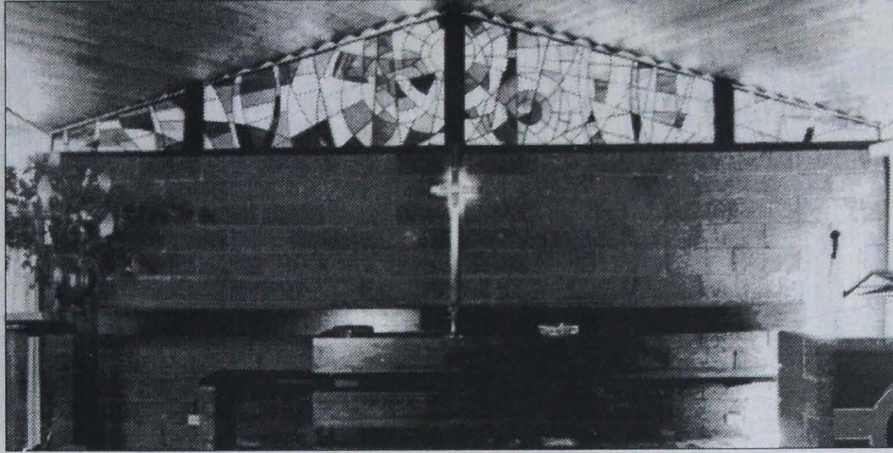
Warrandyte churches are combining to present Stations of the Cross at Stiggants Reserve at 10am on Good Friday. Other Easter services will include: **Uniting** (9844 3476) Thursday, April 20, 7.30pm; Good Friday, 9am; Easter Sunday, 10.15am. **Community Church** (9844 4148) Good Friday, 9am; Easter Sunday, 10am. **Anglican** (9844 3473) Thursday, April 20, 7.30pm; Good Friday, 2pm; Easter Sunday, 8am and 9.30am. **Catholic** (9876 1509) Thursday, April 20, 7.30pm at Warrandyte; Good Friday, 3pm at Park Orchards; Easter Saturday, 7.30pm at Park Orchards; Easter Sunday, 8.30am at Warrandyte, 10.30am at Park Orchards.

## Help!

Have you any spare time? Information Warrandyte, operating from the community centre in Yarra Street, are in desperate need of volunteers. If you can spare three hours a week and would enjoy the personal satisfaction of helping in the community call Information Warrandyte on 9844 3082 or Patricia on 9844 2905 (AH).

## Thanks

Cr Patricia Young has asked us to thank everyone who helped with the skatepark appeal at the festival: Jock Macneish for his signs, Keith York for organising the skateboarding championships and everyone who put their gold and silver coins into the giant bottle. Thanks also to the new Victory/IGA supermar-



ket owners who supported the skateboarders in their first sausage sizzle—which raised \$120.

## Skatepark

The skateboarders are asking parents to support this important project by donating to the Skateboard Project (Warrandyte Lions Club account) at the Warrandyte CBA. Donations can still be dropped into the bottle, which is now housed at Club Warrandyte. Or you can take your money to the football club's first night game on April 29; the bottle will be on show in the clubrooms.

## Pavers

Order forms for the Lions club personalised pavers, to be placed in a path leading to the skatepark, can be obtained from Andersons Creek Primary School or the IGA supermarket.

## Fungus

As part of the Green Wedge Seminar Series 2000, Gretna Weste, who works with the botany school at Melbourne university, will discuss cinnamon fungus on Thursday, May 4. Seminars are held in the Currawong Bush Park conference room in Reynolds Road. Starting time is 7.30pm and the evening is free of charge. Cinnamon fungus is currently a

problem in many areas of Australia and is a potential threat to bushland in Manningham.

## Dance

The next monthly South Warrandyte dance will be held on Saturday, May 13 at the South Warrandyte hall in Hall Road, commencing at 8pm. For further information call 9723 3892.

## Woodwork

The Victorian Woodwork Festival, featuring demonstrations of woodturning, carving, marquetry, and pyrography, will be held at the Manningham Leisure Centre, corner Foote and Anderson streets, Templestowe on the weekend of April 15 and 16. Timber information and a woodcraft market will be included. Entry is \$2, children free.

## Veterans

The federal member for Menzies, Mr Kevin Andrews, has advised us that Department of Veterans Affairs information can now be obtained on the internet. Facts relating to the calculation of income support pensions, how different financial products for this pension are treated, and so on, can all be found on <http://www.dva.gov.au/factsheets/default.htm>.

For those who do not have internet access, up-to-date information will continue to be available at DVA, Veterans' Affairs Network offices and DVA centres.

## Care

If you are over 18 and looking for a rewarding volunteer experience with an opportunity to enhance your skills, you can contact Do Care on 9871 1532. Do Care provides training for those who volunteer a few hours per week to support isolated older people and those with disabilities in the Warrandyte area.

## Tell us

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

## Newsletters

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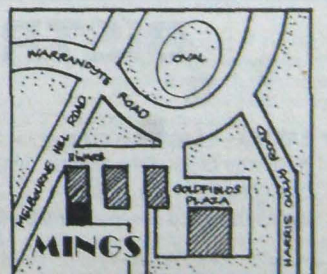
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# Local girls shine in big b'ball

By TONY OLIVER

Two Warrandyte Redback teams performed outstandingly in the Bulleen Coburg basketball tournament over the Labour Day weekend.

The U14 girls coached by Lorraine Parfitt won a thrilling final against Wonthaggi, a composite team chosen from the best in that area who had defeated Warrandyte in a preliminary match.

That was the Redback girls' only loss in the lead-up games, which included a demolition of Coburg.

Tight defence marked the opening minutes of the final at Templestowe Leisure Centre, but some good shooting from Tahnee Templeton took Warrandyte to an early lead. Wonthaggi fought back, however, with a combination of field goals and a high percentage of shots from the free-throw line to trail by just a point, 17-16, at half-time.

Warrandyte ground out a six-point lead in the second half as both sides played excellent bas-

ketball both in defence and attack. Wonthaggi came back and a three-pointer from one of their guards levelled the score at 24 apiece.

Wonthaggi continued to attack and opened up a 27-24 lead with less than three minutes to go and when Emma Razzi, one of the Redbacks' key shooters, was fouled off with two minutes on the clock, things were looking grim.

Libby Lavery scored a basket under pressure for Warrandyte to make it 27-26 and Gina Oliver ran two-thirds the length of the court for an excellent lay-up to put the Redbacks back in front with 54 seconds to go.

By this stage Wonthaggi were in foul trouble and Louise Yates hit two free throws in the final seconds to seal the match.

Tristan Messerle's U16 girls also performed with distinction.

Despite an early loss to Blackburn, comfortable wins in their other preliminaries earned them a place in the final against highly-fancied Bulleen at the Coburg stadium.

Bulleen started strongly and ran to an early six-point lead

before Warrandyte tightened up in defence and attack to lead 11-10 at half-time.

The second half was just as tight, with the Redbacks holding a slight advantage most of the way.

Bulleen opened up a six-point advantage going into the last three minutes, but Warrandyte were not done yet.

They drew on inner reserves to level at 27-all with less than a minute to go and with the two Sams — Smith and Wilson — outstanding.

From the end ball, Bulleen had possession and drew a foul against a desperate Warrandyte side and scored with both free throws.

A two-point deficit and only one play left in the game.

Warrandyte attacked strongly down the left-hand side with Kim Singh open on the right ready for a three-point shot. Sadly, the ball could not get across to Kim and in the resulting scramble for possession, the Redbacks fouled again.

Bulleen converted one of the two shots to run out winners 31-28 in one of the tournament's highlight matches.



Warrandyte's U16 girls Sam Smith (No 31), Kim Armstrong (in the jump) and Elyse May during their opening game against Blackburn in the Labour Weekend tournament.

# Redbacks turn on titles heat

Warrandyte Redback teams have all performed well in the just-completed grading phase of the Friday night junior championship season.

Despite some patchy early showings, the U16 boys found form to win three in a row. They followed up a 39-32 victory over Craigieburn with an easy win

against Banksia and a 39-18 scoreline against Broadmeadows (2).

Their grading phase concluded with a very creditable loss to the strong Altona side.

Gavin Whitmore's U14 boys continue to excel in the Metro 3 grade, a highlight being a come-from-behind win over Ringwood in the last grading game.

Warrandyte's other U14 side, coached by Martin Clark, have maintained their good form, losing just one of their grading games.

A real highlight was an excellent 39-35 away win against Coburg in a contest riddled with fouls.

The euphoria of early wins for Malcolm Anderson's U11 boys has been tempered by two recent losses, including a 53-14 demolition by the strong Eltham unit.

Lorraine Parfitt's U14 girls remain undefeated in representative basketball this season, with recent strong wins over the formidable Melbourne (3) and Diamond Valley teams. Diamond Valley's loss, 28-17, was their first of the season.

Tristan Messerle's U16 girls continue to set the standard in their section of the competition.

Easy wins against Whittlesea and Doncaster and a hard-fought victory over Whittlesea allowed them to approach the game against Melbourne with confidence. The Redbacks held

their nerve when Melbourne pulled to within two points with less than 20seconds to go and with two excellent free throws prevailed 24-20.

The grading phase completed, four Warrandyte teams were successful in the first round of the season proper.

Malcolm Anderson's U11 boys came from 13-8 down at half-time against well-credentialed Hampton Court to win a nail-biter 18-17.

Gavin Whitmore's U14 boys salvaged a draw with the last play of the night and the U16 girls of Tristan Messerle showed excellent skills for an all-the-way 46-32 win over Whittlesea (2).

Messerle's second team, the U16 boys had a walkover against Sunshine. Hungry for basketball, they played a scratch match against a composite girls championship team, winning easily in a friendly but high-spirited contest.

The U14 girls had a surprisingly easy win against Altona, the team who had inflicted the Redbacks' worst defeat last year. Determined to reverse that result, Warrandyte won 44-24.

In the final contest of the round, there was nothing coach Martin Clark could do to overcome the taller and more skilful Sunbury in a North West Conference Section 1 encounter at Mill Park.

Sunbury won 32-10.

# Ladies Day!

By JUDY GREEN

Warrandyte Tennis Club's women's Section A7 team brought home the ultimate prize from the Midweek Eastern Metropolitan Ladies Tennis Association finals.

The team — Jeanette Cleaves, Jennifer Bennet, Noella Bird, Robyn Waite and Barbara McBain — came from third on the ladder to beat North Ringwood by just three games in the grand final of the Tuesday competition.

Section A10 also reached the grand final but lost to Mayfield Park in another very close match.

Warrandyte's A3 team were eliminated in the semi-finals.

The women's Tuesday winter season is now in progress.

In the senior Eastern Region competition, two local teams made it to the semi-finals stage.

A record 12 Warrandyte teams made the finals of the junior East-

ern Region competition, 11 going on to contest grand finals and three going all the way.

They are:

● Boys 3 — James Riley Adam Atkins, Chris Papadakis Trent Valentino, Will Rogers, who defeated Currawong five sets 45 games to three sets 31 games.

● Boys 8 — Jarrod Hodgson, Tristan Gouldthorpe, Trumble Dewe, Jason Philippou, Ian Fahy, who defeated Healesville five sets 45 games to three sets 29 games.

● Boys 13 — Nick Atkins, Rhys Cartwright, Daniel Wiltshire, Dion Mullet-Treloar, Darren Zigmunt, who downed Serpell five sets 37 games to three sets 34 games.

The Eastern Region winter season for both seniors and juniors starts late this month, while the club has one men's team playing in the 2000 Tennis Victoria pennant competition.



## On yer bike, Thomas!

You could say that local youngster Thomas Egan (pictured) is the world on wheels.

Thomas, a Year 8 student at Warrandyte High School, is currently "King of the Mountain", having beaten all comers in the interschool downhill and cross-country bike championships at Mount Buller.

The 14-year-old has raced against 16 and 17-year-olds at Anakie, near Geelong, and when this edition of the *Diary* went to press was contesting the national championships at Thredbo.

He hopes to eventually earn enough points to compete overseas.

And where does he do all his training? Riding the hills of Warrandyte with his mates Travis Southall, Che Pianta, Brett Pengelly and Chris Burris, who are also involved in downhill and cross-country.

Thomas competed against big private school teams at Mount Buller and managed to beat them all.

Proud dad John stood in the rain halfway down the mountain to get pictures of the champ — only to realise he'd left the camera home!

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- ★ **STEVE LAWSON, Friday April 19th:** Enjoy a night of Rock and Roll. Put on your dancing shoes.
- ★ **ANYTHING GOES, Saturday April 20th:** Tony, guitar and vocals, with Jenny on cello. Whatever happens — a night of fabulous music. Come and join us and dance the night away.

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# Our late bloomers

By LEE TINDALE

Warrandyte Football Club have begun their 2000 campaign in the bigger league in the worst imaginable way.

The Bloods have lost their first two games in EFL Second Division by big spaces — but don't go writing them off yet.

If they can kick the habit of conceding enormous starts, the reigning Third Division premiers will be competitive against this year's considerably tougher opposition.

"Another half a game of footy," said coach Lex Munro ruefully after Warrandyte had outscored relegated First Division club Lilydale eight goals to four in the second half at Lilydale on April 8.

That wasn't nearly enough, though, to compensate for the 13 goals to zip the home side had booted in the first half, Warrandyte going down by 62 points, 17.19 (121) to 8.11 (59).

It had been a similar scenario in the Bloods' season opener at home to Mulgrave a week earlier, rattling home far too late and succumbing by 49 points, 18.11 (119) to 10.10 (70).

"We've been very slow to start in both games," Munro said, "but we've proved in the second half of both that we can match it with anyone."

"Eight goals to four in the second half today ... there's no doubt we have the ability, but we cannot afford to give other sides big starts."

Munro said his players were still getting to know each other. "We have so many new blokes," he said.

Indeed, the team who took the field against Lilydale bore scant resemblance to the 1999 premiership heroes.

Missing and unlikely to pull on the red and white this season were outstanding young midfielder Liam Riley (overseas), big ruckman-forward Josh Eastaugh and tough defender Tony King (interstate), the versatile Greg Pearce (retired), clever goalsneak Brad Valentine (taking a year off from football) and potential match-winner Trent Ferguson.

Sidelined by injury were prolific goalkicker and premiership player Chris Quinlan, who broke his collarbone in a practice match) and new playing assistant coach Scott Hunter.

But the Bloods certainly picked up some talent in the off season. Midfielder Dean Hunter has joined brother Scott from First Division club East Burwood and was arguably Warrandyte's best against Mulgrave.

As previously reported, former outstanding youngster

## Bloods pay dearly for awful starts



Lex Munro: 'We can't afford to give big starts.'

Leigh Brown is back in town and Rocky Armstrong — a very likely type — has been recruited from the metropolitan amateurs.

Troy Brown, one of the better players against Lilydale, has come from Lancefield to play alongside brother Leigh and Sam McLaughlin, who looks capable of kicking a lot of goals, has returned to Warrandyte from Hurstbridge, in the Diamond Valley league.

Also from Hurstbridge comes half-back Andy Sadowy.

The first 10 or so minutes of the game against Lilydale gave little indication of the goalrush that was to come.

Lilydale looked the more confident and competent side, but it took them 11 minutes to kick their first goal.

Already, though, Warrandyte were picking out opposition players far too often and already their forward thrusts were being turned back far too easily.

The home side bounced a freak goal through at 13 minutes and five minutes later goaled again, then again to run to a 25-point lead.

It was looking very ominous, then embarrassing, for Warrandyte as Lilydale, playing in front, marking strongly and creating loose men all over the place, goaled at 21, 22 and 25 minutes to go into the quarter-time huddle with a 44-point break, 7.4 (46) to 0.2.

Munro told his men to "lay some body on body". They'd had just as much of the ball, he said, but had taken far too long to deliver it forward.

Things went from bad to worse for the Bloods when Lilydale kicked their eighth a minute into the second stanza — and they would have been worse still had they not been inclined to finesse a little and miss three very kickable goals.

Lilydale eventually ran into an open goal for their ninth at 11 minutes and their 10th two minutes later.

They were moving in swarms now, having all the time in the world to recover from errors and stand and deliver.

Warrandyte were yet to have the goal umpires pick up the second flag.

A great running goal from the pocket and an amazing banana kick produced number 11 and 12 for Lilydale and a snap close to the siren their 13.

At half-time it was 13.11 (89) to 0.3 and even some sections of the traditionally-inhospitable Lilydale crowd were feeling sorry for us.

Warrandyte came out after the interval with Munro's words ringing in their ears — and what a difference those words made.

The first objective was to get on the scoreboard and Aaron Wolley took care of that seven minutes in by grabbing a pass and kicking truly. You beauty!

## Something to sing about

Someone said it had been 30 years since Warrandyte's Reserves won their last game at Lilydale. Which probably accounted for the gusto with which the club song was sung after a 12-point victory there on April 8.

Final score was 11.12 (70) to 10.6 (66).

Warrandyte's best were Danny Weatherly, Aidan Davey, Glen Carle, Adam Borwick, Rick Templeton and Tahn Reid.

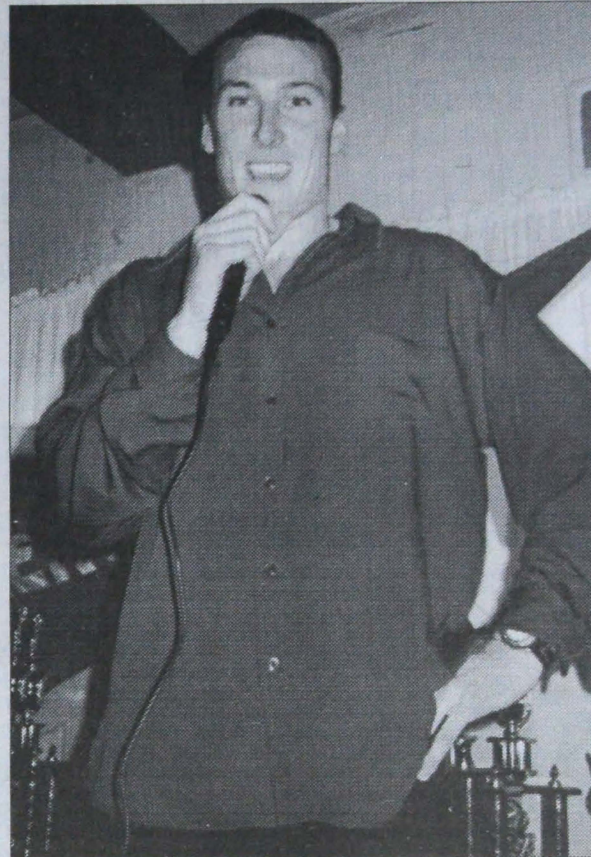
● Warrandyte will hold a Cocktail Night at the clubrooms after the away game against Blackburn on April 25. See James Logan for details.

● The Bloods will play Montrose under lights on Saturday, April 29. It will be a triple-header, the Under-18s playing in the afternoon, followed by the Reserves and the Seniors at times yet to be announced.

The Bloods were suddenly playing with much more spirit, doing the hard things, taking the punching option in the high-flying packs and backing each other up.

Justin Edwards, by far the smallest man on the ground and not famous for his long kicking, bounced one over heads 17 minutes in for Warrandyte's second and the silent Bloods supporters found voice again.

Lilydale responded almost



Mack Clarkson, club and competition best and fairest last season, was again the Bloods' best against Lilydale.

Ruckman Kimberly O'Connor, who fancies himself as a goalkicker, did himself proud from an angle and a distance three minutes on and Woolley snapped cleverly from a pocket a minute later. Gee, how good was this!

Lilydale goaled on the run at 12 minutes, but Troy Brown got that one back immediately and when McLaughlin marked and kicked straight the scoreboard was starting to look almost respectable at 16.18 to 7.8.

Lilydale goaled at 20 minutes and McLaughlin's mark of the day four minutes later deserved better than the behind it produced.

Still, the Bloods were not done yet.

Captain John O'Brien kicked Warrandyte's eighth at the 26-minute mark — and coach Munro had the very six goals he had demanded for that last quarter.

Warrandyte's goalkickers were Woolley 2, Troy Brown 2, O'Connor, O'Brien, Edwards, McLaughlin.

Their best were Mack Clarkson, O'Brien, Brendan Smith, Leigh Brown and Chris Cornell.

## Juniors up and kicking

It's "Say goodbye to your Sundays" time again for the multitude of families connected with Warrandyte Junior Football Club.

The Young Bloods' new season started on April 2, with eight teams in the Yarra Junior Football League, and expectations are high.

"We have just under 200 players registered with us and we believe we have one of the highest levels of community involvement and support of any club in the competition," Gary Canham, leader of the club's player liaison sub-committee told the *Diary*.

"The preparation and administration is enormous and getting bigger every year — but when kids start to play and win and sing the club song, it's all worthwhile."

"We had a busy off-season and with the exception of the normal last-minute hitches, everything seems to have come together," said club president Mathew Matheou.

Warrandyte are represented from Under-10 level (two teams) all the way through to Under-15s and Colts (Under-17s).

Very early indications are that the Under-12s coached by Mark Watson and the Under-15s, coached jointly by Matheou and Laurie Piggott may emerge as the club's strongest premiership contenders.

Warrandyte rounded off their on-field preparations for season 2000 with practice matches against Montmorency and all teams were at very least competitive.

"While all sides will be tested in their grades, we believe we will be highly competitive," Matheou said.

"The first four rounds are grading rounds, with any adjustments being made before the season really gets under way."

## Cash in on cow poo

Moo Poo for Cash, a novel joint fundraising venture by Warrandyte Junior Football Club and the Skateboard Park facility, was officially launched at the Warrandyte Festival last month.

The fate of \$2500 cash will be in the hands (or rather the bowels) of a well-fed cow when it is released on to the No 2 (how appropriate!) oval at the recreation reserve on May 20.

Sections of the oval will have been "sold" at \$10 a ticket and the ground divided into 1500 squares.

At the first cowpat dropped, the judges will measure the closest square with the largest amount and the \$2500 winner will be announced.

"Only 1500 tickets will be sold," said Tony Morello, of the joint WJFC-Skateboard Park organising committee, "so the odds are very good."

"The investment in this stock market is far better than many shares in the stockmarket."

"All money raised will be immediately invested for the benefit of our junior footballers and skateboard riders."

Moo Poo tickets are available through the WJFC and from traders throughout Warrandyte.

For more information on the competition and how you can become involved in the junior football club and/or the skateboard park project, contact Morello on 9846 2222 (B), Brian Handson (9890 0571) or Dennis Hoiberg (0418 384619).

# A real little trier triumphs

By LEE TINDALE

Outstanding young Warrandyte athlete Rosalyn Moore will represent Victoria in the Pacific School Games at Homebush Bay in Sydney next month.

Rosalyn, 13, of Weerona Way, has been a keen athlete since the age of six, competing at the Ringwood Little Athletics Centre and more recently at with Box Hill Athletic Club.

And other budding young sportspeople could draw inspiration from her determination and persistence.

"She is the sort of kid who has loved nothing more than to try her heart out at whatever she attempted, even if she never won much," said her very proud mother Marilyn, a regular *Diary* columnist.

Now eight years of dedication have paid off and Rosalyn has begun to produce some amazing performances.

Last October she won both the under-14 100m and 400m events at the APS Championships, setting new APS and Wesley College records, then finished second in the 400 at the Victorian All Schools Championships.

She also won state gold medals in the 4 x 200m and 4 x 400m relays and finished third in the 4 x 100m relay.

Rosalyn easily achieved the national qualifying standard to compete in the Australian All Schools Championships in the under-14 400m, which put her in an elite group even among state medalists.

These titles were held at Homebush Bay in December and she amazed herself by bringing home the silver medal, breaking the previous Australian championship record in both heat and final.

Such success has brought a variety of awards, including an invitation to run on a US circuit later this year, but the biggest buzz was selection to compete — in the under-16 400m and 400m relay — with the cream of Australia's young athletes at the Pacific School Games.

"Getting fitted out for the extensive of PSG uniform items was undoubtedly one of the highlights of her life to date," said Marilyn.

Unfortunately, Rosalyn trained a little too enthusiastically after Christmas and was off the scene with an injury. But she

has made a full recovery.

"Competing at these games was always going to be an enormous challenge for Rosie, having to compete against athletes nearly two years older," her mother said. "Then there was the added challenge of preparing for a major event from so far behind scratch without causing further injury."

"But if there's one thing she's good at it's rising to a challenge."

"It's hard to believe it's little more than a year since Rosie was just a little primary school kid. So much has changed, except for her unique style of 'relaxed' effort."

"I think this is one of the secrets of her success," Marilyn said. "She doesn't give up if things are not going her way. She just loves trying hard, loves running and loves putting in her best effort regardless of the result."

"She's happy just to be there and to be a part of it all."

● Right now, the Moore family is in fundraising mode. Each athlete selected for the PSG has to offload 500 raffle tickets to reduce costs.

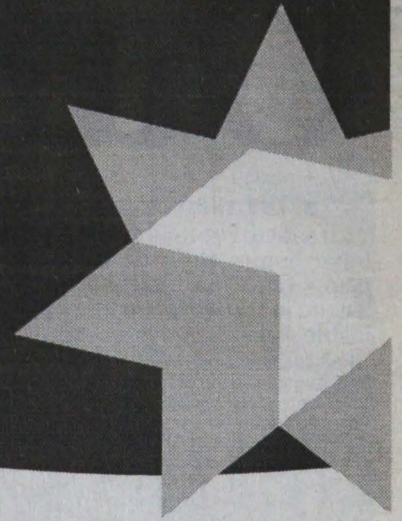


Rosalyn Moore ... 'If there's one thing she's good at it's rising to a challenge.'



**The Professionals**

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- 9 Mopoke Hill Road, Warrandyte — SOLD in 4 days
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- 11 Blair Street, Warrandyte — SOLD at auction
- 19a West End Road, Warrandyte — SOLD in 25 days
- 6 Hogan Avenue, Warrandyte — SOLD in 16 days
- 69-71 Brackenbury Street, Warrandyte — SOLD in 19 days
- 95 Brackenbury Street, Warrandyte — SOLD in 13 days
- 39 The Boulevard, Warrandyte North — SOLD in 28 days
- 38 Brackenbury Street, Warrandyte — SOLD in 13 days
- 16 Wattleblossom Road, Warrandyte — SOLD at auction
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