

MP defends Wedge

By **CLIFF GREEN**

Warrandyte state member and Park Orchards resident Phil Honeywood has come out in strong opposition to a proposed "cluster housing" subdivision in the Green Wedge.

This follows the revelation last month that a group of landowners, believed to be a rebirth of the old Park Orchards Landowners Association, has been talking to Mullum Mullum Ward councillors, Lionel Allemand and Patricia Young about such a proposal. As previously reported, a spokesperson for the Park Orchards Ratepayers Association said they asked the councillors "what sort of subdivision the landowners were seeking, but Cr Allemand inferred that the landowners had been sent away to do more work on their subdivision".

The *Diary* believes the proposal involves Green Wedge land in the Tindals Road-Rainbow Valley Road area and includes a plan to erect a sewerage plant as part of a development plan.

"This latest Green Wedge subdivision proposal from an 'unidentified' group of Park Orchards broadacre landowners should serve to jolt everyone from complacency," Mr Honeywood said.

He noted that "the proposal is promoting the alleged environmental ben-

'Beware of property owners and certain councillors bearing environmental gifts.'

PHIL HONEYWOOD



efits of sewerage pipes over septic tanks as a camouflage for profit-taking".

Local conservationists are already identifying the scheme as another example of subdivision by stealth.

"Over the last 12 years, as the local MP, I have been truly amazed by the variety of get-rich-quick schemes conjured up by seemingly genuine landowners purporting, in the same breath, to be supporters of bushland environment. True supporters of our Green Wedge should be ever vigilant for seemingly innocent suggestions that have hidden development agendas behind them."

Mr Honeywood commented on a number of such schemes.

● Cluster housing located in the centre of large broadacre Green Wedge properties. "This concept was promoted as environmentally sensitive because homes would be constructed in a commune-type arrangement, leaving the surrounding acreage in a so-

called pristine environmental state," he said.

"Critics of cluster housing rightly point out that more families on one broadacre property usually equate to detrimental rather than beneficial environmental management outcomes."

● The gatehouse concept, which promoted the rights of ageing Green Wedge landowners to excise a one-acre housing allotment from their property, permitting them to build a new home on the excised allotment and sell the rest as one parcel. It was argued that this would allow them to better manage their land in their old age.

"This proposal, more than any other, engendered some sympathetic support from champions of the Wedge," Mr Honeywood said. The idea fell out of favour with many landowners when they realised "that retiring onto these one-acre allotments would be less attractive than selling them off and moving elsewhere".

● The "south of Reynolds Road is dif-

ferent" concept "gained virtually no sympathy from anyone", he said. This proposal argued that once the Northern Route (extension of Reynolds Road to Warranwood) is constructed, then this should be the logical southern boundary of the Green Wedge.

"In other words, if you were fortunate enough to be one of approximately 40 broadacre property owners located south of this road reservation (which may never be built), you should not be burdened by subdivision bans on your property. Some proponents of this concept even went so far as to argue that inclusion of their Park Orchards area within the Wedge boundaries was a bureaucratic mistake of the 1970s.

"Not surprisingly, Green Wedge supporters have maintained that once you begin tinkering with new boundaries to the Wedge, then the domino effect will commence."

● A further novel suggestion that occasionally resurfaces maintains that only through subdividing broadacre properties "will you ensure enhanced tree coverage and a more pleasant environment".

"Unfortunately, proponents of this concept have been known to be some of the most prodigious tree loppers in Melbourne," he said. "They seem to encourage blackberry outcrops in place of their felled native trees. Per-

haps their modus operandi is that if you degrade the bushland character of your property enough, then certain councillors may agree with you that the only way to enhance the environment is to subdivide it.

"All of these novel proposals have been seen for what they really are—money-making ventures."

Mr Honeywood emphasised that many broadacre owners cherish and care for their properties, often with financial help and advice from council and other authorities. "They serve as a shining example and strong contrast to the cut-it-up and chop-it-down brigade," he said.

"It should surprise no one that we now have some of the usual suspects advocating a localised sewerage plant to replace their septic tanks in the alleged interests of the environment. The real agenda of these individuals will always be the For Sale signs appearing in Templestowe-like profusion on their hillsides.

"If the old adage 'the price of freedom is eternal vigilance' is to be upheld, then the price for maintaining our unique Green Wedge bushland character will always be 'beware of property owners and certain councillors bearing environmental gifts'," Mr Honeywood said.

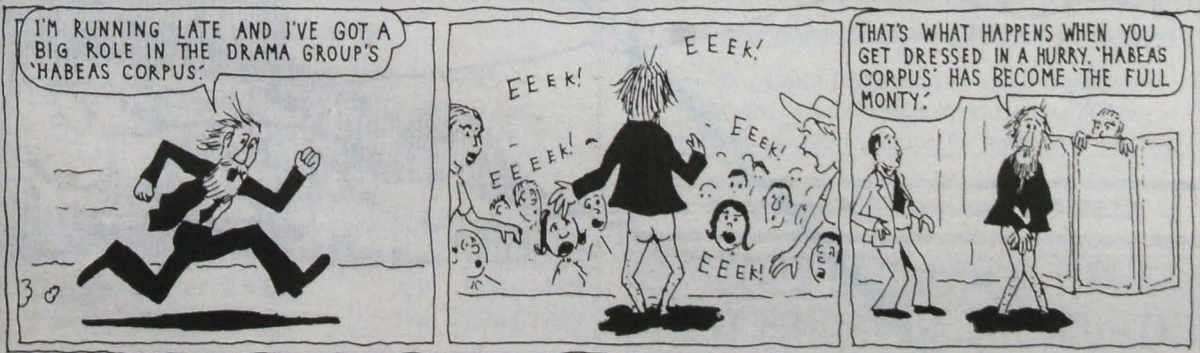
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Warrandyte market in winter. (Picture by Don Charlwood)

CYRIL

By **PAUL WILLIAMS**



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Cricket's hall of fame is no place for women



Forget about international match-fixing scandals — a cricket controversy to hit 'em all for six is about to erupt on our own doorstep! At a function on November 25, Warrandyte Cricket Club will name their "Top 12", a composite team drawn from the best of the best players of the past 50 years, along the lines of the footy club's recent "Teams of the Decades" and "All Stars" presentation. And there won't be a woman among them! Women, in fact, were not even in the running. Boy, how chauvinistic is that, considering Warrandyte fielded marvellous women's teams for almost 20 years from 1975 and produced superstars in the process before the lady Dytes disbanded for want of upcoming young talent. Hey, fellas, what about Suzanne Martin (nee Chapman), who played for Australia? Have any of you worn the baggy green cap? We think not. And what about her sister Jenny Chapman, who once beat all you hairy-chested macho men for a one-off club champion title based on batting and bowling figures and excellence in the field? No wonder it was one-off — how embarrassing for you! And what about their sister-in-law Jenni Chapman (nee McLaws) and Angela Tunbridge, who became known locally as the "Lady Bradman"? Gee, have you got some explaining to do.



In all fairness, we should have phoned the mastermind of the "Top 12" concept to give him the opportunity to explain why women were not considered for selection. But when we discovered it was none other than John Chapman — Suzanne and Jenny's big brother — we decided this was too sensational to be immediately mitigated and we'd give him right of reply in the next issue. It was John who circularised life members with a list of 34 players from which the team of the past half-century would be selected by their democratic vote. John, Suzanne and Jenny are all life members, as was their late father Allan — the doyen of Warrandyte cricket. Brother Brian and sister-in-law Jenni make it five life members in the family, which gives you some idea of what the Chapmans have contributed individually and collectively to the game in this town. Allan and John are among the nominees

IN RED & WHITE



Jenny Chapman

for the "Top 12" and, being such a close-knit family, the girls will undoubtedly vote for them. That's if John apologises for spelling Dad's christian name with just the one "l" in the stuff he sent out.



Funny how a commodity as mundane as a condom can reunite old mates after more than half a century. The ink was scarcely dry on last month's *Diary* when Jim Harris' phone started to ring. Jim, you'll recall, was erroneously identified as the winner of a condom manufacturer's consumer competition and when the rep suggested his prize — a 60-pack — would last him a while, the Pound Bend patriarch said yes, at 82, a lifetime. Most of the calls Jim fielded in the immediate aftermath of Smokey's exclusive and erotic report were from old mates jocularly begging a share of his windfall. But the one that really struck home was from Trevor Parker, 76. Trevor and Jim had been workplace neighbours at Templestowe more than 50 years ago when the "shopping centre" there was a two-store affair. They went their separate ways and hadn't seen each other since. Trevor's been living in Tindalls Road for the past 20 years. He saw Jim's name in this column, reached for the phone book and a reunion is imminent. That's franger power, folks!



And while we're still in the general area south of the navel, let us tell you of the misadven-

ture of Scott Ritter, recently of Browns Road, North Warrandyte. Scott, 26, was motorcycling home from work to Lilydale the other night when the silhouettes of fruit trees in a roadside paddock twanged his taste-buds. "Apples!" he thought. "Gee, I'd love an apple!" So he stopped, got off his bike and vaulted the barbed-wire fence. Or nearly did. Try "straddled" instead. A particularly nasty barb pierced his leathers in a particularly delicate spot and, after very painfully extricating himself, the lad required two stitches to his scrotum. He learnt later that apples were way out of season anyway. And that, dear readers, is the story in a nutshell.



The cow certainly came home for Irish visitor Sean Kelly in the Moo Poo for Cash raffle at the No 2 oval at the recreation reserve last month. Put \$2500 into his pocket. Sean, 29, from County Cork, is on a working holiday in Australia, and you've got to believe that business about the luck of the Irish.



Sean Kelly dances a joyous jig on his lucky patch.

Daisy Bell the well-fed cow chose his patch of turf on the oval on which to deposit her first pat after being released on July 21. She was in no hurry to pick the winner, roaming and grazing contentedly for a suspense-filled 45 minutes before doing the business. Sean will use his winnings to upgrade his car. The Moo Poo afternoon, a joint fund-raising venture by the local junior footy club and the Warrandyte Skate Space Park committee, was a big success and raised \$1000 for each group.



With so few genuine characters left, we could ill-afford to lose Bluey Diamond. Arthur Lindsay Diamond died late last month up near Broken Hill. He was 71 and the shame of it is that nobody ever thought to write his biography (although you rather think he'd have shied away from that idea). Bluey was an extraordinary bloke and in a bygone era perhaps Banjo Paterson might have immortalised him in verse. He was a horse dealer. Horses were his life and that would have appealed to the Bush Bard. We met Bluey only a few times, but his legend had preceded him. He was more Templestowe than Warrandyte, although he lived in Lynette Avenue for quite a few years and his name became household in this village. Still is.



Council efficiency has wiped out a local landmark (or eyesore, whichever way you look at it). Dry rubbish collections have rendered redundant the boy scouts bottle recycling dump in Yarra Street, next to Stiggart Reserve, and it is officially closed. So leave your empties there no more. Please.



"Grow a Goodia this spring!" says Cathy Willis, our native flora aficionado. "It (*Goodia lotifolia*) is a great garden shrub with a mass of golden pea flowers, rare in Warrandyte State Park, more common in the damp foothills but for some reason fond of our dry gardens, even in tough local clay." Okay, Cathy, we're sold. So how do we get our hands on this beauty? "For a very modest donation, at the Friends of Warrandyte State Park nursery at Pound Bend." Give Cathy a call on 0418 142297.

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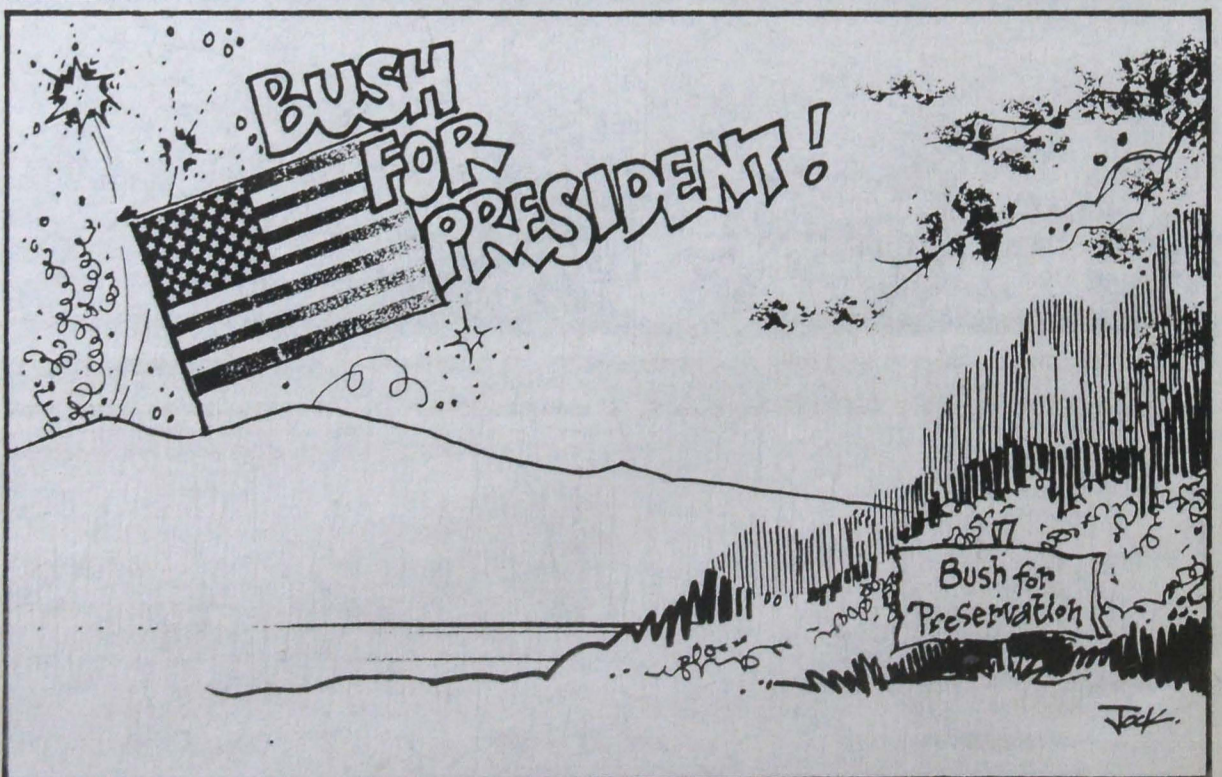
OUR NEWSPAPER

The Warrandyte Diary was established in 1970 as a small local newsletter. Although it has developed over the years, it has retained its strong community character, being produced by volunteers with only one aim: to serve its community. Financed solely through advertising, it guards its not-for-profit, non-commercial status and its independent voice. The Diary carries a strong editorial bias towards the people, environment and character of the place it serves. Its monthly circulation is 3700 copies and it is available in Warrandyte, North Warrandyte, South Warrandyte, Park Orchards, Wonga Park, Warranwood, North Ringwood, Kangaroo Ground and Research.

A SPECIAL PLACE

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

OVER THE HILLS



By **JOCK MACNEISH**

Ring road questions

By FIA CLENDINNEN

The ring road is back on the agenda, Nillumbik councillor Neil Roberts warned residents at a public meeting late last month.

"I don't want to alarm you and it's not an issue we need to get excited about," Cr Roberts said. "(But) the council will be conducting dialogue with the state government about the ring road to find out where it stands."

Cr Roberts, speaking at the Sugarloaf ward meeting at the North Warrandyte community hall, was referring to the recent decision by the state government to maintain the overlay for the ring road reservation between Diamond Creek and Ryans roads.

As reported in the June issue of the *Diary* the Bracks government announced it had scrapped plans to build the controversial ring road through the Green Wedge, from Ringwood to Greensborough.

Following that decision Nillumbik

council removed the overlay for the ring road reservation in its new planning scheme. This left VicRoads, owners of the land, free to sell or subdivide as they wished.

The minister for planning approved the council's new planning scheme but he made one important amendment. The minister has insisted that the overlay for the road reservation remain.

Cr Roberts pointed out this directly contradicted the state government's announcement it had abandoned the ring road. "It's a completely ambiguous situation and Research, North Warrandyte and Kangaroo Ground residents need to consider it," he said.

Wayne Phillips, MP for Eltham, angrily described the state government as being "absolutely hypocritical". He said that "the ink wasn't even dry" on the minister for transport's press release announcing it intended to scrap the ring road when the minister for planning determined that the reservation between Ryans and Diamond Creek roads had to remain in

Nillumbik's planning scheme, against the wishes of the council.

Mr Phillips said that while getting rid of the reservation would "once and for all put the missing link through the Green Wedge away," it was clear the Bracks government "wanted to keep its options open".

Nillumbik mayor Margaret Jennings said that the government's decision had made her "really cross," but at the same time she admitted that Nillumbik had not gone through the full process with the road reserve.

"We didn't exhibit it as a reserve," she said. "(Planning Minister) Thwaites is now saying you had better go through that process so that we can determine to remove it."

Cr Jennings said that once the council had completed a full exhibition process it would advocate on behalf of residents and "get rid of (the road reservation) once and for all".

A spokesperson for the state government reiterated that the government did not intend to build the ring road. He told the *Diary*, "It is the policy of

the Bracks government that there will not be an extension of the metropolitan ring road from Greensborough to Ringwood.

"The decision to keep the overlay in the planning scheme is simply to allow for the public to be widely consulted on the best possible use of the land. And that consultation process is likely to take place over the next 12 months."

The ring road was not the only topic discussed by Cr Roberts when he spoke at the North Warrandyte community hall. Several residents also raised the contentious issue of boundary realignment.

As reported in the *Diary*, many households in North Warrandyte have had their address changed to Kangaroo Ground, Research or even Eltham.

One man said he felt "very wounded" by the lack of consultation. He said Cr Roberts had failed to represent the community and accused him of "covering his butt".

Cr Roberts conceded that the boundary realignments had "upset a lot of

people". He said the council had been required by law to gazette local boundaries but he apologised for the way the changes had been carried out. "I'm terribly sorry," he said.

Cr Roberts assured residents that the council was undertaking a complete review of its handling of the boundary changes.

"I'm trying with some vigour to make sure the consultation process works this time," he said.

The meeting was attended by a small crowd of around 30 people. This was in marked contrast to the meeting at the same venue several months ago which was hosted by then Nillumbik mayor Bill Penrose and was packed to capacity.

Cr Roberts agreed that informing North Warrandyte residents of upcoming meetings and other council affairs was a perennial problem. He described the Diamond Valley News as the "official paper of circulation in the shire", and said the *Diary* did "not provide a perfect substitute because it only came out monthly".



School calls for old-timers

Warrandyte Primary School knows who its youngest pupil is—Bradley Stone—pictured here, fingers flickering across the keyboard. It is now seeking its oldest. They want to find him/her so that he/she can join Bradley as guests of honour at the party to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the old stone building.

"The actual birth date of Warrandyte Primary School is not clear," Judy Finger told the *Diary*. "Warrandyte's first school commenced in 1856. A number of sites were used over the next two decades. However, on Friday August 13, 1875, 125 years ago, the school was relocated to its current location in Forbes Street and the stone building was first occupied."

To celebrate 125 years of continuous education in this

building, the school is planning a birthday celebration to coincide with its school fete on November 18. "We are hoping that many former students will take this opportunity to return to the school," Ms Finger said.

"To mark this occasion, we are planning a cake cutting ceremony, with the youngest current and oldest past students cutting the cake. We would like to find the oldest past student who would be able to be present on the day."

If you think you may qualify, or know of someone else please contact the school on 9844 3537 or parent Judy Finger on 9844 3150.

"We'd also love to hear from anyone with photos or other memorabilia that we could borrow, copy where appropriate, then return."

New fire deal heralds local CFA concern

A fulltime CFA support officer, responsible for community liaison and brigade support, will remain in Warrandyte.

However, formal community education will be undertaken by a separate officer.

This follows the CFA and the United Firefighters Union signing an enterprise bargaining agreement, late last month.

"The board believes that a satisfactory outcome has been negotiated," CFA chairman Len Foster told local brigade captains. He believes volunteer brigades will decide where their brigade support officer (BSO) will be located when fulltime career firefighters are appointed to their brigades.

"This means that the local brigade will still have a support officer, and we—along with CFA management—will decide the duties of the BSO," Warrandyte CFA captain Robert Kilkenny told the *Diary*.

"But it won't be all plain sailing. There is still a lot of finer detail to be decided and there will be considerable juggling between the roles of the BSOs and fulltime firefighters. Under this agreement, the BSOs will not be permitted to undertake the major role performed by the old Community Support Facilitators. Community education will be delivered by a separate officer or jointly with the fulltime firefighters."

Community education officers (CEOs) will be appointed to cover a group of brigades. It is anticipated that they will be responsible for the Community Fireguard groups and other fire safety development, including work in schools, emergency management planning, house-

hold and property safety assessments and commercial and industrial evaluations.

"A local CEO could be based at Lilydale, responsible for the three Warrandyte brigades," Mr Kilkenny said. "This will also have to be juggled with the work of the BSO and the fulltime firefighters. These complications are the result of a series of compromises between the CFA and the UFU."

Warrandyte CSF, Jeff Adair, indicated that he was still exploring the direction of his career as a result of these changes. At the moment, Mr Adair is acting manager of community safety for CFA region 8, based at Dandenong, covering brigades as far afield as Phillip Island, Wonthaggi and the Mornington Peninsula.

"My temporary relocation is not a result of this dispute or changed conditions in the local brigade," he said. "It is a great opportunity which I could not turn down."

"In two months, I expect to be returning to Warrandyte, but I am unsure in what capacity."

CFA chairman Len Foster has thanked the brigades for their "forbearance and considerable input during the past year. This has been very helpful and is appreciated."

"CFA has a very challenging period ahead, which will be assisted by the \$27.5m state government funding initiative."

"The CFA is immediately initiating a consultative process to prepare a charter of volunteer rights. We should look to the future and concentrate on working constructively together in doing the job the CFA does best—serving our community."

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SHOP LOCALLY

Plea for sewerage

DEAR DIARY

environment and in so doing help ourselves".

I notice from your *Diary*, July 2000, that a plan is before council for the release of a small parcel of land from the so-called "green belt". If this plan takes into account the sewerage problems of Park Orchards and Donvale, where we live, then it should be given the "thumbs up" and in so doing improve the environment of the whole of our city.

Your paper is always advocating the effects of various hazards relating to Warrandyte so let us look at the city as a whole and say, "We are sewered, let us help our near neighbours and

Would this be too much to ask bearing in mind that we believe that this small parcel of land is the "linchpin" to become a reality for sewerage in this area?

Some time ago, the city health officer advised that over 1000 homes in the Park Orchards/Donvale area were unsewered and leaching from some of

these small residential blocks took place, essentially finding its way by waterways to Bulleen and beyond. Are we now to be too selfish in our attitude to help the environment? We hope not.

So let us look at the broader picture—ensure sewerage to the majority of unsewered areas of Park Orchards and Donvale by allowing the release of a small part of the Green Wedge or sit back and say, "I'm alright Jack, b—— you."

**Trevor Parker
Tindals Road**

Taking a stand

The push for subdivisions (*Diary* No 322) in the Green Wedge must be stopped if Warrandyte, Park Orchards and Wonga Park are to maintain their unspoiled appearance. It is of great concern that Cr Lionel Allemand is not prepared to commit himself on the issue of subdivisions.

Before the last election the *Diary* sought Cr Allemand's views on various environmental issues such as subdivisions in the Green Wedge. Cr Allemand refused to comment then as he is refusing to comment now. Does this indicate that Cr Allemand's position is in fact pro-subdivision? There can be no doubt that the community as a whole considers subdivisions the biggest threat to our environment. Therefore, if Cr Allemand is not prepared to support the community on this very important issue, I believe he should reconsider his position on the council.

**G. Jeppesen
Melbourne Hill Road**

**CLYDE &
OCKER**



"Councils? Don't blame me, Ock. I voted informal!"

Simple solution to dogs' do

I walk my dog daily on the river track. Before leaving home, I slip a plastic bag (off the roll at the supermarket) into my pocket.

If the dog performs on the grass or a path, I place my hand inside the bag, pick up the faeces, reverse the bag and walk to the nearest bin.

This seems simple, hygienic, effective and responsible and does not involve the council in any costs or participation.

**Ray Clarke
Yarra Street**

Letters to the *Diary* on local topics are most welcome. Real names are preferred. Pen names can only be used if actual names and addresses are included, even if not for publication.

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Caring for land at Stony Creek

By FIA CLENDINNEN

A family of platypus playing together in the wild is a rare and beautiful sight, but several North Warrandyte residents have been lucky enough to see exactly that in nearby Stony Creek.

Apart from supporting platypus the creek also has a very healthy invertebrate population.

The water quality has been tested on several occasions and has been found to be very good. Stony Creek, despite its nearness to Melbourne, remains relatively unspoiled.

"I walk there every day and I think it's paradise," said local resident Helene Paizes.

But Stony Creek is also under threat, from all the usual dangers: erosion, weeds, rabbits, dumping of rubbish, landowners illegally extending their fence lines, and so on.

Mark Gardner, founder of Friends of Stony Creek, wants to restore the whole

creek to its original, pristine condition. And late last month he invited local residents to an afternoon tea in The Chase where he urged people to become involved.

"I want everyone to extend their gardening arms beyond their own properties and into the creek," he said. "My ambition is to get rid of the weeds and replace them with indigenous plants, and to further improve the water quality."

Stony Creek starts in Kangaroo Ground behind Wellers Restaurant. It flows through North Warrandyte until it joins the Yarra, near the lower part of The Boulevard.

Local botanist David Cameron has catalogued all the indigenous plants growing along the banks of Stony Creek. He found five species, including forest hound's tongue and a particular tree fern, which normally grow in much damper areas such as the Dandenongs and

Gippsland. This may indicate that Stony Creek and the surrounding area was significantly wetter some time ago.

Mark would like to see residents who live within the catchment area of Stony Creek set up a Landcare Group.

He said funding for materials was available through both the council and the state and federal governments. He said it was also possible to apply for assistance with labour from Green Corps and the Australian Trust for Conservation Volunteers.

An inspiration for Mark is the North Warrandyte Osborne Peninsula Landcare Group (NWOPLG), which was recently awarded a Natural Heritage Trust Bushcare Grant of around \$200,000 by the Federal Government. NWOPLG has its own nursery where it expects to raise 30,000 indigenous plants this year. It puts out a newsletter and holds regular working

bees on roadsides, along the banks of the Yarra River and on private properties whose owners are too elderly to tackle large scale weeding and planting.

Margaret Burke, who has been coordinator of NWOPLG for the last seven years, shared a cup of tea and a biscuit with the residents from Stony Creek. She told them she "would be delighted to help".

She said that in her part of Warrandyte neighbours had thought "it seemed like a logical thing to get together and form a Landcare group".

She also said that while at first many residents complained they had enough to do in their own gardens, "eventually most people joined. We found we had the same problems and it's always better if you can share".

For further information on Friends of Stony Creek Catchment phone Mark Gardner on 9844 3799.



Neighbourly love: Stony Creek residents consider their options. (Picture by Fia Clendinnen)



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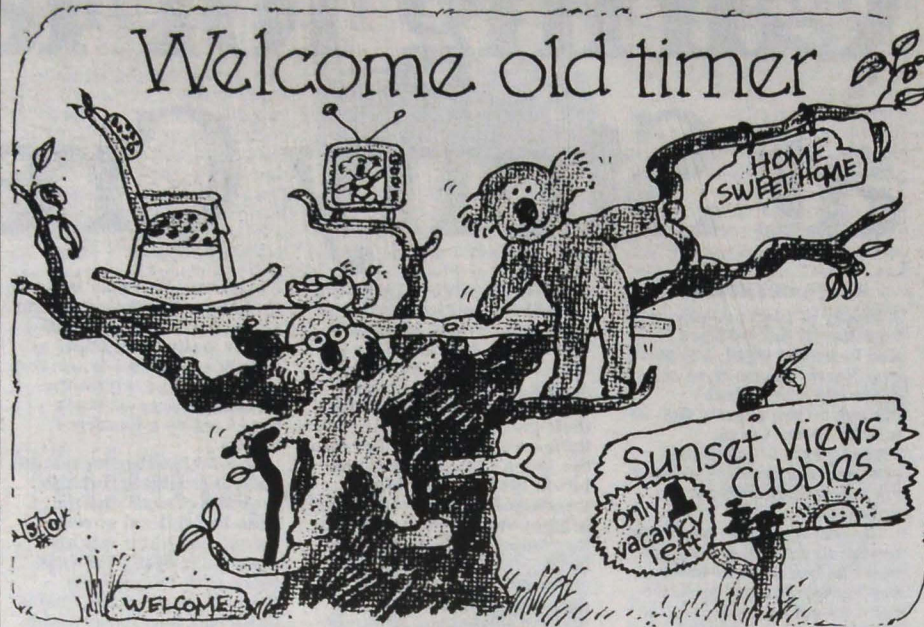
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SO —!

By SYD & ONA



Playing back a lifetime of wonderful experiences

The WAA Theatre Company will be busy this year and next. Not only will they be performing in the Mechanics Institute Hall, but a group of actors will also be performing throughout Warrandyte and Manningham, as an integral part of a project for which a grant has recently been awarded to Doncare through the Perpetual Trustees. "The project has grown out of the Older Women Writing work-

shops run by Doncare in 1998 to foster oral history and storytelling," Sue Dyring told the *Diary*.

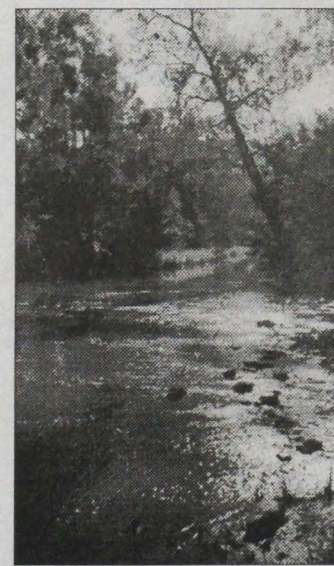
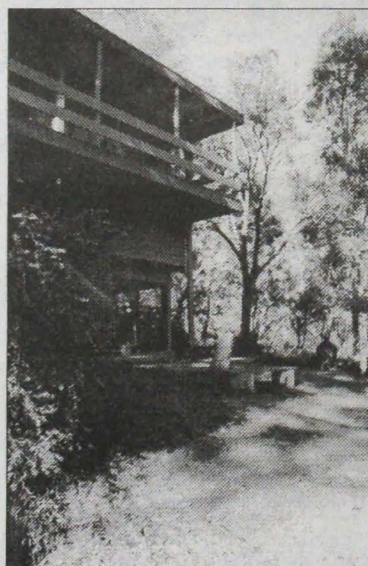
The Warrandyte Historical Society, local neighbourhood houses, and the high school are also involved, and a website will be created to explore and make accessible this generation's stories and experiences.

"The theatre company actors,

including our own Jock Macneish and Ken Virtue, will be doing several playback performances to facilitate storytelling during writing workshops—for both men and women—to be held at older people's residential services, their private homes, and community venues."

Anyone interested in participating in this project can call Sue Dyring on 9844 4594.

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Seniors back on council wheels

By RACHEL BAKER

If you're a senior citizen and you live in Warrandyte—north or south of the river—you are probably okay for a free bus ride to your club's activities.

A disagreement surrounding Warrandyte's Senior Citizens Club was resolved last month, with Manningham council agreeing to transport North Warrandyte members to the club's activities.

Because North Warrandyte is in Nillumbik shire, the bus provided by Manningham council did not previously pick up members on the other side of the river for the club's lunches and shopping days.

Manningham council has now announced that their bus will now pick up North Warrandyte residents, but that Manningham people will have the first priority.

"If there are vacancies, people in North Warrandyte who qualify under the Home and Aged Community Care scheme will be picked up," Noel McMahon of Manningham council, said.

Everyone who is picked up by the bus must fall under the community care guidelines, whether they are from Manningham or Nillumbik.

Nillumbik council denies that transport of the club's North Warrandyte members is their responsibility. "The club is in Manningham; we weren't picking them up because it wasn't our club. Our bus picks up people for the Eltham and Diamond Creek clubs," a spokeswoman for Nillumbik council said.

Jackie Law, secretary of Warrandyte Elderly Citizens Club, said outings for its members are vital. "It's very important," she said, "Can you imagine being stuck inside four walls?"

The outings include lunch at the club every Thursday and shopping every Friday morning.

Bonnie Peake is a member of the Elderly Citizens Club and is picked up every Friday to go shopping. "I can drive, but I don't like driving where there's too much traffic," Mrs Peake said. The bus is very helpful because it comes to her door, takes her to the shopping centre—usually The Pines—and the bus driver carries the shopping to her door.

Dora Stubbs, who lives in North Warrandyte, said she would love to be picked up by the bus for outings. Mrs Stubbs doesn't drive and catches the bus to get around.

"I had to go to the doctor the other day and the bus didn't stop for me; I waited for the next one, but it didn't come," she said. "Eventually I went home and called a taxi," she said.

Mrs Stubbs said it would be good to go shopping and do banking without waiting for, or carrying groceries onto, the bus.

Mrs Peake said there are some people who depend on the bus to get around. "There's a few who probably wouldn't get out if it wasn't for the bus," she said. "It's not good for old people to stay in a house and never go out."



Paradise on Stiggant Street: a dozen more clusters like this, dotted around the village, and Warrandyte's senior housing problems would be solved. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

No home among the gum trees?

By CLINTON GRYBAS

Warrandyte's history is walking out the door—still.

The elderly folk who shaped the town, built the schools and fought for the community facilities that we now enjoy are leaving, beating a lonely path elsewhere.

They leave without fanfare as Warrandyte's appalling lack of housing for the elderly continues. And it's hardly a new problem.

"I am now attending the same meetings my mother went to 25 years ago with the same subject being spoken about," said Jackie Law, secretary of Warrandyte Senior Citizens.

"There is a definite need but we do this year after year after year. It's been going on now for so long."

Margory Lapworth, from Warrandyte Housing and Support Service, has invested an enormous amount of time over many years trying to find a solution. With none on the immediate horizon she is equally frustrated.

"I'm frustrated by the number of meetings and the lack of impetus after the meetings."

"Everybody listens and says 'Oh yes, we realise, we understand' but nobody ever does anything. And we're not in a position to beat drums and make those decisions that will actually bring the housing further up the line."

Ten years ago Mrs Lapworth was involved in a major survey on the need for elderly housing in

Warrandyte. There was a positive response. "Now we are all 10 years older than when we did the survey. We would easily fill 60 units, no problem at all, with Warrandyte people who want to relinquish their properties."

The desirable option appears to be small clusters of six to eight units confined to the local area, preferably with a carer close at hand.

The only suitable units—at a realistic price—in the whole of Warrandyte are those at the corner of Yarra and Stiggant streets, built many years ago. They serve as a fine example of what is needed, but there are two few of them.

"Everybody got excited when we thought (we were getting) aged housing for private people on the corner of Everard Drive," said Mrs Law.

"What a laugh. Luxury bloody units. They are beautiful units. Those are the sort of units we should have around the place for our elderly—lots of them."

Mrs Lapworth agrees, disappointed that the eight dwellings planned for Cemetery Road will not be reserved for older locals.

"We were hoping they would be for the aged. But they will be like the ones on Everard Drive which are way out of the reach of normal people in Warrandyte."

Few elderly are not touched by the crisis. Isabelle Bradford, 95, is president of the Warrandyte Senior Citizens Club. But even she has had to move out, now residing in Eltham. There was nothing available for her here and now the lack of transport makes seeing her many friends difficult.

Trevor Parker still lives on Tindals Road but is hoping for a solution soon. He wrote to the *Diary* this month expressing his disappointment:

"It saddens me to again read that another of our long-time residents has been forced to move from our area through lack of suitable housing for our senior citizens."

"Whilst certainly not in favour of dual occupancy," Mr Parker believes that clusters of "say, four, five or six units" could be built "without all the rigmarole." They would be in "areas not on the main road but tucked away and still within easy reach of amenities—shopping, transport, senior citizens club, etc."

"No more maintaining older homes and large gardens. An opportunity to live out their final years in an area that they have nurtured and are entitled to say, 'We made it what it is and we are pleased to be able to stay on'."

They paid a price

By CLIFF GREEN

The story of Warrandyte's struggle to obtain housing for its elderly citizens is a sorry saga.

A tale of high hopes dashed, of council promises broken, of surveys, proposals and plans that went nowhere, of a community that seems to have lost heart.

In November, 1987 the Uniting Church in Warrandyte announced plans to build a retirement housing project. It came to nothing.

Dual occupancy was banned in Warrandyte in September, 1988. Thus ended a long struggle by local residents to stop the destruction of the character of our township, but it also meant intending retirees were denied the right to subdivide their properties, live in one of the units and rent or sell the others. The elderly were as strong in their condemnation of closer development in Warrandyte as everyone else, but they were the ones who paid the price.

This galvanised locals into campaigning for the allocation of land and the building of a retirement village. Finally, in October 1994, on the very eve of amalgamation ordered by the Kennett government, Doncaster council pledged \$370,000 for land for the village. This promise was abandoned by the government-appointed commissioners.

What is Manningham council currently doing about the provision of accommodation

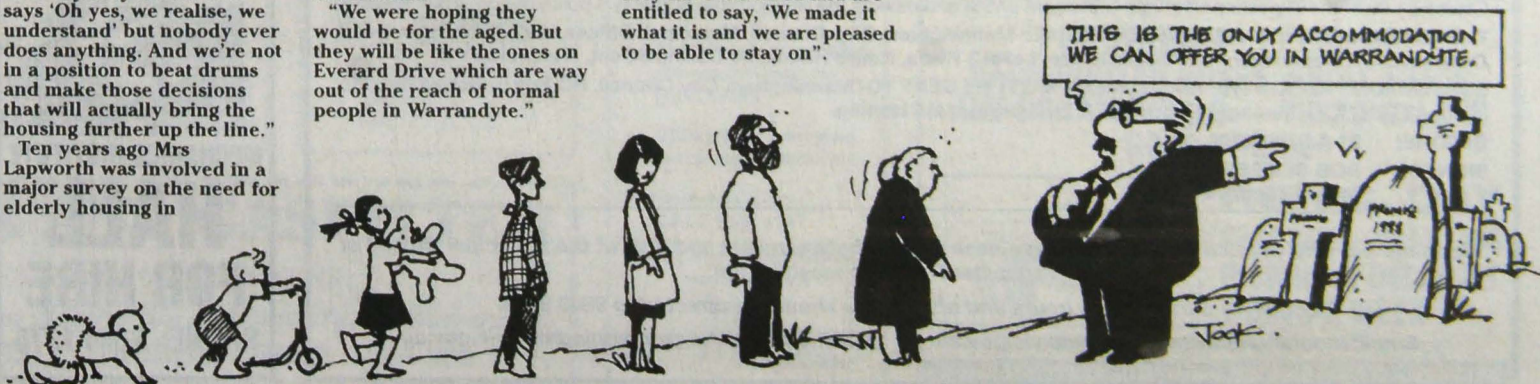
for retirees in Warrandyte? As part of our research for this page, the *Diary* faxed Cr Patricia Young. She answered: "I am totally aware of the wishes of some older residents in the Warrandyte area regarding being able to move to smaller accommodation and perhaps supported accommodation close to the area where they have lived for a number of years."

"It is important in this day and age that people over 40 years start to think of their retirement and where they want to live—and how—in the 15 or 20 years after retirement."

"The Commonwealth government works on its planning data for the distribution of available places in each aged care region and unfortunately for the current year, Manningham has not been listed as a priority."

"It has been widely recognised that within Manningham there is a shortage of large landholdings in a flat location close to shopping and transport facilities. This is very evident in Warrandyte. This is reinforced through the investigations undertaken by the private sector as well as through council."

"If any of the *Diary's* readers wish to have an input into the needs of the aged in the Warrandyte or surrounding areas, council would be very happy to receive their wishes in writing, to go towards the Housing Strategy, keeping in mind the problem of the availability of land."



High kids' Wiz of a show



Adapted from the Wonderful Wizard Of Oz by L. Frank Bauer, The Wiz is the modernised rock musical of the 70s, now in its final stages of rehearsal at Warrandyte High School. "Sure to entertain audiences of all ages, The Wiz works as a somewhat lighter departure from Warrandyte High School's recent annual offerings of Sweeney Todd and Les Miserables," a school spokes-

person told the *Diary*. "The usual production team of Chris and Lynette White with Kirk Skinner as musical director promise great vocals, bright sets and costumes, full orchestra, spectacular lighting and pyrotechnics, inspirational choreography and of course a cast of singers and actors that continue to wow audiences every year, from inside and outside the school community."

"If you haven't experienced a WHS musical before, then you're in for a great surprise and a real theatrical treat," the spokesperson said. "But you'll have to book early."

The season opens on Wednesday, August 30, running through until Saturday, September 9. Tickets cost—adults \$18 (adults) and \$12 (students and concessions). Bookings though 9844 2749.

Wow! It's a bird, it's a plane, it's—a WIZ! Making his terrifying and spectacular entrance on stage at Warrandyte High School, Mark Speliolopoulos of Year 12 does his thing as Dorothy (Evie Gough) and the Gatekeeper (Josh Smith) quake with appropriate fear and loathing.

Creek kids head for dance fame

It started with an idea and two young Andersons Creek primary teachers. It became a lunchtime dance club. Then two dance clubs!

"This year it resulted in a magical time of dance, movement, laughter and many, many hours of rehearsal," a school spokesperson told the *Diary*. It is the story of Andersons Creek's debut performance at the Wakakirri Challenge 2000 Dance Eisteddfod.

"Teachers Brooke Mason (Prep) and Melissa Mitchell (Year 5) decided that if they could run a junior dance club for Prep to Grade 2 and a senior club for grades 3 to 6 each week, they could certainly put together a little routine for a dance competition," the spokesperson said. "They auditioned and the response was overwhelming. The routine then had to include 64 children from Prep to Grade 6."

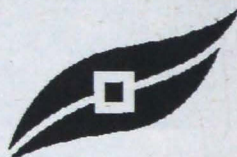
"The days flew by. Music was chosen, a student committee was formed, dances were choreographed and fundraising was organised. The school holidays drew near, as did the mid-

year reports but the children and teachers soldiered on. In the weeks prior to the competition heat, numerous difficulties were encountered, but no problem was too great for the fearless crew from the Creek, not even a broken arm or the chicken pox.

"The big day came and we headed for the Athenaeum Theatre on Collins Street to put our talents to the test. After an exhilarating evening of dance and drama and the thrill of performing on a professional stage, we waited for the results.

"The outcome was everything we hoped for," the spokesperson said. "Not only did we win the major award for dance and movement, we also took the prize for best school." Andersons Creek will be competing in the Victorian grand final at the Melbourne Concert Hall on September 14 against 14 finalist schools.

"We are so proud to be representing our school and drawing such positive attention to the community of Warrandyte," the spokesperson said. "We'll keep you posted."



MANNINGHAM

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT TO THE MANNINGHAM PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C1 Manningham City Council Planning and Environment Act 1987

Manningham City Council has prepared Amendment C1 to the Manningham Planning Scheme. The amendment introduces permanent heritage controls over 41 heritage places in the schedule to Clause 43.01 Heritage Overlay for which interim controls were provided with the introduction of the scheme. The amendment also amends the Manningham Planning Scheme Map No. 4HO to identify correct parcels of land affected by HO163 being the Black Flat Mining Area Heritage Precinct, Tills Drive and Nelson Drive, Warrandyte. The amendment also provides a correct description in the schedule to Clause 43.01 Heritage Overlay for heritage place HO163. **THE AMENDMENT CAN BE INSPECTED AT: Manningham City Council Municipal Offices, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster OR Department of Infrastructure, Level 3 Plaza, Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne.** **SUBMISSIONS ABOUT THE AMENDMENT MUST BE SENT TO: Manningham City Council, PO Box 1, Doncaster, Vic, 3108. ATTENTION: Manager Economic & Environmental Planning.** **BEFORE: 21 August 2000.** **SIGNED: BOB SEIFFERT** Chief Executive

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT TO THE MANNINGHAM PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C2 Manningham City Council Planning and Environment Act 1987

Manningham City Council has prepared Amendment C2 to the Manningham Planning Scheme. The amendment applies to land on Map No. 2SL06 and Map No. 3SL06. These areas have interim controls with an expiry date of 30 June 2001. The amendment is required to replace the interim controls, which apply to areas on Map No. 2SL06 and Map No. 3SL06 and expire on 30 June 2001 with permanent controls. The amendment deletes Map No. 2SL06 and Map No. 3SL06 and includes these areas in Map No. 2SL01 and Map No. 3SL01. **THE AMENDMENT CAN BE INSPECTED AT: Manningham City Council Municipal Offices, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster OR Department of Infrastructure, Level 3 Plaza, Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne.** **SUBMISSIONS ABOUT THE AMENDMENT MUST BE SENT TO: Manningham City Council, PO Box 1, Doncaster, Vic, 3108. ATTENTION: Manager Economic & Environmental Planning.** **BEFORE: 21 August 2000.** **SIGNED: BOB SEIFFERT** Chief Executive

NOTICE OF AMENDMENT TO THE MANNINGHAM PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C3 Manningham City Council Planning and Environment Act 1987

Manningham City Council has prepared Amendment C3 to the Manningham Planning Scheme. The amendment affects land zoned as Environmental Rural and commonly referred to as the non-urban area. The amendment inserts an additional Local Policy; Clause 22.12. More than one dwelling in non-urban areas. This Clause includes the basis for the policy, the objectives of the policy, the policy and decision guidelines. The policy sets out the requirements for additional dwellings, including outbuildings/other structures in non-urban areas. The amendment also replaces Clause 21.09 in the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) and reflects the Responsible Authority's policy in non-urban areas. **THE AMENDMENT CAN BE INSPECTED AT: Manningham City Council Municipal Offices, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster OR Department of Infrastructure, Level 3 Plaza, Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne.** **SUBMISSIONS ABOUT THE AMENDMENT MUST BE SENT TO: Manningham City Council, PO Box 1, Doncaster, Vic, 3108. ATTENTION: Manager Economic & Environmental Planning.** **BEFORE: 21 August 2000.** **SIGNED: BOB SEIFFERT** Chief Executive

Manningham City Council Customer Service desk is open between 8am and 5pm at the Municipal Offices at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster 3108.

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Playing for laughs

THEATRE

By MARILYN MOORE

HERE'S nothing like a good laugh to warm you up on a chilly winter's night, and the Warrandyte Theatre Company's recent production of *Habeas Corpus* certainly provided the audience with plenty to laugh at.

This British play is set in and around the home of a GP, in Brighton's plush silk-stockings district of Hove. Loosely translated as "thou shalt have the body" (or, in legalese, "let the body be brought before a judge"), Alan Bennett's pacy 1960s-style farce relies greatly on clever interpretation of its comic stereotypes. The talented Warrandyte cast filled the bill admirably.

It wasn't an easy job. Most of the characters were complex, and the punchy dialogue gave limited opportunity for the actors to convey the required mood changes.

"The apparent simplicity of the play is crafted over a web of subtle and complex relationships," states director Caroline Shaw. "Alan Bennett's writing is both witty and poignant, providing an excellent opportunity to explore the tangles that humans get themselves into."

The central character, Dr Arthur Wicksteed ("53 and the tide's going out") was played with great aplomb by Jack Stringer. Lecherous but refined, romantic yet unloving, Arthur has few illusions about life. In theory, he despises the human body. ("Show me a human body and I will show you a cesspit.") In practice however, he does not always follow his own theories to the letter, especially when the body in question is an enticing young female of the species. Jack gave this role considerable presence and credibility.

Arthur's superbly refined and well-endowed wife Muriel (Sue Dyring) is, superficially, a confidently upmarket matron. In reality she is an unhappy romantic, bursting to "break through the dead crust of morality". Sue carried off this difficult role with dignity and style.

It would belittle the calibre of the play to dub it merely a vulgar romp, full of sex-obsessed characters, but admittedly that is rather how the script reads. The eager-but-polite Canon Could-you-please-describe-that-in-more-detail? Throbbing, played convincingly by Adrian Rice, hankers lustily after Joy Flannagan's wonderfully dowdy Constance I-am-NOT-a-spinster-I'm-unmarried Wicksteed. Arthur and Muriel's hypochondriac and spinelessly daggy son Dennis Wicksteed, played with appropriate awfulness by David Frazer, decides that he no longer has every disease in the medical dictionary when something desirable comes his way. The self-important and griggish president of the British Medical Association, Sir Percy Shorter (played most amusingly by Chris I-seem-to-keep-dropping-things Shaw) is a man who sees even the doctor-patient relationship as a kind of seduction; he positively trembles with anticipation at the prospect of a meeting with Muriel Wicksteed, who, many years ago as it turns out, had turned him down in favour of the more physically impressive Arthur.

The arrival in Hove of Lady Delia Rumpers (THE Rumpers, one understands, of Rhodesia and Rangoon, marvellously portrayed by the delightful Kerry Wood) and her provocatively nubile daughter Felicity (Mandy Browning) triggers one set of events. At the same time, poor flat-chested



Keeping abreast: Joy Flannagan (left), Jack Stringer and Mandy Browning in a titillating scene from *Habeas Corpus*.

Connie decides to expand her opportunities beyond the unwelcome advances of Canon Throbbing by investing five English pounds in a life-changing appliance. This brings yet another visitor to the house, a Mr Shanks, bra-fitter to the under-endowed (Bill Mitchell), whose eager brain does not work (fortunately for the plot) quite as deftly as his long and tactile fingers.

Into the midst of this hilarious fray, and selfishly ignored by almost every character on stage, keeps cropping up (or rather hanging up) the desperately depressed Mr Purdue (Josh Mitchell). In real life suicide is seriously unfunny, but this was clearly not real life and the audience found poor Mr Purdue very funny indeed.

Finally, every complicated story needs a narrator, every deep and meaningful play a commentator, and every farce a Nosey Parker. In this case all three were rolled into one delightful character, the ubiquitous Mrs Swabb, charwoman to the Wicksteeds. Joan Quagliana filled this role most creditably, her cheeky smile and earthy observations adding a great deal of honesty and warmth to the tone of the play.

And so the farce gaily unfolded, with exactly the required degree of mistaken identity, interpersonal sub-plotting and a highly entertaining spate of trouser-dropping, the

most hilarious occasion catching Sir Percy himself unawares. Even the tragic Mr Purdue became trouserless ("Don't need trousers where I'm going...") An aspect of the production which had clearly received considerable attention was the selection of underpants.

If I have one criticism of this performance, it would be that the actors were enjoying themselves so hugely throughout that perhaps some of the poignancy and darker moods in the script lacked weight. But actors are only human, and who could possibly radiate anything but amusement with the likes of talented comic Bill Mitchell on stage and an audience shouting with laughter?

As we have come to expect from the WTC, the direction was tight (Caroline Shaw), the production slick (Rae Danks), and the stage managing reliable (Jan Nance). Jock Macneish's set design was economical yet visually appealing; it supported the actors very well without ever distracting the audience. The lighting (Brian Laurence and Gail Macrae) was cleverly mastered, with many subtle changes. Sound (Brian Laurence and Ian Craig) and special effects (Tony Williams of Capricorn Staging) were also well-managed. The result was a quality production indeed.

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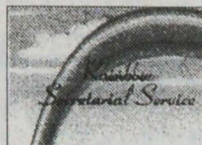


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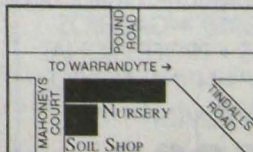
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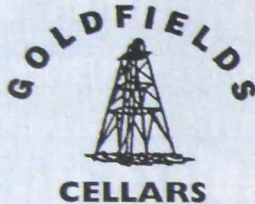
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Proud father bathes in reflected torchlit glory

THE first we knew about Boy Wonder being an Olympic Torchbearer was when he phoned to tell us that he was to run in Fairfield/Ivanhoe on Sunday, July 30.

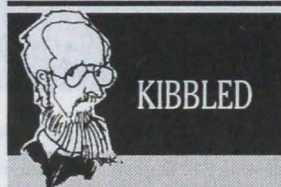
We were aware of the application to be a torchbearer because Herself had cajoled him into providing the hundred words to complete the application. They did it over the phone with 24 hours to spare. The application form was sent off and forgotten. After all, there were all those former Olympians, sponsors' nominees and IOC's relatives who had to get a guernsey or should I say a set of approved IOC running clobber, before any of the normal punters could have a crack at carrying the oversized cigarette lighter.

Because the number of non-affiliated or special class Australians was so small, Herself and I were even prouder when we found out that guys such as Boy Wonder had to "stand out" in order to be given a leg of the torch's journey.

The arrival of the running gear and the information about the exact location of his 400m was the next step in the process. The parcel included a pair of one-size-fits-all shorts and long sleeved T-shirt.

"I look like a nerd. Perhaps I can shrink this stuff so it looks like it fits me!"

I could see what Boy Wonder meant, but the prospect of opening the washing machine to find a set of Olympic torchbearer's doll's clothes was too scary. I couldn't see the organisers parting with another set because Boy Wonder had



"Tim Sherwood ducked into the nearby Shell loo and missed it all. A metaphor for life, really."

been too fashion conscious. He experimented with pulling them under his armpits but this made him look too like Matt Shirvington. He tried rolling the waistband but this had Michelin associations; so daggy is what it had to stay. To be fair, the job of providing appropriate gear for the multitude of sizes and shapes must have been daunting. That, and the difficulty of definition. Normally Boy Wonder takes XL. The Olympic stuff is made by Bonds and their XL is XXXL.

Fashion considerations aside, we were all excited by the prospect of having Boy Wonder carry the dream before an assembled crowd of partisan relatives, Fairfield locals and a world wide audience of slightly bemused TV spectators. Boy Wonder's few minutes of fame! The day was colder than an-

ticipated and we wondered how Boy Wonder would manage in the approved outfit. Especially as any other clothing was verboten.

We arrived to find spectators milling along the sides of Heidelberg Road. We found our assorted relatives and discussed where we should stand. At the beginning, for his first changeover, en route or at the end? Half of us decided on the first part of the route whilst the immediate family waited at the end of his 400 metres of glory.

The pre-run entertainment was almost as exciting as the actual run. Police cars swooped down the road, full of leather-clad officers. None stopped so I can only assume that theirs was a moving brief.

Motorcycle police cruised the barrier lines, looking all the world like crouching Darth Vaders. Star quality was supplied by the Tasmanian boys in black leather who were riding iridescent royal blue Harleys. They waved to the crowds, posed for pictures and stopped to sign lucrative movie contracts for the remake of Easy Rider.

Less sexy station wagons did the flag drop. They stopped every 50 metres to hand out bundles of flags advertising AMP and, by the way, the Sydney 2000 Games. The flags were OK, but I must admit I was hanging out for the balloons. I'd heard that there were 300,000 of them—but not one of them in Fairfield.

Finally, ten minutes early, Boy Wonder, surrounded by 15 support vehicles, jogged into view. He was flanked by several runners, two of whom were ultra-

fit boys in blue, who, at a moment's notice, because of death or alien abduction, could whip off their blue support gear to become an official torch runner. Only the prostrate body or a suspicious burn mark on the asphalt would indicate to the viewing world that the runner on the screen was not an Olympic veteran or Kevin's second aunt.

In the blinking of an eye, Boy Wonder was upon us. I saw most of his race through the viewfinder of the camera and for the changeover I had to fire blind with my arms above my head, my camera hopefully pointed at the significant event.

The trouble associated with the event was not only mine. Whilst most of the Warrandyte Prep School parents of 1976 arrived a little early and saw it all happen, Tim Sherwood, thinking he had 10 minutes to spare, because he quite logically assumed that these sorts of events always run a little late, ducked into the nearby Shell loo and missed it all. A sort of metaphor for life, really.

After his leg of the run was over, Boy Wonder had a minute or two, during which he signed autographs for people who had no idea who he was and who would never hear of him again. He was then whisked off into the official bus and was gone, just like the official torch and its entourage. We stood around, excited yet unsure about what to do next so we hugged, kissed and decided to make our way home.

So, there it was: the day, the crowds, the flame, the torch, his run, Australia's dream—our pride!

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Here comes the sun, great creator of light and energy

THE weather; our single most popular topic of conversation. To family, friends and strangers alike, we comment on or complain about the heat, the cold, rain and drought. When the perfect day comes along we eulogize about that too. But day after day of whatever each of us perceives as perfect weather would be boring.

Weather is everywhere; always. It has an impact on many of our daily lives. Weather also influences our mood. The syndrome known as Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) is very real. It is no coincidence that more suicides occur over the winter months, although of course other factors play a major part. Most of us feel a little down during the dull short-day depths of winter when the sun is hidden by perpetual cloud for days on end.

The sun is our lifeline. It warms us, feeds us and illuminates our planet. Mother earth and her sister planets were formed around five billion years ago from the swirling debris of dust and gas that remained following the birth of our star, the sun. Which makes the sun our sort of cosmic grandmother.

The boiling sphere of the sun, 100 times the diameter of the earth, is a gigantic nuclear reactor. At its core, under extreme high temperature and pressure, atoms of hydrogen fuse together to form helium, releasing massive amounts of energy in the process. Wrapped in its safety blanket of atmosphere, the earth relies on a mere frac-



NATURE

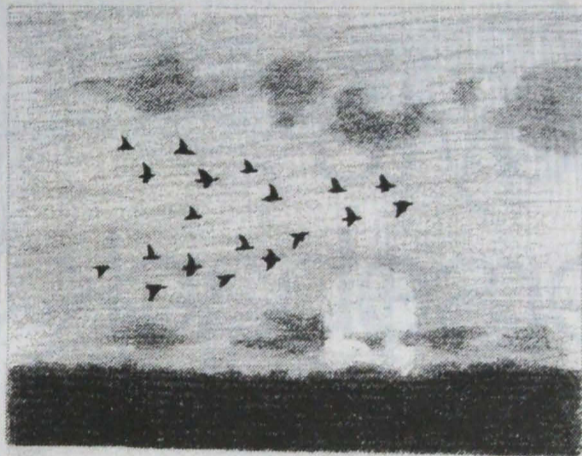
By **PAT COUPAR**
 Drawn by **MELANIE COUPAR**

tion of this energy to sustain life.

If, through some cataclysmic event, light from the sun were blotted out, most species on earth, including our own, would become extinct. No wonder the ancient Egyptians chose to worship the sun god they named Ra, meaning giver of light and life—a concept that in these modern times of scientific enlightenment is still both logical and appealing.

Weather is the result of the relationship of our planet with its star. Earth's orbit around the sun gives us seasonal weather variations, while the daily rotation of the earth on its axis produces wind as air is dragged around. Solar activity such as sun spots, plus the warming and cooling of great land masses and oceans, all affect the weather.

By sensing a rise or fall in atmospheric pressure and humidity, animals, particularly insects, can predict weather events such as storms. Annual changes in the state of the weather are a cue for some animals to migrate. Certain species of bats, butterflies, whales, fish and of course birds, travel thousands of kilometres in search of food and better breeding conditions. How do they find their way so accurately? Often birds will have parental guidance for



that first epic journey and it is thought the youngsters are able to make some sort of mental map. Flying by day, geographical features are an aid to navigation as are the stars at night. But when it is cloudy the birds have to use other forces to keep on track like the earth's magnetic field.

The masters of migration are the Arctic Terns. Within a matter of weeks after hatching in July, chicks set out on an 18,000 kilometre flight from Greenland, down the west coast of Europe and Africa and across a 3000 kilometre stretch of the Antarctic Ocean to their summer feeding grounds, not far from the South Pole. Only to return north again by the same route in May to nest. Some humans, mostly those

approaching the latter years of their life and living in the southern states, also migrate annually. The stimulus for their departure towards the end of May is the onset of cold weather and dwindling daylight hours. The human migration is northwards, following the sun, seeking warmth for aging bones.

A couple of years ago the ABC produced a touching documentary about these human migrants. They called it *The Grey Nomads*. With the prospect of retirement looming in the next five to 10 years, winter migration to escape the southern chill is looking an enticing option. To quote Lennon and McCartney "One day, you'll find, that I have gone. For tomorrow may rain, so I'll follow the sun".

'Cheating' replaces chalk and talk

EVEN close siblings differ a lot. For example, my brother always loved runny red raspberry jam dripping off his after-school slab of bread, while I went for the lumpiest apricot jam I could find. He was keen on raisins, while I preferred dates. Working in tandem, we could leave quite a damage trail in the kitchen cupboard.

At school, he hated anything to do with reading or writing. I loved it. On the other hand, having a meticulously scientific brain, he was very focussed on what made things tick. I could not always be bothered with detail, but would happily take on as many different subjects as possible.

Yet at school we both had to follow the same course, and study the same subjects. There was no room in the curriculum for individuality, and little scope for exploring personal interests.

How things have changed in just one generation! School is now the most amazing place. People keep saying they wouldn't be a teenager again for quids, but I'd swap places any day.

Schools seem to have finally accepted the fact that kids won't pay attention unless the teachers can come up with



By **MARILYN MOORE**

something pretty riveting. Consequently there seems to be increasingly less time spent staring blankly out the window during "double French" and much more focus on personal challenge and real-life issues.

Year 8-10 syllabuses are now likely to include subjects such as activism (how to constructively vent anger and frustration about social and political issues), song writing and recording studio, fire-fighting, writing and designing computer games, Aboriginal history, images (and consequences) of war, playing the stock market game, creative writing, extensive and challenging outdoor education programs, photography, or involvement in community landcare or streamwatch projects: all this and much more.

Excellence in sport, music,

speech, drama, theatre and dance is also greatly encouraged. No longer is anyone considered a dunce simply for being slow at maths or bad at exams. Everybody has the opportunity to find something they like, and to do it really well.

For example, somebody who hates schoolwork but who can talk the hind leg off a chair might well end up as an actor, radio presenter, lawyer, politician or sports commentator. Back in the 60s, such behaviour would have steered a student toward nothing more useful than detention or the principal's office. Nowadays such a student would be led towards subjects which were virtually non-existent back then: drama, speech, sound studio, debating, sport or public relations. Personal development ranks right up there with academic development.

Widespread use of computers in schools has created some of the most exciting new subjects. Keyboard lab would be just brilliant. Imagine being able to do all that composing and transposing without wearing out your eraser! Another winner is robotics, which combines computer programming with advanced Lego, and seems to be the ultimate playground for 15-year old boys.

One current class project at our school is to design and build model racing cars, then to calculate which are the most aerodynamically and energy efficient. Another is to build an electric motor from scratch, again comparing efficiencies. Maths and science are no longer just stuff you copy off the blackboard; they are living subjects.

Technology permeates the kids' social lives as well. Jargon like goggleplex, spamforest, funnyjam and boys-from-the-bush (I know that one—it means big grippy tyres) rules. "Cheating" no longer necessarily means you've done something unforgivable: the cheaters guild is a list of much-needed keyboard shortcuts. "Napster" (the software for downloading music off the internet) was a huge hit until the US judiciary banned it last week. So much for the law. New pathways have already been found. Kids seem to be able to teach themselves these things faster than they can say "information technology". I predict a big future for combined IT/law graduates!

How did our generation survive such boring school days? Even as I write, another fantastic new subject has landed: dragon slaying (true!) I want a refund.

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Policing Warrandyte from horseback



In 1988, LEONARD J. McCOLL, a former local policeman, wrote down these memories of Warrandyte.

In the month of January, 1939, I was a mounted constable stationed at Sunbury. How well I remember Friday, January 13. I set out early that morning to ride to Lancefield to pick up the troophorse there which was en route to the Police Depot in Melbourne. The temperature rose to 113 degrees Fahrenheit.

Next day I learned Warrandyte and district had been practically destroyed by fire. No wonder it was called Black Friday. I never dreamed that in a few short months I would be transferred there.

On arrival I saw where houses had been razed to ground level, blackened trees, people living in tents, blackness everywhere. I was confronted with the stark reality of the aftermath of a savage bushfire. It was a traumatic experience. Now, nearly 50 years on, I can still feel for those people who had lost everything.

I was appointed captain and Jim Walsh lieutenant of the fire brigade, which consisted of a number of knapsacks and nothing else. In the event of fire we would depart to the scene in whatever transport was available. Rather primitive, but we had no other choice.

The brigade was autonomous—every local was a member—and was owned by the local people. What plans we made were fully supported. We had a large area to cover: Kangaroo Ground, Wonga Park, Park Orchards, South Warrandyte,

OF DAYS GONE BY

Andersons Creek and so on. For equipment we had to rely on donations from the local people. Remember, we had no water supply laid on.

As regards formulating and carrying out plans, I do not propose to name specific persons, because, in my opinion, each and every citizen was of equal importance whether they performed minor or major duties. We had to endeavour to obtain better equipment and utilise our resources to the fullest extent. Gradually we progressed in some small way.

Prior to the summer months we started burning off danger areas around the township. Then, occasionally, some residents would request we burn off around their homes. For this service, those that could afford it would make a donation to the brigade, thus affording us with the opportunity to procure some equipment.

We planned and brought into operation certain of our officers who resided in outlying areas to act as "fire-spotters". Their duty, if a fire broke out in their area, was to report to me the extent of the fire and what men would be required to deal with it. This method proved very beneficial if the fire was small and easily handled, minimising manpower and undue wastage of time.

In time we became affluent enough to procure a fire truck; then we built a fire station.

On one occasion we saved a weekend home from destruction by fire. This home was owned by an engineering firm in Melbourne and in their gratitude they delivered to me one of their products—namely a

water pump—which was gratefully received and duly installed on our fire truck.

So in some small way, over a period of time, we had conceived a plan to combat fires to the best of our resources and ability; a reasonably equipped fire truck; knapsacks; and best of all—all obtained by the generosity and hard work of all the excellent citizens of Warrandyte and district.

Another good aspect arising from all this—not one house was destroyed by fire during my period of time: 1939 to 1946. Certainly, we still had our share of bushfires, contrived by the terrain of the countryside; heavily timbered hills and gullies. But we managed to come through them without loss of life or property.

On one occasion, we were fighting a fire which had swept through from the Research area and had covered Bradleys Hill. We saved Mr Bradley's home. The fire swept across the river in one spot. We had to cross the river. Fortunately there was a canoe moored on the riverbank. But there were no paddles.

Jim Walsh and I decided we would endeavour to cross using our hands as paddles. We were nearly swept away by the current, but our frantic efforts eventually carried us across. If we had failed we would have had a firsthand look at what the Pound Bend Tunnel looked like from the inside. Providing, of course, we made it to the other end. Perhaps amusing now, but not to us at the time.

One summer's night I received a call that a tree was alight on Kangaroo Ground Road. On arrival I found three hollow trees burning. The offender gave me a classic excuse: "I was just lighting up the way".

War was declared in 1939. More hardship for the local people who

had already suffered so much. I can recall the local boys who went to war so vividly.

One such boy who came home on leave after serving in the Middle East spent his final evening prior to going to the islands with my wife and me. He confided some of his innermost thoughts to us. Later my brother visited me whilst on leave from the islands and told me how this boy had died.

Another time I had to convey to a widow the message that her son had been shot down and killed over Germany.

I could go on and on. Of the dreadful sadness of the war years, all of which I spent with the people of Warrandyte. No wonder I feel such warmth for those hardy and steadfast folk.

Gradually the town was rebuilt. Who could forget those lovely, crisp, frosty mornings? The magnificent wattle trees in full bloom in all their golden splendour. The heavy fogs above the river and along the timbered gullies, with the sun beginning to peep through. And so many other things I could write about.

In conclusion, a few lines about the police troophorse. She was a three year-old when I arrived. An excellent jumper, never known to balk. She was better than any watchdog. No-one was allowed in the backyard or paddock unless I was there. She could be made to lie down, sit up, stand on her hind legs and walk around you. She would go swimming in the river with us.

On the occasions I had to go to Melbourne on duty I would ride her down. I rode her to Doncaster each month to have her shod. All in all she was an excellent horse: "Vale, Minnie".

I was transferred from Warrandyte in October 1946. And I have never been back. Lovely Warrandyte.

Congratulations

go to Mrs Thwaites of Leber Street, Warrandyte who was the lucky winner of our Queensland holiday for two including air fares and accommodation valued at \$1,500. Mrs Thwaites (pictured) also picked up an extra \$200, \$100 for being a current Club Warrandyte member, and an additional \$100 for being present on the Monday evening of the draw. Congratulations furthermore to the eight or so entrants drawn for consolation prizes throughout the night. The first major promotion undertaken by the Club since its inception boasted an overwhelming 12,800 entries over an 8 week period. Many members and visitors to the Club specifically booked in for dinner on the night to be in the chance for additional prizes offered when present at the draw. Thank you one and all for your support.



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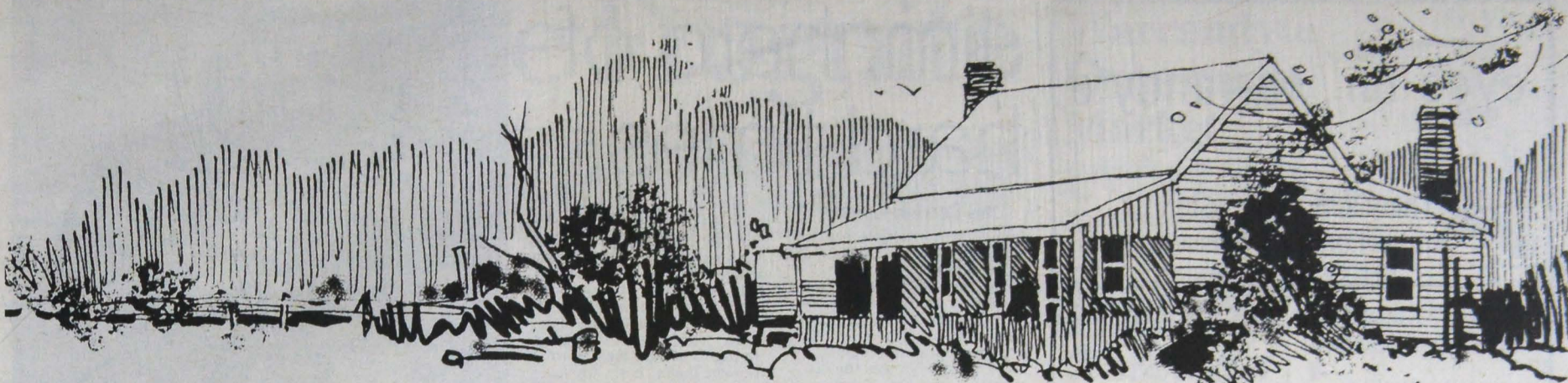
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When it rained and rained

DAD Wagner got one load of produce to market before the 1934 floods ruined his crops. Joe was a terribly long time coming home from that trip to the market.

It had been raining for three or four days and nights. It never stopped, and when he did get home, Dad started storming at him, "Where in the hell have you been?" He was going real crook. Joe said to him, "Have you seen the flats?" It was raining like mad the whole time. Dad said, "No, what's wrong with the flats?" Joe, on the way in, had gone to look at the market garden and the river had risen and flood waters came right across the flats covering the garden.

"Everything is wiped out," said Joe. The whole lower river terrace was covered in water, leaving the area, where the Warrandyte State Park depot is now, like an island. At least Joe had taken one load to market, Harry Moore trucked it there for him.

The Moores were grocers in Yarra Street. Harry Moore had an old truck and he drove over Pound Hill and we loaded it up with produce. On the way back over the hill, Joe and I would have to follow him up the steep bits of track with a six foot log of wood. Harry would drive along, then he would yell out, "Chock!" We would have to place the wood behind his wheels to stop him running back down again, so he could change gears or do whatever he had to do.

Before the big flood, we would cross the river by the old swing bridge and work at the Pearsons' farm (now Laughing Waters Park at the end of Glynn's Road. Look across the river from the Evelyn Tunnel outflow, there are two terraces gouged by the river at different flow rates. The lower terrace now has wetlands restored to it. In a previous existence it had been a lucerne paddock along the flats).

Dad would be employed to plough it up whilst Joe and I collected sticks and roots, cleaning the paddock

PIONEERING DAYS

By RUBY ('POPSY') BONE
As told to GLEN JAMESON

ready for sowing lucerne. The grandmother of the Pearson boy made Joe and I rest for half an hour on stretchers before going back to work after lunch. Dad didn't like that!

At the height of the big flood, 18 year-old Jim Harris walked across Princes Bridge on his way to work in the city where Yarra floodwaters tickled the bottom of the bridge. Flood waters washed the streets across the city, and had already swept up a boathouse from Studley Park, ramming it into the swing bridge downstream, destroying both. Jim, who later married Lorraine Day, watched the flooding stream under the bridge smash a piano being carried on the torrent into the bottom of the bridge.

After the water went down, and for days after the big flood, the Day kids—Lorraine and Ronny—would discover debris along the riverside from the Huddy's holiday home which was down the government road, now a dirt track running down the side of the old orchard site. Sometimes a mattress aloft in a tall white Manna Gum, perched there like some strange giant nest. Sometimes they found full plates, other times shark tooth-shaped shards of broken china, or half-moon shapes half-buried in river sands.

Row boats were used to get over Andersons Creek. The river flats at the corner of Tarooma Avenue and Everard Drive were a billabong. The flats next to the dairy were filled with water lapping at the road edge, marking the 100 year flood line. Lorraine Day and other school kids coming down Yarra Street had to wade through knee-high water near the football oval, holding hands with assisting adults to get through the floodwaters. The old wooden bridge got knocked around by those floods. Once it got dry again, Dad decided

to start out in pigs with a boar, sow and a few piglets. It was my job to feed them, usually whatever vegetables they couldn't sell at the markets. The boys would heap all the vegetables alongside the pigsty ready for feeding time. One day Dad yelled at me and told me to go and feed the pigs. There was this heap of rotten pumpkins so I threw them all over to them and next morning they were all dead! I got the blame, of course. We got some more pigs and Dad would go out and talk to them. He used to call the sows "Darling" and scratch their backs. He would talk to them better than he would talk to us.

I used to have to walk Betty, rain, hail or shine up to the Warrandyte Primary School. Up the rough dray track over Pound Bend Hill. We'd get to the tunnel and then along a bush track next to the river. There was no Everard Drive then; it was built in 1937.

I used to work down the paddock with Dad on the end of the six foot long crosscut saw. Dad used to say, "I don't mind you hanging on the saw, but don't ride on it". Dad used to cut wood for Walsh's Bakery, they used T-tree (burgan) and black wattle for the wood-fired oven. They reckoned that they made the best heat for baking. One day a neighbour came over and told Dad that I would have back problems later in life if he continued to work me like that. He was right.

Jack Moore used to take a couple of bags of potatoes from Dad each week and that used to come off our bill, like a barter system. The rest of the produce went to the Victoria Market. Joe learnt to drive and they got an old Chev truck to take the produce in. Dad never learnt to drive, never even drove the tractor; he tried it a few times but he was hopeless. Crashed the truck a couple of times. He drove horses instead. There were a few cars in Warrandyte during the 1930s, Tin Lizzies, but lots of people had horses.

The last of the family, Iona, was

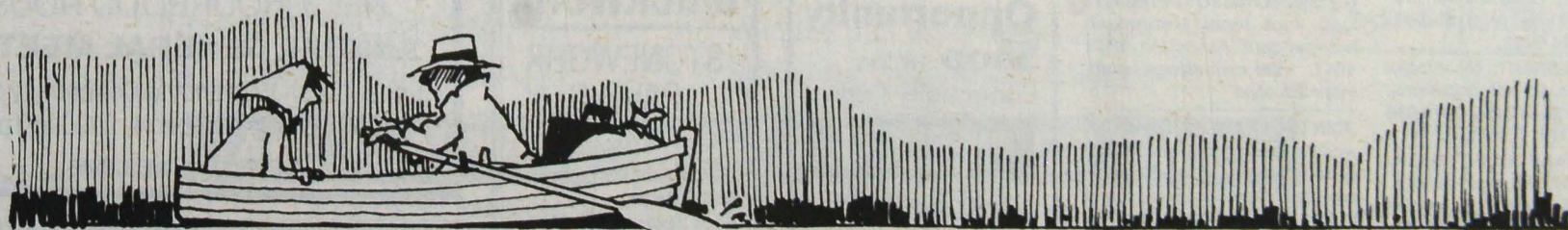
born around then. Mum had her in the Royal Women's Hospital. The rest of us had been born in the house back at Noble Park. That made seven kids. There were a lot of big families around. They reckon in those days if 24 kids went to Warrandyte Primary School, 20 of them would be Sloans. The Sloan family home was right on the first sharp corner up Research Road, near Bradley's Lane in a flat-roofed house. Cath Sloan eventually got it from her parents. She married Joker Hall who had something to do with the football club. Laurie Sloan also played football.

Walter was working for Ossie Prouse in his orchard across the road, the present day Doncaster baseball field on Mullum Mullum Creek. Walter learnt the trade of orcharding from him and Jack White, whose property was on the corner of Reynolds Road and Anderson's Creek Road. He then began clearing and ploughing up the hill on the farm at the Pound Bend for the orchard.

They'd had a good year in 1936, when I was 20, and Dad gave me Two Pounds (\$4) to buy myself a dress. In those days you could get anything in Coles for 2/6d. So I paid my fare into the city—2/6d on the bus. In the city, at the Robur Tea Rooms I had a cup of tea and a couple of crumpets for 2/-. I bought myself a pair of sandals, a length of material to make a dress, a pretty collar, stockings, a hat, a pair of gloves and a bag all for my Two Pounds.

I came back home and I was that proud of my clothes. I was showing Mum this new outfit when Dad walked in and he said, "Well, you spent all your money?" I said, "Yes," and he just scoffed at me and said, "Fools and their money are soon parted". I felt like throwing it all at him. I went into the bedroom and howled my eyes out. He was a hard old man. It was a shame really. I'd been working since I was 16 to get that Two Pounds. Four years' wages and he still begrudged how I spent it.

● Continued



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INFORMATION WARRANDYTE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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INDIVIDUAL ETHICS, SOCIAL EQUALITY, GLOBAL ECOLOGY by Tim Petherbridge (founding director of the Canticle Bakery Cafe in Croydon). August 10th, Thursday, 8pm. Venue: Michael Centre, 37a Wellington Park Drive, Warranwood (Ringwood). \$15 (\$10 conc). For further enquiries, Persephone College, 9876 7100.

WHO IS IN YOUR GENES? Monsanto, Terminator Gene, Human Guinea Pigs, and what to do about it with Peter Le Ray. August 24th, Thursday, 8-10pm. Venue: Michael Centre, 37a Wellington Park Drive, Warranwood. Fee: \$10 (\$7 conc). For further enquiries, Persephone College on 9876 7100.

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Jim: hero of hard times

By LEONIE HORNE

Longtime Warrandyte resident Jim Horkings died on June 28, aged 94 years.

He grew up in Camberwell, the eldest of nine children born to James and Winifred Horkings. With his father away during the depression looking for work, young Jim was the disciplinarian and breadwinner, always handing over his unopened pay packet to his mother to feed the youngsters, until he turned 21.

Jim "sometimes" attended Camberwell State School and started work, aged 13 years, at Pizeys tannery in Hawthorn. He added three years to his age for his next job and was able to get work on machinery at Birds timber yard, Camberwell. Of course this paid more, but when Birds thought he had turned 21, they sacked him rather than pay him full money! After that he worked at Fritz and Holzers brickyard in Camberwell.

He had a long distance love affair with Africa all his life. During his teenage years Jim and his cousin Douby decided they would work their way to Africa on a ship. With all their plans laid, they arrived at the wharf to find they couldn't work without a seamen's union ticket. This would cost them five pounds each, which fortunately, neither of them had. Just think of it: for ten pounds, the Horkings and Horne families could have been fighting off marauding lions in darkest Africa! For the rest of his life Jim read everything he could find about Africa, and became quite expert on tribes, customs, flora and fauna.

Marnie and Jim first met when

Jim's cousin invited Marnie to her 21st birthday party, with the intention of introducing Marnie to Jim. Marnie's first sight of Jim was of him sitting in a lounge chair, with a young woman sitting on the arm of the chair, running her fingers through his hair. Well, Marnie thought that's that! Only later in the evening did she discover that the girl was Jim's sister, May. And so began the love of a lifetime!

He married Margaret Louise Center (always known as Marnie) on April 4, 1933.

Jim's uncle offered him a job working on the farm at Girgarre for ten shillings a week, where he stayed for three months before returning to Hawthorn, where he announced he wasn't going back unless Marnie was allowed to marry him and return to the farm with him. Six weeks later the wedding took place. Jim married Margaret Louise Center on April 4, 1933. Marnie and Jim returned to the farm where they both worked for the combined wage of ten shillings. Twelve months later they worked on another uncle's farm at Stanhope, finally returning to Melbourne in 1936, to live in Hawthorn.

Life had its funny side as well. For instance, when Leonie was born, Jim rode his pushbike to the nearest phone box, called the hospital and was told Marnie had given birth. He was so excited he ran all the way home, running beside the bike, to tell the family the news, completely forgetting to ask whether it was a boy or a girl!

He used to visit Marnie in hospital with a bunch of violets in a paper bag in his coat pocket. He couldn't be seen carrying



flowers!

Jim enlisted to fight for his country in 1942, trained as a stretcher-bearer, was sent to Darwin to join up with a unit that never arrived. He then spent his time with a works company, loading ammunition onto boats, and he travelled as escort when the boats sailed to Anjo Bay, off the coast of Northern Territory, to the American munitions store.

Jim and Marnie set an example of courage, resourcefulness and determination when they bought their block of land in Mitchell Avenue in Warrandyte in 1950. They then set out to build their own home. There

were no easy bank loans back then and they saved to buy building materials piece by piece, and worked on the house every weekend for the next three years. They finally moved into their dream home in Warrandyte in 1953.

Always involved in local activities, Jim helped build the local scout hall, and was a CFA volunteer for 28 years. He was always available for working bees to clean up at the RSL and for many years he stood in the main street of Warrandyte selling Anzac Day badges, and Remembrance Day poppies. He collected many thousands of dollars for RSL and Legacy.

By DULCIE CROUCH

Irene Smith, best known locally for her work with the Warrandyte Auxiliary of the Royal Women's Hospital, died on July 20, a few days short of her 80th birthday.

Irene was born on July 26, 1920, second daughter to Mr and Mrs Alf Higgins of Osborne Road. She remained a Warrandyte resident all her life.

She attended the Warrandyte State School, leaving at the age of 14. She then stayed home to help her parents as her father was an invalid, following his service in the 1914-1918 war.

In 1930 the Warrandyte Auxiliary of the Royal Womens Hospital was established and Irene's mother became a founding member. In 1936, Irene joined at the age of 16 and was a valued member for 64 years.

Back in those early days, before electricity and water was laid on, people relied on tank water, which had to be conserved, so Nan and Irene would take a towel, soap and washer down to the river at the back their property to bathe. Both girls were members of the local tennis club and Irene joined the Country Women's Association.

She married Colin Smith at

A long life lived for others



Scots Church, Melbourne, in June 1947. They made their home in Orchard Road, Warrandyte, where they reared three sons—Jim, Tony and Rod.

Irene and her mother would walk the gravel road carrying cakes to attend meetings and special functions to raise money for the auxiliary. These included cake stalls, wattle teas (like mini fetes) and the very popular Lilac Time Ball. This was held in October for 27 years and dancers would come from far and wide. Eventually, Irene obtained her own car, which made the task of transporting

cakes and other goodies much easier than walking and pushing a pram.

When Colin, who worked for Kraft, had a country run, she would get up in the very early hours to get him off. Rather than returning to bed she would start to bake cakes for the same charity. Colin had to replace a number of burnt-out parts in the old woodstove as it was hardly ever allowed to go cold.

Irene loved entertaining. She was never happier than when all her family and friends were enjoying her traditional Christmas dinner and tea. She did it

all again for New Years Eve, after which everyone would go down to the bridge at midnight to see the old year out and the new year in.

It is almost eight years now since Irene lost 70 per cent of her eyesight. This meant she was unable to bake cakes for her beloved charities. She was recently declared clinically blind, but this did not prevent her attending meetings and making generous donations.

She received many awards over the years for her charity work. A bed at the Royal Womens was endowed in her name in 1952. For many years, each Mothers Day, she visited the mother occupying her bed with a present. She was named Manningham Citizen of the Year in 1996. That same year, the hospital presented her with a painting of the hospital, in recognition of her selfless work across the years. She supported many other charities, too numerous to mention.

She was admitted to the Austin Hospital in July this year, passing away three days later. She was privately cremated.

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WARRANDYTE NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Upper Level, Warrandyte Community Centre
Monday, September 4, 2000 at 1pm

EVERYONE WELCOME

ACT GLOBALLY —SHOP LOCALLY

Hop to the Frognite

A Frognite Special with Mike and Pat Coupar will be held in the Folly at the Warrandyte State Park Depot, Pound Bend Road, Warrandyte on Friday, August 18. There will be a barbecue at 6.30pm followed by a slide show at 7.30 pm. Everyone is welcome. Come for all or part of the evening and learn about our local frogs, where and how to find them and how to attract them to your garden. They will also show you some stunning frogs from other parts of the country.

Security

Warrandyte Rotary, local PCCC, SES, CFA, police and RACV are combining to present an "evening of vital information for your security" at the Warrandyte Community Church, 57 Yarra Street, at 8pm on Tuesday, August 22. A panel of senior local police, fire and other emergency service officers will answer your questions on security, traffic issues and crime prevention in our community. Admission is free.

House

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House have some new and exciting courses taking place in August and September. They include growing and using herbs, responding to grieving people, patchwork, coping with anxiety and depression and photography. Bookings are essential and can be made by calling 9844 1839.

Festival

The Warrandyte Festival Committee's annual general meeting will be held at the Community Centre on Wednesday, August 23 at 8pm. The committee is looking for anyone who would like to help with the 2001 festival, or who may have ideas for adding something new or revitalising something old. If you can't make the meeting but have some suggestions call John Boyle on 9894 2233 (BH) or 9844 3120 (AH).

Sale

St Stephen's Anglican Church are holding a huge garage sale at the church in Stiggant Street on Saturday, August 19 from 9am to 2pm. A large range of goods including clothing, household items, toys and baby goods will be on sale. A sausage sizzle will be available.

Piano

Warrandyte Arts Association has a piano they no longer need. Anyone interested in purchasing it can ring Ken on 9844 2795 or Alan on 9844 4995.

Postponed

Information Warrandyte have had to change their AGM date from August 22 as previously advertised to Tuesday, August

They're caring for kids



A Warrandyte Kinder/Prep Network has been established to open communication lines and establish links between pre-school services and schools. The group meets regularly to discuss issues and share resources and ideas. Each meeting is held at a different centre, focusing on various topics of special interest in early childhood.

● Pictured above are Ronnie Pedersen (Warrandyte & District Pre-School), Amanda Muller (Andersons Creek Primary), David Pedley (Warrandyte Child Care & Pre-School), Debbie Rainbow (Warrandyte Primary) and Nicole Fitzgerald (Yarra Warra Pre-School) discussing issues related to early childhood education.



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.

29. It will be held at the Warrandyte Community Centre commencing at 7.30pm. Guest speaker will be Christine Durham, author of *Doing Up Buttons*, an account of her recovery from a serious car accident. RSVP to 9844 3082 if you are able to attend.

Arts

The Warrandyte Mechanics Institute and Arts Association, which aims to promote all forms of the arts for young and old, welcomes new members. They have a variety of groups, including craft (9844 2154), tap dancing (9879 9843), pottery (9844 3206), painting (9439 1775), music (9844 3442) and drama (9844 3475). Annual subscriptions to the association

are \$10 for juniors, \$15 for adults and \$25 for adults. Marj Beecham on 9844 3206 will answer your general enquiries.

Dance

The next South Warrandyte dance will be held at the South Warrandyte Hall in Hall Road on Saturday, August 12. For further information call 9723 3892.

Vegetation

The next Green Wedge Seminar at the Currawong Bush Park Centre, will be on Thursday, September 7, when Nick Williams will discuss the impact of urbanisation on remnant vegetation. The evening commences at 7.30pm and is free of charge.

Gallery

Manningham Gallery, 699 Doncaster Road, is holding an exhibition of monotypes and watercolours by Anthony Goglia between August 9 and 27. The gallery is open from 10am to 5pm on weekdays and between 2 and 5pm at weekends.

Volunteers

The Manningham branch of Do Care is still seeking volunteers. If you are interested, call 9871 1532.

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.

CLYDE & OCKER

"I'd go to the security night, Ock. Except someone could burgle my place!"

Warrandyte Community Market

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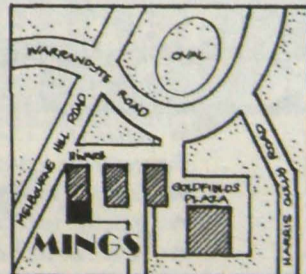


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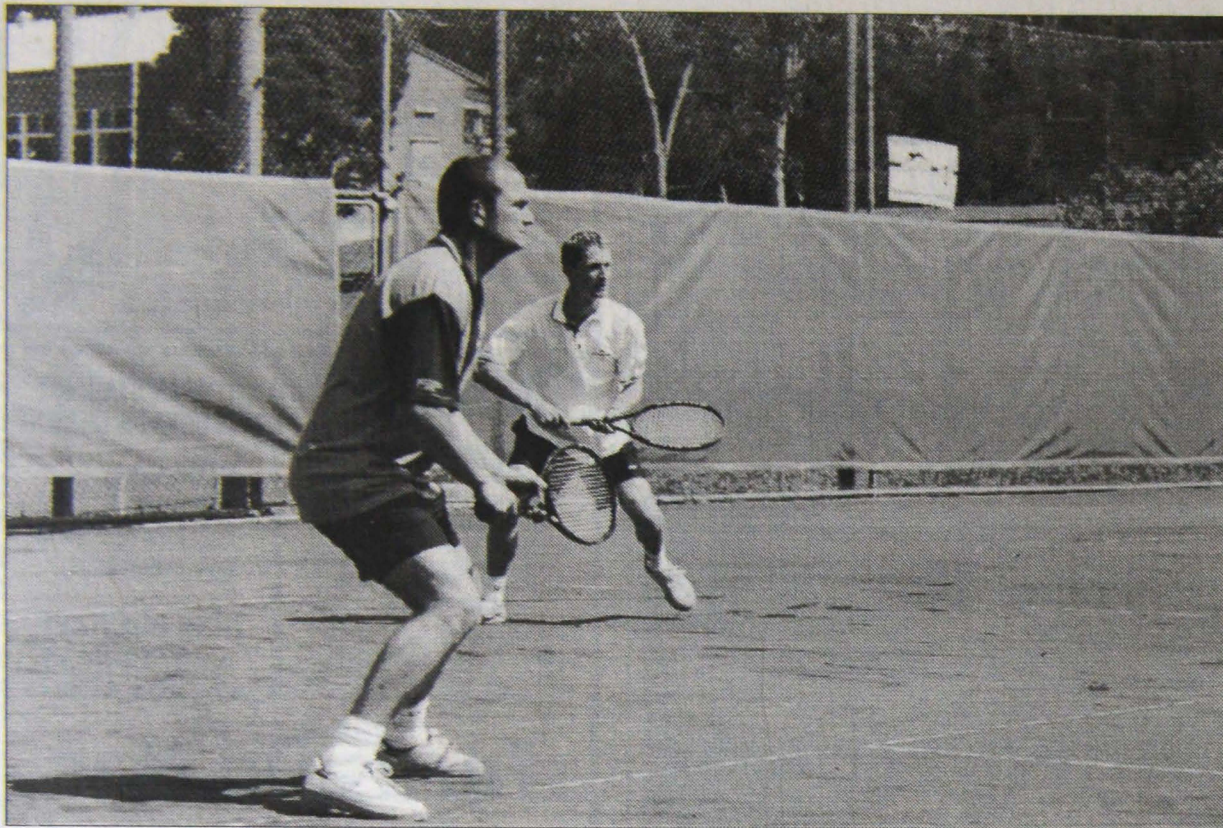
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Local interest: Justin Matt (left), Kangaroo Ground coach and Aaron Nolan, coach at Warrandyte, were victorious in the Men's Open Doubles at last year's Goldtown Open. (Pictures by Sandy Burgoyne)

They're going for gold

The Goldtown Open Tennis Tournament, is back, promising excellent tennis competition for both local players and spectators, with a chance to watch future stars in action.

Warrandyte Tennis Club is staging the 2000 Goldtown at their courts in Taroon Avenue, commencing Saturday, September 2. It will run over two weekends with finals being played on Sunday, September 10.

Over the years, the Goldtown has witnessed some of Australia's best young players, many of whom went on to international fame. These include Jason Stoltenburg, Richard Fromberg, Todd Woodbridge, Nicole Provis, Ann Minter and Annabel Ellwood.

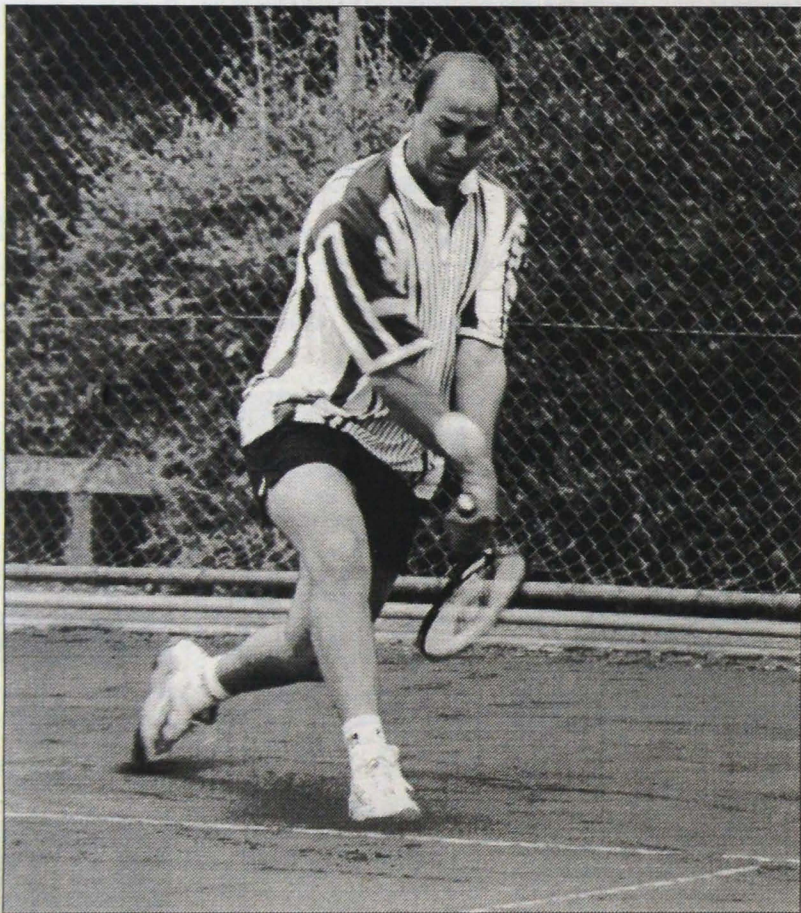
"The club is expecting a strong field of Victoria's top men players in the Open section with participation by some of the club's best players in the A-grade division," club president Mark Bence told the *Diary*. "Our own club coach, Aaron Nolan, is hoping to do well following his recent semi-finals appearance in the Victorian Hardcourt tournament."

Aaron, partnered by Kangaroo Ground coach, Justin Matt, won the Open doubles in the 1999 Goldtown. It is expected that some of the players will use the tournament this year as a runner-up to the Satellite series being played in Queensland in October.

"The Goldtown will provide two weekends of exciting tennis in Warrandyte," Mr Bence said.

Details of match times can be obtained during the tournament by ringing the club on 9844 1396.

Flashback: Ben Ruzicka took out top honours at the 1999 Goldtown tournament winning the Men's Open Singles.



Marking a silver event in tennis

By JUDY GREEN

Warrandyte Tennis Club will be celebrating 25 years at the Taroon Avenue site with a social evening in the clubhouse on Saturday, September 2.

All past and present members and friends are invited to come along, meet up with old friends and past team-mates and join in the celebrations.

The club was formed in 1907 when a group of tennis enthusiasts got together and built their first court on the riverbank beside the old wooden bridge.

This asphalt court, which ran in an east-west direction, was officially opened in March 1908.

Fund raising activities were held, tournaments were played and occasional matches against neighbouring clubs were arranged.

At this time the Evelyn District Tennis Association was formed with clubs from Warrandyte, Eltham, Hurstbridge, Summer Hill (between Kangaroo Ground and Pantown Hill), Diamond Creek and Upper Diamond.

During the period of the First World War the club became inactive and the court fell into disrepair, to be revived again in 1928.

A great deal of damage was done to the court in the 1934 floods and the fires of 1939 and a new concrete court was subsequently built, this time running north and south.

Warrandyte club now affiliated with the newly formed Blackburn District Lawn Tennis Association prior to going into recess during the Second World War.

In the early 1950s the association began a mid-week ladies competition and Warrandyte entered its first mid-week ladies team, followed several years later by its first junior team.

The Blackburn association was re-named the Eastern Metropolitan Region Lawn



SPORT

Tennis Association, later to amalgamate with the Ferntree Gully and Eastern District associations to become Eastern Region Tennis.

In 1961 a second court was built and the asphalt court later re-surfaced with en tous cas.

However, by the early 1970s Warrandyte club was struggling for numbers and with only two courts, players were leaving for larger clubs.

It was time to find a new location with space for more courts and in 1975 the move was made to the Taroon Avenue site with four new courts.

A new enthusiasm took over, numbers were growing quickly, fund raising activities were numerous and in 1979 the first stage of the clubhouse was completed.

Over the years since 1975 the clubhouse has been extended twice, a fifth court and later a sixth court were built, lighting installed and numerous improvements carried out.

Membership has grown and the number and variety of tennis competitions widened greatly.

In 1984 the club ran the first Goldtown Open Tournament under the auspices of Tennis Victoria and following the success of this tournament was granted a leg of the Davis Cup Foundation Satellite series.

This continued for a number of years bringing Australia's future top players to our courts seeking points on the international circuit.

The Goldtown was abandoned in 1998 due to lack of numbers and difficulties in gaining the necessary sponsorship but was resurrected in 1999.

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PROUD SPONSORS OF THE WARRANDYTE FOOTBALL CLUB

Cricket club's coaching coup

By ADAM WHITE

Warrandyte Cricket Club have scored a major recruiting coup with the appointment of Russell Jenzen as captain-coach for the coming season.

Jenzen, 32, is regarded as the leading player in the Ringwood District Cricket Association's Chandler Shield competition.

He was captain-coach of Croydon North for five years, leading that club to three premierships.

Jenzen also represented Victoria at Under-19 level and played at senior level for Ringwood in the Victorian District competition.

WCC president Nick Fazzolari said Jenzen's appointment was critical to the club's new approach.

"Warrandyte is one of only two clubs in the Ringwood District competition never to have been relegated and we are very proud of that tradition," Fazzolari said.

"Russell will provide the leadership we need and his great playing skills will provide an excellent role model.

"We are determined to make Warrandyte successful in the long term and Russell's appointment is the start of the club's return to power in the RDCA."

Jenzen said the appointment provided him with the challenge he needed. "I enjoyed my years at Croydon North and we were very successful," he told the *Diary*. "But I felt I had achieved all I could there and coming to Warrandyte is a great chance to start all over again."

Jenzen said he was confident Warrandyte had the players to be a successful club.

"All we need to do is harness their ability and steer them in the right direction," he said. "I have known many of the Warrandyte players since my junior days when I was at East

Ringwood and I know they can play."

Jenzen is regarded as the fastest bowler in the RDCA and his pace and fire will certainly rejuvenate long-serving opening bowlers Gerald Walshe and Chris Snaidero.

The club are now on a recruiting campaign to help build a powerful side around the new captain-coach.

"These are exciting times at Warrandyte," Fazzolari said. "We want to see new players at the club and old players back at the club to be part of our resurgence."

Senior training starts indoors on August 13 at 11am at the Maddocks

centre at Blackburn and a training support team has been appointed to assist Jenzen.

Junior training (Under-10, 12 and 14) will start on August 27 at 11am at the recreation reserve. This will also be a registration day and senior players and the new coaching panel will be there.

Under-16 players will train with the seniors.

"We are very determined to encourage cricket at junior level and every effort will be made to ensure our young players get a good start in their chosen sport," said Fazzolari.

Warrandyte girls quell an uprising

By TONY OLIVER

Warrandyte's pace-setting Under-14 girls overcame injuries, illness and a Whittlesea fightback to prevail in their latest Friday night junior basketball championship encounter.

The improving Whittlesea Pacers went into the game with plenty of confidence, coming off a win over Hawthorn and a fighting three-point loss to third-placed Coburg. They also had the home-court advantage at Mill Park and met a Warrandyte side carrying injuries and affected by flu.

The early contest was tight, Louise Yates eventually breaking the ice with a three-pointer followed by a lay-up from her own steal.

Whittlesea came back strongly and looked like taking a lead into half-time until Amy Caudry steadied and scored on the bell to give Warrandyte a 9-8 advantage at the interval.

It was all Warrandyte early in the second half, the Redbacks racing to a 21-9 lead at the half-way mark.

Outside shooting from Tahnee Templeton was a highlight, with strong rebounding and conversion from Gina Oliver and Lindell Thomas.

Whittlesea, fighting for a top-five finish, were not about to be steamrolled, however, and went better than basket for basket with Lorraine Parfitt's girls, reducing the deficit to just six points going into the critical final three minutes.

The possibility of a boilover was averted when Katie Bottomley scored from a steal. The Redbacks' professionalism showed through in the last minute with their five-out game and Emma Razzi scored to make it a 29-19 final scoreline.

Sections of the crowd were disappointed by the standard of the game, but coach Parfitt was extremely happy with her girls, pointing out that all games were now tough, with opposition teams improving and desperate to knock off the competition leaders.

Warrandyte now face their

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biggest challenges, meeting three other top-five sides in the next four weeks. They include Diamond Valley, who were responsible for Warrandyte's only defeat so far this season.

This game is at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre on August 25, starting at 8pm, and shapes as a grand final preview.

The Section 1 ladder-leading Under-16 girls were also in action against Diamond Valley. Because of a clash of games, regular coach Tristan Messerle was forced to give priority to his Under-16 boys, leaving the girls in the very capable hands of Emma Wood.

Diamond Valley, a final-eight side with a tall and dangerous centre, were expected to trouble Warrandyte, who had key player Sam Wilson unavailable and Kim Singh on the comeback trail from injury.

But the local side quickly ran to an 11-2 lead, thanks largely to strong attack by Mikhaila Greve and excellent outside shooting by Sam Smith.

Diamond Valley scored their first field basket in the dying seconds of the half and the Redbacks held a commanding 21-7 lead at the break.

Expectations of a strong percentage win to Warrandyte, however, were not to be realised. Diamond Valley tightened their defence and lifted their work rate and it was not until the five-minute mark that Warrandyte were able to score the first goal of the second half.

Still with five minutes to go, Warrandyte had been unable to extend their half-time lead, but Tori Oliver scored from a Kim Singh pass and Stef Smith drove into the key to see Warrandyte run out comfortable 38-14 winners.

Stand-in coach Wood used her bench to try out a number of combinations, but Warrandyte need to improve their concen-

tration for the full game.

They lead the competition on percentage from Coburg, but play the strong Craigieburn side and Coburg in the next two weeks, the latter game likely to be a grand final rehearsal.

In other games in the North West Conference, the Under-16 boys had a regulation win against Sunshine, blitzing the bottom side 46-17. The scoreline satisfied coach Messerle, although Warrandyte sometimes took the long way to the basket.

The Redbacks had recorded a strong, come-from-behind win over fourth-placed Broadmeadows the previous week.

Warrandyte are assured of a top-four finish and final placings will be determined over the next few rounds as the top four teams run into each other.

Martin Clark's Under-14 boys were tipped out of the top five by an out-of-character defeat by Werribee at Mill Park.

Werribee fielded two very tall players and the Redbacks went down 26-10. Tullock Greve was their best player and Beau Tobin continues to improve after being sidelined for several weeks with a broken collarbone.

Warrandyte's shooting will need to improve at the business end of the season.

Malcolm Anderson's Under-11 boys were no match for top team Cranbourne. Two Cranbourne players amassed 45 points between them in the 60-12 result.

The Under-11 competition is a two-horse race, Cranbourne and Sandringham head and shoulders above the rest, but Anderson gives his team a realistic chance of making the finals.

Warrandyte's Metro boys team also went down (42-31) to Cranbourne, who converted very well from the foul line and were presented with five three-pointers from their top shooter.

Heartening for the Redbacks was the long-awaited return from injury of James Davis.



Torchbearer Gary Honey and son Cameron, who might follow in his Olympic footsteps.

Gary and sons light the way

By FIA CLENDINNEN

When silver medallist Gary HONEY watched the Olympic Torch relay on television he was not overly impressed. It seemed like far too much fuss and hype.

Honey was invited to carry the torch, along with all Australian ex-Olympians, and in the end decided to take up the offer purely for the sake of his kids.

But the actual event was a buzz, Honey confessed with a smile. "It made everyone happy," he said. "Tens of thousands of people were there. It was packed, chockers. And everybody wanted to touch the torch."

Gary Honey, of Research, participated in three consecutive Olympics, highlighted in 1984 when he won a silver medal for the long jump behind American great Carl Lewis.

Honey trained too hard for 1988 Olympics and tore a thigh muscle, ending his formal sporting career.

He now works in insurance and plays tennis for relaxation. But he has passed on to his two sons not just his love of sport but also his superior "fast twitch muscle fibres".

When Honey carried the torch for his allotted 500 metres along Geelong's Eastern Beach he was flanked by sons Cameron and Mathew, both talented young sportsmen.

Mathew is captain of the Eltham Under-13 football team, which went through the season undefeated.

Cameron plays in-line hockey and runs. His speciality is the 800 metres as well as cross-country.

"It all comes from me," their father said proudly. "For sure, without a doubt, it's all ge-

netic. Any time they have had anything to do with sport, I've been there for them."

Cameron, 11 and in grade five at Kangaroo Ground Primary School, runs with an easy, long-legged stride. Since grade four he's been the fastest runner in his school and he's made it through to the state level on several occasions.

He is now getting to the stage where he can outstrip his father. "I beat him at long distance, but I don't think he's trying that hard," Cameron said.

A big crowd makes him nervous, Cameron admitted, but also makes him run faster. "If I'm nervous I run better," he said, "because I really want to win."

Honey senior regards the drug-taking and ticketing scandals that have dogged Sydney Olympics preparations as irrelevant issues.

"Once the Olympics actually start and Australia wins a gold medal that's all that will matter," he said. He was not prepared to predict how many medals Australia would win but was confident it would be "a good number".

"We're winners by miles," he said. "It's amazing that with a population so small we can do so well."

"Australia has always had an obsession with sport. It dates back to our convict days when we were trying to prove something."

For Cameron, running alongside his father and the Olympic torch was his first taste of an Olympic event and he's keen for more. By the time the 2008 Olympics comes round he will be 19 — exactly when a runner reaches his peak, according to Dad.

We'll be keeping an eye out for Cameron.

School's in for whitewater paddlers

By PHENA GEE

The annual Victorian Schools Whitewater Canoeing Championships will be held at Warrandyte on September 2 and 3.

The series gets under way with a downriver race from Jumping Creek Reserve to Warrandyte Bridge on the Saturday, starting at 9am.

This event attracted more than 300 entries last year and this year's competitors will be challenged to finish before the first bounce in the AFL

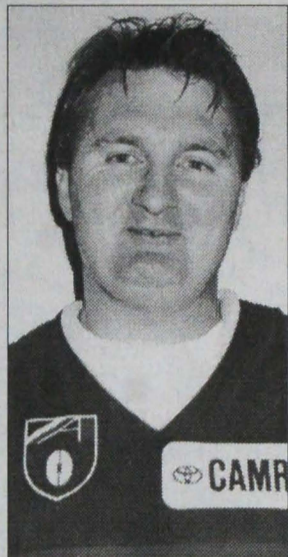
Grand Final.

Sunday will see lots of activity downriver from the bridge, with slalom racing starting at 8.30am and running all day.

Schools compete in one of three categories to win an overall trophy and students compete individually for best overall paddler at junior or senior level. The competition is open to any student currently enrolled at any institution at secondary level.

So near
and
yet...

Leaders to quit as Bloods take drop!



John O'Brien, 34, played his 300th senior EFL game — all but 12 of those for Warrandyte — on August 5 and was one of the stars, turning the game around in the third quarter. Sadly, the Bloods could not go on with it.

Warrandyte's football season ended on August 5 as it had begun — in defeat. For once, however, it was a near thing.

The Bloods went down at home by 11 points to arch rivals The Basin, ruining a day which had started so promisingly with big wins to the Under-18s and Reserves.

Chris Cornell kicked the first two goals of the game for Warrandyte but the home side trailed by four points — 3.1 to 2.3 — at the first change and looked "gone" when a late flurry of goals sent the visitors in at half-time with a 21-point break, 8.7 to 5.6.

To our great credit, however, we came back magnificently in the third term, inspired by 300-gamer and co-captain John O'Brien.

Starved of opportunities at full-forward in the first half, O'Brien relished a lift in the Bloods' work rate in this quarter and took full advantage of it, kicking three goals and setting up another.

Ignoring some bewildering umpiring decisions, Warrandyte got a sniff of victory and, fittingly, O'Brien put them in front at the 27-minute mark.

The Bloods led by two points — 10.9 to 9.13 — at the last change and coach Lex Munro implored his players to "send ourselves out in the big way".

The Basin, however, had other ideas. Five unanswered goals in the first 10 minutes of the quarter buried Warrandyte. O'Brien got one back, Clarkson got one of his own and O'Brien was instrumental in two others — to Aidan Davey and Brendan Smith — but time was always going to beat us.

Final score: The Basin 15.16 (106), Warrandyte 14.11 (95)

Warrandyte's goalkickers were O'Brien 4, Willie Bell 3, Cornell 2, Andrew Brown 2, Clarkson, Davey and Smith. Their best were Bell, Dale Vittritti, Craig Dick and O'Brien.

The Reserves finished the season on a high note with a seven-goal win, 16.11 (107) to 9.11 (65) and had no better players than Jarrod O'Connor, Adam Burbidge, Andrew Moore and Tahn Reid, who made amends for some costly misses at The Basin in Round 9 by kicking three great goals and leading his opponents a merry dance.

The Under-18s won their fourth game of the season, hammering The Basin by 65 points, 16.17 (113) to 7.6 (48).

Matt Treeby booted six goals for the young Bloods and Nathan Ireland and Tim Andrews four apiece. Ben Reid was another star.

By LEE TINDALE

Warrandyte Football Club will return to EFL Third Division next season with a new president, a new coach and, hopefully, the nightmares of 2000 merely a dim memory.

The promoted 1999 Division 3 premiers won only two of their season's 18 matches in the much tougher Second Division competition, guaranteeing relegation by capitulating to Upper Ferntree Gully — our only hope of survival — at home on July 22.

Neither Jeff Evans, the Bloods' president for the past four years, nor Lex Munro, coach for the past three, will be seeking reappointment.

"I decided about a month ago that it was time for a new leader," Evans told the *Diary* after Warrandyte's final game for the season on August 5.

"And it was going to be easier for a new leader to take over as we re-entered Third Division than at the bottom of Division 2.

"It is time for a fresh start," said Evans, who will remain involved with the club through Club Warrandyte.

The Bloods will advertise for a coach to replace Munro, who in the space of less than 12 months has experienced the extremes of the fickle game of

SPORT



Jeff Evans: fresh start.

football — a premiership one year, the wooden spoon and relegation the next.

Scott Hunter, recruited this season from First Division club East Burwood as playing assistant coach, has indicated he will be a candidate for the senior position.

Hunter played only two games for Warrandyte before seriously injuring a knee but will be back on the field next season.

Both Evans and Munro see youth as Warrandyte's football future.

"There is a lot of talent coming up through the junior club and the Under-18s," said Munro.

"We got great service at senior level this season from three of last year's Under-18s in Aidan Davey, Craig Dick and Rick Templeton," said Evans, "and I would expect four or five from this year's crop to make it in the seniors next season.

"The juniors are the backbone of our club, but we need good senior players around the club so the kids coming up are playing alongside quality players when they take that next step."

And where did the Bloods go wrong in season 2000?

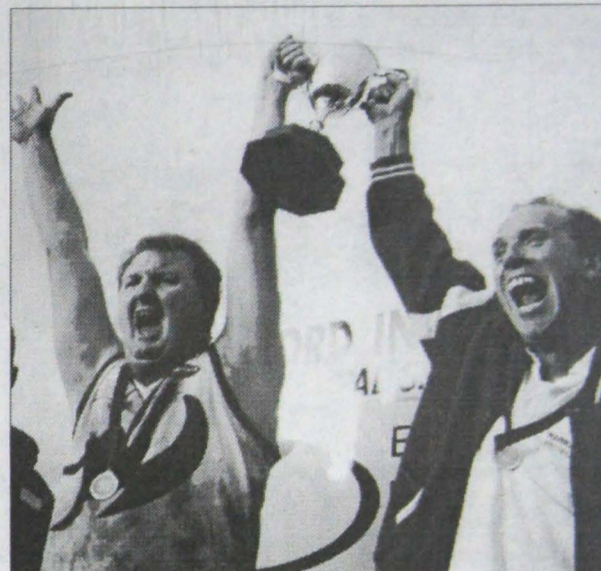
"Our major problem was the loss of nine or 10 players from last year's premiership team," Munro said. "A couple of them had said after the grand final that they wouldn't be playing this season, but others left their decision very late, until the latter half of our pre-season.

"It meant we had to chase players at the last minute to replace them.

"I think in most cases the players who left felt they'd achieved all there was to achieve by winning the premiership and were not prepared to put in the hard work again this year.

"The loss of those players at that stage, along with a lot of early-season injuries, was probably our downfall.

"There was also a lack of commitment to training. I'd find



Flashback! Captain John O'Brien and coach Lex Munro hold the premiership cup aloft after last season's Third Division grand final. This season was a very different ball game.

myself phoning players to ask if they'd be at training," he said.

"That lack of commitment on the track no doubt contributed to our injury problem. Players were suffering soft-tissue injuries because they weren't fit."

"Money (player payments) is a also big problem. We are not an industrialised area and there

is no corporate money around for us."

Asked if would have stayed on as coach had Warrandyte been competitive in Second Division, Munro said: "Maybe. Maybe not. Oh look, maybe yes."

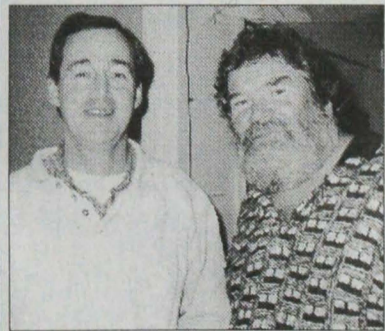
"But we'll be back in Third Division next season and I think we'll do very well."

The time of their lives

Warrandyte Football Club managed to muster all but three of their 32 surviving life members to a special lunch before the last game of the season at home on August 5.

And the three absentees had good excuses. Ken McKenzie was unable to make the trip from northern New South Wales, Ken Donald was in Tasmania and Bill Luttick called in to say hello on his way to a wedding.

The reunion was organised by former Bloods premiership captain-coach Brian Tomlinson and was a big success — good food, fine wines and lots of reminiscing. (Pictures by Jan Tindale)



Above: Ian World (left) and David Mitchell, who came down from Brisbane and Darwin respectively. Below: Lawrie Sloan (left) and Ken Berulsdson.



Above: Smile please, girls. Women life members (from left) Nora Warr, Joyce Templeton, Bev Day, Monica Luttick, Shirley McCartin, Anne Drew and Dawn Bellinger. Below: The almost-complete line-up. Twenty-nine out of 32 wasn't bad!



Junior club chasing 5 flags

By DENNIS HOIBERG

Five of a possible eight Warrandyte Junior Football Club teams are likely to be involved in the Yarra league finals, which begin this month.

The Colts, Under-15s, 14s, 13s and 12s all expect to be part of the finals action.

"The possibility of five teams participating is a credit to the coaching and playing efforts at the club," said WJFC president Mathew Matheou.

"If things go according to plan, our club will have one of the higher rates of participation for the Yarra Junior Football League.

"The boys have all played well this year," he said, "and it is a credit to them and their coaches and supporters that we are having this success.

"We wish these players every success and urge the Warrandyte community to get behind and support our young champions.

"We also congratulate all the other players who have tried their best but missed out on these finals. All our players make us proud."

Life membership was bestowed on Neil Riddell at a highly-successful WJFC dinner dance last month.

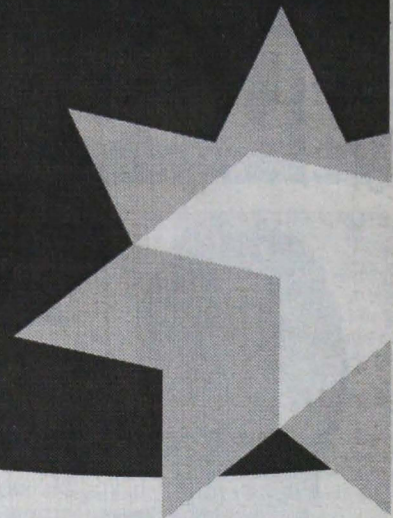
"This is a reflection on Neil's long-term commitment to the club," said committeeman Anthony Mirabella. "He has held a number of positions at committee level and becomes one of only six life members."

Another important presentation made during the evening was to Andrew Gordon as inaugural club captain.



The Professionals

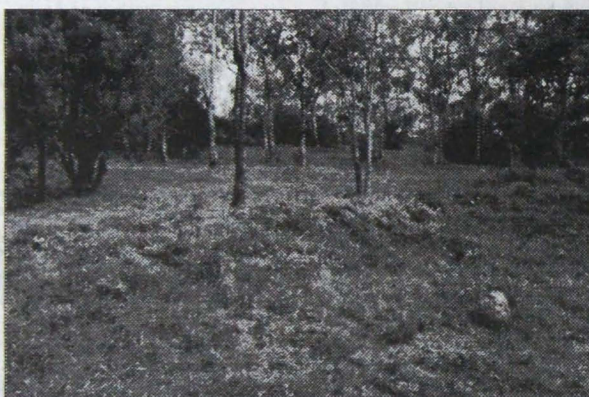
Wilson McDougall



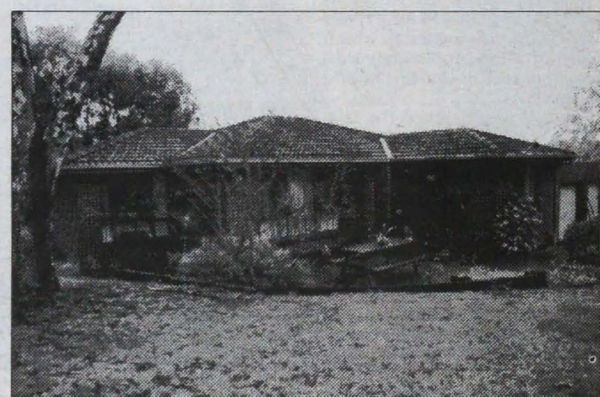
Don't sell your property!



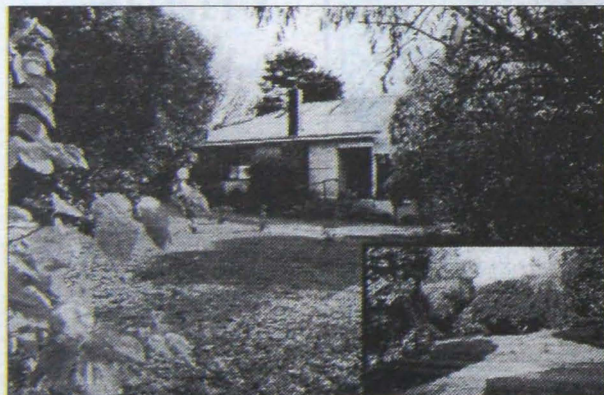
1/4 ACRE, court location **\$135,000**



1/2 ACRE opposite Yarra River **\$195,000**



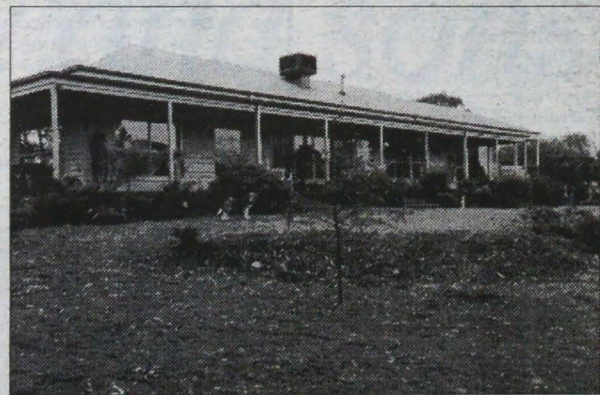
3 bedroom with outdoor spa **\$217,000**



2BR cottage on 1/2 acre approx **\$255,000**

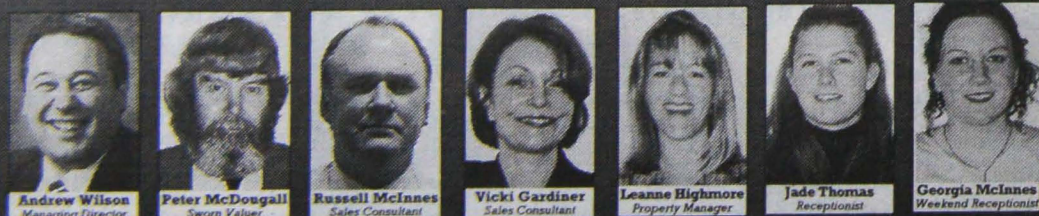


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