

# Support group wins

By CLIFF GREEN

Manningham council has awarded the management of the Warrandyte Community Centre to the Warrandyte Community Centre Support Group.

This follows an extensive local campaign to keep the centre free from the threat of commercialisation. Alarmed at council's resolve to "maximise the centre's earnings from rental of prime spaces at market rates", a public meeting was called, a petition was circulated and the support group was formed.

The future of the centre was decided at the February 27 council meeting. Moving the motion to accept the support group's submission, Cr Bill Larkin said: "We congratulate council and the community. They have come to the negotiating table. To have the Warrandyte community managing this facility is a great result. We have achieved a great result through work-

## Centre returns to the community

ing together."

Manningham mayor and Mullum Mullum Ward councillor, Lionel Allemand, also congratulated the support group. "As with all council tenders," Cr Allemand said, "Warrandyte Community Centre Support Group's tender went through a process that met very strict criteria."

"Council has accepted the WCCSG tender on the undertaking that they will manage the centre in accordance with the guidelines set down and for the benefit of all Manningham residents. We wish them well and look forward to a long and happy relationship."

The support group is to be appointed managers of the centre for three years, commencing April 1, with an option for a further three years. A licence agreement, based on the group's submission, is to be negotiated between council and the group.

"I was very pleased to see council award the management of the centre to the new group of residents who have formed the Warrandyte Community Centre Support Group," Cr Patricia Young said. "It was also encouraging to have more than 150 people show their support for the centre. I hope they will help the new management group make this building an interesting and vibrant part of the community."

Three "not-for-profit" groups tendered for management of the centre. Manningham YMCA withdrew at interview stage. According to council's background paper, the Manningham Recreation Association failed to submit "a business plan of financial details with their submission, as they sought to clarify a number of issues prior to the development of a business plan".

"Once it was evident that the Warrandyte community was prepared to manage the centre, YMCA withdrew their application," Cr Young said. "They will offer their expertise in programs to the new management group, for any new initiatives involving the youth of the community."

In their submission, the support group pledged to canvass the community on its needs and to develop strategies and programs to meet those needs.

"The group is particularly interested in attracting permanent, non-commercial tenants who can provide services useful to the community," Jock Macneish, chairman of the support group said. "These could include community health, employment and support services."

"We've had several meetings with Nillumbik councillors and officers, de-

veloping ways in which the shire can use the centre to service Warrandyte residents who live north of the river. We are jointly exploring 'best practice' in community development," Mr Macneish said.

He thanked everyone in the Warrandyte community for their support. "Especially those people who attended the public meeting, signed the petition, wrote letters to the *Diary* and worked so hard and with such skill and dedication as members of the support group. We won because we had all of Warrandyte behind us," he said.

In a letter to ratepayers late last year, Manningham mayor, Cr Lionel Allemand, said that "a recent inspection of the building indicates that around \$70,000 is required to bring maintenance up to scratch". Council officers surveyed the building last week with a view to proceeding with this work. "I am delighted that at last we seem to be moving forward," Mr Macneish said.



CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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# Just like your luck, Neil, the discount has run out



Apologies for our tardiness in bringing to light this chapter in the never-a-dull-moment life of perennial Page 2-er Neil Dusting, but Bozo somehow managed to keep it under his hat for an inordinate length of time, no doubt hoping for the expiry of its use-by date. Neil was watching telly one night just before Christmas and was sold on a commercial from an electrical appliance mob over at Knoxfield offering 15 per cent off the price of a line of microwaves. The Dustings' existing microwave had just about run its race so Neil decided he'd pick up one of these bargain-priced jobs on the way to work next morning. He found the store and make and model okay and carried it over to the check-out chick, who said that will be x number of dollars thank you. Hey, said Neil, what about the 15 per cent discount? Told that there was no discount on this line, Neil said he was not interested at that price, carried the microwave back to its stand and left a somewhat bewildered check-out chick in his wake. It dawned on him on the way home from work that day that the TV show he'd watched the previous night he'd recorded on video a couple of months earlier! Things like that only happen to Neil Dusting — but where would Smokey be without him?

## IN RED & WHITE

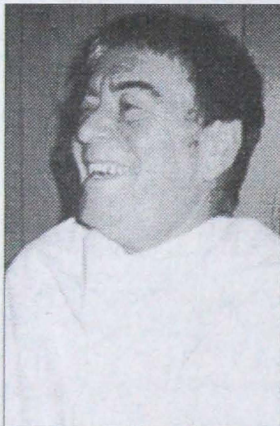


Neil Dusting: the belated bargain hunter.

\$1000 for the cancer kids. It was Bluey Day, Club Warrandyte versus the local cops and firemen and it was probably worth going along merely to see Alan "Coatsy" Koetsveld pad up in brand new overalls (their predecessors having been snapped up by the historical society). It was also well worth seeing player of the match Grant "Socks" Egan smite the ball the length, length and length of the ground, police chief Sergeant Keith Walker mixing stout defence with beligerent attack and Jake Sherriff, at around 10 years of age, taking it right up to and at times beyond the oldies with his batting and bowling talents. And who could forget the incisive umpiring skills of Laurie Warr, who ruled thus on a disputed catch: "You're out. He held it long enough — it's a mark!"



As we predicted last time, the game played at the recreation reserve on February 24 bore only a vague resemblance to cricket. But it was a helluva lot of fun and it raised well over



Coatsy prepares for a Bluey Day haircut in 1998

fundraising will be ongoing and there is not a worthier cause. You can do your bit by contacting Noel Taplin at the Grand Hotel (9844 3202) or Jenny Chapman (9844 3326) with a donation.



Sunday sights of Warrandyte. Young motorcyclist stops abruptly on the bridge, hauls his machine up on to the footpath, whips down his jeans and, jocks pointing skywards, searches frantically inside them. We assume something had crawled up his leg and bitten him. Hope it wasn't a tiger snake.



And what was the significance of the bread rolls left in a neat pattern on the circumference of the roundabout at the bridge one night last month, with the accompanying sign "Roll meeting"? A political statement perhaps? A sinister Satan worship ritual? Probably neither.



This is the story of Oliver Stubby, a cleverly-named pacer raced by a 20-strong Warrandyte Football Club syndicate. Oliver was bought as a yearling three years ago and raced only twice — for two second-last. Clearly he had no future on the track because, among other failings, he insisted on racing with his head on one side, which can be downright dangerous. The syndicate decided to put Oliver in the paddock at Terry and Lisa Ryan's place in South Warrandyte while they decided what to do with their problem child and the trainer dropped him off there the other day. But when Oliver spotted a donkey in the same paddock he went ballistic, bolted, jumped three fences and galloped furiously in the general direction of the Fantasy Egg Farm. Jeff Evans rounded him up by car and the syndicate is now looking for a good home for a horse that failed dismally as a pacer but might have gone on to win a

Grand National Steeplechase. If you fancy fostering Oliver, give Terry or Lisa a call on 9879 0373.



We think we've discovered the secret of Vic "Shipwreck" Grybas' lack of success as a competitive sailor. Lack of killer instinct. Vic, of Melbourne Hill Road, has confided that while the pants off him in races at Sugarloaf Dam by tactically tacking all over the place and catching wind shifts, he's happy to sit there in the shade of his catamaran sail sipping a stubby and merely breezing along with the breeze in a slow straight line. We doubt if the America's Cup was ever won that way.



And it's a very warm Warrandyte welcome to Ed and Penny Munks, who have just settled here from Perth. We hope Ed and Penny have brought their thirsts and their stamina east with them because they've moved in next door to Peter "Bottles" Norman, the *Diary's* very livewire circulation manager, in Wattleblossom Road. Say no more. Hang about. Stop press. Penny increased Warrandyte's population by one on March 9 by giving birth to a son (their third). Nice going, love!



Quite apart from being our resident native flora guru, Cathy Willis has a nice way with aliteration and we applaud her description of the latest gem available right now from the Friends of Warrandyte State Park nursery at Pound Bend. "We have plenty of pretty, purple-flowered, prostrate, perennial plants," she writes, referring to the Forest Nightshade (*Solanum prinophyllum*). "The flowers and fruit of this unusual plant are great for attracting butterflies and birds to your garden." You can be the proud owner of this little beauty by contacting Cathy on 0418 142297.

## Smokey Joe



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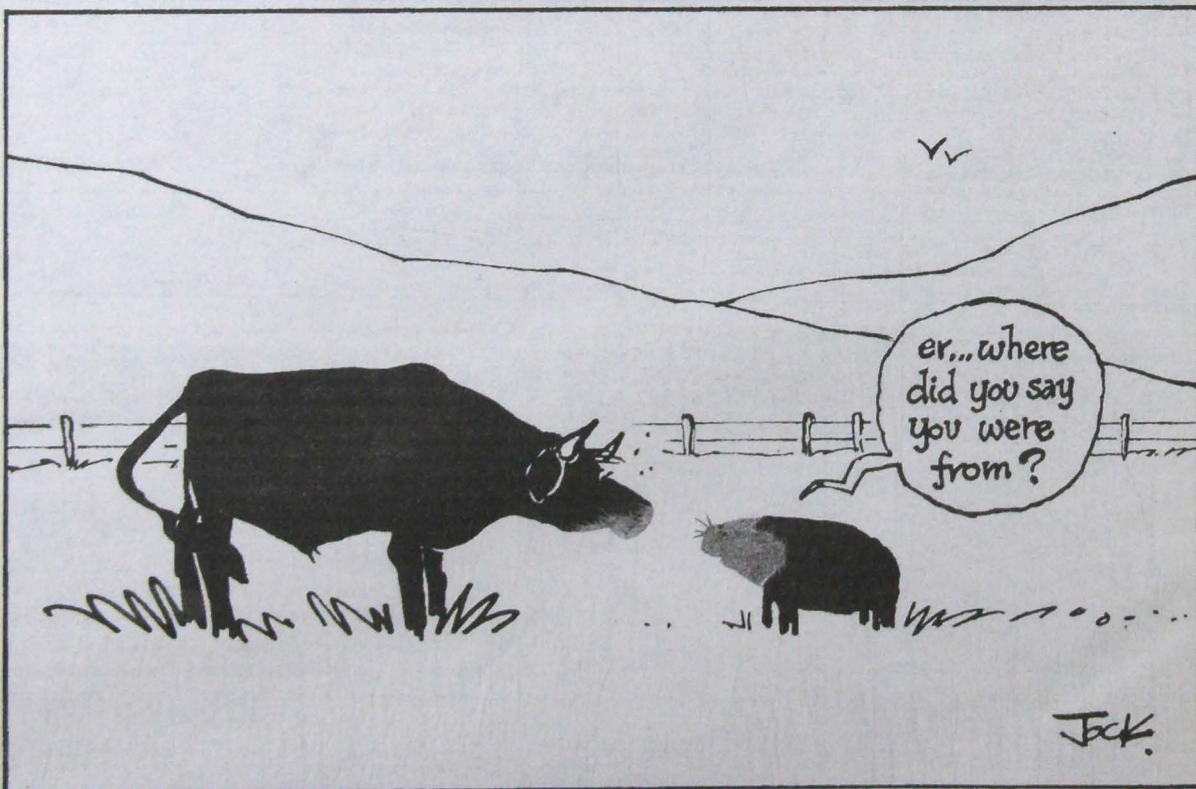
### OUR NEWSPAPER

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 24km 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

Jock



# Big grants to mark our golden celebrations

Last month we noted state government's refusal to fund Warrandyte's golden anniversary. This issue, PRUDENCE TRUBY KING reports on two welcome financial breakthroughs.

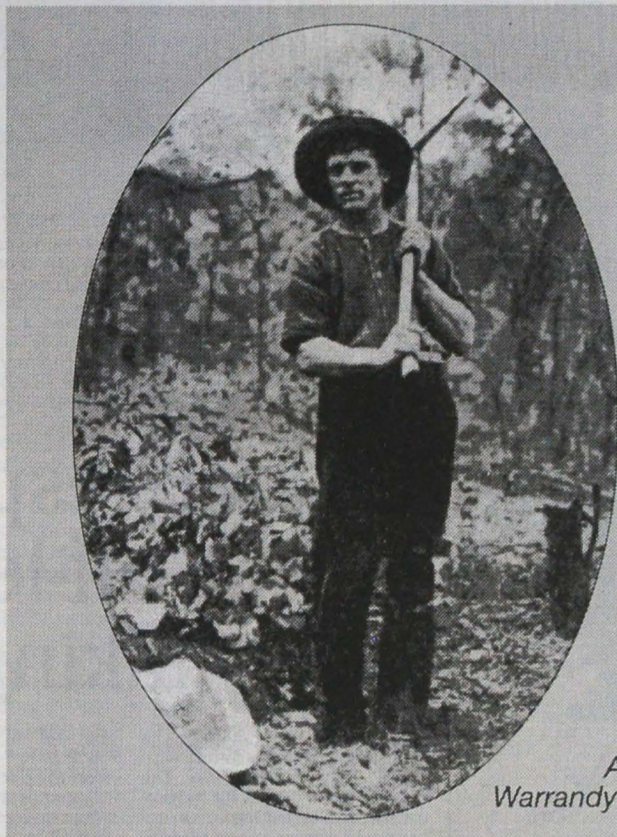
Manningham council is granting \$32,500 to the Warrandyte community to help the area celebrate the 150th anniversary—to the day—of the first recorded discovery of gold in Victoria.

The grant comes only months after an application for funding of \$35,879 was refused by the state government, through the Country Victoria Tourism Council.

The celebrations on June 30 will showcase Warrandyte as the historic site, plus explore the impact the finding of gold had on the community.

Gold was found in Warrandyte when Melbourne community and business leaders, concerned at the exodus of people after gold was found at Bathurst earlier in 1851, offered a reward of about \$4000 for the discovery of a workable deposit of gold within 200 miles of Melbourne. This sum was earned by a publican, Louis John Michel, who found traces of gold in a quartz deposit in Warrandyte. A direct descendant of Michel, Mandy Summers, will be a guest at the 150th anniversary.

The hub of the celebrations in June will be a tent town at Stiggants Reserve featuring his-



A typical miner from Warrandyte's golden heyday.

torical displays, a farrier shoeing horses, possibly steam engines and mining equipment, according to Ron Kay, one of the organisers.

"The highlight will be a re-enactment at the gold memorial by the Warrandyte Theatre Company," Kay said. "There'll be horse and carriage transport down the main street, a

barn dance at the Grand Hotel with local band Paradiddle, gold tours conducted by the historical society and an exhibition at the community centre.

"Everybody involved—such as the business community and all taking part—will be in period costume."

The event is being organised by the Warrandyte Gold Committee, with representatives from Rotary, the community market committee, Parks Victoria, the historical society, business association, Manningham council and the Valley of the Arts Tourism Board.

In addition to Manningham's grant, up to 15 jobs in retail, hospitality and tourism will be created in Warrandyte following the granting of \$60,309 from the federal government's regional assistance program.

Announcing the funding, the federal member for Menzies, Kevin Andrews, said the project—"a golden opportunity for employment in Warrandyte"—will boost local employment with a year of business expansion and customer service strategy.

"This project will take advantage of the increasing tourism market and significant festivals and events planned for the district to coincide with the 150th anniversary of gold discovery in Warrandyte," Mr Andrews said.

Meredith Thornton of the Warrandyte Business Association said the funding would stimulate businesses by improving customer service and increasing business people's awareness, including use of the Internet with E-commerce.

"The whole impression of a business comes down to a single contact at the shop," Ms Thornton said. "We'll be looking at improving customer service which will create more jobs in the area, and working with local secondary schools, encouraging students to be trained to work with more expertise in local business."

Ms Thornton said businesses can cross-promote each other as well as promote Warrandyte's environment and history. The grant will help fund business seminars and workshops, with training at Box Hill TAFE for young and existing businesses.

"It won't necessarily be 15 new full-time jobs, but if Warrandyte has great service and great shopping—for both residents and visitors—then it's better for business," she said.

## Park Orchards folk face a towering intrusion

By RACHEL BAKER

The community of Park Orchards has expressed their opposition to a mobile phone tower planned for an environmentally sensitive area.

Vodafone has proposed a 40-metre high tower on a private block of land on South Valley Road.

A meeting of Park Orchards residents in opposition to the tower was held on Monday, February 26 at Domeney Reserve.

"Nearly 300 people were there. There was unanimous opposition to the tower," David Mayor, vice-president of the Park Orchards Ratepayers' Association, said.

Vodafone has lodged an application with Manningham

council, but council has requested more information from the company before the application will be considered.

Manningham council requires two alternative sites to be offered, plus analysis of why the alternatives were rejected, before granting a permit for a mobile phone tower. Mr Mayor claims Vodafone has not offered two alternatives.

According to Germaine Graham, Vodafone corporate communications manager, the company will consider community opposition when the permit is in its public notice period.

At last month's public meeting, Park Orchards residents

urged Manningham council to adopt a voluntary set of guidelines regarding mobile phone towers.

"We propose that towers should not be within 300 metres of a residence, unless the exposure is less than two microwatts per square metre, and within 300 metres of kindergartens and schools, there should be no towers, regardless of the level of exposure," Mr Mayor said.

Two microwatts is about the same level a person would experience in everyday circumstances, working near computers, for example. "Guidelines don't need to be enforceable by law; they are just meant to offer guidance," Mr Mayor said.



Something to read while you're waiting for the bus: The first of Warrandyte's long-threatened advertising bus shelters has been erected at the corner of Yarra Street and Everard Drive, adding to the competing cluster of commercial messages visually polluting our village. Manningham council, co-sponsors with Adshel, an outdoor advertising firm, claims they will receive \$10million profit from the scheme, destined to run for 15 years. We're not sure how much rain that "flyaway" roof will keep out, anyway. (Picture by Jan Tindale).

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# Fire-prone plants: danger to life and property

An environmental survey by Nillumbik council indicated residents were more concerned about fire danger than any other aspect of flora and fauna.

And well they might be. Victoria receives the full blast of 3,000 kilometres of hot air which has blown over some of the biggest, driest, flattest and hottest deserts in the world. January 2001 has been the hottest on record, and already there have been 20 large fires and hundreds of medium-sized fires.

It was therefore gratifying that Emergency Services and Nillumbik council hosted a public community safety meeting in Diamond Creek on February 10. We were given a great deal of advice, amplified by spectacular film and graphics, to enable us to plan for fire safety in this high-risk urban fringe.

Unfortunately there was no public forum following the information giving, whereby the hundreds of people present could voice their concerns about Nillumbik planning policies which contradict CFA advice and seriously increase risk in this fire-prone area. Take, for instance, Nillumbik's Residential Design Guidelines, written by Brunswick consultants and passed by council on September 19, 2000. Despite the recommendation of the strategy committee, council failed to talk to the very group (Municipal Emergency Management Planning Commit-

## DEAR DIARY



tee) that could have advised on this issue, and who have statutory responsibility for our safety. Councillors failed also to acknowledge that most of the shire is fire-prone, while the Wildfire Management Overlay (WHO) covers only the most seriously at-risk areas of North Warrandyte, Research, Eltham North, Hurstbridge, St Andrews, and parts of Diamond Creek and Plenty.

Why then does this adopted council policy recommend residents living in these wildfire-prone areas plant up to 40-80 incendiary gum trees to the acre? Why do these guidelines require planting indigenous fire flora to form a continuous canopy on and beyond private property, and to retain and revegetate understorey to duplicate bush ecologies? Joan Webster says in her bushfire safety book that "Nothing taller should be grown beneath trees than finely mown and raked grass. The flames of grass can rise from 2-6 times its height".

In eleven of the most urban Nillumbik precincts we are told to plant indigenous understorey from house to road-



side covered by indigenous gum tree canopy. We are also told to avoid solid front fences even though they could act as a radiation shield and deflect killer rays over the house. The CFA says do the opposite.

In the debate on this study, Cr Mullinar quoted the advice of the Christmas Hills fire captain as saying

there is no such thing as a fire-safe plant. This same CFA captain, Dianne Simmons, rejected "chopping down native trees in favour of 'fire retardant' plants". But Nillumbik actually lists 10 fire retardant natives as weeds. Ms Simmons ignores NRE and CFA literature that categorise locally indigenous flora as a fire hazard because of its

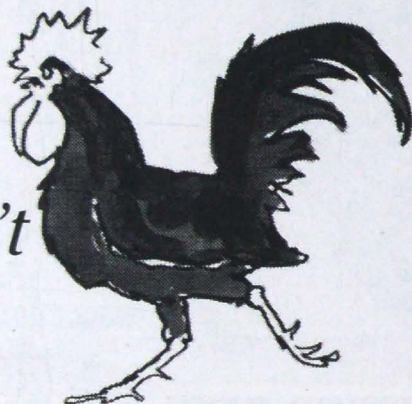
having the highest oil content and lowest moisture and ash content so it ignites at 60-90 degrees centigrade. On the contrary, deciduous trees (regarded as pests) ignite at 350-400 degrees centigrade because of their high water and ash content. Simmons also doesn't tell us that 16 out of 18 of Nillumbik's indigenous gums are also categorised by NRE as a serious fire hazard because of their bark. Webster says, "Trees with smooth bark are hard to ignite, while those with rough bark catch fire easily and fire from grass beneath them will race up, quicker than a possum, to their canopy".

Webster calls councils who refuse permits to fell trees, or even lop branches, as empyrean shires because they force residents to create pyres around their houses. She concludes the only way to conserve native bush is to have no houses in it.

Nillumbik has been a metropolitan shire for 30 years. Why are we now turning even the urban parts into a time bomb that will eventually incinerate people and property? 2,090 homes were burnt in Ash Wednesday's holocaust in 1983. Forty-seven people died, including 14 firefighters, five of whom were from Pantom Hill. Why will we never learn?

June English  
Eltham

## The kinder cock that hasn't crowed — yet



What a delightful true story about kindergarten chicks Don Charlwood wrote in your last issue of the *Diary*. It has prompted me to tell this story about Albert who lives next door to me in Brackenbury Street. Albert started his life in an "incubator" at a Warrandyte preschool.

In Albert's class was four year-old Hannah Bensch, daughter of Mark and Sharon. School was breaking up for Christmas and Albert was looking for a home. How could parents not agree to give him a home for a month or two until kinder re-started? Of course there was a chance that that little ball of yellow fluff would turn out to be a noisy, crowing rooster—but time would tell. And it did.

It soon became obvious that Hannah had one of Don Charlwood's kindergarten roosters. Any suggestion that Albert, the name now bestowed on him officially,

could go to a friend's home where he could enjoy the company of other chickens was met with a look that would have melted the coldest heart.

Albert got too big for the box he was living in. Would I or my wife, Clare, object to a run being built on our side of the Bensch property? Certainly not. Well, now Albert must have some female companionship. He could have three: a white one, a brown one, and a black one. I don't remember their names despite being told a dozen or more times. I am not very good at remembering names, it took me years before I could reel off the four daughters' names without hesitation.

This morning, February 25, at about 9am I could not recall having heard Albert's wake-up call. Nor could Clare. "Go and see if he's alright". He was OK and now at 11.15am he still hasn't crowed once—or at least we

haven't heard him.

Some months ago the Bensch family went on a short holiday and I looked after Albert and family. For the first time in the couple of years that the neighbour on the other side of Albert lived there, I met 'Phil'. He asked me what I thought of having Albert as a near neighbour. I said I didn't mind and he said, "Better you than me". To which I replied, "I don't believe I could face Hannah again having seen the look she gave Mark when he suggested Albert should go to another home. I would always be 'That man that got rid of her Albert'."

We are both happy to have Albert as a neighbour. He still hasn't crowed, it's about 11.45am (I only type with one finger). I must go and see if he's OK.

Bob Cox  
Brackenbury Street



## Snail-free gardens

Even though very sad, that was a great letter from Doreen Burge, February (death of a lizard).

I can somewhat sympathize with your plight, having nearly lost my dog—in a totally different manner recently.

My main reason for writing is to suggest a very effective alternative to snail bait that I use, being a gardener by trade. The combination of ash and sawdust around plants has worked well for me, and it doesn't even

kill the snails. They just won't cross the surface. Good to use if you're a Buddhist, too!

Far too many unnecessary poisons are used in gardens. It is far better to plant resistant materials in my opinion.

One last point: Really, any rough material around a plant, such as a handful of scoria, will keep the snails at bay and the wildlife and domestic pets safe.

Ken Gammon  
by e-mail

## Thanks

On behalf of our family we would like to thank everyone for the loving concern and support for our Mum, Jean (nee Chapman) Jones, at the time of her mild stroke in December.

Thank you for the flowers, food and phone calls. We are grateful to Dr Dixon and staff at the surgery, a big thank you! Mum is improving and getting stronger each day. Thank you again to the good people of Warrandyte.

Jones Family  
Brackenbury Street

## Owner responsibility key to off-lead dog walking privilege

I would like to comment on the letter headed "Big trouble with dogs" in February's *Diary*. The writer is correct in his assessment of the incident he described between an uncontrolled rottweiler and his fox terrier as being "a classic case of the few spoiling for the majority". However I think the writer's conclusion—that all off-lead dog exercise areas should be changed to on-lead—is flawed.

Much discussion and community consultation went into the development of Manningham's Domestic Animals Strategy (May 1999). One of the strategy's main objectives is to "Provide adequate and appropriate areas for off-leash exercise of dogs". In many people's experience, this objective is not achieved. I personally do not believe that "adequate" off-lead exercise areas have been provided, particularly in the Warrandyte area. The writer of "Big trouble with dogs" would probably not agree that the "welfare and safety" of his dog has been provided for. Other people may not think that the Stiggants/River Reserves are "appropriate" for off-lead exercise. These reserves are under increasingly heavy pressure from cyclists, horse-riders, picnickers, swimmers, dog-walkers, the monthly market, and so on. Hot weekends and evenings can be a nightmare.

But council was obliged to develop and implement a strategy in response to the state government's Domestic (Feral and Nuisance) Animals Act which was implemented in 1996. The purpose of this act is to "promote animal welfare, the responsible ownership of dogs and cats and the protection of the environment". Under "ani-

mal welfare" and "responsible ownership" comes the provision of adequate areas for the off-lead exercise of dogs.

It is well recognised that dogs benefit considerably from regular socialisation with other dogs and frequent "free" exercise. Of course, this should always be carried out under the effective control of the owner, but as I have stated previously in this paper, this is far easier said than done. Many people put considerable effort into training their dogs and keeping them under effective control, but for various reasons they may not be successful 100 per cent of the time. Responsible dog owners will recognise this and keep their dogs on leads if there are other dogs or people around or walk them at a quiet time of the day.

But what do we do about those who are irresponsible? It is impossible to know. Despite the introduction of no-alcohol areas along the river, I have seen more heavy drinking this summer than in my previous 23 summers in Warrandyte. Despite the provision of bins and littering being an offence, I have seen and picked up more rubbish along the river this year than ever before. Restrictions and rules do not always have the desired effect. If it was an offence to have a dog off-lead everywhere in Manningham, you can be sure many of the untrained, uncontrolled, aggressive ones would still be roaming free. Some people just don't care and the council and police haven't the resources to patrol 24 hours a day. A partial answer is education and this is another of the objectives of the strategy.

So I ask dog owners again—please consider other people

and other dogs. Try to prevent your dog "rushing" another dog or a person even if you know your dog is friendly and "only wants to play" or "say hello". The other dog may not feel the same way or may want to protect its owner; the other person may be frail or young or petrified of dogs. Spread the word of responsible dog ownership and maybe take it on yourself to encourage our council to facilitate the formation of a local dog club where obedience training could be taught (this too is an objective of the strategy).

Please try to keep our Warrandyte River Reserve for off-lead use—where else would we responsible owners take our happy, well-behaved and well-exercised dogs? Don't let the minority ruin it for everyone.

Doreen Burge  
Diane Court

## CLYDE & OCKER



"The riverbank's gone to the dogs, Ock!"

## Hi, yo all!

It is with great interest that I read the *Warrandyte Diary*. I live in Louisville, Kentucky, USA and will be visiting my grandson who lives in Warrandyte and hopefully I will be able to visit during your festival in March. Kentucky, like Warrandyte, has great interest in horses.

Sheena Thomson  
by e-mail

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## Dog-friendly track

As an enthusiastic daily dog walker of a near perfect off-lead specimen, I was dismayed to read Mr Gammon's letter in the February issue of the *Diary*. I write with the purpose of placing beside Mr Gammon's testimony, my own account of experience gained over four years of daily walking.

In all that time I have only once had occasion to ask a dog owner to put a troublesome dog on a leash.

All other owners either had

good control off-leash or kept their dogs on leash for reasons known to them.

For myself, if I am unsure of an approaching dog who is off or on leash, I will put my dog on the leash until they have passed. Most dog walkers do the same.

I hope this letter will help balance the negative image of Mr Gammon's experience.

Marion Renn  
Lorraine Avenue



## TWO SPECIAL PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY

# Meet Karen, our new neighbour

Karen Throssell is the new coordinator at Warrandyte Neighbourhood House. She brings a wide range of life and work experiences to the job.

She told the *Diary* that as a teacher of politics and sociology at Adelaide university she discovered the value of adult education and life learning. Working as a trade official "not only gave me a commitment to trying to improve the lives of people who are often forgotten, but I also learned negotiation and rabble-rousing skills!"

She believes her 15 years as an equal opportunity officer helped her reach an "understanding of how much people can benefit from a chance to interact and be challenged by the life-learning process".

"I remember when the idea of neighbourhood houses was first raised in the 70s. They were seen as a haven for women isolated in suburbia, as a place where they could learn how to help themselves and learn new skills, as well as just getting together with other women. I remember thinking, 'What a fantastic idea—I'd love to get involved in that some day'. It has taken many years and the development of a lot of skills of my own to get here," Karen said. "I like the idea of a regular

gathering at the Neighbourhood House with a different speaker each month. One of the themes that I have found to be popular is 'stories of local peoples' lives'—getting some of the local people who have done amazing things to share their experiences with us mere mortals.

"I also like the idea of discussions on local and broader political issues. I am very aware however, of the need to provide what our community needs—be it more arts courses than self-help courses, or basic skills and general interest courses or more informal get-togethers."

Karen intends trying out some new courses in second term "to see if we can tap into different community interests; a return to the workforce series incorporating CV writing and interview skills; poetry workshops (Karen writes poetry for the *Diary*); a home maintenance course for women, specialising in the use of power tools and a series of sessions on health issues for older women, to name a few." Leaflets will be circulated during the festival to try and gauge people's interest.

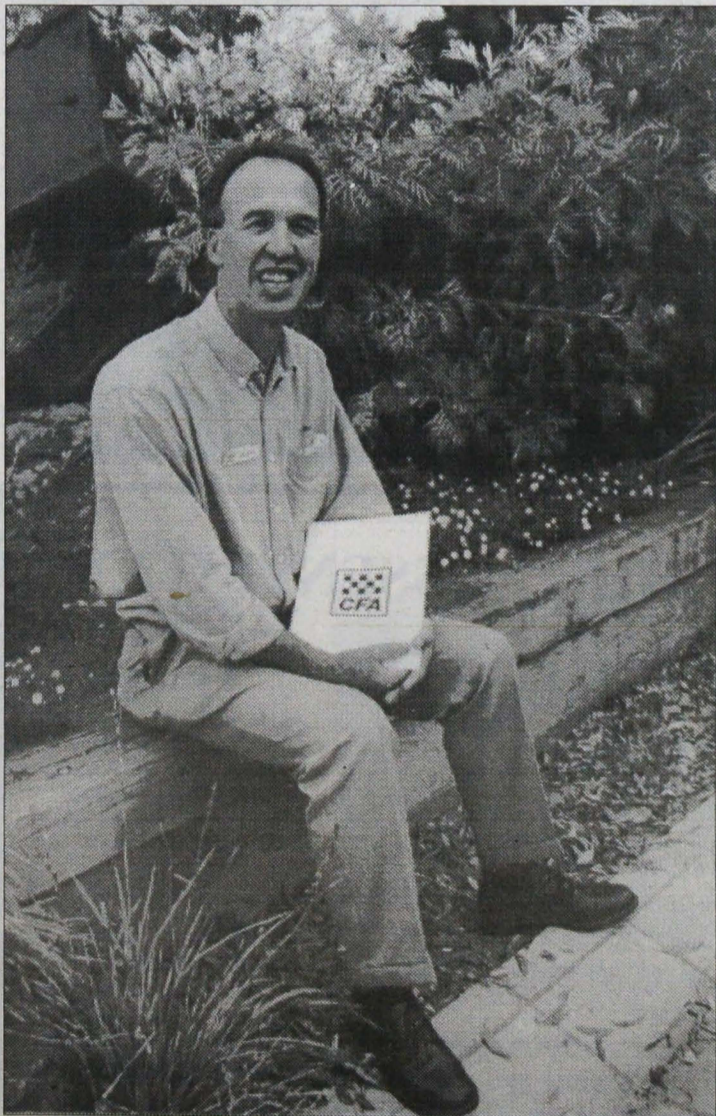
"I am also really interested in looking at the Book Exchange—the space there has

so much potential. As a passionate reader I love the idea of being able to exchange books, rather than borrow or buy them, but again we need to know whether this is a real community need—given that we already have a good secondhand bookshop as well as two op shops that sell books.

"I am very interested in people's ideas about this—especially how we can best use the space there: perhaps a local writers' or reading group? I am hoping that the monthly lunches and whatever we do with the Book Exchange could start to enhance the drop-in function of the neighbourhood house.

"I am very committed to working in my own community. Having lived in Warrandyte for 10 years and always worked elsewhere, I am discovering for the first time how lucky I am to live in an area with such a strong sense of community. I have never experienced anything like it before, and I think we should work hard to protect it," Karen said.

● Karen Throssell can be contacted at Warrandyte Neighbourhood House, situated on the upper level of the Warrandyte Community Centre. The phone number is 9844 1839.



# Fireguard Jeff is back on his old patch

By CLIFF GREEN

CFA officer Jeff Adair is back working in the local area. He has been appointed community education coordinator for the Yarra Region, based at Lilydale.

Jeff was well known and highly respected for his work as community support facilitator at the Warrandyte fire station.

His position at Warrandyte was placed under great strain during a dispute between the CFA and the United Firefighters Union, when the union insisted that only career firefighters could undertake the task of community education.

The local community campaigned hard to have Jeff remain at Warrandyte.

When the facilitators' role was restricted, Jeff received a temporary appointment as manager of community safety for Westernport Region, based at Dandenong and extending as far as Wonthaggi and the Mornington

Peninsula.

"I am glad to be back in the area," Jeff told the *Diary*. "The months I spent in Westernport was an enjoyable and very valuable experience. I am keen to be able to apply some of these experiences to future challenges within the Yarra area.

"The three years I spent at Warrandyte were very stimulating. Our biggest success was the explosion of community Fireguard groups in this area. In hindsight, and with the benefit of working in other areas, the acceptance of Fireguard in Warrandyte was phenomenal. I look forward to applying these community lessons to the broader Yarra region."

Jeff's new role will involve the coordination of all community education programs within Yarra. "Although the position is primarily one of strategic planning and coordination, it will most certainly involve some delivery, and

I eagerly anticipate working once more with the Warrandyte community," Jeff said.

Yarra Region, one of the world's highest fire risk areas, includes the Dandenong Ranges, Kinglake, Warrandyte and surrounding national parks, the Upper Yarra Valley and industrial sectors in Bayswater, Rowville and Boronia. "Forests, factories and close residential areas typify this region", Jeff said.

"Yarra is a complex geographical area. It will provide more than enough challenges in applying levels of community involvement, similar to those achieved in Warrandyte. I'm anxious to attempt to repay some of the support I received during recent difficult times, especially from local CFA brigades and the wider community, and I'm really looking forward to working once more with friends and neighbours."

● Jeff Adair can be contacted at Yarra Region CFA on 9735 0511.



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# Church makes Chinese friends

Twenty members of Warrandyte Community Church recently returned from Chang Sha in China with many great stories to tell. They left in early January to work with disabled and abandoned orphans being cared for by International China Concern.

As Melbourne sweltered in 40 degree heat, the group worked in freezing temperatures.

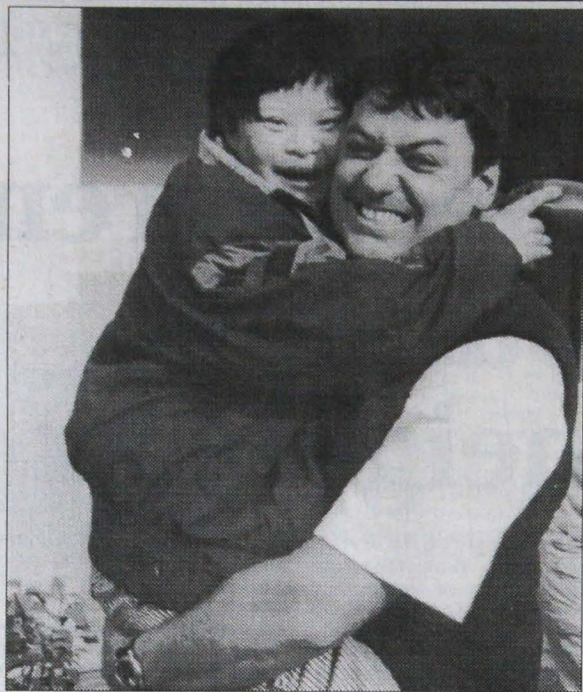
Group leader Geoff Hall said it was great to see young Aussie people showing love and concern for these orphans. "It was really moving to see big, tough, local footballers feeding babies, teaching disabled children to walk, doing craft with them, playing ball and skateboarding.

The group saw firsthand the plight of children in need. "They witnessed children being abandoned, neglected and even dying whilst they were there," a church spokesperson told the *Diary*.

The group shared their experiences at a public meeting at the Community Church. "The group all agreed that the hardest thing about being at the orphanage was leaving the children to come back home to Warrandyte," the spokesperson said.

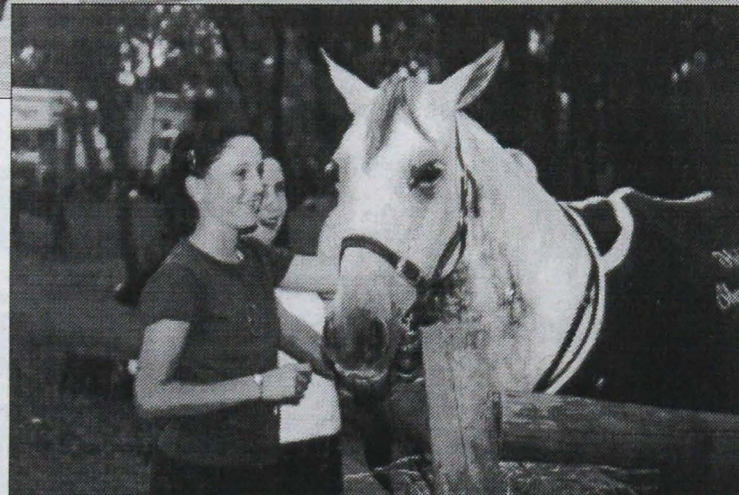
Further information on this trip—and future trips being planned—can be obtained from Warrandyte Community Church on 9844 4148.

Community Church member and friend



## Up and over!

Kangaroo Ground Pony Club organised a Gala Spectacular at their grounds one evening last month, featuring show jumping, equestrian ballet, and solo dressage. *Diary* photographer Sandy Burgoyne was there, recording the equine action.



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# Pam's rabbits are on the run



After only three years of integrated rabbit control works, some Manningham properties have been officially declared rabbit free.

Warrandyte resident Pamela Dry is pleased to say that her property is now rabbit free.

Pamela was formally recognised for her efforts late last year by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE), receiving a sought-after "Rabbit Free" sign for her property.

"The effects of rabbits on my property were widespread—they attacked the garden and native wildflowers. They also grazed our pastures heavily and their digging created erosion problems. It got to a point where having horses on the property became hazardous, as they could easily fall into a rabbit burrow and hurt or even break a leg."

"Many Manningham residents, such as Dr Dry, have been taking advantage of council's Local Environmental Assistance Fund (LEAF), which offers landowners financial incentives to undertake environmental works on their land, since 1997," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

"I decided to participate in the community rabbit program, run by Manningham Council and the DNRE, and became a volunteer co-ordinator," Dr Dry said. "It was fantastic—all the neighbours worked together and conducted a group-baiting program."

"I fumigated and ripped my rabbit burrows and removed blackberries, which harbour rabbits."

"To prevent re-invasion of rabbits from other properties I erected rabbit proof fencing around the property and now

I'm rabbit-free. Manningham council's LEAF program was really important for starting me on the road towards becoming rabbit-free."

"The change in the quality of vegetation on our property is very encouraging. I now have native wildflowers and indigenous grasses flourishing on the block and there is a lot more feed for the horses. Hopefully I'll see orchids in flower now, too."

Dr Dry believes that "with a co-ordinated group effort and an integrated rabbit program which incorporates several different control methods, residents can be rabbit-free in just 6-12 months". If you are interested in finding out more about rabbit programs in your area, please call Peter Gannon, independent rabbit facilitator for Manningham, on 0410 564 139.

## Tighe wins top award

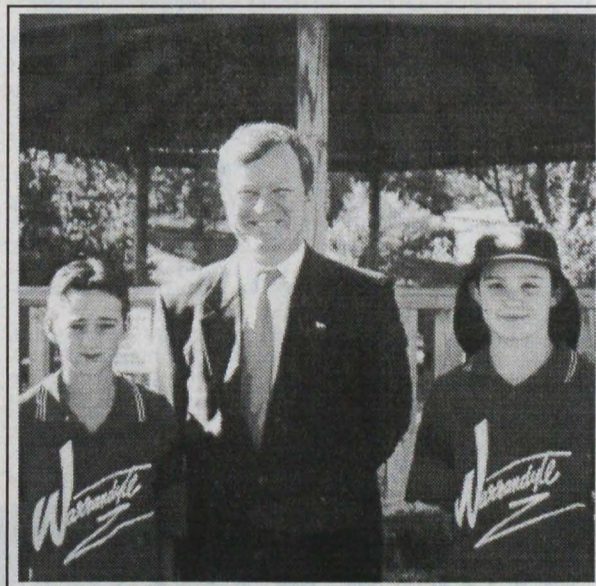
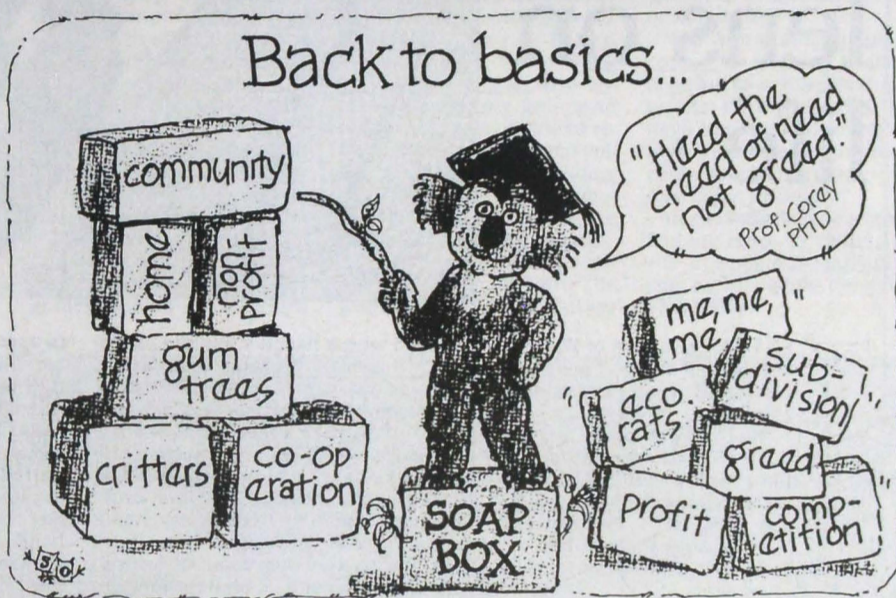
Tighe Patching (pictured above) Year 11 student at Warrandyte High School, recently received a leadership award from the Department of Education, Employment and Training.

Tighe, who lives in Wattle Glen, is a member of the school's debating team, has been involved in drama productions throughout his high school life, plays the trombone in school orchestras and bands, has been a member of the SRC since Year 7, and has been appointed both school captain and music captain for 2001.

The Student Leadership Award "recognises student leaders who contribute, within a school setting, to community service and youth leadership programs".

SO —!

By SYD & ONA



## Kids take lead roles at school

Phil Honeywood visited Warrandyte Primary School recently to present badges to the new school captains, house captains and junior school councillors. He is shown (left) with school captains, Elyce Lambrou and James Johnson.

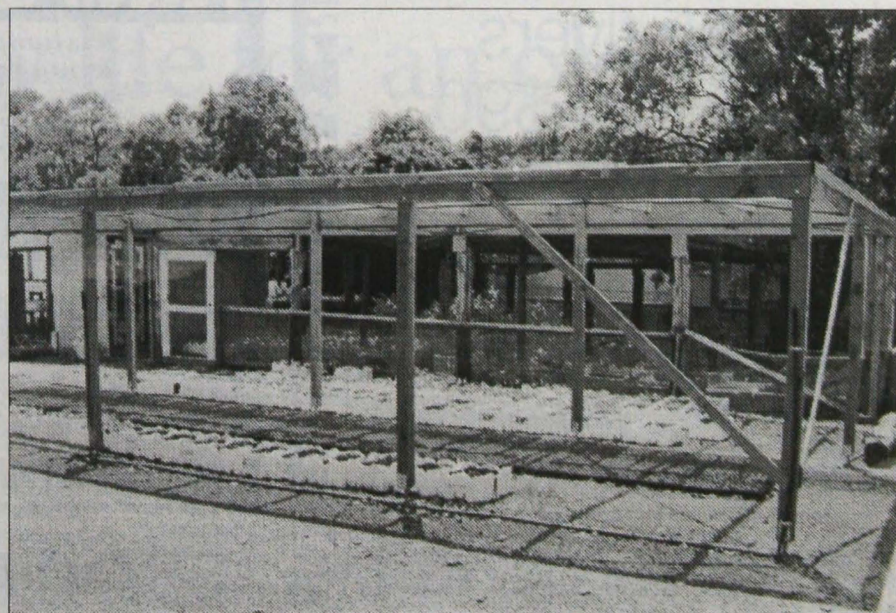
"Student leadership is a very important aspect of life at our school," assistant principal Tim Douglas, told the *Diary*. "To further enhance leadership we are introducing a junior school council this year." The council will

meet fortnightly to discuss issues raised by fellow students.

According to principal Mandy Dunn, the student leadership program aims to provide a range of experiences to enhance personal confidence and develop appropriate skills. "The experiences and roles may vary during the year as all students learn to listen, communicate, encourage others, foster trust, inspire, challenge and resolve conflicts," she said.

## Plants a-plenty

New extensions to the plant nursery at the State Park depot at Pound Bend have been built to cater for dramatically increased plantings to be undertaken by the Friends of Warrandyte State Park this year. FOWSP volunteers are propagating 35,000 plants from locally-collected seed, all to be planted in Warrandyte in 2001. (Picture by Jan Tindale)



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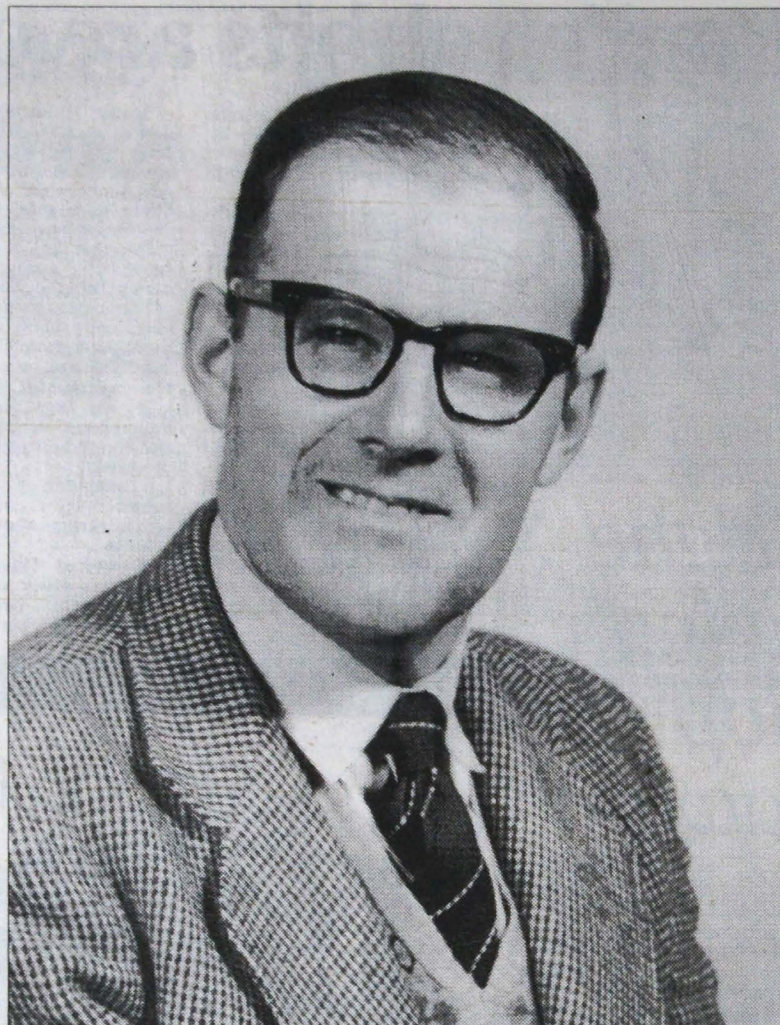


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# Ted took a long lens on life



**T**ED DOMEYER, one of Warrandyte's well-known "post-war pioneers", died last month, aged 90.

The Domeyer family arrived in Australia in 1854, taking up residence in Adelaide when it was still an isolated settlement. Ted Domeyer was born on Christmas Day, 1910. He and his brother Laurie, and their father, all worked in the early wine-growing areas of South Australia.

Ted later moved to Mildura where he met Jean. They married in 1940. Ted joined the RAAF during the Second World War and served overseas in the Middle East.

On his return, he resumed his interest in photography and in 1950 he and Jean came down from Mildura to Melbourne and he took up a position with the Department of Agriculture Film Unit. Later that year they moved to Warrandyte.

Ted was an early member of the Warrandyte Arts Association, where his skills as a photographer and cinematographer were greatly valued. He could always be found with a camera in his hand, photographing everything from cook book illustrations to stage productions. Many of his fine photographs decorated the pages of early issues of the *Diary*. Often the camera was

replaced with a hammer, building scenery for the latest drama production.

He was also active in the Mechanics Hall committee, the progress association, the RSL, the Potters Cottage collective and many other organisations. He was a foundation member of the local branch of the Liberal Party and could always be found on election day, handing out "how to vote" cards.

While with the Department of Agriculture, he was an official photographer to the Royal Tour, for the 1956 Olympic Games, and carried through a photo assignment in India.

In 1957, Ted was elected a Warrandyte Ward representative on the Doncaster-Templestowe council.

In 1958 he did a short stint with Channel 7 News as a roving cameraman. Covering a story about a ship aground in Port Phillip Bay, the boat he was on became entangled in its own anchor rope and the group had to be rescued themselves! That news item missed the 6pm bulletin.

During the 1956 bushfires in Warrandyte, the fire was stopped at the back fence of Ted's house. After helping others in the area, Ted and his son Ian returned to the house for a meal, only to find that when Jean and her neighbour, Mrs Cahill, were evacuated, she had taken all the cutlery. They had nothing

to open a can with, nothing to eat with; but finally, with the aid of tin snips, they made the most of a frugal meal.

Ted joined Aboriginal Affairs, working at Lake Tyers, the youth camp at Rubicon, and other locations. He repaired canoes, took photographs, transported students and performed any other jobs that required a lending hand. He retired from Aboriginal Affairs in 1975.

In 1977, Ted was made a life member of the Warrandyte Arts Association, recognising his 21 years of dedicated service.

During Ted's working life, he enjoyed being able to take his son Ian with him on many assignments, including filming the Kiewa hydro electric scheme, cattle musters on the High Plains and to many other locations in Victoria.

Becoming a grandfather late in life, he gained great pleasure from minding his granddaughter Julie when she came home from school, and making wooden toys for his grandsons Richard and Aaron: these toys are still treasured.

On the Wednesday before his death, Ted was able to meet his great granddaughter Alisha when Ian, Julie, Richard and Aaron saw him for the last time.

Rest in peace, Ted.

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# Calling all community groups: help on way

Warrandyte organisations will be interested in a new website that has been established to help people become involved in their community. It also lists numerous ways such groups can increase their funding.

People living in suburban and regional Australia were risking their health if they failed to become actively involved in their local community groups, the chief executive of [ourcommunity.com.au](http://ourcommunity.com.au), Ms Rhonda Galbally, AO, said recently.

As thousands of people around the country celebrated the Australia Day holiday weekend, Ms Galbally called on all Australians to stop being spectators and become active participants in their local community.

Ms Galbally was launching [ourcommunity.com.au](http://ourcommunity.com.au), a national on-line resource centre to help find funding for Australia's 500,000 community groups.

"Research says that people who care about their local community and become involved in local activities are

healthier and live longer," Ms Galbally said.

"It doesn't have to be physical. It could be a local reading club, helping out at the football club, assisting the local Landcare group or becoming an active member of the church community. It all helps to improve our well-being.

"These groups are so crucial and we need to look after their health in the same way that we look after our own bodies.

"We need to nourish them, keep them healthy and be pro-active to ensure that they don't wither and die."

Ms Galbally, a community campaigner and former head of VicHealth which funded the ground-breaking Quit anti-smoking campaign in the 1990s, says the main reason community and non-profit groups disappeared was their inability to find a reliable source of money and extend their supporter base.

The site: [ourcommunity.com.au](http://ourcommunity.com.au) produces regular monthly newsletters detailing grants, funding—covering ev-

erything from money for local festival or events to new computers, cash for major building projects and extending services, and how groups can access it.

Separate newsletters are included and they provide information on fundraising and scholarships as well as advice on everything from setting up a board to running an event.

"Each year there are literally hundreds of millions of dollars in government, private, or philanthropic grants funding which is made available," Ms Galbally said.

"It tends to be only the lucky or large groups who seem to get it. We aim to change that."

Aside from the newsletters, Ms Galbally said [ourcommunity.com.au](http://ourcommunity.com.au) also enabled community groups to list their details on-line to receive both donations and volunteers as well as providing a Price Watch so that community groups can source the cheapest possible products.

"Community groups are often too busy looking after the well-being of their local areas

to worry about money—until it becomes a life and death struggle."

Ms Galbally said [ourcommunity.com.au](http://ourcommunity.com.au) would soon announce alliances with several major Australian companies which would provide discounts on many of the basic expenses needed to run community groups.

"Everyone offers government and business better deals on everything from paper to cars to petrol or better rates on their loans. The community sector spends more than \$26 billion a year, employs more than 400,000 across Australia but effectively has no spending power or influence."

"Our role at [ourcommunity.com.au](http://ourcommunity.com.au) is to bring them all together to deliver them that power. Why shouldn't they have the same advantages—they are just as important and contribute just as much to the Australian economy."

Ms Galbally said people can find out more by visiting the site at [www.ourcommunity.com.au](http://www.ourcommunity.com.au) or calling her office 9320 6800.

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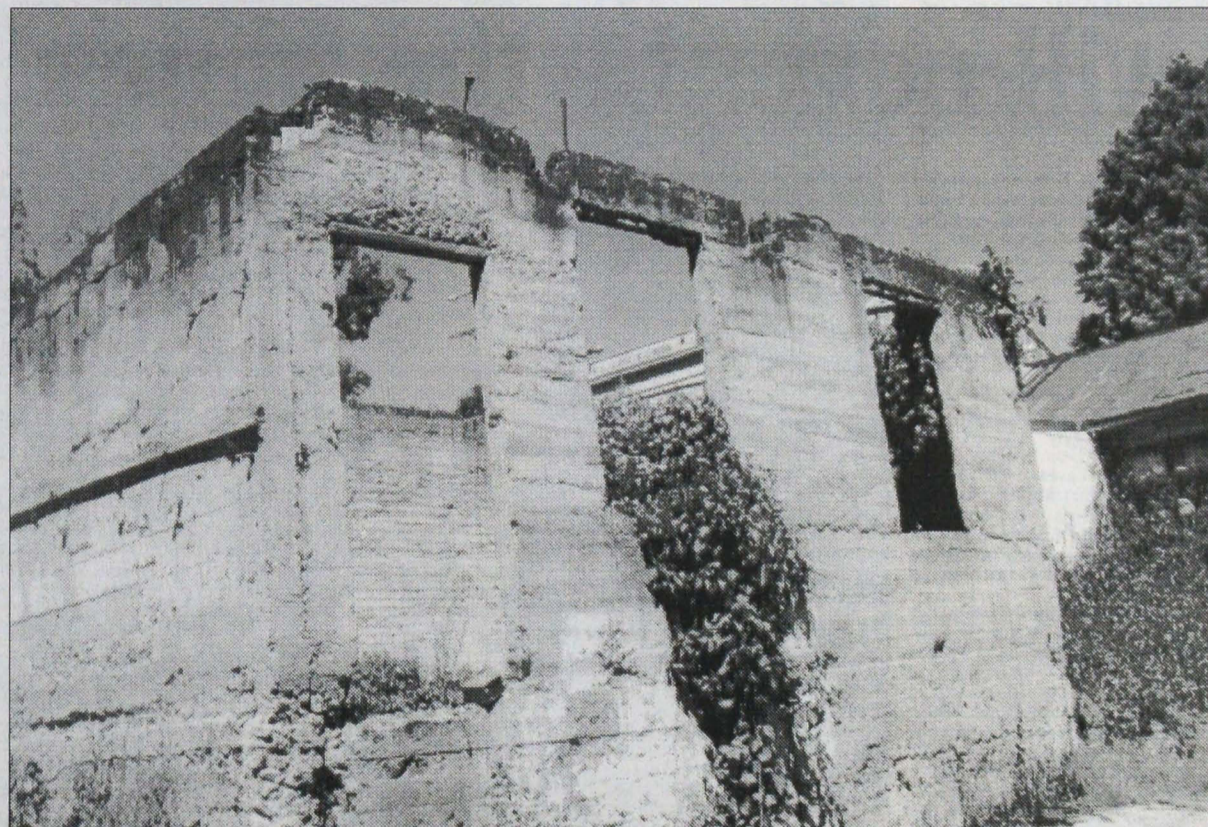
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Please contact Sophy Galbally on 0409 417 369.



Victim of Black Friday, 1939 the old Kia Ora tearooms is set to become a monument to Warrandyte's bushfire past. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

## It's new life for an old ruin

By RACHEL BAKER

They have stood as charred ruins since 1939, and now the Kia Ora tearooms building is set to be revived by the Warrandyte Lions Club.

The ruins, located next to the Lions tennis courts, between Yarra Street and the river, were operated as a cafe by Taffy Jones during the 1930s and were burnt down during the Black Friday fires on January 13, 1939.

The Lions Club has obtained a lease on the property and hopes to renovate them to what would have been their original condition.

"The original building was burnt down, so we can only do a reconstruction of what it used to be," Dennis Robertshaw, member of Lions Club and project co-ordinator, said.

"We have plans for a viewing platform on the street side, abutting the

footpath, and extending towards the building about 10 metres," Mr Robertshaw said.

The renovation would also include old-fashioned streetlights and an information board, with a photograph of the original tearooms and some text explaining what used to be there, he said.

The Lions Club has asked a representative from Manningham council to appraise the worthiness of preserving Kia Ora tearooms. However, Mr Robertshaw was confident of the ruins' value.

"It's a piece of Warrandyte history worthy of preservation," he said.

"This land has been a neglected and overgrown jungle for many years. It would upgrade the area, and people should get some use out of it," he said.

Gina Bevan-Jones, of Warrandyte Historical Society, agrees that the building should be preserved.

"I think it's fantastic," she said. "These little pieces of history can be too easily bulldozed without due thought."

A Lions Club working bee cleared away debris from the building, allowing the renovations to commence. Lions are now calling on the community for old photographs and information about the tearooms.

The renovation will not commence until approval is gained from council.

"Once we have the go-ahead from Manningham council, we'll be prepared to move along fairly quickly; we're hoping to get appraisal in the next few weeks," Mr Robertshaw said. "Then it will take about 12 months to complete."



THE ROTARY CLUB  
of WARRANDYTE

## Annual Art Show


Festival Weekend  
23rd-25th March

RESIDENT ARTIST RON REYNOLDS  
11.30am after parade  
Big Riverbank Marquee

Enquiries: Rick Pennicott, 9846 2472

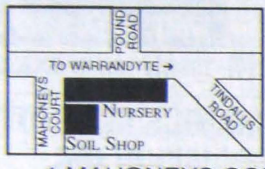


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 Warrandyte Ph: 9844 2029

## Warrandyte Community Church

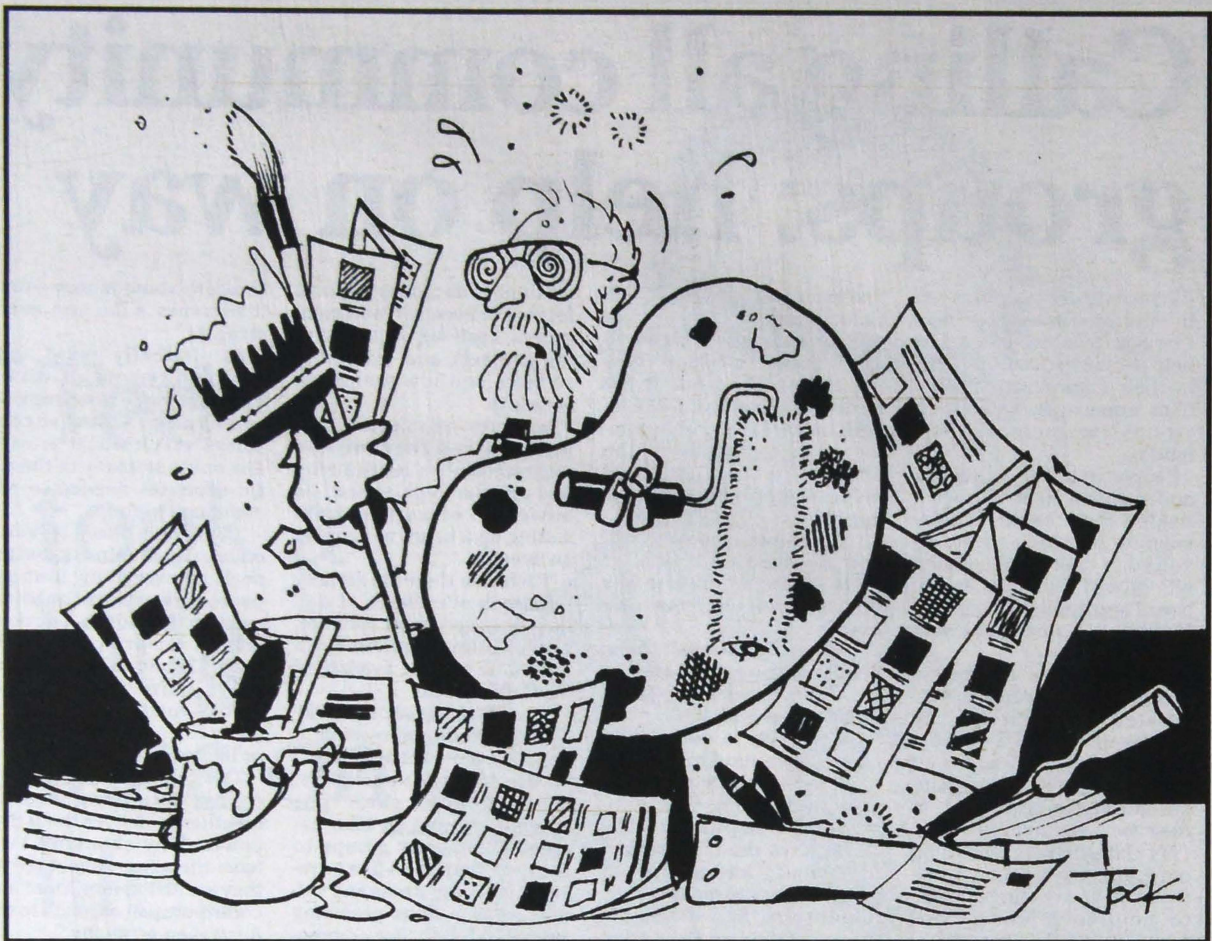
57 Yarra Street, Warrandyte. Phone 9844 4148

**Contemporary Family Worship**  
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**Café Church — 7pm Sundays (fortnightly)**

**Playgroups — 4 mornings per week.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL IN AND SEE US ANYTIME OR PHONE 9844 4148.




# Paint by any other name will never be the same

**I**T must be some party! I can just imagine the invitations being eagerly awaited and the possible conversations that are held before the party happens. "Did you get one?" "Not yet, but we have a late delivery so I am hoping against hope that it'll be there when I get home." "Have you had any thoughts about what we might do this year?" "Well, I've been reading a textbook on diseases of the body so I thought that might be a possibility. Anyway, if it's anything like last year it will depend entirely on how much booze we consume before we get down to it."

And so the conversation continues long into the night until the marketing division closes down.

Or that, at any rate, is what I imagine must happen when paint companies come up with the names for colours on their paint charts. Each time we need something painted we run into the problem of checking the cans in the shed to see what colours we had the last time we felt compelled to repaint.

It's all very well finding that we used Passionfruit Bliss last year. The problem is that it is nowhere to be found on any of the current charts. Now this can cause all sorts of problems because finding a colour that is the same as, or even approximates the last colour, is fraught



**KIBBLED**

**"I ask you, what would you assume is the colour of Intrepid Adventures or Moonstruck?"**

with difficulties.

Deciding on the suitability of colours for the wall by assuming that the names on the chart will correspond with the actual colour is about as reliable as determining life's great decisions by interpreting the insect splatter marks on the car's windscreen.

I ask you, what would you assume is the colour of Intrepid Adventures or Moonstruck? Whatever happened to white, off-white, cream and black? Today, we're more likely to have to decide between Falls Creek, Soy Milk, Labrador and Moroccan Nights. And even if you for-

get the names and just look at the colours, you run into the "trendy" factor. Which means that if you are painting anything now, it cannot possibly be in anything other than what the fashion police tell us is acceptable. Which is why we ended up painting our house Indigo Nights.

And to clarify the point, Indigo Nights was fashionable for about a month. We had decided on the colour after eight sample pots. Why eight? Well that's another trick for beginners. You see, the colour in the sample pot bears only a vague resemblance to both the colour on the paint chart and the colour as it appears on the wall. Eventually, however, we decided on Indigo Nights. Then the real trouble started.

Being a male, I have difficulty keeping two things in my mind at the same time. I was heading off to the paint shop to buy the paint. I didn't take any information with me because I reasoned that I would consult the chart once I got to the shop. As I was walking out the door, Herself asked me to pick up some groceries at a nearby supermarket.

The fault was obviously hers because she didn't give me a written list so I had to keep going through her list in my mind as I drove along in the car. I am happy to report that I got all the groceries, but by the time I reached the paint shop, I'd forgotten the name of the paint.

Unfazed, I picked up the colour chart to find that, in the intervening month, they had dropped Indigo Nights. Why? Perhaps they'd had an urgent fax from Paris or Milan or New York telling them that Indigo Nights was politically incorrect or that the marketing director who had named it had been banished to designing paint stirrers.

I thought of the naming colour parties and growled. I knew my colour was missing because we had tried and fought over the now adjacent, but then separate colours on the chart. My heart sank. How was I going to admit to Herself that we'd have to start all over again? I could hear the raucous laughter of the party-goers.

The paint-tinting assistant picked up my sobbing body from the floor and listened to my tale of woe. She nodded knowingly and assured me that all was not lost. She phoned Herself and after a few glances in my direction and a few "I know! I know!" she set to tinting the paint.

I know now, but I didn't know until then, that they keep all the colour recipes in "the book" at the paint shop and even if the colour doesn't appear on the charts, you can still get it made up, as long as you can remember the colour name.

Obviously the charts are designed by women!

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# Warrandyte Village Festival

# NEWS

4-PAGE LIFTOUT WORDS: RACHEL BAKER & MAYDEENA JAMESON PICTURES: SANDY BURGOYNE, JAN TINDALE & DI BROWNING GRAPHICS: JOCK MACNEISH

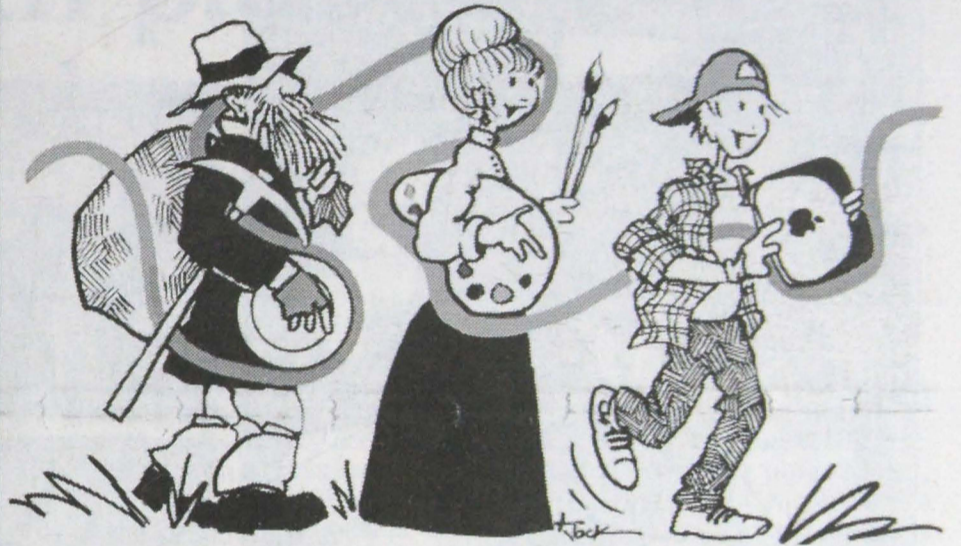
## Riverie



**T**HE sound and light show this year—entitled Riverie—will feature the story of the golden bower bird. It involves poetic projections, new innovations of illumination and special effects. It has been created by lighting director Hugh McSpedden and writer Glen Jameson. “Hugh McSpedden has developed some new sub-aqua effects for what will be his last sound and light show on the river,” a festival spokesperson said. “Glen’s storytelling talent and Hugh’s lateral lighting and sensory surprises will be painting a new river picture in gold and other hues.”

Riverie will run on Friday and Saturday nights on the riverbank below the Grand Hotel, commencing at 9pm. Shows will run on the hour, with the last performance at midnight.

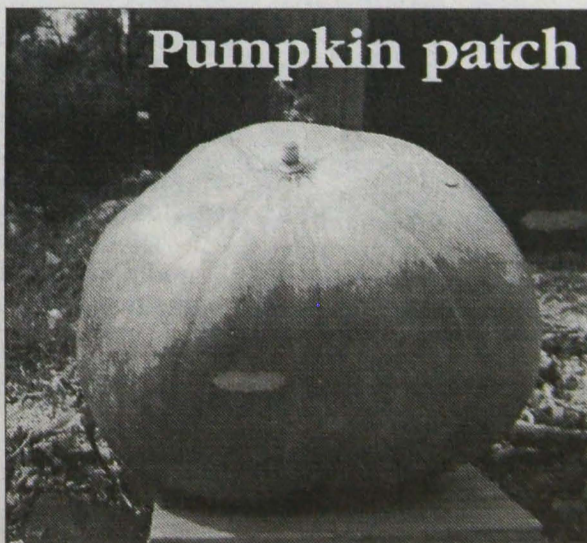
*Playing on the Riverbank,  
below the Grand Hotel,  
Friday and Saturday nights,  
9pm to midnight.*



## 2001: GOLDEN ODYSSEY

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

**I**F a bedraggled, long-haired, horny-handed miner tells you he has just discovered gold in Anderson’s Creek, you could believe him—if this was 1851. But it isn’t—it’s 150 years later. So you must be at the Warrandyte Village Festival! The theme this year is “2001: A Golden Odyssey”, celebrating 150 years since the first official discovery of gold in Victoria. And it happened right here in Warrandyte. The old town is really sparkling as festival time approaches. A golden thread will run through many of the weekend’s events and the glittering spectacle of the Grand Parade on Saturday is sure to enchant the hundreds of treasure seeking spectators who will line Yarra Street and throng to the “diggings” at Stiggants Reserve and along the river. The Warrandyte Village Festival celebrates the spirit of community; a festival free from huckstering commercialism and the hard sell. So make your way to the many “gold-fields” dotted around the village, dig deep and see what marvellous nuggets of personal enjoyment you will unearth!



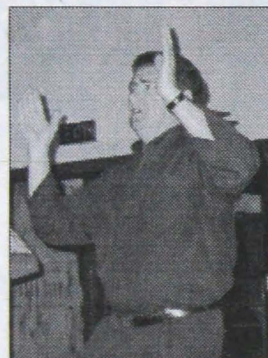
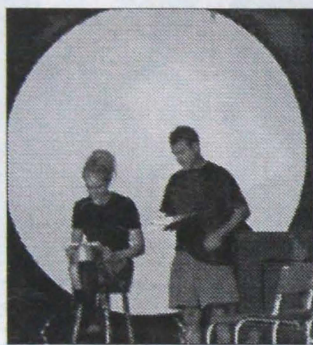
## Pumpkin patch

**T**HE giant pumpkin growing in the Community Garden behind the police station will have its own display at the festival. A “guess the weight” competition will be running at the Community Garden stand on Stiggants Riverbank, open both days. Learn about the garden and how you may be able to participate.



# Warrandyte Village Festival

# NEWS



From Warrandyte With Love in rehearsal.



## Spooks and spies in spiffing spectacle!

**B**ACKYARD makeovers, smooth-talking spies and deserted islands will all be themes of this year's Festival Follies. The title is *From Warrandyte With Love* and the subjects of satire are spies and reality TV.

There are two acts, each with around 20 songs and sketches.

"They'll all be good; but there may be one or two that will have the audience scratching their heads," director Adrian Rice said.

The show spoofs local holy cows, including Community Spy Guard, Neighbourhood Spy, an After School Spy-Care service and the Community Spy Centre (incorporating Mis-Information Warrandyte). The centre offers "meeting rooms with wire taps, concealed cameras, two-way mirrors and unexploded

community issues".

One item that is expected to engage the audience is Waite, a Maori song and dance performance. "The language and movements are very challenging, but people are really embracing it," stage manager Sue Dyring said.

With three weeks until opening night, director Adrian Rice was preparing to move rehearsals into top gear.

"It's a huge task. There are 40 grown-ups who basically have to get out on stage at one time, but when it happens it's really good," Mr Rice said. "It's community theatre—the aim is to keep as many people involved as possible."

"There was a staggering number of people at the auditions. We have to make sure everybody gets a guernsey," he said.

*Performing at the Mechanics Institute Hall, March 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, 31 and April 5, 6, 7.*

## FESTIVAL BRIEFS



### ROCK ON!

The rock stage will be in full swing this year, with four local bands including Void and Gearmuff and the very talented Peter Williamson, a local DJ. They will be playing from 12 till 6pm on Saturday at the Riverside car park, Stiggants Reserve. There will also be skateboard ramps and the Xen pro skateboarding team performing throughout the afternoon. Skating competitions will be run all day with loads of prizes up for grabs.

### GRAND PARADE

No Warrandyte Festival would be complete without the colour and excitement of the Grand Parade at 11am on Sunday. Many floats will be focusing on the theme A Golden Odyssey. There will be whip cracking, stilt walking, school bands and live performances. Prizes will be awarded to the best floats and marching contingents.

### WHEELY BINS

By popular request, the wheely bin race is returning this year, thanks to Neil Dusting, Neil Qualtrough, Greg Lawrence (who will MC the event) and Allan King. The new residential speed limits will be observed!

### WORDS AT WORK

Warrandyte Words, a program of readings by many of the town's authors and poets, will be held in the upstairs function room at the Grand Hotel on Tuesday, March 20, running from 8pm "till late". Organised by Joan Rogers, tickets (\$5 each) are available from the Bakery Cottage Bookshop (phone 9844 1744) or pay at the door. Drinks at bar prices, light supper included.

### GOLDEN HERITAGE

Underlining this year's festival theme, Warrandyte Historical Society have organized a rotunda on the riverbank to display how gold was first discovered in Warrandyte. It will feature storyboards and a diverse array of photos and artifacts. It will be a mine of information. More details be on display at the Warrandyte museum at the Old Post Office in Yarra Street.

### SERVE YOU RIGHT!

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

### WAZURI WORKSHOP

If you love ethnic music then this is for you. Wazuri, an all-girl African percussion band which will be performing on the river stage and holding workshops for younger people. The workshop will take place on Sunday. Workshop registration at the river stage by 10.30am on Sunday, please.

### PIE THROWING

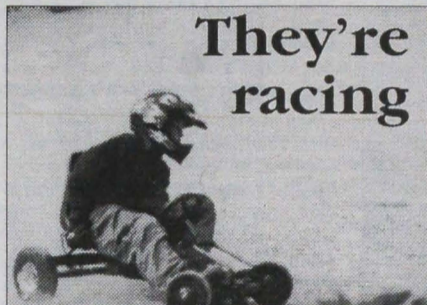
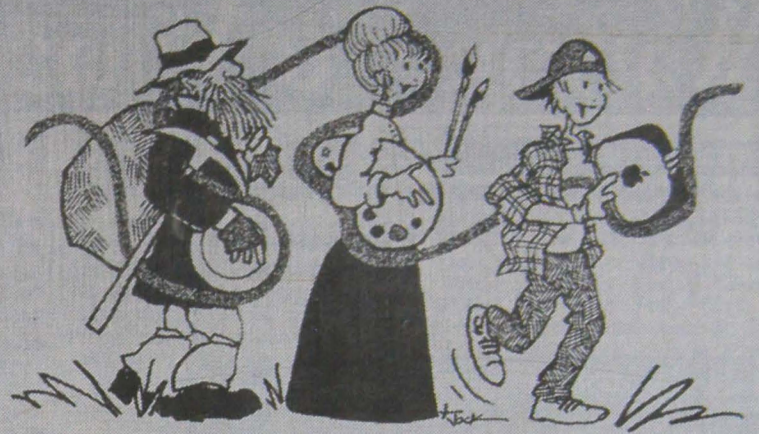
After last year's splatterific event, the World Pie Throwing Championships are back again, but this time the arena is much bigger and the pies more plentiful. So get your teams together—colourful costumes are essential. Three people per team, register with Glen on 9844 2395.

### THEIR MAJESTIES

This year's Festival King and Queen have been chosen, and you couldn't get a more golden

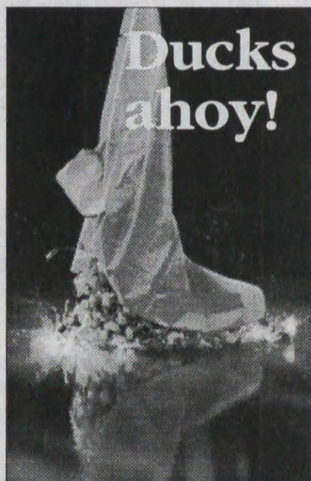


FROM TUESDAY,  
MARCH 20 UNTIL  
SUNDAY, MARCH 25



They're racing

For all the Grand Prix enthusiasts, forget about Albert Park—Sunday morning above the police station is the place to be. The Warrandyte Festival's famous Billy Cart Derby. Watch fathers and sons battle it out to see who is going to drive six months' worth of blood, sweat and tears to take out the checkered flag. This year's course is new and improved so it's promising to be the best race ever.



Ducks ahoy!

The legendary duck race is on again. More than 1000 ducks (plastic, not feathered) will be launched into the river at Forbes Street at 2.15pm on Sunday, finishing at Stiggant Street. Ducks are being sold at schools beforehand and at the information caravan during the festival.

couple than John and Bev Hanson. They have lived in Warrandyte for 28 years and John has conducted gold mining tours for the Warrandyte Festival for more than 20 years. Bev and John are passionate about preserving Warrandyte's character and environment and have greatly contributed to the community. Members of many community groups, they are dedicated to all of them.

FESTIVAL FUN

Ever considered becoming involved behind-the-scenes with the Warrandyte Festival? It's very satisfying and great fun. Introduce yourself to the folk at the information caravan, near the main stage, during festival weekend, or call 9844 3120 (h) or 9894 2233 (w) if you'd like to be part of the action.

TEXICALI ROSE

Texical Rose mixes a wonderful combination of modern, romantic and spirited music from Mexico and South America. The sound they produce is alive and passionate and appeals to audiences of all ages. They will be performing at the Finale Concert, on the main stage, from 7pm till 9pm on Sunday night.

WAAK WAAK JUNGU

As the sun sets on Saturday night savour the flavour of indigenous instruments and harmony with a modern musical air. Waak Waak Jungu is an acoustic band and attempts to portray a shared Dreaming experience. It features local and interstate musicians with a diverse source of musical talents. Waak Waak Jungu are performing from 6pm till 7pm on the main stage.

# Fun with paint as local artists hang out on Yarra Street

The street banners, raised high along Yarra Street and beyond, have been a well-loved feature of the Warrandyte Festival for many years. However, in recent times they have begun to look distinctly weathered—even somewhat tatty.

Kerrie Boyle of the festival committee decided it was time they were replaced. So Operation New Banners was launched. Every organisation in the town was contacted. Walter Magilton offered his services as art consultant, inspiring the groups to prepare simple designs, using bright colours and bold imagery. Forty new community banners were painted over the past few months and have been hung throughout the town.

Kerrie also believed the new roundabout at the Harris Gully intersection needed special festive treatment. She conceived a plan to have 10 new—"decorative only"—banners prepared for the poles at this site. Kerrie inspired artists Chris White, Walter Magilton, Pauline Cross, Gus McLaren, Nijole Pengelley, Terry Liddell, Evie Gough, Jock Macneish

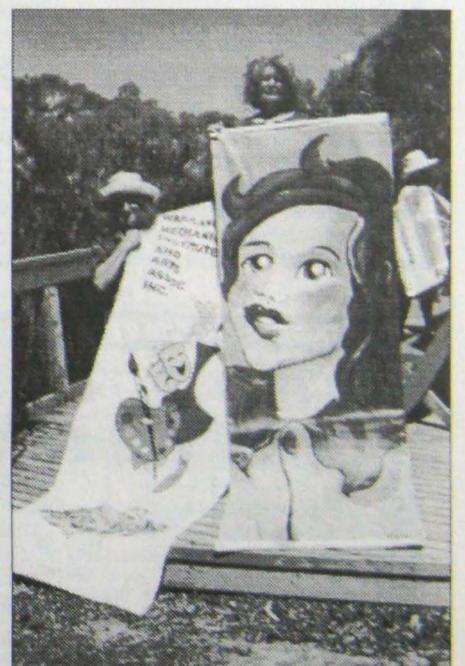
and Cheri Manders and they started work. "Some are in the artists' typical mode, including Gus, Terry and Pauline," Kerrie told the *Diary*. "But Walter departed from his well-known realistic style, and with partner Denise, contributed an eye-catching abstract."

"Chris White has painted a beautiful piece, using a wide range of terrific colours, and the two other art teachers at the high schools have contributed striking banners. Cheri Manders has painted a fantastically wild party, with a clown riding an emu, accompanied by koalas and other animals," Kerrie said.

"Next year we want to get a number of younger artists to paint banners for the roundabout display."

Not all the banners will be new. "The 'Clowning Around' series painted by children at Warrandyte Primary School are still in good order, and have been hung again this year."

Painting the banners is not the end of the project, however. They must also be fastened to their poles. "Local engineer Bob Bird has fabricated 30 new brackets, and we are very grateful for his skilled assistance," Kerrie said.



See the new banners along Yarra Street and beyond, from Wednesday, March 14.



# Warrandyte Village Festival



# PROGRAM

## TUESDAY 20 MARCH

**8pm-late: WARRANDYTE WORDS, PROSE & POETRY** Readings of original and favorite works across a wide range of styles and persuasions. Compere Jock Macneish. Entry \$5 includes light supper. The Grand Hotel function room. Tickets at The Old Bakery Cottage Book Shop, 189 Yarra St, or at the door. Enquiries Joan Rogers, 9844 1744.

## WEDNESDAY 21 MARCH

**12.30-3pm: SCHOOLS' ACTIVITY DAY** Kids from Warrandyte and Anderson's Creek primary schools get together for fun activities including disco, art & games. Further details will be sent home through the schools. Enquiries: WPS 9844 3537, ACPS 9844 2757.

## THURSDAY 22 MARCH

**7.30pm: THE FESTIVAL FOLLIES** "From Warrandyte With Love" Warrandyte Theatre company's annual revue at Mechanics Institute Hall. BYO food and drink. \$15 per head. March 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, 31 & April 5, 6 & 7. Bookings: Joan Rogers 9844 1744.

## FRIDAY 23 MARCH

**7.30-10pm: ROTARY ART SHOW OPENING** Enjoy live jazz, chilled champagne and fine food. Admission by ticket only. \$10. Bookings: Richard Pennicott 9846 2472. Giant marquee behind Community Church.

**7.30pm: THE FESTIVAL FOLLIES** "From Warrandyte With Love" Warrandyte Theatre company's annual revue at Mechanics Institute Hall. BYO food and drink. \$15 per head. March 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, 31 & April 5, 6 & 7. Bookings: Joan Rogers 9844 1744.

**7pm: ENTERTAINMENT** at the Grand Hotel Club Warrandyte.

**10am-5pm: POTTERS COTTAGE GALLERY** Displays by local potters & painters. Free entry. Morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner are available at Potters Cottage Restaurant, 321 Jumping Creek Rd, 9844 2270.

**Dusk-12.30pm: RIVERIE** Riverbank below the Grand Hotel. Hugh McSpedden's memorable sound and light show.

## ALL WEEKEND

**SATURDAY 24 MARCH: 9am-5pm**

**SUNDAY 25 MARCH: 10am-4pm**

(unless otherwise stated)

**FESTIVAL INFORMATION CARAVAN** east of Main Stage. All festival information, lost property, lost children. Buy your ducks here for the Duck Race.

**FIRST AID** available from the St Johns Ambulance in the Riverbank area.

**FREE NATIONAL BUS** runs at regular intervals between Potters Cottage and the Recreation Reserve.

**RADIO 3ECB-FM** — you can be constantly

up to date with Festival happenings by tuning in. 3ECB-FM are broadcasting live from the Stiggants Riverbank area all weekend.

### ● ON STIGGANTS RIVERBANK:

**FESTIVAL FEASTING** Lots of food to suit every taste: satays, hamburgers, sweetcorn, spit roast, fefafel, hot chips, pies & pasties, baked potatoes, poffettes, homemade ice cream, milk shakes, donuts, fairy floss, Chinese noodles and more.

**DUNK THE TEACHER** Run by North Warrandyte CFA. Small charge.

**UNITING CHURCH FREE CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES** Tea, coffee and cake available for purchase. Come and relax while your children are entertained.

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY** has a special gold display in the rotunda on Stiggants Reserve to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Gold discovery in Warrandyte, the first goldfields in Victoria.

**WARRANDYTE PRIMARY SCHOOL** Great activities for children — come and decorate a teddy or paint a plaster mould. Small charge.

**PROSPECTORS AND MINERS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA** display.

**GUESS THE WEIGHT OF THE PUMPKIN COMPETITION** Run by Warrandyte Community Garden members.

**WARRANDYTE TOY LIBRARY** Come and try our playground and toys. Parental supervision required. \$2 per child.

**PARKS VICTORIA DISPLAY** includes free children's activities. Extend your knowledge of the park.

**FRIENDS OF WARRANDYTE STATE PARK** Display of indigenous plants, free plants, information on the local environment.

**ANIMAL FARMYARD** Feed & cuddle farmyard favorites. Small charge.

### MERRY-GO-ROUND

**ROTARY ART SHOW** featuring local artists. Giant marquee behind Community Church. \$2 entry.

**WARRANDYTE CERAMICS STUDIO AND POTTERY SCHOOL** Pottery Exhibition and Sales.

**SPINNERS AND WEAVERS DISPLAY** by Doncaster & Templestowe Spinners & Weavers.

**TENNIS SERVING COMPETITION** Check your service speed by radar as seen at Melbourne Park. Run by Warrandyte Tennis Club — next to Rotary tent.

**TRACKLESS TRAIN RIDES** along Riverbank for littlies. Small charge.

**STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE** static display including local aerial photographs.

**NILLUMBIK SHIRE TENT** featuring local Landcare and Community Fireguard groups.

**ELTHAM STATIONARY ENGINE PRESERVATION SOCIETY** display of working engines and machinery.

### ● ON STIGGANTS RESERVE:

**ART AND CRAFT MARKET** Craft, produce, plants, clothes, jewelry, and other homemade goodies.

**KID'S GIANT WATERSLIDE** Starts 12noon Saturday. Run by Scouts. Changing Tent.

Bring togs & towel. 50c/ride or \$2 for all-day pass.

### ● OTHER ACTIVITIES:

**ART COMPETITION** Paintings by Primary School students on display IGA Supermarket. Enquiries: Terry Mason 9844 1255, Andrea Gleeson 9844 2394.

**GLASS GILDING EXHIBITION** Bruce Jackson will be exhibiting his latest glass gilding artworks during Saturday and Sunday in his studio. Included will be examples of wall panels, kitchen splashbacks and tabletops prior to the official launch of GoldReverre, his new business. 38 Yarra St, Warrandyte (opp Stiggants St) 9844 2200.

**ENTERTAINMENT** at Grand Hotel Club Warrandyte 7pm Sat, 5pm Sun.

**POTTERY EXPO** by the Stonehouse potters during March. Stonehouse equals quality Australian pottery. The Stonehouse 323 Warrandyte-Ringwood Rd.

**POTTERS COTTAGE GALLERY** Displays by local potters & painters. Free entry. Morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner are available at Potters cottage Restaurant, 321 Jumping Creek Rd.

**MODEL RAILWAY CLUB DISPLAY** An extensive model railway based on the tracks at Bacchus Marsh. (Including run your own train between 1-2pm) Entry by donation. Warrandyte Community Centre.

**FESTIVAL RETREAT** St Stephens Anglican Church invites you to bide awhile in peace and quiet within its space. Refreshments and teas available in church hall throughout weekend, also Trash & Treasure.

**WARRANDYTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM** has an interesting display of photographs and art. Old Post Office, Yarra Street, 1-4pm.

**ADVENTURE CANOEING** Take a gentle paddle on the Yarra taking in the beauty of the State Park. To organise your canoeing experience phone: 9844 3323 or 0427 002 293.

## SATURDAY 24 MARCH

**9am-5pm: ALL-WEEKEND ACTIVITIES** See above.

**10am: PARADE MARSHALLING** At the Bridge Tennis Courts (pedestrians) and Tills Drive (vehicles and horses).

**10.30am: JUDGING** of floats. Perpetual Trophy for best parade entry. Other categories: most colorful, most comical, most imaginative, best costumes, best make-up, and most Warrandytish.

**11am: FESTIVAL PARADE** Festival King and Queen — John & Bev Hanson — bands, floats, bikes, horses, vintage cars & more. Commentaries at Community Centre, Grand Hotel and Stiggants roadside. Maedy Colenso 9844 4881.

**12noon: OFFICIAL OPENING** by the Councillors of Nillumbik & Manningham, Main Stage.

**12.10pm: ON STAGE AT STIGGANTS** featuring Total Fire Band (sponsored by the Grand Hotel) and entries from local pri-

mary and secondary schools with support acts from the very many community groups that make up the extraordinary spectrum of life & the experience of Warrandyte.

**12.10-4.30pm: RIVERBANK STAGE** MC Unique Creatures. A great afternoon of entertainment with The Follies, Soul Harmonies, Paul Jamieson — The Music Man, After Midnight, Paul Bramich & Simon Gilbert, Eucalypto and Warrandyte Primary School choirs.

**12.30-6pm: ROCK STAGE** (All Age Gig — No Alcohol). Lots of talented local bands and DJs Stiggants Riverbank West.



**12.30-6pm: SKATEBOARD RAMPS** and competitions bring your own skateboard and safety gear and have a go on the street set-up.

**3.15 - 3.35pm: THE WORLD PIE THROWING CHAMPIONSHIP** Eight costumed teams of 3 people avoid pies in the eyes as they take part in the greatest cream pie fight Warrandyte and the world has ever seen! To register your team phone Glen Jameson on 9844 2395. Near Stiggants Main Stage.

**4.30pm: CAR RESCUE** Police, CFA, ambulance & SES rescue a victim from a crashed & burning vehicle in a combined training exercise. Riverbank Stage Area.

**5pm: FESTIVAL NIGHT FOOTBALL MATCHES** Warrandyte vs Norwood, action starts at 5pm. Food Stalls. Run by Warrandyte Football Club. Large Oval, Recreation Reserve.

**7.30pm: THE FESTIVAL FOLLIES** "From Warrandyte With Love". Warrandyte Theatre Company's annual revue at Mechanics Institute Hall. BYO food & drink. \$15 per head. March 22, 23, 24, 29, 30, 31 & April 5, 6 & 7. Bookings Joan Rogers 9844 1744.

**Dusk-12.30pm: RIVERIE** Riverbank below the Grand Hotel. Hugh McSpedden's memorable sound and light show.

## SUNDAY 25 MARCH

**10am-4pm: ALL-WEEKEND ACTIVITIES** See above.

**8.45am: BILLYCART DERBY** Forbes St, outside police station. Ages 8-15, first prize a remote control car, also parents' race, lots of trophies. Tea, coffee and snags on sale, so come and have breakfast. \$5 Registration. Robert Cousens 9844 2328.

**9am: FAMILY CELEBRATION SERVICE** at St Stephens Anglican Church, Stiggants St.

**9am-12 pm: FESTIVE FACTORY** presents Knuckles and Squeegie with lots of miming and magic. These puppet pets will rove Stiggants Riverbank and visit the pet show. Sponsored by Manningham City Council.

**9am-12pm: LOCAL RANGERS** from Manningham City Council will be available near bottom stage to answer questions and educate about pet ownership.

**9.30am: DOG SHOW & PET PARADE** With prizes for various categories, including cats, rabbits, hamsters, mice goldfish, birds, etc. All animals welcome if under owner's control. Run by Warrandyte High School. Stiggants Riverbank. Enquiries: Sue Martin 9844 3535.

**10am: CELEBRATION OPEN AIR SERVICE** Combined Churches. Worship, entertainment and music for all ages. Featuring a cappella band, Hot Gospel Choir.

**10.30-12.30pm: KIDS' MARKET** Magnificent array of stalls offering goods and fun things by local kids for local kids. Stiggants Reserve. Phone Terry Mason 9844 1255, Andrea Gleeson 9844 2394.

**10.30am: YARRA BENT CFA** Inter Brigade Competition. Riverbank Stage Area.

**10.30am:** Register by now at Riverbank Stage for Wazuri drumming workshop — limited places so be early.

**11am-12noon: WAZURI** drumming workshop.

**12noon: CONCERT MAIN STAGE, STIGGANTS RESERVE** A cornucopia of fresh musical talent, the Aboriginal experience of Waak Waak Jungi with local talent Anton Baker interwoven with professional bands: Some seen before, many new.

**12.10-3.10pm: RIVERBANK STAGE** MC Unique Creatures featuring Wonga Park CFA puppet show, Wazuri, Time Travellers, & Sarah and the Groove Diggers.

**2pm: GOLD MINE TOUR** (90 min duration) Join John Hanson for a leisurely walk & visit an 1850s gold mine. Bring torch, wear flat shoes. Run by Uniting Church. Meet at 104 Webb Street. Further info phone 9844 3906.

**2.15pm: DUCK RACE** Ducks sold at schools beforehand, and during the weekend at the information caravan. See over 1000 ducks launched into Yarra at Forbes Street, finishing at Stiggant Street. \$2 entry. Prizes. Susie Morris 9844 1449.

**3pm: WHEELIE BIN RACE** Organise your own team of three to enter or just come and watch the fun. Information Neil Quailrough, 9844 3693.

**4.30pm: CAR RESCUE** Police, CFA, ambulance & SES rescue a victim from a crashed & burning vehicle in a combined training exercise. Riverbank Stage area.

**5-9pm: FESTIVAL FINALE CONCERT (MAIN STAGE)** featuring Aurora Kurth & Eden (sponsored by the Grand Hotel), Waak, Waak, Jungi, and Texicali Rose.

**9pm: FIREWORKS FINALE** (Subject to CFA approval).

## ON STAGE ★ ON STAGE ★ ON STAGE ★ ON STAGE ★ ON STAGE ★ ON STAGE ★ ON STAGE ★ ON STAGE ★ ON STAGE ★ ON STAGE

### MAIN STAGE — STIGGANTS RESERVE

#### SATURDAY 24 MARCH

**12noon:** Official Opening  
**12.10-5pm:** Victorian Baton Twirlers, Warrandyte Primary School Bushband and choir, Total Fire Band—traditional jazz from the Grand Hotel, Eltham College—choir, dance and drama, Anderson Creek Primary—juniors & seniors singing and dancing, Warrandyte Primary—juniors & seniors singing and dancing, Warrandyte Schools of Dance—song & dance, Warrandyte High School—excerpts from the musical Chicago, symphonic & concert bands

#### SUNDAY 25 MARCH

**10.00am:** Celebration Open Air Service Combined Churches  
**12noon:** "Local Talent Time" 2B Advised Young, Local, Alive  
**1pm:** Eltham Community Band  
**2pm:** Azure—folk, rock, soul  
**3-9pm:** Knocka Price with poetry, music and audience participation will introduce a great line up of artists  
**3pm:** Cadillac—rock n roll  
**4pm:** The Question Marks & Hilary Walker—modern, rock & new talent  
**5pm:** Aurora Kurth & Eden Sponsored by The Grand Hotel—modern blues & moving soul  
**6pm:** Waak, Waak, Jungi Aboriginal soul acoustic, mood  
**7pm:** Texicali Rose—modern, cajun, soul, blues  
**9pm:** GRAND FIREWORKS FINALE Finishes 9.15pm.



### ROCK STAGE

#### SATURDAY 24 MARCH

**12.30-6pm: ALL AGE GIG**  
 No Alcohol  
 Stiggants Riverbank West  
 Featuring lots of local bands  
 Street skate setup and skateboarding competitions

### RIVERBANK STAGE

#### SATURDAY 24 MARCH

MC and performances by Unique Creatures all afternoon  
**12.15pm:** The Follies  
**12.30pm:** Soul Harmonies  
**12.50pm:** Paul Jamieson — The Music Man with special guest Zero the Space Cat. Fun for young and old. Reggae, rap & calypso.  
**1.45pm:** Warrandyte Primary School Grade 2 Choir  
**2pm:** After Midnight — cool jazz with a Latin twist.  
**2.50pm:** Warrandyte Primary School Grade 3 & 4 Choir.  
**3.05pm:** Paul Bramich & Simon Gilbert — acoustic guitar duo  
**3.45pm:** Eucalypto  
**4.30pm:** Car Rescue demonstration

#### SUNDAY 25 MARCH

**9am:** Festive Factory presents Knuckles and Squeegie — a pet puppet show  
**9.30am:** Dog Show & Pet Parade  
**10.30am:** Yarra Bent CFA Inter Brigade Competition.  
**11am:** Wazuri drumming workshop — limited places. Register by 10.30am  
 MC and performances by Unique Creatures all afternoon  
**12.10pm:** "The Fire Safety Puppet Show" — Wonga Park CFA  
**12.30pm:** Wazuri — Women's Drumming group  
**1.30pm:** Time Travellers — featuring Mathew Arnold & Michael Johnson. A blend of Spanish, Celtic & World Music  
**2.15pm:** Duck Race  
**2.45pm:** Unique Creatures — A Giant Puppet Show  
**3pm:** Wheelie Bin Race  
**3.30pm:** Sarah and the Groove Diggers  
**4.30pm:** Car Rescue demonstration



# Finding a place in the wild for a fern family tough

**T**OUGH is the word that springs to mind when describing bracken. Bracken is a fern; the commonest, in fact; widespread throughout the world. But bracken is everything most ferns are not: tall and robust as opposed to lacy and delicate; preferring full sun and well-drained soils compared to shade and moisture. Definitely not a candidate for a fernery or shade house.

Bracken forms dense swards of harsh, deeply divided fronds borne on rigid, unbranched stalks connected to a creeping network of underground stems called rhizomes. It is these fibrous rhizomes, lying deep in the soil, that enable bracken to survive fierce bushfires and emerge from the ashes stronger than before.

Much to farmers' frustration, this indigenous fern runs riot in paddocks, earning for its sins the classification of a weed. That classification, however, does not apply to bracken growing in native bushland where it takes advantage of openings in the forest canopy. In Warrandyte it is a common fern, particularly on raised alluvial terraces above the river, but also in areas of soil disturbance such as on top of Fourth Hill.

Bracken has had unfavourable publicity for its health risks to grazing animals and humans. The fronds are known to contain poisonous cancer-causing compounds. This fact, though, has not stopped the Japanese, who have a reputation for toying with toxins, from consuming quantities of succu-



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

lent young fronds served as an appetizer with soy sauce. Not surprisingly, this practice has led to an increase in stomach cancer in some regions.

The Aborigines had a better idea, using sap from the venomous fronds to rub on insect bites, while selecting for their food source the other end of the plant—the rhizomes. These they pounded with stones to extract the starch, which was made into cakes and roasted in hot ashes. A wise choice. Tests have since shown that bracken rhizomes are highly nutritious, containing more protein and carbohydrate per unit weight than potatoes, carrots and pumpkin.

In the past, resourceful humans have found many uses for bracken: as a fuel, for soap, bleach, in glass manufacture, as compost and fertilizer, for thatching, as a yellow dye and in the tanning of leather.

These days bracken is overlooked and underloved. No one actually plants bracken for choice. Despite its irrepressible growth and tolerance to a wide range of natural and disturbed habitats, bracken is difficult to cultivate in nursery situations and almost impossible to transplant. Yet this much-maligned species has many redeeming features. The persistence of dead, standing fronds makes bracken a valuable wildlife



habitat, providing cover and foraging opportunities for small animals and birds like the white-browed scrub wren, brown thornbill and white's thrush. As well, bracken binds friable alluvial soils, reducing erosion, and outcompetes weeds for nutrients and moisture. Bracken's image will not

change. Farmers will continue to treat it as a pest and home gardeners thankful they don't have to contend with such an aggressive invader. OK, so it's not, by our visually driven human senses, an attractive plant—hardly deserving to belong to that group of plants recognised for their graceful beauty. But this black sheep of the family occupies an important niche in the environment. Despite what we think of it, or do to it, bracken will always be the world's most successful fern.

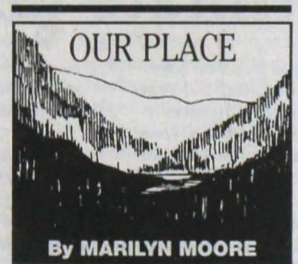
# Learning about the road; and life

**E**VERYBODY knows who calls the shots in this world—the baby boomers, that's who. That huge slice of Australia's population born between 1946 and 1964 supposedly owns about 75 percent of the national wealth and runs pretty well everything in the country.

Well, the reign of the baby boomers is not exactly under threat, but it is interesting to note that, largely thanks to them, another prominent bulge has emerged in the population statistics. Not recently, mind you—this bulge merged about 15 to 18 years ago, survived the rigours of childhood, and blossomed into the most vehicle-dependent generation in history.

Yes folks, now that they are tall enough to see the road ahead through the windcreens of their parents' cars and work the pedals at the same time, sons and daughters of baby boomers are queuing in droves for their L-plates. And getting them. Of course the first thing their mates want to know is their score in the test. It's become a sort of standard greeting.

"Get yer L's?"



**OUR PLACE**  
By MARILYN MOORE

"Course."  
"Get any questions wrong?"  
"Nuh." And they both nod sagely in mutual understanding. After all, at 16, multiple choice exams are kid's stuff. Despite this, they both know somebody who repeatedly failed the test.

"Shouldn't be on the road." They sound just like their parents.

However they don't yet quite drive like their parents. (Is this overexposure to Daytona machines and computer games, or just lashings of youthful inexperience?) In fact, from the learner's point of view, their beloved parents have transformed themselves into nagging old Professor McGonagals: "Keep more distance between you and the car in front"

"...ease up a bit along here" ... "how about dropping your speed back a bit" ... "give this chap a bit more room" ... "speed limit, buddy" ... "you might want to change down a gear for this corner" ... "drop back a bit more, you can't see past that 4WD" ... "I said SLOW DOWN!"

It's just so easy to creep over that speed limit, and after all, 65 or 70kph feels just as safe as 59kph. What's the problem? "But that was quite safe, Mum!" It's very reassuring from a parent's point of view to follow another L-plate driver along Yarra Street, and note that they are being told to slow down at all my favourite nagging spots, like the stretch of road between Whipstick Gully and the Mechanics Institute. "Look, 60 only means 60 when there's a good clear view and no parked cars, pedestrians or dogs in sight!"

I thought I'd say goodbye to my Slow Down to 40 for Warrandyte sticker when we sold my old car, but lo! a spare one surfaced during a recent clean-up. I should have stuck it on the inside of the front windscreen instead of on the rear window.

On the whole though, these

learners are doing an amazing job. This is just as well, because, numberwise, they're a force to be reckoned with. So far I've only witnessed one episode of spectacular kangaroo-hopping (well, a hefty 4WD's not the easiest thing to have your first drive in) and one major stall ("At least he's driving a manual" commented our resident expert).

If the learners are cruising along so nicely, it can only be because their parents are doing such a good job of teaching them. Ah, yes, and aren't we a pack of spoilsports, not allowing the radio on or friends on board while the learner is learning?

You only get one reputation in life, so they say. Travelling through Geelong recently, we followed a P-plate ute driver who cruised happily in his lane and stuck exactly to the frequently changing speed limits. It was textbook stuff. "That's exactly what you should be doing," I couldn't help exclaiming to our own behind-the-wheel learner, "—slowing down before the speed signs. What a wonderful driver!"

"Yeah," he drily responded, "that passenger must be his mum."

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# Tides of change

Car shudders to a stop, Life brakes to a halt  
 Searing blue sky, hot dry heat pounds...  
 Riverpath bends through sleeping country town—  
 Toe itching, nail pinching, gravelly dust invades.

Bread from the Bakery, Breakfast by the River—  
 Ducks shoring up expectantly  
 Water drops trickle down flapping wings,  
 Perspiration beads down bared backs.

Moving Water, Cooling Sound  
 Whispering, cascading:  
 Long green strands rhythmically sweeping, quietly embracing—  
 Riverside ripples passing shady crevices by.

Passing Feet, Linking Hands  
 Where flowers stretch to the sky, where river rides deep and wide  
 Where rocks step over the water, where whirlpools glug and gurgle—  
 Each place a special memory.

Shimmering River, Dappling Light, Nature's Echoes...  
 Weekend visitors come—and stay.  
 Riverpath now a roadway: concrete underfoot, stone steps scar grassy banks—  
 For public convenience, steamroll river's true textures.

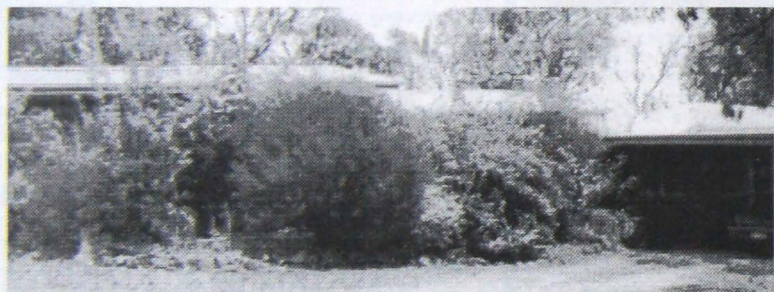
Sunlight shards glinting, Whitehorses rock leaping  
 Take me down by the river, lead me down the years  
 Children's feet racing, a mother's eyes keenly watching  
 Fast down the rapids fast down the falls, a toy sailing boat—where will it go?

Waves of Memory, Tides of Change  
 Across the water a dream recalls:  
 Golden bell hanging from end of stone wall, rowing boat bobbing along end of shore  
 Dipping oars rhythmically moving, children's fingers river skimming—  
 Ferryman sweeping them further and further from home.

HELLENA ALLAN



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# Artists sent into cyberspace



Artist Pamela Conder addressed the gathering.



Minister Sherryl Garbutt launched the website.



Words by FIA CLENDINEN • Pictures by SANDY BURGOYNE

FOR 35 years a group of women artists have been meeting every Wednesday to paint landscapes around the Warrandyte area. They set their easels up in front of old buildings, or overlooking valleys, or beside the river.

They carry their painting equipment in old shopping bags and clean their brushes afterwards on a worn out pair of underpants. After more than three decades of painting together and talking about their work, they are, as one of the women remarked, "the best of friends".

To mark the opening of International Women's Week, as well as to launch a new internet site, these women took part in a day of sketching and painting on the banks of the Yarra.

Warrandyte has been a place where women artists have worked side by side with valued friends for a very long time. Clara Southern (1860-1940), who was one of the famous Heidelberg School of painters, lived in Warrandyte for many years, she and fellow artist Jo Sweatman often went out painting together. They were probably inspired to set up their easels by the very same views that artists are painting today.

The Heidelberg School, and perhaps particularly the women artists from that group, were the first white artists to show an appreciation and sensitivity towards the Australian landscape. Showing European figures as part of the strange, prickly bush rather than apart from it, was a bold new development.

But although the men of the Heidelberg School—artists such as Tom Roberts, Charles McCubbin and Sir Arthur Streeton—have become household names, the women artists are not so well known.

The internet site, "The Women of the Heidelberg School" has been launched precisely to try and rectify that wrong.

The life and work of five women artists are celebrated on the web site: Clara Southern, May Vale, Jane

Price, Elizabeth Parsons and Jane Sutherland. As well as working hard at their painting, these women were also active in various artists' organisations and fought hard to win professional recognition for themselves and for the other women artists of their time.

Andrew Mackenzie, art historian and author, who curated the site, stressed, "this is a live internet site, that can be added to at any time". He said he hoped the public would come forward to volunteer any extra information they might have.

Sherryl Garbutt, the Minister for Women's Affairs, launched the internet site.

Ms Garbutt said that the five women featured were not the only talented women artists from the period. "These five were picked out from among thousands," she said. "Five survivors' is what we've called them."

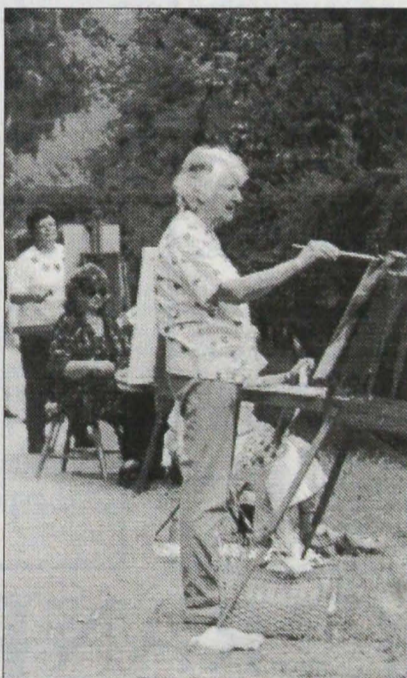
Ms Garbutt said women artists had to struggle against the social stereotyping of their era. In those days women were not taken seriously as artists and were actively discouraged from attending life drawing classes. And while the male artists from the Heidelberg School went out camping for days and weeks on end so that they could paint the bush in all different lights, camping was not seen as a suitable activity for ladies.

"The men already had support networks," she said. She added, "what's changed?"

Ms Garbutt pointed out that it was during this exact historical period, towards the end of the 19th century, that women were also struggling to win the right to vote. She described women's voting rights as "the live issue of the day".

Ms Garbutt said that the wives of the famous male artists should also not be forgotten, as many of these women had played an important role in the development of their husbands' careers.

The web site, which also has screen dumps, is at [www.artistsfootsteps.com](http://www.artistsfootsteps.com)







# It's our 1st Birthday!

Sunday 18th March 2001

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- 12-3pm** **Open air dining:** streetside/balcony/bistro. Enjoy a range of complimentary Toohey's products and Club Warrandyte wines.  
**Corner stage:** Bistro "Nick Charles Duo" plays rhythm & blues. Upstairs the "NEW" balcony bar is serving drinks all day. **50% off any main meal** purchased lunch/dinner (members only).
- 2-4pm** Giveaways and Competitions every 15 minutes **\$500 in prizes to be won!**

- 3-5.30pm** **Live entertainment** upstairs on the balcony featuring "Stand Clear". The "NEW" balcony bar pours Toohey's and Club Warrandyte wines. Your first drink with our compliments. Sample our new Sunday snack menu and check out the new look of our function room.
- 5.30-7.30pm** **Wine & Cheese Tasting** featuring wines from Mildara Blass, tastings, special mixed case buys and cheeses from the Yarra Valley.
- 7-9pm** Giveaways and competitions every 15 minutes with **another \$500 in prizes to be won!**
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- Members competition

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# Great garden opens

Ben and Judith Vander Haar invite you to their Open Garden on Saturday, March 17 and Sunday, March 18. The 1.5 acre garden (featured on Burke's Backyard) will be open from 10am to 4.30pm, both days, at 226 Warrandyte Road, Warrandyte (opposite Warrandyte High School). There are spectacular water gardens, a full range of conifers, magnificent hanging baskets, a variety of annuals, a wide range of roses and extensive use of bluestone rockeries, gazebos and pagodas. Admission is \$6 with proceeds going to the Heart Foundation.

## Fair

Strawberry Fair—the major annual fundraiser for St Anne's Primary School—will take place on Saturday, March 17 from 9am to 4pm at the school, Knees Road, Park Orchards. There will be food and craft stalls, gourmet lunches and Devonshire teas, along with entertainment for the children, secondhand books and a white elephant stall.

## BMX

The Park Orchards BMX Club is a non-profit sporting organisation, operating at a fully supervised level. Ring Irene on 9719 7235 if you are interested.

## Sale

The Donvale bowls and hockey clubs are holding a White Elephant Monster Sale at the Mullum Mullum Reserve, corner Springvale and Reynolds Roads, Donvale, on Sunday, March 18. Donations are welcome and arrangements can be made for pick-up by calling 9842 8861. Cakes and Devonshire teas will be available on the day.

## Dance

The next South Warrandyte social dance will be held in the South Warrandyte Hall in Hall Road on Saturday, April 14. Cost is \$6 including tea and coffee and many prizes. Dancing to a top band includes Old Time, Modern and New Vogue.

## Hall

North Warrandyte Community Hall is available for your next party at a cost of \$44. Benefits include a fully enclosed children's playground, adult and children's tables and chairs, full use of the kitchen and plenty of open space both inside and out. Contact Kerry Humphris on 9844 0724 for further details.

## Guitars

Old guitars are being sought to be repaired and delivered to under-privileged kids in East Timor. All sorts of instruments are welcome, as well as strings, tuners, nuts, saddles, picks and instruction books. Music is a very important part of the

## New faces at the Community Church

Warrandyte Community Church has a new associate pastor. He is Peter Atkinson, who joins the team in a much needed full-time capacity. Numbers at the Community Church now average 180 people at morning services.

Peter, Lorraine, Stephen and Caleb Atkinson (pictured) have moved to Victoria from Tasmania. "They have been involved in pastoring a church at Boat Harbour on the North West Coast, as well as in recent years running an emu farm," a church spokesperson told the *Diary*.

"From what we've seen so far, we really like the feel of Warrandyte and the people we've met," Mr Atkinson said.

Community Church pastor Peter Keep is keen to have someone alongside him, "although it is confusing having two Peters as pastors," the spokesperson said.

The church will soon be looking for a new youth worker, as Rachel Hall has left to further her studies and work elsewhere.

"One of Peter Atkinson's roles



will be taking religious education classes at Warrandyte Primary School. In the church context he will be assisting leaders with their development so that they can be involved in helping

others.

"He will also take up general pastoral duties," the spokesperson said.

"Feel free to drop in some time to meet Peter Atkinson."

mind through the study of universal principles based on truth, compassion and forbearance". All Falun Gong activities are free.

## Thanks

Sue, the manager of the Lions Op Shop, wishes to thank the unknown person who recently placed a generous cash donation under their door.

## Interchurch

Interchurch activities for 2001 will include Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, Week of Prayer service on June 3 and Carols at Stiggants on Saturday, December 15. Office bearers for the current year are: Gary Gason, president; Ros McDonald, vice president; John Hansen, secretary and Heather Ingram, treasurer. The Interchurch council has asked us to thank Rae O'Shaughnessy for over 20 years of service. She is now moving from the area.

## Straw

Nillumbik council environment building surveyors, and the sustainable living magazine Earth Garden, are hosting a free "straw bale" seminar. More than 35 Australian straw bale houses will be featured at the workshop. It will commence at 7.30pm on Thursday, March 15 at the Eltham Community Centre in Main Road, Eltham. For further information ring 9433 3110.

## Opera

Local resident Linda Mitchell is the new president of the Eastern Metropolitan Opera. Linda

advises local residents that the company's forthcoming production, *The Marriage of Figaro*, will be held at the Whitehorse Centre, 397 Whitehorse Road, Nunawading on March 30 and 31 and April 1, 4, 6 and 7 at 7.30pm and April 7 and 8 at 2pm. Tickets from 9262 6555.

## Open

Another horticultural delight will be available to locals when Flora Anderson opens her garden at 2 Styles Court, Wonga Park. This garden will open on Saturday, March 31 and Sunday, April 1 between 10am and 4.30pm as part of the Australian Open Garden Scheme. Admission of \$4.20 will be shared between Australian Bush Heritage and the Open Garden Scheme. Bring a picnic. Morning and afternoon teas will be available, indigenous plants will be on sale and a harpist will be playing on both afternoons.

## Caring

Do Care are desperately short of volunteers in the Manningham area and would be pleased to hear from anyone who has a few hours each week to spare. Volunteers are needed to visit older folk or people with a disability. An orientation program is provided. For information call Do Care on 9762 5211.

## Gallery

Manningham Gallery will be exhibiting contemporary works on paper by Li Gang and Bai Ying, artists from Shanghai, until March 25. The gallery is at the rear of the Manningham municipal offices, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster.



Conducted by JUDY GREEN

Timorese culture and children there have very little chance of ever owning an instrument. If you can help, please ring Steve Blundell on 9758 3300 or Marcus Kennedy on 9844 4835.

## Arts

The Nillumbik Festival of the Arts, running until April 1, features a wide variety of activities. The festival, with a focus on the continuing development of the arts and culture in the shire, incorporates council events and a number of "umbrella" activities organised by businesses and community organisations. Brochures are available from local libraries, Do Lunch and Volumes cafes, Living and Learning centres in Diamond Creek and Eltham, council offices, Eltham Bookshop and Nillumbik Cellars. A unique feature will be the Festival of Shared Dreaming to be held at Montsalvat. Contact Fran Silvester on 9433 3131 for further information.

## Falun Gong

The practice of Falun Gong (Falun Dafa) is being taught by Janine Rankin every Saturday at 3pm on Stiggants Reserve, Warrandyte. Falun Gong seeks to "cultivate one's heart and

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# Riding high

Warrandyte's high-achieving mountain bike group, Yum Cha Racing, continued on their winning way with another triumphant weekend at Mt Buller on March 3-4.

Buoyed by their recent sponsorship by Cycle Science in Mitcham, the team comprising Brett Pengelley, 13, Travis Southall, Thomas Egan, Che Pianta, Jordan Doig and Chris Burriss (all 14) carried all before them in the Victorian interschool championships.

They experienced several mechanical problems over the weekend and are extremely grateful for the generous Cycle Science

sponsorship which allowed them to keep their bikes on the track.

Competing in the division two category (for years 9 and 10), they took outright wins in both the downhill and cross-country individual events as well as the team trophy in the cross-country and an equal second in the downhill.

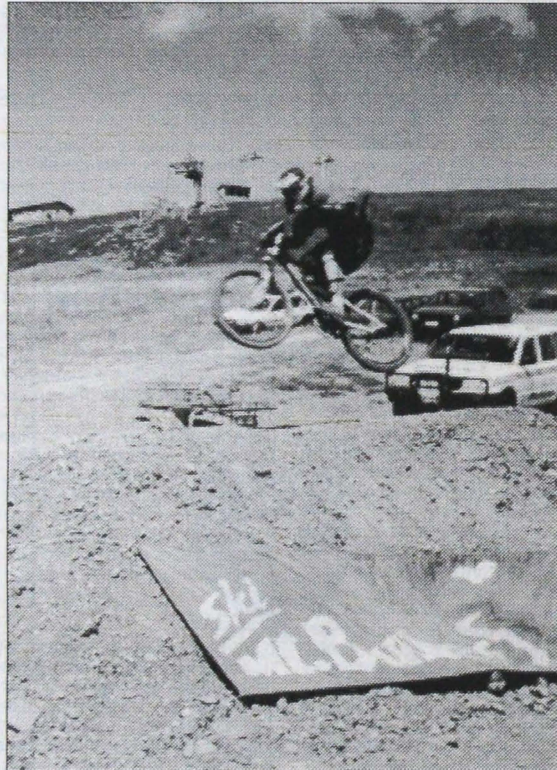
All the boys showed true Warrandyte spirit by competing vigorously throughout the weekend and their results speak for themselves, Thomas emerging as cross-country champion and Brett as downhill champ.



It's a bumpy road to success, but the Yum Cha boys take it in their stride.



Above: And the winners are ... four of Warrandyte's all-conquering team — from left, Chris Burriss, Travis Southall, Che Pianta and Thomas Egan.



Up, up and away ... Brett Pengelley shows his style.

## Girls in demand

Warrandyte Tennis Club are seeking girl players. The club will have 13 teams playing on Saturday mornings in the Eastern Region Tennis' winter season, but the balance is decidedly in favour of the boys.

Apart from three mixed teams, there will be seven boys teams but only three girls sides. One boys team also play in the Diamond Valley competition on Friday evenings.

In an attempt to attract more girls to the game, Warrandyte will hold a free girls-only clinic for non-members at the courts in Tarroona Avenue at 11am on Sunday, April 1. It will be run by club coach Aaron Nolan.

Junior girls of any standard up to age 18 are welcome to attend and can register at the club's serving competition stand at the Warrandyte Festival or contact Judy Green on 9844 2096.

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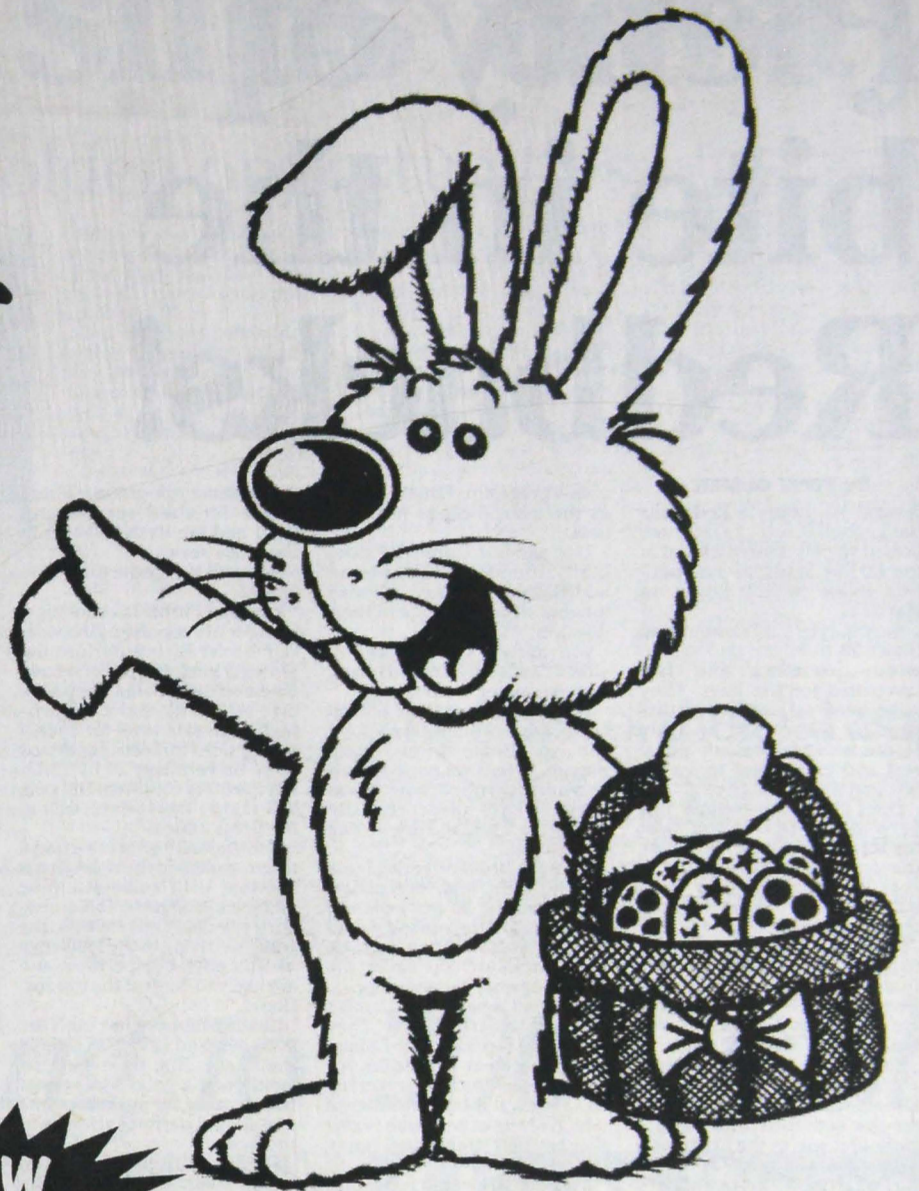


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# Plenty of bite in the Redbacks!

By TONY OLIVER

Several Warrandyte Redbacks Basketball Club teams are poised to play a strong hand in the EDJBA Saturday competition finals, which begin on March 17.

Warrandyte's all-conquering Under-20 boys are undefeated minor premiers and hot favourites for the flag. They have been strengthened this year by the return of Andy Moore, who provides additional zest and excitement to a very fast and professional unit.

Their closest encounter has been an eight-point win over the top Eltham side. However, the main opposition in the finals is likely to come from Balwyn, if they can get their top side on the court.

Also performing well and likely grand finalists are the Under-16 boys side, with Tim Given and Myles Pearce setting the pace. Coach Gerry Pearce has the boys working well.

Early in the season there was a controversial draw against Eltham, the score disputed after the scoreboard showed a two-point win to the Redbacks.

Revenge was sweet in the return match, with Warrandyte easy winners. If they have been

able to regroup, Eltham shape as the main dangers in the finals.

The second Under-16 side, built around Jake Templeton and Gavan Hennessy, are also looking strong finalists in their division.

Warrandyte's top Under-12 side, coached by Travis Brown, are also major contenders.

The highlight of their season so far was a thrilling three-point win over Eltham, the two teams playing a tension-packed, cat-and-mouse type of game. It was a real team effort by the Redbacks against very strong opposition.

This is a brilliant young team playing a very high level of basketball with a 90 per cent win ratio. Goal of the season would have to go to Patrick Jackson for a backward flip under the basket against Nunawading.

The road is harder for Damian Arsenis' Under-10 boys. They made the top four, but Eltham 1 are the clear favourites for this competition and, according to Arsenis, it is only a matter of which of the other three teams will be their grand final opponents.

Malcolm Anderson is the rare position of coaching two sides

in the same age group. These teams finished second and third and are likely to meet in the finals series.

How will he handle this? Who knows?

Lorraine Parfitt is coaching a number of successful girls side. Her Under-8s are performing strongly and only Bulleen have defeated them so far. They have fast rebounds and a surprisingly high skill level for such a young side. Bulleen outgunned them on February 24 by 20-11, but Parfitt is confident the girls will acquit themselves well in the finals series.

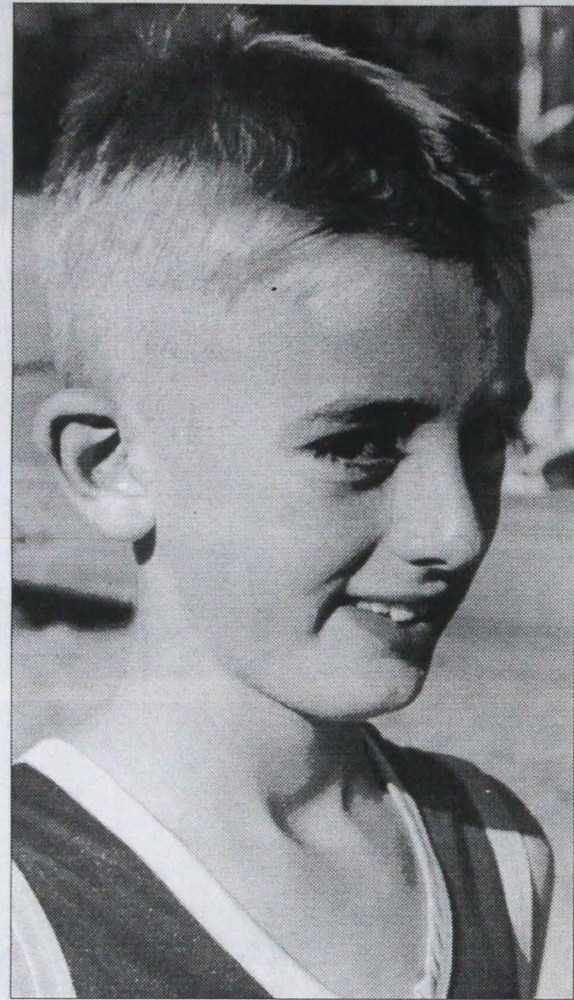
Her Under-14 girls have had a mixed season in the top A-grade section, with some stunning victories alongside some ordinary results. Despite this, the team are rising to the challenge of this elite competition and are likely to contest the top section.

Gavin Whitmore has both the Under-16 and Under-18 girls in the finals. The older girls recently had a good win against Nunawading by over 20 points and should perform strongly in the finals.

The Under-16 girls finished on top of their A Reserve group and are favourites for that flag.

## Thomas makes a point (three of them, in fact)

By LEE TINDALE



Thomas Fitzpatrick: stole the show with a three-pointer.

When you're a lean 10-year-old, shooting a three-pointer in the heat of a basketball battle is probably roughly equivalent to booting a goal from 50 metres out at the MCG. It's big.

Thomas Fitzpatrick, of First Street, pulled off such a basket last month before very exalted company — in a curtain-raiser to the blockbuster Titans-Tigers NBL game at the Vodafone Arena.

An Andersons Creek Primary School student and a member of Warrandyte Redbacks Basketball Club's Under-10 A WRI team, Thomas (just plain Tom to his teammates) produced the long bomb — his first three-pointer — midway through the second half of a Super Mini-Series game against the Waverley Bulldogs.

The big crowd loved it and modest Thomas admits that it felt "pretty good".

The Mini-Series is played over five minutes immediately before each NBL game in Melbourne or at half-time. Thomas' team, coached by Redbacks president Damian Arsenis, beat Waverley 28-10 to advance to the finals.

The little Warrandyte bloke with the big arm is very big on sport — as are his sister and two brothers.

Amy, 16, is heavily into netball and swimming, Jared, 13, into football, cricket and swimming and seven-year-old Heath is an Auskicker.

As for Thomas, he loves basketball, football (he'll be playing Under-11s for Warrandyte this season) and swimming.

And don't tell the basketball club, but footy's his first love.

## Big Warrandyte presence in junior champs

The Warrandyte Redbacks are fielding at least 11 teams in the junior championship basketball competition this year.

This elite competition runs from early February with finals in the various grades in October and is mostly played on Friday nights.

Last year, six Redback teams competed, bringing home one premiership and fielding two runners-up and one preliminary finalist.

This year, the club expect to field six boys teams and at least five girls sides.

A number of these teams are trying out in the grading phase of the top competition levels, Metro. The strength of the club in the younger age groups is highlighted by the likely participation at Metro 2 level of Malcolm Anderson's Under-12 boys.

This side have matured from last year when a number of players per-

formed with distinction in an Under-11 team. This year, they have easily won their pool section and played Southern Peninsula on February 23 at Frankston in a challenge match. A close match was expected as Southern Peninsula and the young Redbacks had drawn when they met at the recent Eltham tournament.

The result this time was a 32-16 win for Warrandyte and a chance to move up to a high pool.

Martin Clark's Under-14 boys are also aiming for Metro 2. Like the Under-12s, they gained valuable experience last year, finishing as preliminary finalists in the regional North West Conference. They have been strengthened by the inclusion of Cameron Rapelle and Jake Ratcliffe, finished on top of their section pool and easily accounted for a Southern Peninsula team at Frankston in their challenge match by 47-31.

The Under-14s now move up to a higher section, which could lead them to their Metro 2 goal.

The Under-11 boys of Damian Arsenis are carrying all before them. Some stunning wins, highlighted by a staggering 42-point game to Julian Phillipou, means this team will stay in Metro 1.

In the boys North West Conference, new coach Norm Dunn will be taking charge of the Under-18s and Gavin Whitmore is likely to take on the demanding task of steering the Under-16s and a second Under-14 side.

While the news from the boys competition is encouraging, the girls teams have had a harder run in their efforts to reach Metro level.

Tristan Messerle's top Under-18 side easily won their pool section (including a 108-13 demolition of Cranbourne) to set up an away contest with

Nunawading Vikings 3. This was a game worth going a long way to see, three periods of extra time being called to separate the teams after Nunawading had twice equalised right on the buzzer.

Both teams were exhausted as they began the third extra time period, but the Vikings managed to find that little bit more. They took an early lead and, despite their best efforts, the Redback girls could not bridge the gap, going down 50-48.

This has severely dented the team's aspirations and they now face another challenging section pool.

More heartbreaking news for Warrandyte was in store when Lorraine Parfitt's Under-16 girls faced Bulleen in a similar challenge match.

Warrandyte led 21-16 in the second half but Bulleen came back strongly and increased the physical pressure

on the smaller Redbacks, equalising with less than 30 seconds to go and getting home 29-26 in extra time.

The Redbacks are still in the hunt for a Metro spot, but, like their Under-18 counterparts, will now have to work very hard.

Warrandyte are fielding a second Under-18 side, formed recently and coached by Nigel Walsham and Warwick Armstrong.

Their campaign so far has included a 20-18 win over Whittlesea after being down 12-0 at half time. However, they were also included in a challenge match but lost 44-23 to Bulleen.

An Under-12 girls team coached by Emma Wood and an Under-14 side coached by Lorraine Parfitt have had mixed results so far in the grading section of the North West competition but when they settle down are both likely to be finals contenders.

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# A season slips away

As Warrandyte's senior cricketers pack away their gear after yet another campaign, they will look back on a season of opportunities lost.

Four wins, two draws and five losses was the return for a season which at times gave Warrandyte Cricket Club credible expectation of playing in the RDCA Chandler Shield finals.

But dropped catches at vital times and batting collapses that became almost chronic continually thwarted the opportunities that were presented.

Even with two rounds to play, Warrandyte were finals contenders at 3-152 chasing Ferntree Gully's 204. A win would have seen the Bushrangers replace the Gully in fourth place, but the last seven wickets fell for just 47 runs.

With that collapse went any hope of the finals.

The match at Ferntree Gully was one of many stories of chances which slipped through the combined fingers of a Warrandyte team that could not quite take the extra step to consolidate the top four position that had been so hard-earned at the Christmas break.

For all the disappointments, Warrandyte were a consistently competitive team. In all

## Dytes squander golden opportunities

SPORT

matches except the very last, at home to Kilsyth, the Dytes were in a winning position at various stages but more often than not were unable to complete their task.

In an ironic twist, Kilsyth needed to win the last game and rely on two other sides losing to reach the finals. All three events fell into place.

Kilsyth set up a comprehensive win with a magnificent batting performance that saw them amass 9-377. The Warrandyte attack was virtually powerless to cope with a determined batting line-up which put on more than 230 runs in the after-tee session.

Veteran Chris Snaidero was tireless and finished with 4-79, while teenager Campbell Holland picked up 2-18 in a six-over spell that indicated he could take the next step and open the bowling next season.

But there was little else the bowlers could do as Kilsyth were clearly on a victory mission.

Facing the mammoth total,



Russell Jenzen: a stand-out.

Warrandyte opens Steve Bell and Shane Baker started steadily, putting on 58 for the first wicket, but another batting collapse saw the Dytes struggling at 6-104 at tea.

It could so easily have been an embarrassing end to the season, but Dave Mooney and Jason Graf, playing his first senior game for the season, mounted a counter-attack.

Mooney was particularly aggressive against the spin attack, using the pull and sweep strokes to carry him through to a polished 60.

Graf was more subdued, preferring to work the ball for his runs and was eventually dismissed for 42 in the second-last over as he tried to force the pace to complete his half-century.

The final score was 9-224 and it was only the second time this season that Warrandyte had been able to bat for an entire day.

The previous match against Ferntree Gully finished on a controversial note with the last Warrandyte wicket being claimed with a disputed catch.

With just six runs needed for victory, Gerald Walshe played the ball into the gully, where the fieldsman claimed the catch. Most players were unsure and Walshe was certain the ball had bounced. But he was given out, leaving Ferntree Gully entrenched in the top four and Warrandyte pondering what might have been.

Captain-coach Russell Jenzen was the stand-out player of the season for Warrandyte, taking 25 wickets and making more than 350 runs. His 120 against

Ainslie Park was clearly the highlight of the season and he is a short-priced favourite to take out the club champion award.

Adam White and Bell were the only other players to pass 50 on two or more occasions in what was, overall, a very disappointing season with the bat.

Long-serving Walshe again showed great heart when sharing the new ball with Jenzen but is sure to face challenges from young speedsters Holland and Jason Cloke when next season begins.

Veteran Robert White was the best of the slow bowlers but it almost certain to stand aside for up-and-coming spinners Adam Beardall and Under-16s captain Matthew Sazenis.

The lower grades struggled for form and numbers all season, although the fourth eleven, who were forced to forfeit two games before Christmas, came back with impressive wins — including an outright against Ferntree Gully — in the last two games.

Captain Stuart Smead was outstanding in the fourths' last game against Kilsyth, scoring 127.

● There is hope for the future for Warrandyte, with two junior teams making the finals.

One of the club's three Under-12 teams will be one of the favourites in the Grade 4 finals, while the Under-16s have been the surprise packets by securing a semi-final berth.

The club struggled to put an Under-16 team together at the start of the season but they are now a chance to take out the premiership.

## The fruits of their labours

Warrandyte Cricket Club will hold their presentation night at Pasta Mania restaurant in Colin Avenue on Wednesday, April 4.

Tickets are \$30, which includes a four-course meal, and are available from all committee members. Further details: Robert White (9846 7114). Drinks are BYO.

Junior presentation day is at the clubrooms on Sunday, March 25, starting at 10am. All players and parents are welcome and a sausage sizzle will be provided.

The club's annual general meeting will be held at the clubrooms at 7.30pm on Wednesday, April 11.

# Bloods warming to 2001 task

By LEE TINDALE

A spirited scratch match in 30-degree heat on March 7 sent out good vibes for Warrandyte's 2001 football season.

The relegated Bloods, struggling for numbers a few weeks ago, were there in force, long-established players mixing it up with upcoming youngsters and exciting recruits.

About 45 players — with some notable absentees excused for various good reasons — braved the heat and the tough training regime of first-season coach Scott Hunter in a most impressive workout.

It certainly impressed new Warrandyte Football Club president Robert "Noddy" Ireland and vice-president Noel Taplin.

"They're getting enthused now," said Ireland, referring to Warrandyte's history of less-than-fanatical dedication to early pre-season work. "Training has been hard and good. Scott has introduced new training drills and the boys have been impressed with what he's come up with."

"The younger blokes have found his discipline a bit hard, but they're coming to terms with it and I think they're actually enjoying it."

"I'm very confident we'll be playing in the finals in 2001."

The Bloods have lost some and gained some in the off season.

They have lost:  
● Outstanding on-baller Mack Clarkson, their best and fairest for the past two years, to EFL First Division club East Ringwood.

● Much-decorated former captain John O'Brien, who has taken up a coaching appointment at Division 2 club Knox, but aspires to return at some stage to coach Warrandyte.

● Gifted young player Andrew Brown, a product of the local juniors, who is training with East Ringwood but has promised to return to the Bloods if he does not make the seniors at the Division 1 club.

● Die-hard defender Aaron Woolley, who has followed last season's Bloods coach Lex Munro to Whitehorse Pioneers, in Division 4, as his assistant.  
● Premiership defender Ashley Grybas to the Pioneers.



Coach Scott Hunter addresses his troops before the March 7 scratch match.

They have gained:

● A real goer in Matt Blagrove, who played alongside Bloods star Chris Cornell in the Northern Knights before going bush. Ireland described Blagrove as "an all-day ruck-rover with white-line fever" and his scratch match performance tended to bear that out.

● Greg Saunders, a slick, quick ruck-rover from Mooropna.

● Luke Norton, a former Warrandyte junior who played Division 1 Under-18s for North Ringwood last year and is keen to return to the Bloods.

More good news for Warrandyte is the re-signing of defender Rocky Armstrong, fourth in best and fairest voting last season. Armstrong was a doubtful starter for 2001, but will stay on as a player assisting on the fitness side.

The squad has also been boosted by an influx of quality players from last season's Under-18s. Tim Andrews, Matt Treeby, Ben Reid, James Riley and Nathan Ireland have all been impressing coach Hunter on the track and will press for senior selection.

Unfortunately, the flow-on of talent from Under-18 level is about to dry up. Warrandyte, who last year launched such junior talent as Craig Dick, Rick

Templeton and Aidan Davey into the big league, will not field an Under-18 side this season.

"We have only 12 registered Under-18 players," Ireland said. "It is not compulsory to run Under-18s in Third Division and we understand a lot of other clubs are having trouble getting the numbers."

"It is very unfortunate that we will not have Under-18s developing into senior players next year, but it is a fact of life."

With Warrandyte Cricket Club's season over, football training has now reverted to the traditional Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The Bloods will play three practice matches in the lead-up to the season's opener (away to Doncaster East on April 7).

They will be against Montrose at home on March 17 (Reserves starting at noon); Norwood at home on March 24 (Warrandyte Festival weekend, reserves starting at 3pm); and Diamond Valley Football League club Lalor on May 31 at Lalor.

Warrandyte are in need of medical trainers — ideally three — for the new season. Any qualified person who'd like to be part of what promises to be an exciting season is asked to contact Ireland on 9725 5065 or 040 9725 5065.

## A tip on the net

Warrandyte Football Club will run an AFL tipping contest on the Internet this season.

The competition will offer total prizemoney of \$1500 — the winner to collect \$1000, second placegetter \$350 and third \$150.

Masterminded by WFC treasurer and former president Jeff Evans, it carries an entry fee for the season of \$22, which must be paid by April 12.

"By logging on to our website [www.footytipping.net.au/wfc/](http://www.footytipping.net.au/wfc/) you can join the competition, lodge your selections, view your own and others' results after each round, view the league ladder and every team's games results history," Evans said.

"One point will be awarded for each correct selection, there

will be no points for a drawn game and if selections are not lodged, participants will be allocated the away teams.

"Tips entered via the Internet must be lodged before 5pm on the Friday prior to the first game of the corresponding round. The Internet system will not accept selections after this time. If you miss this cut-off time, selections may be e-mailed ([wfcinc@bigpond.com](mailto:wfcinc@bigpond.com)) or faxed (9844 3192) until two hours prior to the start time of the first game of the corresponding round."

Every entry will go into a weekly bonus draw for meal, bottle shop and TAB vouchers.

The AFL season starts on Friday, March 30.

## Juniors count down to season of plenty

The countdown is on to the start of Warrandyte Junior Football Club's season on April 1 — and the kids are raring to go.

After a successful registration day, the club are confident of accommodating all years from Under-9s to Colts (Under-17).

"After two years without Under-9s, our entry year, it is great to welcome the Tackers back to the club," president Mathew Matheou told the *Diary*. "These young boys always add something to the spirit of the club."

"Some of these boys will play for the club for the next nine years, so they are really our life-blood. They will gain valuable skills in teamwork and football this year. Most importantly, of course, they will have a heap of fun playing a great game."

Training (on Wednesdays and Thursdays) for most years is already under way and the first practice matches of the season will be played against traditional foes Montmorency on March 18.

"This will give all the teams the opportunity to have a hit-out and get some match practice under our belts," said Mark Watson, of the club's football operations committee.

Football jumper presentation nights will be held on March 28 and 29 and all parents and support-

ers are invited. The presentations will be accompanied by a sausage sizzle, giving parents the opportunity to get to know each other and to meet club officials.

The club are anticipating another very successful season and expect further development from a number of potential stars.

"Already players such as Hayden Wall and Josh Eyre are participating in special training sessions with the Northern Knights," Matheou said.

"John Burgoyne, who won consecutive league best and fairests in Under-13 and Under-14, looks like continuing his great form and Jordan Camham, who had an excellent season last year, will again be a big force. Both these boys are in development squads."

"In the Under-13s, look for Joe O'Mara, Paul Burgoyne and James Pasinis to star this year. James Singh and Tyson Fitzgerald did well in league awards at different year levels last season and will be right up there again."

"In the younger years, Nick Meade, Thomas Fitzpatrick and Nick Crosby should do very well," Matheou said.

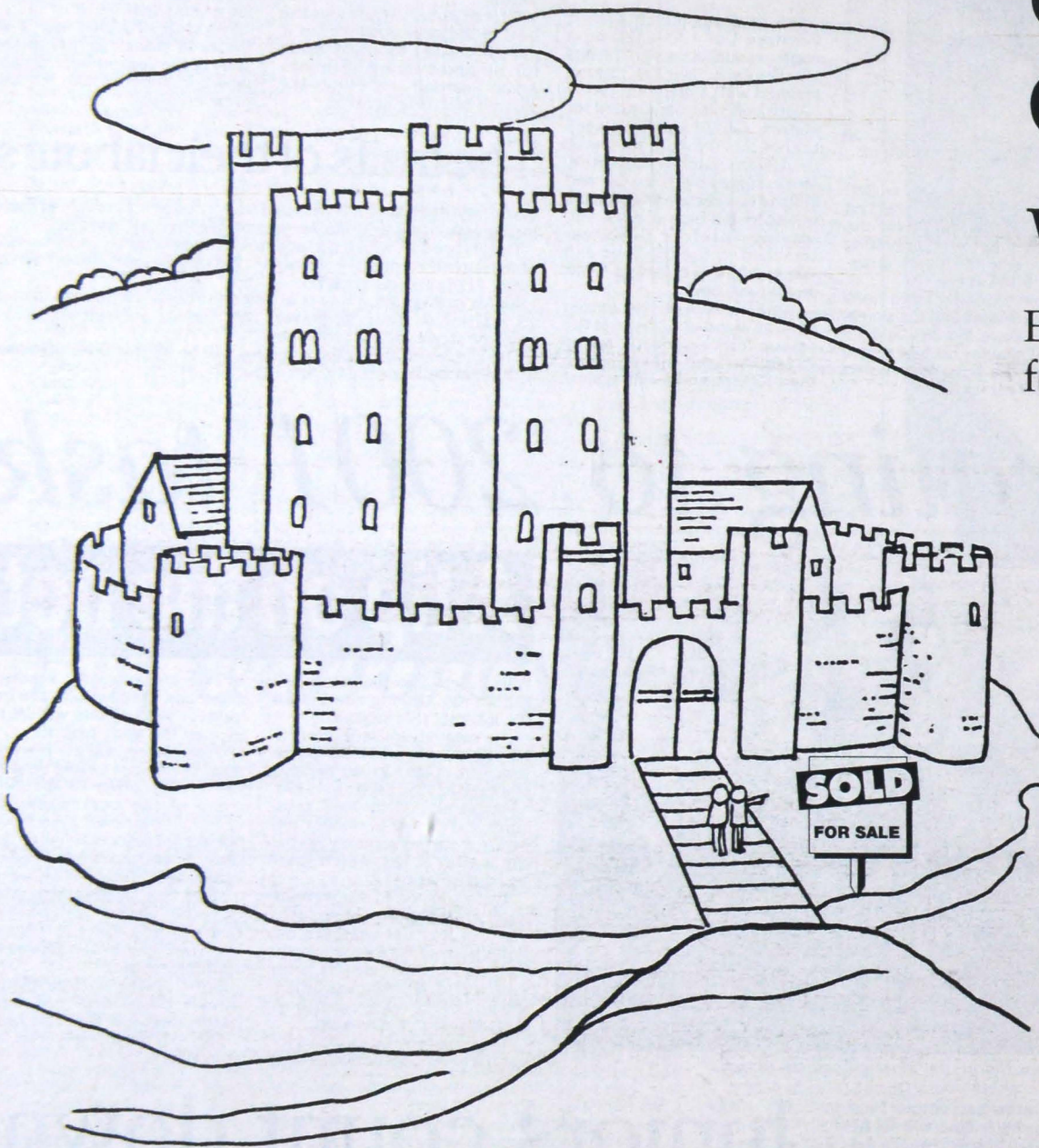
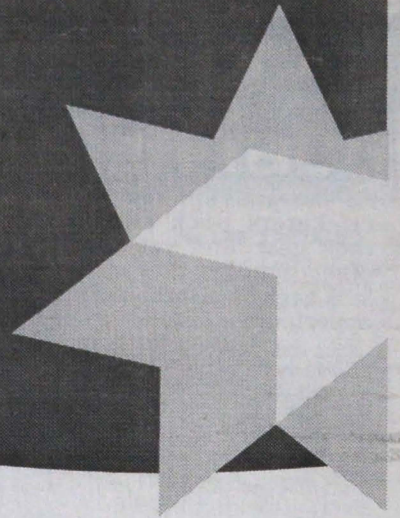
Prospective players and supporters who want to be involved in the junior club are invited to contact registrar Brad Curtis (041 8333979) or Matheou (041 8542434).





The Professionals

# Wilson McDougall



## COLOR THE CASTLE and win a basketball

Entries will be judged in the following categories:

- Prep-Grade 2
- Grade 3-Grade 4
- Grade 6-Grade 6

All entries to be at our c  
by 4pm on Thursday, M

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

You're invited to see all the entries at our office  
on Saturday, 24 March  
Come and join us for a pre-parade sausage sizz...



Andrew Wilson  
Managing Director



Peter McDougall  
Sworn Valuer



Russell McInnes  
Sales Consultant



Vicki Gardiner  
Sales Consultant



Leanne Highmore  
Property Manager



Jade Thomas  
Receptionist



Georgia McInnes  
Weekend Receptionist

## 9844 3085

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