



PRICELESS

32nd year

For the community, by the community

Advertising: 9844 3819 Editorial: 9844 3719

rvery own ban

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

Warrandyte will have its own community bank agency from mid-April following the closure of the Commonwealth Bank in Yarra Street. From April 17, an agency of the Hurstbridge branch of the Bendigo Bank will open on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at Riveresque, according to John Provan, chairman of the steering committee for the new the steering committee for the new

He said that within a month or two this will lead to a fulltime, five and a half day agency in Warrandyte.

"This will be a Bendigo Bank agency. That's just a stop gap, a fill in, until we get our own branch which could be six months away," said Mr Provan, who is also president of the Warrandyte Business Association. The new bank will offer a full banking service.

"Services will obviously be restricted in the period that the agency runs but that's only temporary and at least it keeps banking facilities going," he said. People will be able to use internet

banking, ATMs, borrow money and transfer loans from other banks. Business banking as well as housing and business loans will be offered. Following an initial public meeting attended by 60 people, a steering committee met representatives from the Bendigo Bank at Hurstbridge. The committee of 14 includes nine local residents, five local business people including three from the Warrandyte Business Association, two accountants, two solicitors, one former bank manager, a former bank administrator and service club members.

The board running the new bank will be voted for by shareholders who will also decide where money goes within the community.

"I ong term I'd like to see a retirement

also decide where money goes within the community.

"Long term I'd like to see a retirement home, elderly care facility or a new kindergarten or whatever that may be required. Initially it may be smaller amounts which go to various community groups," Mr Provan said.

Mr Provan believes a community bank should work. "The Common-

wealth Bank is closing not necessarily because it may be unprofitable. It's possibly a decision made from higher up, where's there's a policy of diminishing face-to-face banking. It's a large bank with large overheads. Community banks run on much lower overheads."

A bank spokesman said the Commonwealth Bank has operated in Warrandyte for over 30 years.

The new bank will pay a franchise fee to operate under the name of Bendigo Bank. It will operate as a small business with a voluntary board of directors and a chairman running the bank on behalf of the 300-600 shareholders, most of whom would be from the immediate area.

Mr Provan said the initial target is to raise \$650,000 from 400 to 500 people. "The bank uses part of those funds to set up the branch—rent its own premises, employ its own bank staff. The board appoints a bank manager who then employs the bank staff. "Most of the community banks have received amounts in excess of what

was pledged.

"We'll know by the response to the banking at the agency at Riveresque before the actual branch opens."

Mr Provan sees a cost saving in using existing bank premises and an advantage for people to keep going to the same location.

"The Commonwealth Bank owns the premises and no doubt it will go to

"The Commonwealth Bank owns the premises and no doubt it will go to auction. We've had several people say they're prepared to buy the property as an investment and then lease it to a community bank. But if someone turns up and pays a ridiculous amount to put in another restaurant or something we would have to look at alternatives."

in another restaurant or something we would have to look at alternatives." Minimum amount for a pledge is \$500 but there are several already of \$20,000 which is permitted so long as one shareholder does not own more than 10 percent of the total shareholding. The average pledge so far is about \$2000. "We have lots of \$500 and \$1000 pledges and some larger ones and we pledges and some larger ones and we need more," Mr Provan said. "The biggest hurdle to overcome is

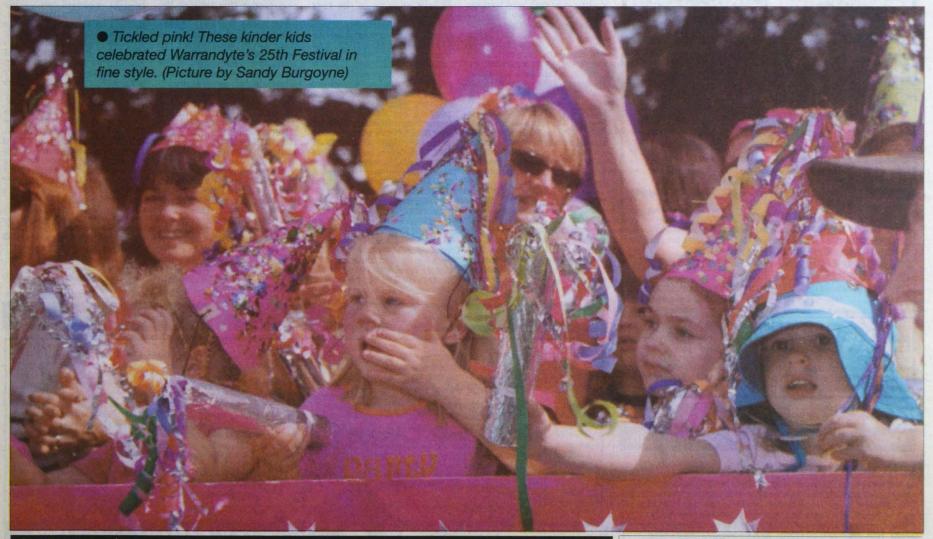
that we need community support, not only from people pledging money but also the numbers of people to show support."

The decision to close the Warrandyte branch of the Commonwealth Bank followed an analysis of business trends and future growth potential and the bank hoped not to lose customers, according to bank spokesman Gordon Tansey.

Tansey.

Mr Tansey said customers could transfer to other branches or look at other ways of banking without having to visit a branch. Customers' account numbers will remain the same and all accounts will operate in the same way with no special action required by customers. Warrandyte staff would be redeployed to surrounding areas because of increased business there.

 A public meeting to discuss the community bank will be held at the Mechanics Institute Hall at 8pm on Thursday, April 18.



CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS





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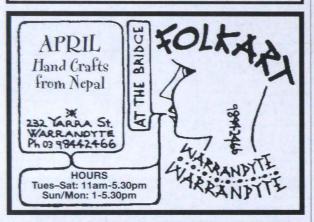
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EDITORS: Cliff Green and Lee Tindale PUBLISHER: Warrandyte Diary Pty Ltd, (A.C.N. 006 886 826) as trustee for the Warrandyte Arts and Education Trust. POSTAL ADDRESS: P.O. Box 209, Warrandyte 3113.

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PRODUCTION: Rachel Schroeder, 9725 6699. PRINTING: Streamline Press Pty Ltd, 155 Johnston Street, Fitzroy,

Published on or about the second Tuesday of each month (except January). **ADVERTISING RATES**

\$5.00 a column centimetre (casual), \$4.75 (permanent). \$500 full page. \$330 half page. \$180 quarter page. \$60 front page "ears". Preferred positions: page one 100%, page two 30%, page three and back page 20%, other nominated pages 10%. Mini-ads: \$4.20 for four lines, then \$1 each additional line. Mini-ads pre-paid unless by prior arrangement. All rates plus 10% GST.

Readers are advised that the Warrandyte Diary accepts no responsibility for financial, health or other claims published in advertising in this newspaper.

Copy closes last Friday of each month

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.

Sure it's dirty work, but somebody has to do it!

John Boyle, long-running president of the Warrandyte Festival Committee, does a mighty job masterminding the big event each year and there's no question about him leading from anywhere but the front. He's the solver of all manner of problems which arise on all manner of fronts during more than two days and nights of pretty frantic activity — but we doubt if his job description includes unblocking toilets. An electrical problem in the pump caused massive problems in the women's and disabled toilets at Stiggants Reserve and a lesser, more squeamish president might have pulled rank and delegated the desludging job down the line. Not John Boyle. He rolled up his sleeves and when last seen was up to his armpits in ... well, you know.



Grace Finger, daughter of festival committee-person Judy, rated herself a real chance in this year's Pet Parade with her dog Tara for the ribbon for the pooch most like its owner. She thought the logical dangers would be missing and that matching ribbons and coloured hairspray might do the trick. The Hassall girls have dominated this category for years The Hassall girls have dominated this category for years with their Dalmatian, first Samantha and then Emily in a Dalmatian outfit. Last year the spotty costume was looking pretty stretched on Emily — surely they couldn't get another year out of it. Alas for Grace, Emily's uncle bought her a new and bigger outfit which looks and bigger outfit which looks like fitting for a few parades yet. Grace and Tara gave up on that category — but won cutest dog instead.



The Pet Parade always attracts a wide variety of animals, but Tony Bullard went a bit over

the top by entering his stuffed galah. The judges ruled that anything nailed to a perch was ineligible for a prize.



Rachel from Information Warrandyte sure has an eye for detail. She inquired at the festival information van if the concert scheduled in the official program to start at 11.30pm would be going ahead. She'll probably be roped in next year to proof read.

IN RED & WHITE





And what the hell, you are perfectly entitled to ask, is going on here? Let us explain. It is backstage at the Mechanics Institute Hall and the wardrobe hands are kitting out the star of the Jubilee Festival Follies, Queen Elizabeth. What the photo doesn't tell you is that Her Majesty is a BLOKE! He shall remain unidentified here because his four kids were totally embarrassed by Dad dressing in drag. But they should have been proud of him because he stole the show, sometimes mingling with his subjects and accepting titbits of food from their tables after they'd been okayed by two tasters. The Follies ran for seven nights during and immediately after the Warrandyte Festival and if you've never been along to one of these occasions you're crazy because they're irreverently hilarious. Book early for next year!



We get along with each

We get along with each other pretty well here at the Diary. In fact, in nigh on 30 years Smokey can't recall an internal punch-up or death threat. That impeccable record was in danger, though, in the first semi-final of the Under-14s cricket at Mooroolbark last month. On the one hand we had senior cricket writer and Warrandyte Cricket Club president Robert White, junior cricket writer and junior committeeman Lee Dehmel and junior football writer Dennis J. Hoiberg, whose son Ryan was playing for the Dytes, all barracking enthusiastically for our kids. On the other (and in perilously close proximity) we had Cliff Green, our founding father, and wife Judy, our tennis writer, leading the cheer squad for Mooroolbark, for whom grandson Adam Ewart is a bit of a star with the ball. What Lee wanted to know is would his good mates Cliff and Judy been crowned King and Queen of the Warrandyte Festival had the good mates Cliff and Judy been crowned King and Queen of the Warrandyte Festival had the committee even suspected that treason lurked there within. Apart from the fun off-field factional fighting, the match was played in the very best of

sporting spirits. Unfortunately, Warrandyte lost.

Alan "Coatsey" Koetsveld has a spot reserved on this page every month and he occupies it this time in the nicest possible way. Neighbourhood House sincerely thanks him for driving its float—a truck kindly donated for the hood House sincerely thanks him for driving its float — a truck kindly donated for the occasion by Milton Karis of Warrandyte Hardware — in the festival parade. Resplendent in lilac Neighbourhood House Tshirt and colour-uncoordinated trackie pants, Coatsey managed to make the trip without producing his trademark one-finger salute more than a few times. He whinged after the parade that having to keep his eyes on the road precluded him from ogling the belly dancers performing on the back of the truck. Neighbourhood House also thanks Aumanns orchard, IGA Supermarket, The Bakery and Goldfields Bakery for their support in getting its float on the road.



Local lad Kieran Murphy was eight when he started to play guitar with older

brother Ryan. His passion didn't last very long — indeed, he gave it away because he found it quite boring. Then he decided he really liked blues music and dusted off the old guitar again. Last month, Kieran, now 13, wowed them at the Frankston Guitar Festival, winning the Young Guitarist of the Year Award as well as taking out the jazz/blues category. The award was open to under-21s and attracted entrants from as far afield as Queensland. Part of Kieran's prize is recording time at a studio and as you read this he's probably in there doing his first CD. We expect to hear a lot more of him.



whatever happened to old-fashioned values like gratitude and sentiment? We ask the question because Neil "Bozo" Dusting—the man this column picked up and transformed from a nonentity into a household name, a living, breathing legend—celebrated his 50th birthday with a big bash at Pasta Mania on April 5. And did Smokey get a guernsey? Oh no. Bozo tried to blame Australia Post for non-delivery of our invitation, but we know better. The party, we're told, was quite sedate—as you'd expect from a largely tennis club mob. Oh sure!



Keep a koala well fed, suggests our native flora guru Cathy Willis, by planting a Red Box or a Manna Gum in your garden. "These two eucalypts in particular give Warrandyte its distinctive bush colour and feel," she says. "Along the dry ridges, Red Box (Eucalyptus polyanthemos) dominates, with its rounded bluish leaves. Stately Manna Gums (Eucalyptus viminalis) line the river banks. Koalas prefer them but will happily eat Red Box if necessary." And where to lay your hands on this koala fodder? At the Friends of Warrandyte State Park nursery at Pound Bend. Give Cathy a call on 0418 142297.



OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



Mine tunnels to close?

Entrances to old gold mining tunnels in Warrandyte State Park may be permanently closed to the public due to rising public liability insurance costs.

rising public liability insurance costs.

Ever popular with both locals and tourists, the mines have enhanced the heritage values of the state park.

Andy Nixon, senior ranger at Warrandyte State Park, has confirmed that the annual mine inspection by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment has raised concerns over safety aspects of some mines in the park.

Although the NRE has been unavailable for comment, Mr Nixon told the Diary that the mines inspector was concerned that people could light fires, drink alcohol and climb up the walls in the mines, declaring the issue of public liability "a huge factor" in the possible decision to close access to the mines.

These concerns could necessitate the upgrade of the

to close access to the mines.

These concerns could necessitate the upgrade of the mines to "tourist level", an extremely costly exercise that would give the mines a status similar to those at Sovereign Hill. Mining tours, such as those conducted by the Warrandyte Historical Society, would still be able to operate as they have their own public liability insurance, Mr Nixon is keen to emphasise that a "proper consultation process" will take place in the next few weeks, with discussions to be held with the public, community

with discussions to be neid with the public, community groups, the police and the historical society. Households will also be letterboxed, and a media release is due in the next few days.

But despite the proposed local state park consultation process, some residents, such as WHS tour leader Peter Hanson, are concerned that the decision will ultimately lie with the NRE.

decision will ultimately lie with the NRE.

Mr Nixon reluctantly agrees.

"If another government department says a mine has a high risk factor, then we can't do anything. The NRE has the final say in safety, they are the experts."

It is yet unclear how the mines would be blocked off, though most people agree some form of locked gate or enclosure would be used.

or locked gate or enclosure would be used.

Mr Hanson, among others, believes that locks are unsuitable because people "inevitably" jam them up with sticks and gum. If this were to happen, it would inhibit access for everyone.

There are also fears that gates and enclosures would be pulled down or destroyed with objects such as an oxy-torch. Mr Hanson points to the vandalism of current signage as an indication of what could happen.

John Hanson, is "amazed" that mines open to the public during much of their 140 years existence are now considered a

during much of their 140 years existence are now considered a risk factor. "Many of the steep walking tracks with their loose stones and tree roots are more dangerous," he said.

He compares the mines to the new skate park, recently opened by Manningham council. "The ramp is unsupervised and

"The ramp is unsupervised and (potentially) dangerous, but it gives young people adventure. The mines have done this for

years."
Alan Alder, State Emergency
Services controller at
Doncaster and historical



'Keep out' threat: entrance to the Fourth Hill tunnel. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

society committee member, society committee member, dismisses claims that the mines are a risk. "The parks and tunnels are intrinsically safe. The SES has no concern over mines as far as people are concerned."

A Warrandyte resident for 45 years, Mr Alder said the

government closed off the dangerous vertical shafts about 35 years ago, and the horizontal shafts provide an "adventure ground" for kids. He described the notion as a "short-sighted" reaction over a unique part of Warrandyte's town and heritage. "It is a

shame people have got to sue over every bloody thing," said Mr Alder.

Mr Alder.

But there may be some benefit from restricting access to the mines. Peter Hanson believes that closing the mines may help preserve their bentlers.

The tour leader admits he would rather the mines be open, but unfortun-ately "idiots" are wrecking and degrading significant sites. He described as "disappointing" the amount of rubbish, graffiti, and smoke-blackened walls around mine sites.

Wedge survey results

Manningham residents are concerned about environmental problems in the Green Wedge.

This was revealed in a city-wide survey conducted by Manningham council.

More than 500 residents responded to the survey and the majority see land management in the Wedge as a joint responsibility of council and landowners and support council spending more resources on managing the environment.

Most residents saw the Green

environment.

Most residents saw the Green Wedge as a "major attraction" in the municipality.

Manningham mayor, Cr Geoff Gough described the Green Wedge as a precious resource. "We want to ensure the council manages non-urban areas in the best interest of

the whole community," he said.
"We are keen to take into account
the views of as many residents as
possible. This survey has given us
valuable information to help us make the right planning decisions for the future."

the right planning decisions for the future."

More than 75 percent of respondents believed noxious weeds and pest animals were a problem. This was seen as the main problem by those living in the Green Wedge. Awareness of council's rabbit and fox control programs was high but fewer respondents knew of council's other environmental or land management programs.

"The survey is part of an ongoing planning review of the non-urban areas of Manningham," a council spokesperson told the Diary.

"It supports submissions that have

877 surveys were sent to all households in the non-urban area and 600 surveys sent to a random selection of households in urban Manningham.

In total 509 of the 1477 surveys were returned (34 percent) by mid December 2001. Returns from non-urban areas (42 percent) were much higher than from urban areas.

Within the non-urban areas 62 percent of all respondents described their property as purely residential. Only 6 percent described their property as a farm business.

Of the urban respondents, 87 percent were familiar with the Green Wedge and the majority saw it as a key attraction of the municipality.

With regard-to landscapes and the values of the non-urban areas, often urban respondents saw these issues as more critical than those living in the non-urban areas.

been received from community

been received from community members.

"Further work is still being carried out and council expects to publish a full report of the review in the coming months."

The Warrandyte Community Association is organising a public meeting to hear Michael Looker of the Trust for Nature outline how to have broadacre properties protected under conservation covenants.

protected under conservation covenants.

"Trust for Nature is a non-profit organisation which strives to ensure all significant areas in private ownership are conserved," a Trust spokesperson told the Diary.

The meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 23 at 8pm at the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute Hall in Yarra Street.

Over 75 percent of all respondents recognised the management of pest plants and animals as a problem for the area. Among non-urban landholders this was seen as the main management problem, followed by general problems with managing a large block.
 A high proportion of respondents were aware of council's environmental programs, especially rabbit and fox control programs. Awareness of the other programs was quite low.
 The majority of respondents from both urban and non-urban areas supported council spending more resources on managing the environment in the non-urban areas.
 Most respondents saw land management in the non-urban areas as a joint responsibility of council and landholders

No slow go: council

Manningham council has decided not to press VicRoads to reduce the speed limit through Warrandyte township along Yarra Street.

This follows recent representations by local councillor Patricia Young for a review of traffic speeds through

a review of traine special Warrandyte.
"I am concerned over reports from local residents of increasing numbers of vehicles speeding in the busy Yarra Street area," Cr Young told the Diary at the time.

Council officers reported to the March 26 meeting of council that "traffic speed counts and police enforcement recently undertaken in Yarra Street have indicated that the

level of adherence to the speed limit in Yarra Street is fairly high.

"VicRoads has indicated that it is unlikely that it would support a speed limit of lower than 60kmh."

However, Warrandyte police have said that although the level of vehicles exceeding the current speed limit is low, "the speed level in Yarra Street should be reduced to improve safety, particularly for pedestrians".

Council resolved that no application be made to VicRoads to lower the speed limit and that "the Manningham Traffic Management Unit and the Warrandyte police be requested to continue enforcement of the speed limit on Yarra Street".

New bridge opens

The new Park Road bridge over the Eastern Freeway extension is now officially open.

The possibility of ramps leading off the freeway onto Park Road at the bridge has been the subject of heated community debate in Park Orchards and Donvale, as residents feared increased traffic along Park Road.

No ramps have been provided, except for emergency use.

The minister for transport, Mr Peter Bachelor, told the Diary that the "Park Road bridge will stand approximately 8m above the future Eastern Freeway

extension and includes pedestrian access on the bridge as well as underpasses at both ends under the

underpasses at both ends under the bridge.

"It is also the biggest single span concrete box girder bridge built on site in the southern hemisphere, with a length of 57.5 metres and a width of 13.6 metres between the kerbs."

Mr Batchelor thanked the community for their patience during construction of the Park Road bridge and said they could now look forward to a smoother and quicker journey along Park Road.

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Closing doors on adventure

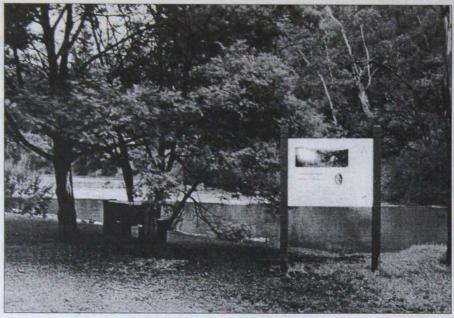
There is talk again of the state park people wanting to close off public access to the mining tunnels. Apparently there is a a new inspector in town who has a bee in his bonnet about risk. This subject was raised about 10 to 15 years ago, possibly also by a new inspector, and the locals were able to nip it in the bud. Let's hope we can do it again.

The tunnels are about 140 years old, haven't moved in all that time, are very stable, and declared safe by the mining department. The tunnels in the Fourth Hill area have provided kids and adults a little bit of essential adventure in their lives for the past one and a half centuries. We are probably at more risk walking along the riverbank where you could break your neck slipping on ducks' doings. Maybe we should fence it off.

As kids we had the fun and adventure of visiting the tunnels, clutching candles and torches, sometimes proudly escorting our city cousins through them. Our children continued the tradition and provided the new inspector calms down, our grandchildren will also get the chance.

The last time there was talk of closing off the tunnels, the authorities tried to sweeten the deal by proposing a Sovereign Hill type development, with rail tracks, lights strung about, a barred door and inspection by tour only. As well as encouraging vandalism, this type of development is not Warrandyte at all.

Ian and Wendy Gedge Mullens Road again.
The tunnels are about 140



Warrandyte's Yarra River: elderlies want better access. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

Call for more carparks

I am writing to seek support from your readers to have special car parks established along the Yarra so that we older and less mobile

older and less mobile residents can enjoy the beauties of our river.
My husband and I are in our 80s and have lived in Warrandyte practically all our lives. We have contributed to the community for many years and have helped make Warrandyte the great place it is today. Alex also went to war and has been decorated for his efforts. for his efforts. At our time of life we

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

DEAR DIARY

cannot do the things we used to and we ask in this letter for help.

Recently I took Alex for a drive as he wanted to see his beloved river with the ducks and birds. I drove from Etresimenes Lore to Pound and birds. I drove from Fitzsimmons Lane to Pound Bend to the Warrandyte Bridge but I could not find a place where we could stay in the car, enjoy a cuppa and look at the river. I do not have the strength to help Alex out of the car and he no longer has the mobility so we had to return home without seeing the river.

Last month the Diary included a letter from Rosalie Loo about the ti-tree hiding the river from even the more mobile in our community so I ask that you begin to think of us who are restricted either by age or other reasons. How do you think we can enjoy the beauty of our area?

Because we get older and less mobile it does not mean that our love of our

less mobile it does not mean that our love of our environment diminishes. We love this area and wish to continue to enjoy it so we ask for something to be done to allow us and others, to continue to enjoy this lovely place and our beautiful river.

Audrey Edwards Yarra Street

Not enough notice...

I reckon the City of Manning-ham often does a poor job communicating with the people

ommunicating with the people of Warrandyte.
Here's the latest example. A meeting to discuss the future "health and welfare" of the river frontage (Stiggants to Stonehouse) was held on Wednesday evening, February 27.
How did I know, you may ask. The answer is, purely by chance. Late on the previous Monday I happened to see a notice stapled to a manna gum near the river track. (It was over-written by someone urging dog walkers to attend!)

Disappointed, as I had a prior engagement, I decided to check to see how widely advertised was the meeting.

So, I found nothing at the post office, the bakery, or Goldfields Plaza. I did find a notice at the community centre. I also checked last month's *Diary* and found nothing.

No wonder there were only 22 people at the meeting (out of a population of several thousand).

and).
What ideas do people have for

improving the system?

Joan MacMahon

Bradleys Lane

better consultation.

Regarding the Stiggant/Warrandyte River Reserve Management Plan Community Meeting held on February 27, 2002.

It was disappointing that many of the community were not aware that this important meeting was taking place. It was not even advertised in the *Diary!* meeting ...
not even advertise.

Diary!

After attending the meeting, I

CLYDE &

OCKER

felt that most council representatives present had preconceived ideas and certainly not environmentally friendly ones.
One councillor felt the wetland should be cleaned up. It was too messy when her dog ran near it.
Ranger Scheele told us that Stiggants walk is a no-horse, nobike area—news to us. There are no signs at either end of the walk stating this.
I can't help but wonder. Has anyone actually been down and studied the area, consulted Friends of State Park, consulted Parks Victoria, and properly consulted the community by properly advertising community meetings?

J. Bishop Yarra Street

J. Bishop Yarra Street

Thanks

Thank you for selecting me as the IGA Citizen of the Month for March. I think this is a great scheme. I shall donate the voucher to the Warrandyte Housing and Support Service, whose work and recipients are in greater need than I.

Thank you for the great service and initiatives provided by Warrandyte Diary.

Pat Anderson Bradleys Lane



Lindsay Hodgson Authorised Representative

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IMMUNISATION DATES & VENUES FOR 2002

"Who needs a bank Ock? We can hide our money in the old mine tunnels!"

DAYTIME IMMUNISATION SESSIONS:

For further information please telephone the Health & Local Laws Unit on 9840 9256 or 9840 9272.

LOCATION, DAY & TIME	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
WONGA PARK: Maternal & Child Health Centre, Old Yarra Rd. 1ST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH (9.30am – 10.00am) Melway Ref: 24 G11	2	7	4	2	6	3	1	12	3
WARRANDYTE: Maternal & Child Health Centre, Taroona Ave. 1ST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH (10.45am – 11.15am) Melway Ref: 35 C1	2	7	4	2	6	3	1	12	3
DONCASTER: Yarra Room Municipal Offices, 699 Doncaster Rd. 2nd OR 3rd FRIDAY OF THE MONTH (9.00am – 10.00am) Melway Ref: 47 F12	19	17	21	19	16	20	18	8	1
PARK ORCHARDS: Maternal & Child Health Centre, 570 Park Rd. 3RD MONDAY OF THE MONTH (9.00am – 9.30am) Melway Ref: 35 E10	15	20	17	15	19	16	21	18	16
DONCASTER EAST: Uniting Church Hall, Cnr Doncaster & Blackburn Rds. 3RD MONDAY OF THE MONTH (11.00am – 12.00noon) Melway Ref: 48 C1	15	20	17	15	19	16	21	18	16
DONCASTER EAST: East Doncaster Hall, Cnr Andersons Creek Rd & Blackburn Rd. (Entry via Andersons Creek Rd.) 4TH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH (2.00pm – 3.00pm) Melway Ref: 34 C10	23	28	25	23	27	24	22	26	100
TEMPLESTOWE: Memorial Hall, Anderson St. 4TH FRIDAY OF THE MONTH (9.30am – 10.30am) Melway Ref: 33 E5	26	24	28	26	23	27	25	22	-

AFTER SCHOOL & EVENING IMMUNISATION SESSIONS:

LOCATION, DAY & TIME	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
LWR TEMPLESTOWE: Community Centre, 284-290 Thompsons Rd 2ND THURSDAY (4.00pm - 6.00pm) Melway Ref: 32 K7	11	9	13	11	8	12	10	14	12
DONCASTER: Yarra Room Municipal Offices, 699 Doncaster Rd. 3rd WEDNESDAY (6.30pm – 7.30pm) Melway Ref: 47 F12	17	15	19	17	21	18	16	20	18

Drop in or telephone to arrange a time for a confidential no obligation discussion with Lindsay Hodgson

our new councillor

Bob Stubbings, newly elected councilor for Yanakie Ward, described himself as a "clean skin".

"It's hard to put a label on me because I'm not known," he told

the Diary.

In the recent Nillumbik council elections only one of the incumbent councilors was re-elected. Six of the new councillors have no previous experience.

councillors have no previous experience.

Mr Stubbings won his seat in a close contest. Twelve candidates nominated in the Yanakie Ward and the final result, after preferences were distributed, was 1744 votes to Penny Mullinar, the sitting councillor from the old ward of Arthur's Creek, and 1833 votes for Bob Stubbings.

Mr Stubbings was sworn as a new councillor late last month. He was also elected deputy mayor. Lex de Man, from the newly created ward of Cottle, is now mayor of Nillumbik, taking over from Sigmund Jorgensen.

Mr Stubbings has lived in Warrandyte for eight years. He

Mr Stubbings has lived in Warrandyte for eight years. He is married with three grown children. Now retired, he has a background in marketing, and was director of a specialist transport company.

Mr Stubbings admitted that in the past his involvement in community affairs has been

the past his involvement in community affairs has been very limited but he said this lack of experience was a "strength" as well as a "weakness". He said he believed it meant he will bring a fresh approach to the job.

"I hope to be someone who doesn't have a perceived bias,"

doesn't have a perceived bias,' he said. "There's a lot of press-

he said. "There's a lot of pressure groups in the community who do a lot of good work. But many people don't belong to any pressure group, they simply want a quiet life. I hope to cater for that group. You could call them the silent majority."

As part of his campaign, Mr Stubbings said he door-knocked every street in North Warrandyte and met around 1000 home owners. Through talking and listening to those residents Mr Stubbings quickly learned about the issues which



Bob and Anne Stubbings (Picture by Jan Tindale)

are considered important. The most common remark Mr Stubbings heard from residents was that this was the first time anyone had taken the time to knock on their door.

"People felt they had been ignored," he said and he added that this tallied with his own impressions of the old council.

"My impression is that Warrandyte has been neglected. Urban areas (of the shire) have been given higher priority."

Mr Stubbings said there were a lot of complaints from residents about traffic congestion on local streets and

residents about traffic congest-ion on local streets and particularly around the Warran-dyte Bridge at peak hour. He warned that solving the problem would not be easy, but he also said traffic congestion was something the council would ultimately have to address.

address.
"There's always a solution, but at what cost?" he asked, pointing out that building new roads would always mean impacting on the environment, which had to be a crucial consideration.

raised was that of hard rubbish. raised was that of hard rubbish. Mr Stubbings found there was a lot of community resistance to the council decision to abandon the hard rubbish collection. But at the same time he said he was aware that when the council tried tendering for the hard rubbish collection, no tenderers came forward

the council tried tendering for the hard rubbish collection, no tenderers came forward.

"This issue will be addressed by council," promised Mr Stubbings. "If it is financially viable, and it's what people want, we will resume street collections."

Mr Stubbings believes sustainable development through tourism is the key to ensuring the preservation of the Green Wedge. "Attracting tourism is the lifeblood of the shire, not just of Warrandyte," he said. "The more visitors that come to the area, the more money that's spent. In Warrandyte you can't move on the weekends, which is wonderful for local traders."

Mr Stubbings believes tourism is one industry that can be safely developed without damaging the environment.

There have been many

rumours circulating throughout the community that the new Nillumbik council is now dominated by a pro-development lobby.

But Mr Stubbings firmly dismissed these claims. "It's the biggest mistake to think that (a number of the councillors) will be voting as a block," he said. "All that has united (those candidates) was the fact they

be voting as a block," he said.
"All that has united (those candidates) was the fact they were like-minded people, opposed to the existing council and trying to promote change."
The last time Warrandyte had its own representative on council was over 10 years ago. John Fisher, who has lived in Warrandyte for over 30 years, was a councillor in the old Shire of Eitham from 1984 until 1990.

Mr Fisher said "It's good to see we've got a local person from Warrandyte representing Yanakie in council." He added that he hoped Mr Stubbings would ensure Warrandyte remained a bushland area and that there would be no change to the planning scheme. "It's up to local people to ensure he carries out the wishes of the community," Mr Fisher said.

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Next to Essentially Hair by Emma

MP backs local bank

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

In a move supporting local community banking, MP Phil Honeywood intends contacting Warrandyte's four schools to discuss the possibility of transferring their business to the new bank. "I'll be happy to individually contact the three primary schools and Warrandyte high school to discuss the possibility of moving their accounts. "They have the autonomy to do that," Mr Honeywood said.

"They have the autonomy to the Honeywood said.
"Warrandyte is different from just any other Melbourne suburb in that we don't have ready access to alternative shopping centres so we can merely change banks.

Therefore any attempt by the local community to provide a community banking facility should be provided with as much support as possible. For example, the local council could provide further support by opening one or two of their community facility accounts at the new Warrandyte bank.

"As far as I understand it, the community will have to prove local money commitments of about \$500,000 to get a Bendigo Bank franchise. If local residents see fit to put their money up and it's proven bona



Phil Honeywood

fides then we should look at state and local government doing what they can to ensure its viability. "People are concerned over

Teople are concerned over democracy and jump up and down to have their voices heard. They yearn for local community support and multinationals taking over banking is part of that.

"The attraction of a local, home-grown product is yery

home-grown product is very tempting. I just feel sorry for the elderly who have enough trouble coping with ATMs already."



By SYD & ONA



Warrandyte RSL Sub-Branch is seeking full community participation in its Anzac traditional

Anzac march
will leave from the
parking area next to The
Club Store in Yarra Street
at 10.30am, followed by
the service, to be
conducted by the
Reverend Ros McDonald,
at the memorial in the RSL

acture memorial in the ingrounds.

Refreshments and entertainment will then be provided in the clubrooms.



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WARRANDYTE MECHANICS INSTITUTE & ARTS ASSOCIATION INC.



Frolicking fun at the Follies

HE Follies allows Warrandyte to extend the fun of the festival across two weeks, not just two days. And this year was no exception, the Jubilee Follies were purely and simply-unadulterated

Although we had our doubts during the first few minutes. The stage lights came up, revealing an antique wireless set. Nothing more.

Then voice over came what sounded like an episode of a prerecorded antique radio serial— "Farquar's Folly"—written by Keryn Wood, complete with an abominable singing commercial for fags, over-dramatic front and back announcements, strangulated voices and a multitude of sound effects. But no vision. Just the aforementioned wireless. We glanced down our program. Six episodes of "F's F" were listed, and if they were all as static as this,

Then suddenly the stage exploded



in an opening number by musical director Jack Stringer—"Afternoon Tea at the Palace"—featuring the entire cast in a wonderful cacophony of music and dance. We settled back. This was the way Festival Follies were meant to begin. With the second episode of

Farquar's further adventures, all was revealed. The actual radio script didn't seem to make much sense, but the concept, casting, acting and direction were all top-notch. Now we could see the entire cast in full flight and the result was hilarious.

Outstanding were Sue Dyring playing both the tragedienne and a sort of manic Asiatic harridan, Howard Geldard as most of the male parts and—especially—David Frazer as the gauche young sound effects man.

Sue was funny on-microphone, but she was hilarious off it. Interpreting the role as that of a great stage actress fallen on hard times, her performance was both pathetic and touching. David's "effects" were clever and well-timed, but it was when, several episodes later, he appeared to lose his place in the script that the real fun began. Hard enough to maintain a performance when things are happening logically, but try doing so as intentional chaos

Other radio performers included Jan Nance, Lisa Upson, Malcolm Needham and Bill Mitchell, with Libby Skeels, Jack Stringer, Heather Jameson and Pat Anderson warbling their way through the commercials Timing was spot-on and these multilevel segments were directed with great skill. Spaced between the Farquar

episodes were numerous sketches and musical numbers. As always in a show like this with mostly original scripts, the sketches were a mixed

bag of hits and misses. Among the hits were "FBI Follies" and "Hen's Night" (Dougie Esson), "Hooligans" (Adrian Rice) "Puppets" (Jock Macneish), and "Auditions", "Princess Anne's Dressage Team" and "Everybody's Tolkein" (Alan Cornell)

It's been a vintage year for politicians' gaffes and blunders, but none of the political sketches seemed quite sharp enough to nail down the real-life scandals, although lan Craig as a blue-jowled Queen Elizabeth and Bill Mitchell as a spluttering and obsequious John Howard were appropriately Howard were appropriately incorrect and very funny.
Worthy of special mention for his

Worthy of special mention for his outstanding performances in several of the sketches was Dougie Esson. The company has discovered a true comic genius in Dougie.

We're not sure if "Standoff at Warrandyte Town", a short film production by Sam Marston, qualified as political satire or slapstick chaos. Only the pie fight

was missing. But this rather wet comic melodrama of baby-tossing,

comic melodrama of baby-tossing, lip-stitching and other lowly deeds on the high river received all the laughter and applause it deserved. Musical direction at Warrandyte has improved out of sight since Jack Stringer happened along. This production was no exception. His piano and guitar accompaniments, his original numbers and musical bridges between items, all were bridges between items, all were major contributions to an evening of high musical standard.

Vocal contributions by Four in a Bar (Jo Pearson, Lisa Upson and Jan Nance), Alan Cornell and Bill Mitchell provided tuneful relief. Our favourite was "The Scottish Soldier"

favourite was "The Scottish Soldier" by Jo Pearson, Geraldine Rush and the inimitable Dougie Esson. The show was ably directed by Alan Cornell and Ken Virtue, stage managed by Leanne Bryant, with choreography by Sue Dyring, sound by Denise Farran and lighting by Gail

See you all next year!

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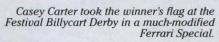
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of(full address)	(postcode)
Telephone(home)	(bus) (mob)
desire to become a member of the Warrandyte resident of Warrandyte, North Warrandyte or S admission as a member, I agree to be bound by time being in force and that I am over 16 years of a financial member of the Association to be entited.	outh Warrandyte. In the event of my the rules of the Association for the of age. I understand that I need to be
(signature of applicant)	(date)
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Casey came home, but was almost pipped by a girl!





By FIA CLENDINNEN

For many years, one of the most popular features of the Warrandyte Festival has been the Billycart Derby. This 25th anniversary year was no

This 25th anniversary year was no exception.

Now, when I was a kid we built our billycarts out of old wooden fruit boxes. We nailed these onto a frame made out of some lengths of four by two, tied on a length of rope to steer by, and attached four pram wheels, not too dented, nicked off the hard rubbish

rubbish.
Today's kids hurtle themselves down
the steep hills of Warrandyte on very
different sorts of vehicles. Rear vision
mirrors, brakes, pump up tyres,
adjustable seats: modern billycarts
look like something out of the Grand
Priv

My son's friend, Casey Carter, was competing in the race. Did Casey have a chance? Gilchrist and I thoroughly

inspected his billycart, which is something of a family heirloom, with its own rich history.

There are four Carter brothers and the whole family look as if their ancestors may have been pirates. Casey is the youngest and his oldest brother, Daniel, with some help from dad, first built the billycart 10 years ago.

ago.

There and then Daniel took out first prize. Since then the Carter billycart has raced in the derby every year, with the brothers coming up through the ranks to take their chance behind the theoring wheel

ranks to take their chance behind the steering wheel.
Would Casey turn out to be this year's champion and bring honour on the family? First prize was a Play Station II which had all the entrants salivating. Gilchrist had no doubts about his friend's winning ability. I wasn't so sure. There were 28 billycarts and they all looked pretty good.

The morning wore on. The billycarts raced off in pairs, with the winners going back for extra heats.

A St John's ambulance was parked helpfully at the bottom of the hill. One

helpfully at the bottom of the hill. One boy crashed spectacularly and an attendant emerged from the ambulance, walking quickly. She took one look at the boy. His pride and elbows might have been bruised but he was wriggling like a tadpole and obviously no serious damage had been sustained. The St John's attendant went back to await further catastrophes. Thankfully there were none.

catastropnes. Inankfully there were none.

So far, Casey had won all his heats and the tension was increasing palpably. Dogs, which had been sitting with their owners and watching the race peacefully, suddenly showed their fangs and bit at each other, for no

reason.

Finally it was the moment to end all

moments. Casey and another billycart racer were competing for first place. Suddenly I was in a terrible dilemma. Casey's opponent was a girl called Jamie Hayton, the only girl in this scrum of eager boys. Whom should I barrack for, the brave representative of my gender or my son's friend? Gilchrist was disgusted at my lack of resolve. "Girls should be banned from entering," he muttered darkly. Obviously the tender male ego wilts when confronted by such stiff competition.

The lights turned green and Casey moments. Casey and another billycart

competition.

The lights turned green and Casey and Jamie launched themselves down the hill. Everyone in the audience held their breath and watched in tense silence. This was going to be close; this was going to be very, very close.

Casey won! Only by the length of a tea towel but a win nevertheless. He was carried proudly up the hill on the shoulders of one of his many brothers.

Second place went to Jamie Hayton. Third place was taken out by Sean Pinder.

Casey put his victory down to the changes he made to the billycart. He spent many days beforehand, tinkering away in his father's workshop.

"This time (the billycart) was modified," Casey told the Diary. "It made me go faster because I was low and had less air resistance and stuff. Air was just going over the top of me."

The week before Casey achieved a result of 99 percent in a maths test (he is in year 7 at Eltham High School) and it was no doubt his firm grasp of the principles of Pythagorus that helped him fine tune the old Carter billycart into a winning vehicle.

Readers will be interested to know that in his spare time Casey swims (he has won many trophies for this), belly dances (so far no trophies), and eats fish and chips.

WARRANDYTE FESTIVAL

Festival results

Rotary Art Show 1st Noella Clohesy 2nd Helen Edwards 3rd June McIntyre

Parade Winners
Best Overall Float Anderson Creek
Primary School
Most Colourful Warrandyte
Childcare and Preschool
Most Imaginative Junior's Farm
Childcare

Childcare
Best Costume
Warrandyte Primary School
Most Warrandytish
Warrandyte and District

Best Theme
Warranwood Primary School
Warrandyte Primary School Kids
Art Competition
1st Alice James P1/B
Carly Bensch 4F
Cathy Douglas S56
2nd Dane Gore 1/2T
Akela Coutts 3/4T
Ally Cox 6P
3rd. Elizabeth Gipps P1/B
Amelia Cox 3MC
Henry Mack 5/6R
Skate Competition
Under 12

Justin Murphy (Warrandyte)
2nd Taylor Beaumont
(Warrandyte)
3rd Blake Handson

(Warrandyte) Richard Collins (Croydon) Luke Watson (Warrandyte) Matt Short (Warrandyte)

Nick Leong (Warrandyte) Liam Gough (Nth Warrandyte) Phil Harberts (Bulleen)

Fun Run
8.5km Men
1st James Riley
2nd Tom Fricker
3rd Paul Gilling
8.5km Women
1st Liane Macquire
2nd Tracey Watt
3rd Madeline Ford
4.2km run/walk Men
1st Geof Gray
2nd Denis Leech
3rd Glen Brockhell
4.2km run/walk Women
1st Susan Lapkin
2nd Rhyse Juzwin
3rd Elaine Davis
Tennis Speed Serving
Open

Men Aaron Nolan (192kph) Women Jenny McDonell (135kph) Veterans Men Horrie Aldenhoven (146kph)

Women Jeanett Cleaves (111kph)

Women Jeanett Gleaves (157kph)
16 & Under
Boys Marc Alexander (157kph)
Girls Laurel Bevan (110kph)
14 & Under
Boys Justin Cleaves (168kph)
Girls Carli Bingham (132kph)
12 & Under

Girls Carli Ding.

12 & Under
Boys Joel Greve (140kph)
Girls Courtney Ralph (121kph)

Girls Courtney Ralph (12
10 & Under
Boys Tristan Valentino
(149kph)
Girls Brit Clarke (92kph)
Billycart Derby
1st Casey Carter
2nd Jamie Hayton
3rd Sean Pinder
Puck Race

Duck Race

Nicholas Stybergan (ACPS)

Kiara Harris-Allan
(Warrandyte Kinder)

Jack Berriman (ACPS)

4th Jack Ellis (Warrandyte Kinder) Kinder) Grace Bubner (ACPS) 5th

What a happy silver anniversary!

By SAM DAVIES

Nothing, not even the weather, could rain on the silver anniversary Village

silver anniversary Village
Festival parade.
Bathing Warrandyte in
glorious sunshine for both
days of the festival, the
weather was a welcome
bonus for the six months toil
put in by festival committee
members, who were quick to
label this year's as "one of
the best".



As tradition dictates, the festival began with the Yarra Sreet parade. This year's theme of "Let's Party" didn't fall short of expectations, bringing forth an array of music, lights, colours and sounds not seen since, well, the last festival parade.

Dressed in appropriate party attire, Anderson's Creek Primary School was a standout, whipping up a giant birthday cake with 25 human candles for the occasion. ACPS went on to win the award for best

overall float in the parade, though not without stiff competition from mock archrival Warrandyte Primary School, who successfully took out best costume.

For parade judge Leonie Ulbrich, the culmination of Anderson's Creek's efforts were well deserved. "It was the most brilliant float I have ever seen," she later told the Diary. She also had high regard for other schools, including WPS, which had strong student input in ideas, design and construction.

The kids stole the show this year, with other winners including Warrandyte Childcare and Preschool for "most colourful", Junior's Farm Childcare for "most imaginative", Warranwood Primary School for "best theme", and Warrandyte and District Preschool for "most Warrandyte-ish".

This year, open MGs (not camels) were the preferred royal transport for the king and queen of the festival, Cliff and Judy Green. "My wife and I are deeply honoured," His Majesty said, as, perched precariously on the rear seat of the sports car, he threw out lollies to the kids. The royal couple

were dressed in their finest regalia, "borrowed from our second cousins, the King and



The parade set a high standard for the rest of the festival, though the fun was easily maintained for the duration of the weekend. A debut open-air film night on Saturday proved a hit, with an enchanted audience turning up with rugs and wine to watch Blues Brothers, a supporting musical act "Rusty Nails" from Rudolph Steiner, and a psychedelic light show by Hugh McSpedden.

The skateboard competition drew a crowd of enthusiastic kids to its new home at the permanent skate park at the West End. "Definitely one of the best youth events ever," said Rick Gordon, committee member in charge of youth affairs.

Of course, it all had to end

affairs.

Of course, it all had to end somewhere. As usual, this

happened beneath a starstudded sky in front of the
Stiggant's Stage, the same
place where only a day and a
half before, Nillumbik's
retiring mayor, Sigmund
Jorgensen had declared the
festival open on behalf of
both councils. The final act
was Reverend Funk and the
Horns of Salvation, who
ripped through an hour of
classics from James Brown to
the Jackson 5.

The ever-helpful SES and
fire brigade ensured that the
fireworks soared safely
skywards on the dot of ten
seconds past 9pm; and then it

seconds past 9pm; and then it was over for another year.



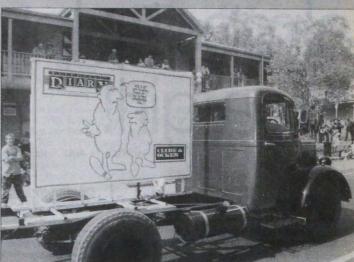
• Please contact Mal Parsons on 9844 1175 if you lost or found any items during the festival weekend. There is a bag of found items and a list of lost ones.

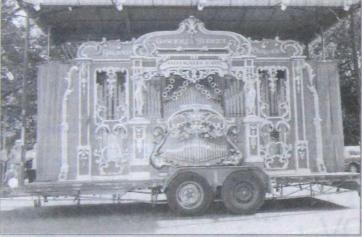




















Warrandyte Neighbourhood House

TERM 2 COURSES

MONDAY:

Monday Walkers, 9.15-10.30am; Leadlighting with Les Joynson, 1-3pm; Drawing for Young People with Nancy Johnson, 4-5pm;

Yoga with Pam Egglestone, 7-8.15pm TUESDAY:

Drawing for Young People with Nancy Johnson, 4-5pm; Drawing for Adults with Nancy Johnson, 7.30-9.30pm; Warrandyte Poetry with John Jenkins, 7.30-9.30pm; Strong Women Stay Young with Tash Rees, 9-10am; Teenage Girls Exercise Class with Tash Rees, 4-5pm

WEDNESDAY:

Belly Dancing with Melissa Jones, 1.15-2.45pm; Belly Dancing with Anita Zaccghinga, 7.30-9pm

THURSDAY: FRIDAY:

Yoga with Pam Egglestone, 7pm; Gentle Movement and Meditation with Pam Egglestone, 8.15pm; Video Making with Norm Tillack, 7-9pm; Time Out for Mums with Kids, 10.30am-12.30pm

WORKSHOPS:

Self Expression in Writing for Women with Hellena Allan, 9.30am-12.30pm; Strong Women Stay Young with Tash Rees, 9-10am; Returning to the Workforce with Karen Throssell, 10.30am-1pm; Tai Chi with Garry Baniecki, 10-11am; Friday Group, monthly lunch with guest speaker, 12.30-2pm; Warrandyte Writers, Monthly 6-8pm. Astrology, Basic Computer, Fruit Wine Making FOR MORE DETAILS PICK UP A BROCHURE AT NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE WARRANDYTE COMMUNITY CENTRE OR CALL 9844 1839 FROM 8TH APRIL. ENROLMENTS CLOSE 12TH APRIL.

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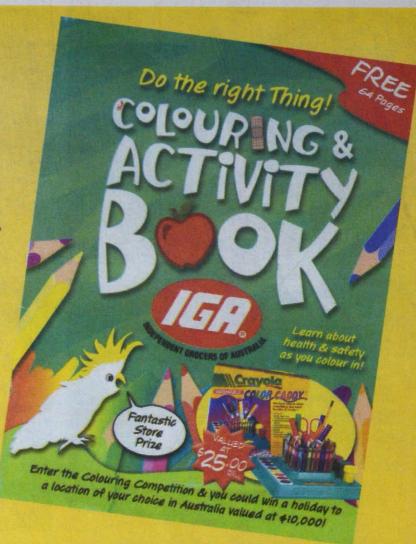


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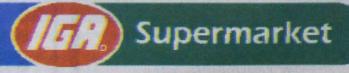
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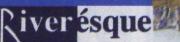
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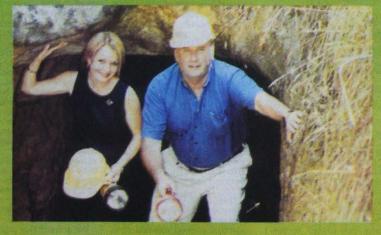
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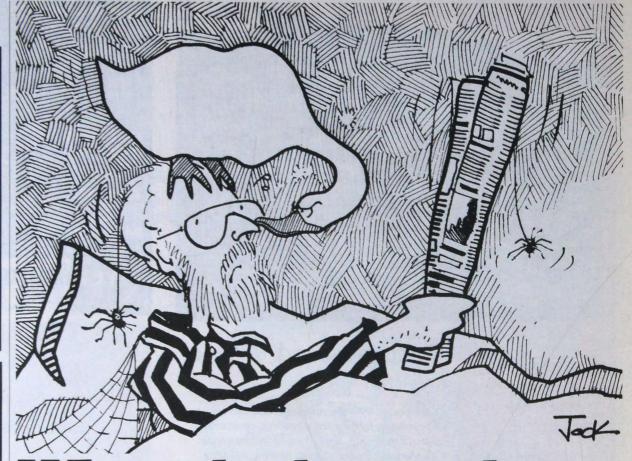
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The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held in the Mechanics Institute Hall Cnr Mitchell Avenue and Yarra Street on Monday, 6th May 2002 at 8pm

ALL ARE WELCOME



When ducks are down a-dabbling: sex scenes!

HOSE who have seen me close up would realise that, nowadays, I definitely need all the beauty sleep I can get.
Consequently, you can
understand my dismay when,
the other night, at our beach
house, Herself roused me from
my slumber.
Several years ago I would
have been awake and upright in

Several years ago I would have been awake and upright in anticipation but this time, it was something in Herself's voice that suggested that things were not good.
"Rog!"
"Mmmmmmm?"
"Wake up. Look!"
"Whaaaat?"
"It's an enormous huntsman

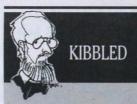
'It's an enormous huntsman

"It's an enormous huntsman and it's right above our bed!"
"Oh... Fine...Good night!"
The following morning I discovered that my response had been unacceptable. Evidently I should have galvanised myself into protector mode. It should have been man against arachnid. A fight to the death; the evil interloper clinging to the upper territory of the bedroom ceiling with me, pyjama-clad, unsteadily trampolining over the conjugal bed, a rolled up local rag as my weapon against whatever evil the huntsman intended.

intended.

Now, had it been a white-tailed spider I would have been more enthusiastic. The thought of rotting flesh is one thing. An inoffensive hairy brute, going about its normal business in the bedroom is entirely different. In fact, I would have thought that the latter is "natural" in most bedrooms intended.

The next morning, having seen the error of my ways, I



"Perhaps the swapping of calling cards followed by a little, wing-inwing reed swimming...."

spent a considerable period of spent a considerable period of time scouring the house for any signs of potential nastiness. Whilst ensuring that inside was safe, I had time to contemplate the violence and potential carnage that lurks everywhere outside.

outside.
Most of us live in an urban environment. We are distanced from the nitty gritty that goes on in the "real world". By this I don't mean the stock market or the advertising agency but the real world of farmy, country type things. An example of what I mean comes from some recent research that shows that a horrifyingly high percentage of young inner suburban kids are unaware from where their milk comes. Evidently, it multiplies in supermarket freezer cabinets

over night.

No, the reality that I'm referring to is that critters are not always cute and picturesque. Our first reality bite was when we discovered that ducks are not nice.

We have a pond at our holiday house and we have had great pleasure from watching our ducks swimming around. During the first year we were, understandably, enthusiastic about the prospect of spring. We imagined an idyllic, swapcard image of country life; the thatched cottage images of our youth, complete with the village pond, awash with graceful, poetry-reading waterfowl. Wrong! Before you have cute little bundles of yellow down, you have to go through the "hairy monster" phase.

In keeping with their well-

through the "hairy monster" phase.

In keeping with their well-groomed appearance and their apparently effortless gliding, we worked on an unspoken assumption that their courting would be conducted in a similarly urbane fashion. Perhaps the swapping of calling cards followed by a little, wing-in-wing reed swimming. The eventual consummation would be conducted in the privacy of a down-lined bower, well away

be conducted in the privacy of a down-lined bower, well away from prying eyes. The gang rape that ensued was not what we expected. Our first intimation that Nature is not a nice, gentle mother in a flower-print frock, came when we noticed some of the ducks had feathers missing the ducks had feathers missing

from the backs of their necks, just below their heads.

A feather mite perhaps? A lucky escape from a marauding fox? A nasty encounter with a

Incorrect! Our attention was Incorrect! Our attention was first drawn to the water by a frantic splashing and quacking. When we looked, all seemed to be tranquil. All the ducks were gliding around the water occasionally pecking at waterweed or water insects. One of the other larger ducks, however, was gliding in an One of the other larger ducks, however, was gliding in an unusual fashion. It kept its head in the water as if scooping water into its mouth, a bit like a krill-feeding whale.

As we continued to watch, we were horrified to see that below the apparently feeding duck was another feathered friend, body submerged by the weight

the apparently feeding duck was another feathered friend, body submerged by the weight of the other and head held under water by a less than conciliatory male's bill. Suddenly, the mystery of the missing feathers and the bloodspeckled flesh was solved.

Herself was horrified. Then and there she decided to alter the course of evolution and began running around the water's edge hissing at the drake whilst, at the same time, encouraging the ducks that they didn't have to accept this type of oppression. Several years later, sub-aquatic activity continues and we've become less dewy-eyed about the cuteness of nature.

We arrived last night to find an ominous shape floating the wrong side up. Our instant reaction was not of horror but annoyance. To remove the decomposing carcass from the water we'd have to launch the rowboat. What a bloody nuisance!

Mother N, you've educated us

nuisance! Mother N, you've educated us

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A thrilling air show, high in the canopy of the forest

OMEWHERE in the forests of southern New South Wales. Night is approaching Moonless and starless. Already it is darker than twilight, darker than dusk. Old trees, like leafy pillars, stand tall and straight amongst domed-topped boulders of crusty granite. A fine misty drizzle persists, but is not enough to drive the audience of two under cover and away from the warmth of the camp fire. For at 1000 metres up, these mountain forests are still cold even in the middle of summer. The stage is set for the main players to arrive. And they do not disappoint. A rustle in the follage announces their entrance. The audience look up. A possum is silhouetted black against the indigo sky. The audience reach for their torch and binoculars. This is no ordinary possum.

The animal is big with thick, shaggy fur that glistens with droplets of drizzle in the spotlight of the torch. Its tail, hanging down below the branch, is extraordinarily long and bushy. These features, along with its large, round eyes, pink nose and fluffy oversize ears, identify the possum as Greater Glider.

The audience watch in silence, necks craned, as the animal begins to climb. Nimble as a cat, it makes its way onto a flimsy outer branch. It pauses. The audience hold their breath. Muscles bunched, the glider launches and spreads its furry membrane of skin giving it, for a few hrief airborne seconds.

a few brief airborne seconds, the appearance of a child's kite. Volplaning across to the nearest tree, it lands vertically with feet



Drawn by MELANIE COUPAR

and claws outstretched to join its mate. After some mutual preening, the two move off to forage foliage. Apart from koalas, they are the only other mammals to feed exclusively on eucalynt leaves.

koalas, they are the only other mammals to feed exclusively on eucalypt leaves.

One month earlier, after dark on a starry night in a forest in eastern Victoria, scene one took place. The audience was the same—a couple of campers from Warrandyte—but the stars of the show were different.

As noisy as Greater Gliders were silent, Yellow-bellied Gliders made their presence known with blood-curdling, high-pitched shrieks and throaty gurgles that startled the audience who were unprepared for such a fanfare. Slightly smaller and more gregarious than the Greaters, these animals form social groups of up to five or six individuals. They dine on sap, honeydew—a sugary substance excreted by certain bugs—nectar, pollen and insects.

Both Greater and Yellow-bellied Gliders require large hollows for shelter and nesting. Such hollows form slowly over hundreds of years. Undisturbed

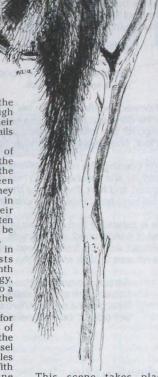
hollows for shelter and nesting. Such hollows form slowly over hundreds of years. Undisturbed old-growth forests are therefore crucial to the survival of these large gliding possums and logging and bushfires pose serious threats to their continued existence. Neither species are found in species are found in Warrandyte. But Warrandyte is home to

the Sugar Glider and also the Feathertail Glider—although these tiny creatures with their curiously fringed, flattened tails are rare and seldom seen.

While no official survey of Sugar Gliders—considered the most widely distributed of the gliding possums—has been

Sugar Gliders—considered the most widely distributed of the gliding possums—has been carried out in Warrandyte, they are thought to occur here in reasonable numbers. Their yapping calls, which are often mistaken for a small dog, can be heard sometimes after dark. Highly sociable, they live in communal leaf-lined nests snuggling together for warmth and to conserve energy, sometimes even drifting into a torpor-like sleep to wait out the colder months.

Sugar Gliders are named for their sweet tooth—incisors of course, because these are the implements they use to chisel grooves in the trunks of wattles to release the sugary sap. With an expandable membrane stretching from wrists to ankles, these possums are supremely confident in the air. Using their long tail like a rudder for balance and to steer, they can glide up to 50 metres between trees in a single leap. they can glide up to 50 metres between trees in a single leap.



This scene takes place regularly at various forest venues around Warrandyte. It is not advertised and like the other glider shows around the country, the audience must be in the right place at the right time to see it.

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No acceptance speeches, please

SCAR season is upon us and it's time to hand out a few 2002 awards of our own. Unfortunately it's awards of our own. Unfortunately it's been a bit of a lean year, what with one thing and another (mainly one thing aged 15 and another aged 17), so on this occasion we will be sponsoring only my very favourite award, named after a former budgerigar-shaped inmate here: the Flannelbrain Award for Impenetrable Logic.

This year's contenders include:

A certain wit (or possibly a nitwit) employed at some stage by the Moonee Valley Council. This person has erected a warning sign, "Blind Corner Ahead", on the approach to one of the more gracious curves of the Moonee Ponds Creek bike path, where a pleasant view from a low fence across adjacent parkland is framed by gorgeously shady overhanging greenery.

In contrast, high backyard

gorgeously shady overlanging greenery.

In contrast, high backyard paling fences, brick walls and overgrown shrubbery have reduced visibility on the previous 27 bends (give or take a few) to something approaching zero in every case.

To make matters worse,



broken bitumen, vigorous weed growth and stray garden debris frequently force cyclists and walkers alike onto the wrong side of the path, where the view around the next bend is not greatly improved, but the view over the edge into the creekbed far below is quite riveting. The sign in question has been planted on what is indisputably the first safe corner for miles.

The organiser of last year's "roll meeting" at the bridge roundabout.

The bread rolls did,

roundabout.

The bread rolls did, thankfully, finally end their interminable debate, which had continued for several days. Presumably they went back to their homes. Or did the possums clean up?

The powers-that-be at Which Bank. Just how will the closure of a busy branch help them recruit more customers? (Oops, sorry, I keep forgetting—of course they don't want customers. Customers just get in the way and keep them from

of course they don't want customers. Customers just get in the way, and keep them from getting on with important stuff. Silly old me!)

• Halle Berry. No matter how much you didn't expect to win an Oscar, and no matter how unprepared you were for speechmaking, the fact that your heartfelt words of wisdom were being broadcast internationally to an audience of millions would at least inspire you to keep some of your wits about you. Er ... wouldn't it?

• A certain 15-year-old, who, suddenly and without warning, wants bucketloads of cash to spend on a hair-straightening iron, multiple ear-piercings and a headful of gold and pink highlights (presumably to complement the violently violet iridescent fingernails). This 15-year-old has, needless to say, been endowed by Nature with the kind of gloriously abundant blond-streaked Titian curls that have people swooning with envy.

"Unreal!" they exclaim as one. envy. "Unreal!" they exclaim as one.

"You'll never need to spend a cent at the hairdresser's!"

The team of customerfriendly air traffic controllers who recently thought that members of the travelling public might enjoy a day largely spent at Brisbane Airport, and who caused flights to be redirected accordingly. (You didn't know that we were off to Brisbane? That's funny, neither did we until we checked in.)

Brisbane? That's funny, neither did we until we checked in.)

That Clever Trevor of café manners who came up with the idea that the customer's one and only neatly folded paper napkin should be carefully centred on the plate beneath the steaming muffin dripping with butter.

Hard to pick an outright winner from such a mixed

winner from such a mixed bunch.
Perhaps I'll have a think about it on the road, somewhere between signing up the family at a brand new bank and collection of the luminous pink streak job from the hairdresser's.
No on second thoughts

dresser's.

No, on second thoughts, somebody else can have the job of deciding which of all those oddities is the most inexplicable. I'm off to one of our local wine cellars to sample a spot of something interesting!

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A woman's story

In the early, cold and dark hours of a morning, in a village in the Middle East, in a high-pitched, fearful and panic-driven warning, a woman begins to scream.

Lumbering, a bulldozer arrives: yellow destructor, it destroys ... The woman breaks down and cries helpless, her home is rubble and noise.

On a neighbour's rooftop with friends she stands a wall of wailing bodies: black-veiled, they trudge away, linking hands, and picking up her children's teddies.

Across the barren Occupied Territories, zoning and demolition is enforced—locals must live with foreign policies, and thousands have lost their homes.

Lost and distraught when the sun goes up, no walls and roof to protect; exposed, she stands in chilled shock—shamed, she feels loss of respect.

Her heart she gave to her home and her family an intimate place to live. All she wants is that they each return safely, and to have enough food to give. That night her husband didn't appear—had he been wounded, gagged or, worse, killed? She had to wipe her children's tears ... they could not sleep or lie still.

A woman cannot be her own true self: mother, wife, nurse; she is a carer for everybody else—it is a woman's curse.

Widowed indefinitely, with her husband in jail, in the darkness of dawn she sets out; fatigued, she joins the check point trail—in fear, she keeps a sharp look-out.

One evening she returns to find that her husband is back—tearfully she reaches out to hug him. Injured and hurt, though, he throws her a slap—a jail term has made him mean and thin.

He is ashamed that she lives with his parents and sister—she is condemned, and retreats.

Without work he feels useless and rises in anger—he refuses to look at her worn feet.

Across the new border, builders drill; houses and streets make new towns. New people arrive to live on the white-washed hill, but others' bones and stones dwell underground.

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A bush life in suburbia

OR countless millennia the Yarra River has gouged its way through the countryside on a relentless journ-ey to the sea; together with the bush, it is one of the natural

the bush, it is one of the natural features that have helped to define Warrandyte for those who live there. Upon arriving in Melbourne from London in 1951, a German-born sculptor, who had studied in Europe, viewed the flat landscape: "I remember one night standing at the corner of Bourke and Swanston Street and everything was flat I. Street and everything was flat. I found it quite depressing. I don't look back—I mean, even then, my attitude was—I don't want to go back—but I always said, all Australia at the time appeared to me as a can of flat beer."

The bland topography of Melbourne created, in artist Inge King, a desire to escape to a place of scenic beauty. Inge had come to Australia with her husband, who was born in Melbourne. Grahame King is known for the major contribution he has made to improvements in modern Australian printmaking, and is recognised as a significant painter and lithographer. Back in 1951 the couple lived in a furnished room in the suburbs of Melbourne but Grahame wanted to enjoy bush environs even though they "were tied to the city to earn a

living".

As well as Grahame's work in As well as Grahame's work in design, Inge made jewellery in their Bourke Street studio to help make ends meet. "I mainly made silver jewellery. I had some training from Europe and then I went and did some study in the Metalsmith Department at RMIT." Desirous to move to a house of their own but without much money, Inge and Grahame King wanted land that was reasonably priced, close to the city, and which boasted some natural beauty. It was then that their friend, Max Newton, introduced them to his new property. "I met one of my friends in the first

few months we were back here and he had just purchased a block in Warrandyte, so he drove us out here—we didn't have a car. I knew Warrandyte slightly but not very well and it looked good and Inge liked the idea. I tried to persuade her that we should look around other suburbs and places, but 'No', she said, 'let's try this'." Warrandyte was said, let's try this. Warrandyte was the first place lnge had seen with a view to buying land and building and she decided straight away. The natural beauty of the bush was evident, she and Grahame already had friends in the area, and Warrandyte felt to Inge as if it could be home. "You could see right down out to the main road and across to the river and we loved the view and the feel of the place and as soon as we had earned a little money we started to build the house."

Suburban pioneering in a busy life took its toll on Inge's output of sculptures for the first 10 years. She had to manage a young family in an unfinished house, on a property with unfinished house, on a property with no electricity service and no road, while making jewellery to boost the family finances, and in addition to all of this she faced the artistic challenges of a confronting a new Australian environment. "I found the change so great that I hardly did any work for the first ten years. I felt I had to find my way." Two decisive factors prompted lnge to find her sculptor's voice: one was the

sculptor's voice: one was the inspiration of a new medium. In 1959 the Kings' neighbour, Herb Henke, who was a "top engineer craftsman", taught them to weld and crattsman", taught them to weld and it provided a catalyst for Inge to find expression in the medium of steel: "I got inspired—through my visit to America, actually—to use steel. Our neighbour made some arc welders and he actually taught us both welding on a job where Grahame was employed as an architect." Most of Inge's work from then on was done of Inge's work from then on was done



By BARBARA PERTZEL and FIONA WALTERS

landscape. But the Australian landscape is not an easy landscape to conquer. It's an untidy landscape, it's rough. I paint my sculptures; in those days, I painted my sculptures black. Those simple black shapes were in great contrast to that landscape because it's a very powerful landscape. It's not a matter just of size, but it's a matter of the power of the work that it can stand out, or stand up, against the

landscape."
The other factor that made Inge begin sculpting again in earnest was her environment—her Warrandyte surroundings. "It was really partly the landscape at Warrandyte where we look out that inspired the works I did later on, and it has done so ever since. Walking along the river, too, you see bends in the river and then the sun reflecting on it—it's just enchanting." For Grahame "it's the fact of living amongst trees. There were the Australian-type artists who thought art was a matter of painting gum trees. Since Europe and other studies, I no longer paint gum trees; but I love them and I like to be with them and I find it perpetually satisfying just to look across the hills and the big trees and the river. It's a rich feeling that one can't define rich feeling that one can't define very clearly."

very clearly."
Warrandyte State Park is a magnificent open space that preserves a diverse range of vegetation.
Along the river valley lofty Manna Gums shelter smaller trees such as Muttonwood and River Lomatia which are more commonly seen in the forests of East Gippsland. There are ferny creeks reminiscent of cool mountain forests. The dry slopes and ridges are dominated by open forests of Red Box eucalypts, the subtle blue-green of which gives the

meeting interested members of the community discussed the possible formation of a park. In 1973 the State Government of Victoria approved the establishment of an area of some 800 acres to be known as the Warrandyte State Park. The park gained some friends in 1982—the Friends of Warrandyte State Park (FOWSP). The major aim of the group was "to involve the community in the restoration, community in the restoration, development and protection of the new State Park". This dedicated group of volunteers began by clearing weeds and rubbish, including rusting car bodies, from park areas, and has since diversified into bush regeneration work. Comprising Jumping Creek Reserve, Black Flat Reserve, The Common, Timber Reserve, Whipstick Gully, Pound Bend and Mount Lofty, the Warrandyte State Park is a refuge for many native animals such as many native animals such as kangaroos, wallabies, koalas, possums, wombats and the unique egg-laying mammals, the platypus and the echidna. "The wonderful parkland and open spaces in the Yarra Valley and the Warrandyte State Park, and elsewhere, such as Ruffey Lake Park are obviously a highlight of the municipality—such spaces are the reason why people live in and like the area." The development of an efficient

and reliable public transport system in the area now known as Manning-ham was hampered as much by the area's topography as it was by government indecision. From time to time private individuals endeavoured to make an adequate public transport service available. In the 1920s, Weekes' horse-drawn coach travelled daily from Heidelberg to Warrandyte. A bus service from Melbourne to Warrandyte commenced in 1913 but was out of service by the end of that year. A more reliable bus service between Melbourne and Doncaster, run by Mr. A Withers began consertion in 1925. the old boot shop then run by John Thomas "Pop" Pridmore on the north-west corner of Anderson's and Yarra streets, and listened to his Yarra streets, and listened to his endless yarns while he cobbled. Then around 4.30 or 4.45pm I would walk up to J. J. Moore's store opposite the pub and go and sit in the little, 10-seater bus and wait for either Earle Stewart or Frank Tresize, the reserve driver, to finish their afternoon tea break and then we'd set off at 5 o'clock."

A bus service for Park Orchards was only obtained in 1981 thanks to

was only obtained in 1981 thanks to the efforts of the students of Norwood High School with some assistance from the Park Orchards Ratepayers Association.

Ratepayers Association.

In the meantime, car ownership in metropolitan Melbourne increased dramatically, particularly after World War II. As early as 1954 observers were warning that road traffic congestion was a rising problem, and "without drastic measures to meet the approaching crisis, the ultimate strangulation of the city's life appears certain". To work towards easing traffic congestion, the Board of Works was given powers in 1956 to design and construct roads euphemistically defined as metropolitan highways. "Limited access roads", being able to carry the greatest traffic capacity, were seen as a viable solution to Melbourne's growing traffic prob-lems. These roads were to become known as freeways. Reservations for most freeways routes were marked on the Board of Works' 1954 Melbourne Metropolitan Planning Scheme and Ordinance. A schedule for implementing freeways to the east of Melbourne and elsewhere was ready by 1957, but was delayed was ready by 1957, but was delayed due to problems with financing. Eventually, in 1965 the government announced that a 10-year freeway building plan would soon begin. The proposed route for the Eastern Freeway (F19) through the Yarra Valley was approved in December 1970—a decision subject to considerable public protest; however, in November 1971, as passionate disputes raged, the Board of Works bulldozed 10 acres Board of Works bulldozed 10 acres of the Yarra Bend National Park. The

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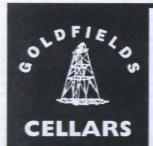
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Building stuff for sale

Warrandyte Lions, in conjunction with the Warrandyte CFA, are holding an auction of building materials and donated goods on Sunday, May 19 at the Warranwood Primary School. Goods will be sold on consignment with 15 percent commission. The organisers are calling for donated goods and items to sell on consignment. Ring Denis Robertshaw on 9437 1155 for further information.

The Warrandyte Community Centre Support Group is holding their annual general meeting, to be followed by a working bee, at the centre on Sunday, April 14, commencing at 10am. The group also advises that Warrandyte folk can hire the hall at the centre for half price over the next six months. Bookings through 9844 4503.

Memory

Young people who are involved in the hospitality industry and who live in Warrandyte, Park Orchards and surrounding areas are invited to apply for a \$3000 award, to be in made in memory of Christie Lawrence and Luke Mayall, who lost their lives in a tragic motor accident in 1998. Full details from Greg Lawrence on 9844 2498 or Jock Lawrence on 9844 2498 or Jock Macneish on 9844 4164.



Dulcie Crouch (pictured) was among deserving winners of the Menzies winners of the Menzies Community Australia Day Awards. Her charitable work in Warrandyte began almost 70 years ago when, at the age of 14, she began raising money for the Warrandyte Infant Welfare Centre. She believes she has been in-volved with about 16 charit-able organisations over the years, and about 20 years able organisations over the years, and about 20 years ago she joined the Templestowe and Warrandyte Auxiliary for the Royal Women's Hospital. Although now aged 81, she still works hard for that "most deserving" cause.

THE BOX

Conducted by JUDY GREEN

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

The Warrandyte Mechanics Institute and Arts Association will hold their 2002 annual general meeting in the Mechanics Institute Hall, corner Mitchell Avenue and Yarra Street, Warrandyte on Monday, May 6 commencing at 8pm. All

Recital

Leading instrumental ensemble, the Flinders Quartet will presenting a recital at the Wyntyre Gallery, Blooms Road, Warrandyte, on Sunday, May 12 commencing at 6.30pm. For further details call 0414 964 124.

Doorknock

OOI KITOCK
On Saturday, May 25 and Sunday, May 26, the Red Shield Appeal doorknock will be held. The local Salvation Army is calling for volunteer collectors to assist with this very worthy cause in the Warrandyte area. If you can help, please call Captain Peter Walker on 9842 4744.

Fete

Ringwood North Primary School will hold a Mega May Fete on Saturday, May 4 from 9am to 4pm at 172 Oban Road, Ringwood North. There will be a wide variety of stalls with rides including Titanic Slide.

Wellbeing

A Wellbeing Support Group will be meeting on Monday evenings in Kangaroo Ground commencing after Easter. The group will be facilitated by a qualified counsellor and mediator. If you are looking for support and company please call Cathie on 9437 2401.

Chris Padgham is organising a



The Warrandyte Theatre Company will be hosting a theatre festival here in Warrandyte over the weekend of June 14, 15 and 16. It is anticipated that theatre groups from all over Victoria will participate. Further information from Sue Dyring on 9844 4594.

Photographs

As part of their Heritage Festival, Eltham Library will exhibit a display of historical photographs from around Eltham including construction of the Eltham railway. The exhibition will be open from March 30 to April 15.

T-shirts

Friends of Warrandyte State Park are currently selling elegantly designed T-shirts. They are available in three sizes and three colour combinations. Contact Geoff Speedy on 9437 0894 if you wish to purchase

Do Care

Do Care are seeking volunteers to spend some time each week visiting older or disabled persons in the community. For further information please phone 9762 5211.

Market

A community market and car boot sale will be held at the Christmas Hills Primary School, 1409 Eltham-Yarra Glen Road on Sunday, April 14 from 10am to 2pm. Stalls cost \$5 and can be set up from 8am. Enquiries to Liz on 9712 0414 or Rob on 9710 1512.

Dance

The next South Warrandyte Social Dance will be held at the South Warrandyte Hall in Hall Road on Saturday, April 13. Cost is \$7 with music provided by a live band. Ring 9723 3892 for further details.

Newsletters

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



Mosaics

Mosaics Plus is an exhibition of Mosaics Plus is an exhibition of mosaics and decorated tiles and metal creations to be held at Potters Cottage Gallery, 321 Jumping Creek Road, Warrandyte opening on Saturday, April 20. The exhibition will run until Sunday, May 5. A number of local artists will be participating

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Redback raiders rejoice

The Warrandyte Redbacks came home weighed down by premiership pennants from the Eastern Districts Junior

Eastern Districts Junior
Basketball Association grand
finals on March 23.
The Redbacks had 16 teams
— nine girls and seven boys —
on the courts and eight of them
(five girls, three boys) went all
the way.

Prida 5 (1)

Pride of place went to the

the way.

Pride of place went to the Under-18 girls, coached by Emma Wood and playing for the A-grade perpetual trophy.

They had finished in third place after an uneven season but put it all together at the right time by defeating Koonung 71-33 in the second semi-final and downing minor premiers Balwyn for the first time this season in the preliminary final.

Warrandyte got home by a solitary point, 34-33, with a strong second-half comeback to face Eitham in the grand final.

Both teams suffered late withdrawals, Warrandyte losing Chelsea Ransom (alternate commitment) and Jess Kemp, who injured a knee in a junior championship game the previous night.

The opening minutes were tight with neither team able to

The opening minutes were tight with neither team able to

tight with neither team able to put a flow-on game together. Eltham began to do the better, however, and went into the half-time break leading 17-7.
Eltham opened the scoring in the second half and appeared to have the game in their keeping. Warrandyte were still down by 10 points going into the last 10 minutes but were hanging in there.

The gap closed dramatically when Melinda Walsham scored a three-point swish, reducing the deficit to five and a strong offensive rebound and goal to Carly Short put real pressure on Eltham.

The flow was going with Warrandyte, and Walsham again scored from outside to grab the lead for the Redbacks inside the last three minutes.

Eltham responded with two from the free throw line, but Kim Singh scored another of her trademark three-pointers and the Redbacks led by that margin with just over two minutes to go.

With just over a minute remaining, Elissia Demitris scored one from the free throw line to extend the lead to a critical four points.

Eltham ran into in foul trouble, but first Singh and then Walsham and Tori Oliver were unable to covert from the free throw line.

unable to covert from the free throw line.
But time had run out for the favourites and Demitris converted one free throw on the bell to give the Redbacks an unexpected win.
Star point guard Kim Singh

unexpected win.
Star point guard Kim Singh received the Most Determined Player award in what must have been a difficult choice.
Coach Wood was ecstatic with the win. "We were without two of our strongest players," she said, "but I knew if they were close going into the last few minutes they had the ability to do it".

minutes they had the ability to do it".

While not as dramatic, Warrandyte's other senior girls team, the Under-20s, were locked in battle with Koonung for the B-grade flag.

The Redbacks were without star guard Rachael Treeby and could field only six players.

It was slow going in the opening minutes, both sides missing what they should have converted, and Warrandyte led 7-6 with just over 11 minutes to go in the first half.

They finally got a cohesive game going and put on a number of unanswered goals. Sarah Jones was doing well on rebounds and Kylie Bevan was strong in defence.

Dee Arsenis scored twice just on the break to make it a 23-7 scoreline..

The second half was a mirror

The second half was a mirror of the first with scoring restricted in the opening minutes before both teams were able to produce a running



Warrandyte's premier Under-18A girls: Back row (left to right): Jess Kemp, Carly Short, Tori Oliver, Rebecca Gardiner. Elissa Demitris. Front: Kim Singh (MDP), Emma Wood (with perpetual trophy), Melinda Walsham.

game. Koonung were unable to narrow the gap, however, and the final score was a very comfortable 41-25.

comfortable 41-25. This was the final game for Warrandyte for a number of the girls, some of whom had played together since joining the club as Under-10s. A premiership was fitting culmination to their association with the Bedbacks. association with the Redbacks.

association with the Redbacks. Warrandyte had another Agrade girls side in action with Lorraine Parfitt's Under-14s up against Eltham.

The Redbacks had finished top of the ladder in A2 and had defeated Eltham in the first semi-final to earn the week's rest

rest.
Eltham won their preliminary final to set up a rematch with the Redbacks and started out the better, but there was little in the game and Warrandyte had their noses in front 5-4 at the break the break.

It was only in the last 10 minutes that the game opened up, Warrandyte leading the way and winning 18-11.

Point guard Louise Yates was

named MDP. Special mention should be made of Parfitt's second team, the Under-10's. They finished third in the elite Al-grade and although they did not win through to the grand final, they have had an outstanding season, highlighted by their defeat of Bulleen in a second semi-final Bulleen in a second semi-final

thriller. Watch for these girls in

watch for these girls in coming seasons.
Other winners for Warrandyte in the girls section were lan Coull's Under-16 B1s (defeating Ivanhoe 30-27) and Nick Peters' Under-16 B2s girls, who beat Nunawading Vikings 50-22.
Runners up were Anne

Nunawading Vikings 50-22. Runners up were Anne Cousens' Under-10C2s, going down 18-2 to Nunawading Vikings; Tristan Messerle's Under-12 A2s, who lost 28-17 to Eltham; Paul Sleeth's Under-14Cs, pipped 29-28 by Banyule; and Warwick Armstrong's Under-16Cs, beaten 25-12 by Ivanhoe.

Ivanhoe.

Warrandyte had seven boys teams through to the grand finals.

Highlight was the AR final in the Under-10 section away to the Nunawading Vikings. The Redbacks were slight favourites, having defeated Nunawading 33-27 in the first

As befitting an A-grade grand final, it was tight in the first half and the home side turned with an 11-9 lead.

Warrandyte came out the better in the second half, with Jordan Beltramin and Matt Molloy prominent, and held a three-point lead with just 30 seconds to go.

Nunawading went to the charity line and converted both to narrow the gap to one point, but the Redbacks had the ball and that should have been enough.

and that should have been enough.

But tragedy struck when the Vikings forced a turnover and scored from the broken play to grab a one-point lead with 10 seconds to go.

Coach Gavin Whitmore was frantic as Warrandyte brought the ball quickly down the court. An inside thrust was repelled by the Vikings but the ball came out to Andrew Clough, who put up the shot from the edge of the key with 2.3 seconds on the clock.

The crowd erupted as the ball

The crowd erupted as the ball deflected off the backboard and

deflected off the backboard and swished through the net to give the Redbacks the game 27-26. Warrandyte's other top sides were no so fortunate. Malcolm Anderson guided the Under-12s to a grand final appearance against Bulleen and the Redbacks were right in the game approaching half-time break, trailing by just a point. But Bulleen did the better in the final minute to jump to an 18-15 lead.

Bulleen's height started to tell in the second half and although Warrandyte fought it out right to the end, their shots were not dropping and they went down

dropping and they went down 56-30.

Tom Fitzpatrick was named MDP for a full-game effort.
The Under-14 boys coached

by Ian Wood came up against Balwyn, who had defeated them 42-28 in their semi-final. The Redbacks came back well to dispose of Balwyn 2 in the preliminary final.

The two best teams in the turned on a great exhibition of basketball, Warrandyte playing to a carefully-crafted strategy and leading 21-18 at the break. In the second half, Balwyn opened up a lead when they were able to convert on their offences but Warrandyte were denied.

denied.

Balwyn seemed well in control when the margin opened up to 11 points with just under five minutes to go, but the "Comeback Kids"—as they are known within the club—were lifting inspired by losh are known within the club—were lifting, inspired by Josh Collins and Damon Shute. The deficit was still nine points, but Balwyn had gone into a defensive pattern, eating into the remaining time.
Warrandyte stole the ball and made it a five-point ball game.

warranteyte stole the ball and made it a five-point ball game with less than two minutes on the clock and five points became just three with 9.6 seconds remaining after Daniel Noone was fouled going for a basket.

The Redbacks regained

asket. The Redbacks regained

The Redbacks regained possession and desperately but unsuccessfully hurled the ball at the basket as the final siren buzzer sounded.

Coach Wood was full of praise for the commitment and determination of his charges.

Two other Warrandyte boys teams were successful. Paul Haskings coached the Under-16 boys to a C-grade flag, coming back from a 12-point deficit with 10 minutes to go to overrun Nunawading by five.

Gregory Hales' Under-12 C-Grade boys also brought home the booty, holding out a determined Eltham side 31-25.

Other runners-up were Matt

Other runners-up were Matt Treeby's Under-10s, losing 20-12 to Eltham, and the Under-14s coached by Hayden Wall, who went down 36-21 to Park Orchards.

Boys prove their point

Three Redbacks teams took to the court over the Labour Day weekend in the Bulleen Coburg basketball

court over the Labour Day weekend in the Bulleen Coburg basketball tournament.

Most successful were the Under-12 boys of Damian Arsenis, who were going thorough Metro grading and had something to prove after being seeded in a lowly pool.

The young Redbacks made it to the final, accounting on the way for Eltham and Blackburn, teams which had made or were likely to make the Victorian championship in the Friday night competition.

Their opponents in the final were Bulleen, another Victorian championship side. Led by their tall centre, Bulleen opened up a 10-point lead early in the first quarter, but Warrandyte held together and challenged strongly, closing the gap to four points in the third quarter.

Bulleen were rattled but regrouped at the final change and asserted their authority to out winners by 10 points, 51-41.

Metro contenders make the grade

The second grading phase for the Metro basketball Friday night competition has been completed, with the final games played on March 24. Lorraine Parfitt's Under-12 girls had clearly been wrongly graded and easily defeated all opponents. Their final hit-out was against Bulleen in the opening game on March 23 at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre. A half-time lead of 11-8 was

23 at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre.

A half-time lead of 11-8 was converted into a 28-17 final score, the game confirming the team's presence in the Metro 2 competition and earning them a shot at a place in Metro 1.

This grading game was against the Ringwood Hawks the following Sunday at Waverley.

It was a physical game, with the better-drilled Hawks always appearing in control. They led 21-14 at the break and maintained the pressure in the second half, but the final scoreline of 43-31 reflected well on the Redbacks. Ringwood had a very dominant scorer who put away all but five of their

points. For Warrandyte, Ashlee Collins put in a fine effort, well supported by Kirra Solty under the basket.

The result means that the girls will be in Metro 2, a situation with which coach Parfitt was not unhappy.

"These are young girls and they need to be in a grade where they are competitive enough to learn and develop," she said.

A similar story was in store for Parfitt's second side, the Under-16 girls. Their efforts in the second round grading phase had guaranteed this team a spot in Metro 3, but with an opportunity for one of the final spots in Metro 2.

A win in either of their two games on the Sunday would have taken them to the higher level.

Their opening encounter was with

to the higher level.

Their opening encounter was with Doncaster, whom they had narrowly defeated twice in previous grading games. The game was played at Waverley in oppressive conditions which clearly affected both teams.

The tempo was virtually slow motion

with little zip or sparkle from either side. Doncaster lasted the better to win 21-18.

side. Doncaster lasted the better to win 21-18.
Warrandyte's last chance — after just an hour's break — was against Kilsyth. The Redbacks started slowly and soon it was clear they were outclassed. The final score as 53-14.
The Warrandyte girls were not too disappointed and are looking forward to the Metro 3 competition which starts late this month.

After a tiring pre-grading season, with two Friday night teams and commitments to a number of teams on Saturday, coach Parfitt is taking a wellearned break, attending the folk festival at Byron Bay.
Hopefully, she won't find the lifestyle in northern New South Wales too enjoyable and decide not to come back.
The final result of the grading season

enjoyable and decide back.
The final result of the grading season is that Warrandyte have one of their strongest representations in the higher Metro competition for some years.
The Under-12 and Under-16 teams

her Under-18 girls who confirmed their presence in Metro 2 with an emphatic win over Doncaster on March 21.

There was just a point in it midway through the second half, but, inspired by guard Simone Gemmel, the Redbacks powered away to open up an 18-point lead 18-point lead.

18-point lead.

Doncaster narrowed the margin at the end but were never in the hunt, going down by 49-36.

Warrandyte's success is rounded out by the performance of Damian Arsenis' Under-12 boys. Again, these boys clearly were wrongly graded and unbeaten.

unbeaten.

Their final hit-out produced a 14point win over Diamond Valley,
highlighted by strong games from Ryan
Holloway and Daniel Hughes.

The team are in Metro 1, only the
third Warrandyte boys team in this
grade.

Coach Arsenis predicts a strong performance from his boys and a place in the finals.



Winners all

Two of Warrandyte Tennis Club's three premier junior teams in the Eastern Region Tennis summer competition Left: The Girls 13 winners (left to right): Nikita Maddocks, Holly Asker, Alison Trotter, Claire Bence, Tessa Cudmore. Right: The successful Boys 7 team (left to right): Julian Carter, Robert Hurle, Nick Lawrence, Daniel Wiltshire, Tom Jameson.



Dytes stumble at the second

WARRANDYTE fell at the second finals hurdle in their quest for the Wilkins Shield and

quest for the Wilkins Shield and automatic promotion to the prestigious Chandler Shield competition in the Ringwood District Cricket Association.

Coming off a resounding first semi-final win over St Andrews, Warrandyte could not counter the powerful bowling attack of North Ringwood in the preliminary final, falling 41 runs short of their 191 run target.

The loss, while disappointing, was far from demoralising as Warrandyte had come a long way from the start of the season which had seen the club relegate themselves from Chandler Shield for the first time in 22 years.

Chandler Shield for the first time in 22 years.

The club were forced to undergo a major transform-ation as RDCA rules demanded that Chandler Shield clubs must field four senior teams and Warrandyte could muster only

Warrandyte could muster only three.

The loss of four regular senior players before the season opened placed further pressure on the club and the effort to make the finals was just reward for what has been a changing of the guard at the club.

Linder skinner Dave Mooney.

the guard at the club.

Under skipper Dave Mooney the senior eleven have blooded new talent in Matthew Sazenis and Cameron Cloke while other young players in Campbell Holland, Adam Beardall and Jason Cloke have made remarkable improvement in their second full seasons.

Beardall was one of the stars of the preliminary final, taking four wickets, while Sazenis was equally impressive in the first semi-final, taking 4-73 in a marathon 24- over spell.

Chairman of selectors John

First eleven go down fighting

Chapman said the development

Chapman said the development of junior players was the most significant event of the season. "We are doing our best to promote young local players and it is remarkable that of the 11 players to represent Warrandyte in the preliminary final, 10 played junior cricket with Warrandyte Cricket Club," he said.

"We want to see more young players given the chance and this year Under-16 players such as Justin Cleaves, Adam Gamble and Ben Taylor have all made good impressions in the

Gamble and Ben Taylor have all made good impressions in the second eleven."

In the semi-final against the powerful St Andrews batting line-up, the Warrandyte bowlers toiled hard to restrict their opponents to 269, with Sazenis, last year's Under-16 captain, taking his four wickets with a sustained spell of orthodox left-arm spin.

He was well supported by a

orthodox left-arm spin.

He was well supported by a fielding effort that saved at least 40 runs.

Warrandyte set about the daunting task of making 270 to win with openers Mick Day and Steve Bell setting a steady pace before Day was dismissed. steve Bell setting a steady pace before Day was dismissed controversially. His brother, Cameron, came to the wicket and he and Bell combined to take the score to 140 with Bell suffering another controversial lbw decision. But his controlled innings of 53 gave Warrandyte the start

they needed.

The day, however, belonged to Cameron Day.
In his best-ever innings for Warrandyte, the talented strokemaker played shots to all corners of the ground and two magnificent pull shots that both cleared the fence by 40 metres highlighted a match-winning highlighted a match-winning

cleared the fence by 40 metres highlighted a match-winning innings.

He was 83 not out when Warrandyte achieved their target with eight overs remaining.

The only disappointment of a hugely successful day was that Day was not rewarded with a much-deserved century.

North Ringwood batted first in the preliminary final and were tied down by some typically accurate bowling from veterans Gerald Walshe and Chris Snaidero.

It was Snaidero who gained the first two breaks but at 2-92 at tea, North Ringwood looked set for a commanding score.

But after tea, in stepped Adam Beardall, who was named in the team when Sazenis became unavailable because of his selection for a schoolboys tour of New Zealand.

Beardall mesmerised the North Ringwood batsmen with

Beardall mesmerised the North Ringwood batsmen with his leg spin and took four quick wickets to turn the game in Warrandyte's favour. Snaidero came back into the attack to take another two wickets while his long-time

partner Walshe tied up an end with an accurate spell.

The 191 run target seemed well within Warrandyte's grasp but the loss of Steve Bell early in the innings and the quick dismissal of Cameron Day put the batting under unexpected pressure.

the batting under unexpected pressure.

Matt Chapman joined Mick Day and the two set about consolidating the innings. Warrandyte were back on track until minutes before tea when Chapman was bowled for a disciplined 24.

There was little in the match with the tea time score at 3-93, but Warrandyte lost quick wickets soon after the break and when Day was dismissed for a patient 53, the cause was lost.

Walshe and Dean Gidley hit out for a 23-run ninth-wicket stand but unfortunately it was all in vain.

Warrandyte will be looking to

Warrandyte will be looking to further strengthen their line-up for next season and again will turn to young players with long futures at the club.

Depth is essential in the RDCA competition which this season has seen the powerful North Croydon — along with Warrandyte one of only three clubs never to have been relegated from Chandler Shield — drop down to Wilkins Shield level.

● The club's newly-formed one-day team were defeated in the first semi-final by eventual premiers South Ringwood. Warrandyte batted first and looked in a winning position with 221 off the allotted 35

overs.

But South Ringwood pounced on the Warrandyte attack and scored the runs with an over to spare.



Bowling award winners (left to right): Jake Sheriff (Under-12/3), Tom Maddocks (Under-12/1) and Chris Douglas (Under-14/2)

'Payday' for cricket kids

Presentation Day on March 24 brought down the curtain on a successful season for Warrandyte Cricket Club's juniors.

The Under-14/2s. one of four junior teams fielded, made the finals. but were eliminated in the semi-finals by Mooroolbark. WCC president Robert White thanked all junior players and their parents for their dedication and hard work throughout the season.

All players from the Under 14.

the season.
All players from the Under-14s and two Under-12 sides were presented with participation medals.
Award winners:
Under-14/2: Batting: Shane Thomas; bowling: Chris Douglas; Coach's Award: Daniel Kittelty; fielding: Lachlan Beggs.
Under-12/1s: Batting: Ayrton Dehmel; bowling: Tom Maddocks; Coach's Award: Patrick Lang; fielding: Tyson Rees.
Under-12/3s: Batting: Jamie Brierley; bowling: Jake Sheriff; Coach's Award: Thomas Lavery; fielding: Chris Carver.



Aboue. 10p Helders (Holder-left): Chris Carver (Under-12/3), Lachlan Beggs (Under-14/2) and Tyson Rees (Under-12/1).

Right: Batting awards: Agni. Builing awards; Jamie Brierly (Under-12/ 3, left) and Shane Thomas (Under-14/2. Absent: Ayrton Dehmel (Under-12/1).

Below: Coaches' award winners (from left): Tom Lavery (Under-12/3), Daniel Kittelty (Under-14/ 2) and Patrick Lang (Under-12/3).





Skipper walks away with top award

Warrandyte Cricket Club skipper Dave Mooney has won the Jack McAuley Shield as the champion player in the First XI. In his first year as captain, Mooney had one of his best and most consistent season

one of his best and most consistent season with the bat, scoring more than 400 runs. It was an outstanding effort from Mooney, who combined the difficult task of wicketkeeping with both captaincy and batting in the middle order.

The win was announced at the club's presentation night last month.

The winner of the Darryl Valentine Memorial Award for club champion in senior grades other than the first eleven,

was Robert Dodge, an outstanding all-rounder in the club's one day side. Fourteen-year-old Justin Cleaves was named the winner of the Maria McGhee Memorial Trophy for the best-performed

Memorial Trophy for the best-performed junior in the senior elevens. Cleaves kept wicket for the second eleven and is quickly developing into a handy middle order batsman.

The Les Adams Memorial Shield for the champion junior player was won by Under-16 all-rounder Ben Taylor.

Club president Robert White was awarded life membership of the club.

Seniors: Batting: Dave Mooney; bowling: Campbell Holland; fielding Cameron Day; Captain's Award, Adam Beardall.
Seconds: Batting: Nick Fazzolari; bowling: Brett Kline; fielding: John Prangley; Captain's Award: Craig Lincoln.
Thirds: Batting: Nathan Croft; bowling: no award; fielding: Richard Owen; Captain's Award: Gavin Andrew.
One-day side: Batting: Guy Hart; bowling: Nat Cook; fielding: Sam Muir; Captain's Award: Shane Cook.
Under-16s: Batting: Blake Morgan; bowling: Adam Gamble: fielding: Ben Taylor; Coach's Award: Jarrad Taylor.

Tennis juniors show the way

By JUDY GREEN

Three Warrandyte junior teams and one senior team made the grand finals of the Eastern Region Tennis summer competition

Eastern Region Tennis summer competition last month.

And the youngsters showed the way.
The senior Warrandyte Tennis Club team, men's Section 8, were narrowly defeated by Willison Park, but the junior sides were all successful in close matches.
Boys 7, who finished second on the ladder, defeated Selby three sets 41 games to three sets 35 games. This team included Daniel Wiltshire, Robert Hurle, Nick Lawrence, Tom Jameson and Julian Carter.
Boys 11 (Adam Waugh, Joel Greve, Tulloch Greve, Michael Cannington Alex McPhee-Browne and Kyle Robinson) defeated Heathmont five sets 35 games to three sets 38 games. Both these teams play singles and doubles.
Girls 13, playing only doubles, came from fourth on the ladder to beat Batterham Park three sets 28 games to three sets 22 games. This team included Alison Trotter, Claire Bence, Tessa Cudmore, Niklta Maddocks and Holly Asker.
The Warrandyte club have submitted 13 junior and four senior teams for the upcoming Eastern Region Tennis winter season.



Warrandyte Tennis Club's victorious Boys 11 team (left to right): Kyle Robinson, Joel Greve, Alex McPhee-Brown, Tulloch Greve, Michael Cannington, Adam Waugh. More tennis pictures Page 17.

Bloods' first-up fiasco

Wantirna South give us a hell of a hiding

By LEE TINDALE

Warrandyte Football Club's 2002 EFL Third Division season started on April 6 in the worst imaginable way — with a 61-point hiding at home from Wantirna South.

The final score was 15.21 (111) to 7.8 (50) and if the visitors had kicked anything like straight it wouldn't have been a game but a shame.

Some patriotic wag in the crowd suggested that because the Bloods won the last quarter they should have been awarded the game. But we won that quarter only on the scoreboard, kicking 2.3 to 10 behinds as Wantirna Saouth continued to dominate proceedings.

As coach Scott Hunter said in the rooms: "They made us look third-rate, not just second-rate."

To add to their woes,

the rooms: "They made us look third-rate, not just second-rate."

To add to their woes, Warrandyte lost one of their favourite sons, John O'Brien, with a career-threatening knee injury 13 minutes into the game. The three-time club champion had returned to the Bloods in a defensive role after a one-season coaching stint with Second Division club Knox.

Warrandyte went into the game pretty confident, knowing they had recruited well but fully aware the opposition hadn't been idle in the off-season either.

There were five new faces in the line-up — Stuart Wynd, Adam Barlow, Chris Harvie and Darren Payne — from East Burwood in Division 1 — and outstanding former junior Piers Brown A "new old" face was

outstanding former junior Piers Brown. A "new old" face was prolific goalkicker Chris Quinlan, returning after a two-year-absence.



Scott Hunter ... not a happy

The first several minutes gave no indication of the carnage that was to follow.

All Warrandyte eyes were on star recruit Wynd at full-forward and he was quickly into the thick of things.

Wynd snapped the first score of the match — a behind — after six minuites of indecisive play and followed up immediately with a goal courtesy of a pass from the lively Matt Blagrove.

But they were to be our sole contributions to the scoreboard for the quarter.

It took Wantirna South just a minute to reply and two minutes to kick their second goal.

They were looking sharper.

goal.

They were looking sharper than the home side, creating loose men and hunting in packs. It wasn't a pretty sight for local supporters.

supporters.
O'Brien, who'd already had five touches in defence went down at the 13-minute mark down at the 13-minute mark and, amazingly, the umpire allowed play to continue in the Bloods stalwart's vicinity as he lay on the ground in obvious pain. Play was eventually stopped and O'Brien was stretchered from the field.

A terrible mistake in defence let Wantirna South in for their third goal at 18 minutes and another shocker a minute later produce their fourth.

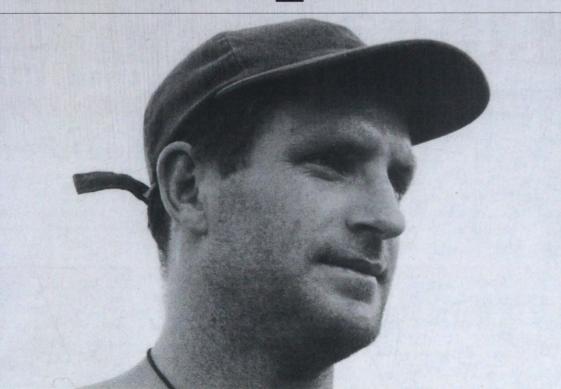
At the other end of the ground, Wynd was in danger of dying of starvation, so rarely was the ball crossing the Warrandyte half-forward line.

Wantirna South were playing

Wantima South were playing by far the smarter football while the Bloods made every mistake in the book and invented a few of their own.



John O'Brien ... grand career



Stuart Wynd ... starved of opportunities in his debut for Bloods.

The visitors kicked a behind which should have been a goal at 26 minutes but atoned straight away for that as the Warrandyte defence opened up again to go into the first change with a 25-point lead, 5.2 (32) to 1.1 (7).

Coach Hunter gave his boys a decent serve in the huddle. "This is a five-minute break," he told them, "but I'm going to ask the umpires to make it 15 minutes so we can go through all out faults!

"We are playing shithouse football!"

The Bloods appeared to have

football!"

The Bloods appeared to have got the message when Barlow snapped a goal three minutes in, but Wantirna South responded by easily penetrating a ragged defence six minutes later.

Barlow to Wynd a minute later reduced the deficit to 20 points, but a freakish long-bomb snap from the boundary blew it out again.

again.
Matt Wood, last seasons's best and fairest, kept us in touch after picking up an errant pass at 24 minutes — but that was as close as Warrandyte were going to get in this particular game of football.

Let the partying begin

Warrandyte Football Club had drawn up a busy social calendar for the new season.

The events kick off with a cocktail night at the clubrooms

after the away emnounter with the Waverley Blues on April 13. Admission is \$30, which covers all drinks.

On April 27, presentations will be made at Club Kilsyth after the game against that club and May 11 is '70s and '80s Night (admission \$5) after the home match against Mooroolbark.

All inquiries to secretary James Logan (0411 223418).

Wantirna South responded

Wantirna South responded immediately and carried a 30-point lead — 8.7 (55) to 4.1 (25) — into the long break.

There was to be no respite in the second half. Wantirna took full advantage of sloppy defence to goal after four minutes and their centre half-forward Max Gasparoni, an unlikely-looking footballer who nonetheless had been taking Warrandyte apart, was on the end of a great passage of play four minutes later for their 10th.

Further majors at nine, 17, 20 22, and 24 minutes — two of them to that pest Gasparoni — were punctuated only by Aidan Davey, who marked and kicked truly at 21 minutes.

Burly blood Mark Gasparotto had a couple of late chances, but flying long shots went wide of the mark,

of the mark,
At three-quarter time it was a
sorry 15.11 (101) to 5.5 (35).
The game well and truly lost,
Hunter appealed to his players
to put some respectability on
the scoreboard, to reduce the
goals margin to a single digit.
"Wo've got better players then

"We've got better players than last year, yet we're playing worse than last year," he said.
Wynd was moved to centre half-forward to get him into the play and he showed his undoubted class a couple of times

But Wantirna South continued to pepper the goals, thankfully

without finding the big opening. As they continued to kick behinds, Bloods skipper Chris Cornell struck twice, at 18 and 28 minutes, but the final siren was blessed relief.

"What you saw out there today was lack of care on our part," Hunter told the Diary.
"And what happened out there

today was lack of care on our part," Hunter told the *Diary*. "And what happened out there today won't be tolerated. Warrandyte's goalkickers were Wynd 2, Cornell 2, Barlow, Wood and Davey.

Their best were Blagrove, Wood, Rick Templeton and Adam Borwick.

The reserves were no match

The reserves were no match

The reserves were no match for last season's grand finalists and were beaten by 62 points, 15.11 (101) to 5.9 (39).

Their best were Stewart Rough, James Riley and Glen Carle.

• As if a couple of beltings weren't bad enough, Warrandyte players had to wait for showers after their games.

New showers which are part of clubroom improvements being made by Manningham council were not ready and the EFL ruled that the visitors should have first use of the should have first use of the

Mifsud's magnificent midgets

Clem Mifsud describes coaching Under-9 footballers as "rather like herding fish". But more than anyone else at Warrandyte Junior Football Club, he realises the importance of developing football know-how in ones

Mifsud is coach of the Under-9 Tackers, many of whom are also involved in the far-reaching Auskick

program.
And this season's Tackers have found immediate

And this season's reactive success, winning a recent trial match against Montmorency.

"I was feeling the hot breath of death from the selectors — namely the mothers expecting success — and fortunately the boys responded magnificently," Mifsud said.

"The boys play under amended rules allowing for the learning of skills in a safe environment," the coach said.

"They receive on-field



Clem Mifsud

coaching during their games so they gain an appreciation of football rules and team

"Whatever happens, we make sure all the players receive support and

encouragement before, during and after every game," he said. Mifsud has a number of simple goals for the team this year:

Mifsud has a number of simple goals for the team this year:

To ensure all the boys have fun.
To ensure they all develop their football and learn team skills.
To win a few games.
"Oh, and to retain some degree of sanity and keep the mothers happy," he said.
"This age group is critical to the long-term success of the junior and senior clubs. Hopefully, many of these boys will continue to play with the club until their senior years.
"Who knows, in 2012 we may be standing on the terraces encouraging names like Burns, Buzzini, Colborne-Veel, Fitzpatrick, Harahap, Hayton, Jones, Crajnc, Millardet, Mifsud, Potter, Sproule-Carroll and Vear as they win the seniors premiership — and it all started here."

Juniors fielding 10 and they're raring to go!

By DENNIS J. HOIBERG

Warrandyte Junior Football Club will field 10 teams — from Under-9s through to Under-17 Colts — in the new season, which starts on April

Colts — in the new season, which starts on April 14.

The club have about 200 players registered and while there are still vacancies at some age levels, most sides are well stocked and team combinations are starting to emerge.

"We recently had very successful trial games for all the years. We won most," club president Mathew Matheou told the Diary.

"These games gave the coaches and teams the opportunity to fine-tune some combinations and test-run some tactics," he said.

A development this year is the introduction of a second Colts team.

"Yes, we have two teams at Colts level, which will test the club. But we feel ready for this opportunity," Matheou said.

"The very pleasing thing is that we have a

number of ex-juniors and current senior players

number of ex-juniors and current senior players as coaches and runners.

"We really welcome this level of cooperation as this allows us to build for the future.

"We now have the opportunity for a career path for a player to join at Auskick, start at the Tackers, play to the Under-17s and, if the seniors are able to achieve their ambitions, then play for the Under-18s and ultimately the seniors.

"A number of our Colts are already in train on squads and this is drafting territory for AFL clubs," Matheou said.

"The other extremely pleasing thing about the year so far has been the high level of parental involvement in the organising and running of the teams.

"We are a family club and the more people we can get involved the better it is for everybody." For more information about the activities of the junior club, contact Matheou on 0418 542434 or secretary Kevin O'Mara (9844 4631).



WARRANDYTE









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WARRANDYTE'S BEST

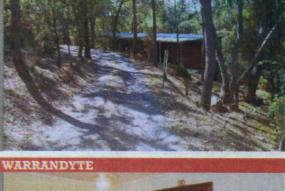
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