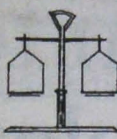


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# Playground offer

## 'It's about giving back to the community'

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

A Warrandyte businessman is offering Manningham council playground equipment to the value of \$20,000 following the disclosure that the 20 year-old play facilities at Stiggants Reserve are to be removed.

Last month a council spokesperson announced children would have to use "sticks and dirt" and be more creative in their play after the equipment at Stiggants is demolished because it does not conform to safety requirements.

According to council, the playground's site on the hill and the proximity of trees would also make any upgrade difficult.

Ken Aly, who has lived in Warrandyte since 1986, can't imagine Stiggants Reserve without a playground. "Our kids Nicole and Nathan are adults now but we used to take them there all the time—during the holidays, fetes, the festivals."

Now through his company Australasian Playgrounds he is offering a community win for children, although he doesn't know how the offer will be received. Mr Aly's wife Linda, son, daughter and son-in-law are all involved in the business.

"I'd be happy to provide playground equipment to the value of \$20,000 at no charge," Mr Aly said. "Council can install it and do the mulch and edging and we'd be happy to supervise."

"I think it's been a rash decision to remove the playground and I "hope Manningham council will accept the offer—it would let them off the hook. Playground equipment is made to conform to slopes."

Mr Aly said he would like to supply slides, climbers, monkey bars and possibly a Federation-style rotunda, all to Australian Standards specifications. He said \$20,000 would provide probably twice as much equipment as there is

**CLYDE & OCKER**



"What the kids lose on the council roundabout, Ock, they pick up on the community swing!"

now and he would consult the community as to what form it should take.

Australasian Playgrounds, one of the largest playground companies in Victoria, builds about 150 playgrounds throughout the state each year, mainly at primary schools.

The company built new play facilities at Warrandyte Primary School about three years ago and provided shade cover for Andersons Creek Primary. The company also donated a set of equipment to a new school in East Timor about six months ago.

"We give cash and raffle prizes to the schools because parents do so much of the fundraising," Mr Aly said. "It's about giving back to the community."

For the offer to be considered, Australasian Playgrounds is required to make a formal submission to Manningham council, a council spokesperson said. A management plan for Stiggants and the Warrandyte river reserve is due for completion later this year.

● LETTERS: Page 4



Community garden guru David Watson gives chief police commissioner Christine Nixon tips on growing winter vegies. ● See pages 10 & 11. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

**CYRIL**

By PAUL WILLIAMS




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# An elementary solution to Coatsey's mobility problem




About 9.30 on the morning of Saturday, May 18, Page 2 living, breathing legend Alan "Coatsey" Koetsveld got on the mobile to his mechanic mate Darryl Speers at his Ringwood workshop. "Me van won't go," he bleated, "and I'm stuck here in Harris Gully Road!" Unfortunately, he caught Darryl at a bad moment when he was unable to provide roadside assist: "Can't help you. I'm without a vehicle right now. You'll have to get a tow truck." Which Coatsey did — at a cost of \$66 to have himself and his beloved panel van delivered into Darryl's TLC. Now Darryl is a very fine mechanic indeed — but a wet-behind-the-ears first-day apprentice could have diagnosed the trouble with comparable authority and speed: "You're out of gas!"

## IN RED & WHITE





We've given Tom Kerkhof an inordinate amount of space in this edition — and wait, there's more! What's TV Tommy doing embracing this guy with the Zapata moustache? The question is answered in full on Page 22.



"Oh," said Coatsey, desperately reaching inside that craggy, weather-beaten head of his for a way to keep this information out of the hands of your columnist and his tormentor. But it was a futile mental exercise. When Smokey walked into the local footy a few hours later, the terraces were abuzz with the story and informants had formed long queues.




It wasn't a great week for Coatsey. Quite apart from being as embarrassed as anyone so thick-skinned could be about the panel van fiasco, his Australian cattle dog ate his favourite T-shirt, a cute lilac number Neighbourhood House gave him for driving their float in the Warrandyte Festival parade. Coatsey's dog is named Matey-Boy but answers more readily to Shutupstupid, with which he is far more familiar.




Trevor McBain, of Wattleblossom Road, has become quite the home handyman in his semi-retirement. It only took him two-and-a-half years to install a spa bath and, that little chore out of the way, he decided to paint the inside of the house. Trevor was about to start on the bathroom as wife Barbara left for tennis the other day and he carefully removed the inside door handle rather than paint around it — a piece of thinking that managed to

lock him in—paint, brushes et cetera in the hall outside. Not for one moment contemplating panic, he carefully laid out the bathroom towels on the floor, lay down on them and went to sleep. He was still snoring when Barbara arrived home four hours later to release him.




We don't know the breeding of Sue Munro's new dog, but we believe it's called Chloe. It might more appropriately have been named Trouble. Sue, wife of 1999 Warrandyte footy club premiership coach Lex, spent a pretty penny putting Chloe through an upmarket obedience school while they were moving into their new home in Cemetery Road, but we doubt if the pooch graduated with honours. Because, having moved in, Chloe was careering disobediently around the garden and Sue, in hot pursuit, fell into the fishpond and did a knee. Had a neighbour not come to her aid she might still have been sitting in the pond when Lex arrived home from work Bad girl, Chloe!




Neil "Bozo" Dusting made a desperate, last-minute and vain attempt to escape last month's column by offering us a trade-off. "Immunity for me in exchange for a story about Tommy Kerkhof," he said. Gee,

don't know about that, we replied, and anyway we like to try before we buy, so let's hear it. "Okay, well Tom was having a really good round of golf at Rosanna and would have won the main trophy — except his playing partner Eddie Oehlmann marked his card wrongly and Tom was disqualified!" Is that it? "No, no. You see, Eddy's just bought a block of land in Yarra Street and was going to get Tom to put up the TV antenna when the house was built — but relations are so strained after that golf game that Tom looks like losing a job as well as the trophy and one stroke off his handicap the round cost him. Isn't that hilarious?" Not really, Bozo, and we worry about the direction your sense of humour is taking. But the press is already running and the story about your very skimpy and flippant vice-president's report to the tennis club's AGM is irretrievable. Sorry about that — but we're still mates, aren't we?




It's fair to say that Tom Kerkhof's golf has been a mixed bag lately. Tom is one of a contingent of local swingers who make an annual pilgrimage to Rich River and looked like being the hero of one of the day's comps on their latest trip last month. They were playing a fiercely competitive game called Golden Egg, which

involves rotating the use of a yellow ball among teams of four, instant disqualification the penalty for losing it. Tom's four had the comp by the throat when he split the middle with a screaming tee shot on the 18th — but imagine his dismay when a crow took a fancy to the egg, swooped and carried it away. Tom immediately dispatched partner Barry Withers to pursue the bird on his golf cart and the ball was found dropped in the adjoining fairway. The egg was replaced in roughly its original position and Tom, who's a pretty straight shooter, hooked it horribly into a deep water hazard. Lost forever. Just like the comp.



It warms our collective hearts here at the Diary to realise we are not alone, that there are volunteers out there willing to roll up their sleeves and give us a chop out. We advertised in the last edition for a copy typist to replace the long-serving Hellena Allan, who'll be staying with us as a poet but no longer has the time to input yards of deathless prose each month. The ink was barely dry when Karen Nichol, Liz Wood and Jackie Jenkins were on the phone offering their services. We snapped up Karen as the first caller and Liz, Jackie and two other later respondents are on stand-by. Thanks heaps to all of you, ladies.



Bushy needlewood (*Hakea decurrens*) might not sound like the most comfortable thing to grow in your garden — but don't let the name put you off, says Cathy Willis, our resident native flora expert. "It's a very attractive, fast-growing shrub that will grow just about anywhere," Cathy says. "Its white flowers are sweetly scented and because it is dense and prickly it provides ideal safe habitat for small birds." Bushy needlewood is available right now from the Friends of Warrandyte State Park nursery at Pound Bend and can be yours by giving Cathy a call on 0418 142 297.



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# WARRANDYTE DIARY

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**Copy closes last Friday of each month**

### OUR NEWSPAPER

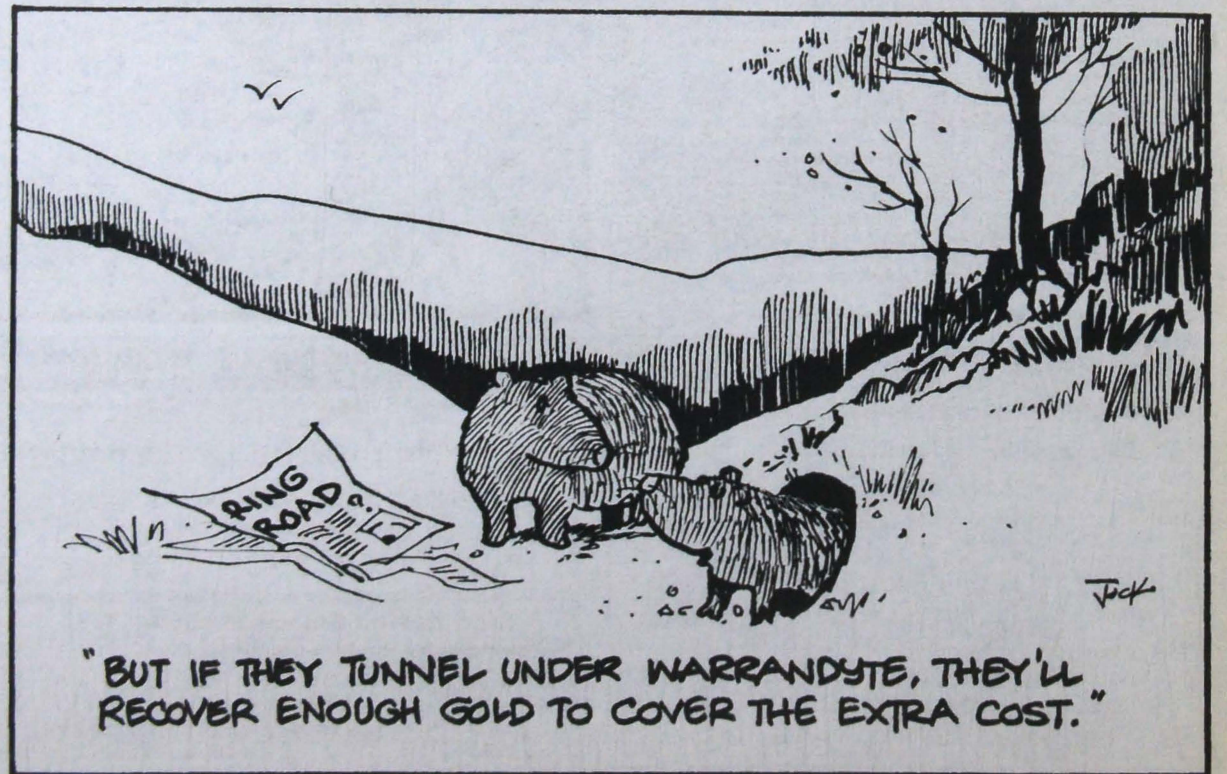
The Warrandyte Diary was established in 1970 as a small local newsletter. Although it has developed over the years, it has retained its strong community character, being produced by volunteers with only one aim: to serve its community. Financed solely through advertising, it guards its not-for-profit, 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.

## OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH





# BATTLE FOR THE GREEN WEDGE

# Pressure groups rally

## Protect what is left, government urged

By FIA CLENDINNEN

Pressure is increasing on the state government to protect the Green Wedge through legislation.

A total of 132 community and environmental groups from not only the Nillumbik/Manningham Green Wedge, but also from the 10 other green wedges across Melbourne, have joined together to form the Green Wedge Coalition (GWC).

The GWC aims to "protect what is left of Melbourne's green wedges" and has warned the state government it will be judged severely by voters if it does not stand firm on its pre-election pledge to preserve the green wedges.

Kahn Franke, a Smith's Gully resident and chairman of the local Green Wedge Protection Group, was one of the key players in the formation of the new metropolitan wide coalition.

He stressed that state government support was crucial and pointed out that although both the Liberal Party and the ALP have declared their commitment to the green wedges, neither party has taken any practical steps to ensure the long term survival of the green wedges.

"Without a doubt, since 1971 when this was first put forward by the Hamer government, both sides of the political spectrum have supported the planning scheme," Mr Franke told the *Diary*.

"But none of them have done anything concrete about putting it into legislation. We've been arguing that point for quite a while because without

it the green wedges are doomed. "The community will not be able to afford to stop the onslaught. And Melbourne can look forward to not being one of the most livable cities in the world. It can become just a huge suburban jungle."

Mr Franke said that his ongoing concern for the Green Wedge had been intensified by the election of the new Nillumbik council. Like many in the community, Mr Franke feared the current council was pro-development.

He claimed it had voted to remove conditions on two recent planning applications and that this was an example of the council's lack of commitment to the environment. The conditions referred to required indigenous planting along creeks, waterways and drainage lines, in accordance with Nillumbik's Planning Scheme, as well as State Planning Policy.

Mr Franke said residents could not be expected to ensure that the council followed its own policies.

But Bob Stubbings, who was elected councillor for Yanakie ward in March this year and is presently deputy mayor, flatly dismissed as "groundless" Mr Franke's fears that the current council did not support the Green Wedge. Cr Stubbings said the description of the council as "pro-development" was nothing more than campaign rhetoric, circulated amongst the community by those who were disappointed their own candidate had not been elected.

Cr Stubbings, who described himself



## Green Wedge Pie

- a cup of conscience
- a pinch of patience
- a litre of leavening logic
- stir with a sense of humus
- wholemeal base - go easy on the red herring
- garnish with indigenous greens
- reserve a serve for your children's children

as "green but not extreme", said current "councillors would not be living here if they didn't respect the Green Wedge".

However he did agree with Mr Franke one on point, that more support was needed from the state government, although Cr Stubbings referred to financial support in particular.

He said in contrast to other Victorian councils Nillumbik lacked any industries or other financial bases and had to rely solely on rates to raise revenue. "That's why our rates are so

high," he explained.

Cr Stubbings argued that because of this Nillumbik should be getting appropriate compensation in the form of grants from the state government.

The high level of Nillumbik's rates was an important campaign issue during the recent council elections, with most of the present councillors promising to deliver a reduction.

But Cr Stubbings warned that a cut in rates was unlikely. "I can't see the rates being lowered, but I won't preempt the council decision," he said.

"There are a lot of budget processes to go through before we know where we stand."

● **Manningham council's Green Wedge review committee have completed their deliberations. Their report will be considered at the council meeting on Tuesday, June 25.**



Green Wedge rules protect rural landscapes.

## Have your say

The premier, Steve Bracks, and four other members of state cabinet are visiting Nillumbik on Thursday, June 27. Members of the community are invited to participate.

"To take part in Victoria's Community Cabinet, you can make a formal submission and then come along and discuss it with ministers," a spokesperson told the *Diary*.

As well as the premier, ministers attending will be Bob Cameron (local government and WorkCover), Monica Gould (education services and youth affairs), Lynne Kosky (education and training) and Marsha Thompson (information and communication technology and small business).

Submission forms can be obtained by calling Information Victoria on 1300 366 356 between 8.30am and 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, or by email to: comcab@minstaff.vic.gov.au.

## Values will fall

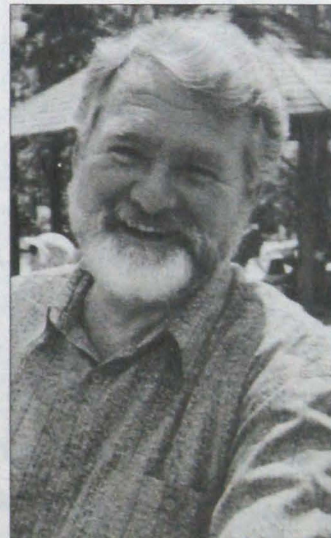
A Warrandyte estate agent believes that throwing the Green Wedge open for subdivision could threaten property values in the area.

"It'll be a bonanza for developers and the larger estate agents for a few years, but ultimately values will come down," Glenn Martin told the *Diary*.

"Values are high in Warrandyte, Park Orchards and Wonga Park because people will pay a premium to live in leafy, pleasant surroundings," he said. "Turn the area into a rash of brick and bitumen suburbs and sooner or later, the bottom will drop out of the market."

"We face the annual bushfire risk, transport is bad out here, roads are poorly maintained, and we lack a lot of services taken for granted in more closely settled areas."

"Going for us is our fantastic community spirit, the river and—most importantly—the Green Wedge. From a real estate point of view it's our most precious asset."



Glenn Martin

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# Who's picture is this?



Do you know who this is in the picture, where he is and what he's doing? More importantly, did you lose this photograph in Pound Road, Warrandyte sometime around the Sunday before Anzac Day? Someone did, and the finder handed it in at the Historical Society Museum. If you own it, you'll know what's written on the back. Call Jo Laurence on 9844 3694 if you've got a clue.

# Threat to playground 'appalling'

We are writing to you about the statements made in the May edition of the *Warrandyte Diary* about the playground in Stiggants Reserve being removed. We are appalled that the council would even consider removing this playground when it is enjoyed by so many local families plus the many visitors to Stiggants Reserve.

We have observed the playground nearly every day since it has been constructed in 1982 and it has been used extensively by many children of all ages. We hear children playing there regularly and

having a wonderful time. There does not seem to have been any problems in that last 20 years with the slope that the playground is on and in fact, we believe it enhances the children's enjoyment of the area.

My own nieces, nephews and friends' children have enjoyed this playground over the years.

We are very concerned that the council sees fit to spend money on ridiculous statues and sculptures throughout the municipality but cannot see fit to provide or upgrade a playground for tomorrow's future leaders and ratepayers,

## DEAR DIARY



the children of today.

It is our opinion that the council has not looked fully at the alternatives available for the playground or done a cost analysis for upgrading or replacing it.

We would like to make some suggestions regarding the playground.

1. Upgrade the existing area by replacing the equipment

most in need.

2. Build a new playground on the flat ground down near the barbeques.

3. Build a new playground on the flat ground at the bottom of the car park of the church in Yarra Street.

We would also like to be consulted about the Yarra River frontage management plan as our property fronts the Yarra River and believe we should have considerable input as we are long-term residents and do not envisage leaving the area.

Liz and Bill Wood  
Stiggant Street

## It was tunnel vision

Concerning the closing of the mines in Warrandyte.

It was stated in the *April Diary* that full consultation would be held with Friends of the State Park, historical society, etc. Yet Mary Lou Dixon of Westerfolds Park has gone ahead with the closing of all of the mines in Warrandyte, many of which have been open to the public for much of their 140 years existence.

She has thumbed her nose at these groups, not valuing the huge number of hours these volunteers spend improving the State Park and trying to preserve our valuable local heritage.

Some residents received a letter explaining that five mines in the Fourth Hill area were affected, yet no mention was

made of the capping of other mines, including an 1850s mine in Black Flat which is of special interest and has not allowed time for the historical society to photograph and video.

Capping means that this mine will be difficult to find in the future whereas gating would not. Our real mining history is being destroyed.

Also, bats seen roosting in the Johnson Tunnel this year were not considered.

Like the decision of people in Sydney to close our Commonwealth Bank, here is another example of people outside Warrandyte imposing their views on Warrandyte and its people and alienating them.

John Hanson  
Webb Street

## Playground plea

Because our church building is located right next to Stiggants Reserve, we get the opportunity to observe the significant numbers of small and large family and social groups that utilise the playground on almost a daily basis.

It is for this reason that we were disappointed to learn of a proposal to remove this significant public amenity.

Naturally, every precaution must be taken regarding safety standards and we understand that replacement is a costly business.

However, cost does not only have to be measured in dollar terms. While acknowledging the cost of replacing equipment, thoughts need also be given to the cost to those families and children who are deprived of playing and socialising in what is a very beautiful environment, should it be removed.

Part of the argument in favour of removal is that there should be no complaint because the new Federation playground has been built at the other end of town. However, we believe that there is room for both as they cater for different kinds of needs.

Our belief is that the Stiggants Reserve playground is an ideal spot for family groups to plan a picnic and enjoy playing with their children, to say nothing of the significant asset it is at times of large community events like the festival.

It is well worth our council's effort to reconsider its position, in the light of the valuable contribution the playground in Stiggants Reserve makes to the social fabric of the community in Warrandyte.

Peter Keep  
Pastor, Warrandyte  
Community Church

## Dog walking: a privilege to be respected

In reply to Trish Lincoln's letter "Don't make it a dog's dunny".

As a dog owner/walker, I consider it is a privilege to exercise my dog off-leash while I enjoy the wonderful bush sights and sounds along the Yarra River and I am very mindful of the trust placed in

dog owners by Manningham council.

Like the majority of dog walkers, I regularly hold back an involuntary reaction to gag as I pick up my dog's droppings. But it's the old story—the selfish minority spoil it for the responsible majority.

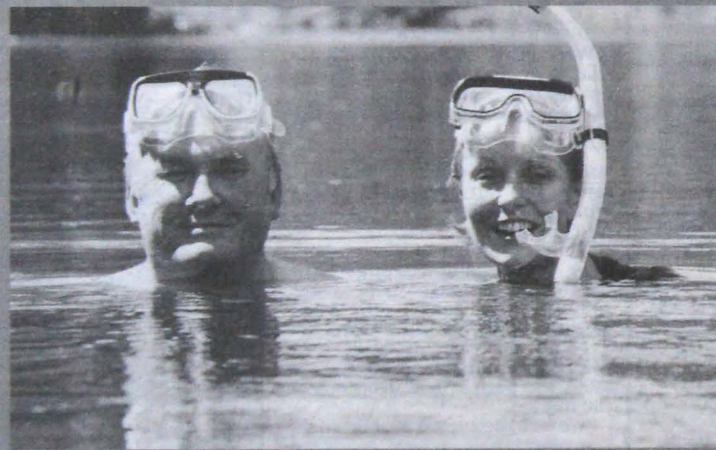
Following up Trish's idea that the council should provide plastic bags, at the Stiggants/Warrandyte Reserve Management Planning Committee meeting on Wednesday, February 22, most dog walkers present preferred to recycle their own plastic bags and not



cause extra expense. It has been scientifically proven that pet owners live longer and healthier lives. Why not join us, Trish?

Marion Renn  
by email

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# Closures postponed

## Big win on historic mines follows community action

By SAM DAVIES

The Warrandyte Community Association has scored its first big success, persuading Parks Victoria to shelve "indefinitely" plans to close local mines.

The decision comes at the end of a dramatic month with Parks Victoria beginning to close mines in the Black Flat area before due community consultation had taken place.

In April, the *Diary* revealed that mines in the Warrandyte State Park where to be closed due to health and safety concerns. Closing the mines was also seen as a way to prevent personal injury and vandalism to the historic sites. However, the proposal was greeted coolly by the community who saw the mines as part of Warrandyte's heritage.

Following representations by the Warrandyte Historical Society and intense lobbying by the community association and in particular by WCA committee member, Dr Ron Garrett, the decision was reversed on Friday, May 17, with plans to close the mines "indefinitely shelved pending full community consultation".

However, WCA is wary of claiming victory too early. Association secretary, Simon Kearney, told the *Diary*, "it's not a victory yet because it is not over yet. You can never tell with these things".

A spokesperson for Parks Victoria, Yarra district chief ranger Mary-Lou Dixon, would not rule out the eventual closing of the mines, citing ongoing public safety concerns as paramount.

"The key issue here is we have to address the risk, but in doing so we have to keep in mind the community," she said.

There is already a general consensus that vertical shafts do pose real risks. While many groups have accepted some mines will probably be closed in the future and access to others severely restricted, they are more concerned about the lack of sensitivity to community concern shown by Parks Victoria.

Ms Dixon concedes that Parks Victoria "hadn't considered" some elements raised by the community. One matter, mentioned by Dr Garrett in a briefing paper to the WCA, was the potential use of the mine tunnels as "wildfire refuges" for firefighters.

"The greatest concern expressed was that consultation with the community, known to be opposed to closure of the mine tunnels, had been absent, and information had been delivered in a cavalier fashion", the briefing paper said.

President of the Warrandyte Historical Society, Andy Bevan-Jones,

was also unimpressed. "Personally I felt Parks Victoria went about it in a manner that didn't allow the community to do much about it."

"We made a presentation to Mary-Lou Dixon and she made a verbal apology. I don't think she had understood the level of feeling about it."

Mr Bevan-Jones, however, praised WCA. "Full credit to them and it's good (for the group) to get runs on the board at such an early stage."

Ms Dixon has since promised that Parks Victoria would be liaising with the community in future discussions about the mines. "We are responding to the community, no question about it," she said.

With the failure of Parks Victoria to rule out the eventual closing of the mines, groups are now turning their attention to the problem of allowing limited public access to the tunnels. Locked gates, with keys available for guided tours by (for example) park rangers, historical society and Friends of the Warrandyte State Park, could serve this purpose. However, some locals have voiced concerns that the locks could be jammed with sticks or gum, thus denying access to everyone.

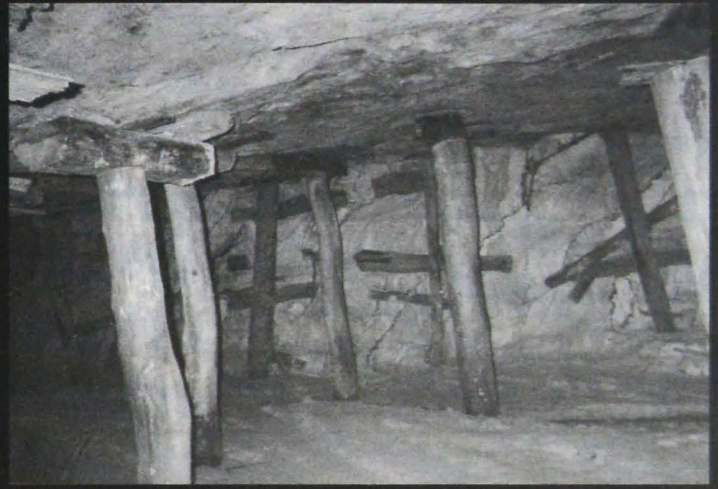
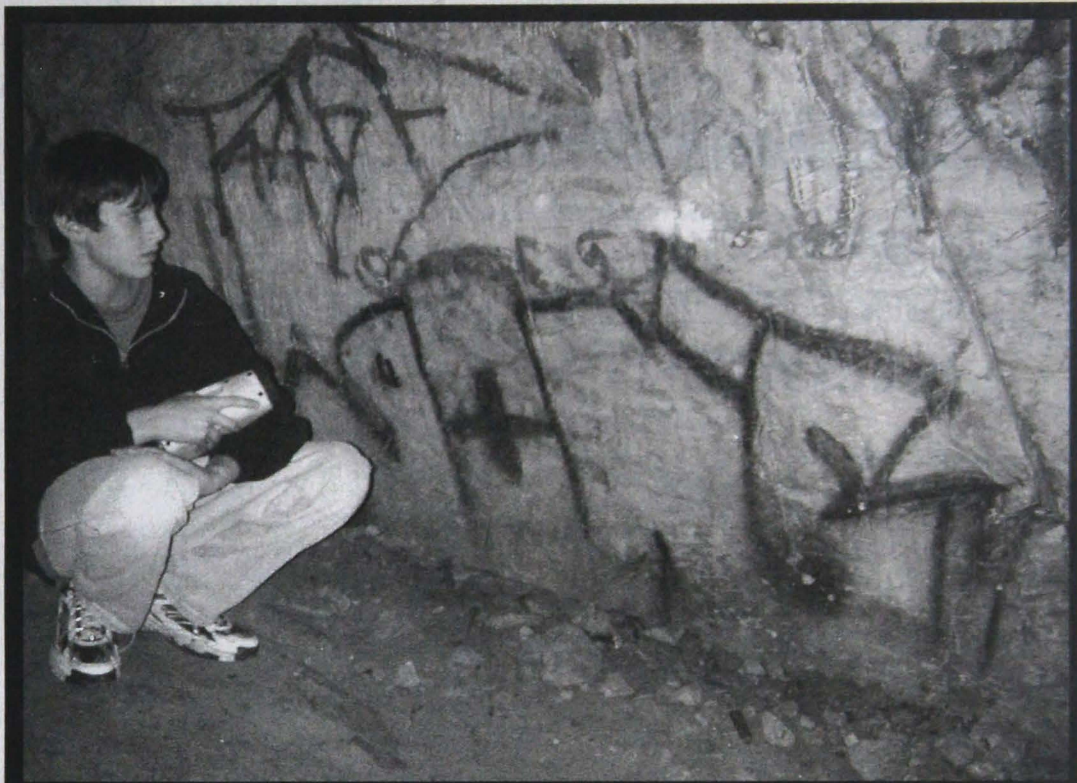
Gating the mines could also further endanger a threatened animal species. The rare Bent-winged bat is one of Warrandyte's numerous bat species. But unlike other bats, the Bent-winged bat roosts in caves, not trees. According to Lindy Lumsden from the Department of Natural Resources and Environment, "that makes Warrandyte the only roosting sites for these bats in the area".

During the breeding season, the females fly to a "maternity cave" located near Lakes Entrance. If the mines were gated, the flight paths taken by the bats for feeding and breeding may be compromised.

Although similar gates to the ones proposed for Warrandyte cover mines in the USA and Canada and do allow bats to pass through, Bent-winged bats do not generally like them.

During winter the bats go into semi-hibernation which makes them especially vulnerable. "If they sense people, they have to raise their body temperature to prepare to fly," Ms Lumsden said. "This can eat away their fat reserves and lead to starvation."

Mr Bevan-Jones suggested that gates could be installed a short distance into the tunnels, so as not to "ruin the aesthetics". He said he would be surprised to see the mines were left permanently open, but he is keen that the historical society, which leads guided tours of the mines, should be part of future discussions.



Top: Graffiti despoils walls in Geraghty's tunnel.

Above: Posts in upper cavern of the Crown mine as they have stood for more than a century. They were tightly wedged so they would crack and indicate an unstable area.

Left: Closing tunnels could threaten a number of migrating bats, including at least one endangered species.

Below: These shafts leading to the Crown mine in Black Flat have been "capped", preventing further archaeological research.

(Pictures by Peter Hanson and Stephen Reynolds)

## Two sides to the story

By CLIFF GREEN

Local history enthusiast Peter Hanson is concerned that both sides of the current debate about mine closures should be fully aired.

Mr Hanson, who has been exploring and researching Warrandyte mines since boyhood, strongly believes "there should have been appropriate consultation between Parks Victoria and local community groups as soon as the decision was made to conduct safety and heritage protection works; not after contractors had been organised".

He believes historic gold mine sites are too important an issue "not to have community input." Community outcry has now resulted in the halting of works and Parks Victoria has promised a full community consultation process.

However, he does believe the safety issue is real and gates are necessary, "so long as the gates are significantly stronger and are tamper-proof".

"The main problem is that some people throw caution out the window

and do not use common sense," he said. "The sad reality that they are all too often able to sue; potentially for millions, especially if it is deemed that sections of (the mines) were unsafe."

Unfortunately, a tiny percentage of visitors to the mines "do not respect them for their great historical significance, leaving behind just about anything you could imagine. Sometimes large fires are lit, staining the walls and ceiling." Graffiti is also a major problem, as are people "having a bit of a dig. Therefore everyone may have to be kept out," and only controlled entry allowed.

Warrandyte's place in the history of gold is important.

"The Warrandyte goldfield is etched in Victorian history as the site of some of the earliest gold finds. It was named the Victoria Goldfield because it is the first official goldfield in the colony, newly separated from New South Wales.

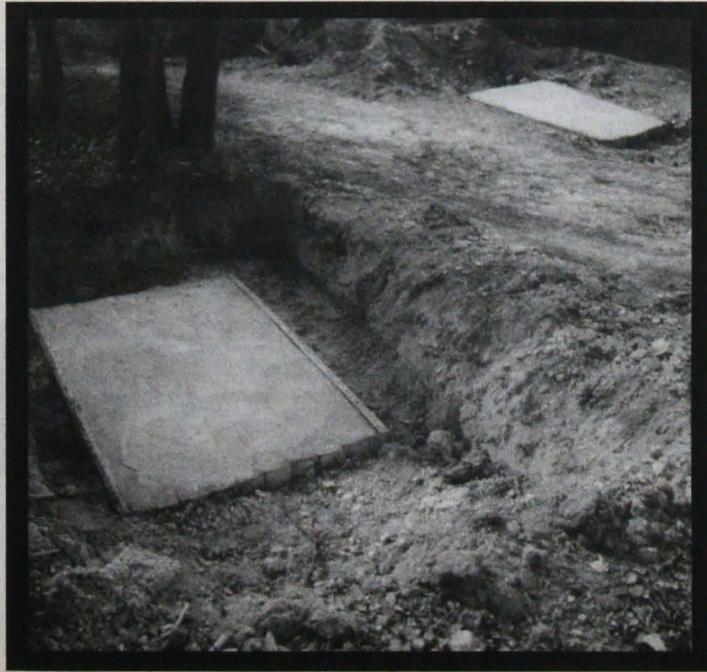
After Geraghty's and the Victory mine, Peter Hanson believes the Crown

mine at Black Flat "is probably the third most historically significant quartz tunnelling system that was still safely accessible".

However, access to this mine was denied in May this year when it was capped. "A concrete slab has been poured over the only safe entry point. The intent of capping is an 'out of sight out of mind, gone forever' approach."

Mr Hanson believes "parts of this mine were definitely dangerous". However, proper consultation could have resulted in "a thick steel panel door, with a tamper resistant locking mechanism being installed over the only safe entry point". This would have addressed safety issues, protected its heritage value and allowed for future documentation.

"Now no one can see the remaining tunnel system of one of Warrandyte's most significant goldmines," Mr Hanson said. "Some important modifications could have been made without compromising the main safety and heritage issues."





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Celebrating Education Week at Warrandyte Primary School, staff and students held a number party. A number parade was held in the afternoon, with ants marching two-by-two, Snow White and 23 dwarfs, four and 20 blackbirds, dominoes and fractions and whole numbers.

"Teachers and students creatively embraced the challenge of dressing up for the parade," A school spokesperson told the *Diary*. "A range of challenging and engaging number activities were held during the day."



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

**AFTER SCHOOL & EVENING IMMUNISATION SESSIONS:**

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

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# Local riding schools kick up about insurance increases

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

Riding schools in the Warrandyte area have been severely knocked by the insurance crisis, with one losing a third of its income and another paying over 500 percent more in annual premiums.

Yarra Brae Riding Centre in Wonga Park will operate without public liability insurance from next month, having already closed down its trail riding section a year ago when operator Gael Sampson foresaw the insurance increase.

"Income dropped by a third after trail riding became non-viable as a commercial operation," Ms Sampson said. "Insurance rose from \$3000 to \$10,000 a year which meant I was working for \$1 an hour. Although I knew premiums would go sky high I didn't realise trail riding would then be completely refused insurance cover."

An accredited riding school with 15 riding school horses and over 50 agistment horses, Yarra Brae will operate without public liability cover when its insurance expires "to buy time if and until legislation comes through encouraging riders to take responsibility for themselves," Ms Sampson said. "People should up their personal accident and income protection insurance and take more responsibility for themselves."

Ms Sampson has been involved in draft legislation of a state bill for "adventure" activities which will exclude minor claims,



Riding schools and pony clubs rallied outside parliament demanding government protection from skyrocketing insurance premiums.

add weight to waiver of liability forms, offer personal accident cover and advocate greater risk management.

"Horse riding is a risky activity and people should take on genuine voluntary assumption of risk," she said. "The industry needs government control with specified standards—anyone could open as a riding centre and the insurers would insure anyone. I'm damned if I'll close it up after 15 years."

Ms Sampson said Yarra Brae had had five minor claims during that time.

In South Warrandyte, Tandivale Equestrian Centre is also unable to offer trail riding off the property, despite a history of no claims or serious accidents during 32 years' operation. Owner Andrew Wilson said the centre was the last to be offered insurance but it came at a premium increase of 508 percent.

"Tandivale is paying \$19,800 in premiums now which has forced us to go from \$33 for a two-hour lesson to \$45. It makes riding an expensive sport, especially if you've got two kids in the family who are riding," Mr Wilson said.

"A big part (of the cost) of a riding lesson now is the insurance. People will be more inclined to sue because they know they're covered. We have to have qualified instructors with first aid certificates but it's a nightmare. All the teachers have to be named on the policy and we have to notify the insurer of any changes to staff as well."

Mr Wilson said Tandivale lost 30 percent of its business after the price hike but had regained 20 percent with new people.

Ninety riders from Tandivale and 50 from Yarra Brae joined riders from all horse sports on a march to state parliament to protest against the insurance situation early this month. The president of the Pony Club Association of Victoria, Stephen Coffey of Wonga Park, was among others who addressed the 5000 protesters.

"Pony club has had an offer of cover from an English insurance underwriter but the brokers have not checked their bona fides," Mr Coffey told the *Diary*.

"We have had great support from the state government who have been working to help us and I don't think we've lost any members because of the insurance situation."

"I don't believe insurance will be a problem and I am more confident now than I have been at any time over the past three months."

He said the pony club movement had faced great uncertainty but its members were covered for personal liability 24 hours a day seven days a week. Pony club insurance is due to expire at the end of June.

Members of the Equestrian Federation of Australia and of the Horse Riding Clubs Association of Victoria face premium increases when their insurance becomes renewable from September.



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

Applications close 31 July 2002 and the winner will be announced in March 2003, during the Warrandyte Festival.

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

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As from the July 2002 issue, our rates will increase by approximately 10 percent. This is our first increase for almost two years, and the first increase ever for our full-page rate.

Production and other costs have increased right across the board, including printing, rent, insurances and equipment service and replacement.

Income from advertising is the Diary's sole source of income. If our community newspaper is to continue publication we must be able to pay our way. The ongoing support of our advertisers continues to be greatly appreciated.

● The new rates are listed on Page 2.

## It's an online library—virtually

Rapid developments in information and communication technology have revolutionised the way many people work, study, relax and communicate.

A "virtual library" at Warrandyte typifies this 21st century approach to books and other resources.

"The Manningham e-library at Warrandyte is a direct response to this trend," a library spokesperson told the *Diary*. "It attempts to provide informational, educational and recreational services in a format and setting which is at the forefront of current library services in Victoria."

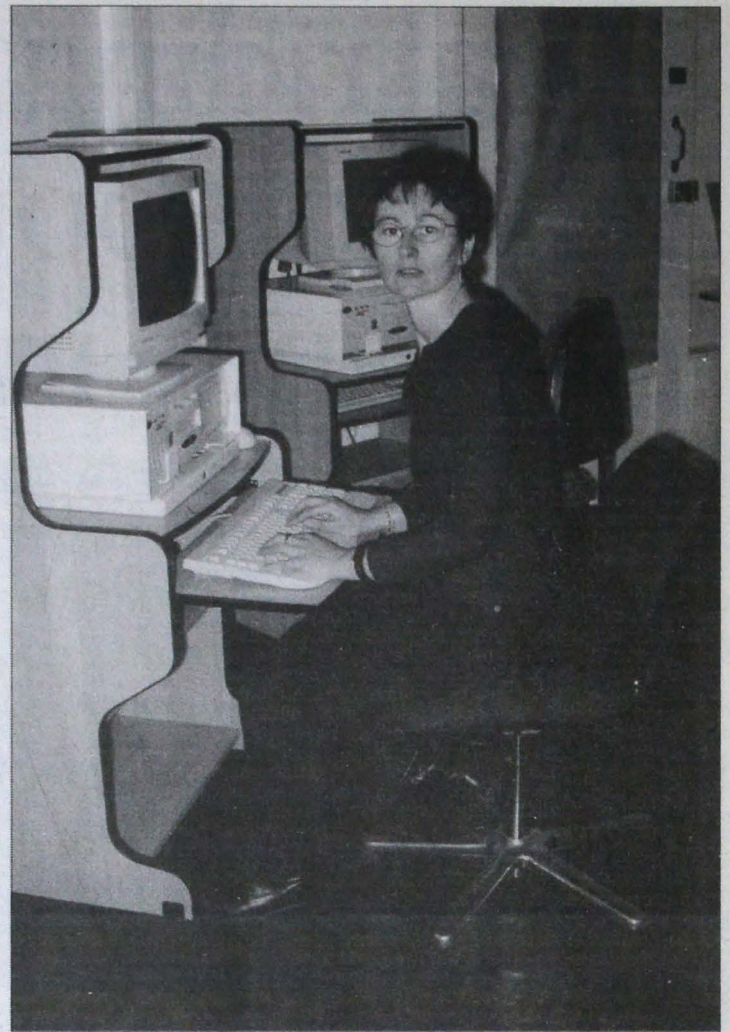
Located in the Goldfields Plaza since August 2000, the virtual library now provides public access to the Internet, email and word processing, as well as extensive council and local community information.

"In 2001, in response to a number of resident requests, a collection of children's picture books and adult genre fiction were included at the centre," the spokesperson said. "This has been followed with improved telecommunication links to the facility in the form of an upgraded ISDN line, which offers improved access speed on computers."

The public Internet work stations have also been upgraded with the installation of improved hardware and software. Children's activities have been a recent initiative at the e-library with visits from local pre-schoolers and schools.

"Since its opening, the virtual library has seen a significant increase in usage, with the number of visits rising by 39 percent, bookings for use of the Internet increasing by 92 percent and the number of items borrowed jumping by 222 percent."

Increased usage at the centre has



The books come through cyberspace at Warrandyte's e-library.

resulted in a re-evaluation of opening hours. In response to current usage patterns the centre has changed its Saturday opening times, however all other opening hours will remain the same.

● The hours are now: Tuesday—Thursday 2.15 to 5.15pm; Friday—9am to 12noon and Saturday—9am to 1pm.

"At its opening the virtual library at

Warrandyte was a bold experiment in providing a glimpse of libraries of the future", the spokesperson said.

"Since that time the continued support from both the local community and Manningham council has resulted in the centre's increased success and relevance in meeting the information technology requirements of its local community."

## A glittering occasion

Leanne Bradford, of Kruses Road, North Warrandyte, has joined with a group of other motivated Melbourne women to raise \$100,000 for the Breast Cancer Network Australia.

They have formed the Glitter Club, originally "as an excuse to get the girls together to chat about life and the pursuit of happiness".

"It soon became apparent that we were offering support, friendship and empowerment to each other," Leanne told the *Diary*. "We realised that we could not only make a difference to our own lives, but also to the lives of others."

Learning about the Breast Cancer Network and their project to launch the "My Journey Kit", to be made available to all women newly diagnosed with breast cancer, they decided to help.

Rather than "playing small" the Glitter Club decided that if they were going to make a difference in the world, they would "make a

huge difference" and raise the \$100,000 needed "in one evening", and they would organise the event in under three months. Thus the Glitter Club Charity Ball was born.

"The ball will be a gala evening, packed with entertainment," Ms Bradford said. "Guests will receive free gifts and be entertained with live music and dancing, silent auctions, raffles and several celebrity guest speakers."

The club believes they can do all this through the generosity, expertise and community spirit of Melbourne people and businesses.

"In other words we need sponsorship and donations of venues, entertainment, food and beverages, gifts for the night and technical equipment."

Leanne Bradford is appealing to local people in her home town—Warrandyte—to be among the first to step forward and offer their help. She can be contacted through: LeanneBradford@compuserve.com.

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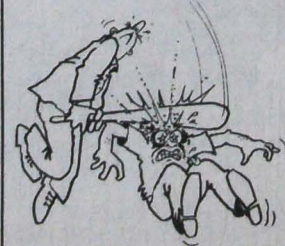
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# When help is called for, Margory will respond

At first light a kookaburra's call vibrates and awakens the river valley. Minute by minute it is echoed by other riverbank birds stirring in their nests.

It is early morning on Warrandyte's market day, and Margory Lapworth is there to oversee it all. With the arrival of the first stall owner, a motley of more stall owners gathers, stamping their feet in the cold. As the sun emerges through the morning mist Stiggants Reserve is vibrant and vivacious with families, friends and their dogs milling around colourful displays of crafts. From a distance they all look similar but take a closer look and each one is unique.

Margory Lapworth, who manages Warrandyte market (there are at least 120 stalls each month), is administrator of Warrandyte Housing & Support Services (WHSS) which is situated a stone's throw away from the river and next to the police station. Every five to 10 minutes throughout the day WHSS receives calls for help. They are as diverse as the people on the other end of the line.

Problems in life often come unexpectedly. One unexpected problem often sets off a series of increasingly complex difficulties and hardships which one person or one family is unable to deal with alone.

Unemployment is a case in hand—it can spiral from loss of self-esteem to substance abuse, to domestic violence to family break-down and homelessness. Living under emotional and financial duress, some people may even develop levels of mental instability or physical illness. Some clients of WHSS are illiterate and some do not have skills or qualifications with which to adapt to the changing workforce's new demands. "There is the humiliation of people who feel that they have come to this position in their lives, when they are forced to be reliant on the system—and that it can happen to anybody," Ms



By HELLENA ALLEN

Lapworth said.

"Homelessness is not restricted to specific areas. Although WHSS networks with other housing agencies, first priority is to concentrate on the



Margory Lapworth

local area—Warrandyte, Wonga Park, Park Orchards, Doncaster East, Donvale, Templestowe—and then to extend out as far as Healesville.

WHSS originally operated as a service of Warrandyte Neighbourhood House (WNH), providing some long-term and transitional/emergency assisted housing.

Between 1992 and 1996 Ms Lapworth was co-ordinator of WNH. During that time WHSS was also involved in the feasibility study for housing for the elderly in Warrandyte. No land was available but nor was the need supported or recognised by council.

In 1996 council decided that a housing service would no longer be a function of WNH. Ms Lapworth resigned in order to

form WHSS with a group of people who saw a continuing need for assisted housing in the area. They operated on a completely voluntary basis, initially with two long-term houses and three transitional houses.

Several years later WHSS still operates completely with voluntary staff. Day after day, week after week they face and deal with urgent problems, also providing a 24 hour emergency service. This year four members of staff received the Menzies Electorate Australia Day Award in recognition of their work at WHSS.

Ms Lapworth welcomes and encourages interested and dedicated people to become part of the voluntary team. She can be contacted on 9844 4495, Monday to Thursday 9am to 4.30pm. Friday is a closed day but the office is always manned.

This year there has been a noticeable increase in calls from low income parents for assistance to provide school books, school uniforms and state school fees.

The aim of WHSS is to help the vulnerable and the disadvantaged but there are more requests for assistance than there is funding and housing available.

WHSS is extremely grateful to the Warrandyte Rotary and

Lions Clubs whose contributions enable them to provide food parcels, Christmas hampers and toys to needy families.

In return for managing the Warrandyte market, WHSS receives \$4000 per annum. The Warrandyte Market Committee gives WHSS a one-off emergency relief fund of \$1,000.

It is ironic that, as a founding member of the Police Community Consultative Committee, whose aims are to protect the local community from crime, Ms Lapworth has experienced three burglaries at WHSS since December.

Recently there have been changes in public housing and WHSS is under threat. The house which it occupies has been sold by the Department of Infrastructure to the Office of Housing. WHSS is virtually homeless!

However, as you enter, bright, colourful paintings face you from the walls. They are paintings by some of the children with special needs whom WHSS has assisted.

"People should look around and enjoy what's here. They may not like to admit that these things are happening in Warrandyte but they are, and we try to answer these problems," Ms Lapworth told the *Diary*.



The community market is a major fundraising project of WHSS.



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# Billanook College Tour



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# Top cop hits town!



Chief police commissioner Christine Nixon visited Warrandyte on Tuesday, May 14, at the invitation of the Warrandyte, Park Orchards and Wonga Park Police Community Consultative Committee.

Ms Nixon's first stop was to inspect the community garden, established on the old horse paddock behind Warrandyte Police Station. Then she reviewed the troops at the station, after which she attended a luncheon at the Community Church and met a number of community representatives.

Children from Andersons Creek Primary School charmed her with a song, written especially for the occasion. *Diary* photographer STEPHEN REYNOLDS was there and took these pictures.







# Click go the cameras

*Written by Des McKenzie (pictured above) and performed by the children of Andersons Creek Primary School.*



Chorus:  
 Click go the cameras  
 Click, click, click  
 Wide is the lens  
 And the shutters move quick  
 The driver looks around but is beaten by the flash  
 And curses all the cameras cos it's gonna cost him cash.

In the middle of the state  
 In her leather studded chair  
 Sits the chief of police with her eyes everywhere.  
 Notes well each case as it comes to the court  
 Paying strict attention to the latest Crime Report.

The lady shows her feelings no pomp, no snarl, no starch.  
 She likes to make us think a bit—she loves to join a march.  
 She shook the force a-plenty with all that this entails  
 She has charmed the local troopers—though she hails from New South Wales.

We salute this boss before us—a lady with a mission  
 And we hope she isn't angered by our little small rendition  
 Chief Nixon take this little plea—'cos it comes from deep inside  
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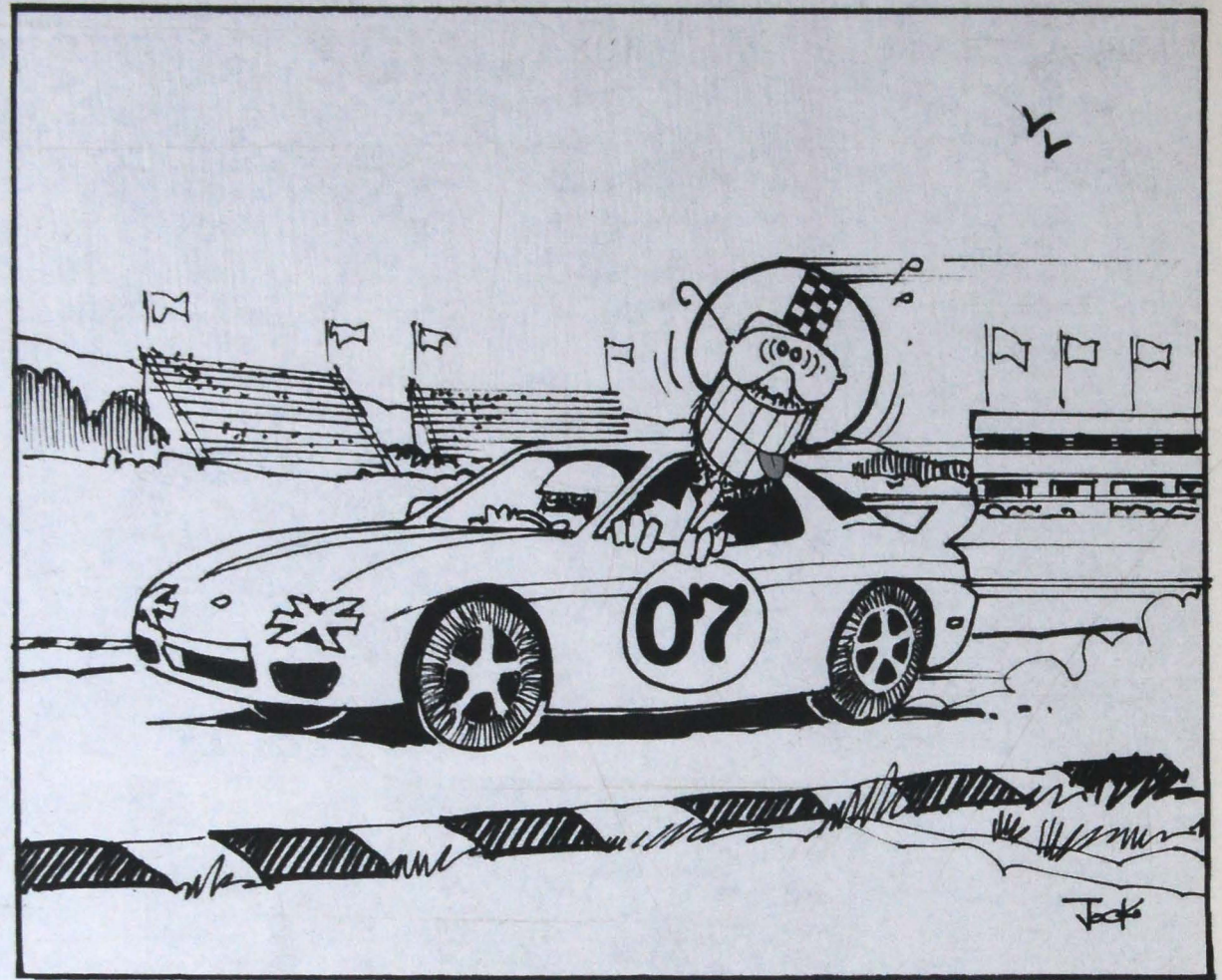
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# We live life in the fast lane with a lead-footed larrikin

**T**HE thing that annoyed me most was when supposed friends said that they didn't think I would be into that sort of thing and that "it seems odd for someone like him to enjoy that stuff".

Do they expect that I'm only turned on by reading obscure Phoenician mythology or by marvelling at the number of sparrows God can fit through the eye of a prodigal needle?

Talk about typecasting! I can understand how frustrating it must be for actors to be lumbered by their agent with endless roles as the buffoon or the pleasant but vacuous upper class, chinless wonder. I can see it as I write.

"What about a nice juicy part as the nasty Hannibal Lecter or at least as a mass murderer?"

"Nooo! You're not the type are you? You just be happy with this one; Lord Dropbottom, a charming but slightly eccentric 'hon' who likes train spotting and collecting golf socks. That's much more your thing!"

Or the craggily featured "permanent marine" who just wants a chance to play a gay, Irish priest who wants to start an orphanage, only to be told that "the public wouldn't expect that sort of thing from someone like you".

So you see why it really got my goat when it happened to me just after one of the most exciting times of my life.

It was the occasion of Phillip Island racetrack's 50th



**KIBBLED**

**"...a charming but slightly eccentric 'hon' who likes train spotting and collecting golf socks. That's much more your thing!"**

anniversary and to celebrate there was a version of a Long Lunch held in the pits.

It was a warm, still day and we began the day's enjoyment by viewing the track from the high vantage point above the gardens of the Visitors' Centre. From there we could see the track and its enviable position close to the sea.

The home straight was just below us and there was a sign that indicated the speeds racing drivers reach on the

many curves and straight sections. They were unimaginably ridiculous speeds almost comparable with the sort of salaries 21 year old computer salesmen get. At that stage of the day I was looking forward to an exciting "slow lap" of the circuit.

The "slow lap" consisted of a group of about 10 cars at a time being able to travel at speeds between 60 and 80 around the circuit. This we did like the Sunday drivers we are. I do admit to cutting off my brother-in-law over in "Siberia" but the shock of that made me drive more like Mr Magoo than Schumacher.

The first sign that all was not well with my adrenalin came with the news that one of the raffle prizes, (the proceeds going to the local hospital) was a "hot lap" of the circuit. When I discovered that this meant a ride in a real racing car, with a real driver at real speeds, I began to find unusual parts of my body beginning to tremble.

I looked out at the display vehicles and there they were, thundering past our vantage point, exhausts throbbing in time with my heartbeat. Soon, my one ticket became two and then five and then ten. I suddenly came to understand the power of addiction.

As they prepared to draw the winning ticket, I closed my eyes and apologised to the God of Internal Combustion for all of the terribly crass things I have ever said about "petrol heads".

And it worked!

And there it was, my throbbing, metallic blue Mazda RX7. There was my driver, Hank, and I was being buckled into the passenger seat of this barely legal projectile. The head-hugging helmet was so tight that I had to do the circuits with my glasses slightly askew as I couldn't squeeze one arm over my ear, past the padding.

We launched out of the pit lane and were just about to enter hyperspace when Hank braked, changed down and reduced speed by a k or two. The car hugged the curve and when I opened my eyes, we were heading at breakneck speed for another corner. I made the instant decision that Hank didn't want to die so I kept my eyes open and wowed aloud in sheer delight.

The trip down the home straight was what it's all about. I had driven this section at 80 and had started to slow down for the first curve a good kilometre before the turn. With Hank, I flew at 240k and down to a respectable 120k around the corner.

My elation on finishing the laps equals almost anything else I've ever done. But, please, forget I ever wrote this. I'm really not that sort of guy.

Evidently I'm much happier with more sedate, sedentary pursuits. Just excuse me whilst I rush off and iron my hair shirt.

Bollocks!

**ROGER KIBELL**

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# Pretty parasol parade hides vast underground network

**S**HE is pretty and petite. With a name like Omphalina how could she be anything else? To talk about her in this way, even to call her a "she", is unquestionably imposing human values on another living organism. But we do it all the time.

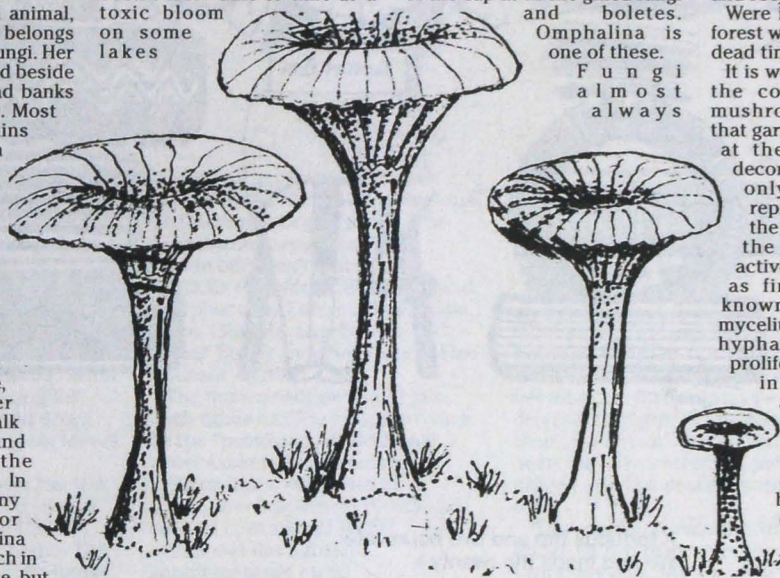
Omphalina is not an animal, nor is she a plant. She belongs in the kingdom of the fungi. Her home is the bare ground beside bush tracks, along road banks and on rabbit mounds. Most of the time she remains out of sight, hidden underground. But every year, around mid-autumn, she produces a fruiting body that breaks through the soil, unfolding like a flower.

In shades of yellow, orange, tan or white—depending on the species—this structure, smaller than a finger nail, consists of a stalk with a cap on top, and underneath are the funnelled cap or gills. In fact it looks much like any other mushroom or toadstool. But Omphalina is different—not so much in her physical appearance, but in the composition of some of her cells.

In the stem, near its base just above the ground, the cells of an alga are present. Algae are the simplest, most primitive of all plant life. They grow in fresh water, some forming long strands we call slime, and salt water where they are known, of course, as seaweeds.

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

Blue-green algae, which occurs from time to time as a toxic bloom on some lakes



90 percent—the fungus is an ascomycetes, which produce spores in tiny specialised sacs. This group includes the cup fungi and morels. In a few exceptions the fungus is a basidiomycetes which produce spores in club-shaped cells often located on the underside of the cap as in the gilled fungi and boletes. Omphalina is one of these.

Fungi almost always

tissues and eventually killing their host. Others form a more beneficial relationship with the roots of plants, enabling the plant to absorb minerals from the soil. While others obtain their food from dead and decaying organisms, thereby breaking down organic litter and recycling nutrients.

Were it not for the fungi the forest would be piled high with dead timber and fallen leaves.

It is worth remembering that the colourful collation of mushrooms and toadstools that garnish fallen logs, cluster at the base of trees and decorate the forest floor are only the transient reproductive structures of the fungi. The main body of the fungus, that is the actively growing part, exists as fine hair-like threads known collectively as mycelium and individually as hyphae. The threads proliferate through the soil, in rotting wood and amongst leaf litter and could be mistaken for roots. It is the tips of these hyphae which secrete enzymes to break down the cellulose walls of plant cells and invade their tissues.

It has been a slow start to the fungi fruiting season with April and early May being exceptionally warm and dry. Nonetheless, Omphalina has emerged as predictable as ever, as beautiful as always. On her bare ground platform, parasols held aloft, she is on parade. One of autumn's most overlooked and passed-by little gems.

and rivers, is more complex, being the combination of an alga and a bacteria. When an alga links up with a fungus the result is a lichen. It is a joint partnership where the alga performs the feeding role of the lichen and the fungus the reproductive role. In most lichens—more than

live in association with something. They have to. Unlike plants they do not contain chlorophyll and so cannot manufacture their own sugars. They derive their nutrition via plants and animals—living or dead.

Some fungi are parasites attacking plant and animal

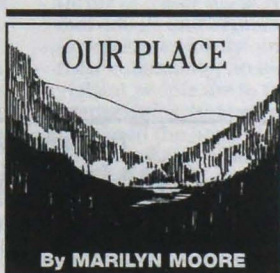
# Anaesthetic for nostalgic eyes

**H**OSPITAL? Now, you'd think someone chronically short of sleep would jump at the chance of a lie-down, but no thank you—the idea of being made to lie down on a cold steely operating table under the dazzling lights of an alien-infested theatre was about as enticing as being thrown onto a nice little stretch of standard gauge rail track under the rapidly approaching wheels of the Southern Aurora.

But (sigh!) when you've got to go, you've got to go. And indeed, come the big day, the sky bore no hint of foreboding. Dawn mists along the Yarra rose wraithlike to reveal a day as blue and sunny as any in midsummer. And better late than never, brilliant autumn foliage mantled wintry boughs with gold and crimson.

This was all wrong! The weather should have been gruesome, or at least dramatic. How could such a nerve-racking journey not be marked by a flash flood, a record hailstorm, or, better still, a massive bolt of lightning? Preferably right through the open car window.

How blissfully ignorant of the significance of this day were the



By MARILYN MOORE

other drivers sailing by on the freeway!

Arriving at the hospital, a lack of parking within about a days' walk offered a glimmer of hope: "Sorry, doc, I can't find anywhere to park. You'll just have to manage without me." The glimmer was quickly extinguished. A lovely spot, shaded and handy, miraculously presented itself, and, acting quite by instinct, the car wasted no time in grabbing it.

There was the door. I had only to walk through it. Picturesquely situated midway along the iron-lace verandah of a stately Victorian mansion, it should have looked welcoming. Today, however, concealing as it did the sinister shadows

within, it was no less than the Portal of Doom. A tinge of panic struck. Why was there no label informing people of this? What were they trying to hide? Aaaaarrrggghhh!

Taking a deep breath, I stealthily turned the handle. Perhaps if I crept in very quietly, nobody would notice.

It was, of course, a whole lot of fuss about nothing. The surgery was trivial, the anaesthetic relaxing, the nurses wonderful, the food delicious, the tea genuine Twinings Earl Grey and perfectly hot—all too soon I was being trundled in a wheelchair out through that very same portal and into the icy chill of evening. Funny, the door looked quite friendly now. Must be something to do with the street lighting. Yes, clever lighting, that was the clue: big orange fuzzy lights, furry orange fuzz, fluffy fizz. I woke up some considerable time later as the car leapt across the cavernous pothole in our driveway.

Only now can the secret topic of this column finally be revealed—daytime television! It must be nearly ten years since the captivating jingles of Sesame Street and Playschool last flickered across our screen.

I'd completely forgotten how good these shows are. And how easy it is to doze off to Noni's bedtime story.

Next time I woke, some British kids' science program was running about outdoors with containers of brightly coloured liquids. It was riveting, for at least 20 minutes. Some time later, a group of German-speaking teenagers repeatedly recounted to one another the fascinating items they were intending to purchase bei der Apotheke. Himmel! Pie in the Sky at 1 p.m.! If only I'd known that Maggie Crabbe was back on the box, I'd have chained myself to the chaise longue years ago! A quick look at the Green Guide revealed repeats of everything you ever wanted to watch but didn't manage to catch first time round. I settled in for the long haul.

Until certain people arrived home. Quick! TV off!

"Was that the Ferals we could hear?"  
Damn! "When has the TV in this house ever been on before dinner? Where's your homework? What about your violin exam? How about cleaning up that mess you left in the kitchen this morning?"  
Ah, bring on tomorrow!



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# Just in case

I was going to a conference  
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I was excited at the prospect  
Of kindred spirits I would meet

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The networking and chat  
Small break from the domestics  
Looking forward to all that

The morning loomed up greyly  
Was rushing round the place  
Did I need to book for lunch  
I'll take it—"just in case"

The drive it was a nightmare  
Never seen so many trucks  
Hellbent on thundering somewhere  
It seems to Moe—just my luck

And life it did get grimmer  
As the thing I treasure most  
On long trips—my radio  
It then gave up the ghost

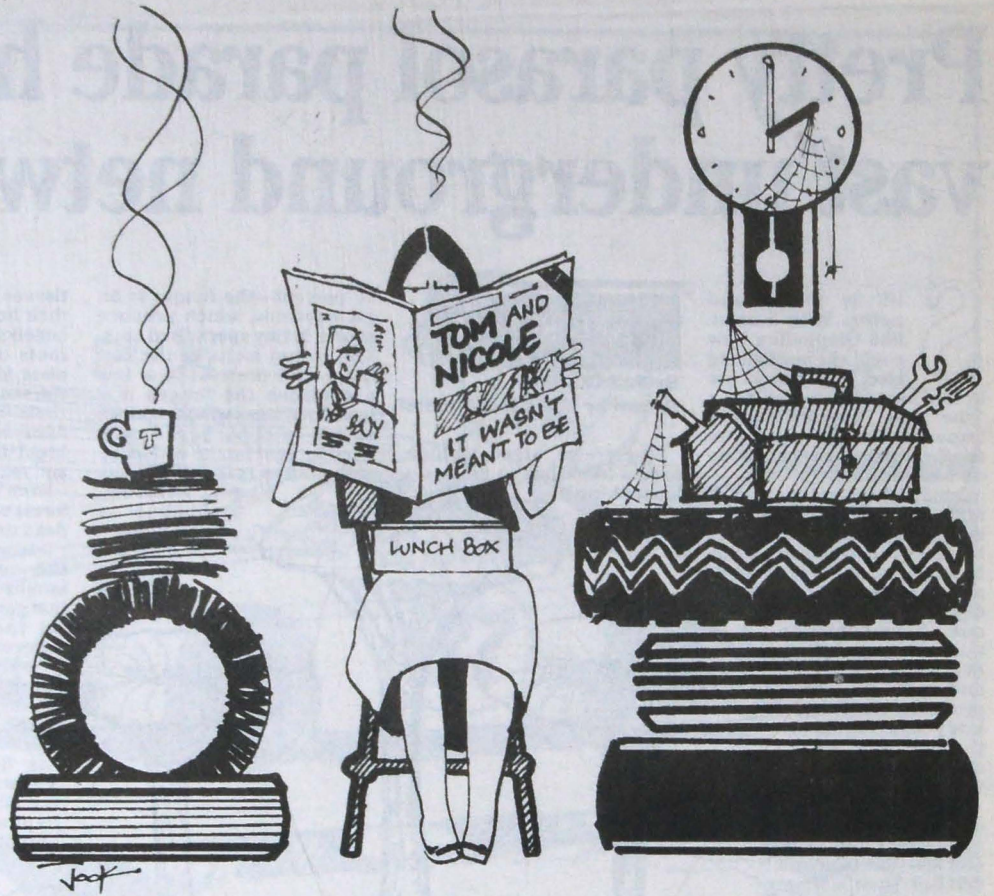
And then it was the wipers  
That ground slowly to a halt  
And as the sky grew darker  
It seems the lights too had a fault

"At least the engine's working"  
Pulling over for a pee  
But that ominous click on stopping  
Showed how wrong I could be

At least I'm in a small town  
Cup of coffee to be had  
The mechanic has now fixed it  
Things don't seem quite so bad

But further up the freeway  
The engine coughed its last  
No phone, no cup of coffee  
Just those monsters looming past

So then in desperation  
I flagged a passing car  
Borrowed phone and called mechanic  
Who was coming from afar



A tortuous trip and two hours later  
We had made the twenty k  
Into Moe and a garage  
And for hours I had to stay

In the sales room with the tyres  
Smell of petrol, peeling paint  
Read all about the film stars  
And when I started feeling faint—

The owner was so helpful  
In that friendly country way  
With cups of tea and phone calls  
He lightened up my stay

Now each cloud has a lining  
As these trials we learn to face  
I had country generosity  
And my sandwich—"just in case"

**KAREN THROSSELL**

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# A community of interests

**W**HEN the 1962 bushfires burned through much of Warrandyte, Jo Laurence remembers the fires as like a "red liquid" pouring over the hill. These bushfires lit up the Dandenongs "when spot fires destroyed homes in outer Melbourne suburbs; when Doncaster and Nunawading felt like Pompeii as ash rained down on them and blackened gum leaves blew over Box Hill".

Darren Kelly remembers the fire which also much affected Wonga Park roaring over the hill from Yarra Brae towards his home. The fire burnt out the hawthorn hedge, cowshed and part of the great oak tree on the property. Nine relatively inexperienced fire fighters were attempting to douse the blaze with knapsack sprays. When they gave the signal to abandon the property, the 19-year-old Kelly, who was providing transport for the firefighters in his old ute, drove off—but they had left one of the firefighters behind. By sheer luck the fire turned just in time and the firefighter escaped harm.

The "chaos" of fearful residents trying to evacuate Warrandyte and Wonga Park along the Warrandyte-Ringwood Road in cars crammed with possessions highlighted the need to instigate orderly procedures. A public meeting held in Doncaster's Athenaeum Hall in April 1963 produced a Doncaster and Templestowe Civil Defence body. Shire president, Russell Hardidge, suggested in November 1964 that neighbouring

municipalities combine their efforts as the Yarra Valley Regional Civil Defence Organisation. The organisation would facilitate liaison between eight local councils (Croydon, Doncaster and Templestowe, Eltham, Healesville, Knox, Lilydale, Sherbrooke and Upper Yarra) and the Country Fire Authority (CFA).

The municipalities would give each other auxiliary support such as the "provision of additional water tankers to replenish fire fighting units, organisation of traffic check points to direct and control operational traffic, additional fire fighters, supplementary radio communications, medical and refreshment services". In March 1965 another major bushfire threatened the community from Research to Warrandyte but only two houses were lost.

Infant welfare sisters also joined in the battle against bushfire. In 1969 they were on "fire duty" at the Warrandyte Mechanics' Institute Hall, which was used as a medical aid unit "where Red Cross members and Rover Scouts helped the trained team provide refreshments for the firefighters at the front, and care for evacuated school children". Against the threat of major bushfires, individuals and organisations have joined forces for the defence of their community; no matter how vigilant people are in their preparations, homes remain at risk—and the hope of saving those homes remains a potent motive for members of the community to work together.

Jean Chapman remembers being involved with the Warrandyte Cricket Club since about 1946: "We

## BYGONE DAYS: 7

By **BARBARA PERTZEL and FIONA WALTERS**

lived in Pigeon Bank Lane, half-way between Kangaroo Ground and Warrandyte, so instead of being left all alone on Saturdays—I didn't drive—I thought: 'If you can't beat them, join them'. Since then I've been tea lady, secretary, publicity officer, and I've scored matches all over.

"Last year in November the club chose its top team over the past 50 years; my son, John, was in it and my husband, Allan, was picked as the captain." In 1972 Chapman had young sons eager to play, so she instigated an Under 12 team in Warrandyte: "I was the manager and they called me 'Mrs Chappie'. A year after the boys left the Under 12s they asked me to come back, so I ended up managing the Under 14 and Under 16 teams". A In 1975 Suzanne and Jenny Chaman established a Warrandyte Cricket Club women's team: "My two girls played — they started with Mitcham, but transferred when Warrandyte started a women's team. During her career, Suzanne played twice for Victoria, and once for Australia (in India), and Jenny played three times for Victoria". The participation and dedication of successive generations of families — of which the Chapmans are merely one example — have sustained the Warrandyte Cricket Club for 146 years.

The oldest of Manningham's festivals is the Warrandyte Festival, which began in 1977 and is characterised by its depth of community participation, with so many of Warrandyte's people practising crafts and arts of all media. In addition to community organisations, schools are involved, often through the development of floats and costumes for the parade and performances on stage.

The Warrandyte Festival draws around 20,000 attendees: "but what I think is really valuable to this community is the actual number of people and groups who are involved—hundreds of people. There's a festival committee whose core swells to perhaps 50 people at festival time. It is a festival that very much reflects the community—it's very community, non-commercial driven."

Jo Laurence remembers moving to Warrandyte in 1947 and playing with the other children, whose parents were artists: "That was my first real exposure, I think, to the 'arty' world. It just happened gradually over the years with the other people that we met because there were a lot of artists living round." She recalls that the social centre for Warrandyte in those days was the Warrandyte Hotel: "It was a nice family hotel and everybody used to gravitate there. It was the days of 6 o'clock closing, and I know Mum befriended Harry and Marie Hudson, who were painters. They lived near the bridge on this side of the river. There were lots of others that used to socialise at the pub and then they'd gravitate back to someone's place for get-togethers."

Residents for around 25 years, Jan and John Laing identify two of Warrandyte's greatest attractions: "The bush and the community spirit". A local restaurant, Pasta Mania, is seen as a community meeting place: "Friday night, I can't wait to get home to go down to Pasta Mania because I know who's going to be there. The community's going to be there. It's the identification". Being recognized by everyone else in the town is important to maintaining a sense of community: "Carrying the Olympic Torch was great because in Warrandyte, you get it written up in the *Diary*".

After living in Warrandyte for about 18 months, Cliff Green felt the need to take part in some community activity and so became involved in a local youth club. "We couldn't get newspaper publicity for our youth club—Ringwood and Doncaster papers weren't interested in Warrandyte, so we started our own." The first issue of the *Warrandyte Diary* came out in December 1970. Over the years,

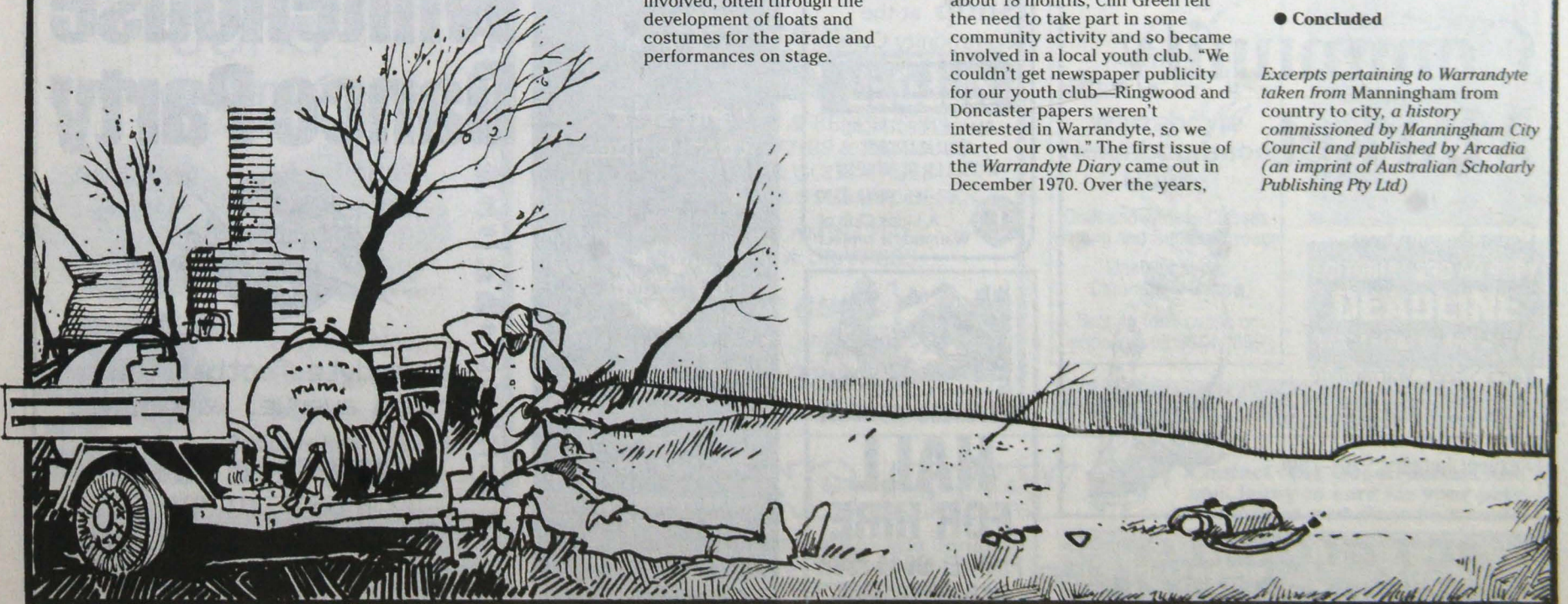
local professional journalists like Peter Lovett, Lee Tindale, Bob Millington and Mark Davis have given of their time and talents freely to produce the monthly newspaper.

"It's owned and managed as a non-profit making trust. All are volunteers, except our advertising manager — that's not a fun, hobby job!" In 1991 the *Diary* moved into the community centre. Many people from around Warrandyte contribute regularly, including the *Diary's* long-serving columnists, and there has always been an unofficial cadet program for promising young writers to gain experience in journalism. Defining influences on the *Diary* have been Lee Tindale's wicked sense of humour, Jock Macneish's clever cartoon style and Green, himself, now co-editor with Tindale.

The *Diary's* commitment to the Warrandyte community is evident in every issue. "We have a statement on page two that says: The *Diary* carries a strong editorial bias towards the people, environment and character of the place it serves. We have two abiding principles: one, the material must have a local connection—so, for example, the letters we print must be about local issues or people; and two, we tell our contributors, 'Remember, you're writing about your neighbours'. These rules ensure that the paper is replete with interest for locals without descending into gossip that might divide a community. "The paper absorbed a local flavour very early on. It's now very much a Catch-22 — we wonder whether the *Diary* is like it is because of Warrandyte, or Warrandyte like it is because of the *Diary*. We think of it as a closed circle, one feeds the other constantly."

### ● Concluded

*Excerpts pertaining to Warrandyte taken from Manningham from country to city, a history commissioned by Manningham City Council and published by Arcadia (an imprint of Australian Scholarly Publishing Pty Ltd)*





# Happy days

By LEE TINDALE

**T**O set the scene for a story on 60 years of marriage just celebrated by Jim and Lorraine Harris, of Pound Bend, it is pertinent to go back 10 years to a Page 2 column piece by Smokey Joe.

Under the heading "How Lorraine lurched into love with Jim", it read:

*"In 1938, a young bloke who fancied himself as a bit of a ladies' man was keeping one eye on the road and the other in the mirror, on a good sort down the back, as he drove the Saturday afternoon bus from Melbourne to Warrandyte.*

*"As she'd got aboard, the good sort had nominated Everard Drive as her destination and as the bus approached that point she got to her feet, confirming the driver's first impressions about the excellence of her legs. And that's when he put into action a little plot he'd hatched a few miles back.*

*"He applied the brake a little late and quite abruptly. Just as he'd planned, his passenger hurtled involuntarily down the aisle and darned near into his arms.*

*"As a means of drawing the good sort's attention to himself, Jim Harris' methods lacked subtlety but were very effective.*

*"When she got home, Lorraine Day told her mum and dad there was a 'very cheeky driver on the bus today'.*

*"Jim and Lorraine Harris celebrated their golden wedding last month. It is a lovely love story."*

Not a lot has changed in the intervening 10 years. Only ages — and there is an inescapable

feeling that, if it were possible, Jim, 83, and Lorraine, 80, have merely grown a decade closer.

Their golden wedding became a diamond wedding on May 23. It was an occasion celebrated with a family lunch at Club Warrandyte on the day and a much bigger gathering at the Shoppingtown Hotel three days later.

It was also an occasion recognised by congratulatory messages from the Queen, the Prime Minister, the Governor-General, the Victorian Governor, the Premier and the local Federal MP.

But let us take up the Harris story where Smokey Joe left off:

Annoyed as she was by Jim's heavy foot on the brake pedal that day on her way home from business college, Lorraine turned out to be a forgiving young lady and when Jim suggested — again on the bus — a few weeks later that she might like to go to the pictures in town with him, she said, "Well, all right".

Jim drove the pictures bus into the city and home again that night, garaged it behind the building now occupied by Spencer and Martin Real Estate and walked Lorraine the two miles home to Pound Bend.

Then he walked the two miles back to his lodgings.

He remembers telling himself on the way back that he'd "never walk her home again — it's too bloody far!"

But love was already in the air and a lifelong partnership was about to be forged.

Lorraine accepted Jim's proposal of marriage on her 20th birthday in 1940. They were married at St Andrews

Church in Box Hill on May 23, 1942.

The wedding was very much a Day-related family affair. Lyn Mitchell, a relation by marriage, went briefly AWOL from the army in his sergeant's uniform to be groomsman, wife Hilda was matron of honour and their six-year-old daughter Beverley flowergirl. Bev and husband Brian Day came down from Merton to be among the well-wishers at the diamond wedding celebrations.

Lorraine was not exactly born in Warrandyte — but came very close to it.

She was six months old when she arrived here to be raised on a soldier settlement property at Pound Bend taken up by her father Charlie and mother Beryl.

Jim's job at that time as a tourist coach driver took him and Lorraine away from Warrandyte after their marriage, largely to Warrnambool, where their children Wendy and Ian were born.

The Harrises returned to Warrandyte and Pound Bend as a family in 1946.

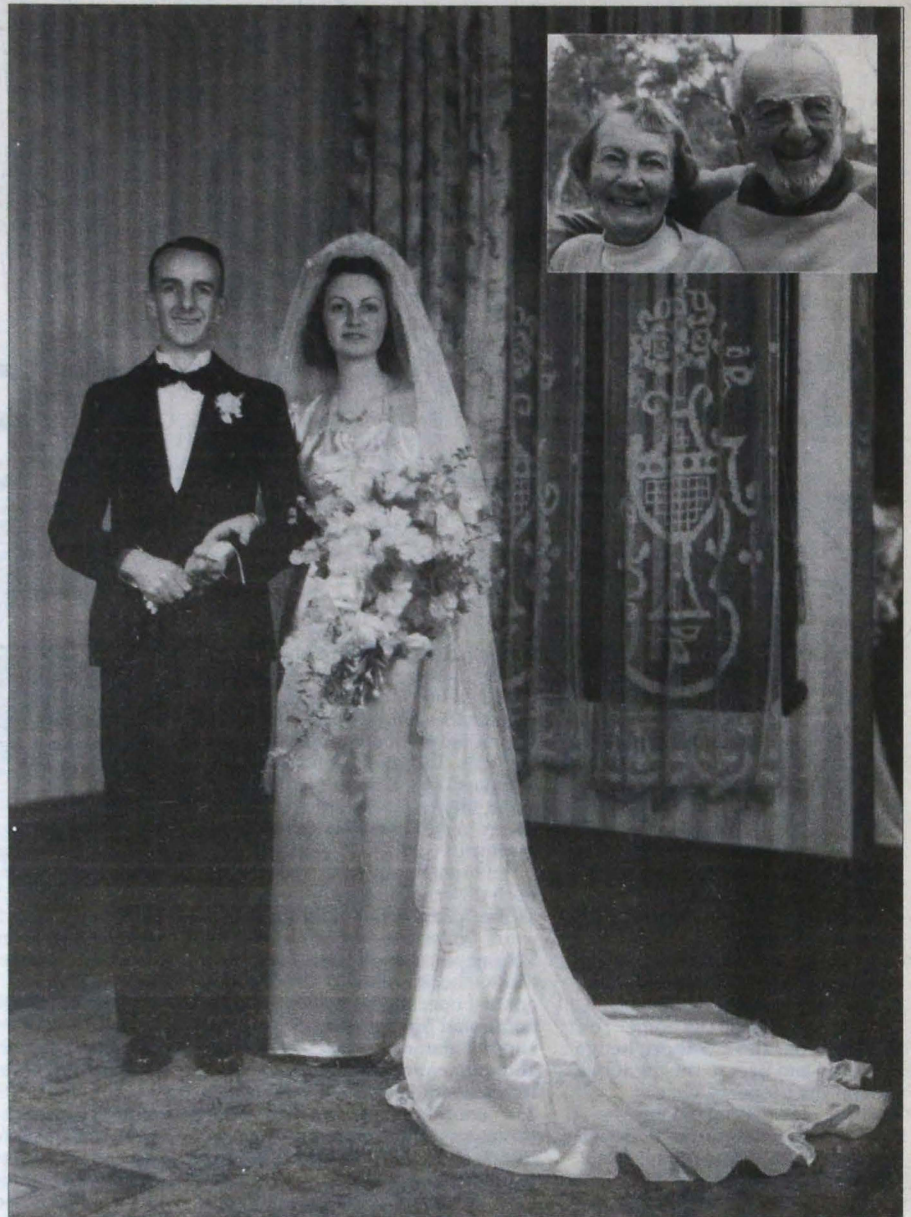
And there Lorraine and Jim have stayed.

They have three grandchildren, Darren, Bradley and Cameron, and three great-grandchildren, Jayden, Cody and Ochre.

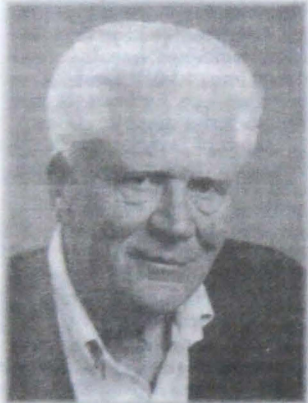
And the recipe for an ongoing 60-year marriage?

"Being away a lot as a coach driver," said Jim with an exaggerated wink. "We've got along pretty well for most of that time."

"Being reasonably patient and just blowing my stack on rare occasions," said Lorraine.



Jim and Lorraine Harris on their wedding day in 1942. Inset: The Harrises at home at their beloved Pound Bend. (Picture by Jan Tindale)



## Remembered in Warrandyte

**B**ILL Hickman, a long-time resident, well-known to many locals, died on May 25. He was 81 years of age.

William Frederick Hickman was born as the second eldest of a family of one brother and four sisters, in Chester, England. He is remembered as "a devil at school", but he developed a very special bond with his brother and two eldest sisters.

He served an apprenticeship with a local hydraulics company, then left to join the Merchant Navy. It is believed

he left England as the youngest 2nd engineer ever to sail from the port of Liverpool.

During his seagoing career during the Second World War, he endured two major torpedo attacks, including 16 days adrift in a life raft, ending up somewhere in the West Indies.

Bill arrived in Australia in 1946 and commenced work for the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories as chief engineer. During the early days of his time at CSL, he was heavily involved with the introduction of penicillin into

Australia, with major responsibility for its manufacture.

Whilst at the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories he met and courted the love of his life, Nancye Perkin. They were married at Wesley Church, Melbourne, on November 11, 1957.

In 1956 he began work at the A.W. Allen confectionery factory as chief engineer.

The first of his three children, Andrew Durnell, was born in 1958, with Karl Frederick arriving in 1960 and Reigan Merryll in 1963.

The family arrived in Warrandyte in 1965 and settled in Webb Street. Bill was active in a number of community organisations, mainly involving his children, including kindergarten, scouts, pony club and sailing. He always regarded the family as his first priority.

After residing in Warrandyte for 26 years, upon Bill's retirement from Allens, the family moved to Carisbrook, where they lived for the next 14 years, finally moving to Baxter in 2001.

### Warrandyte Community Market

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# We all remember our Salad Days!

**T**HE Park Players' recent production of "Salad Days" at the Warrandyte High School Theatre provided a pleasantly nostalgic trip down memory lane for many of the audience as well as for some of the cast. In fact, Graham and Dawn Whiteside, stalwarts of the Park Players and both with major roles in the present production, met and fell in love when they played the lead roles of Jane and Tim some 30 years ago. "It just goes to show," said Dawn, "that if you hang around long enough, you can end up playing your own mother!"

Written by Dorothy Reynolds and Julian Slade, "Salad Days" is a charming example of post-war nonsense. Originally commissioned in 1954 as a three-week end-of-season summer show, it moved straight to the Vaudeville Theatre in London and ran for five and a half years, a record-breaking effort for a musical at the time. It has been running somewhere or other ever since, and the title "Salad Days", borrowed from Shakespeare, has become an everyday expression.

The two main characters are Jane Raeburn (Claire Smith) and Timothy Dawes (Adam Wood). Their carefree young lives are at a turning point: they have just graduated from university, and so must now "do" something. In modern post-war Britain, they have no clear idea of what their future lives

should hold but their parents are blessed with no such lack of direction.

Well-meaning-but-bossy Lady Raeburn (Dawn Whiteside), does everything she can to make sure that her daughter marries "well", and the optimistic but vague Mr and Mrs Dawes (Tony Gibson and Robyn Pidcock) encourage Tim to follow in the footsteps of one of his many influential uncles.

The story gets complicated (it is a very long musical!) but Jane and Tim decide to sidestep all the fuss and bother, marry one another immediately then take the first job they see. This turns out to be the extremely unlikely one of minding a street piano for one month.

It transpires that the piano has the magical capacity to make every listener dance, and the storyline of its prowess, then its "wanted" status, followed by its loss and subsequent recovery forms the main thread of the show, around which various relationships evolve.

In all there are 55 roles, including 30 main character parts and a host of revellers, street cleaners, children, graduands, dons, paparazzi and various passers-by. This very colourful production made the most of the wide stage at Warrandyte High School. The Park Players rose well to the challenge of fleshing out the vast array of characters.

## THEATRE

By MARILYN MOORE

From well-bred but come-down-in-the-world Tramp (Ian Milligan) to interfering Aunt Prue (Christine Davison); from mute clown Troppo (Verity Fisher) to long-suffering beautician Heloise (Christine Ryan); from very eligible Lord Nigel Danvers (Glyn Seal) to assistant beautician and manicurist (Gail Kimber and Rachel Juhasz); from inimitable P.C. Boot (Graham Whiteside) to Egyptian nightclub temptress Asphynxia (Jannine Evans); from eager socialite Fiona Thompson to over-the-top couturier Ambrose Gusset (Robert Porter); from kind-hearted but not quite "quite" Rowena to models Marguerite (Jill Hince) and Anthea (Sarah Swain); from tap-dancing Bishop (Patrick Port) to amusingly pompous Minister for Entertainment, Augustine Williams (Tony Gibson); from very important diplomat Sir Clamsby Williams (Trevor Hince) to attaché Fosdyke (David Eldridge); from fake-Egyptian manager of the Cleopatra Nightclub (Ian Milligan) to the alien Electrode (Jan Cox); from the quirky Professor Zebediah Dawes (Trevor Hince) to dance-enthusiast

police inspector (Tony Gibson); from you-wouldn't-want-to-stand-in-their-way nightclub lackeys (Cherith Sharman and Bruce Dix) to inept photographer Tom Smith (Kieran Seal).

Every one of these characters came entertainingly to life under the astute direction of Ron Pidcock and the fine work of the costume team.

The lead roles were beautifully sung and convincingly played, although Claire Smith's sweet light soprano voice did not always carry well during the quieter passages. The talent and relaxed stage presence of the younger actors, especially Adam Wood and Glyn Seal, built well on polished portrayals from seasoned performers such as Graham Whiteside and Robyn Pidcock.

There were many noteworthy performances, but one that deserves a special mention was that of Verity Fisher. Verity absolutely was Troppo from the very first second that she set foot on stage; she exuded a degree of vitality and expression that completely stole the show.

One of the difficulties in staging a musical of this vintage is dealing with dated puns as well as episodes such as the one involving a flying saucer, which seem rather silly and pointless in 2002. I would have preferred to see at least 30 minutes cut from the second half, which, silliness aside, is simply

too long. However the integrity of the script certainly counts for something when so many of the audience would have remembered "Salad Days" from its 1950s heyday. Perhaps in time it will come to be performed in much the same way as many recent Gilbert & Sullivan productions, retaining the integrity of the characters but judiciously updating the humour and some of the music.

All in all, this Park Players' production was entertaining and well worth seeing. The strong pool of acting talent was ably supported by the "orchestra" (two pianos, percussion and bass under the direction of John Clancy), and the sets, lighting, choreography, back-stage and front-of-house teams all did an expert job—praise indeed, for this musical is notable for its many complex scene changes.

"Salad Days" was the fifth consecutive show put on by the Park Players. All have been very successful—each year some \$2000 to \$3000 has been donated back into the local community in the form of scholarships to local primary and secondary students who are studying music, dance and/or drama. This year the profit has been used to help finance tab curtains for the Warrandyte High School Theatre, a project that will mutually benefit the school's and other future productions.



## Do you remember when?

The *Diary* has been recognised as being of academic significance. Well we think that's what it means. You see our own photographer and Internet editor, Sandy Burgoyne, is making your venerable paper the subject of her Master of Arts research thesis.

From its humble beginnings in 1970, as a community newsletter run as an adjunct of the youth club, the *Diary* has grown to the independent 20 plus page newspaper you pick up from local businesses today. That's more than 30 years without a break, well almost.

And to do that she needs your help. Sandy wants to hear from readers about

their memories, reminiscences, anecdotes and opinions of the *Diary*. Perhaps you gather up five copies each month to send to expatriate Warrandytians around the world.

It may be that one of the *Diary's* history features explained something of the district's past that had always interested you. Or it may be a general comment of what you like or don't like.

Of particular interest to Sandy is why you read the *Diary*—is it the local news that the dailies ignore? Is it because you see the community and sporting events of yourself and your neighbours reported in detail? Or is it for some other

reason?

Whatever your comment—positive or critical, a paragraph or a diatribe—Sandy wants to hear from you. You can contact her in a number of ways—letters to care of the *Diary* office, (hand delivered, or posted to PO Box 209, Warrandyte 3113), or by fax 03 9844 4168. You can ring Sandy and have a chat on 03 9844 2680 or email her at: [diarystories@bigpond.com.au](mailto:diarystories@bigpond.com.au)

The material gathered from your stories will be an important part of Sandy's thesis. The *Diary's* motto is "By the community for the community" and the community should tell the story of its own newspaper.

## Dramatic feast

Local audiences will be able to watch three separate drama companies strutting their stuff this month at a special event being staged by Warrandyte Theatre Company.

The Warrandyte Theatre Festival is the brainchild of Sue Dyring, an active member of the company for many years. To be held on Saturday, June 15 at the Warrandyte Mechanics Hall in Yarra Street, the festival will feature work by the Ravens Theatre Company and the Waverley Theatre Company and, naturally the Warrandyte group.

"The festival in June will showcase shorter works," spokesperson Adrian Rice told the *Diary*, "including

monologues, two-handers and two one-act plays."

The Warrandyte company will be staging five separate productions. "Four of these are original, written by members and associates," Mr Rice said.

The festival opens at 11am, continues at 3pm, with adjudication announcements and awards presentations at 6.15pm.

"Each session will stage at least a one-act play, a monologue and two-hander," Mr Rice said.

In conjunction with the festival, the Warrandyte Arts Association, of which the theatre company is an integral part, will be presenting a pottery and art display in the



Ken Virtue, a veteran of Warrandyte Theatre Company productions, will be performing a monologue at the drama festival.

Warrandyte Community Centre, on Saturday, June 15 and Sunday, June 16.

Bookings for the theatre festival are available through Joan at the Old Bakery Bookshop, phone 9844 1744

## June

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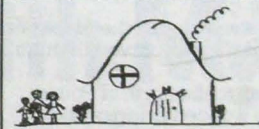
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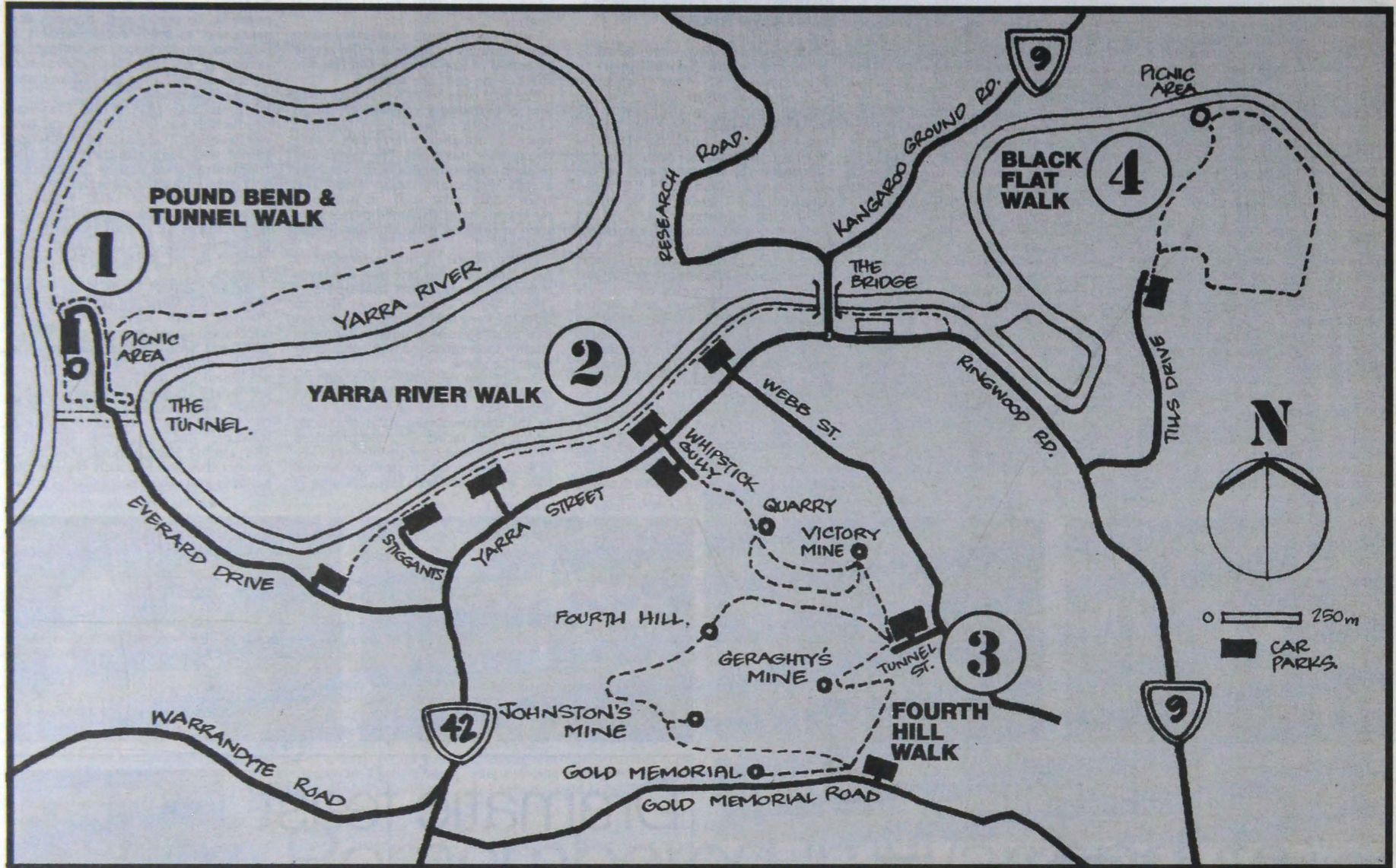
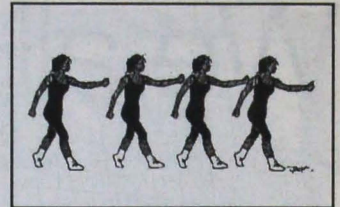
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# 4 Walks around Warrandyte



## 1 Pound Bend Walk

Drive to the end of Everard Drive to find Pound Bend, which is situated in a large, narrow-necked loop of the Yarra River. In the early years the land was used as a pound for cattle, hence its present name. With luck you may spot a koala high in one of the smooth-barked manna gums. The picnic area attracts many birds, including colorful parrots, honeyeaters, kookaburras and noisy miners.

A short walk from the picnic area will lead to the unique Pound Bend Tunnel. This amazing venture was carried out by David Mitchell, father of singer Dame Nellie Melba, in 1870. The tunnel, six metres wide and almost five metres high was dug through 145 metres of solid rock at the neck of the loop. A dam was built across the river and the water was diverted through the tunnel, leaving exposed a five kilometre stretch of river bed, which was dredged for gold.

While no remains of the dam can be seen today, the tunnel, in which lives a colony of bats, looks as if it was carved through only yesterday.

A walking track along the Yarra River, to the north of Pound Reserve, crosses various gullies by wooden bridges and ends at a large open area. The track continues to the south-east past the plaque dedicated to the site of the first youth hostel in Victoria, then joins the entry road to the park office, and turning south continues to Pound Bend Road. For alternative walk along the ridge top, return to the tunnel site above the Pound Bend Reserve car park.

## 2 Yarra River Walk

Halfway along Everard Drive begins a wide track which follows the river and is shared by walkers, joggers, cyclists and horse riders. Dogs under control are welcome in this reserve. A wooden bridge crosses Andersons Creek just above where it joins the Yarra. (Andersons Creek was the original name for Warrandyte). At Stiggants Reserve, site of the monthly Warrandyte Community Market, there is a children's playground, a small amphitheatre, picnic tables, electric barbecues, public toilets and two picnic shelters. A small wetlands area has been created by Doncaster council and the Friends of Warrandyte State Park. Each autumn, the two-day Warrandyte Festival attracts thousands of visitors. Above the path, adjacent to Warrandyte village itself, are additional public toilets, the historic Gospel Chapel and the old Warrandyte post office, faithfully restored and home to the Warrandyte Historical Society's museum.

This walk terminates at the Warrandyte bridge. Immediately downstream is the site of the old wooden bridge, built in 1865 from yellow box timbers felled in the Stony Creek area. The old bridge was the focal point in Warrandyte for New Year celebrations, when the locals would meet to sing Auld Lang Syne to the accompaniment of bagpipes and fireworks—and sometimes exploding gelignite! The existing steel and concrete bridge was built in 1955. A smaller picnic area, with barbecues provided, is located at the public tennis courts, downstream from the bridge. A third set of public toilets has been provided adjacent to the bridge.

## 3 Fourth Hill Walk

Four kilometres long, this walk takes about one-and-a-half hours. It starts from the carpark near the gold memorial cairn at Andersons Creek in Gold Memorial Road. Ford the creek, turn to the left and walk up the steep track. On your left is a mine shaft surrounded by a wooden railing. This whole area is covered with mullock heaps and other relics of the gold mining days.

About 30 metres horizontally left across the hill, on a small track, is a corrugated iron hut of a type common around Warrandyte in years past. This hillside is covered in a sea of white heath in the late winter months.

Continue past the hut, and another shaft, on the steep track that climbs uphill. At a T-junction, turn right for 20 metres to reach Johnston's Mine.

Backtrack to the T-junction and continue around the hill past some mossy boulders to a vehicle track, running from Betton Crescent to the top of Fourth Hill. Turn right and follow the track straight up onto the large, open area at the top of Fourth Hill. Nearby is a grate covering an air shaft down into the Fourth Hill Tunnel.

Walk straight ahead from point of entry to a walking track which leads downhill and to the right. Continue in the same direction, past the Y-intersection, towards the park gate. Turn left at the gate along the vehicle track, following the fenceline. This track undulates down into Whipstick Gully.

The shorter Bruce Bence Walk commences just behind the Information Centre to the south-west, meanders through old diggings and mullock heaps. This narrow track is only 620 metres long but quite steep. It ends on a vehicle track overlooking the Victory Mine site, which had five levels going up inside the hill. This mine is safe to explore up to 20 metres in, where a steel gate prevents further access for safety reasons. A torch should be carried.

Backtrack to the Tunnel Street gate and continue on, veering to the right, and follow it downhill to the Fourth Hill Tunnel, which runs 100 metres into the hill. This was the first large-scale mining operation in the area, started by Patrick Geraghty, Warrandyte's first innkeeper. Geraghty did not strike the reef he was seeking, but two other miners continuing his work in the 1880s were more successful. This mine is safe to explore with a torch. Emerging from the tunnel, turn right and follow the track downhill along Wild Cat Gully to Andersons Creek, where the walk commenced.

## 4 Black Flat Walk

The entrance to Black Flat Reserve, Warrandyte State Park, is situated partway along Tills Drive, which leaves the Ringwood Road close by the Stonehouse craft shop. There are carparks and a picnic area at the reserve.

This is a fully-developed "nature walk", the route is marked by signs and arrows and will take about an hour to cover. Black Flat is covered by open forest, dominated by eucalypts—mostly red box—and is one of the most scenically attractive areas of Warrandyte. Each season brings its own special surprises.

One is constantly reminded of the part this area played during the goldmining era. In 1904, Warrandyte's largest mine—the Caledonian—commenced operations here. One of the boilers that provided steampower for these extensive workings can be seen on the left, not far from the entrance to the reserve.

Also to be seen is a circular depression in the ground, marking the remains of a puddling machine, powered by horses walking in a circle and used to crush quartz from which gold was extracted.

Reminders of the agricultural history of the area include a grand old red box tree used as a fence post by the Mullens family, who homesteaded the area from the 1870s to 1914. Evidence of some of the orchards planted by the Mullens can also be observed, as well as a breacher dam wall. Partway along the nature trail is a sign indicating the track to Jumping Creek Reserve, not shown on the above map.

Spectacular views of the meandering river are a feature of this longer walk. Wombats have burrowed into the soft soil beside the narrow track, creating a maze of holes and tunnels.

A grassy area by the river, near the start of the track, marks the site of one of the old orchards. Close by is a pleasant swimming spot and a delightful picnic area under the shade of a huge manna gum.



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# Whitehouse reborn

After nearly eight years of operation the Warrandyte and Park Orchards Blue Light Disco has changed its name to the Whitehouse Dance Party. It has also changed its location to the Warrandyte Football Club, near the home of the original Warrandyte Whitehouse. The president of the Whitehouse Dance Party Committee, Andrew Wilson, said "a lot of Warrandyte teenagers and their parents are reluctant to go to the under-age night clubs in Ringwood and are looking for a local venue to meet people of their own age and interests." The discos will be run on a monthly basis and the Warrandyte Football Club Past Players Association have purchased a large TV DVD projector to show the latest video tapes. The first dance party will be on Friday, June 21 with great door prizes available. It will be for students for years seven, eight and nine and will operate from 7.30pm to 10.30pm. Further dates are July 19, August 16, September 20, October 18 and November 15. All enquiries for this fully supervised, alcohol-free event to Andrew Wilson on 9844 3085.



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.

running at the Community Church in Yarra Street, Warrandyte, for the past two years. Preparations are now being made for the next course, beginning in second term. If you are interested ring the Alpha Register on 9844 5127 or write to Alpha Register, PO Box 93, Warrandyte, 3113.

## AGM

The annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Historical Society will be held in the museum in Yarra Street, Warrandyte, on Sunday, July 21 commencing at 2pm. If you are interested in history, this is an ideal opportunity to come along and have a look at the society and their work. There will be a guest speaker and afternoon tea will be provided. Further information from Lisa Sargent on 0409 190017

## Seminar

The next Green Wedge Seminar, to be held in the conference room, Currawong Bush Park, Reynolds Road, Doncaster East will look at "Blue Wrens and Their Mating Strategies." The speaker will be Dr Raoul Mulder from the Department of Zoology at the University of Melbourne. It will be held on Thursday, July 4 commencing at 7.30pm.

## Volunteers

Warrandyte Historical Society have recently lost several of their volunteers who help man the museum in the old post office in Yarra Street. The museum is open on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. If



ARTYFACTS

A special exhibition entitled "The Best of Stonehouse" will be held at the Stonehouse Gallery from June 24 to July 30, 2002 to celebrate their 30 years of existence. The gallery is open between 10am and 5pm daily, at 323 Warrandyte-Ringwood Road, Warrandyte. Founding member Mrs Dulcie Herd will open the exhibition on Sunday, June 23 at 2.30pm. The gallery was first opened by a group of eight potters on June 24, 1972. It is currently run and manned by 17 women who make most of the pottery on display.

## Theatre

Eltham Little Theatre are presenting "Still Life" by Noel Coward from June 27 to July 13 at the Eltham Performing Arts Centre, Main Road, Research. Performances will run from Thursday to Saturday, commencing at 8pm with a matinee on Sunday, July 7 at 2pm. Sherry will be available at 7.30 with cheese and wine after the show. Tickets are \$14 (concession \$12). Bookings can be made by ringing 9437 1574.

## Singers

Diamond Valley Singers, in conjunction with Diamond Valley and Eltham Community

Orchestra, are presenting "Merrie England Through the Looking Glass" at the Warrandyte High School Theatre on July 5, 6, 10, 12, 13. Tickets cost \$18 and \$13. Bookings through 9438 1625.

## Gallery

The next exhibition at Manningham Gallery, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster, is "Lost ... Found in Your Neighbourhood", featuring works from migrant cultures and indigenous communities. It will run from June 13 to 23. The gallery is open Tuesday to Thursday, 10am to 5pm, and at weekends between 2 and 5pm.

Wiser Driver Course over four weeks in July and August. Each session is for two hours, from 1.30 to 3.30pm on July 18 and 26 and August 1 and 8. Cost is \$16.50. Anyone interested can call Jackie or Katrina on 9848 5236.

anyone is interested please call Jo Laurence on 9844 3694.

## Driving

Manningham Community Health Service in conjunction with VicRoads is offering a

## Asylum

Rebekah Blackwolf of Mitcham is collecting baby clothes and men's, women's and children's secondhand shoes to be delivered to asylum seekers held in detention. Her aim is 1000 pairs of shoes by December. If you can help please call Rebekah on 9876 3964 or 0417 732864.

## Dance

The next monthly dance, organised by the South Warrandyte Social Dance Committee will be on Saturday, July 13, featuring a football theme. The dance commences at 8pm in the South Warrandyte Hall in Hall Road and includes old-time and some new vogue dances. Cost is \$7. Tea and coffee are supplied. Further information from 9723 3892.

## Alpha

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# Rod new king of the court

By JUDY GREEN

Warrandyte Tennis Club have a new men's champion. Seventeen-year-old Rod McCutcheon took out the title at the recent club championship finals, defeating Neil Sproat in a very tight three-set match.

McCutcheon, a previous winner of the club's junior championship, prevailed 7-5, 6-7, 7-6.

In the men's doubles, Paul Lynch and Paul French combined to defeat Ross Henderson and Malcolm Brown 6-1, 6-2 while the mixed doubles went to Bill and Elizabeth Parry, defeating Brendan Hogan and Melissa Cooper 6-4, 4-6, 6-2.

No women's events were played this year.

At the club's annual general meeting last month, Mark Bence, Wendy Synnot and Barry Dick were re-elected unopposed as president, secretary and treasurer respectively.

Bence commented on the club's successful year, maintaining membership numbers and a good financial position.

He thanked the many members who had given time and effort over the year and pointed out that the Goldtown Open, which the club had run for many years, would not continue in 2002.

"While the tournament was a success, the small number of entries has led to the decision to cancel the event this year," he said. "The committee has decided to put these resources into next year's club championships and look at additional programs for the juniors."

The club recently had three midweek women's teams playing in the finals of the Ferntree Gully and District competition.

Section 1 lost their semi-final and Sections 2 and 14 their grand finals. Section 2, who had been top of the ladder all season, went down to Emerald by just one game and Section 14 to Hoddles Creek by 13 games.



New local tennis champion Rod McCutcheon after a very tough final.

# Under-19 Redbacks run riot

Continued from Page 22

aside and Nick Peters has stepped in. Peters faced a challenging assignment first up, an away game against well-credentialled Balwyn.

An uninspiring first half saw Balwyn comfortably in control with a scoreline of 10-3. The second half was played at a higher tempo, but whenever Warrandyte challenged, Balwyn were able to reply, maintaining a solid lead.

Brilliant defensive work by Bec Parsons and Kim Singh kept the Redbacks within striking distance and a long basket to Anna Middleton — probably the best Redback on court — with just over a minute to go cut the deficit to four points.

Balwyn replied quickly and a final three-point shot by Middleton was not enough to get the Redbacks over the line. They went down 23-20.

Peters, who also coaches the Under-13 boys side, used most of the game to gauge the talent of his players.

He was impressed, but concerned with the unevenness of their performance, particularly in offence.

In other results from A-grade games, the Under-15s coached by Lorraine Parfitt went down 37-26 to Koonung, who had a number of players with Victorian championship experience and were always in control. Warrandyte were without star point guard Louise Yates (appendicitis) and Danielle Curavic (broken hand) and had guard Gina Oliver fouled out early in the game, but they were never really in the match.

Forward Libby Lavery tried to lift the side single-handedly but the Redbacks were outclassed.

Parfitt's second side, the Under-11 girls, had also come up against Koonung in an

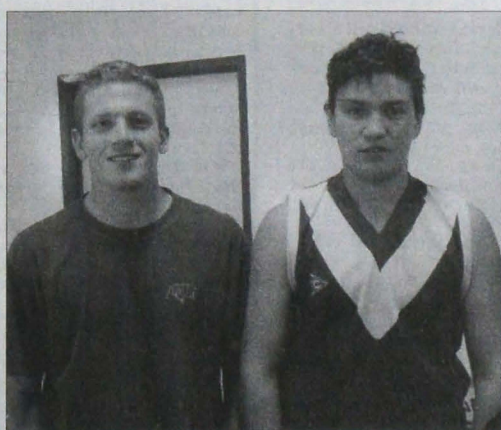
earlier game at Warrandyte High School. The result was a 12-point to the Redbacks, with strong games by Ashlee Collins, Cassie Wilson and Madeleine Smith. Courtney Petalas was still out injured but expected to return soon.

Ross Allison's Under-13 girls have struggled against very strong opposition, losing by over 50 points to high-performing Victorian championship teams, but have still recorded some creditable wins. A number of the girls are bottom aged, so the future is promising.

In a low-scoring but exciting game, the Under-9 girls coached by Ann Cousens went down 6-5 to Nunawading.

The early shots fell for Nunawading, who had scored their six points early in the second half.

To their credit, Warrandyte came back but could not get over the line.



# The young Bloods come out to play

Left: Warrandyte Junior Football Club Under-14s coach Craig Lincoln congratulates Hamish Hoskings on his selection in the Yarra Junior Football League team to play in the Victorian Smoke Free Championship.

Below left: Under-14 players who recently celebrated milestone games for the club. Left to right: Paul Burgoyne, Jesse Monterio, Luke Ezbery, Oliver Mock, Jack Bullard and Chris Watson.

Below: Coach Mathew Matheou urges his Colts 1 boys to lift for the last quarter. The Colts came from 16 points down to lose by one.



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# Unpleasant surprises!

By TONY OLIVER

It was a night of upsets at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre on June 7 in the Friday junior championship basketball competition.

Biggest surprise was the shock defeat of our Under-12 boys Metro 1 side coached by Damian Arsenis. The boys had been cruising in the competition, sitting second on the ladder and fulfilling the potential they had shown over recent seasons.

They played Mornington, who were ninth on the ladder and opened the scoring from the first tip-off. Warrandyte quickly replied, but the fast pace of the game was putting the Redbacks under pressure, forcing simple errors, and an intercept from a side ball gave the visitors a three-point break.

Julian Philippou was doing most of the scoring for Warrandyte, amassing 13 of their 17 points on the board at the break.

Mornington led by six points, but the early part of the second half belonged to Warrandyte. The Redbacks fired up to take what appeared to be a match-winning five-point lead into the final stages.

But they faltered, allowing Mornington to draw level. It went basket for basket, but a critical turnover to Mornington gave them a one-point break.

In his first game back from illness, Jordan Beltramin evened up the game with 45 seconds to go, but a scramble for the ball in front of visitors' goal saw them take possession and the lead.

Warrandyte equalised in a desperate passage of play, but Mornington got the break and finished off the game with two points on the buzzer.

The Metro 2 girls, coached by Lorraine Parfitt and sitting fourth, had been inconsistent over recent weeks, losing to 11th-placed Collingwood but beating Craigieburn.

Their opponents were eighth-placed Knox, whom they had beaten on the road. But such is the evenness of the competition that the visitors led 20-9 at the break.

The match would depend on which side opened up better after the break and it was Knox who were able to capitalise on their opportunities while the Warrandyte shots were going everywhere except into the basket.

There was a faint glimmer of hope with just over four minutes to go when a shot from centre Kirra Solty was rebounded by Sara Simmons

## Fancied Redbacks down in Friday night of upsets

for the Redbacks' first basket of the half.

Knox were in foul trouble but unfazed, scoring with ease to regain their advantage and going on to win 32-19. The good news for Warrandyte was a strong game by Kirra Solty, who is gaining confidence with each outing, and a welcome return from injury of Courtney Petalas.

Despite the loss, Warrandyte should retain a spot in the top five. However, the side are suffering from too little teamwork and too little coordination in offence. Much work still needs to be done.

The Under-16 girls were coming off a surprise loss to lowly-placed Coburg the previous week and were weakened by the absence of Louise Yates (appendix operation). Sarah Bensch was also unavailable and clearance difficulties are still preventing Danielle Curavic joining the team.

The game against fourth-placed Keilor started slowly, but baskets to Libby Lavery and Hannah Massingham gave the home crowd a lift.

Despite this promising opening and six points to guard Gina Oliver, Keilor went into the break with a three-point lead.

The second half opened well for Warrandyte, Emma Razzi putting in a three-point shot to level the scores, and the Redbacks edged their way to a slight lead.

Keilor were not done yet, however, and came back to make it a one-point game with less than three minutes to go.

Baskets to Jess Solty and Hannah Massingham restored a five-point margin, and Warrandyte played out time to win 31-25.

Hannah Massingham (nine points) and Gina Oliver (eight) led the scoring.

The win put Warrandyte within reach of a final-five position, but with games against top-five teams Dandenong and Cranbourne to come there is a lot of work ahead.

The final Metro team in action on the night were Emma Wood's Under-18 girls, who had crashed out of the five by losing their past three games and faced second-placed Blackburn.

Warrandyte were without strong forward Anna Middleton but welcomed back Jenna Hardy from illness. Point guard Kim Singh was carrying a back

injury and Blackburn went into the break with a two-point lead.

This Redbacks team are noted strong finishers, but it was Blackburn doing most of the scoring the second half and they extended the lead to eight with just over a minute on the clock.

Singh drove through to the basket to grab two points back, but the visitors replied almost immediately.

In a trademark performance, Singh scored a three-pointer in the dying seconds, but it was all too late.

On a brighter note, the Under-16 North West girls side coached by Nick Peters scored their first win of the formal competition on May 31 with a shot on the buzzer against Hawthorn. Kaitlynd Bottomley clinched the 24-23 victory.



Sophie Richardson is about to put the shot up in the Under-9 A-grade game against Nunawading, with Redback teammates Zanetta Hosking (14) and Eleanor Cousins (42) in support. Nunawading just held out Warrandyte 6-5.

## Under-19s boys steal show for Warrandyte

By TONY OLIVER

Warrandyte's Under-19 B-grade boys stole the show as Round 7 of the Eastern Districts junior basketball competition was completed on Saturday, June 1.

The Redbacks, who faced the neighbouring Doncats, had started the grading phase in C-grade but forced themselves up the ladder to trial in A.

Unfortunately, the A-grade grading games were against top Eltham sides and Nunawading and although Warrandyte performed well they dropped back to B-grade. The away encounter with the Doncats would see if their confidence had been dented.

The home side started confidently, scoring the opening basket, but the Redbacks had soon established a narrow lead. Their speed was starting to tell, with Jerrod Gibson and Jake Templeton doing the damage in offence.

Templeton unfortunately collected a foul when a clash of legs left an opponent on the court and the tension rose, the Doncats turning on a revival before the half-time break.

But the second half belonged to the Redbacks. All-round court coverage by Tim Given and Hayden Wall was telling and the Doncats were forced off their game.

The final margin was a comfortable 15 points and coach Paul Whittingham can look forward to a strong season if he can keep the boys focused.

A second Warrandyte side to just miss out on A-grade are Ian Wood's Under-15 boys. Grading started in B-grade and despite hard work and big winning margins, they have had settle for a top B-grade competition.

A serious ankle injury to Jared Fitzpatrick, who will be out for several weeks, reduced the team to six players for a key game against Balwyn, but with point guard Sean Frost in top form and scoring machine Robert Illingworth seemingly on the end of every pass, the Redbacks were always in control.

Balwyn gave it their best, but Warrandyte's fluent game saw run out easy winners 57-34.

A much tougher struggle was in store for the Under-13 B-grade boys coached by Nick Peters, who hosted the top Ivanhoe side at home.

The first half was tight, neither side able to put together any consistent flow and the visitors led 8-3 at half-time.

Scoring was much more fluent in the second half, with the Redbacks able to get back into the game.

Their defence remained solid and the offence was sparked by a strong performance by Luke Saunders, well supported by Mitchell Smith and Matthew Clough.

Warrandyte found the lead and held out a very determined Ivanhoe for an impressive 24-22 win.

Coach Peters was impressed with the full game performance of his boys and will be looking for more of the same in coming weeks.

In other boys results, the A-grade Under-11s went down to Nunawading by 14 points.

In the girls competition, Warrandyte are represented in every A-grade age group up to the Under-17s — an indication of the depth and strength of the local club.

Because of other commitments, Under-17s regular coach Emma Wood has had to stand

● Continued Page 21

## Maggot, but one of ours

Bruce Onken, long-time Blood turned EFL umpire, cut right to the chase when he addressed a Warrandyte Football Club past players' luncheon on June 1.

"As everyone knows," he said, "I'm a white maggot!" But that was quite okay with this gathering — Bruce Onken was, after all, an old friend.

He played for Warrandyte for 15 years from 1975, was part of back-to-back Reserves premierships in 1982-83, won a Reserves best and fairest award, coached the Twos in 1989-90 and was assistant coach of the seniors.

Onken, 46, turned to umpiring because he wanted to stay in football after retiring as a player and has since officiated in 248 games, from Division 4 to First Division, including grand finals.

In an entertaining address, he made, among others, the following points:

- Too many young umpires were too flamboyant for their own good. "Too many want to put their stamp on a game," he said. "They want to be noticed during the game instead of blending into the background."

- "The biggest accolade you can get after a game is to be told you hadn't been noticed."

- Umpires were prima donnas in their own way. "They love to bounce the ball because they think the higher they bounce it the better their umpiring looks."

- "So they love to have the ball pumped up very hard because the harder it is the higher it bounces."

- Our two-umpire system was essential because a single umpire would have no hope of keeping up with the pace of today's football.

- Umpires were too busy to hear what was "coming over the fence from the crowd".

- The biggest "spray" he'd copped after umpiring a game had come from Warrandyte's very own Tom Kerkhof.

- "Warrandyte had just played North Ringwood and I'd reported Steve Carroll for abusive language," Onken said. "The door of the umpires' room burst open and in stormed Tommy. He gave me a terrible serve."

- "When he'd stormed out again, the other umpires in the room said, 'Gee, who was that?'"

- "I told them not to worry, that it was just Tommy Kerkhof."

- (As evidence of their ongoing mateship, the umpire and his tormentor pose for Jan Tindale's camera on Page 2.)



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# It's up to you, chaps!

By LEE TINDALE

A players meeting on Tuesday, June 11, was to set embattled Warrandyte Football Club's agenda for the second half of the EFL Third Division season.

As the competition took a week off for the annual interleague game over the Queen's Birthday weekend, the Bloods were perilously placed in the relegation zone, second-last on the ladder with just one win from nine games.

And coach Scott Hunter will put it on the players to set the targets for the nine games to come.

"We're having a players meeting after training on Tuesday and I'll throw it on the players to set the targets for the second half of the season," Hunter said as this edition of the *Diary* went to press.

Hunter pinpointed two reasons for Warrandyte's dismal season so far: injuries and lack of consistency.

"We've had a lot of good players, but too many haven't done it twice in a row," he said. "We've played some great quarters, but not four quarters."

"In some games we've outscored the opposition for three quarters, but that other



Scott Hunter

## Players to set agenda for Bloods' salvation

quarter has destroyed us.

"Only Wantirna South (who beat the Bloods by 61 in Round 1) and Norwood (61 points in Round 3) have beaten us comfortably for four quarters."

Hunter said Warrandyte just had to work harder — "maybe pick up five percent".

Warrandyte's season has been plagued by VIP injuries. They lost key defender John O'Brien for the season in the first quarter of Round 1, full-forward Scott Wynd in the first quarter of Round 2, outstanding young ruckman Craig Dick in the first quarter of Round 6 and veteran follower Kimberly O'Connor in Round 8.

"Unfortunately, we've suffered key-position injuries — not forward pockets, flankers, but guys you can't replace," Hunter said.

"But when we resume after the break we should have a full list, apart from O'Connor."

Warrandyte's inability to go on with the job this season was starkly demonstrated in the game against fourth-placed Coldstream — last season's Fourth Division premier — on June 1.

Despite conceding the first two goals in the space of three minutes, the Bloods produced their best start of 2002 to lead 7.2 (44) to 3.1 (19) at the first change.

Unfortunately, they were to manage only four more goals for the match, to Coldstream's 11.

Liam Riley got us on the board after five minutes and full-forward Stuart Wynd marked strongly and kicked truly 10 minutes in to level the score.

Rob Ryan, promoted from the reserves to cover for the absence of regular ruckmen Dick, O'Connor and Andrew Schaffer — all sidelined by injury — found Wynd two minutes later and when Guy Taylor marked and took

advantage of a penalty with 14 minutes gone, Warrandyte had kicked nicely clear.

The Bloods were moving the ball quickly and well and making a target of Wynd, the sort of stuff success-starved local fans had been looking for all season.

Matt Wood snapped our fifth goal at the 20-minute mark, Mick McCormack gathered our sixth with a great mark and long, accurate kick at 28 minutes and when Wynd snapped his third two minutes later, the Warrandyte faithful were on splendid terms with themselves.

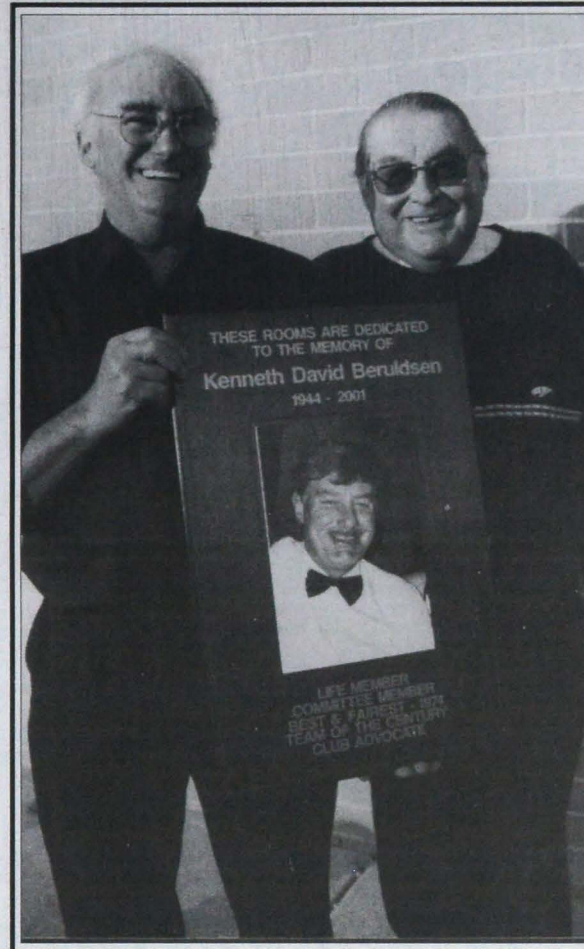
In the quarter-time huddle, coach Hunter warned his troops against complacency — and the Bloods were jolted back to reality by a Coldstream goal in the first minute of the second term. But Wood grabbed that back two minutes later with some amazing soccer-style aerobatics.

Not a lot happened on the scoreboard in the ensuing 17 minutes, Coldstream adding a goal at nine minutes and Wynd producing his fourth and Warrandyte's ninth from a sharp angle.

The visitors edged closer with a goal at 24 minutes, but a 17-point buffer — 9.2 (56) to 6.3 (39) — at the long break seemed comfortable enough in the context of this particular game.

But the third quarter was to be the beginning of the end for Warrandyte. It started encouragingly enough, with Liam Riley converting a typical Liam Riley mark after nine minutes to increase the margin to four clear goals.

It continued to be very spirited football, with no such thing as an easy possession, but the turning point came 21 minutes in when Coldstream goaled from a sharp angle then raced the ball upfield from the



## A special kind of stalwart

A plaque honouring one of Warrandyte Football Club's favourite sons — the late Ken Beruldson — was unveiled at a past players' luncheon on June 1.

Beruldson died at 56 in April 2001 from an asbestos-related illness. He was an uncompromising full-back for the Bloods in the 1970s, was named in that position in Warrandyte's team of that decade in 2000 and as emergency in the All Stars of 1950-99. He was the only defender to win the Bloods' best and fairest award.

Quite apart from his on-field deeds he was an outstanding clubman — particularly as a principal of the past players group.

Current past players committee chairman Lawrie Sloan paid Beruldson the ultimate tribute as the plaque was unveiled.

"Ken was a great stalwart, a great player, a great fundraiser and a fantastic person for this club," he said.

WFC president Noel Taplin (left) and Laurie Sloan hold the plaque honouring Ken Beruldson.

centre bounce for another 30 seconds later.

The Bloods' lead had very suddenly shrunk to 11 points — which became just 10 at the last change.

Hunter called for smart use of the ball and mean defence in the final stanza and Wynd had an immediate chance to give us some breathing space but hit the post.

Coldstream goaled four minutes later and, after a big mark in the square, hit the

front for the first time since the game's infancy.

Considerably worse was to come for Warrandyte. Two Coldstream frees within easy range did the maximum damage and two more goals at 21 and 26 minutes put the game way beyond our reach.

Chris Quinlan produced a belated roar with a speckie mark and resultant goal at the 28-minute mark, but the Coldstream horse had well and truly bolted.

Final score: Coldstream 14.10 (94), Warrandyte 11.8 (74).

Warrandyte's goal-scorers were Wynd 4, Wood 2, Riley 2, Taylor, McCormack and Quinlan. Their best were Taylor, Chris Cornell, Matt Blagrove, Wood, Ryan, Heath Decker and Matt Treeby.

The Twos got themselves back on a winning track with a 29-point win — 9.11 (65) to 5.6 (36) — and are 5-4 after nine rounds. Their best were Glen Carle, John Prangley and Travis Brogan.

# Juniors have that finals feeling



Coaching has become a family affair at Warrandyte Junior Football Club. Under-12s coach James Riddell is following in the footsteps of father Neil, a former coach, a long-time servant and a life member. It is the club's first father-son team of this type.

● More junior football pictures on Page 21.

By DENNIS J. HOIBERG

Warrandyte Junior Football Club are poised to make a big impression on the composition of this season's Yarra junior league finals.

The club have eight teams in the premierships race and most are in the four or knocking on the door.

Nowhere is enjoyment derived from playing junior football — nor the commitment to it — more evident than in the Under-9s.

The Tackers, who do not play for premierships points, are unbeaten and continue to impress with their enthusiasm and skill. Supported by an Auskick program with more than 100 players involved, they improve with each game, such

players as Adam Couder, Nick Nolan, Taylor Hayton and Dylan Burns typifying the skills and commitment to teamwork and sportsmanship at this level.

Just one win away from the top four, Greg Edwards' Under-10s continue to do the club proud. An example was their recent three-point loss to traditional rivals Kew after being 18 points down at the three-quarter time.

New players Alexi Sabo, Kyle Pianta and Charlie Bullard are all fitting in well and adding strength to an already impressive unit.

Andrew White, Patrick Pardoe, Andrew Bird and Rhys Aldenhoven continue to shine in the Under-11s. Coach Wayne Moore has been impressing on his boys the fundamentals of football: be first to the ball, take possession, pass to a teammate and kick goals.

It certainly seems to be working, with the team well placed on the ladder after eight rounds.

A recent highlight were the celebrations of 50 games with the club for Sam Casey and Tristan Valentino.

The Under-12s are third on the ladder and going from strength to strength under coach James Riddell, Rowan Mullet-Treloar celebrated his 50th game with the club with a classy performance against ladder leaders St Mary's.

The players are following the game plan developed by Riddell

and Clayton Pearce, Ben Power and Ian McLeod are just some of the names we'll be hearing a lot more of.

A reformed and refocused Under-13 side are yet to win, but a recent draw with a top-of-the-ladder side indicates that a win is imminent.

The skills are there — the likes of Alex Beltramin, Ross Brown, David Skurnik and Peter Cudmore are testament to that — the work ethic is there and that will breed success.

The Under-14s are just outside the four and continue to play an exciting brand of football. Coach Craig Lincoln is building on the good work already done by these boys and enthusiasm is high.

Dominant player Hamish Hoskings was recently selected to represent the Yarra Junior Football League in the Victorian Smoke Free Cup. Also winning Smoke free Cup representative honours are Under-15 stars Rob Illingworth, Stephen Christopher and Jared

Fitzpatrick, whose selection reflects the skills level within the club team.

The Under-15s are third on the ladder and undeniable premierships prospects.

Other boys such as Justin Distefano, Leigh Buchanan and James Davis continue to impress and will press for higher honours.

The Colts 1 side, in the hands of representative coaches Mathew Matheou, are well placed on the ladder despite a number of narrow defeats. Ben Mason, Hayden Wall and the three Joshes — Eyre, Mckellar and Flett — all completed benchmark games with the club recently.

With five wins and three defeats, the Colts 2 side are on the fringe of the four, coaches Oliver Doederlein and Taylor Wolfe continuing to impress club officials with their game-day tactics.

Nick Gordon, Jarrod Boyce and Andrew Biffra are just some of the players enjoying stand-out seasons.

## Lights, action — and our Shaun

Warrandyte Under-15s footballer Shaun Carter has been selected in a Yarra league representative team to play under lights at the Gabba — home of the Brisbane Lions — next month.

The opponents will be Brisbane Metro and Queensland Country.

"We consider Shaun to be a very talented player and an excellent club person," said WJFC president Mathew Matheou, "and we think this trip could be the makings of him."

"The decision on who to chose was difficult as any number of boys could have gone."

"However Shaun's attitude, determination and commitment to the club got him across the line. We wish him all the very best in his representative career."

● Three players from Warrandyte's Colts 1 team — Rory Blythe and Ben and Tom Naughtin — were members of the victorious Luther College team in the recent Victorian Schools Touch Football Championship.

"Luther College had the toughest path to the finals and met a fired-up team from the Good Shepherd College at Hamilton," said proud father John Naughtin.

"However, the entire team, led by the Warrandyte boys, responded to the challenge and won the championship round. It was a great result."

"I've no doubt the team spirit developed at the Warrandyte Junior Football Club contributed to the victory," he said.

## Safety policy pays off

Warrandyte Junior Football Club's attitude to player safety has been recognised with a \$2500 grant from VicHealth. The grant is part of the Sports Safety Equipment program.

"VicHealth was impressed by our firm stand on compulsory mouth guards as well as our policy that all players in the lower years wear helmets," said club president Mathew Matheou.

"This money will be spent on goal posts padding as well as more helmets."





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**WARRANDYTE**

# Wilson McDougall & Associates

## THE QUIET ACHIEVERS

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**WARRANDYTE**

**13 Webb Street — AUCTION**



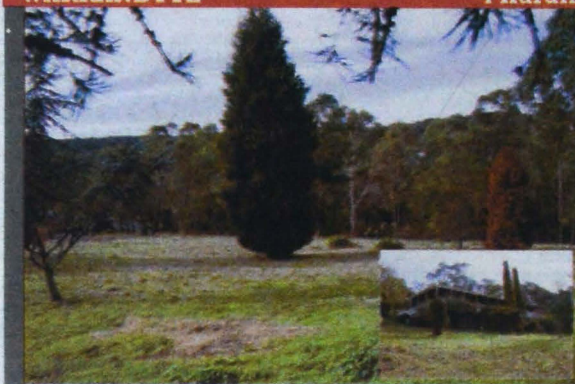
**SATURDAY, 6th JULY 2002 at 11am**

**AS RARE AS HEN'S TEETH**

This neat and comfortable 2BR cottage only a 2 min stroll from Warrandyte village would ideally suit the first home buyer or shrewd investor. Lounge/dining, renovated kitchen and bathroom, ducted heating and airconditioning are only some of the features. Set on nearly 1/4 of an acre of rolling lawns and landscaped gardens with plenty of room for the chooks.

**WARRANDYTE**

**4 Harding Road — AUCTION**



**SATURDAY, 27th JULY 2002 at 11am**

**RAINBOW RIDGE, PICTURE PERFECT**

On over 5 glorious cleared acres, this ranch style homestead with full length verandah comprises spacious lounge, formal dining, central kitchen/family, master BR with full ensuite, renovated bathroom, study and 2 other bedrooms. Offering commanding views and on the high side of the road complete with a second dwelling, this property offers a country lifestyle with city conveniences.

**WARRANDYTE**

**\$550,000+**

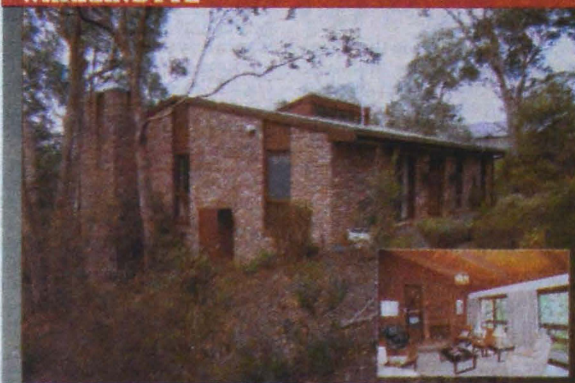


**ON BANK OF THE RIVER**

This imposing Vindin Soares family home comprises 4 dbl BRs, master with WIR and full ensuite, spacious lounge with OFF, formal dining, timber kitchen/meals, family room plus generous games room. Set on 1.5 acres of professionally landscaped native gardens and featuring a triple car garage and located in one of Warrandyte's most private and prestigious locations; this property with its abundance of native flora and fauna will delight the discerning buyer.

**WARRANDYTE**

**\$450,000**



**VISION SPLENDID**

On a private acre allotment, this well maintained family home offers sensational views of the surrounding hills. Featuring 3 BRs, study, timber kitchen/meals, separate dining, sunken lounge with OFF and rumpus. A double carport, bitumen driveway, separate workshop and landscaped gardens complete this fine home. Inspection will delight.

**WARRANDYTE**



**DARE TO BE DIFFERENT**

This beautiful mudbrick home is full of the charm and character of a bygone era. Features local stone walls, 2 OFFs, leadlights, recycled bridge timbers & full length windows. Built around the original miner's cottage, the home has been tastefully extended and modernised without losing its olde worlde appeal. 5BRs, lounge, lge formal entertaining area, kitchen with modern appliances & 2 bathrooms. On 5 acres, outbuildings include: original wattle & daub miners cottage, stabling and extensive shedding.

**WARRANDYTE**

**\$900,000+**



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## Want Wilson McDougall to sell your home for MORE?

**HERE'S HOW WE CAN HELP**

Renowned interior decorator, Fiona O'Donnell has joined Wilson McDougall to give you advice on how to present your home to get the best possible price. A Warrandyte resident, Fiona is familiar with Warrandyte's diverse range of homes and is available to consult and assist you in the presentation of your property for sale. Preparing your home can be a daunting task, let Fiona take the stress and worry out of the presentation of your property to enable you to maximise the sale price of your biggest asset. This is an exclusive service and is free when you list your home for sale with Wilson McDougall. To find out more, call Andrew Wilson at Wilson McDougall today on 9844 3085.

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