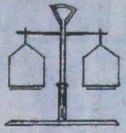


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# DIARY

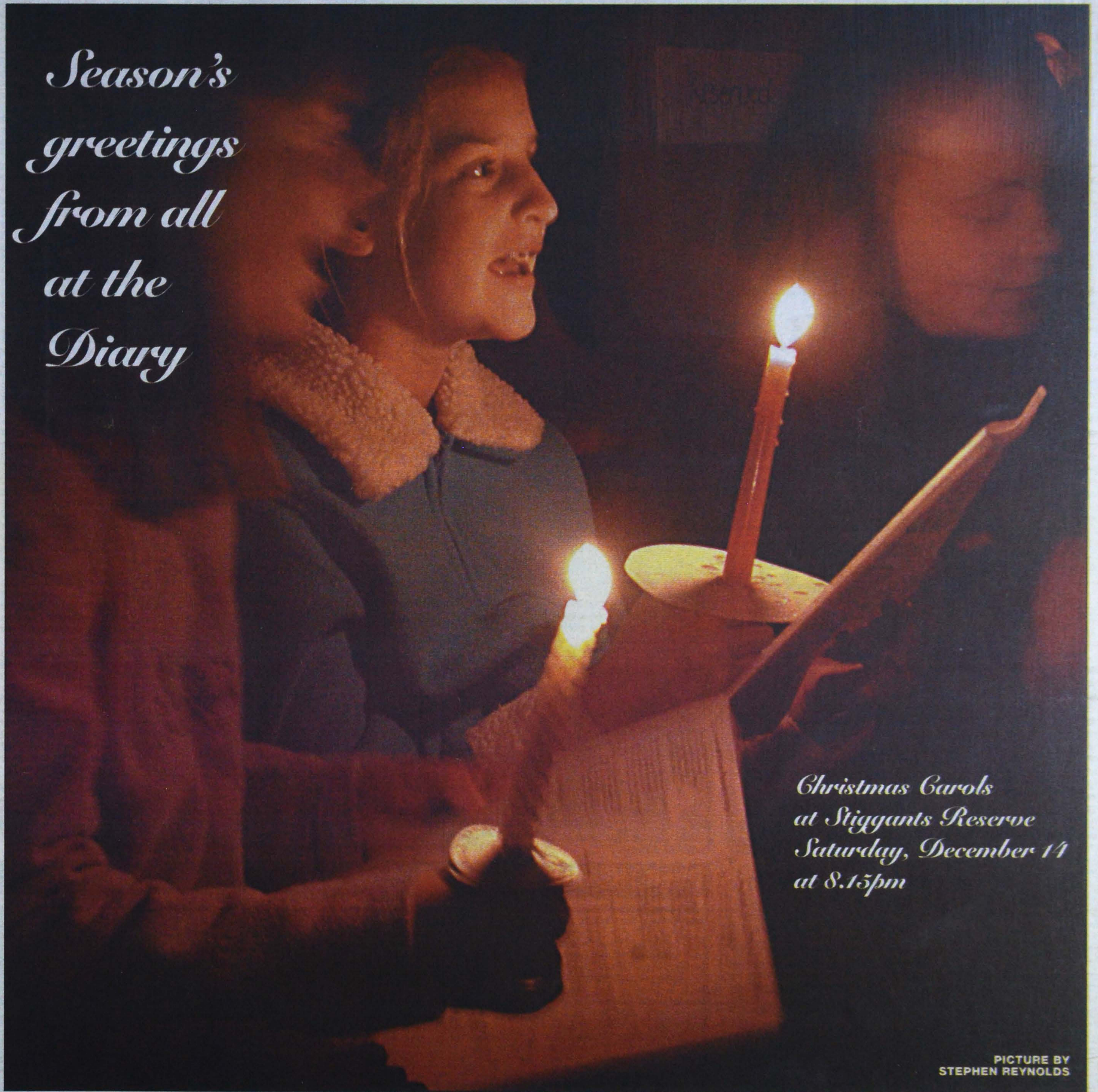


No. 349, December 2002

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greetings  
from all  
at the  
Diary*



*Christmas Carols  
at Stiggants Reserve  
Saturday, December 14  
at 8.15pm*

PICTURE BY  
STEPHEN REYNOLDS

## CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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**WARRANDYTE**  
**DIARY**

EDITORS: Cliff Green and Lee Tindale  
PUBLISHER: Warrandyte Diary Pty Ltd, (ACN 006 886 826  
ABN 74 422 669 097) as trustee for the Warrandyte Arts and  
Education Trust.  
POSTAL ADDRESS: P.O. Box 209, Warrandyte 3113.  
EDITORIAL: Chief of staff Jan Tindale, 9844 3719.  
ADVERTISING & ACCOUNTS: Rae Danks, 9844 3819 or 0414 745 212.  
CIRCULATION: Peter Norman, 9844 3268.  
FAX: Editorial and Advertising, 9844 4168.  
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INTERNET ADDRESS: http://www.vicnet.net.au/~warrandy/  
PRODUCTION: Rachel Schroeder, 9725 6699.  
PRINTING: Streamline Press Pty Ltd, 155 Johnston Street, Fitzroy.  
Published on or about the second Tuesday of each month (except January).

**ADVERTISING RATES**  
\$5.50 a column centimetre (casual), \$5.20 (permanent), \$550 full page.  
\$365 half page. \$200 quarter page. \$65 front page "ears". Preferred  
positions: page one 100%, page two 30%, page three and back page  
20%, other nominated pages 10%. Mini-ads: \$4.60 for four lines, then  
\$1 each additional line. Mini-ads pre-paid unless by prior arrange-  
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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.

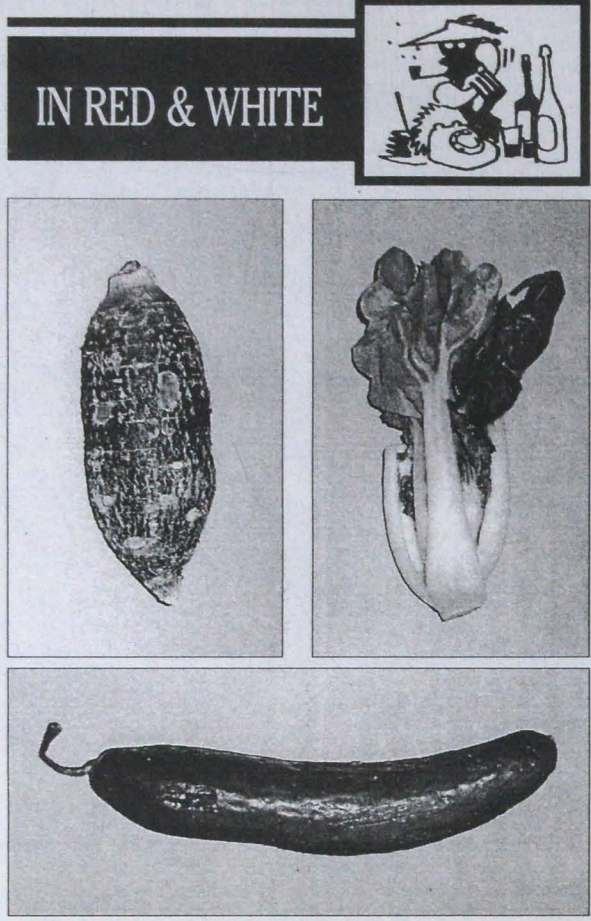
# Checking out the sexuality of the more exotic vegies

The check-out chick at Safeways at The Pines might have known her onions, but she wasn't at all sure about the more exotic vegies the bloke was putting through. The potato-looking thing threw her, but the customer came to her rescue by assuring her it was a taro. Then the bok choy. She had a clue about that but needed to be reminded of the difference between the standard bok choy and the baby variety. The cucumber in clingwrap was easy—or so she thought. But as she was about to zap it into the register, the bloke told her this was no ordinary, common and garden cucumber but a Lebanese one. "Oh," she said, studying it for a little while before turning to the chick at the next check-out. "How much is a lesbian cucumber?" she asked. Well, they are pretty phallic, you know.

In all the years she'd been taking photographs for the *Diary* (while doubling as chief-of-staff), Jan Tindale had never been shot at, spat at, seriously confronted, threatened, interrogated by ASIO or the CIA or made to feel anything but welcome. Surprise, then that this shutterbug with the very natural and engaging subject-friendly ways should be evicted last month from our benign senior citizens' annual concert—the favourite invitational date on her happy-snap calendar. Yes, the lady banging the ivories objected to Jan taking up her customary stage-door position to capture the players as they came out to do their things, told her to get out of the way and, ultimately, to get out altogether. "Okay," said Jan, "see ya!" Come on, old girl, this was hardly the paparazzi! Never mind, the incident has soured the sweet relationship between the *Diary* and the senior cits not at all—and Jan's pre- eviction concert pics are on Page 11.



Lawrie Sloan... just don't mention turkeys!



Clockwise from top left: Taro, baby bok choy, Lebanese cucumber. The photos are not scaled to size—but size doesn't matter anyway, does it?

Don't even try talking turkey to Lawrie Sloan—Christmas is not yet upon us and he's already had a gutful of 'em! Lawrie, Warrandyte's most decorated football administrator and also flatulently famous, moved into a new unit in Ringwood recently and was mystified by a few calls to his new phone number inquiring about poultry. Poultry? Not known at this address, he said. But the Christmas rush had really set in by the time Sloanie returned from four days in his caravan at Dromana. His answering service was chockers—14 callers putting in their orders for turkeys! One bloke wanted 10 dozen, another seven dozen another five dozen. Turns out Telstra had allocated him the discontinued number of a mob called Forti-

tude Turkeys. Lawrie has since snapped the food chain by changing his number again.

Is their no end to the talents of regular Page 2 visitor Grant "Socks" Egan? A printer by vocation, Socks had already diversified into shed demolition, revolutionising that trade by starting at the bottom and working up where mere mortals had always done it the other way around. Now he has taken his unlimited versatility into the cabinet-making field. Socks spent many hours crafting a cabinet to house his exotic wine collection and right pleased he was with the fruits of his labours. Inspired, he embarked on a similar project to house his precious audio/visual gear but somehow interpreted inches as centimetres and made it too

narrow by about that much to fit his VCR. "I was going to get a new VCR anyway," he defensively told his mirth-stricken mates. So if anyone out there has a teeny-weeny, anorexic VCR they're not using, they might like to put it Socks' way.

Erstwhile real estate heavyweight Andrew Wilson continues to shed kilograms so fast that his ambitious target of dropping 70 in 12 months is now an estimable number of modest fish, chicken and vegetable lunches and dinners away. We reported in the October edition that Andrew had dispensed with 51 kilos since last December and was aiming to lose a score more. Well, he's since lost half of those—which has him tipping the scale at a round 100 and the diet is still going strong. He's whittled so much from his girth that he can now get into wife Christine's trackie pants—although not at the same time, of course.

Stuck for Christmas present ideas? "Why not give a living thing?" suggests Cathy Willis, our resident native flora authority. "An attractive indigenous pot plant could be perfect for the relative with everything and you can take your pick from a wide range at the Friends of Warrandyte State Park nursery at Pound Bend." Makes sense to us. Cathy also points out that if the drought has delayed your home planting projects, the nursery has any number of beaut natives ready to go into the ground right now. So give her a call on 0418 142297.

The holiday season approaches apace, but there'll be no rest for your columnist, who's off to study in depth the beer gardens of the Bellarine Peninsula for his PhD thesis. Thanks to all of you who contributed (in one way or another) to Page 2 during the year and particular thanks to Neil Disting and Alan Koetsveld for seeing reason and withdrawing their death threats. May Christmas and New Year be memorable for you for all the right reasons—and we'll see you in February.



**OVER THE HILLS**

By **JOCK MACNEISH**

**HAVE AN ALERT CHRISTMAS...**



# Water causes concern

By DAVID WYMAN

Park Orchards and Warrandyte residents have expressed concerns about the water quality and safety of drainage facilities at the downstream end of Stintons Reserve, off Stintons Road, Park Orchards.

The residents, who have inspected the facilities while their children were playing cricket on the reserve, say the water ponded at the outlet end of a pipeline under the reserve "looks putrid".

"The pond is not fenced and I regard it as a hazard for children—and for the integrity of the flow in the creek," a Warrandyte resident told the *Diary*.

Stintons Reserve was formed by landfill with garbage. The former Doncaster and Templestowe council purchased 32 acres of land from a private owner in 1971 with the aim of filling it to address an acute shortage of garbage tipping space in the municipality and to provide sporting facilities for Park Orchards. A large diameter concrete pipeline was installed to pipe a creek through the site.

The reserve is now the home of Park Orchards BMX Club and has an oval for cricket and football, and a pavilion.

Neither the pondage immediately below the filled bank nor a spillway into the creek nearby are fenced. "A path leading from the oval, through an open gateway, into degraded bushland and down to the concrete pond and spillway looks very inviting," the resident said. "Younger children, waiting for their older siblings playing cricket or using the BMX track, would be tempted to wander that way."

The Stintons Road garbage tip, as it was then known, was filled with council and private garbage over several years up until the late 1970s. The dumped waste was covered with earth and compacted on a daily basis.

During the filling process it is known by residents who used it that toxic materials of various kinds were dumped in the tip by private users and businesses.

At the time, and in subsequent years, the toxic waste under the reserve caused concern to conservation groups, such as the Warrandyte Environment League, because the stormwater leaching out of the landfill enters the creek which joins Andersons Creek upstream from the Warrandyte CFA station. This water flows into the Yarra River.

Manningham council, in a statement to the *Diary*, said it had undertaken extensive site development to comply with EPA requirements.

"Council had been testing the drain, leachate ponds and the nearest access point above the tipping perimeter up until 1977 on advice from the EPA. An abatement notice was sent to the council from EPA in May 1997."

The council statement said tests of water emitting from the drain should see a high ecoli level due to the properties upstream being unsewered.

"Council's health and local laws department currently conducts quarterly tests of the septic system at the pavilion on the reserve," council said.



Toxic threat? Pondage below Stintons Reserve. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

## Our community bank is closer

By SAM DAVIES

The prospectus for Warrandyte's new community bank is to be sent out to pledge-holders in late January.

Following the approval of a Warrandyte franchise of the Bendigo Community Bank last month, the board of Warrandyte Financial Services, the company set up to run the bank, has been working hard to finalise arrangements for the prospectus.

Board chairman, John Provan, says that January 24,

2003, is now firming as the most likely date the prospectus will be issued.

It will initially be sent out to the 420 people who pledged, after which the general public will be invited to apply.

This release will be followed by the official launch of the prospectus, planned for February 12.

"Hopefully then we'll get whatever remains of the share money in," Mr Provan said.

At the Doncaster East branch, "opened earlier this year, all shares were sold before the official launch".

The community will also have an opportunity to ask questions about the bank at this official launch.

The board must raise a minimum of \$600,000 before the bank can be opened. This money will cover the set-up, employing staff, buying equipment and the working costs of the bank before it is profitable, which usually

takes one to two years.

Shares will be sold at one dollar, with a minimum purchase of 500 and a maximum 10,000.

With over \$670,000 pledged, Mr Provan said the bank will now rely on public support to raise the minimum.

From the time the minimum amount is raised, it is usually another two months before the branch officially opens.

"We're looking for people

to return the application and money, as soon as possible," Mr Provan said. "The longer we take to raise the capital, the longer we wait till we get the bank."

With the old Commonwealth Bank site at 142 Yarra Street secured, the board anticipates opening in April or May.

Given that the bank is still dependent on raising money, Mr Provan said that the board had not yet discussed hiring staff, though, he said,

"if possible, it would be preferable to employ local staff, if sufficiently qualified".

The 10-person board, formed from members of the steering committee, includes a public accountant, two retired bank managers, a solicitor, a financial planning consultant and several business proprietors.

The full list of names and qualifications will be issued with the prospectus. They are all unpaid, and will all be shareholders in the company.

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# Memo Mr Mayor Councillor's position

An open letter to Cr G. Gough, Mayor of Manningham

Following the message I left on your phone, we write to raise with you the implications within the community of the 4-4 vote in council on an application for an amendment to the Planning Scheme in Park Orchards.

This was not just any old application. It was the one which eventually resulted in the landmark Non-Urban Areas Review. Accepted by council by a 7-1 vote, this document placed the City of Manningham at the cutting edge of the push to protect the Green Wedge as it preceded the Metropolitan Strategy, 2030.

We attended information nights and were greatly encouraged by the quality of the report and by the presentations given by Trevor Budge and Paul Molan.

We felt optimistic enough to speak in support of the proposed "new partnership" between council and community.

To move forward on that commitment, Wonga Park Environment Group met to discuss our role in a partnership as well as our perceived role for the council.

Then last Friday Wonga Park Residents' Association conducted a forum to gather ideas on how the recommendations of the review might be implemented.

The forum was very ably lead by environmental planner Samantha Bradley and resulted in excellent audience participation and many good ideas. We put forward our ideas on the proposed new partnership.

We believe that to turn around the degradation and loss of remnant native vegetation, years of hard work, political will, enforcement implementation, education, a change in attitudes about the economic value of properties with significant native vegetation and much, much more money allocated to environmental management.

## DEAR DIARY

But now, we feel a complete loss of confidence, frustrated and bitterly disappointed to learn the stark reality of the wobbly support from ward councillors on the basic issue of further subdivision in Green Wedge areas, as reported in *Warrandyte Diary* last issue.

Are we to believe this means wobbly support, or worse, apathy, towards all the recommendations of the review?

Do you expect us to continue with our efforts in a community/council partnership?

Cr Gough, you demonstrated by your vote your personal commitment to protection of the Green Wedge, but we would now like to see you speak out to the community through whatever avenues are available to you as leader of a team, as to what a partnership means to us all, based on the recommendations in the review.

The message we want to hear is that you believe that the most beneficial option open to council is to reinforce that the Green Wedge is a special place and that you recognize that the area could boast a "a unique, exceptionally well managed environment actually achieving improvement in environmental qualities".

We want a clear statement from you as to the future of the Green Wedge, emphasising that there will be no further subdivision as a result of applications for amendments to the Planning Scheme.

It looks as if ratepayers may bear much of the burden of the cost of implementation.

You will need to gain our support.

Flora Anderson  
Wonga Park  
Environment Group

I do not usually respond to criticisms of my performance in council, but to be buried on the front page of a newspaper, I feel I could not go without response.

I have always declared that I am a supporter of the retention of the Green Wedge and had either Mr Honeywood and Mr Mayor been present at the October council meeting they would have heard my commitment to this.

The salient point is, this debate was not to "cut up" the Green Wedge, but to be put on exhibition so that all people in the community would not only be appraised of the situation but would have valuable input.

If Mr Honeywood and Mr Mayor had been in attendance, they would have heard my arguments for this. They would have also heard me say that I personally did not support the proposed development in its present form. However the community should be made aware of the benefits and disbenefits of such a proposal.

The Green Wedge is fast becoming a brown wedge and many people share this view.

Should the state government, who introduced these controls 27 years ago, assist by an annual budget allocation sufficient to help support the landowners to keep their properties in top condition. I wonder how hard has Mr Honeywood fought for funds to realise this. If he has I have certainly not heard about it.

As Cr Bruce quite rightly pointed out, our LEAF (Local Environment Assistance Fund) is funded by the ratepayers of Manningham, but the amount allocated is insufficient. Is it equitable that all ratepayers of the city support this financially.

Council has little to no powers to require landowners to improve their degraded land, therefore I cannot see any improvement being made to the land in the future.

A visit with the review committee

earlier this year noted that although some landowners have pristine land (but at a great personal cost), other land is suffering with rabbit infestation, noxious weeds causing sub standard land. Something has to be done to bring land up to a suitable standard.

This also is of concern to the residents of Wonga Park, who reported in the Wonga Park Vine—September edition 2002—under the heading, "The Green Wedge Not A Lot Left And It's Not A Bit Well".

"The reality is that vegetation is lost, waterways polluted, but little money is being spent on environment management. It is unlikely that environmental goals will be achieved under the current system. There are no true rural areas in Manningham and very few farmers earning a living off the land."

This area is very fire-prone and this is in need of attention. I spoke of the serious pollution in our waterways which is creating serious and environmental problems by septic tanks.

Over 6000 residences in Wonga Park, Donvale and Park Orchards have septic tanks. According to the water authorities, sewerage is at least 10-15 years away. This proposal could have eased the situation in some areas of Park Orchards and Donvale. I believe the community should be made aware of this and have some input into the proposal. We all know the environmental and health problems associated with septic tanks. In fact, our waterways have a level of ecoli that is not acceptable.

To create sewerage and free our waterways of ecoli would be of great benefit to the community and environment—key elements expressed in the non-urban review.

As far as the review is concerned. I urge all people to read it in its entirety before commenting. It is not beyond council to opt for selective environmentally sensitive development of similar properties such as this pro-

posal which could be serviced with all environmental, ecological, landscape criteria.

The review itself recognised that the status quo option would only see the land continue to degrade. The report states "inter alia" the present arrangements (Planning Scheme Provisions) environmental management programs fragmentation in the hundreds of private landowners are most unlikely to achieve any environmental gains and are likely to see a lessening in the very qualities that are so widely treasured. It also speaks about Conventional Development, Enhanced Environment Management and Environmental Living. All were options discussed and important reading.

When talking of overall vision for our non urban area the report states: "Such a vision is partly reliant on providing for some limited, planned further development in the non urban area. The form of development being contemplated by this study is based on setting standards substantially above any level previously contemplated and the plans for large parcels of land in individual or multiple ownership to be redeveloped where they can fully meet and implement the environmental criteria."

In June 2002, five councillors supported an investigation into this feasibility of moving toward the Environmental Living scenario.

The time has really come for all of us to take the emotion out of the debate. Words like "carve up" and "cut up", the irate phone calls and letters get us nowhere.

It is time to work together and seek a solution which will ensure a sustainable future for the Green Wedge.

In closing may I say that if I am condemned for allowing the public to fully debate this issue, then I stand condemned.

Cr Lionel Allemant  
Donvale

## Cup carnival capers

Club Warrandyte, in conjunction with the Grand Hotel and Warran Glen Nursery held a "grand week at the races" for the spring racing carnival recently.

A marquee was erected streetside and displays of roses and greenery were especially brought in to add to the atmosphere.

Melbourne Cup Day saw an early start at 8am for breakfast, with some of the really eager punters staying on for the day to watch the Melbourne Cup on the big screen TV.

Oaks Day luncheon saw a large contingent of local ladies, who turned out in all their finery. Many sipped on champagne flavoured with strawberries from the local strawberry farm and enjoyed a buffet luncheon. The hotel provided bet runners for the day.

The week was a huge success for the Grand Hotel and Club Warrandyte.

Alison and Carolyn  
Club Warrandyte/  
Grand Hotel

## Water Wally

If it wasn't bad enough to have a circus tent on the footpath outside the Grand Hotel recently—which appeared out of the blue—I think the recent sight outside the same hotel really takes the cake.

As I drive on the way to work I sight what must be the local Water Wally hosing down the footpath. No high tech water-saving jet on the hose or high-powered water blaster; just a good old-fashioned finger over the end of the hose. Didn't we hear in the news recently that there is a water shortage? Shame, Club Warrandyte, shame!

Name and address supplied

## See the sign, forget the scenery



I would like to propose a new award for the most insensitive addition to Warrandyte. I realise that there may be a lot of competition, but I think that Manningham council is in the lead at the moment.

I frequently walk along the river from the bridge to Stiggants Reserve.

Behind the bakery there is a lovely open section of the river, where families stop to watch the ducks, or appreciate the scene painted by the early artists.

Now someone at Manningham has obviously been trying to provide a better customer service to these people, and wondered what they might be wanting right now to

make this idyll complete. You guessed it. The reason they are all congregating there isn't to contemplate the mist rising over the wattles or even enjoy meeting friends and picnicking. No, they are looking for a toilet.

Now they no longer have to be concerned, because right in the middle of the river bank is a large, obtrusive, ugly blue sign telling them that toilets can be found 450m in one direction or 250m in the other.

Perhaps next time Manningham has a new customer service idea they could check it out with the Warrandyte community.

Jan Davies  
Bradleys Lane

## Pre-school memories

It was with great sadness that I learned of the North Warrandyte kindergarten being destroyed by arsonists. It brought back memories of many Monday mornings, spent with Pat Barr and June Antonoff in her green Kombi van collecting beer bottles to raise funds for our new kindergarten and welfare centre, as well as many other memorable fundraising events.

I felt so sad to see the kindergarten destroyed this way, especially after all the hard work the committee and community did to raise funds, but I am sure the wonderful Warrandyte people will rally together once again to rebuild.

Gwen Szabo  
Batemans Bay

## Councillors' stand

Congratulations to Councillors Goonan, Larkin, Beynon and Allemant standing up for democracy in an endeavour to al-

low the exhibition of planning scheme amendment of a small parcel of land within the Park Orchards Green Wedge which could have allowed reticulated sewerage to some 4000 homes in Park Orchards and Donvale—something that many of these residents have been waiting 40 or more years to eventuate.

It is noted that those councillors who voted against exhibiting the plan live well outside the area and no doubt enjoy a reticulated sewerage system and at the same time "call out" about the environment and the pollution of our waterways.

So our local MP, Phil Honeywood, has stated that he does live outside the electorate. Perhaps he is too afraid to risk his health in a non-reticulated sewerage area.

Trevor Parker  
Park Orchards

## Fire fears warning

Just in from my usual clearing of dried branches/dead plants. Picked up latest *Diary* this morning and that front page photo is most effective.

Please, please, send copies to

Manningham council to emphasise the importance of their staff to get off their backsides and enforce the regulations covering clearing of acreage plus blocks of fire hazards and do something about the noxious weeds that are in creeks and roadsides in these areas—



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

adjacent to my place is a three and a half acre property and the Warrandyte-Ringwood Road frontage paddock hasn't been cut for approximately 10 years. Last time I tried, a horse was put in there—briefly!

Joan Ragg  
Warrandyte-Ringwood Road

## Pre-school thanks

Yarra-Warra Fire Appeal Market organisers want to thank the community for its generous support and especially thank the North Warrandyte CFA for their great effort in manning the barbecue and supplying a fire truck for the kids to climb on.

Special thanks also go to the volunteers who did a great job face painting and hair spraying the younger members of our community.

Especially appreciated were the generous donations from many local traders—especially IGA—and individuals and the great support and help received from the Lions Club and the *Warrandyte Diary*, not to forget the kinder parents and other volunteers who manned the stalls, as well as the market

stallholders.

We thank you all for your great efforts in making the market day a success.

The market and raffle raised a total of \$3,500. Well done and many thanks.

Yarra-Warra Pre-School  
Committee of Management

## Festival thanks

We are writing to thank everyone who helped support the Warrandyte Festival fundraising evening. The night was a huge success and a great many people helped to contribute to this.

More than 170 people listened and danced to our talented entertainers who each donated their services and provided a wonderful concert and disco. Many groups and individuals helped by donating goods and services or helped to organise the night.

Everything from hall hire to the tea, coffee and raffle tickets was donated so that every dollar raised will go straight to the organising of next year's festival. We raised \$6,600, well over our aim. This means that not only will our increased costs be covered, but we can have an even better festival.

The fundraiser was the culmination of an idea inspired by Judy Finger, who together with the girls from the Festival Committee put on a rollicking good night. Special thanks must be given to Judy who saw a need to raise enough money to cover increased insurance liability costs. Without her untiring enthusiasm we would not have achieved such an outstanding outcome.

Thank you also to those people who have paid their IOUs. Could any outstanding ones be paid soon. Also, does anyone know the whereabouts of Jock Macneish's wonderful caricature of the "Community Hat" which disappeared on the night?

Again, thanks to everyone who supported the night.

Warrandyte Festival  
Committee



# State election 1 each way

By CLIFF GREEN

Warrandyte prides itself on being a united community. Although the Yarra River separates us geographically, and we live in separate municipality, police districts, fire brigade areas and state and federal electorates, we have always played sport together, supported the same causes and thought and acted as one place.

However, following the state election, we now find ourselves on either side of the political divide, with Phil Honeywood re-elected in the Warrandyte electorate, south of the river, and ALP candidate Danielle Green successful in Yan Yean to the north (see report this page).

Phil Honeywood survived the anti-Liberal tide that swept across the eastern suburbs of Melbourne.

Although his vote was reduced, from 19,395 at the last election in 1999, to 18,672 this time, he achieved a clear margin over his nearest opponent, ALP's Jarrod Panther, who scored 12,478 votes. Greens candidate Barry Watson registered 3,556 with 909 voters supporting Tim Petheridge of the Hope Party.

Mr Honeywood believes his stand on environmental issues saved him from the annihilation or near defeat suffered by his Liberal colleagues in neighbouring electorates. Victor Perton's close run in the seat of Doncaster was especially unexpected.

"As soon as I heard of the Greens candidate standing in the Warrandyte electorate I phoned him so we could get to know one another," Mr Honeywood told the *Diary*. "We subsequently went bushwalking together on two occasions so that we could reach a position of understanding and support for his local environmental priorities.

"My record of defending the Green Wedge clearly assisted in this co-operative attitude."

There were clear indications in the polling that the Liberals were given a Green Wedge message. The Green Wedge Coalition claimed that some of the bigger swings in Melbourne's outer seats were against pro-development Liberal candidates. These included Geoff Leigh in Mordialloc, Wayne Phillips in Eltham and Gary Rowe in Cranbourne.

Mr Honeywood thanked all his Warrandyte and Park Orchards constituents for returning him for a fifth term.

"When I was first elected as the local

MP I was 28 years old and had a great deal still to learn about life and community issues," he said. "Fortunately for all concerned I have always had an open mind and a willingness to understand where the other person's point of view is coming from.

"Over the past 14 years my electorate has educated me to become their advocate on the issues that affect them. Whether it be the defence of the Green Wedge, the no-go zone on dual occupancy and unit development, the Eastern Freeway ramp proposal for Park Road or walking the dogs in Warrandyte State Park, each issue has to be thoroughly understood, debated and a community consensus reached where possible.

"What all politicians need to understand is that the local issues that affect their communities the most often have no connection with party politics. The fact that I am a Liberal politician is very much incidental to my community work and involvement."

Mr Honeywood believes that nowadays, more than ever, voters want to know what their MP is doing to fix the local concerns that affect their day-to-day lives. "The strutting of egos that goes on in state parliament is a world away from what affects their local community," he said.

"The Labor Party took the Warrandyte electorate for granted. They only discovered a candidate three weeks before the election was called."

ALP candidate Jarrod Panther congratulated Phil Honeywood on his re-election as MP for Warrandyte.

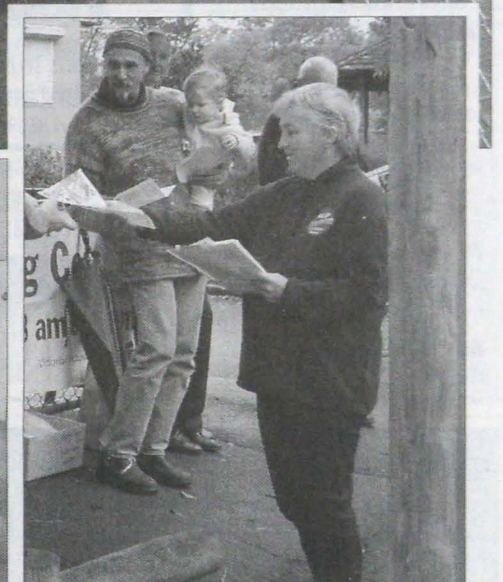
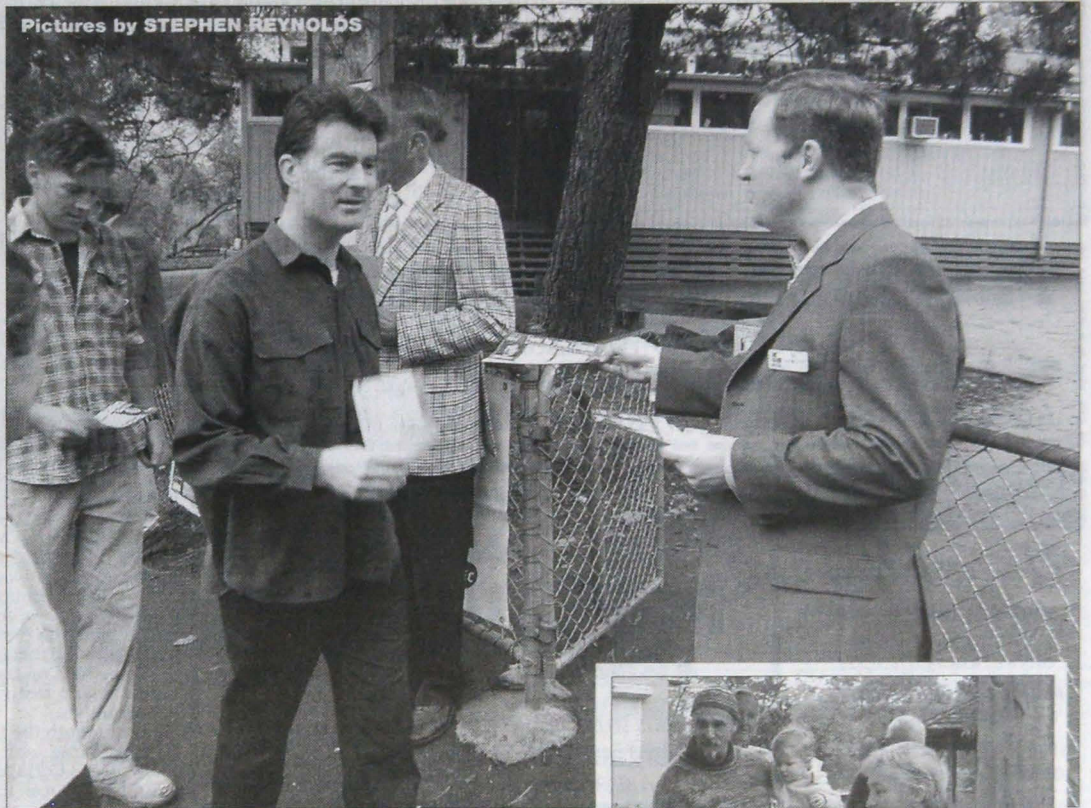
"I'd also like to congratulate Steve Bracks and his government on their victory," Mr Panther told the *Diary*. "The swing of around eight percent will help ensure Victoria continues to become a fairer and better state for all, regardless of postcode.

"For my campaign team, the swing of around seven percent was a fantastic result. As the margin in Warrandyte has now been halved, I'm sure all parties will continue working hard within the electorate to increase their vote at the next state election."

Mr Panther believes this could be "a terrific outcome for the people of Warrandyte".

Reflecting the depth of the Labor landslide, representation for Warrandyte in the Legislative Council changed at this election, with the Liberal member for Silvan losing preferentially to ALP candidate Carolyn Hirsch.

Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS



# We embraced Labor north of the river

By FIA CLENDINEN

For the first time in a decade North Warrandyte residents will be represented in state parliament by a Labor politician.

Danielle Green, who formerly worked as an electoral officer for Andre Haermeyer, the minister for police and emergency services, convincingly won the seat of Yan Yean, gaining 49.58 percent of the primary vote. Matthew Guy, the Liberal candidate, gained 38.42 percent with Pat Vaughan from the Greens winning 10.83 percent and the Citizens Electoral Lobby on 1.17 percent.

Ms Green, a Diamond Creek resident and the mother of two children, said she believed the swing towards her showed the high regard people had for the state government.

"I think the Bracks government has done a really good job in its first three years," she said.

"And I think that the strong vote in Yan Yean and in North Warrandyte indicates that the community believes that. And I think that they trust us when we make promises. Steve

Bracks says we'll deliver what we promise and we'll only promise what we can deliver."

Ms Green said she thought the community had particularly appreciated the state government's handling of issues such as health and education. She pointed to the rebuilding of the Austin and Repatriation Hospital, which she described as the "biggest public hospital project ever undertaken in Australia's history. And that services the North Warrandyte area".

Shortly before the election the Bracks government released Melbourne 2030, a planning strategy which includes legislative protection for the city's Green Wedges.

"Although the Liberal Party promised bipartisan support, passage of the legislation through the Upper House was delayed." Both major parties accusing each other of "stalling".

But Ms Green said the decisive election result meant the ALP would no longer have to rely on the Liberal Party to pass new legislation.

"We will certainly be proceeding with the Melbourne 2030 legislation,

and it will go through unencumbered because Labor has control of the Upper House," she said. "So I think that's great for the Green Wedge, and I'm just really proud to be part of the lobbying that resulted in this."

She also said she was relieved the ALP had the majority of seats in the Upper House because she had little confidence in the Liberal Party's public declaration of support for Melbourne 2030.

"I didn't trust the Liberals rhetoric on that," she said. "I think that if they had got in they would have tampered with the full legislation when it was put through in the next session."

Some local residents are concerned that current "pro-development" Nillumbik council will not uphold the new Melbourne 2030 strategy. For instance in Wattle Glen the council has directly challenged it by inviting a landowner to subdivide a 15 hectare property, despite the land being in the Green Wedge.

But Ms Green, who has 60 percent of Nillumbik within her electorate,

said she was sure the "environmentally sensitive" property could be saved from development.

"The proposed Wattle Glen subdivision is inconsistent with Melbourne 2030," she said. She added, "I don't think that it's in the interests of Nillumbik shire council to get into a fight with the Victorian government, especially when it has been elected with such a mandate".

Ms Green said that the Bracks government had also promised electoral reform of the Upper House, which would mean that minor parties had a chance to win seats. Under the current situation the Greens have no voice in parliament, despite gaining 9.65 percent of the vote across the state.

"Because of that commitment to reform in the Upper House I'm sure that there will be some Greens representatives in the Upper House and I welcome that," said Ms Green. "I think it's healthy to have all parties represented. And the conservatives would never have supported that."

The last time North Warrandyte had

a state Labor member was in 1992. Max McDonald held what was then called the seat of Whittlesea from 1985 until 1992.

Before the 1992 state election there was a boundary realignment and North Warrandyte became part of the newly created state seat of Eltham. Wayne Phillips, from the Liberal Party, won the seat and held it for 10 years.

Mr Phillips was also a victim of the swing to Labor at last month's state election and he was defeated by the ALP candidate, Steve Herbert. Mr Herbert obtained 44.67 percent of the primary vote, with Mr Phillips on 42.03 percent, and Merinda Gray from the Greens winning 13.3 percent.

After yet another boundary realignment North Warrandyte is now part of the state seat of Yan Yean.

North Warrandyte is situated in the Upper House seat of Central Highlands. This seat retained its ALP representation with Robert Mitchell defeating Cath Marriot, the Liberal candidate.

## HOW WE VOTED

### LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

| WARRANDYTE      |            |       |        |
|-----------------|------------|-------|--------|
| HONEYWOOD, Phil | Liberal    | 18672 | 52.43% |
| PANTHER, Jarrod | ALP        | 12478 | 35.04% |
| WATSON, Barry   | Greens     | 3556  | 9.98%  |
| PETHERIDGE, Tim | Hope Party | 909   | 2.55%  |

| YAN YEAN         |         |       |        |
|------------------|---------|-------|--------|
| GREEN, Danielle  | ALP     | 15952 | 49.58% |
| GUY, Matthew     | Liberal | 12363 | 38.42% |
| VAUGHAN, Patrick | Greens  | 3484  | 10.83% |
| STEER, Simon     | CAC     | 377   | 1.17%  |

### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

| SILVAN PROVINCE |            |       |        |
|-----------------|------------|-------|--------|
| SMITH, Wendy    | Liberal    | 36622 | 45.11% |
| HIRSH, Carolyn  | ALP        | 33218 | 40.91% |
| ABSON, Michael  | Greens     | 9154  | 11.27% |
| CARDEN, Tony    | Democrat   | 1347  | 1.66%  |
| TISCHLER, Leo   | Hope Party | 850   | 1.05%  |

| CENTRAL HIGHLANDS |          |       |        |
|-------------------|----------|-------|--------|
| MITCHELL, Robert  | ALP      | 48267 | 44.94% |
| MARRIOT, Cath     | Liberal  | 38762 | 36.09% |
| McKENZIE, Janet   | Greens   | 9883  | 9.2%   |
| PARISOTTO, Rozi   | National | 8977  | 8.36%  |
| VANDERSMAN, Jos   | Democrat | 1510  | 1.41%  |

93.39% counted as at 6pm, Friday, December 6  
Status: LIBERAL

94.93% counted as at 6pm, Friday, December 6  
Status: ALP

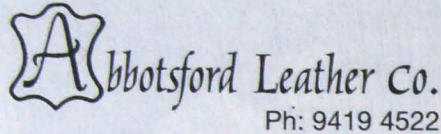
56.12% counted as at 6pm, Friday, December 6  
Projected status: ALP

78.1% counted as at 6pm, Friday, December 6  
Status: ALP



### Congratulations Yarra Warra Preschool

What a fantastic day. Everyone was happy and the market progressed like clockwork and was very financial for the kinder. On the day there were some great helpers, thank you. Special thanks go to Alison Earle who organised the whole event almost by herself, with many companies getting involved. I believe there were many extremely late nights over the past 5 weeks. Thank you again Alison, I was proud of you and to be part of the market.



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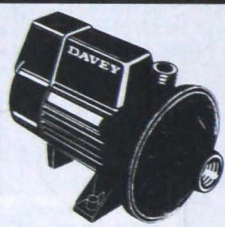
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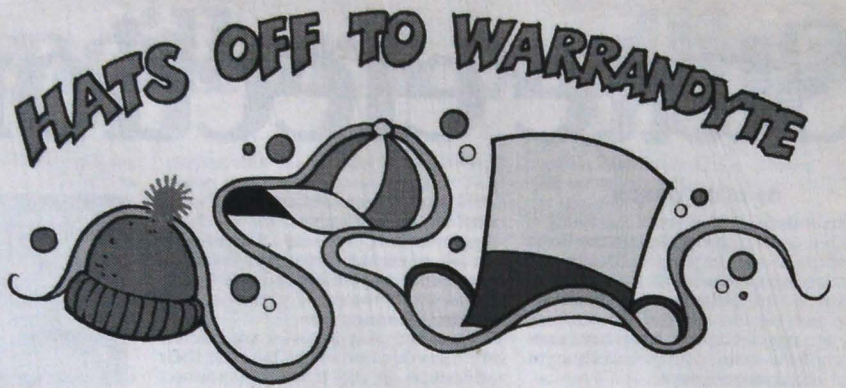
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## WARRANDYTE FESTIVAL 2003.

By JENNIFER WILLIS

The Warrandyte Festival Committee organisers say the enthusiasm for next year's Warrandyte Festival is high.

"We've got a lot of new people, a lot of young people and people with young families who have heaps of enthusiasm and some great ideas," festival committee chairman, John Boyle, told the *Diary*.

Mr Boyle said that it is the diversity of the festival's appeal that makes it unique. "There's really something for everyone, from the little kinder kids up to the elderly citizens," he said. "Everyone has something they get excited about. Every year we have a new batch of kids and parents who have the excitement of dressing up on the Saturday morning for their first parade."

To be held on the weekend of March 22 and 23, next year's festival theme will be "Hats off to Warrandyte."

Last month the *Diary* revealed that well-known local couple John and Margaret James, formerly of Potter's Cottage, will be crowned the festival's King and Queen for 2003.

Next year's festival will be made up of all the favourite attractions including the famous billy cart race, the Saturday morning parade and the teenager-aimed concert. Mr Boyle said, however, that the festival committee is far from stuck in routine. He said the committee is looking into the possibility of a champagne and croissant breakfast on the Sunday morning. Mr Boyle said the committee would welcome any ideas for new attractions as long as they weren't "blatantly commercial".

In a positive sign of community support for Warrandyte's biggest annual event, last month's

Festival Frolics fundraiser was a triumph according to organisers. Fundraiser organiser Judy Finger said she was delighted with the night. "It was an outstanding success, everyone had a great time and we managed to raise over \$6500."

The night of home-grown Warrandyte entertainment was organised to cover the gap between council funding and rising festival insurance costs.

Ms Finger said the money raised was well above her expectations and allowed the festival committee to cover its insurance costs as well as leaving a bit left over. "It's great," she said, "we raised much more than we had anticipated, which leaves us with a bit of money to play with."

Ms Finger told the *Diary* that she hoped the excess money would be used to fund more street theatre and activities for kids throughout the festival weekend. "I think you can definitely expect to see more roving entertainers and off-stage performers at next year's festival," she said.

The generosity of the community was the key to fundraiser's success. Ms Finger said local traders and the Warrandyte Business Association were very supportive, providing prizes and sponsorship. All of the night's performers donated their time and artists including Jock MacNeish's donated works, which were auctioned off very profitably.

"Everything for the night was donated: from the entertainers, the hall and the prizes right down to the photocopying and tea and coffee," Ms Finger said.

Anyone who has suggestions or would like to help the festival committee can call John Boyle on 98443120 or on 9894 2233 during business hours.

### CHRISTMAS LUNCH MENU ONE

*On arrival*  
 A glass of Sangria

*Entree*  
 Oysters Natural  
 or  
 Oysters Boleros  
*prosiutto with a bechemel sauce*

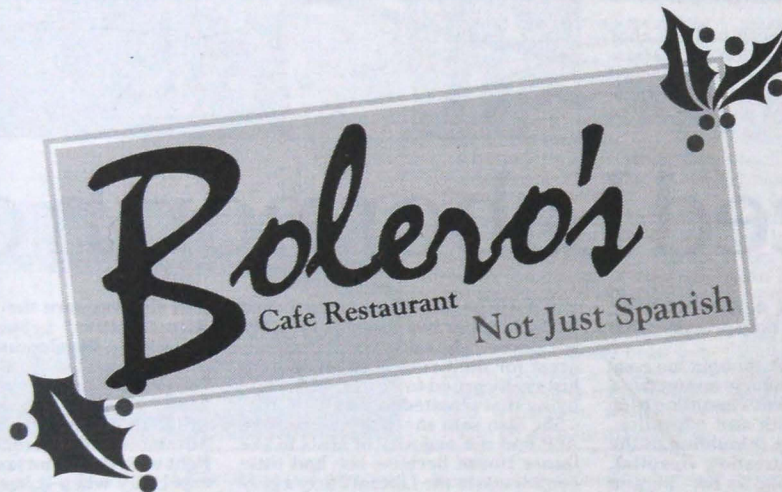
*Main*  
 Turkey Pipitoria  
*Marinated turkey oven-baked in a pinenut jus served with a potato spinach roulade*

*Dessert*  
 Pears & Vino  
*Poached pears in a red wine cinnamon sauce served with melted chocolate*

Coffee or Tea

**\$65 per head**

1 bottle of wine/table of 4



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### CHRISTMAS LUNCH MENU TWO

*On arrival*  
 A glass of Sangria

*Entree*  
 Bruchetta Catalan  
*prosiutto and tomato served on toasted Spanish bread coated with an olive oil dressing*

*Main*  
 Crayfish Natural  
*Half a crayfish filled with a Russian salad topped with caviar served on a lettuce messaline or*  
 Crayfish á la Grillé  
*Half a crayfish oven-baked and glazed with a mornay sauce topped with grilled cipilla*

*Dessert*  
 Creme Caramel

Coffee or Tea

**\$85 per head**

1 bottle of wine/table of 4



# Fire danger acute

By CLIFF GREEN

The threat and danger from bushfire has never been more acute in recent years.

Jeff Adair, CFA community safety manager, Yarra Region, believes that "six years of below average rain have caused forest conditions and dryness to be extreme at a very early stage in the season. This has increased the overall risk to a significant level."

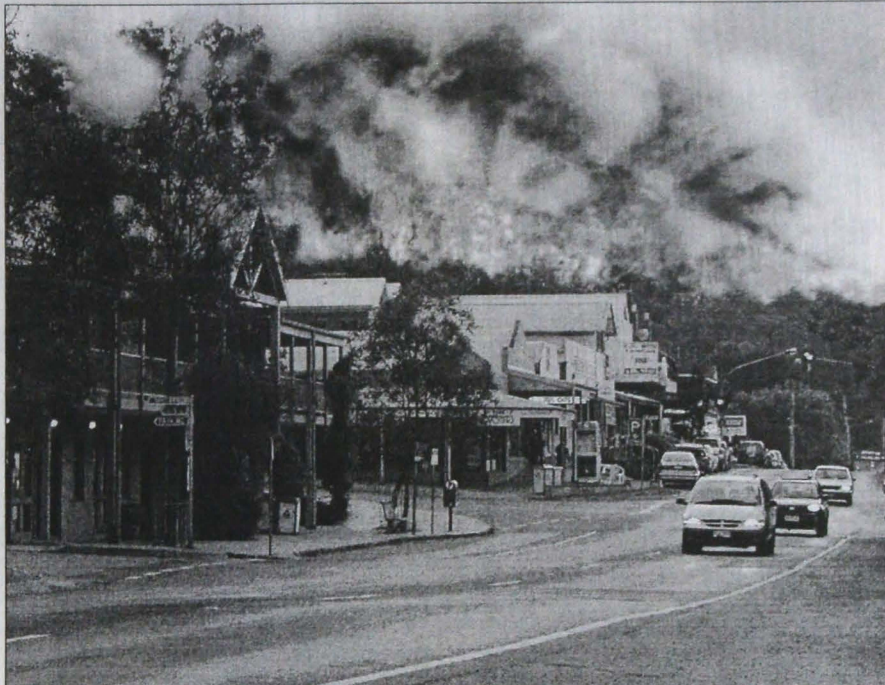
Residents in bushfire-prone areas of Manningham and Nillumbik face the risk of fire every year. "However, seasonal conditions have created higher than normal levels of risk," Mr Adair said. "As a result, we can expect fire behaviour to be erratic and fast-moving and unless climatic conditions change it is highly likely we will experience fire this year."

Risk is determined by factors including fuel level, topography, aspect, temperature, wind and humidity. "These factors are, in the event of fire, exacerbated by the level of preparedness and planning," Mr Adair said. "Risk also varies according to the level of acceptance or tolerance of these factors."

CFA believes some areas to be more dangerous and with the potential to cause more damage and threaten lives.

"Parts of North Warrandyte and pockets within Warrandyte south of the river are just such areas of potential danger," Mr Adair said.

Other factors which increase the potential danger include narrow and heavily vegetated roads, unreliable water supply



Only constant vigilance will protect Warrandyte from devastating wildfire. (Digitally manipulated picture by Stephen Reynolds).

and limited access and exit choices.

"These problems exist throughout North Warrandyte and in many parts of Warrandyte south of the river," Mr Adair said.

"They are also present in sections of South Warrandyte and Wonga Park."

"Residents living in these gen-

eral areas will significantly increase their level of safety if they have made a clear decision on what they will do—stay or leave—and have well documented and understood plans for action. Benefits arising from this planning process will greatly assist in avoiding last minute changes and panic-

driven decisions."

CFA urges residents to talk to family, friends and neighbours about fire safety. "Talk about developing plans, ways to work together, projects for assisting safety. This could include removal of fine fuels, provision of emergency water supplies and other local issues."

## Keep these fire hints handy

During a fire emergency, protect your home by:

- shutting all windows and doors to prevent smoke and flames entering;
- moving furniture away from windows—furniture is often made of easily inflammable material;
- filling the bath and buckets with water to provide both drinking water and a water supply in the house for putting out any small fires;
- soaking towels and woollen blankets with water to cover your face to protect against smoke inhalation;
- placing wet blankets/towels around windows and doors

inside the house to stop smoke and embers entering;

- hosing down the side of the house and garden facing the fire to help cool down the house and perhaps prevent it burning—only attempt to do this if it safe to be outside!

Part of your preparation must include a separate set of clothing for each member of the family to wear during the time of emergency. However hot and uncomfortable the day is, everyone needs to wear long cotton trousers, wool or cotton socks, a long-sleeved woollen (or cotton) jumper, sturdy shoes or boots, gloves, goggles, a wide-brimmed hat or hard helmet and a wet scarf or handkerchief covering nose and mouth to protect against smoke inhalation.

## Fire restrictions now in force

The fire danger period was declared, both sides of the river, on December 2. This means that no fires are to be lit in the open air during this period. Any fires or signs of smoke should be phoned immediately to 000.

Residents seeking further information on local conditions and how to formulate fire safety plans can attend a free sessions on fire safety and planning. These will be held at Warrandyte Fire Station, Harris Gully Road on Saturday, December 14 at 3pm and Wednesday, December 18 at 7pm.

"Each session will cover what residents can do to prepare for the fire season," Kate Murphy, Warrandyte CFA brigade support officer told the *Diary*.

"The Wednesday session will also feature a talk from local police, stating what they will do in the event of a bushfire in the area. This will include information about traffic diversion points."

For further information call Kate Murphy on 9844 3375.



Warrandyte Fire Brigade recently took delivery of the latest fire-fighting unit, a pumper-tanker that incorporates all the latest equipment for high volume and high velocity water application. The ecumenical churches gathered to bless this new unit, along with the rest of the local brigade's fleet, as well as our volunteer firefighters. Pictured are the Rev Garry Gason of the Anglican Church and the Rev Ros McDonald of the Uniting Church, blessing the new unit. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)



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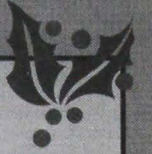
you'll receive a free Planning Kit to take home. Call 1800 240 667 to find out when and where a meeting will be held in your area, or visit [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)





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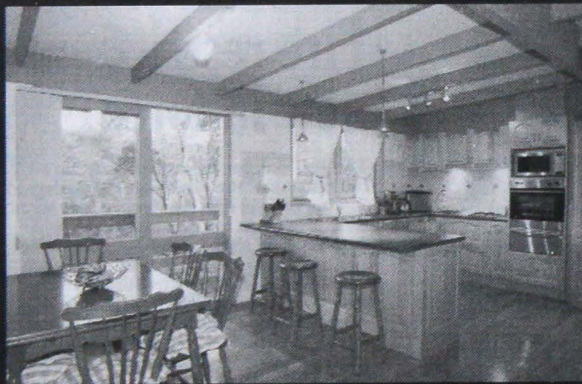
"From all our families"



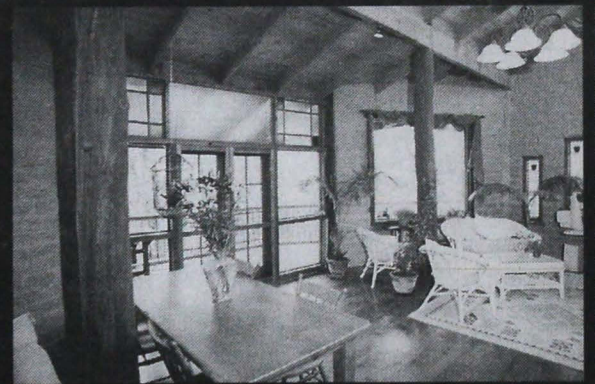
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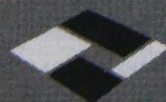
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# They met to debate Green Wedge

By FIA CLENDINNEN

The Green Wedge took centre stage at a pre-election meeting at Kangaroo Ground Hall last month, when planning minister Mary Delahunty launched Melbourne 2030, "a 30 year blueprint to curb Melbourne's urban sprawl and ensure sustainable growth".

A key aspect of the new planning strategy is that for the first time Melbourne's Green Wedges will be protected by legislation from inappropriate development, something conservationists on both sides of the Yarra have been lobbying in favour of for decades.

Melbourne 2030 has been the result of 18 months wide-rang-



Planning minister Mary Delahunty. (Pictures by Sandy Burgoyne)

ing consultation, and has the support of groups as diverse as Save Our Suburbs and the Housing Industry Association.

But the Green Wedge, and whether it should be preserved or subdivided out of existence, has always been an intensely emotive issue and Ms Delahunty acknowledged that the community had not universally welcomed Melbourne 2030.

"It doesn't mean that everyone gets what they want," she said. "But we believe it is in the interests of the majority of Victorians."

About 100 people attended the launch, and while most of the crowd appeared to enthusiastically support the new strategy there were also those in the audience who were openly critical.

One man said that the Green Wedge was a false concept that had "not officially existed" until the appearance of the Melbourne 2030 strategy. Other people spoke in support of the new Nillumbik council, despite the fact that it has been widely described as pro-development.

"This council was democratically voted in to make decisions," one resident pointed out. "The Nillumbik community were frustrated and

voted out the previous council who were anti-development. (With the new strategy) you'll be taking decision making away from the council."

But Ms Delahunty dismissed this claim. She said "there's no doubt" local decision making power had been returned to councils. She also said the state government would prefer communities made their own decisions about issues that directly affected them.

Ms Delahunty said the government was looking for bipartisan support for Melbourne 2030 from the Liberal Party, as well as the National Party and the Greens. She said the Liberal Party had spoken in favour of the strategy, which was encouraging, but when the time came to vote in parliament had stalled actually making a decision. "The Liberal Party is very reluctant to commit themselves," she said. "Actions speak louder than words."

As far as the *Diary* could ascertain Ms Delahunty's launch was attended by only one of the nine current Nillumbik councillors, Greg Johnson from Wingrove Ward.



Danielle Green, our new MP north of the river.

## Water information night

Want to learn where our storm water goes? Manningham council is inviting residents to a community information evening to discover how Melbourne Water manages our storm water so that it remains clean and plentiful.

The evening will be held at the Heide Room, Manningham council offices, Doncaster Road, Doncaster between 7.30 and 9pm on Thursday, December 12.

"Residents can learn how our storm water and sewerage systems are designed as separate systems operating independently of each other," a council spokesperson

said, "and find out how you can help."

The community information evening will include:

- Household tips on saving water
- The latest in water efficient products
- Water recycling (grey water use)
- Rainwater tanks
- Safe disposal of household waste
- The role consumers play in water sustainability
- Product displays

Light refreshments will be provided.

To reserve your seat, please contact Kay Toussaint on 9840 9348.

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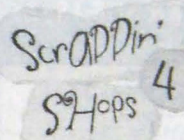
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## Key Decisions

Nillumbik Shire Council  
November 2002

These are some of the decisions made by Council on Wednesday, 20 November 2002. If you would like any extra information visit our website [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au) for full business papers.

The next Council meeting is on 18 December 2002 at 7.30pm at the Shire Offices, Civic Drive, Greensborough. All welcome, or listen to the broadcast on Plenty Valley FM 88.6.



Customer Service 9433 3111



### Community, Health, Culture, Sport & Leisure

- ✓ Approved the Draft Best Value Policy and Plan — Services for Children and Services for Older Residents
- ✓ Endorsed and accepted eight community representatives to serve on Council's Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee (SARAC).
- ✓ Prescribed public places within the Shire as Alcohol Free Zones during nominated periods of the day.



### Land Use, Planning & Environment

- ✓ Advise residents to present individual submissions in relation to Melbourne 2030 to the Department of Infrastructure by 14 February 2003, and invite them to forward a copy of their submission to Council.
- ✓ Resolved a Residency Code be put in place on Council land at 372-382 Ryans Road, Diamond Creek already approved for a 22-lot subdivision. The intent is to place restrictions on the future development and use of the land for residential purposes.
- ✓ Approved Amendment C18 to rezone land acquired by the Kangaroo Ground Cemetery to Public Use — Schedule 5, Cemetery/Crematorium.



### Transport and Infrastructure

- ✓ Declared the Osborne Road and Corrong Court Special Charge Schemes.
- ✓ Endorsed the application of appropriate road and drainage construction standards for unconstructed urban roads for Special Charge Schemes.
- ✓ Endorsed investigation into a Special Charge Scheme for footpath construction in Ely Street and Withers Way based on Council contributing 25%, abutting property owners 50% and Eltham High School 25% of the cost. Endorsed sending questionnaire to establish support.



### Economic Development

- ✓ Classified four properties as Farm Land for the 2002-2003 rating year.



### Governance

- ✓ Adopted 2001-2002 Annual Report.



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**Dr Richard Pearce**  
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9870 4924

# Watch out for hungry 'roos

Residents are being warned to watch out for kangaroos on the roads this summer.

The dry winter and lack of green grass throughout Victoria is forcing wildlife, including large numbers of kangaroos, to seek food and water in residential areas.

Manningham council has warned motorists to be vigilant, as the reports of wildlife deaths have increased across the municipality this year and particularly in recent weeks.

Council's local laws officer, Mr Malcolm Scheele, said the problem is worse than normal, due to the dry winter and lack of grass in usual grazing spots.

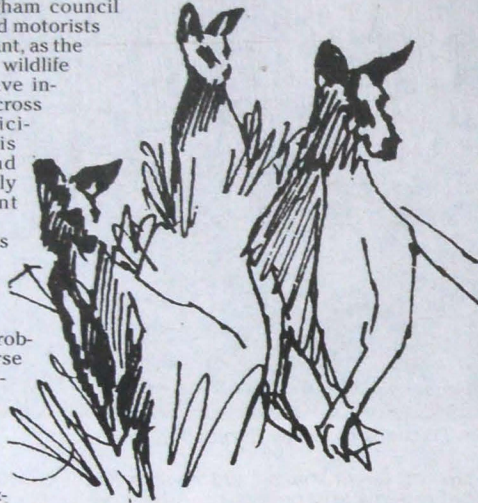
"Many residents have lush green lawns and this is attracting some kangaroos into residential areas.

"Council is advising drivers to be very careful, especially around dusk and dawn when kangaroos are most active. There are many kangaroos being killed on the road at the moment, as they can become confused and disorientated when people or vehicles scare them."

Mr Scheele said if a kangaroo is hit by a vehicle and is injured on the side of the road, motorists should contact council to

attend the scene.

"If the animal is uninjured it should be left alone. Usually, once the animal has regained its bearings it will be able to find its way back to its natural habitat."



"Attempting to catch or corner a kangaroo can be very dangerous. This stresses the animal and should only be attempted by professionals," he said.

Council advises that if any animals are killed on Manningham roads, they should be moved to the side of the road, checked if they have young and then council should be contacted on 9840 9333.

Alternatively residents can contact Help for Wildlife who operate a 24-hour hotline for orphaned or injured animals by phoning 0417 380 687.

# Reliving old war stories



Over the years, Grade 6 at Warrandyte Primary School have developed a special relationship with the Rats of Tobruk, veterans of a famous World War 2 desert campaign. They have visited Tobruk House, listened to the "Rats", looked at memorabilia and photos. Pictured above are this year's student visitors and two of their "Rat" friends.

# Warrandyte Community Market

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



## SUPPORT LOCAL TRADERS



## Warrandyte Christmas Carols Celebration

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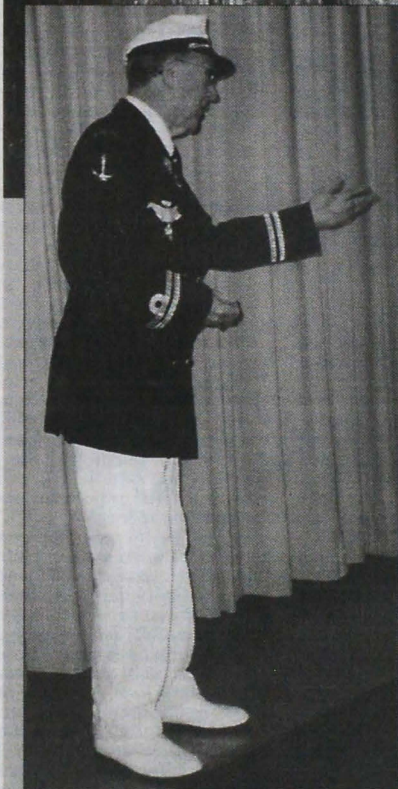
Enquiries: 0438 984 229 or 9844 1650





# 'ello, sailor!

Warrandyte's olds hit the deck with a 40th annual birthday concert at their clubrooms in Taroona Avenue last month. They set off on a world cruise with items celebrating each port of call. JAN TINDALE went aboard and took these pictures.



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**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY COMMUNITY CONSULTATION - STAGE 1**

Nillumbik Shire Council is seeking community comment as the initial stage in the preparation of an Economic Development Strategy. This proposed strategy will provide the framework for Council in growing local employment, and ensuring the sustainability of our local businesses and townships. A Discussion Paper has been prepared to provide some background information, and to invite community comment about key issues such as the policy aims that Council should set, the roles that Council should undertake, and the opportunities for Nillumbik as a business location.

The Discussion Paper and a Response Form are available on Council's website ([www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)) or by telephoning 9433 3129, and comments are invited until 19 December 2002. The Response Form will also be circulated in Council's Report to the Community in late November. For more information, please call Mr Andrew Port in Council's Economic Development & Major Projects section on 9433 3129.

**Catherine Dale**  
 Chief Executive Officer

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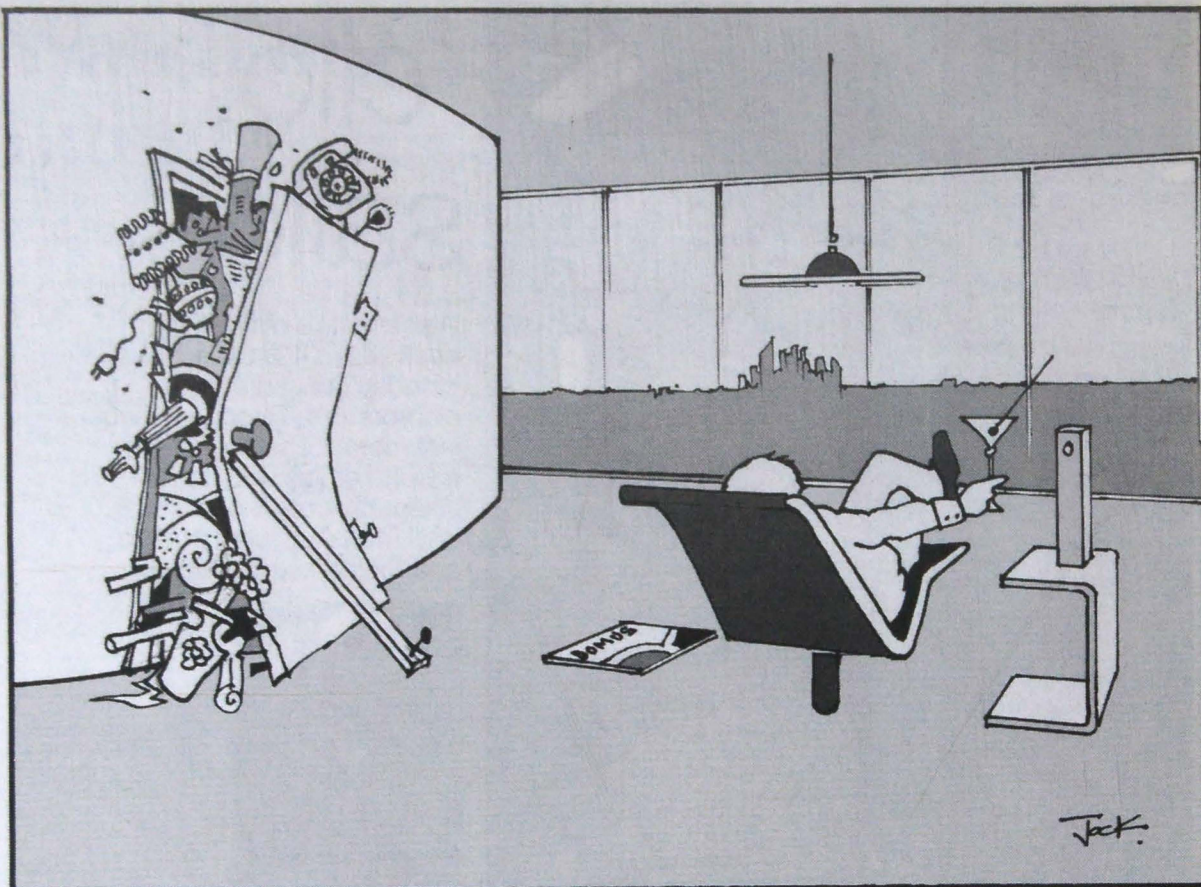
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# Pull focus: Zoom in on two lifestyle refugees

**E**ACH morning, on my way to work, I pass a building site for a new luxury apartment block. Or it would be a building site were it not for the designer hoardings that screen the passer-by from anything as vulgar as the messy reality of building.

In the olden days, pre-economic rationalism and rampant commercialism, building sites were unpretentious. They were open to the view of everyone and they were unashamedly work sites.

Their purpose was to produce houses made out of bricks, concrete, wood and plaster. As such the sites were appropriately muddy, populated by men in Yakka overalls, fags hanging out of their mouths with their retriever or indeterminate mongrel dog chained and barking on the back of a dirty ute. Once let loose, these mutts prowled the site, menacing each other between the kicks and curses of their owners.

Nowadays, the site and building has changed. Now the workplaces, whilst buildings are being erected, are representative of the image the developers are selling. And I use the term "image" advisedly because it is the ambience and not the structure that is being flogged.

A quick look at the site I pass daily will explain what I mean.

The site, pre-gentrification, was a garden supply business and had all the required concrete bays and piles of stones, sand and soil, all surrounded by cyclone fencing. The impres-



sion was unassuming, a hard, sweaty workplace. The garden business relocated and the land was sold and stood vacant for some months until the perimeter metal framing was erected and then the solid, four-metre high fence was attached to it. The first stage in the transmogrification of the site took place. And on that, the marketing image of the place.

And it was not me they were hoping to entice.

It would seem that the buyers they are hoping to attract are slightly out-of-focus, middle-years, beautiful people who have nothing more to do in life than walk besides municipal

lakes and shop.

Apparently, such gods and goddesses won't bother about room layout, or anything as vulgar as storage space. They will be far too busy being "contemporary", which means having no children and being totally preoccupied with the latest decorating and "lifestyle trends".

They will spend their evenings perusing the city skyline through grey tinted floor-to-ceiling plate glass windows. They will do this in the hope that, one day, they will upgrade to the middle of that same city, whence they will look back at their old suburban apartment through floor-to-ceiling, tinted, plate glass windows.

How annoying that marketers know how easily we're sucked into this silliness. And I use "we" deliberately.

Years ago, when Herself and I were looking to buy our "dream home", we too were drawn into the web of "it looks good, therefore it must be good".

We had both been raised in houses that had boring features like wardrobes, cupboards and outside sheds for all the normal detritus of domestic living. Naturally, when we left home we decided that we were above normal, so we lusted after a different style. And we weren't the only ones.

Recently graduated architects who had left boring, suburban homes with wardrobes, cupboards and outside sheds, were experimenting with clean-line boxes with lots of windows, no useful walls and no cupboards to spoil the line created by the

simple spaces.

This experimentation extended to the plumbing, with hidden, concealed guttering that looked good but led to internal versions of Niagara Falls whenever the gutters blocked. Minimalism meant that there was only one external tap, usually positioned out of view and out of convenience.

And yet we thought they were wonderful until we built one and found that our much loved, older furniture didn't fit. There was nowhere to store useless items like suitcases, boxes of stuff or ironing equipment. And, as we were only allowed a carport, there was nowhere to store the lawnmower, kids' toys or gardening equipment. So, hurriedly, we erected a tin shed, the first blow to the hitherto clean lines. Thereafter followed years of adaptation until we had a house as boringly useful as those we had dismissed in our eagerness to appear "modern".

Domestic housing has changed a lot since then and not always for the better. However, I wonder what will become of all the apartments once their similarly dewy-eyed occupants realise that the only thing you can do in a concrete box on the fifth floor is wonder how to fill in the time. There are only so many hours that can be devoted to bonsai and with only the two of you, only so many evenings spent, champagne in hand, wondering what the next trend step is to be.

I hope I've almost outgrown being out-of-focus.

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# Music opens the mind to memories of Christmas

**MUSIC.** A combination of notes with the power to unlock the memory bank releasing by association, poignant images that have been stored for years in the archives.

Gymnopedie (Barefoot) is a slow, somewhat melancholic orchestrated piano piece by the French composer Satie that opens the vault for me every time. I play it sometimes in a darkened room, sipping a glass of chilled white wine and, through closed eyes, relive bitter-sweet moments of my childhood.

It is mid-afternoon, the week before Christmas. I am with my mother in the kitchen of the house where I grew up. Outside, a low-arc English winter sun has already slunk below the horizon leaving the sky filled with grey dusk—a prelude to the long hours of darkness. Wind is wailing through the trees and it is bone-penetratingly cold. But inside the brightly-lit kitchen it is warm and cosy with the old coke boiler quietly roaring. The radio is playing music: Gymnopedie.

We are painting pine cones and sprigs of holly in gold and silver, laying them out on the newspaper-covered table to dry. Later my Mum will assemble them together with ribbon and candles to form an elaborate table decoration. Later still she will ice the cake, creating a white winter scene adorned with miniature Santas, reindeer and snowmen. She was a talented flower arranger, my Mum, and great cook.

Sometimes, if the music takes



## NATURE

By PAT COUPAR  
Drawn by MELANIE COUPAR

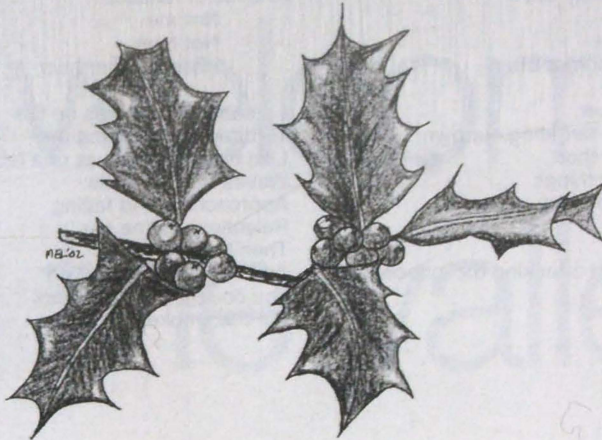
me, I will refill the glass and travel on through the years.

From the safety net of childhood and the naivete of an unrepentant adolescence I plunged headlong into nursing with its burden of responsibility and eye-opening experiences. Around Christmastime the wards emptied. Only those who were too sick or had nowhere to go remained, and we did our best—the nurses, doctors and other staff—to make it a festive occasion.

There were some years when I never made it home for Christmas. But one year, I remember, my shift ended at midday and there outside the hospital was my Dad, waiting to take me home to family and friends. So lucky. But I felt like a deserter. I was learning fast about the unfairness of life.

Then came marriage, a move to Australia and discovering the pleasures of Christmas in southern climes. And then the joys of becoming a parent twice over and family Christmases once more—only this time I was the Mum.

In those early years, because all our relatives were overseas, celebrations took place at a Marlo campsite in eastern Victoria where we joined others who had similar ideas. But as the kids got older they preferred to be close to their friends and Christmas became home-based and traditional



once more.

Recently though, with all of us leading such busy lives, preparations for Christmas have become something of a chore and the day itself a little mundane. The once great family occasion has, to some degree, now been replaced by Mothers Day and Fathers Day. Surprisingly, these over-commercialised days have grown in importance.

Our adult children, always a united pair, have taken it upon themselves to organise something special for the day—a barbecue in the bush or a meal at a pub. And just spending time together is our way of celebrating the true meaning of the day—that of being a Mum, a Dad, a family.

This year Christmas will be different. There will just be me, Mike and the bush. And, if the weather is kind, I will lie in the

sun on the beach, close my eyes and think of Christmases past. And perhaps give thought to the man whose music has kept cherished childhood memories alive. Erik Satie.

Ironically, Satie himself had an unhappy childhood. Ironically, too, he an anti-romantic. His writing was mostly simplistic and experimental. He only found fame when compatriot composer Claude Debussy befriended him and orchestrated his two Gymnopedie piano works. Erik Satie died in poverty in 1925 aged 59. A sad ending for a man who created such melodic expressions of emotion and hypnotic moments of serenity. The French composer Sauguet wrote this of Satie: "His music will echo your own solitude and fill it with its magic song—friendly, calming and pure." Too right.

# Dusty Christmas — and no bull!

**O**RANGE tinsel stars hang from poles in Springvale Road. Clusters of fresh-smelling pines are going for \$20 apiece. Shops are pushing gift-wrapped items that no normal person would waste money on. In-store spruiking and disco-beat carols have been driving customers insane for weeks. It must be December.

I don't know why they bother. By Christmas, the tinsel will have lost its lustre, the pine trees will be as dead as the proverbial, and the average customer will have been driven to drink by the prospect of more electronic claptrap.

Last year, in a fit of never-want-to-see-another-shop-again fever, I explored the intriguing nooks and crannies of the Yarra Valley, visiting all those places that one keeps meaning to stop at but somehow never does. Fresh berries, lavender, peaches, cheese, wine, cider—what a perfect solution to the annual gift-buying conundrum! It was a glorious day into the bargain, and I promised myself that I'd do it again very soon—a "very soon" that might just happen any day now.

Most people can't even think about Christmas until school breaks up. There is so much



## OUR PLACE

By MARILYN MOORE

else going on, with concerts, rehearsals, speech nights, parties, book lists, secondhand book sales, sports training, work experience, trips to the physio, job applications, interviews, university orientation days—not to mention getting the brushcutter repaired and hunting out the mower.

Everybody looks forward to end-of-year functions, but it seems that the more the marketing moguls push Christmas down our throats, the less Christmassy our own celebrations become.

Most now have the flavour of annual reunions rather than anything specifically festive. Admittedly, in our case, Christmas barbecues provide a sort

of bulk apology for not inviting friends over from one end of the year to the other.

Of course we are not alone in this—of those who roll up in droves to enjoy the get-together, most are a teensy bit excuse-laden. I suspect there's a lot of it about.

One friend, the host of a recent 35 degree Sunday lunch, was especially apologetic, but on this occasion it had more to do with the seasonal entertainment they'd lined up for us.

"Do you mind if we muster some cattle before lunch? You can watch if you don't feel like galloping around in the heat."

Of course we'll help. What's to do?

"Well, you see the cows in this paddock? The young calves have to be separated from their mothers, vaccinated, and then put back with their mothers in a new paddock. The older calves stay here. The mothers of the older calves go in that paddock up the hill."

Er—is that all?

"No, there's two steers in with the bull. We need to get them out and put them with the mothers of the older calves."

To my amazement, horses and dogs stayed behind.

"They upset the cattle," explained our friend, "so we mus-

ter on foot."

This will be interesting. I'm glad we brought the kids—their cross-country running skills might help compensate for the efforts of the older, more overweight members of the family.

The bull, cows and calves were amazingly quiet, but at the end of the day the residual score was Steers 2, Humans 0. One of the blighters went AWOL for half the afternoon. Finally—with one steer back in the bull paddock, the other in a different wrong paddock, and a badly broken fence—we gave up. After slaking our thirst, we persuaded the calves, by now quite lively, that vaccination was non-negotiable, then, after the deed was done, returned them to their happily munching mothers.

At last peace reigned and we collapsed in a dusty heap just within reach of the Esky. Now how Christmassy is that?

Unfortunately our humble paddock will be something of an anticlimax after that effort. Nevertheless we look forward to catching up with as many friends as possible. So Happy Christmas everyone, and finally, to all those Year 12s crossing fingers, toes, eyes, the works—good luck!

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**MELBOURNE METROPOLITAN STRATEGY**

The State Government has recently released the Melbourne Metropolitan Strategy, known as *Melbourne 2030* and is seeking community comment on the Plan. *Melbourne 2030* is a 30 year plan to manage growth and change in Melbourne.

If residents wish to obtain further information about *Melbourne 2030* and the draft Implementation Plans they can be viewed at the Eltham and Diamond Valley Libraries and the Council Offices, Greensborough. The strategy and plans can also be viewed on the Department of Infrastructure's website at [www.melbourne2030.vic.gov.au](http://www.melbourne2030.vic.gov.au)

Nillumbik Shire Council has prepared an Information and Discussion Paper to provide information to the Nillumbik community about *Melbourne 2030*. The Paper does not represent a formal position of Council and it has been produced solely to inform the community. Council will form its own view on *Melbourne 2030* prior to making its submission to the State Government by 14 February 2003.

The Information and Discussion Paper can be viewed on Council's website ([www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)) or obtained by contacting Council's Environment and Strategic Planning Section on 9433 3210.

Residents are encouraged to make their individual submissions directly to the Department of Infrastructure by 14 February 2003 to: Melbourne 2030 Department of Infrastructure GPO Box 2797Y Melbourne Vic 3001 or [Melbourne2030@doi.vic.gov.au](mailto:Melbourne2030@doi.vic.gov.au)

Council would appreciate a copy of any submissions made by residents to help form its views but will need to receive the submission by 6 January, 2003. Please send us a copy of your submission to: Nillumbik Shire Council PO Box 476 Greensborough Vic 3088 Fax: 9432 9559 Email: [nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

Catherine Dale  
Chief Executive Officer

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# Coming closer

I dreamt the sky was on fire  
Tortured stars turning red  
like the glowing eyes of a fabled beast  
Waves of siren wails  
Approaching and fading  
Relentless as the sea  
Then I awoke  
Safe in my bed  
Just a dream

This is Australia  
land of the innocent  
Not me  
Not here  
*Have another beer*

S11 was a bit of a worry  
They were white and well-fed  
And innocent too  
Doing ordinary things  
The memo, the coffee machine

Madmen attacking the innocent

But that was America  
The world's bully boy  
No-one liked bully boys  
Not me  
Not here  
*Have another beer*

But Bali is closer  
And they were targeting our own  
Young ones at that  
Doing ordinary things  
Like having a holiday  
Having a beer

Madmen attacking the innocent

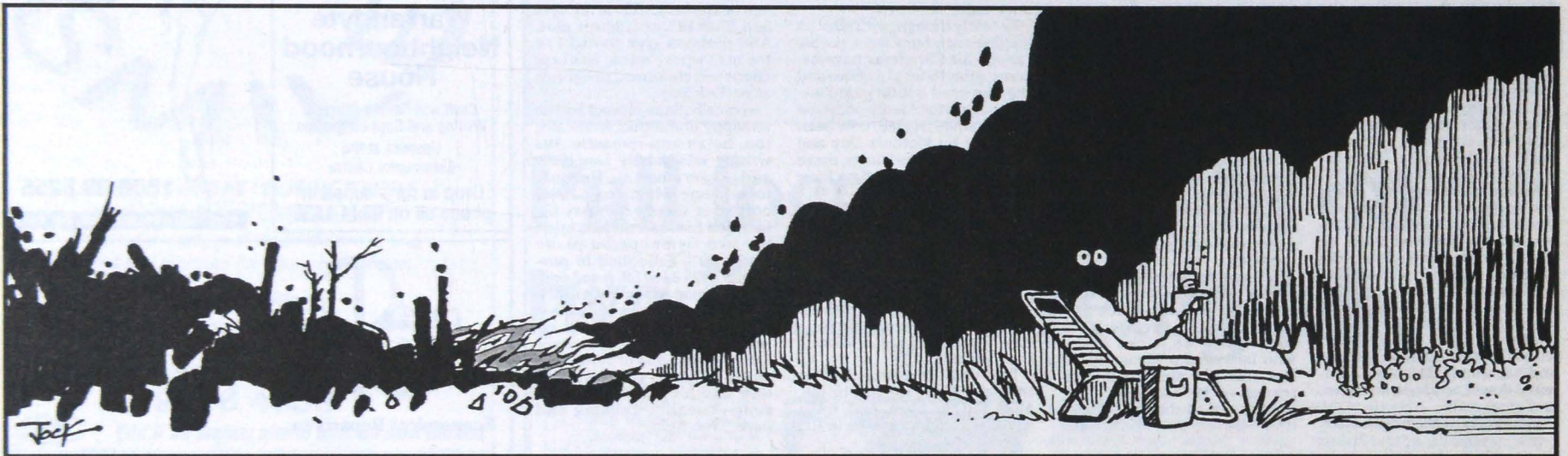
But it's still "over there"  
It's exotic and different  
And full of fanatics  
Not me  
Not here  
*Have another beer*

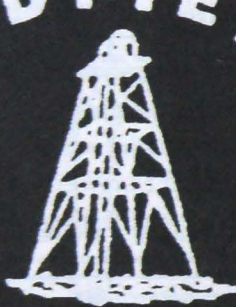
I dreamt the sky was on fire  
Tortured stars turning red  
Like the glowing eyes of a fabled beast  
Waves of siren wails  
Approaching and fading  
Relentless as the sea  
Then I awoke  
And the sirens wailed on  
You couldn't see the stars  
For the smoke

There was no bloody toll  
No terrorist plot  
A building burnt down  
A building I knew, a building for  
*children*  
The ultimate innocents

The innocent who can no longer say  
Not me  
Not here  
The not-so-innocent who know  
It's coming closer.

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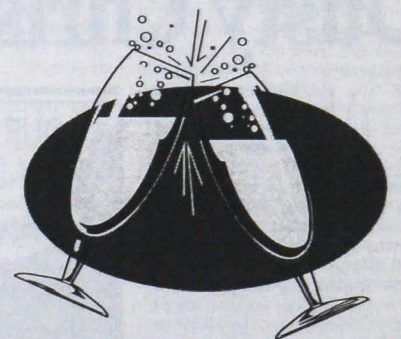


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# Stane Brae: a welcome in the valley

Continuing a series  
by GLEN JAMESON,  
exploring special places  
in the Warrandyte area

## FELLOWSHIP OF THE FORESTS: 4



**C**RAMMED between the rocky river escarpments, Yarra Brae and Jumping Creek, Stane Brae opens like an outstretched hand welcoming everyone. The landscape embraces you with a vast alluvial terrace sweeping majestically down from the Stane Brae ridgeline to the river.

Standing in that landscape you feel as if Mother Nature has you in her palm. On the other side of the river, the Warrandyte Gorge maintains steep escarpment cliffs shaped like a cupped hand to receive the palm of the alluvial terrace and the tickle of the river fingers. You are graciously gathered into the bosom of the country.

Stane Brae is Scottish for "Stony Hills", a dour rebuff from a lonely settler's soul missing the green green hills of home. Gaunt, bony ridgeline arms held out the tempting promise of pastoral possibilities to early settlers searching for the deeper soils agriculture hungered for. The valley holds a pregnant belly of soil, promising riches in a graceful landscape.

Stane Brae was settled in the early 1840s with the formal layout of the old farm still evident, although the farm building were razed by the 1962 fires.

However, it was deeper into the forests, between the alluvial terrace and Jumping Creek Road, which tempted many of the Fellowship to venture in and enjoy its rich cargo of naturalist's delights. When Stane Brae was still almost entire, it was the haunt of members of the Ringwood Field Naturalist Club, in particular Jack Hyett and Bill King, local naturalists, both of whom have sadly passed on. Its rich assemblage of orchids and array of birds and animals often brought them in to marvel over the natural biodiversity found there.

Even up until 1985, when Jack Hyett would arrive in his purple ute, wearing a black cowboy hat, to continue surveys. He recounted events of Stane Brae after the fires of 1962, when he found the calcified bones of little Agile Antechinus caught by the flames. At night out spotlighting, Bill would call the Mopoke. Wedge-tail Eagles and Powerful Owls nested there. Students studied the rare and threatened. It is home to the beautiful and elusive Brush-tailed Phascogale. A huge chunk of land, almost square in shape, it has a low boundary-to-area ratio, an important consideration when keeping the ecology healthy. It is a sanctuary in itself.

The private section of Stane Brae is still a formidable piece of land. Of 120 hectares, it is of state significance for its fauna and flora and is protected by a Trust for Nature covenant. It is a terrific example of private ownership contributing significantly to the local ecological assets through sympathetic management.

An illustration of its botanical richness is that in the early 1970s, Marilyn Gray produced the first photographic book on the Orchids of Victoria with almost 80 percent of the photographs taken either on Stane Brae or along Blooms Road, North Warrandyte. Almost the entire orchid flora of Victoria as it was known then—except for some rare and restricted Orchids—could be found locally. Things have changed; the Blooms Road Orchids have long since gone; richer sites for Orchids have been found elsewhere in Victoria and many more species of Orchid have been discovered across Victoria. For a long time, Stane Brae has been of great interest to local naturalists.

In 1983, Stane Brae, like Yarra Brae, had the river section bought from private ownership to be included in the Warrandyte State Park to create a contiguous park along the Yarra.



At that time, the Fellowship campaigned for the government to buy the whole of Stane Brae. The alluvial terrace section of Stane Brae along the river, which the government was interested in purchasing, had been profoundly altered by 140 years of agriculture, with most of the indigenous vegetation removed. Cattle had grazed right down to the river and scarred the banks. In magical contrast, the escarpment section of Stane Brae was beautifully covered by a rich assemblage of indigenous vegetation.

Following a long battle, which included the holding of such fund-raising as a "Haley's Comet walk" and an almost-farcical country music festival on the site, the Fellowship failed to secure enough funds to purchase the property. The government of the day preferred to spend its money down on the Mornington Peninsula at Greens Bush. The best part of Stane Brae passed into private ownership, fortunately to very sympathetic owners. Part of the negotiations for the purchase of the riverfront was further subdivision of the section of Stane Brae up near Jumping Creek Road. However, the Fellowship did succeed in negotiating a Trust for Nature covenant on the land, aiming to prevent any further subdivision.

The sympathetic management of private land is essential to the survival of Warrandyte State Park. The park is far too fragmented and narrow to survive alone. If all the indigenous vegetation was removed from all the surrounding private property, the park ecosystem would collapse.

Always there has been tension and conflict over private and public lands: settler and Aboriginal, refugee and refuser; continuing through centuries.

In the 19th century, an era dominated by political groundswell for democratic institutions and political freedoms, the Australian colonial administrators viewed public ownership of land as an equitable way to provide access for

the community. They set aside land as they drew up plans for townships and villages, so that democracy was written into the shape of settlement. Town planning spoke of the new deal in community ownership of land. These parcels of land became the basis of the Warrandyte State Park; a valuable inheritance for all.

Hence those sections of Warrandyte State Park known as The Common, Timber Reserve and Fourth Hill were reserved for public use. A huge parcel of land that included Pound Bend was originally set aside as an Aboriginal Reserve (and there are rumours that it was never officially unreserved for this use). These were acknowledgments of the range of ownership possibilities.

Historical experience in the British Isles had demonstrated that land was locked up for centuries after each change in the ruling dynasty. Grants of lands went out to cohorts of victorious invaders after the vanquished had their land usurped. The land was then handed down through generations until another dominant clan rose to power and things spilled out again. This historical baggage has led to the present day chaotic management of some national parks in Britain. Land being owned by many private owners and the national park managers and rangers having to weld together a management package catering for the disparate aims and land use claims of various owners. It is made to work as well as it can.

View the country from a plane flying over the Middle Yarra Valley. This shows those areas that were reserved in the original survey, together with the public land banks along rivers and creeks. They stand out now as ecologically visionary forests. It is a good investment for a healthy environment when we protect water catchments.

In the middle of the Stane Brae terrace is a huge Red Box; a generational dinosaur of the

alluvial terrace over 600 or 700 years old, marking the age of a mature Red Box forest. It represents a stage in the life of the Red Box forest that climaxes with plants reaching great ages after surviving the various threats to their life from all the disturbances within ecology. In forests of great aged Red Box, there is an equilibrium reached between the pace of the creation of new species and the extinction of others.

When the first settlers arrived in the Yarra Valley, they were greeted by an open grassy woodland. Generations of ecological management using Aboriginal fire-burning produced a landscape in much of the Port Phillip district that entranced the European newcomers. It appeared like "a gentleman's park, lush, green and leafy". A land of plenty, many described it. It was a landscape of big, well-spaced trees, with an open grassy understorey. These are landscape elements that greatly appeal to all humans. It was the landscape that gave Wonga Park its name. The park of Simon Wonga. Wonga Pigeon. Wonga Vine; landscape produced through a combination of human activity and natural processes.

In November 2000, one of the old Red Box generation, the tree behind the shops on the corner of Dudley and Jumping Creek roads, died. In good bush, when a massive old tree finally dies, many seedlings get the chance to germinate. They sprout thick on the ground, often without a hand space between them. Growing vigorously, they temporarily eliminate much of the biodiversity in their young hunger for nutrients, water and light. As the years pass, various agents eliminate the weaker and unlucky ones: grazing wallabies, insects, humans harvesting wood, lightning strikes, fires, wind storms, fungal attacks, droughts and floods. One by one, thousands of seedlings succumb. Over time, survivors become further and further apart, sharing their space with other plants. After 200 years the trees are spaced maybe five to 10 metres apart. Biodiversity has returned, with middle storey plants, grasses and orchids. After 400 years, only truly special trees dominate. Huge trees, so marked by their own character that they are known individually by those who sit beneath them making stone tools. Aged 600 years, the Red Box trees are landmarks with arms like woody sumo wrestlers. Hollows spout from each branch, providing accommodation for mammals and birds. Biodiversity peaks in the ecosystem as the tree tops tower into the clouds.

Stane Brae is also the stomping ground of a big, gregarious mob of Eastern Grey Kangaroos. This is the valley that offered a pastoral colonial opportunity amongst that Silurian toughness that was muscled into ridgelines. The settlers' first vision was of a landscape meant for cattle and sheep. Kangaroo was in short supply, marsupial herds being relatively rare in those colonial times. The big Stane Brae Kangaroo mob is the pastoral promise, delivered in the form of a productive native resource that efficiently lessens environmental harm, unlike introduced hoofed creatures. The inheritance of the family farm is ready for us to return; to return to an austral destiny that embraces this landscape.

Outstretched from Stane Brae is the Fellowship's hand, looking to heal the land with its touch. The Fellowship works for land to be managed sympathetically across ownerships, as we find better ways to share our space with nature, and a fairer way to resolve the conflicts that we humans have with the other creatures of the earth.



# Ice-cream plum pudding for breakfast, Mum...

By RACHEL BAKER

**W**E try to run slowly down the steep steps to the cool brown water, but gravity makes us go faster and faster until we almost pitch headfirst into the river. Our older brothers and sisters come down after us. We're hot from the long walk, tired, and our tummies are full of Christmas dinner. We collapse into the Yarra and drift out into the gentle current of Pound Bend.

We hadn't slept well the night before because we couldn't wait to see our presents; the morning had been exciting; then we had to run around and help Mum because she always gets tense on Christmas Day.

The sun was hot, the kitchen was hot and the lounge room was hot. Mum said Dad had to light the fire because, even though it's hot, it's Christmas.

Before that happened, we opened our presents. Mum said we had to wait until everyone was up, so it was my job to wake up all the others. They didn't want to get up because they all went to the pub the night before.

After the presents were opened, the neighbours came over and all the adults ate nibbles. Mum said she didn't want to drink champagne but she did anyway.

My brother put up his new tent in the front yard. My sister skated up and down the driveway on her new spider skateboard. The older ones played CDs and looked at books. I tried on my new dress.

Now we're at the river and I feel a bit sad. I'd been excited for so long and now it's over and I'm uncomfortable and feeling lazy.

The worst bit comes tomorrow. We have to take all the decorations off the tree and then drag it across the carpet and take it outside. Mum tells us to be careful and not get pine needles all over the floor. But we do. One of the older ones will get the vacuum. We drag it down the back and put it on the pile with all the other things. Dad will have a burn-off later. It still smells nice but it's starting to dry out.

Then it's quick, quick, pack, because we're leaving for Cape Conran tomorrow. Mum makes lots of lists of all the things we need to take: tents, bush shower, pots, pans, barbecue, cricket

set, beach towels, blow-up mattresses, fishing rods: lists, lists, lists.

Dad's trying to pack the boat and he hits his head on the barbecue. Quick! my sister warns. Run inside. We don't want to be around Dad just after he's hit his head.

Mum's got a headache and she sits on the couch with a cup of tea. I feel bad because I haven't really helped, I've just been playing with my new longstitch set.

The older brothers finally show up and help Dad. When everything's packed, the boys have left-over roast

pork for dinner and the girls have left-over ice-cream plum pudding.

I go to bed. When I wake up, I'm hungry for the first time in two days. I want to have ice-cream plum pudding for breakfast but Mum says I should have Weet-bix.

Dad had said he was finished but he still has to run around and pack a few more things. We all bundle into the red four-wheel-drive and hit the road, or the frog-and-toad, as Dad calls it.

We're out onto the main road. We go down the hill towards Warrandyte town. Everything's kind of quiet and weird. The Christmas decorations are still on telegraph poles and people still



RACHEL BAKER grew up in Warrandyte. She began writing for the *Diary* in Year 12 at Warrandyte High School. After studying journalism at RMIT she worked as a reporter on the *Nhill Free Press*. She commences a cadetship at ABC News in February.

have wreaths on their front doors, which seems a bit wrong, even though it was only two days ago.

We cross the river and go through Eltham, then we go onto another road and another road and another road. I don't really know the way but that's OK because Dad does.



## Are you a home based business in Warrandyte?

- would you like to link in with other home based businesses?
- would you like to be in the free directory of Warrandyte businesses?
- would you like to learn more about running a business by attending seminars in Warrandyte?

If you answered yes to these questions then we need you...

The Warrandyte Business Association is running a pilot program encouraging local home based businesses to promote themselves more and network together — we want to hear from you. We want to encourage local residents to utilise local services.

Please fill in the form below and send to: WBA, P.O. Box 94, Warrandyte or email your address to meredith.t@bigpond.com so you can be part of the Warrandyte Business at Home project. Phone 9844 2527.

I would like to find out more about the Warrandyte Business at Home project:

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Business: .....

Project supported by StreetLife and Warrandyte Business Association

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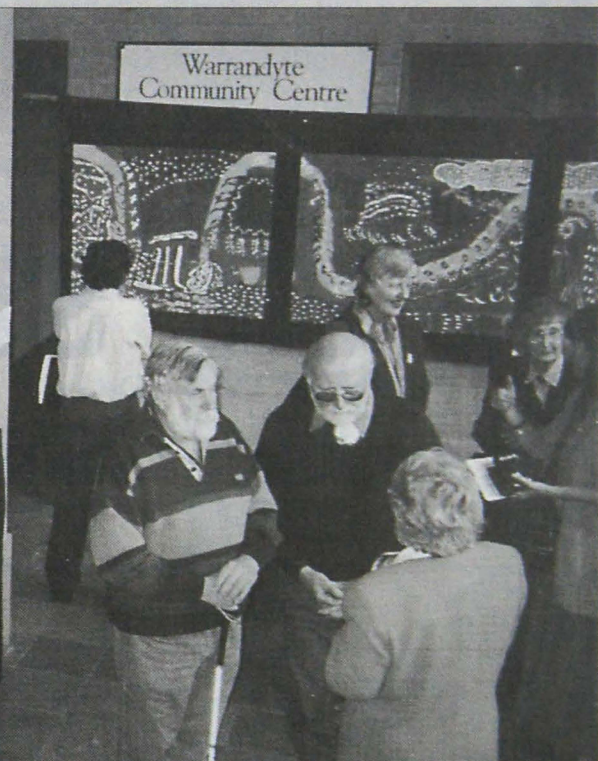
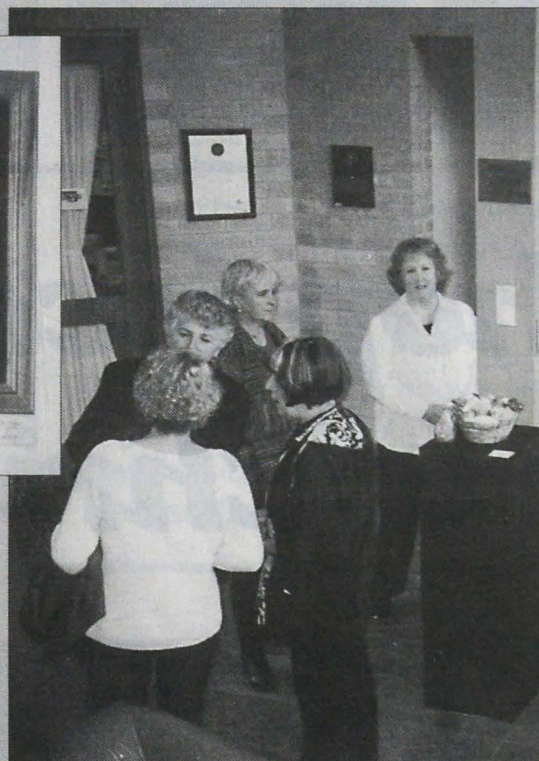
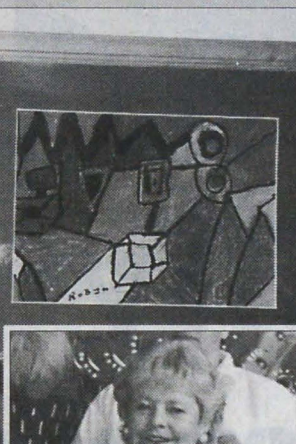
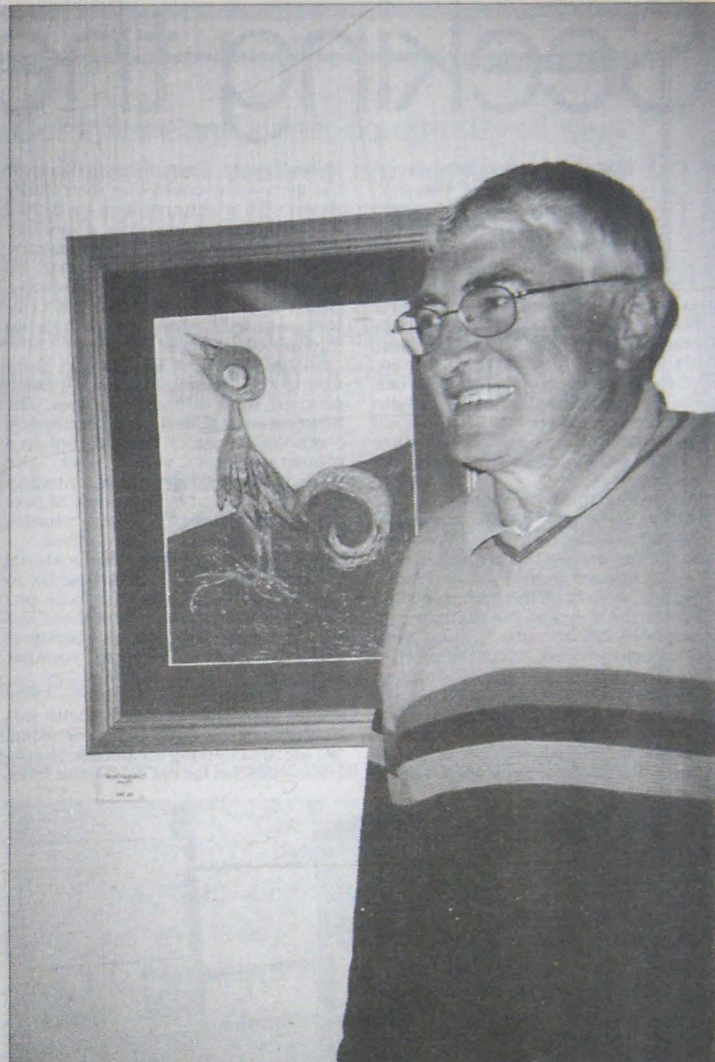
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# Art from the heart

The foyer at the community centre hosted a unique exhibition last month. Members of ARBIAS, an organisation for people who suffer from acquired brain injury, have been attending art classes at the centre, organised by Warrandyte Neighbourhood House. The culmination of their course was this inspiring exhibition, opened by Cr Pat Young.



Pictures by JAN TINDALE

# Another year of living dangerously

Here at the *Diary* office we call each issue "the monthly miracle"; a miracle wrought by all the volunteers who each month freely donate their time and talent to bring you Australia's best local paper.

This year, news stories were written by David Wyman, Cliff Green, Fia Clendinnen, Prudence Truby King, Clinton Grybas, Sam Davies and Jennifer Willis. Regular columnists were Smokey Joe, Roger Kibell, Pat Coupar, Marilyn Moore and Judy Green.

Features were written by Glen Jameson, Don Charlwood, Lee Tindale and Hellena Allan. We published poetry by Karen Throssell and Hellena Allan. Sports stories were written by Lee



Tindale, Clinton Grybas, Tony Oliver, Dennis J. Hoiberg, Robert White, Judy Green and Lee Dehmel.

Our pages were illustrated with photographs by Jan Tindale, Sandy Burgoyne, Stephen Reynolds, Greig Ruthven, Jennifer Willis and Gavin Andrew and with artwork by Jock Macneish, Paul Williams, Melanie Coupar, Syd Tunn, Ona Henderson and Wayne Rankin.

Occasional contributors included Barbara Pertz, Fiona Walters, Audrey

Drechsler, David Nicholson, Richard Morton, Brian Cleaves, Ian Craig, Jenny Valentine, Andrew Wilson and Jeff Adair.

The paper was edited and designed by Cliff Green and Lee Tindale and Jan Tindale helped organise assignments, carried out research and assisted with community liaison. Rachel Schroeder set the type, designed the ads and handled production, assisted by Mark Schroeder. Streamline Press printed our paper and John Ingram delivered press material. As internet editor, Sandy Burgoyne sent us out to readers across the world.

Rae Danks charmed our advertisers and kept our accounts and John Roberts looked after our corporate responsibilities. Don Humpreys kept out office spic

and span and Peter Norman (assisted by Betty Oke and Neal Tessier) took our newspaper out to our many, much appreciated distribution points.

Last, but certainly not least, we remember the folk who make it all financially possible—our advertisers.

And finally, heartfelt thanks to you, our loyal and enthusiastic readers, with a special mention for those who have contributed to our Dear Diary page.

We're taking a break over Christmas and the New Year. Our next issue will appear on Tuesday, February 11, 2003. Editorial and advertising copy will close on Friday, January 31, 2003. In the meantime, have a joyous Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

**CLYDE & OCKER**



"Everyone in Warrandyte reads the *Diary*. Ock. Even the koalas!"



# Seeking the story of a town

**E**VER wondered who lived where you live now? Was gold ever discovered in your backyard? Want to know the history of your part of Warrandyte?

The Warrandyte Historical Society has an enormous collection of early photos and information, but as foundation member Ted Rotherham said, "it's remarkable how few Warrandytians have ever been into the museum". The old post office building in Yarra Street, saved from demolition after much of it was destroyed by fire in 1982, is the society's museum and headquarters.

According to Mr Rotherham's wife Shirley, Warrandyte's history is the foundation of the township. "Most people in Warrandyte are living on land once occupied by old miners' huts. Diggings were in all the gullies leading down to the river and the gullies would have been full of tents. It was a very minor goldfield but it has the distinction of having the first gold licence and it was called the Victoria diggings. It's an important part of our heritage."

Ted Rotherham described some of the early individuals who became identities. "People like Jack Moore from

Moore's store. It was a gossip place for the men—you could buy everything there. Then there was old Bill McCullough, the mailman, grave digger and philosopher who was also the coachman from Heidelberg to Warrandyte. They said there was a gold vein running through the cemetery—people were always peering into the new graves."

On the corner of Forbes and Yarra streets, the original school had a calico roof, log walls and earthen floor. The new (current) school was described by a schools inspector as a "school on a mountain". A year after the Warrandyte Primary School centenary in 1974, attended by hundreds of people bringing along their early photos, the historical society was formed.

"People brought very good material for preservation," according to Jo Laurence. "We now have a huge picture collection, hundreds of them, but we can't have them all on display at once. We need to generate younger members."

"New people could archive it—it involves computer knowledge with lots of artefacts and dates being recorded. We are also looking for people to contribute articles for the newsletter." The

## VILLAGE LIFE

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

society is linked with Whitehorse and Manningham libraries so people can look up information.

The Warrandyte museum is open 1-4pm Saturdays and Sundays. There are 16 members on the volunteer roster, but new volunteers don't have to know everything as "we have a message book for the 'curly' questions," according to Ms Laurence.

"There are publications and pictures for sale. Most popular are photos of street scenes that still have recognisable buildings. The demand for photos of the old characters is slowly fading out as the modern generation has forgotten them."

Jo Laurence says the main thing at the moment is to get a grant as lots of maintenance is required on the old museum. "We are approaching Manningham council to help, as they actually own the building." The society plans to upgrade its outside dis-

plays, putting exhibits on stands and properly labelling them. They also intend upgrading lighting on the Aboriginal display.

"It's a bit of a worry with all the artefacts being stored at the museum—it's a very vulnerable building and we'd hate to lose it. We also need to finish scanning pictures and we want new members to sort, identify and label photos, and interview or tape older residents."

"History is like a jigsaw puzzle—we're always getting little bits of information and solving the mystery, filling in the gaps," she said.

Shirley Rotherham feels it's important to be interested in where you live now and where we call home. "We've been here since 1959 and seen the place change from a small town to virtually a suburb of Melbourne. You don't have to get in a horse and buggy to get anywhere now."

"Warrandyte was an arty area, full of writers and potters. Most of the area was orchard after the gold. In Ringwood they said 'where's Warrandyte?' when we first arrived."

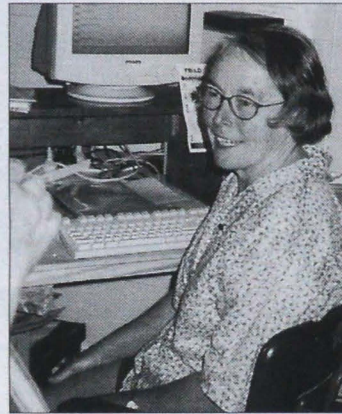
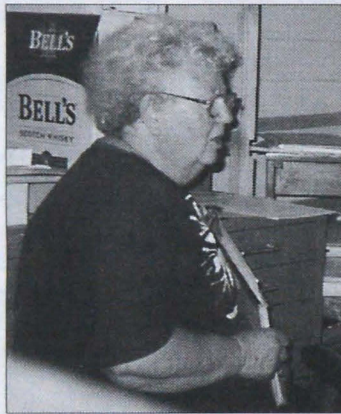
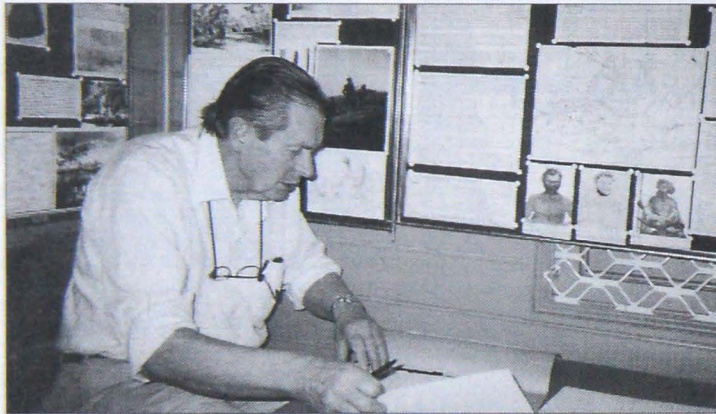
The Rotherhams agree that archiving is a lot of work, involving a tremendous amount of research and putting

records onto the computer. According to Ted Rotherham, it's very important to find funds—sources of income to maintain the museum and change the displays.

"The tragedy was that people said 'we had this' after the 1939 and 1962 fires, when 100 homes went in each fire and all this material has gone. I proposed a nude show to get new people down there to the museum—it didn't go down very well with other members!"

"We've been very lucky to have Murray Houghton as he is a very good researcher who wrote a history of the Warrandyte goldfields. He's a third generation Warrandyte family. The historical society's earliest photograph is of a coffer dam in the river in 1865. It shows the photographer's tent in the foreground using the wet plate process. The man in the punt is Murray's grandfather who is ferrying people across the river after the bridge was washed away."

Shirley Rotherham says our local history is important because it's fairly unique. "Warrandyte has a colourful history and it's important to be aware of the beginnings of the place. We need to record it or it will be lost forever."



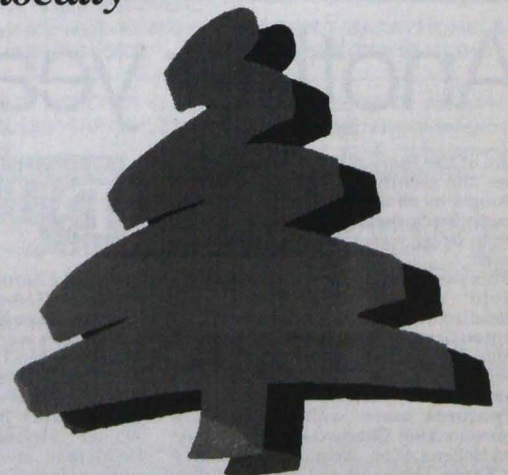
Pictures by JAN TINDALE

# Shop locally this Christmas

Discerning shoppers travel to Warrandyte from all over Melbourne to buy that special gift. Interstate and overseas tourists come here for unique souvenirs and presents. Usually handmade, often one of a kind, always good value. Gifts bought in Warrandyte demonstrate your good taste, individuality and sense of occasion. Shop locally this Christmas.

Discover Warrandyte Gold this Christmas...

Warrandyte shops will be open until 9pm on Thursday, December 12 and Thursday, December 19





# Christmas Hampers

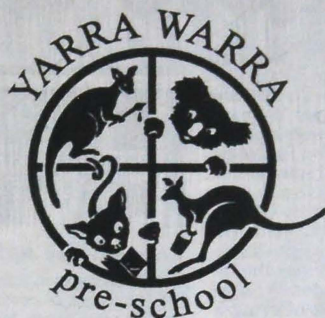
Made to Order (Pre-made hampers also available)

Victory IGA  
double-smoked, low salt

**Leg Ham**  
**\$8.99 kg**

**Christmas Trees** only **\$20**

All sizes (\$5 extra for home delivery)



The Committee and kinder community of Yarra Warra Preschool wish to acknowledge and thank the following organisations and people for their support and generous donations that have greatly assisted our fundraising endeavors following the devastating fire that destroyed our kinder in October.

Warrandyte IGA Supermarket  
The Cumberland Marysville  
DeBortoli Wines  
Geebung Polo Club  
Nan Turney  
Remos Restaurant, Chirnside Park  
Global Machinery Company  
Goldfields Cellars, Warrandyte  
Ringwood Mazda  
Lavazza Coffee  
Paul Ryan  
Be Creative Graphic Design  
Paul Gilling Physiotherapy  
Eltham Swim School  
Women at Work  
Pasta Mania, Warrandyte  
Bill Maris Meats

Grand Hyatt Melbourne  
Essentially Hair by Emma, Warrandyte  
Adriana Coshall  
Well Imagine That  
Lavendar Cottage, Lilydale  
Way Ahead Hair Salon, Warrandyte  
The Cottage Bed & Breakfast  
Wellers Restaurant, Kangaroo Ground  
Earle Family  
Thyme on the Terrace, Warrandyte  
Castagna Family  
Yarra Valley Gold Winery  
Warrandyte Tennis Club  
Warrandyte Fullife Pharmacy  
Heritage Country Club  
Grand Hotel, Warrandyte  
Warrandyte Market Committee

We will be using the majority of the prizes above in our Fire Relief Raffle to be drawn on December 10th. Tickets can be purchased from our stand at the Warrandyte Community Market on Saturday December 7th or from the Warrandyte Hotel.

As well as all of the above we have been overwhelmed by the ongoing support, both in terms of donations and help, by many, many residents of Warrandyte and beyond — the children and their families of Yarra Warra Preschool thank you.

**Victory**



**Supermarket**

**402 Heidelberg/Warrandyte Road, Warrandyte**

Telephone: 9844 3089 • Facsimile: 9844 4866

Email: [victoryiga@localgrocer.com.au](mailto:victoryiga@localgrocer.com.au)

Website: [www.victoryiga.localgrocer.com.au](http://www.victoryiga.localgrocer.com.au)

**PROUD MAJOR SPONSOR OF THE WARRANDYTE FOOTBALL CLUB**



WARRANDYTE DIARY VICTORY IGA

(\$100 Shopping Voucher)

**Citizen of the Month Award**

Judy Finger

*In recognition of many years of outstanding service to Warrandyte Primary School, Warrandyte Festival and the Warrandyte Community Garden*

VICTORY IGA

are proud supporters of

**Bendigo Community Bank for Warrandyte**

We ask our valued customers to support this great initiative and watch our community benefit.



A  
Merry Christmas  
and a  
safe and happy  
New Year

from the team at  
Warrandyte Fullife  
Pharmacy



**Warrandyte Neighbourhood Chemist**

Goldfields Plaza Shopping Centre  
Warrandyte Rd, Warrandyte. Ph: 9844 2029

**ACT GLOBALLY  
—SHOP LOCALLY**

**Alan  
Vitiritti  
9735 3217**



**Painter &  
Decorator**

# Carols at Stiggants

The Warrandyte and Park Orchards Inter-church Council are holding their annual Warrandyte Community Carols night at Stiggants Reserve on Saturday, December 14 at 8.15pm. Guest artists from the Victorian Jazz Club and the Vision City Church are among two of the main features this year, along with a special presentation under the direction of Rick Gordon. A range of vendors will be offering a variety of meal items, snacks and refreshments from 6.30pm. Candles will be on sale. Please bring a picnic rug, your friends and family. Donations will go to the Christmas Bowl Appeal. Enquiries to 9844 4148.



**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.

aged Yarra Warra Pre-School. The kindergarten will be conducting raffles there on Tuesday evenings and at Sunday lunches in the bistro until Christmas.

## Market

To cater for last-minute Christmas shoppers, there will be a special community market at Stiggants Reserve on Saturday, December 21.

## Thanks

A "thank you" dinner has been arranged for John James, who until recently was the owner of Potters Cottage. John has worked in the community for over 30 years. The dinner will be held at Nardee's Indian restaurant on Tuesday, December 17 at 7pm. It will follow the annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Business Association at 6.30pm. Cost for a three course meal is \$30 per head, BYO drinks. Please RSVP to Janelle on 9844 0960 by December 12. The evening has been organised by the Business Association. All are welcome.

## Party

Warrandyte Senior Citizens Club invites all to their dance and musical Christmas afternoon on Sunday, December 15 commencing at 1.30pm at their centre in Tarooona Avenue, Warrandyte. There is no admission charge and a Christmas gift exchange will take place. Enquiries to 9844 2437 or 9844 2955 (AH).

## Kinder

Warrandyte Football Club has turned over three raffle dates a week at the Grand Hotel/Club Warrandyte to the arson-rav-

## Plants

The Friends of Warrandyte State Park are offering a special \$1 kit to all native plant enthusiasts. The kit includes the Gardeners Guide to Indigenous Planting in Warrandyte and Surrounding Areas, three colour brochures on Warrandyte wattles, wildflowers and eucalypts and a colour brochure on environmental weeds. The kit is available from Neighbourhood House, Information Warrandyte, The Soil Shop, Warrandyte Post Office, Goldfields Cellars, FOWSP market stall and the State Park depot at Pound Bend (Thursday mornings only). New members of FOWSP will receive the kit free. Enquiries to Joan MacMahon on 9844 3213.

## Christmas church services

Celebrate Christ's birthday at your local church.

Christmas church services for 2002 will be as follows: **Anglican** (9844 3473), Christmas Eve—11.30pm, Christmas Day—8am and 9.30am. **Uniting** (9844 3476), Christmas Eve—7.30pm and 11.30pm, Christmas Day—9am. **Community Church** (9844 4148), Christmas



State minister Marsha Thomson launched the Warrandyte Business Association's Home-based Business Project last month. The project aims to locate home-based businesses in Warrandyte; set up a data base listing these businesses; create a directory to be delivered to each home; invite business people to indicate training they may wish to be involved in; involve Warrandyte business people in workshops and seminars. Interested locals are invited to fill in the form on Page 16. Pictured above with Marsha Thomson are Cr Julie Eisenbise, Manningham council and WBA members Meredith Thornton and John Provan.

## Dance

The next South Warrandyte Social Dance will be held in the South Warrandyte Hall on Saturday, December 14 commencing at 8pm. Enquiries to 9723 3892. Bookings still available for the New Years Eve dance by ringing Betty on 9844 3763.

## Candlelight

The annual Manningham Carols by Candlelight will be held, as usual, at Ruffey Lake Park on Friday, December 20, commencing at 6pm with a family festival, followed by carol singing at 7.45 pm, conducted by media personality Greg Evans.

## Care

Volunteers are needed by Do Care to spend a few hours each week visiting older or disabled people in the local community. For information please phone Do Care on 9762 5211.

## ARTYFACTS

### Cartoonists

A new exhibition at Bulleen Art and Garden, 6 Manningham Road West, Bulleen includes sculptures by a number of artists and paintings by Diary cartoonists Syd Tunn and Ona Henderson. The exhibition is entitled "Creatures" and includes frogs, dragons, birds, elephants—and even people. It is running from November 29 to December 22.

### Journeys

An exhibition entitled "Different Journeys", featuring the paintings of Ian Gedge, Merinda Gray, Brenda Smith and Ann Bouchier will be opened by well-known Warrandyte artist Walter Magilton at 6.30pm, Thursday, December 12 at the Eltham Library Community Gallery. The exhibition runs from December 11 to December 31.

## PRINT & COPY CENTRE CROYDON



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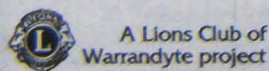
Fax: 9725 5384 Email: inkspot@bigpond.net.au

EFTPOS & CREDIT CARD FACILITIES

## Warrandyte Op Shop

at the Community Centre

SUE would like to thank everyone for their generous donations and ongoing support in 2002



A happy & safe Christmas to all

**GOING AWAY?** Contact 'The Good Faeries' Rae and Jenny to care for your pets and gardens and clear your mail. **YEAR ROUND SERVICE** 9844 3819-0438 587 135

Trust Rae and Jenny to look after your place till you get back.

## Warrandyte Neighbourhood House

TERM 1 COURSES — 2003

**Yoga:** Mondays pm, Thursdays pm  
**Belly Dancing:** Tuesdays pm, Wednesdays pm  
**Strong Women Stay Young:** Tuesdays am & pm, Fridays am  
**Kids Drawing:** Mondays pm, Tuesdays pm  
**Adult Drawing:** Tuesdays pm  
**Professional Writing Module 1:** Mondays pm  
**Professional Writing Module 2:** Wednesdays pm  
**Warrandyte Walkers:** Mondays am  
**Friday Lunch & Discussions:** Fridays pm (monthly)  
**Tai Chi (Day):** Fridays am  
**Tai Chi (Night):** Tuesdays pm  
**Lizzie's Craft Group:** Thursdays am  
**Time Out for Women with Children:** Thursdays am  
**Alternatives to H.R.T.:** Thursdays pm  
**Colorful Natives for a Cottage Garden:** Saturdays am  
**Machinery Embroidery:** Thursdays pm  
**Knowing Heide:** Wednesdays am  
**Gardening Club:** Saturdays am

**Ring 9844 1839 TO ENROL (28/1)**

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House gratefully acknowledges funding from the following organisations: Manningham City Council, Department of Human Services and Doncare

**Dates for your Diary**

**Friday 7 March 6.30-8pm BOOK LAUNCH**

"Women on the Move" by Sandi Givens  
 A book about helping you achieve your dream  
 Speaker: Fabian Dattner  
 at the Warrandyte Community Centre  
 Wine & Cheese provided  
 Cost \$10 (Conc: \$5)

**WOMEN'S HEALTH WEEK 2003**

**Thursday, 27 February, 9.30am-3pm**  
 at Warrandyte Neighbourhood House

THIS YEAR'S THEME: "NEW HORIZONS - MIND AND BODY"

River walk followed by the following presentations:

- Women's Mental Health Issues
- Art as Therapy
- Herbal Healing
- Life Balancing

COST: \$10 includes morning tea and lunch



# Redbacks win some, lose some

By **TONY OLIVER** and **MANDY RATCLIFFE**

Round 9 of the Saturday basketball summer was completed on December 7 with mixed results for top Warrandyte sides.

A feature game was the top-of-the-table Under-12 A-grade boys' clash between Koonung and Warrandyte, the Redbacks getting home by three points.

The home team opened up strongly in the game at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre to run to an 8-2 lead. Koonung responded well and started to match the Redbacks and late points saw the score at 18-14 in Warrandyte's favour at the break.

The second half opened with the visitors nipping at the heels of Warrandyte, then outscoring them 9-3 to establish a handy lead.

But Jesse McLellan sparked a Redbacks revival with a field goal and forward Tom Fitzpatrick and guard Ian McLeod were able to get the points on the board to get our noses back in front and hold on for a 31-28 result.

"Knocking off the top team will give the lads confidence for the future," said coach Gavin Whitmore.

This talented side had defeated the top Eltham unit 38-15 the previous week and are looking strong contenders for the final series in late March.

A good result was also in store for the Under-14 boys of Hayden Wall against Nunawading. It should have been a relatively straightforward win for Warrandyte, but they could not find the way to the basket from inside and had to resort to outside shooting to break up the defence.

It went goal for goal in the first half, Warrandyte leading 14-13 at the interval.

Fired up by coach Wall's pep talk, Warrandyte started to make the scoreboard tick over after the resumption. Hamish Hosking, aided and abetted by Shane Holloway, was establishing his presence under the basket and the Redback boys drew away to win 45-38. Hosking finished with 14 points and Alex Beltramin nine.

The victory complemented a recent 38-36 defeat of Eltham and an unblemished record this season has them looking very good for the business half of the season.

In a glimpse into the future, Frank Gatti's Under-8-1 boys defeated the Park Orchards Steelers 16-11 at Warrandyte High School.

The youngsters are producing a very competitive season, defeating Bulleen's top side 16-15 but



Above: Catch me if you can, says Warrandyte's Tyson Barber as he heads for home in the Under-14 game against Nunawading, which the Redbacks won. Centre: Courtney Petalas (No 7) is poised for the tip-off ahead of Warrandyte's 23-21 win over the Doncats in the Under-10s. Right: It's all eyes on the basket as Julian Philippou shoots during the Under-12s' 38-15 victory over Eltham.



going down to Eltham by four points. The game against Perk Orchards was tight until just before half-time when a scoring spree initiated by guard Mike Holloway saw the Redbacks run to a commanding 12-3 lead.

The Steelers slowly worked themselves back into contention, but Warrandyte held on resolutely. Ryan Tester topscored for the Redbacks with nine points.

Nick Peters was also able to get Warrandyte's second Under-8 side over the line in a come-from-behind 10-9 win over Eltham.

Both of Warrandyte's top-aged girls sides were defeated.

The Under-18s met Nunawading, who had beaten them by a point when last they met, and went down by four this time after leading 15-13 at the break.

Nunawading were able to capitalise in the second half to win 30-26. Topscorers for Warrandyte were Jess Kemp with eight and Anna Middleton (six).

Warrandyte are travelling unevenly in this competition this year, and will struggle to defend their A-grade trophy.

The talent is still there, however, with guard

and top playmaker Kim Singh continuing to show good form.

The previous week the girls had shown their true fighting spirit with a one-point win against Ivanhoe, Elyse May scoring with her second free throw after the bell for a 28-27 victory.

Warrandyte's Under-16 A-grade girls were well beaten by Koonung, 45-28.

The Redbacks could not recover from a slow start, trailing by 16 at half-time. They shared the second half but, as in previous encounters with Koonung, could not control their point guard Lauren Jeffers (a game-high 18 points) and forward Kathryn Allison (seven).

Warrandyte are also struggling, with injuries, with Tahnee Templeton, Stephanie Simpson and Jennifer Byrne all unavailable. Stef Smith made a strong return to the court and Mariah Curavic was a successful fill-in.

A better result came the way of the Under-14 A-grade girls against Koonung, with a tight 20-17 win. Warrandyte could only field five players and had to revert to a zone defence, which they kept tight for most of the game.

Andrea Peters scored a game-high 13 points with many assists from Amy Caudry.

Peters has recently been putting in very strong results on the scoreboard as she grows in confidence.

Fast guard Stef Smith controlled the ball up the court and drove in strongly to the basket. Forwards Lindel Thomas and Kara Hibbert were strong under the baskets.

The girls are very competitive in the A-grade competition but struggle against he top clubs, recently losing 77-26 to powerful Bulleen.

Warrandyte's Under-12 girls, coached by Matt Treeby, went down in a hard physical game against Balwyn. Both sides committed to the contest but some wayward passes allowed Balwyn to gain the ascendancy.

A late Warrandyte rally sparked by a goal to Fiona Rennie gave the Redbacks a chance, but Balwyn were able to score the last two goals to win 25-18.

The Under-10 girls coached by Lorraine Parfitt had a good workout against the Nunawading Vikings. The game was tight approaching half-time, when Courtney Petalas scored two quick baskets for a comfortable 15-8 Warrandyte lead. The Redbacks were more dominant in the second half, Petalas adding 13 points for a total of 20.

## Under-12s lead Friday assault

By **TONY OLIVER** and **DAMIEN ARSENIS**

Friday night junior basketball is in full swing, with all Warrandyte number one teams in action. All sides are currently going for the Metro grades and the Under-12 boys coached by Damien Arsenis are leading the charge.

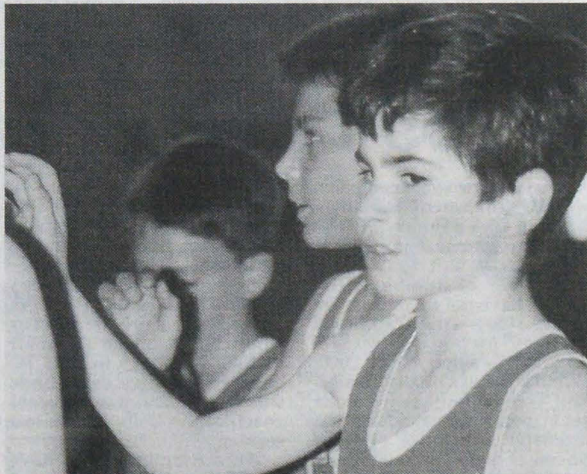
Question marks had arisen about this team in their quest to be the first Redback side to qualify for the highest grade — the Victorian Championships. With a line-up missing quality player Andrew Clough who had transferred to the Nunawading Spectres in the off-season, little was expected of this small yet high-potential squad.

Those doubts seemed justified when, in their first game together as a team, they appeared nervous and tentative and went down by more than 20 points.

With many of the team playing their first Friday night games, expectations had fallen and it was thought Metro 1 might be their limit.

But pitted against Kilsyth in the first official grading game of the 2003 championship season, the talented youngsters began to display their wares.

Lead superbly by experienced duo Jordan Beltramin (23 points) and Zac Brodrick, Warrandyte were able to



Under-12 Redbacks (from left) James Robb, Josh Alexander and Charlie Bullard are all ears as the coach lays down the law at half-time in their game against Park Orchards.

smother just about every Cobra strike with some hard-nosed and unrelenting defence.

This pressure created numerous fast-break opportunities and easy conversions. In a great team effort in which every Redback player scored, they ran away to a 41-point victory (52-11).

Buoyed by that, Arsenis' troops faced Melbourne 2 at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic

Centre. Arriving late after being held up by peak-hour traffic, and without a warm-up, the signs weren't good as the Redbacks faced up to the taller, heavier Tigers.

But they were not to be intimidated, took the game right up to Melbourne and dominated from the outset. They were, however, unable to put the pressure on the Tigers where it counts — on the scoreboard.

Enter Daniel Tester.

With Beltramin (17 points) and Brodrick taking a break on the bench, Tester, clearly the youngest on the team and playing only his third Friday night game, decided enough was enough and made it his own.

He cut a swathe through the Tigers defence as he scored at will on his way to 14 points. He also created opportunities galore for his teammates and with Jake Miller also stepping up a level, Warrandyte ran out easy 26-point winners.

The final in this series of games was against Waverley Falcons and the Redbacks completed the hat-trick by nine points, 35-26. Beltramin led the charge with 20 points.

Warrandyte now lead their group of the pool and are in a position to challenge for a spot that gives them VC honours.

Lorraine Parfitt's Under-12 girls were rated an outside chance for VC status but have lost to top sides Nunawading and Werribee in recent weeks.

On December 6, they faced Eltham and went down gallantly 38-10. The Redbacks started well and were still competitive at half-time, trailing by only seven points. But the second half belonged to the taller Eltham side.

The loss will put the team into Pool 2 and gives them a good

chance of making Metro 1, probably a better grade for them in the absence of key player Ashlee Collins, who has transferred to Bulleen.

In the Under-16s, both boys and girls teams are well placed in Pool 4.

The boys team, coached by Peter Clough, went down 56-55 in a high-scoring affair against Bulleen and faced Eltham on December 5 in a "must win" game to stay in the pool.

Both teams started slowly, testing each other. It was five-all after 10 minutes, but the hassling pressure from the Redback guards produced valuable turnovers.

Eltham at this stage were in free-throw trouble and the Redbacks took a well-deserved 19-13 half-time lead.

The second half began at a high tempo, with the Redbacks doing much the better.

Hamish Hosking was establishing his dominance under the basket along with Shane Holloway and strong play from Luke Dimmock and Jake Ratcliffe rounded out an admirable team performance which saw Warrandyte home 45-30.

Nick Peters' Under-16 girls, strengthened by the addition of Nicole Dadswell, came off a 54-14 win over Bulleen and a walkover against Banksia to lose a cliff-hanger to Eltham, a

game they should have won.

The first half was all Eltham, who took a 20-6 lead into the break, but the turnaround in the second half was dramatic, Warrandyte blitzing in the opening minutes to level the game at 23-all.

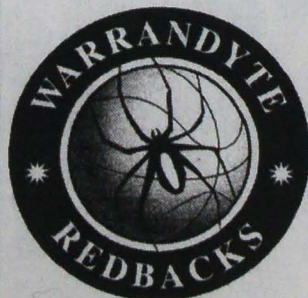
The Redbacks opened up what should have been a match-winning 30-25 lead with five minutes to go, but Eltham came back hard to tie it up at 33-all in the last minute.

Lindel Thomas went to the free throw line for one but Eltham scored a field goal and were able to close out the game.

Samantha Smith's Under-18 girls are running with a full squad of 10 players and opened their campaign with a hard-fought win against Chelsea. They were, however, given a basketball lesson by Camberwell the following week and a narrow defeat by Melbourne has put the pressure on this team.

They faced their next game, against Blackburn, without major players Simone Gemmell and Libby Lavery and went down fighting 37-32.

The Under-20 boys, trying out in A-grade, are on the credit side of the ledger, defeating Keilor in their first try-out, going down 54-37 to Whittlesea, then beating Broadmeadows 43-38 in a spirited encounter.



### WARRANDYTE BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION • PART-TIME POSITION

WBA is a consolidated club which has just gained Association status with Basketball Victoria. We have over 40 boys and girls teams in the EDJBA and a number of Friday night teams. We require a suitably experienced and motivated individual to assist guide the development and retention of coaches at WBA with the aim of increasing the skill development of players. This person will have a Level 2 Coaching certificate with at least 7 years coaching experience (at least 5 at junior level). The major duties will be to develop an integrated, progressive series of Coaching Plans that can be adopted and implemented, with assistance if necessary, by our coaches.

Among other things, the Director of Coaching will also conduct monthly coaching clinics that are integrated and form part of a clear development plan. The Coaching Plans are to be completed within 6 months of the start date. Our estimates are that the time commitment (other than coaching plans) will be 4-6 hours per week. The position will be a 2 year position with a 6 month probation review that will include exit options. The Position will not be an employee of WBA. A more detailed Position Description is available by contacting the WBA President Stephen Bendle on 03 9844 0878 or at [Stephen.bendle@bigpond.com](mailto:Stephen.bendle@bigpond.com). Resumes can be emailed to the above address. Closing date for applications is Friday, December 13th 2002.



## For the life of him

By JUDY GREEN

Christmas came early this year for Neil Dusting — in the form of life membership of Warrandyte Tennis Club.

The award was announced at the club's annual Christmas dinner on November 30.

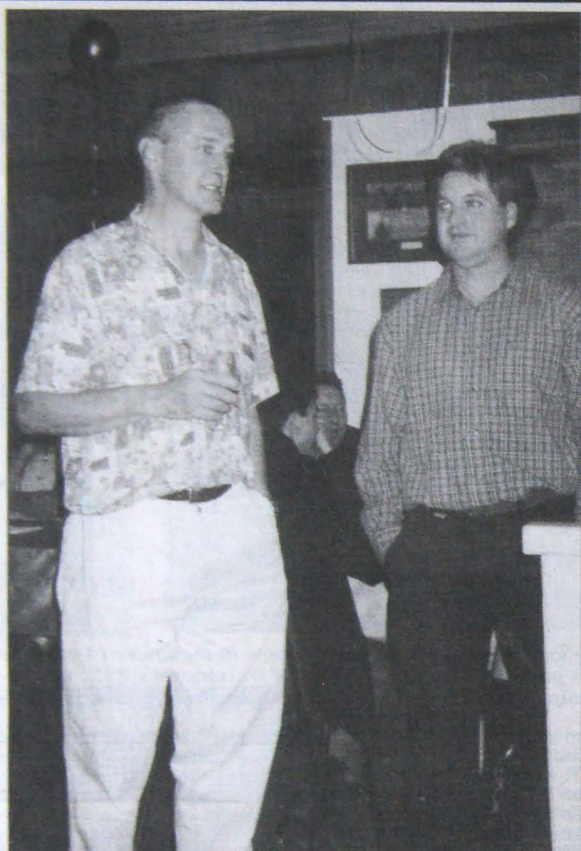
Presenting it, president Mark Bence outlined Neil's active participation in the club for more than 30 years, particularly in the maintenance of both courts and the clubhouse, administration of night tennis teams and the organisation and running of numerous social events.

Neil, of Osborne Road, has been vice-president for the past six years.

An outstanding service award was presented to Tim Oriander for his services also over many years and his particular involvement in the establishment of night tennis at the club.

The 2002 Clubperson of the Year trophy was presented to Michelle Tester for her work with a recently-established midweek women's social competition being held on Wednesdays and her assistance with the juniors.

● A Warrandyte junior team brought home a premiership



Neil Dusting (left) reflects on his 30-plus years involvement with Warrandyte Tennis Club with president Mark Bence.

pennant from the grand finals of the Diamond Valley Tennis Association's Friday night competition. Playing in Section 3,

Daniel Wiltshire, Nick Crosbie, Chris Robinson, Joel Greve and Tulloch Greve defeated Plenty 42 games to 24.

# Bloods on track for big season

By LEE TINDALE

Warrandyte Football Club approach the new EFL Third Division season with a virtually-intact 2002 playing list strengthened by some seriously impressive new Bloods.

And they are already talking premiership. Shrugging off the disappointments of last season — in which they were under real threat of relegation before rattling home to win four of five — they have recruited well and begun their pre-season with impressive numbers and enthusiasm.

More than 30 players turned out for the first training run on November 27. They included Adam Williamson, a dual First Division premiership player with East Burwood, homegrown young star Andrew Brown (back after two seasons with Division 1 club East Ringwood) and four other well-credentialled prospective recruits.

Among that quartet was a potentially-outstanding 21-year-old on-baller who has close ties with reigning club champion Matt Blagrove.

Also from East Burwood comes new Bloods chairman of selectors Stephen Randells, introduced to the club by coach Scott Hunter and his assistant Stuart Wynd.

Warrandyte's annual general meeting on November 28 was told that rover Aidan Davey was the only confirmed departure from last season's list. Davey is taking a year off from football but, as a physiotherapist, will play an important role on the training staff.

The Bloods are training each Wednesday at the recreation reserve. They will recess for Christmas-New year after a session on December 18.

Their 2003 season begins at Mooroolbark on April 5, followed by consecutive home games against Norwood and relegated Second Division club The Basin on April 12 and 26 respectively.

Treasurer Jeff Evans told the AGM that the club had experienced a "sound year" financially and was in its best position for some time.

## Warrandyte's 2003 draw:

- April 5: v Mooroolbark (A)
- April 12: v Norwood (H)
- April 26: v The Basin (H)
- May 3: v Upper Ferntree Gully (A)
- May 10: v Coldstream (H)
- May 17: v Templestowe (A)
- May 24: v Waverley Blues (H)
- May 31: v Doncaster East (A)
- June 14 v Nunawading (H)
- June 21: v Mooroolbark (H)
- June 28: v Norwood (A)
- July 5: v The Basin (A)
- July 12: v Upper Ferntree Gully (H)
- July 19: v Coldstream (A)
- July 26: v Templestowe (H)
- August 2: v Waverley Blues (A)
- August 9: v Doncaster East (H)
- August 16: v Nunawading (A)

## Jessie in the big league



Local girl Jessie Bradbury competed with distinction in the recent Under-14 national basketball championships in Maitland, NSW.

A Year 8 Warrandyte High School student, Jessie, 13, represented the Nunawading Spectres, who traditionally perform well at state level.

This year was no exception, the Spectres finishing fourth overall.

The top four teams from each state were invited to compete and Jessie's side got away to a flying start with a convincing win over the Campbelltown Ghosts on the first day of competition.

On Days 2 and 3 they defeated Sturt (SA) and teams from the Northern Territory, Queensland and Tasmania.

Day 4 provided the acid test — against Melbourne. The Spectres led with three minutes to go, but could not withstand Melbourne's powerful finish and were beaten by five points.

Jessie, of Warrandyte-Heidelberg Road, said the week had provided a wonderful opportunity to meet people from all over Australia and to be treated like professional athletes.

"We had hot/cold showers, hydrotherapy, ice massages and sportsperson's diet," she said.

"It was great!"

● More basketball Page 21

Jessie Bradbury — a near miss at the national titles.

## U-18s back in business

A concerted two-year campaign will bear fruit when Warrandyte Football Club's Under-18s take the field for the season's opener on April 5.

For want of numbers, the Bloods have not fielded an Under-18 side — the traditional "nursery" for home-grown senior talent — since season 2000.

Club stalwarts Brian Williams, Phil Treeby and Lawrie Sloan set in motion a far-reaching and intensive search for players, based largely on secondary schools in the general area, towards the end of 2001, but could muster only a handful.

They have redoubled their efforts since the end of last season and it is all "go" for 2003.

With considerable help from Warrandyte Junior Football Club, they have the regulation

18 players on their books to represent the Bloods at this crucial age level in the new season and are busy rounding up newcomers.

The boys will be coached by Shaun Wilson, an experienced, accredited Level 1 mentor whose involvement in junior football goes back to 1983. He coached the junior club's Colts side in 1990 and was assistant coach of the Colts 1 team last season.

"We are delighted to have Shaun aboard," said WFC president Noel Taplin. "Shaun and the committee will do everything they can to see that all the Under-18s feel very welcome at the senior club."

"Shaun personally invites any eligible player to give him a call and join the squad for a great

2003 season.

"I look forward to seeing a committed Under-18 squad at training in February and I wish the boys many years of enjoyment and success at Warrandyte Football Club."

Taplin applauded the perseverance and dedication of Williams, Treeby and Sloan in the resurrection of an Under-18 unit.

"Brian, Phil and Lawrie were determined to see the Under-18s back on the field and they have put a hell of a lot of work into it," he said. "We are very grateful."

Any eligible player who would like to try out with the Under-18s is urged to contact Wilson on 9436 8245 or 0412 736758, Williams (9844 3346) or Treeby (9876 4142).

# Sparrows fly highest for Warrandyte

By PAULINE DUSTING

The Sparrows flew high for Warrandyte Netball Club in the Doncaster and District winter-spring grand finals on December 7.

One of three local Under-13 teams in the finals, they defeated Donvale 21-18 to bring home the prize.

Warrandyte fielded 18 teams this season, about 160 girls from Under-11 to open age competing each Saturday afternoon at the Doncaster and Templestowe Leisure Centre in Templestowe.

Seven teams reached the finals (the five Under-11 teams all finished in their top four but do not play finals series) and three the grand finals, with the Sparrows, coached by Mandy Ratcliffe, going all the way.

The Under-13 Rosellas were defeated 28-14 in the big one and the Under-17 Finches went down to DYC by a solitary goal — 22 to 21.

Two of Warrandyte's four Under-15 sides were eliminated in the semis, as were Open A, one of the three top-age teams.

The 2003 season begins on March 15 and teams will be posted in the Victory IGA Supermarket window.

## Netball girls bag the flag

The Sparrows. Back from (from left): Coach Mandy Ratcliffe, Narelle Link, Rachel Hill, Erika Dyason, Brittany Duncan, Nicole Cukierman, Sophie Post, Stephanie Freemantle. Front: Annika Chapman, Simone Reid, Madeleine Smith.





# Black day at the crease for our two cricket clubs

# Dytes down, maybe out!

## Relegation looming as bats fail again

Warrandyte Cricket Club have forfeited any chance of featuring in this year's Ringwood District Wilkins Shield finals with a dismal performance against cellar dwellers Croydon Ranges on December 7.

But now every match becomes a mini-final as Warrandyte face the clear possibility of relegation.

The loss to Croydon Ranges, who were last and winless, was clearly the local team's worst performance for the season and again highlighted a lack of commitment with the bat.

Batting first, Warrandyte were dismissed for 99 in only 35 overs, with veteran Robert White topscoring with an unbeaten 26.

An indication of the woeful team performance was that extras provided the equal top score.

The loss put Warrandyte equal last at the halfway mark of the season and it will take a massive reversal of form to shake off the likelihood of relegation.

White, who is also president of the club, has called a team meeting of senior players in an attempt to arrest the slide.

"These last seven games are perhaps the most crucial in the club's recent history," White said.

"Relegation to Newey Shield cannot be regarded as an option.

"We have the players to win matches in Wilkins Shield but our batsmen have not been able to play hard, competitive cricket."

The loss to Croydon Ranges was all the more disappointing as it followed encouraging performances against top sides Norwood and North Croydon.

Against Norwood, the top order again failed, but Brett Kline, with an unbeaten 50, and Jason Cloke, with a swashbuckling 37, gave Warrandyte a chance.

Against North Croydon, captain Dave Mooney (46) and opener Colin Dornig (41) got the side off to a sound start, but the middle order couldn't go on with the chase.

At Croydon Ranges, Warrandyte again batted first and collapsed to 8-60 before White and veteran fast bowler Gerald Walshe put together a 38-run partnership for the ninth wicket that threatened to put some respectability into an otherwise dismal score.

But two wickets in the space

### SPORT

of one run left Warrandyte short of three figures for the second time this season, leaving little leeway for the bowlers.

Two dropped catches in the opening two overs eased any pressure Croydon Ranges may have felt and they went on to amass 4-223.

In the two matches before Christmas, Warrandyte face Bayswater Park and North Ringwood in one-day games and a win in at least one of these fixtures is crucial.

The Second XI remain on target for a tilt at the finals with a four-three win-loss ratio at the half way mark.

The latest win over Croydon Ranges was led by Travis Cloke, who followed up a century in the morning with the Under-16s with five wickets and 66 runs in the afternoon.

The Third XI continue to struggle. The bright spot though is the performance of a number of Under-16 players who have taken up the invitation to play in the afternoon.

"We are doing our best to encourage young players to become an integral part of the whole club and the involvement of Under-16 players in the afternoon is a real bonus," said White.

"We are really in the process of not only team building but club building and we want the juniors to realise they have a real future at Warrandyte."

### Details

**SENIORS:** Warrandyte 8-152 (Kline 50 n.o., J. Cloke 37) lost to Norwood 9-193 (J. Cloke 3-47, C. Holland 2-21, A. Beardall 2-25).

Warrandyte 8-169 (Mooney 46, Dornig 41) lost to North Croydon 3-228.

Warrandyte 99 (White 26 n.o.) lost to Croydon Ranges 4-223.

**SECONDS:** Warrandyte 185 (B. Baker 51, C. Cloke 30 n.o., T. Brent 29, S. Goddard 29) lost to Norwood 9-193 (K. Cauchi 2-37).

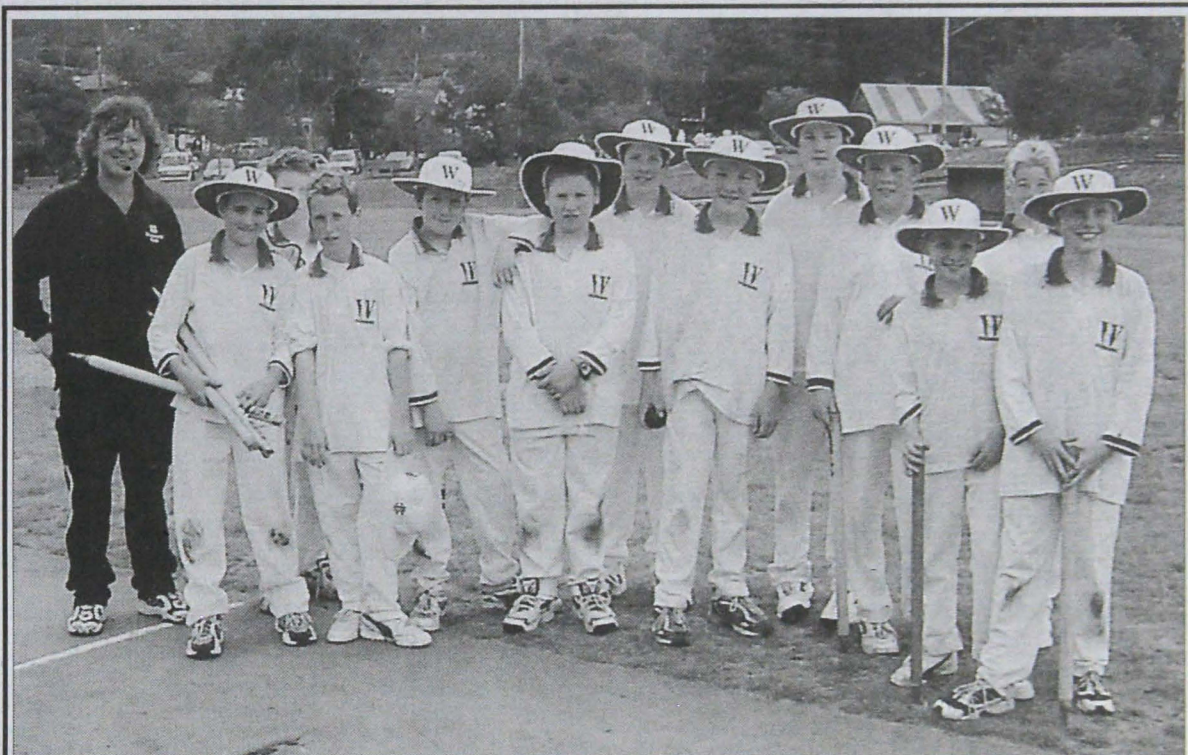
Warrandyte 166 (D. Gee 36) lost to North Croydon 172.

Warrandyte 181 (T. Cloke 66, Creber 28) d Croydon Ranges 142 (T. Cloke 5-35, E. Cauchi 2-26).

**THIRDS:** Warrandyte 115 (S. Thomas 32, White 27) lost to Croydon Ranges 2-120.

Warrandyte 98 (Miller 27) lost to Wonga Park 4-229.

Warrandyte 72 lost to North Ringwood 8-160 (Coates 3-21)



Looking good in the new uniforms which are the envy of the junior competition are Warrandyte's Under-14/1 team. From left: Coach Vin Pettigrove, James Johnson, Braeden Pettigrove (obscured), Lachlan Beggs, Ross Brown, Ryan Hoiberg, Tyson Walshe, Patrick Nichol, James Shannon, Andrew Hukin, Ayrton Dehmel, Tyson Rees and Tim Hooke.

## Juniors promise a full book for the finals

At the season's halfway mark, all four Warrandyte Cricket Club junior sides are in with a chance of playing in the finals.

The Under-16s provided the highlight of the season so far by amassing more than 300 runs in their innings on December 7.

"It was a fantastic effort by all," said junior

coordinator Lee Dehmel.

The Under-12s and the two Under-14 sides are also well placed to see finals action.

"A lot of our players are in the middle of a five-week individual coaching program that the club is conducting for the first

time," Dehmel said. "This is helping enormously with their skills and understanding of the game of cricket."

"The club are still running the Milo Have A Go program for the younger players and thank all the parents and senior players for their assistance."

# Hawks crash land in crucial chase

South Warrandyte Cricket Club surrendered an opportunity to cement a place in the Wilkins Shield top two when they were skittled for just 74 in the one-day match against competition favourites Norwood.

Despite their failure to seriously threaten a modest target after bowling Norwood out for 111, the Hawks remain in the top four at the season's halfway mark.

After losing the toss and finding themselves in the field for the first 40 overs, South Warrandyte knew they would have to bowl well to the highly-fancied opposition. And bowl well they did!

Chris Springett and Steve Garrett opened the attack and executed the game plan of tight bowling on off stump exceptionally well.

Garrett ended his spell of eight overs with the figures of 1-31 and Springett was particularly economical, his eight yielding 0-11.

The pressure applied by these two was intense and the standard was set for the change bowlers as the Hawks maintained their game plan and wrapped up the Norwood innings for 111.

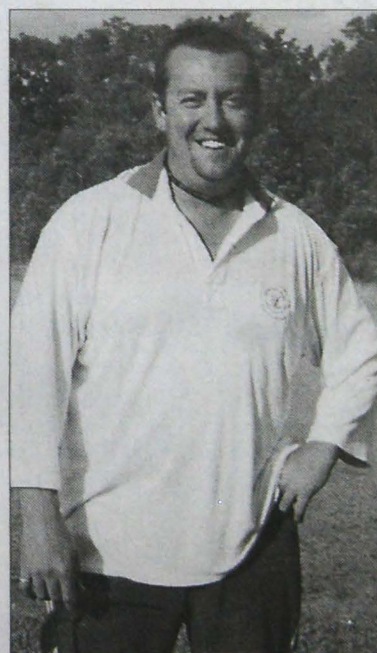
Nick Barrett chipped in with 3-27 off eight, Jeremy Neagle 2-6, Scott Brasher 2-29 and Kane Hartrup 1-2.

With 40 overs at the disposal, South's run chase should have been straightforward enough, particularly at 24 without loss after just three overs.

But Springett found himself on the wrong end of a "terrible" LBW decision and that set off a major batting collapse.

Wickets fell consistently, with former Warrandyte Cricket Club bowler Chris "Bones" Snaidero doing most of the damage. Snaidero picked up 4-18 as the Hawks succumbed 38 runs adrift of victory.

"Another lesson was learnt," said Hawks



Chris Springett — 'terrible' decision.

president Darren Johnson, "and the players are committed to turning around this exceptionally poor form with the bat as we travel to Bayswater Park next week."

The Second XI also fell short in their run chase against Norwood, dismissed for 133 in search of 156.

They turn the corner just on the wrong

side of the ledger, with three wins from seven games, and are very much in contention for a finals berth.

After a tardy start to the season, they picked up the tempo with wins over Croydon Ranges and St Andrews in Rounds 5 and 6.

The Thirds have won their last two — against Norwood and previously-undefeated Wonga Park — to be right in the firing line and the Fourths, who played in the one-day competition last season, have adapted to the new format after an indifferent start and are now hopefully cemented in the top four.

The Fourths demonstrated the glorious uncertainty of cricket in their latest game, a one-dayer against Croydon Ranges. Set a target of 156 for the loss of four wickets after a fine century by the opposing captain, an opening partnership of 85 had the Hawks cruising towards victory.

Then five wickets fell for just two runs! South applied the steadiers to reach their goal and finish on 7-169.

### Details

**FIRSTS:** South Warrandyte 6-289 (Brasher 72, Heard 103 n.o.) d Croydon Hockeyers 209 (Garrett 2-41, Haworth 2-10, Barrett 3-23).

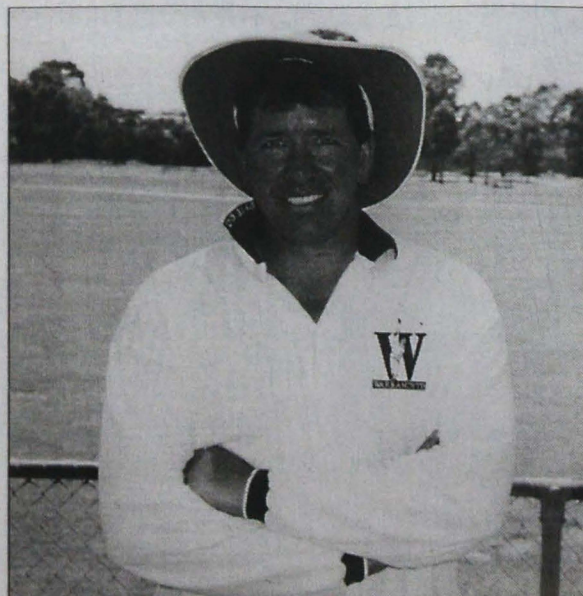
South Warrandyte 198 (Brasher 89) d St Andrews 9-193 (K. Hartrup 3-39, Barrett 2-30).

South Warrandyte 74 lost to Norwood 111 (Barrett 3-27, J. Neagle 2-6, Brasher 2-29, Hartrup 1-2, Garrett 1-31).

**SECONDS:** South Warrandyte 202 lost to North Ringwood 218 (K. Hartrup 3-38, Chrisfield 2-64).

South Warrandyte 4-209 (M. Smith 89 n.o., C. Smith 78) d Croydon Ranges 164 (Riddell 3-26, Milne 2-8).

South Warrandyte 6-203 (Milne 35, M. Smith 31, Smart 31, C. Smith 27) d St Andrews 9-175. South Warrandyte 133 lost to Norwood 156.



Gerald Walshe — threat of respectability in ninth-wicket stand with Robert White.





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