

# Crisis house threat

By CLIFF GREEN

The state government is removing from local control the former police sergeant's residence at the corner of Yarra and Forbes streets.

The residence houses the Warrandyte Housing and Support Services.

Margory Lapworth, co-ordinator of WH&SS, who have managed and maintained the house for eight years, told the Diary, "the house has had many departmental owners since 1995. It was finally sold to the Office of Housing. It is now to be handed to them for other uses in housing."

The local battle to retain the police house began in the mid-1990s, when

the then Liberal government was selling government housing into private ownership. However, council zoning prevented the separation of the house from the police station site by subdivision, and following representations by local MP Phil Honeywood, the house was allocated to WH&SS.

"WH&SS are in danger of closing their doors," Ms Lapworth said, "due to the loss of their home, the old police house."

The service is a voluntary organisation, surviving without grants from government or councils and depending on funding from the Warrandyte Community Market. "There is no money to pay for replacement rental property in the Warrandyte area, even

if premises were available," Ms Lapworth said.

WH&SS assists people with transitional and long-term housing, emergency relief funding, a food bank, free counselling and other support services, not only in Warrandyte, but across Manningham and into Maroondah.

"Our services have just been improved, with fully trained counsellors providing personal counselling two days a week on a voluntary basis. This has provided great relief for families and individuals who would not have been able to take advantage of this type of service. All these services are in danger of disappearing," Ms Lapworth said.

MP Phil Honeywood has described as "totally unnecessary and cruel" the government's decision to close "Warrandyte's only crisis accommodation house".

"The house has been successfully caring for local families in need for almost a decade. There is no similar facility in the Warrandyte, Park Orchards and Donvale area," Mr Honeywood said.

"The local crisis house has been operated by a group of dedicated volunteers at Warrandyte Housing and Support Services who have now been told to pack up and move by government bureaucrats."

According to Mr Honeywood, this Warrandyte facility constantly re-

ceives referrals from the Child Protection Unit and the Human Services Department and has not cost the government anything to operate over the last three years.

"The volunteer committee have paid for all repairs themselves and local service clubs have donated furniture, food parcels and skilled labour," Mr Honeywood said.

He has previously raised in state parliament the need to keep this crisis accommodation house operating but is still waiting for the government to respond to his representations.

"Many families will suffer if this service has to close its door, as there are no other services available in the area," Margory Lapworth said.



Cliff Green and granddaughter Shelby Green unveil the commemorative plaque at the opening of Warrandyte's new community bank. ● More Stephen Reynolds pictures on Page 9.

## CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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## WHAT'S COOKING AT POTTERS?

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AT THE BRIDGE



# 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.

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ADVERTISING & ACCOUNTS: Rae Danks, 9844 3819 or 0414 745 212.

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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 Wednesday 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  
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20%, other nominated pages 10%. Mini-ads: \$4.60 for four lines, then  
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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 3900 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 estab-  
lished 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.

# How low can Sloanie get? That's a \$102,000 question

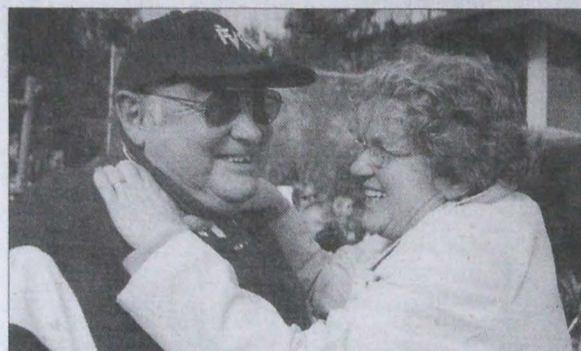


Lawrie Sloan is a dirty, rotten, low-down mongrel. Not our words, but his. As he has paid Smokey a lot of money over the years to remind you, Sloanie is a Warrandyte foxy club icon, the Bloods' longest-serving president who is current chair of the past players committee. And it was in that capacity that he phoned fellow life member and committeeperson Julie Ryan to remind her there was a meeting on Wednesday night. But when Julie picked up the phone, the impish element in Lawrie Sloan broke the surface. Just for fun, and figuring she'd recognise his voice anyway, he said: "It's Paul Mott here (the name of a former workmate somehow springing to mind) from Tattersall's. And I've got some good news for you. You won a nice prize last month and haven't claimed it." Julie fell for it and said that'd be right, she was always telling hubby John to check the numbers in the Sunday paper but he rarely did. And what was the prize? Sloanie suddenly realised that his idea of a gag had painted him into a bit of a corner — and in an ill-founded, split-second decision he opted to tough it out. "How much, Mrs Ryan? Well, you'd better sit down and have a cup of tea and a sedative. It's ... it's ... wait for it, Mrs Ryan ... it's ONE HUNDRED AND TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS!"



Sloanie still has no idea from which ballpark he had managed to pluck that figure but he was by now inextricably enmeshed in his web of lies and ended the conversation by telling an over-the-moon Julie that a cheque would very soon be on its way. Then he sat back in deep remorse for the best part of two hours trying to invent a way to get himself out of this mess without having to take the logical and honourable step of calling Julie back, fessing up and pleading insanity. He failed. Cap in hand, he made the call and, being the lovely lady she is, Julie forgave him. "Julie and John Ryan are life-long great mates of mine," he told us in the confessional at the local foxy a few days later. "How could I have done that to her? I'm a dirty, rotten, low-down mongrel!" Thank you, Lawrie, but we were already aware of that and we reckon you owe Julie at least an expensive box of designer chocolates and a huge bunch of flowers. Or at most, \$102,000.

## IN RED & WHITE



"Do that again and I'll throttle you!" Julie Ryan might be saying as she comes to grips with Lawrie Sloan (aka Paul Mott) at the foxy at Doncaster East on May 31. Not really. By request, they're hamming it up for Jan Tindale's camera.



You'd think local real estate boss Andrew Wilson would have been embarrassed by being taken to the Williamstown lock-up, stripped, photographed (not in the naughty naughty nude, just the mugshot), put into prison garb and incarcerated. You'd be wrong. Andrew was one of 60 business-folk nominated by our councillor Pat Young to serve time on May 29 for a very worthy cause. He and his fellow villains were locked in the Willie slammer, given a phone apiece and told by their jailer — living cricket legend Max Walker — that they'd stay behind bars until they'd raised at least \$3000 apiece for Paraquid Victoria. They were about to find out who their mates really were. "It was a novel and beautifully-organised fundraiser and we thoroughly enjoyed being a part of it," said Andrew. "We certainly weren't on prison rations. There was plenty of good stuff to eat and drink and at exercise time we were marched out into the courtyard and put through a volleyball session by prison chaplain Father Fondle, played by Billy Brownless." Three thousand by 60 equals \$180,000 and when that aggregate was reached and passed, porridge was declared done and the prisoners paroled. Andrew comfortably reached his quota and one bloke raised \$26,000. Must have been a used-car salesman.



Andrew's wife Christine was locked up too, as his "accomplice", and started to have grave misgivings about her involvement when a strapping and well-rehearsed wardress took a shine to her. "You're a pretty woman," she said. "I like pretty women. I'll be seeing you in the showers!" Frightened hell out of poor Christine.



Another infinitely worthy cause — and a kindred one at that — has just received a \$75,000 injection of funds thanks to Gary ("Madge") Allsop, who was crippled while playing senior football for Warrandyte at Upper Ferntree Gully 14 years ago. Madge had spent the past couple of years working on a celebrity shirt auction in aid of the Australasian Spinal Research Trust and it all came to fruition at a grand function at Flemington Racecourse on the night of May 31. Every item he had lovingly accumulated over those two years was sold. Roy Higgins had donated a replica set of the silks (plus cap and whip) he wore when he won his first Melbourne Cup on Light Fingers in 1965 and they fetched top price of \$4100. An autographed Kylie Minogue shirt went for \$2250 (and you wonder what a pair of her knickers might have brought) and shirts donated by Steve Waugh and the late Barry Sheene \$2000

each. A Richmond supporter paid \$2100 for an autographed Tigers jumper and a Collingwood fan \$1550 for one of his own. A "different" item was a M\*A\*S\*H script signed by Alan "Hawkeye" Alda, which fetched \$1500. "It was a great night and we're thrilled with the result," Madge told us. Knowing him as we do, we reckon he'll already be planning his next fundraiser.



Don't make alternative plans for Saturday night, June 14. You've just got to be at the recreation reserve to see the Warrandyte Football Club girls take on Pub Power, their counterparts from the Grand Hotel, under lights after the big boys' game against Nunawading. The foxy club babes won last year's inaugural event — which raised \$5000 for charity — and Pub Power are hellbent on revenge. All the girls hope to better last year's fundraising figure through sponsorships and donations and the beneficiaries will be Kids With Cancer. Self-described former football hero Grant "Socks" Egan, a locally-famous poor loser, is coaching the pub team (assisted by Phil Mason) and evergreen Bloods star Dale Vitiritti the foxy club girls. Game time is 5.30, the bar and canteen will be wide open and a highlight, should Pub Power lose again, will be Socks' legendary and spectacular dummy spit.



We mentioned in this spot last time that Warrandyte was home to one of Australia's softest and cutest nocturnal creatures, the sugar glider, and it whipped up a deal of interest among you wildlife enthusiasts unaware of its presence here. So we went back to Joan MacMahon, our resident native flora/fauna expert. Please tell us more, Joan. "Okay, sugar gliders can cover up to 50 metres in one flight and need eucalypts and leather-leaf wattles to sustain them. And as luck would have it, both are available right now at the Friends of Warrandyte State Park nursery at Pound Bend (Melways reference 23 C10). And when? Any Thursday from 10am until noon and the first Sunday of each month (except January) from 2-4pm.



Smokey Joe

## OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH

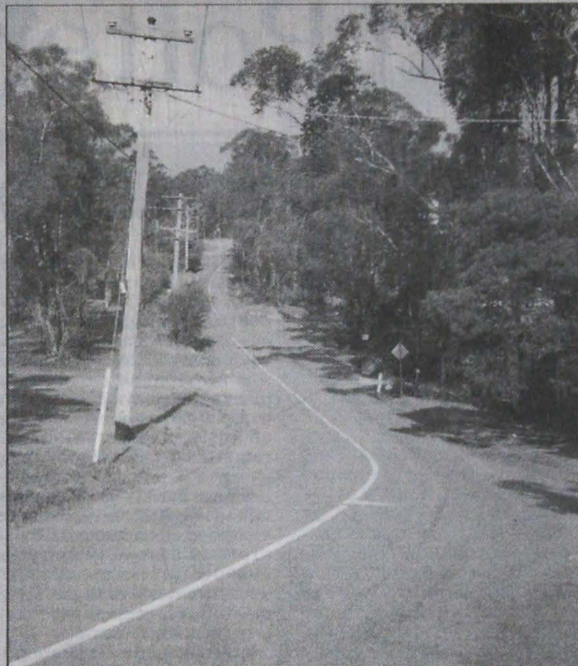




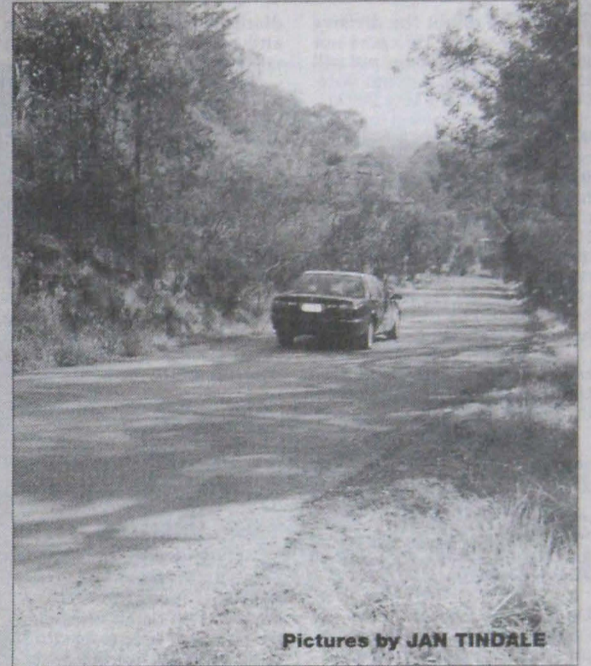
# Trouble on the streets where we live...



Yarra Street: "reduce the speed to 50 or even 40 km/h through the main street..."



Pound Road: "narrow, winding roadway, steep gradients and blind curves..."



Pictures by JAN TINDALE

Webb Street: "if police set up radar any week day, they'd pickup their quota..."

## Residents' traffic concerns

By SAM DAVIES

A number of Pound Road residents have named traffic speed on their road as a "critical" concern.

Pedestrian safety, particularly of children, and such road amenity concerns as noise and odour from heavy vehicle traffic, were also discussed at the Pound Road neighbourhood residents' meeting, held last month.

Resident Phil Clark told the *Diary* the meeting was organised to address growing disquiet among residents, some of who believed their earlier requests had not resulted in satisfactory remedial action.

A letter from residents to the director of city development at

Manningham council, Claude Cullino, said speed was a concern on Pound Road because of its narrow, winding roadway, steep gradients and blind curves. The road is also a pedestrian route for Warrandyte High School students.

The group suggested more signage for the area and an increased police presence would slow traffic. Speed bumps were not considered appropriate as they would increase traffic noise without significantly improving road user safety.

"We would like (the issues) resolved in the next couple of months," Mr Clark said. "Over summer we tend to get a lot of people on weekends who don't have a rea-

sonable regard for speed."

Pound Road residents are not the only ones living on a State Park access road to raise concerns about traffic speed. A Webb Street resident, who preferred not to be named, said "if police were to set up radar halfway down Webb Street hill, any weekday morning, they'd pick up their quota for the day."

Residents in Bradley's Lane have suggested speed bumps or road constrictions to reduce speed and dust.

However Sergeant Keith Walker of Warrandyte police said very few people were exceeding the 50 km/h limit, which was policed regularly. "Because the roads are narrow and winding, a vehicle appears to be

travelling quicker than it is.

"There's been very few incidents reported on Pound Road," he said.

However Sgt Walker supports a reduced speed limit along Yarra Street. "I would like to see that occur and I think it would be wonderful to reduce the speed to 50 or even 40 km/h through the main street of Warrandyte."

Sgt Walker has been working in conjunction with the Warrandyte and Park Orchards Police and Citizens Consultative Committee to address the issue. The group has put in a submission to Manningham council and VicRoads to upgrade the pedestrian crossing to traffic control signals.

A petition in September last year attracted more than 170 signatures in support of the proposal.

Following similar requests in recent years, VicRoads has been reluctant to reduce the speed limits on main roads.

The Warrandyte Community Association has sent a letter to VicRoads proposing a 40 km/h limit from 100m west of the Grand Hotel to 100m east of Potters Cottage.

"The high volume of traffic and pedestrian activity, combined with a physical layout and construction aspect that would not meet today's design criteria, produces a potential for a highly dangerous set of circumstances," the letter said.

## Killer dogs strike

By SAM DAVIES

Following a spate of vicious dog attacks, a local family has spent \$1000 on veterinary bills and is minus three family pets.

After the death of two sheep in an attack on his Dingley Dell Road property early last year, James Courtney replaced his livestock with two alpacas, a small one named Jake and a large one named Elwood—"the Alpaca Brothers".

These unusual pets controlled grass growth and provided entertainment for his two children, aged seven and nine. "They were very tame, very much family pets. The kids would put harnesses on them and ride around," Mr Courtney told the *Diary*.

The alpacas were also said to be better able to defend themselves against attack, but it was not to be.

A further two attacks this year left Mr Courtney with the decision to either put down the smaller alpaca, Jake, or face supplementary hand-feeding it for life. Needless to say it was put down. Since the attacks, Elwood has also been markedly "twitchy and defensive".

Mr Courtney identified the two dogs as a Jack Russell terrier cross and a Staffordshire bull terrier,

with a collar only on the Jack Russell. The Staffordshire bull terrier is a breed currently being banned in parts of Europe.

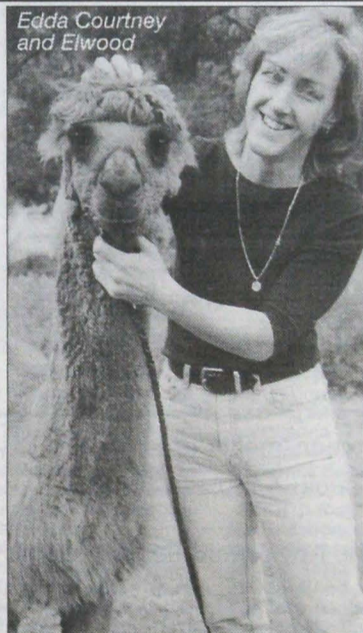
Despite his losses and trauma, Mr Courtney says he has no problem with people owning dogs. "But it would be great if they could take responsibility for them," he said.

Nillumbik council is aware of the problem though they can do little without dog owners taking more responsibility for their animals.

"Some owners do not securely confine their dogs to their property by fences, chain run or kennel run," a council spokesperson said. "They do not realise what any type of dog is capable of, especially if they form packs."

Nillumbik mayor, Cr Lex de Man, said community safety is a key concern. "It is very distressing to both the dog and the owner of the attacked animal. I encourage all residents who have pets to be aware of where they are at all times to minimise these shocking attacks."

If the dogs stray onto Mr Courtney's property, he is well aware of his right to shoot them. "Yeah absolutely, if we find these two," he said. "You are keen to stop them before a kid is attacked."



Edda Courtney and Elwood

## Police station 'off the list'

According to local Liberal MP Phil Honeywood, the state government has reneged on its promise to build a new police station in Warrandyte.

"Labor made much fanfare of its election promise to provide \$24million for 55 outer suburban and rural police stations—including Warrandyte. This has been drastically cut to a quarter of that amount—down to \$6million—over the next four years."

"This revised figure will be enough for 10 of the promised police station projects over the next four years, at Bannockburn, Edenhope, Mitta Mitta, Mt Hotham, Myrtleford, Nyah, Robinvale, Swifts Creek, Tallangatta and Woods Point."

Mr Honeywood said that the existing Warrandyte police station is too small and provides no privacy for members of the public, virtually no interview room, poor visibility to the community and inadequate facilities for staff.

"It is the responsibility of our state government to ensure our police are equipped with the best facilities available," Mr Honeywood said.

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## MP told: 'Greenies are left-wing socialists'

There is no doubt the divisive Phil Honeywood MP cares not about the Green Wedge but will say anything for a green vote. (Warrandyte Diary May 2003).

Vehemently opposed to Green Wedge landowners, this non-compromising politician knows from council research the existing Green Wedge controls are causing degradation. But all Honeywood can do is unjustifiably criticise landowners for trying to solve their land degradation problems which have been created by the legislation he so strongly supports.

He is afraid that if he is seen trying to help solve the contentious Green Wedge problems, the greenies would think he was

disregarding their obsession and persuade people not to vote for him.

The fact the greenies are left wing socialists using environment issues to usurp land to government control does not concern Honeywood.

Yet he continues to denigrate those who are trying to do something for what is basically a community dilemma. He has no compunction about hiding behind parliamentary privilege to convey untruthful innuendoes. Nor does he countenance landowners being compensated for the costs they incur contributing to the public good.

**Daryl Cox**  
Safety Beach

## Remembering a fine horsewoman

On behalf of Wyena Horse and Pony Club, I would like to express our sympathy to the family of Katrina Rough, who recently passed away. Katrina, a long-time resident of Husseys Lane, Warrandyte, was a great friend of the pony club.

Katrina had a long association with Wyena and very generously allowed us to use her property for our cross-country training and events. Her cheerful disposition and wealth of knowledge are a sad loss to those in the local equestrian community.

**Robina Stevens**  
Secretary  
Wyena Horse and Pony Club

## Thanks for the welcome

The Warrandyte Toy Library, following the North Warrandyte Community Centre fire, was able to continue to operate, due to the generosity and community-minded attitude of the Wyena Pony Club. We wish to thank them for sharing their premises with us and we wish them well for the future.

**Sue Watson**  
Warrandyte Toy Library

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

Letters to the Diary on local topics are welcome. Real names preferred. Pen names only if actual names and addresses are included.

# Manningham council and Potters Cottage

## DEAR DIARY



jury or damage to property.

"History of the works and Council's involvement:

- Council Officers met Karl Bell on site on October 16 to discuss future landscaping and development of the site. Mr Bell was given information on the planning system and of the controls on the property. He was advised a planning permit was required for the landscaping works;

- An arborist report was submitted late 2002 that listed trees identified as an immediate risk to personal property. As a planning permit was not required for the removal of these designated trees, council gave consent for their removal;

- Around late December, it was discovered that illegal works had been carried out on the site. Vegetation, other than that listed in the arborist report as being an immediate risk, was cleared from the garden bed in front of the house and from the waterway. A bulldozer was used to clear this vegetation and to place fill adjacent to the car park. A bulldozer is not an environmentally sensitive tool to undertake vegetation removal;

- A Planning Infringement Notice was issued on January 17, 2003 ordering \$1000 to be paid within 28 days, and to cease the works, to apply for a

planning permit, take measures to prevent silt and water runoff, prevent erosion and water course pollution under the guidance of environmental officers to the City of Manningham and Melbourne Water. Cessation of works to be immediate;

- Notwithstanding this direction to cease works, on January 20, 2003, an inspection found that works were being undertaken on site for the construction of a grease pit, adjacent to the sewer treatment plant. External works had been undertaken to the front of the gallery;

- An inspection on February 25, 2003, revealed that the paths and columns had been completed, and so had the water feature to the east of the gift shop;

- Immediate treatment stabilisation works have not been carried out;

- Following the continuous contravention of the Planning and Environment Act, further Planning Infringement Notices were issued on March 31, 2003;

"There are three planning permit applications in at council as follows:

1. Application No. 14440, received 25/03/03. This application is for landscaping, paths, wishing well, entrance feature and columns, two brush fences, lighting, water feature, and a shed to house plant and equipment. Further information was requested on 08/04/03 and received on 11/04/03. We have received advice from a heritage

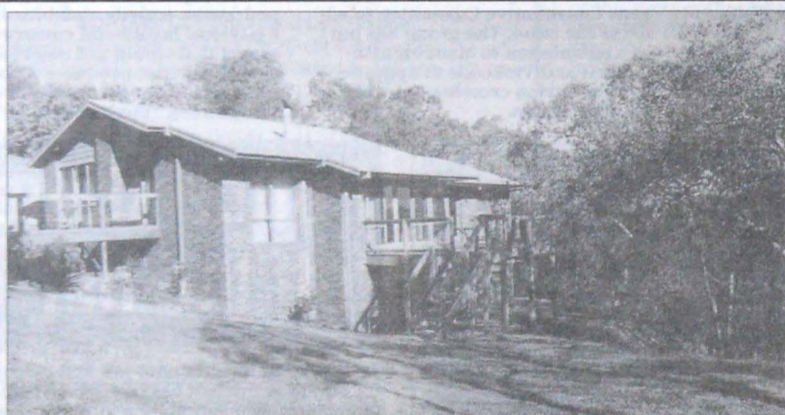
landscaper and a decision will be made shortly on the application. In an effort to assist Mr Bell to commence re-planting, council decided on May 8, 03, that the matters of contention in relation to this application may be deferred from immediate consideration, deleted from the plans and considered under Application No. 14478.

2. Application No. 14463, received 31/03/03, is for fill associated with the car park, a wetland, rock weirs, vegetation removal and re-vegetation. Further information was requested 08/04/03, and received 16/04/03. The application is currently being advertised. Letters have been sent to the adjoining and opposite landowners and occupiers and a sign has been placed on the site. The community is able to comment on the application.

3. Application No. 14478, received 04/04/03, is for existing and proposed buildings and works undertaken to the buildings on site, the grease pit, and change of use for receptions to be held. Further information was requested 16/04/03. When this information is submitted to council, the application will be advertised. Letters will be sent to the adjoining and opposite landowners and occupiers and a sign will be placed on the site. The community is able to comment on the application."

**Dick Davies, President**  
Warrandyte Community Association

# Warrandyte



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# Fish caught in the middle

Report compiled by  
CLIFF GREEN

Pictures by JAN TINDALE

The second stage of development of the Heritage golf course, taking it across the Yarra from Wonga Park to the Bend of Islands, could threaten populations of endangered native fish and irreparably damage the Henley floodplain and associated billabongs.

Friends of Warrandyte State Park have written to John Thwaites, minister for the environment, registering their concern.

"Up until the time of the Kennett government's decision to amend the planning schemes of both Healesville and Lillydale shires, to allow development of the St John of God and Henley Farm sites, the flood plains were protected. Our groups and other community groups objected then, seeing it as entirely inappropriate to modify an intact flood plain.

"We suggest work on the golf course should not proceed until an environmental impact statement is completed."

Serious concerns have also been expressed by such organisations as the Field Naturalists Club and Friends of the Earth. Their actions have temporarily stalled Yarra Valley Golf Pty Ltd from beginning work on their \$11million development.

In February, Environment Australia (a federal government department) decided that the development would be assessed as a "controlled action". This assessment will conclude on June 19.

Two native fish species found in the Yarra River, the Australian Grayling and Macquarie Perch are listed as threatened.

A survey in the Yarra River found 43 Macquarie Perch and nine Grayling at 11 sites between Henley and Pound Bend, downstream from Warrandyte.

## Yarra golf club project threatens 'at-risk' species

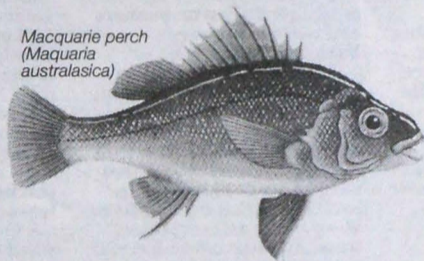
According to Jim Walker, conservation co-ordinator of the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria, "this confirms that the Yarra River upstream of Warrandyte has arguably the largest viable breeding population of Macquarie Perch left anywhere on the planet. This stretch of the Yarra is of national environmental importance. The Yarra has one of the most diverse freshwater fish assemblages in Victoria".

Two submissions opposing the golf course development and its potential impacts on native fish were submitted to Environment Australia by Native Fish Australia and Friends of the Earth. According to Friends of the Earth spokesperson, Anthony Amis, "Our organisation is extremely concerned about the proposal in its current form. We would argue that any increase of silt entering the river from the proposed course could well spell the end of the Macquarie Perch. Our organisation is also concerned about the effects of herbicide application in an area of national conservation significance".

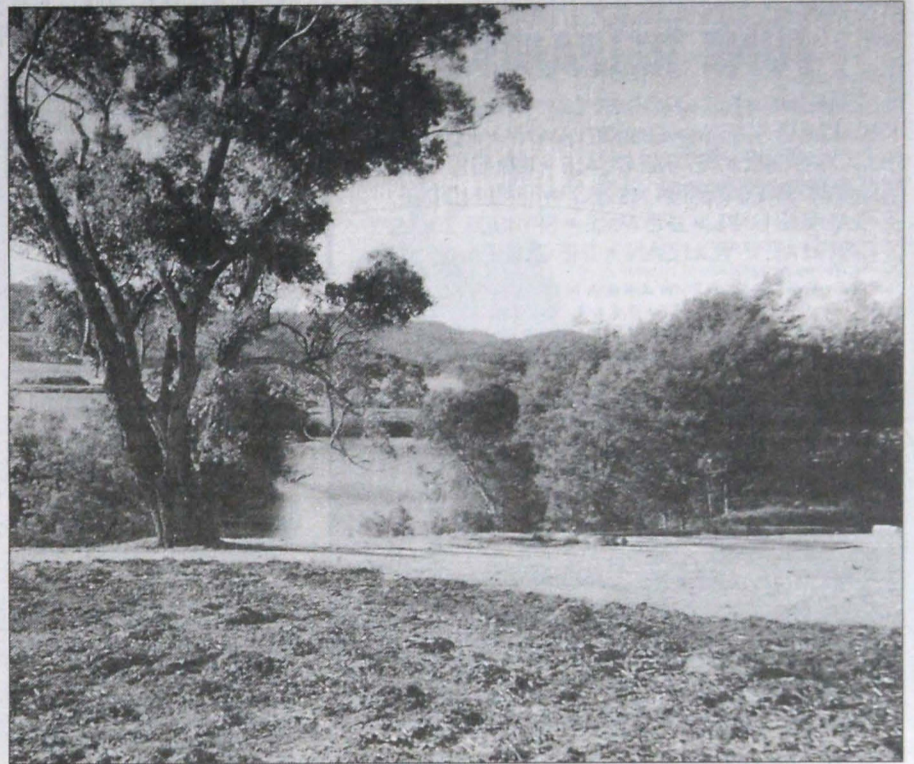
According to Jim Walker, "the current proposal involved massive modification of the floodplain with the construction of three metre high levees and roads. A large irrigation water storage lake will be built on the floodplain, and other artificial water bodies created. Hills will also be built in order to create the links-type course. "We believe that up to one million cubic metres of earth will have to be moved to create the course, equivalent to 100,000 truckloads of soil! If there is a flood event during the construction phase, a potentially huge amount of silt could enter the river. This could be catastrophic for the creatures living downstream."

According to Mr Amis, "it would appear that state planning processes have been conveniently sidetracked by this development. John Thwaites,

The major threat to the long-term survival of the Maquarie Perch is siltation. "Siltation has probably been an important factor in the decline of this species in Victoria," Mr Walker said. "Both the Grayling and Macquarie Perch prefer clear cool water flowing over gravel river beds in sections that alternate between rapids and pools. These are characteristics of the Yarra River, especially downstream from the Henley floodplain."



*'The Yarra River upstream of Warrandyte has arguably the largest viable breeding population of Macquarie Perch left anywhere on the planet.'*



Yarra River as it flows through the old Henley Farm land: home of the Macquarie perch.



trate sediment loads into the Bend of Islands gorge, which would have naturally been deposited on the floodplain.

"Construction of a bridge linking the existing course to the Henley course has recently occurred. We fear that this bridge with adjoining earth embankments at a narrow point in the river could cause flood waters to bank up behind the bridge, leading to increased water velocity, with the potential to create massive scour and riverbank damage", Mr Walker added.

According to Anthony Amis, "herbicide applications are worrying. Lakes to be built on the floodplain may flush into the Yarra in flood and could connect to the Yarra River through groundwater. These wetlands may be able to filter out phosphorous loads from the course, but we fear that nitrogen may not be filtered out. The Yarra River is already stressed by nitrogen. We also know that some of the herbicides to be used on the course can contaminate groundwater and fertilisers may contain heavy metals, which in turn could enter the groundwater and potentially also the Yarra River" he said.

Mr Walker concluded by saying, "it would be a tragedy of national significance if we lose the Macquarie Perch. That fact that such a massive development has received the green light without adequate safeguards is an appalling oversight. The Yarra River has so much to offer. We really are very lucky to have such an ecologically important river flowing through our city. We have to remain vigilant against schemes that threaten the unique biodiversity of this wonderful natural treasure."

state conservation minister, intervened to support this development when he was planning minister. This gave the developers the green light to go ahead without adequate attention to the impacts that the development would have on endangered fish species."

"At no stage has there been an environmental impact statement," Mr Walker said. "No responsible authority can categorically say that the risks have been eliminated. We also have concerns about the poten-

tial sediment impacts upon populations of platypus, frogs, turtles, migratory birds and microfauna. The development appears to defy common sense, sound science and government promises to restore our rivers.

"This floodplain and associated billabongs is one of the last relatively intact floodplains left on the Yarra which act as a natural flood retarding basin. The levy banks may well concentrate the flow of a flood and increase the velocity of flood flow. This in turn could concen-

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By SYD & ONA



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# Residents of Nillumbik honour the first people

**Words and picture by FIA CLENDINNEN**

Reconciliation events have become an annual occasion in Nillumbik. The first, in 1998, was called the "Gayip" and on that day the mayor at the time, Cr Robert Marshall, read out a formal apology which stated that "Nillumbik Shire Council apologises on behalf of its residents, unreservedly and sincerely, for the pain, the grief and the suffering experienced by the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as a result of past laws, government policies, actions and attitudes".

Since then Nillumbik mayors have come and gone. But the council has shown itself to remaining deeply committed to the reconciliation process.

For the sixth consecutive year, Nillumbik council working in conjunction with the Nillumbik Reconciliation Group, conducted a walk along the Main Road, as part of National Reconciliation Week.

On June 1, Lex de Man, the current mayor of Nillumbik, opened the walk at 9am in the Eltham Town Square and even though it was so early on a cold and rainy winter morning around 100 people gathered to take part.

"In Nillumbik we pride our-

selves on being a supportive community with a generous spirit," Cr de Man told the crowd, "and it's this spirit that we should be extending towards our traditional owners."

He said that he believed there was a lot of ignorance in the community regarding indigenous culture and candidly confessed that he had once been "sheer ignorant about reconciliation".

Cr de Man also invited "our traditional owners to continue to talk with council about the best way in which our shire can formally and informally support this process of healing so that we can truly say, welcome home".

Steve Herbert, ALP member for the state seat of Eltham was also at the Town Square. He said as a nation Australia had to address the many problems which still confronted indigenous people, and that reconciliation meant coming to terms with the past as well as moving forward into the future.

Elizabeth Savage Kooronnya, an aboriginal woman who lives in Nillumbik, told the listeners she'd like to "chuck out" the word reconciliation.

"I'd prefer if we didn't have to use it," she said. But Ms Savage Kooronnya said that in the current climate recon-

ciliation was vitally important and "we have a long, long way to go before indigenous people share in the advantages of Australia. There is so much disadvantage in terms of education, employment, health and psychological health."

Mick Woitwod, author and historian from the Bend of Islands, said he fondly remembered the last reconciliation event in Nillumbik when Sebastian Jorgensen sang a old aboriginal song in traditional language and a pelican rose up in the sky and circled high above, "as if to say you're on the right track".

After the speeches the crowd picked up its banners and marched towards Edendale Farm.

There Wurrundjeri Elder Doreen Garvey, speaking in both English and Wurrundjeri language, shared out eucalyptus leaves in the traditional aboriginal welcoming ceremony. The leaves signified that we were all welcome to everything, from the roots of the trees to the highest tops of the leaves.

"I come from the oldest living culture in the world," Ms Garvey said.

"This is my father's traditional land and I stand tall here. You can establish buildings, you can put down bitu-

men, but the land is still there."

She explained that Wurrundjeri means "grub people". "Wurrun" is the white gum and "djeri" is the grub which lives in the tree.

Cr Greg Johnson from Wingrove Ward told the *Diary* he was absolutely delighted with the event. He said the Nillumbik Reconciliation Group were strong and determined and had been working away steadily for years. But he criticised the federal government, saying it was not providing leadership on indigenous issues.

"Reconciliation is off the national agenda," said Cr Johnson. "If it wasn't for local councils such as ours I wonder what would happen to the reconciliation process."

But Elizabeth Savage Kooronnya said that reconciliation was like a patchwork quilt, "with some of the patches intense and others less so".

A quilt is made of many small different pieces, which in the end come together to create something useful and beautiful. Nillumbik council and the Nillumbik Reconciliation Group continue working towards reconciliation and wholeness. Nothing is wasted, and every little effort counts.



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# From Warrandyte to the top of the world



Michael Parker on Mera Peak, Nepal.

Last month, as the world celebrated the 50th anniversary of the scaling of Everest, the *Diary* received news that local climber Michael Parker was involved in an attempt on Kangchenjunga, Earth's third highest peak.

**M**ICHAEL PARKER, a 30 year-old graphic designer and signwriter has lived in the Warrandyte area all his life. He is studying part-time for an advanced diploma in photography.

According to Bruce Parker, Michael's father, "he loves the bush. He has been a serious climber for the last decade and has successfully summited several serious mountains including Mera Peak in Nepal, Arconcagua (the highest mountain in the Andes), Ama Dablam in Nepal and was part of an international team that attempted Konguar, the highest mountain in China."

Kanchenjunga, at 8600 metres, in the third highest mountain in the world after Mount Everest at 8800 and K2 at 8700 respectively. It has a far greater difficulty rating than Mt Everest and is being attempted

without oxygen and with no climbing sherpas or porters.

The team was hoping to summit prior to May 31, when its permit expires, however, the last communication listed on the Everest website states they have lost contact as their satellite phone has gone down and they are battered down with 100mph+ winds. "Hopefully this will clear soon and they will enable their attempts," Bruce Parker said.

The expedition will attempt the original route of the British first ascent on the South Face. The main technical difficulties will consist of moderate angle snow slopes from Base Camp (5300m) to Camp I on top of the "Hump" at 6000m; a higher angle ice wall between Camp II and Camp III and some steep ground below Camp III, just below the "Great Shelf". They will "fix rope" in these difficult areas.

The following communiques have been received from base camp:

## Report 4/18/03

Hello Everyone, News from Gary! Here are some highlights: The walk in was long and expensive primarily due to porter problems. The weather was good and now is excellent. We got to base camp (at 5400m) about three days ago, rested one day and went up to about 5850m to check out the route on the second day. Camp 1 will be at 6200m, Camp 2 at 7000m and Camp 3 at 7900m. All climbers are very accomplished, some not needing the rope we are fixing in places!

The other two teams are a bit ahead of us and Carlo's team has already spent a night at Camp 1. That night we got a fairly big snow and the slope to Camp 1 became a bit dangerous. They came down nonetheless early in the morning. Everyone has been in base camp since. Tomorrow we plan a carry to Camp 1 of 2 tents and 400m of fixing line for further up on the route. We are supplying the rope and Norbert's team is fixing it in place.

Base camp is very beautiful with magnificent views in all directions. Everyone is getting along—cooperating and doing their own thing at the same time. Some of the other climbers intend to head to Lhotse after this.

So, we will carry group gear tomorrow and the next day move up personal kit and maybe some members will stay up for the night, then the others the next night, all taking turns. So long as the weather holds we intend to make continuous progress upward.

## Report 4/22/03

More news from Gary. Here are some highlights: Since the last report, the entire team has done carries and established camp 1 at 6200m, at the top of the hump. Carlo and Norbert's teams are fixing rope upwards to camp 2 at 7000m. Four of Gary's team spent the night at camp 1 and got there just before more wind and snow. The snow persisted into the night along with winds up to about 50kph. The morning revealed beautiful calm and two teammates returned to base camp while others plan to go up.

Most mornings are sunny and warm until about noon when clouds come in and snow begins about 2 or 3 in the afternoon. Sometimes only a little, sometimes 10 inches or so. Norbert says this snow is normal, and reports from other years support this as well. The team is hoping the weather will allow steady upward progress.

## Report 4/27/03

Hello Everyone, I received an update on Gary's team. The laptop they were using is no longer working so reports henceforth may be spotty. Here are the highlights: All team members are in good health and spirits. They have established camp 1 at 6200m and have made a cache at 6800m on the way of camp 2. Most team members have spent a number of nights at camp 1. Norbert Joos' team has been instrumental in fixing the route to camp 2 and members of the other two teams have slept at camp 2. Camp 3 will be at 7900m. The weather is holding with some afternoon snows and the slopes appear safe. Summit attempts may be around May 15 or so. That's all I have for now. Bett.

## Report 4/28/03

I spoke to Gary last night. It was morning in Nepal and all climbers were in base camp as a snowstorm came in. All climbers are in good health and spirits and doing well. Gary's team has camp 1 established and all have slept there with a few carries upward toward camp 2. Things on the mountain are fine. The call was a bit brief as the snow was affecting it but he

sounded great. He reiterated that the laptop is broken so he will try to call on the sat phone about every 7 to 10 days.

## Report 4/30/03

Here's the latest: Gary, Paul and Frits will head to camp 2 on May 1 to establish a route to camp 3 and formulate plans for a summit attempt. The Spanish and Swiss teams are evidently poised for their summit attempts and are waiting for a window of opportunity.

This message says all communications equipment but one sat phone is inoperable so I'm not sure when I'll receive further news—when I do, I'll pass it along. Prayers and good karma to the climbers! Bett.

## Report 5/4/03

I just spoke with Gary (he sounded great). All teams are presently in base camp as a windstorm came in yesterday. Winds are up to 100mph and last evening was partially spent keeping the canteen/mess tent from blowing down! The climbers are bored with waiting out this weather! All teams have camp 2 established (around 6900m) and Norbert's team may attempt the summit the next time they move up. Bett.



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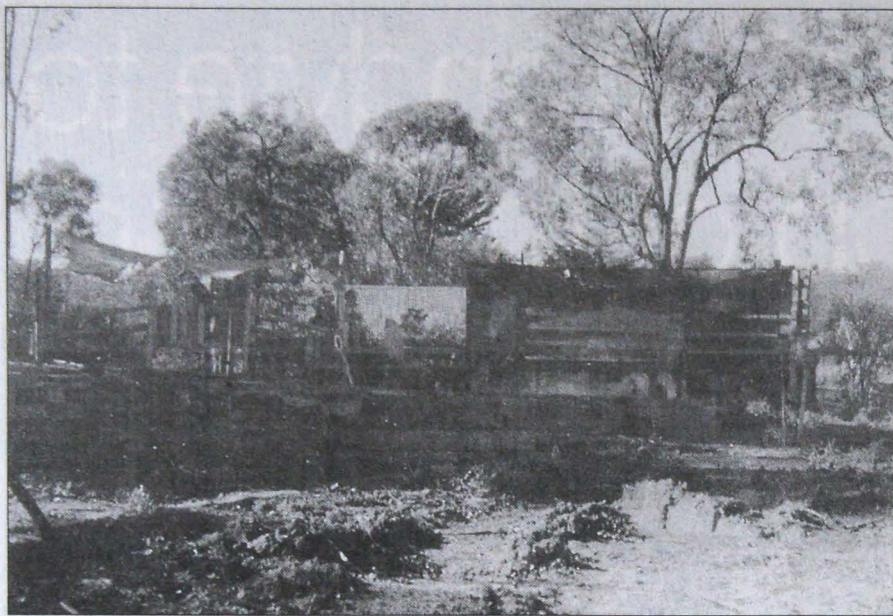
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"Where once was a kindergarten..." The site of North Warrandyte's burnt-out community centre. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

## Centre plans underway

Plans for the rebuilding of the North Warrandyte Community Centre, ravaged by fire in October last year, are currently being prepared.

An architect has been appointed, and at the first meeting with affected community groups, requirements for the new building were discussed.

Currently the kindergarten is "making do" in the basement of the Community Church in Yarra Street. "It's no substitute for a real home," Cr Bob Stubbings told the *Diary*.

He nominated the third quarter of next year as

the most likely completion date for the new premises. "Middle of next year if we're lucky," Cr Stubbings said, fingers firmly crossed.

The state government will probably be approached for additional funding for the building. Despite full insurance, the necessity for compliance with modern-day health and safety regulations has boosted the costs.

"It was fully insured as a 26 year-old building, and you can't replace it with another 26 year-old building," Cr Stubbings said.

## Auxiliary calls quits after 70 years of good deeds

BY PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

There's a connection between over 70 years of eggs, jams and pickles and "thousands of dollars' worth" of equipment provided for the Royal Women's Hospital in Melbourne.

The Warrandyte auxiliary to the hospital closed down recently, presenting its last fundraising cheque of \$2157 to the president of the auxiliaries, according to Mrs Dulcie Crouch, who was with the group for many years.

"We raised money for the hospital by selling produce—anything people had to sell really—at our monthly meetings," Mrs Crouch said. "The money we raised always went to supplying equipment at the hospital, such as beds or a blanket warmer for newborn babies. We bought five beds for 500 pounds each in the early days and in the 90s we donated three for \$2000 each."



Dulcie Crouch

Founded in February 1930 to raise money for charity "after the kids had gone back to school", the Warrandyte auxiliary met at the Mechanics' Institute Hall or in members' homes and more recently at the senior citizens' centre. Its annual membership peaked at about 30.

"The annual subscription was 20 cents and afternoon teas cost two cents," Mrs Crouch remembered. "We held wattle teas where one of the women wore a long frock with 100 pock-

ets and you could pay two or five cents and have a sort of lucky dip. Every October there was the Lilac Time Ball and dancers came from as far away as Coburg. There was no electricity and we had three kerosene tins hanging above the fire—one for hot water, one for tea and one for coffee." Money was also raised at cake stalls and by selling tickets for a Christmas hamper.

Mrs Crouch said one member, Mrs Irene Smith, donated \$20 at each meeting after she became blind and could not bake cakes to sell. Mrs Smith was a member of the Warrandyte auxiliary for 64 years.

"We were just one cog in the wheel in Warrandyte but almost everyone was over 70 and one lady was 93. There were many different auxiliaries then, but now you can't get people to come—all the mums are working today."

"Hospitals are in dire straits when it comes to fundraising."

## Waste wise project wins award

A Warrandyte project helped Manningham council achieve success in the Excellence in Waste Wise Education Awards, winning the best comprehensive waste education strategy category.

These awards recognise the innovative work done by local government in implementing Waste Wise education strategies and activities in their communities.

Mayor Cr John Bruce congratulated council's project management team for their effort. "The team's strategy builds on council's long history of innovation in environmental education, by integrating the education component of the strategy with other elements of its waste management program, including initiatives for businesses, householders, schools, community groups and the council itself," Cr Bruce said.

The project management's strategy included the Waste Wise Warrandyte project, highlighting the collective Waste Wise action taken by 25 local businesses.

"The local business community has taken ownership of the Waste Wise Warrandyte project, with a key role being played by the Warrandyte Business Association," Cr Bruce said.

"Successful activities in Warrandyte included materials exchange with up to 100 percent reduction of certain wastes to landfill and the development of a customised recycling system to suit local circumstances."

"One business that had bubble wrap as a waste now provides it to another local enterprise that needed bubble wrap for distribution of its fragile products," Cr Bruce said.

As a result of its success, Manningham council received \$2000 towards its Waste Wise education program and registration to the value of \$1400 to the International Solid Waste Association World Congress to be held in Melbourne during November.

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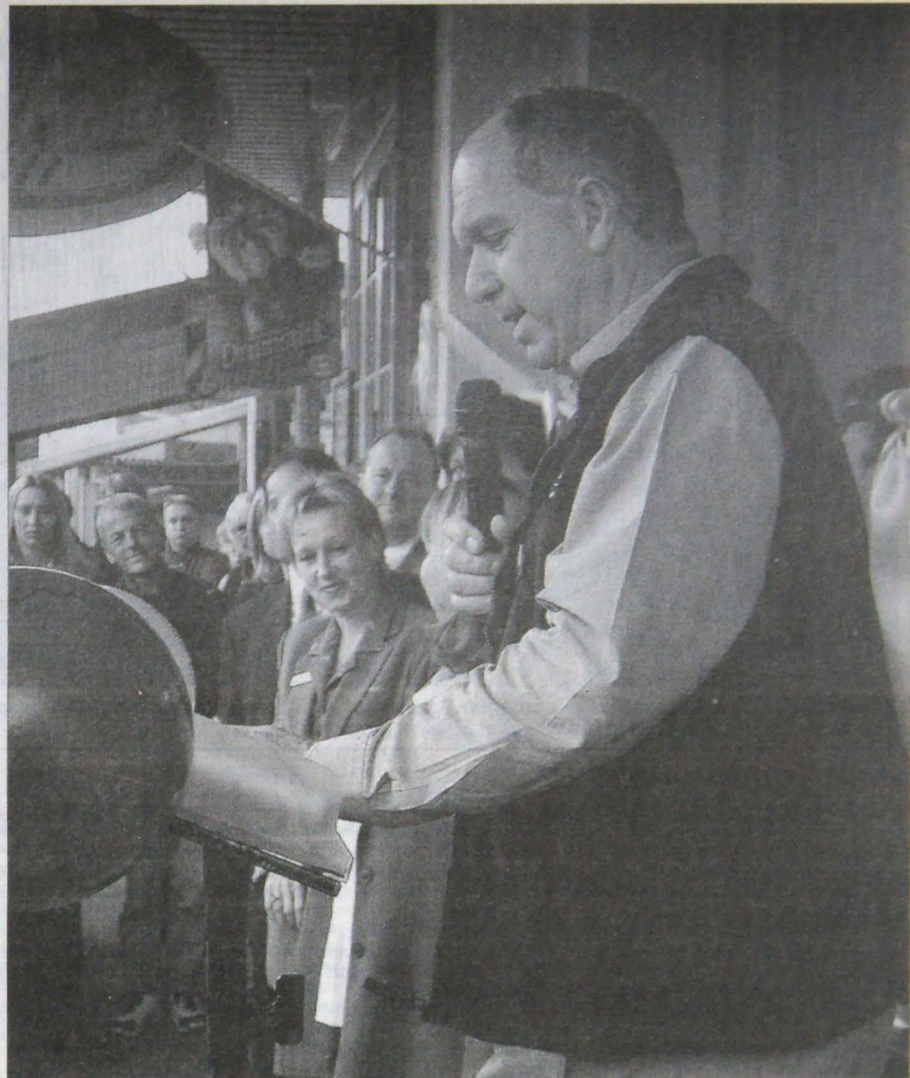
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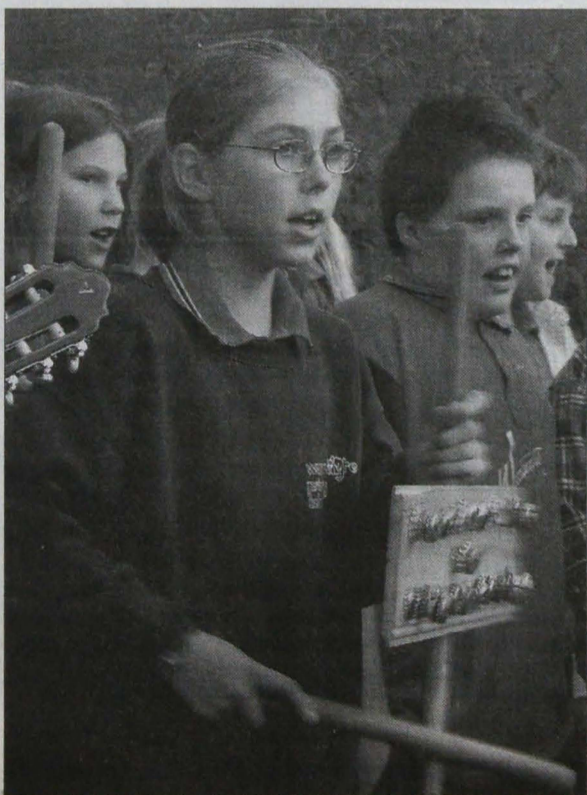




**Bank holiday!** Earlier this month, Warrandyte celebrated the opening of our new community bank with a wonderful street party. Stephen Reynolds captured some of these special moments. Everyone is invited to do it all over again at a second event on Saturday, June 14 commencing at 10am in the carpark opposite the bank. Bendigo Piggy will be back, there will be novelty events, gifts for the kids and lots of other attractions. Simply roll up and have fun!



The Warrandyte Community Bank is now open for business. Weekdays: 9am-5pm; Saturdays: 9am-12noon





# Rotary makes a difference...



Winning winter warmth: volunteers from the Rotary Club of Warrandyte prepare firewood to be distributed by the Warrandyte Housing and Support Services.

# Walking in safety on the north side

By SAM DAVIES

A pedestrian footpath in North Warrandyte, considered dangerous is being upgraded as part of a Nillumbik council "back to basics" initiative.

Barely exceeding two feet wide in parts, the footpath, running alongside the Research-Warrandyte Road hill was notorious for its close proximity to traffic.

"It was a safety issue that had to be addressed," said local councillor Bob Stubbings, who first approached council with his concern last year.

"It was a dangerous footpath. If you ever walked up that road, it was very close to traffic," he said.

Work is scheduled to be completed by mid-June, though Cr Stubbings says a lot of residents already seem "relieved".

He said his proposal was well received by Mayor Lex de Man, who wanted the council to undertake a "back to basics" policy.

He explained this meant council would be concentrating on public areas and amenity of buildings with public safety in mind.

Footpaths may be laid or upgraded in other stretches of Research and Kangaroo Ground roads. "We need footpaths between bus stops," Cr Stubbings told the *Diary*. "In some areas though this is impossible due to the topography. You need to keep swapping from one side of the road to the other."

"A particularly dangerous road for school kids is Pigeon Bank Lane," said Cr Stubbings, referring to its infamous

Cr Bob Stubbings checks footpath progress. (Picture by Jan Tindale)



steep and winding nature.

Unfortunately, the criteria for building footpaths depends on volume of traffic, not danger. "We're trying to change that," he said.

Council itself is limited in its approach to pedestrian safety initiatives because most roadways are the province of Vic Roads.

Meanwhile, a treacherous right-hand turn into Bradleys Lane at the top of the new footpath still remains a vehicle safety issue.

Cr Stubbings said while a mirror would be the only plausible solution, their vulnerability to vandal attacks makes them hardly worthwhile. "The engineers advised us not to waste our money. I'm stumped on what we can do."

# Council's dog safety program

Manningham council has welcomed a state government initiative to teach dog safety in kindergartens across Victoria.

The council has been running successful dog safety programs in preschools since 2001, to assist children and parents to reduce the chance of being the victim of a dog attack.

Manningham's program involves an animal management officer attending the preschool or primary school and demonstrating with a puppet or tem-

perament-tested dog, then educating children in the desired behaviour around dogs.

Mayor Cr John Bruce said that with more than 280 Victorians hospitalised each year as the result of dog bites, this program is vital.

"Manningham council's dog safety program has been a marvellous success over many years," Cr Bruce said.

"In our municipality we currently have 29 preschools and kindergartens

and the children who attend these facilities, aged 1-5 years old, are the target audience of the dog safety program."

"Children are our most precious assets and their safety is paramount. However, given their height and their behaviour around dogs, children are most at risk from serious dog bites.

"More than two thirds of all bites involving children are either in their own home, or at family members' or friends' homes," Cr Bruce said.

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Vehicle speed was recorded by official police radar.



Rob Cousens organised yet another Warrandyte Billy Cart Derby.



Diary reporter Gilchrist interviewed winner Shaun.



Winner Shaun is flanked by second place getter Jamie (right) and Taylor (third).



# A race to remember

By GILCHRIST  
GLENDINNEN

On the morning of the billy cart race Casey Carter, a friend of mine and last year's winner of the event, rang asking if I could race his cart. He had fractured his arm in a basketball game the day before and couldn't perform.

"Nah," I said, thinking nervously of broken arms or legs. "Ask someone else." I'd never been the type who was willing to put my body on the line.

Later, driving to the race, I thought this meant Jamie Hayton, last year's runner-up, would probably win the race as I could not think of anyone last year who got close to beating her.

The race started with a few warm-up runs with the local police reading kids' speeds with a radar gun. But before the race had even started there was an accident. A boy around 12 years old slammed into the mulch pile, breaking his nose on the cart's steering wheel. He did get

a speed of 39km/h, though, the best speed in the warm-up runs.

Soon the first heats started, with quite a few kids pushing 35km/h. It looked to be an exciting race. One of the stars of the day was "No Brake Jake", who would fly over the mulch pile, out of his cart and into the arms of the designated catcher. He would then wave to the crowd to assure everyone he was okay. The cousin of a friend of mine, Shaun Johnston, was racing well with speeds of 39 to 40 kilometers. Jamie Hayton also looked a contender, getting 39km/h consistently.

The final came with those two pairing off. Shaun quickly secured his favourite lane and I went to the bottom of the hill to watch the race. Jamie seemed to get her nose in front at the start but Shaun's heavier and longer cart picked up speed and won by a cart length. Jamie's younger brother Taylor took out third place.

There were cash prizes for "Best Looking Cart". There was

also a parents' race, with Shaun's dad taking out the first prize sticker.

After the race I caught up with Shaun to ask him about the things he had thought about when building the cart. He said that he had used maximum wheel size (16 inches), a longer body which he thought would make the cart easier to steer, and three wheels. He told me that he had looked at the history of the race and found that three wheels seemed more successful than four. The cart had taken him four weeks to build, not including running time trials with his cousin Luke to decide where the weights should be situated on the cart. Unfortunately he made me promise him not to tell anyone where the weights were placed, saying that he didn't want anyone knowing and beating him next year.

Afterwards I talked to Michael Carter, an older brother of Casey's. He was confident that the Carters would win next

year, saying that he had a few ideas on the qualities that a cart should have. When I asked him if he thought three wheels were better than four he said no. He did agree that it is easier to get the wheel alignment right with three wheels but he thought a good four-wheeled cart would be faster.

Hopefully next year's race will have starting gates and there is even talk of the race being shifted to a bigger hill. Either way the Warrandyte Billy Cart Derby is one of the key events of the Warrandyte Festival and I strongly suggest that you go along next year and soak up the atmosphere.

### OFFICIAL RESULTS

- 1<sup>st</sup> Shaun Johnstone—41km/h
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Jamie Hayton—40km/h
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Taylor Hayton—39km/h
- Best Cart—Troy Shipkie
- Best Effort—Zac Chadwick
- Parents' Race—Phil Johnstone



Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS





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# Facing the harsh reality of a garden in birdland

**T**HE appeal of the current spate of reality TV shows is based on the assumption that we're a soft lot, living a cushy existence. Basically, living today means that we are self-deluded and we don't really know we're alive.

If we just had the opportunity to experience living as a Victorian coal miner or an Edwardian kitchen maid or a housewife during the Boer War, we would know what real suffering is and we would develop a more realistic view of ourselves and of the world around us.

To reinforce this hypothesis, sensible people choose to parade their environmentally induced inadequacies before a worldwide audience. Not only are they willing to air their family's dirty linen in digital splendour but they're also prepared to do it in fancy dress.

As an aside, I find it fascinating that it is necessary to go so far back in time. Surely the experiment of placing people in unfamiliar surroundings to determine how readily they can adapt could work as well if we placed a comfortable eastern suburban family in a high rise apartment block in Richmond, complete with the joys of a husband, wife and two teenage kids living for six months on nothing but a disability pension.

The appeal of these programs seems to be in watching how the participants cope or, preferably, don't cope with trying circumstances. And it seems that irrespective of the location



**KIBBLLED**

**"I don't need to watch other folk saw logs and grapple with ornery steers to make me wonder about my stamina."**

of the "trial", the range of problems our current spate of time travellers face are inevitably about physical competence, the length of time taken to attend to what we would regard as trivial tasks and lack of "personal space".

Now, I don't need to watch other folk saw logs and grapple with ornery steers to make me wonder about my stamina. I have no delusions about my physical competence. Although in my mind I am a 35 year-old, at the end of a day's gardening I am quite prepared to put on the slippers, take a quick nap before dinner and dream of

Jim's Gardening Service.

Similarly, I have never been besotted by the need for time saving devices. I don't mind washing dishes and it is only in the last few years that I have owned power tools. Before these, I managed with a pen-knife and a rock. So seeing those poor folk labouring over lighting kerosene lamps and ploughing with Clydesdales doesn't appal me.

And as for "personal space", I've never really understood what it means, so its lack has never been a worry.

No, I'd like to see a program that really tests the participants as much as I've been. I've got a series idea that will strike a chord with all those in touch with nature. It will deal with more agonising concerns than anything handed out on those namby-pamby reality programs. What I want is a program that pits human intelligence against animal ingenuity.

Now some of you will instantly think of lions and sharks and the various scenarios in which a man or woman has to survive in a lagoon full of ravenous white pointers or on a veldt with nothing more than an assegai. Admittedly, these do have a certain flashy appeal, but I want something that provides the competitor with a psychological challenge and I can think of nothing more trying than the battle I've been waging for the past months.

Not only have we been coping with the drought and the difficulties this imposes on politi-

cally unsound gardeners like us but also with a concerted and well planned attack by our local wildlife. And the trouble has come in a most insidious and soul-destroying fashion.

When we had the dam dug, we incorporated, nearby, a small orchard of quince, pear, fig, olive, lemon, plum, crab apple and feijoa. Basically, enough trees to provide jam for the year.

This year we were late netting the trees and, realising that we would have a much larger crop than last year, could afford the odd giveaway to the gorgeous, harmless birds that hurtle down the tree highway that runs the length of our block.

When we discovered one tree completely stripped of quinces, our immediate suspicion was that two-legged jelly-making mammals had attacked us. However, an early morning recce revealed the identity of the thieves. The top layer of quinces was being eaten by eastern rosellas, the middle by crows and the unkindest cut was to see our well-fed ducks on tippy webs, savaging the lowest fruit.

Screaming death threats, I hurtled out and on passing the herb garden discovered the peacock, ripping out all the herb seedlings we had planted the previous day.

There was not a TV camera in sight but I yelled aloud, nominating precisely who was going to be eliminated from my reality show.

**ROGER KIBELL**

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# 'Bug': the headline writer's lazy word bugs our boffin

**66** **K**ILLER Bug" the headline read. I knew the article was about the SARS virus and not some deadly sap-sucking insect, but I couldn't help being irritated by the misuse, or rather colloquial use, of the word bug.

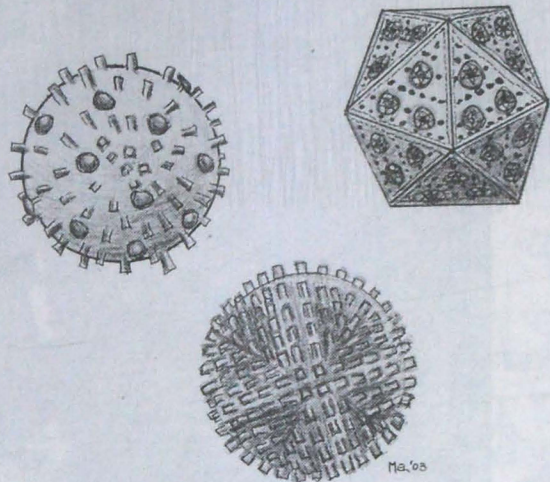
The media should be the guardians of our language, not the abusers. But there are always some representatives, either through ignorance or effect, who resort to colloquisms and slang.

Bug is one of those words with a multitude of unrelated meanings. As well as being a disease, this three-letter-word is also a hidden microphone; a person obsessed by an idea; a fault or defect; a malfunction in a computer system and an insect.

Even in its entomological context the word is used loosely. Just about anything that creeps, crawls or flies is labelled a bug. True bugs are only those insects belonging to the Family Hemiptera. They are characterised by having piercing, sucking mouthparts and include cicadas, aphids and lerps.

Returning to the virus bug, I would like to pursue another commonly misunderstood matter—that is the difference between a virus and a bacterium (singular). Both cause infectious diseases and therein lies the confusion for some people.

Viruses and bacteria have their own place in the natural world. In fact bacteria are one of the oldest forms of life and have been found in rocks dating back over three and a half



microscope. They are the smallest of all living organisms. Although it is questioned, even by the experts as to whether they are actually living. For viruses do not have cells and can only exist and replicate themselves inside the living cell of a host plant or animal—they are in effect the ultimate parasite.

Structurally viruses consist of a geometrically shaped capsule with a central core of genetic material surrounded by an outer coating of protein attached to which may be rows of spikes or grooves.

Parasites cannot afford to kill their host because if the host dies the parasite too will die. Many viruses have co-evolved with humans and although they make us ill they are not generally fatal. When a virus moves from one species to another it can cause serious problems in the animal that is not adapted to having the virus living within its cells. The human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)—the cause of AIDS—was originally transmitted from chimpanzees to humans (probably through eating infected animals) about 50 years ago in a small region of West Africa. And now we have SARS, a so-called coronavirus related to the common cold, which jumped from chickens to us.

SARS has been reported in the news so often now that the "killer bug" label has been dropped. Thank goodness. But it won't be the last time that a bug creeps into the newspapers—we are about due for an influenza epidemic, and no doubt it will "bug" me again when I read the headline "flu bug hits town!"



## NATURE

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

million years. These single-celled micro organisms were once considered to be tiny animals, but later, because of the structure of their cell walls, they were reclassified as plants. Now it is accepted that they are neither and consequently have been placed in a separate kingdom.

Bacteria are everywhere. They are present in the air, water and soil where, together with fungi, they play a vital role in breaking down and recycling dead plant and animal material. These incredibly versatile organisms can exist in the most extreme conditions, living in

volcanic vents of the deep ocean at temperatures of around 100 degrees centigrade.

As well as being all around us, bacteria are on us and inside us, in fact certain bacteria in our gut are essential for good health. The majority of bacteria are harmless. But it is those that cause disease with which we are most familiar. Infections such as tonsillitis, bronchitis tuberculosis (TB), gonorrhoea, typhoid and cholera are all caused by bacteria and as such most can be successfully treated with antibiotics. These life-saving drugs, though, have no effect against infections caused by viruses like the common cold, flu, mumps, measles, chicken pox AIDS or, of course, SARS.

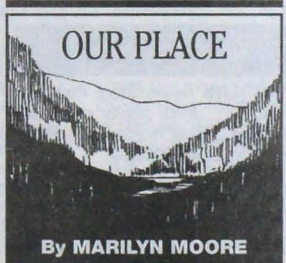
Viruses are very much smaller than bacteria and can only be seen with a scanning electron

# Pickpockets: go for the phone

**T**HE number of handkerchiefs breeding in our ironing pile is nothing short of astonishing, but nobody misses them: Messrs Kleenex and Sorbent have taken good care of that. And we are not the only people to keep boxes of tissues in all sorts of handy places. However it strikes me that the apparent decline in handkerchief usage means that the world is losing an unrivalled social indicator. How would the likes of Sherlock Holmes cope without the humble handkerchief? Surely no other personal item has been so revealing of circumstances.

Not so long ago, a properly brought-up person always carried a clean, neatly ironed and folded handkerchief. The quality of one's personal linen was paramount. A gentleman or professional person carried monogrammed fine white linen or silk, the perfectly pressed symmetry indicative of wealth (servants) and a well-run household (exacting standards).

A working class person, on the other hand, could be readily identified by the cheap cotton tartanned square from one of those "baker's dozen" packs. A cotton handkerchief that was



## OUR PLACE

By **MARILYN MOORE**

neatly ironed demonstrated a good work ethic and due regard for appearances. In contrast, an unironed hanky suggested a disorderly house, no doubt poorly kept by a lazy wife. A dirty hanky (or worse still, wiping one's nose on one's sleeve) brought to mind all manner of disgusting pestilence: stale beds, fleas, unspeakable underwear, stew-encrusted pots and lurking rats — something akin to the slums of Dickensian London.

The handkerchief has been a time-honoured standby at gift-giving time for generations. Grandmothers and maiden aunts set great store by them, along with sundry related items: Edwardian caddies, lavender sachets and delicate ornamental wisps of fabric intri-

cately hand-worked in pulled-thread and Brussels lace. And what other gift could you suitably buy for a man, apart from socks? Where indeed would a man be without an endless supply of handkerchiefs? How else could he clean his specs, tie up an ailing tomato plant, keep the sun off his head, bandage a cut, administer a soothing ice pack, fix a tourniquet, plug a leak, dust the dashboard, remove wayward paint smears or wipe his hands after greasing the car?

Schoolgirls exchanged pretty cellophane-wrapped hankies at birthday time, but of course one's mother lovingly defaced them all with neatly inked names (losing one's hanky was about on a par with crashing the family car by today's standards). Some mothers favoured a belt-and-braces approach to handkerchief security by not only blackly labelling the things but also pinning them to the bib of their daughter's pinafore. It was not a good look. You could tell at 50 paces if someone had a cold.

Today's equivalent social indicator seems to be the mobile phone. Apparently you can place a person unerringly by the make, model and tune of their little beeper, but I'm afraid

the subtleties are lost on me, being the sort of old fogey who uses a phone merely to make phone calls. How pointless is that?

The young man of our house recently did a double-take when offered, completely free-of-charge, my out-of-contract 3-year-old mobile phone for his own personal use. All he had to do was buy phone cards — an inexpensive and perfectly logical arrangement, or so I thought. I might just as well have suggested that he run naked up and down Yarra Street trumpeting the unedited articles of the Australian Constitution. He ended up buying his own dinky little blue-and-silver neon number, and I gave the plain old black one to our daughter. The dear child was actually grateful, and seems to be coping well with the stigma.

Four mobile phones in the house: what an embarrassing admission! However the consequent improvement in intra-family communication has generated remarkable benefits in the area of day-to-day logistics management. In particular, we are twice as likely to have timely meals and delicious slow-cooked hearty fare on the dinner table. Now deduce that from a handkerchief!

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# Remembering how to cry

Is this one serious  
At last?  
Clutching at  
The single  
Groaning drop  
Fat tears  
Squeezed out  
Begrudgingly  
Tentatively  
As if she's forgotten  
How

No, there's more  
The few are slowly growing  
Gradually building  
As if gaining confidence  
"I remember how to do this."  
And the momentum is increasing  
Like the rust is being cleared  
From that ancient unused tap  
Still occasionally  
Spurting  
And faltering

No, don't stop!  
Don't you dare dwindle  
You've got it right  
Keep going  
We need this  
For hours and hours  
Then days and days

Then it steadies  
And as it pounds on  
I burrow deep  
Into smug feathers  
Hear the earth sigh  
And sleep on rivers

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## Key Decisions

### Nillumbik Shire Council

These are some of the decisions made by Council on **Wednesday, 21 May 2003**. 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 and Council monthly meeting dates. Next Council meeting is 18 June 2003 at 7.30pm at the Shire Offices. All welcome or listen to the broadcast on Plenty Valley FM 88.6.



#### Transport and Infrastructure

Agreed to provide a fence and gate at the Diamond Creek Road end of the Yellow Gum Rise walkway, and to list other improvements for consideration and consultation.

Accepted the tenders submitted by Nylex Materials Handling for the supply and distribution of mobile bins.



#### Governance

Resolved to submit a proposal to the Registrar of Geographic Names, to name the ROW off Rose Avenue in Hurstbridge, Orchid Way, and to advise the applicant and submitters of the outcome.

Noted valuations relating to land owned by the Catholic Church in Diamond Creek Road.



#### Land Use, Planning and Environment

Agreed Council write to the Department of Sustainability and Environment supporting the removal of farm dams from the planning system, except for stock, domestic and aesthetic dams which do not require a licence under the *Water Act 1989*.

Agreed to advise Melbourne Water Council endorses the Diamond Creek Water Supply Protection Area, Stream Flow Management Plan, 2003.

Resolved to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a permit to the land at 951-953 Heidelberg-Kinglake Road, Hurstbridge for the purpose of a 30-seat licensed restaurant and takeaway food premises, in accordance with the endorsed plans and subject to conditions.



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

Noted the prioritised list of Council facilities recommended for Disability Access Audits as outlined in Officer's Report.



Customer Service 9433 3111





## GOLD IN THE GULLIES: 2

By MURRAY HOUGHTON

# Rush and retreat

**W**ITH the existence of gold at Andersons Creek officially confirmed, on August 18, 1851 La Trobe issued a series of proclamations that set out Victoria's inaugural goldfields regulations. These directives were formally published by authority in the Victoria Government Gazette on August 20, and reprinted in the Argus the following day. The proclamations contained the pro forma for Victoria's first gold licence, based on a similar form introduced a few months earlier in New South Wales.

Towards the end of August there were about 200 men on the Victoria Diggings, which extended along the banks, and in the bed, of Andersons Creek, and in the surrounding gullies and river regions for some three miles. A Crown bailiff and four constables came to preserve law and order and on September 1, 1851 the Andersons Creek diggings were the first in Victoria to be patrolled by troopers under a goldfields commissioner. It was also there on September 5 that the first gold licences in Victoria—for which a fee of 30 shillings per month was required—were issued.

After a few weeks of prospecting under the most primitive conditions, without appropriate tools, and unable to immediately strike it rich, many alluvial diggers were lured away by rumours of rich deposits of gold at locations such as Clunes and Ballarat. By the end of October 1851 there were only 17 diggers still actively working at Andersons Creek, and by the following month this number had dropped to 11. Daniel Bunce, a noted botanist, observed that by mid-December the area had become almost deserted.

"It was the opinion of many parties, that these diggings had been abandoned before they had received a fair trial as to their capabilities for producing the much coveted auriferous deposit. These opinions are based on the fact that during the time they were in operation, the weather was very wet, and the country flooded, thereby filling the holes of the diggers before they could penetrate any depth below the surface."

When three months later, La Trobe made his first inspection of the location, he found the only prospectors still on site were the first quartz miners, Fletcher and Smith, whose shaft had been sunk 135 feet.

### Displaced persons

The press reports of 1850s gold prospecting at Andersons Creek make virtually no reference to the presence of the original inhabitants of the district. Nevertheless, the Woioiworung-speaking Wurundjeri clan (Yarra tribe) of the Kulin, despite being considerably decimated, still desired access to their former region. In 1852 the Aboriginal Reserve at Warrandyte—in the vicinity of today's Pound Bend, near the confluence of Andersons Creek with the Yarra—was proclaimed at the behest of William Thomas, Guardian of Aborigines, for their "protection". The presence of the "protected", and the location of their reserve, was an annoyance and inconvenience to the miners wishing to prospect at the Bend, in the bed of the river, and/or in the reserved areas thereabout. As the reserve—which had been set up as a station where the natives might receive blankets, flour, etc.—became an even more attractive magnet for the eager prospectors, the Wurundjeri sought sustenance from nearby farming communities, particularly in the Nillumbik area, where they worked for a pittance. Diane Barwick pointed out:

"When the Warrandyte district was a major goldfield during the early 1850s the Reserve was rarely occupied (by the natives), as farmers eagerly employed the able-bodied workers."

"William Thomas, unable to visit because of his Court duties (he was at that time constantly in demand as the official Woioiworung-English interpreter), requested neighbours to issue a pair of blankets annually and keep a small supply of flour, sugar and tea for the needy. But expenditure on this depot was small as the (depleted numbers of) Woioiworung workers chose to maintain their dependants..."

### Recognition for the discovery of a goldfield

Andersons Creek was only one of many Victorian districts which at that period claimed recognition as the first gold field in Victoria. To clarify the situation a select committee of the Legislative Council was appointed to examine "The Claims Made for the Discovery of Gold of Victoria". Chaired by Dr A.F.A. Greeves, it submitted early in 1854 a comprehensive report of its findings to the council. This contained a recommendation that an amount of \$4500 be divided between the more important Victorian discoverers, \$1000 each to L.J. Michel, Thomas Hiscock (Buninyong), William Campbell and James Esmond (Clunes), and \$500 to Dr Georg Bruhn for his exploration of the country generally.

The committee particularly commended the efforts of Michel's party to communicate their discoveries. It was not only the timing of their discovery, but their willingness to share the news with others that established their claim as "first publishers of the discovery of a Gold Field in the Colony of Victoria".

The reward money for Michel and the other claimants was approved by parliament on March 10, 1854. However, the government decided the rewards should be paid in instalments. The first of the recipients was to be Michel. He received his initial instalment (\$476.4s.0d.) on October 29, 1855. James Esmond had to wait until February 17, 1856 for his Clunes discovery to be rewarded. Their respective balances (\$523.16s. 0d.) were not sanctioned until June 1861.

### Revival of interest (1854-6)

Interest in the Andersons Creek area was revived in September 1854 when alluvial miners were again prospecting in the Yarra and its tributary creeks and gullies. It was through a report in the weekly Melbourne Gold Circular prepared by gold broker William Clarke on September 2, 1854, and printed in the Melbourne Morning Herald of September 4, that the first news of the 1854-6 "rush" to the Andersons Creek Diggings (now no longer called the Victoria Diggings) was reported to the general public:

"Anderson's Creek, the first Victorian Gold-Field is again coming into favour; already upwards of 200 persons are digging there, while numbers are leaving town every day to swell the number, and from the indications we may expect it to prove a valuable addition to our gold-fields."

Andersons Creek had come alive again. Some hundreds of tents, miasias, and crude shacks sprang up and the population rapidly increased. Expectations were high and in February 1855 William Clarke was able to observe that they were sometimes rewarded:

"An extraordinary instance has taken place during the week. A party obtained 23 ounces of gold in one day's



Home away from home: relaxing on the diggings.

work from the bed of the Yarra, and the same party is energetically carrying on works to turn the course of the Yarra for some distance, so as to obtain some extent of workable ground; and from the auriferous nature of the whole of the surrounding soil, no doubt the speculation will be a profitable one."

Water was an essential ingredient in alluvial mining and the proximity of the Yarra River was a boon to those miners who used its waters in their sluicing, puddling and tomming operations. But, as the Argus pointed out on January 22, 1855, the river could also be used for other purposes:

"The ingenuity of some of the miners has turned the Yarra into a motive power. Wilson's party I observed, had felled a gum-tree into the river; and to that they had attached a wooden frame, holding in its centre a water-wheel. This they communicated by a shaft, with an endless chain, to a Californian pump, and from thence ran a constant stream of water into Wilson's long tom. The whole affair struck me as a very good example of perpetual motion."

"A good deal of discussion is at present going on here on introducing puddling-machines, for which the proximity of the Yarra River offer, first-rate facilities."

The river would later be successfully utilised to operate quartz-crushing mills.

On 27 October 1855, William Clarke broke the news of significant quartz finds at Andersons Creek, and both the Age and the Herald followed with the announcement that: "We have been informed that some very rich quartz has been discovered at Anderson's Creek, though very little has been doing there in the alluvial workings. This will very likely give a new start to that country."

A month later the Argus observed that the discovery of quartz reefs had not gone unnoticed:

"Quartz mining is likely to assume a character of some importance at Anderson's Creek. During the past fortnight claims have been taken up from Specimen Hill close to the Yarra River, near Thomson's Station, to the Third Hill beyond in a southerly direction, where several rich specimens have been found. A claim which was opened last week yielded to the fortunate possessor 50 ounces of gold in six days; others are doing exceedingly well, while some are asking unheard-of prices for their claims. Where the vein was first opened, near the Yarra, it was only two inches in thickness, but as it traverses to the southward it becomes larger in size; and on the Third Hill it is seven or eight inches square."

Andersons Creek was entering a new phase of its mining history.

### Township established

Accounts of the early attempt to establish a permanent settlement in the Parish of Warrandyte were given in the Melbourne papers during the early months of 1855. With numerous shafts being sunk and tunnels driven, particularly on the First and Fourth Hills, the place was by then firmly established as a mining camp, and this period can be looked upon as the beginning of the township.

The township's development in this period is difficult to assess as the mining population, which sought both alluvial and quartz gold, was largely a floating one. Several hundred itinerant miners were working the hills and gullies from Warrandyte to the Caledonian Gold Field beyond Queenstown (now St Andrews); and like the majority of the diggers, they seldom stayed in one locality very long.

With the renewed rush—involving the arrival of families, storekeepers and tradesmen—the advent of new gold regulations (September 1854) would seem to have been timely. As a result of the new pronouncements, licences to mine were required for the periods and at the rates following: for one month—£1; three months—£2; six months—£4; 12 months—£8. Business licences for storekeepers were also required and applied as follows: for three months—£15; six months—£25; 12 months—£50.

Where sluice washing with river water was involved, this was only permitted by the special sanction of the commissioner or his assistants, who were required to guard against conferring the privilege in places where the permanent supply of water might be injured by the operation. When a party of miners had obtained permission for sluice washing, they were required to procure a written sanction from the commissioner, which had to be produced when requested to do so by a "competent authority".

Where he considered there was no injury to the public, the commissioner had discretion also to grant permission to parties of miners to undertake the working and clearing of beds of creeks or water holes. The portion of such beds of creeks or water holes allowed to each miner was 10 yards in

length, irrespective of the breadth.

Licences took effect from the date of issue, and all persons who wished to mine or conduct business on arrival at the goldfields had to acquire a licence and produce it whenever demanded by any "authorised person".

However, despite this litany of requirements to which the respective quartz miners, alluvial sluicers, shopkeepers and tradespeople, were required to conform, the Melbourne Morning Herald on February 6, 1855 observed that provision for officialdom at Andersons Creek, at least to that stage, had been entirely overlooked:

"There is no Commissioner, no Police, and no Licence Fee; and there is a certain amount of robbery. Many horses have been stolen, and a tent was a few days ago cut open and some gold and other things taken off. The diggers give various accounts of their success, but are very chary in letting any one know exactly what they are doing. We heard some conversation about 16 ounces as the produce of a day's work in one hole. And a seven-pound nugget has been found in the neighbourhood."

"The people seem contented and happy, and there is amongst them a very large proportion of women and children. They are supplied with provisions by about a dozen small stores. And they have, in the Yarra, a never-failing supply of water for every purpose."

Thus unlike the rigid administrative control maintained at other goldfields, at Andersons Creek there were neither gold commissioners, troopers nor mining surveyors resident in the district to enforce the regulations. This allowed the more influential miners in the Warrandyte district to act as organisers of a vigilante-style action group and to assume "control" of situations that they considered were "unacceptable". They viewed non-Europeans with suspicion, and in the absence of organised law and order the miners steadfastly refused to accept the presence of Chinese miners in the district. The Melbourne Morning Herald on March 7, 1855 described one such occasion:

"John Chinaman has cast a longing eye towards the gold fields of Anderson's Creek. A few days since the residents were disagreeably surprised by the appearance of about 40 of the race who had wended their way to the golden spot to try their luck."

"Knowing the annoyance which the presence of these men had created at other diggings, a consultation was held by about a hundred of the more respectable class of miners, and it was determined that at any hazard the Chinamen should not be permitted to commence operations or offered any encouragement to remain upon the spot."

"Steps of a perfectly harmless character were taken in accordance with resolution, and the consequence was, as our informant states that after a few hours, the Chinamen disappeared."

(Reprinted by permission of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria.)

Warrandyte's gold saga is available in booklet form

## WARRANDYTE'S PRECIOUS COMMODITY

GOLDEN DAYS AMONGST THE GOLDEN WATTLE

BY MURRAY HOUGHTON

For sale at the Warrandyte Historical Society Museum

Yarra Street, Warrandyte

\$5.50



# Fondly remembered in Warrandyte

**N**ORMA WEBB, a well-known former resident of Warrandyte, died on April 27, aged 74 years. Long-term locals will remember that Norma Webb, with her husband Keith, owned and managed the Four Square grocery store in Yarra Street, now occupied by Warrandyte Cellars.

Born in Wagga Wagga, NSW, on September 13, 1928, Norma Gladys was the third child of Lesley James and Nellie Christina Hopkins. With older siblings Irene and Roy, the family later moved to Merbein before relocating to Melbourne, where Norma worked as a bookkeeper/secretary.

She met Keith Webb, a serviceman from World War 2 who had served in New Guinea, on a blind date. They were married in March, 1951.

Norma and Keith began their married life in Rosanna where they raised their three children—Margaret, Ian and Geoffrey. During these years they holidayed at Rosebud, graduating to water skiing holidays on the Murray or Lake Culluloraine and finally many houseboat vacations along the Murray River.

The family has memories of Norma's fear of the water, and how she would not enter their speedboat without the biggest, safest "Michelin-man" type lifejacket, even in six inches of water. She never plucked up the courage to water ski, but was able to stand on the river bank, giving amazingly helpful advice

to new learners.

Against strong advice from both their parents, Norma and Keith took the plunge, buying the small Four Square grocery store in Warrandyte, which they operated successfully during the 1960s and 1970s. During their time in the grocery, they had the store renovated three times, adjusting to modern trends. One of Norma's areas of responsibility was keeping the books. This is where she excelled, and her attention to detail, professional approach and strong

business acumen enabled her partnership with Keith to result in a successful small business.

While in Warrandyte, they made close friends with quite a few folk through their involvement in the community, in particular in the Lions Club of Warrandyte.

They sold the store and moved to Wonga Park for a time, then back to Warrandyte, to Tills Drive, where they built a new house. Once their responsibilities to their three children were over, they sold the house and moved on to their next venture—growing grapes in Merbein.

During this time, Norma began her earlier battle with cancer. But she moved on from this trauma with a renewed enthusiasm for life, taking up painting, becoming a Girl Guides commissioner, all during the period when they sold the grocery store, built a new house, then decided to become "blockies".

While in Merbein, Norma and Keith joined in many community activities, including the Uniting Church. Sadly, Keith's death brought a sudden end to their Merbein experience and Norma packed up by herself and settled in Ringwood, to be near her family and become more closely involved in their day-to-day lives. The family always appreciated her selflessness and understood that she had left behind dear friends and a love of the Merbein area.

Once more Norma joined in with many local groups, in-



cluding Probus, Ringwood Uniting Church, Doncaster/Templestowe Legacy Widows Club, the Blackburn Bible Study and Singles group, a book club, and others. The Legacy auditor commented that he had never seen a better-kept set of books than when Norma Webb was keeping them. Gardening became a major love.

Norma's mother died soon after she moved to Ringwood, a tragic and disappointing event as Norma had anticipated being able to spend time with her one surviving and dearly-loved parent. She also lost her brother Roy, whom she greatly missed.

Five years ago, Norma's courageous battle with cancer on the liver was to begin. During the seemingly countless chemotherapy and radiotherapy treatments and hospital stays, Norma's strong will, no-nonsense approach, determination to move forward and courage impressed her family and friends. She never complained and always selflessly considered the impact of her illness on others.

Norma Webb will be fondly missed by many, not least by her numerous Warrandyte friends.

*(Based on the eulogy delivered at Norma's funeral.)*

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Webb's Four Square store advertisement, published in the first issue of the Diary.

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# Return of the toys

The Warrandyte Toy Library, previously located at Wyena Pony Club is now operating from the rear hall of the Warrandyte Community Centre. There is ample parking at the rear of the centre. This is accessed from Webb Street. The toy library will be open from 10am to 11.30am on Wednesdays and Saturdays. On Wednesdays, all borrowings must be completed by 11.20 as the hall is used for a class immediately after. The toy library is a community organisation run by a committee of volunteers for the benefit of families in Warrandyte and surrounding areas. Enquiries can be made by contacting Sue Watson on 9844 4034, Alison O'Toole on 9846 4461 or Julie Willis on 9844 4237.



On the move: the toy library has relocated to the Warrandyte Community Centre.

## Mums

"Time Out for Mums" is an open and friendly group for women with children to experience rejuvenation. It is organised by the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House, providing a safe place to relax and unwind and assistance with strategies to help you find space for yourself and to cope with stress and tension. The program, facilitated by Mary Chandler, is on Tuesdays from 10am to 12noon. Cost is \$3 per session. For bookings phone 9844 1839. Childcare is available for children over 12 months.

## Poets

The bush poets have arrived in Warrandyte! On the first Sunday of each month there will be a bush poets gathering at 2pm in the upstairs room of the Grand Hotel in Yarra Street. The event is organised by a group of the Australian Bush Poets Association. Their aim is to introduce the public to a good afternoon of family entertainment. A variety of poets attend and participation from the audience is welcomed. Folk singers and musicians are also encouraged to partake in the afternoon bash. For further information call Anne Roubin on 9925 5149.

## AGM

The Warrandyte Historical Society's annual general meeting for 2003 will be held on Sunday, July 15 at 2pm at the Museum in the Old Post Office in Yarra Street. Guest speaker will be Betty Barker talking about "Historical Knickers". Afternoon tea will be served. All welcome.

## Award

Applications are being taken for the Christie Lawrence and Luke Mayall Memorial Award for 2003. This will close on June 30. The award this year will be made to a young person working in the performing arts. It is available to applicants between the ages of 18 and 25 who live in Warrandyte, Park Orchards



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.

or surrounding areas. Applicants will be assessed for their eligibility on the recommendations of an expert panel and will be announced in November. Phone Greg Lawrence on 9844 2498 or Phyl Swindley on 9879 9843 for applications.

## Prayer

Warrandyte churches are combining for a service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The service will be held at St Gerards Catholic Church in Warrandyte on Sunday, June 15 at 7pm.

## Trees

Australians are being asked to organise tree-planting sites for National Tree Day on Sunday, July 27. Organised by Planet Ark in partnership with Toyota and AMP Foundation, last year's event saw 225,000 people plant over two million trees at 3000 sites around Australia. Schools will have their own special Tree Day on Friday, July 25. Residents interested in being involved can call Greening Australia on 1300 88 5000. Backyard Blitz's Jamie Durie and Olivia Newton-John, the co-founder of Tree Day are fronting this year's event.

## Dance

The next South Warrandyte Social Dance will be held in the South Warrandyte Hall in Hall Road on Saturday, June 14 at 8pm. Call 9729 8192 for further information.

## Probus

The Probus Club of Warrandyte and Park Orchards meet on the second Monday of each month. The club has interesting speakers at each meeting and runs such interest groups as book discussion, computer, walking and games. They also organise trips, recently going to Merimbula and Canberra or closer to home to the Yarra Glen races. They would love you to come along as a guest and decide if you wish to join. Ring Val Spargo on 9844 3345 for further information.

## Platypus

The next Environmental Seminar, to be held in the Function Room, Club Warrandyte, 120 Yarra Street, Warrandyte, will

## G & S spectacular

Park Players (pictured above) are presenting the highly amusing comic opera "Patience" by Gilbert and Sullivan from June 13 to June 21 at the Warrandyte High School Theatre, corner of Alexander Road and Warrandyte Road. "Patience" is a delightful musical experience set in Edwardian England with an innocent milkmaid, 20 lovesick maidens and lots of men in tights. It is being directed by Rosemary Chapple. Park Players is a community theatre group based in Park Orchards and providing an opportunity for talented locals to have fun performing musical comedies. For tickets call Kathy on 9876 4646.

## Theatre

Eltham Little Theatre is presenting "Lend me a Tenor", a comedy by Ken Ludwig, directed by Shirley Symons, from July 3 to July 19, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8pm with a matinee on Sunday, July 13 at 2pm. Performances are at the Eltham Performing Arts Centre, Main Road, Research. Tickets, \$16 and \$14 concession, can be booked through 9437 1574.

## Sculptures

"Vessels of Hope" is the title of an exhibition of sculptures in wood by Foon Sham on show at the Manningham Gallery, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster from June 12 to July 5. Foon

be on the platypus. It will be on Thursday, July 3 commencing at 7.30pm. The speaker is Geoff Williams, director of the Australian Platypus Conservancy, previously director of Healesville sanctuary and assistant director of Taronga zoo.

## Seniors

SAMS (Social Activities for Manningham Seniors), in partnership with Manningham Indoor Sports Centre, is holding a Multicultural Leisure Expo aimed at promoting an inclusive community. It will be held on Friday, June 27 from 9.30am to 2pm at the Manningham DISC, 360 Springvale Road, Donvale. The action-packed, fun-filled multicultural program includes dancing, sporting activities, community information and craft displays. It is suggested you wear comfortable clothing and flat footwear. All Manningham residents and members of newly arrived communities are especially encouraged to attend. Cost is a gold coin donation. RSVP by June 20 if you wish to attend by ringing 9841 5044.

## Renasant

The Renasant College of Intuitive Sciences operates from 143 Research-Warrandyte Road, Warrandyte. They have classes in oi gong practice on Monday mornings and every second Wednesday evening. Public healing, kinesiology, chromo-therapy and reiki are also held on Mondays. A spiritual development circle for healing and personal development is held on alternate Wednesday evenings. Newly commenced



Sham is a sculptor based in Washington, USA and is currently professor of art at the University of Maryland. Part of the proceeds of this exhibition will go to the Chinese Cancer Society of Victoria.

## Auditions

Eltham Little Theatre are auditioning for "Waking Eve" by Robert Hewett on Sunday, July 6 at 7.30pm at the Eltham Performing Arts Centre, Main Road, Research. For information call Lynne on 9432 4137 or Rachel on 9431 0070.

classes in traditional Japanese reiki for beginners and masters are being held on Thursday evenings. Call the centre on 9844 5888 for further information.

## Swimming

Vicswim are now taking enrolments for programs held over the July and September holidays. Participants are offered one five-day program during each holiday period. Each child will receive five intensive 40-minute lessons during each program. Brochures can be obtained from participating venues, primary schools, kindergartens and community health centres. For further information contact the Vicswim office on 9761 3722.

## Anniversary

Christmas Hills Primary School will celebrate their 130th anniversary in 2004. They are seeking past students, old photos, memorabilia or anything else relating to the school. Please send to Christmas Hills Primary School, 1409 Eltham-Yarra Glen Road, Christmas Hills, 3775 or phone Liz on 9712 0414.

## Do Care

Volunteers are needed to spend a couple of hours each week visiting an older person or person with a disability living in the community. Phone Do Care on 9762 5211 for details.

## Newsletters

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

**Alan Vitiritti**  
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# Supporting the centre

Pictures by SANDY BURGOYNE and JOCK MACNEISH

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

**T**HE creation of the Warrandyte Community Centre Supporters' Group has seen a radical shift in how the centre is managed.

Formed about two and a half years ago to prevent commercialisation of the centre, the group has gone from being landlords of the building to being a committee eager for local people to use the facility. And according to group president Jock Macneish, it's a move that's been "phenomenally successful".

"Our task was much larger, broader and much more difficult than just being managers of the building," Mr Macneish said. "The real task was community development—how do we allow the community to develop and how could we promote people coming together and doing things?"

"This new approach has changed everything, right down to the way we answer the phone. We don't look at prospective users in a landlord way but we try to facilitate and ask 'how can we help?'"

The centre was created by the community, for the community. A plaque in the foyer states: "Following the discovery of gold at Warrandyte in 1851, this area was known as Specimen Gully. Shops and a garage were built here, but by 1980 the site faced redevelopment. Resident action led to the City of Doncaster and Templestowe pur-

chasing the land for public use. Local groups occupied the old buildings and following extensive planning and consultation between the city, the Shire of Eltham and the community, the councils combined to build this centre during 1990-91."

In 1992 the building received the Charles Joseph La Trobe Design for Living award.

There are five permanent tenants in the centre: Manningham Youth Services, the Lions Club opportunity shop, the *Diary*, Information Warrandyte and Warrandyte Neighbourhood House. Eight regular hirers run dance classes, martial arts, yoga, meditation and other activities and there is space for 200 people for casual requirements such as weddings, parties and funerals. Tenants pay similar rates to those usually offered by non-profit organisations.

"One young lady and her mum quite recently enquired about using the centre for an 'after party after party' (sic) from midnight to 5am but loud music is not too neighbourly. However, we did have a 48-hour vigil where they hummed hymns and didn't wake anyone."

"One other person tried to move into the centre and even had his mail redirected there until we told him it couldn't be done."

The community centre costs about \$50,000-\$70,000 pa to run of which the supporters' group contributes about \$5000. The building is owned by Manningham City Council whose officers Mr Macneish says have

## VILLAGE LIFE

given the centre "unbelievable support".

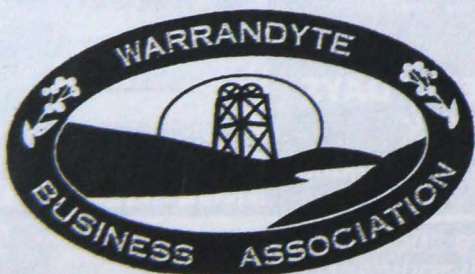
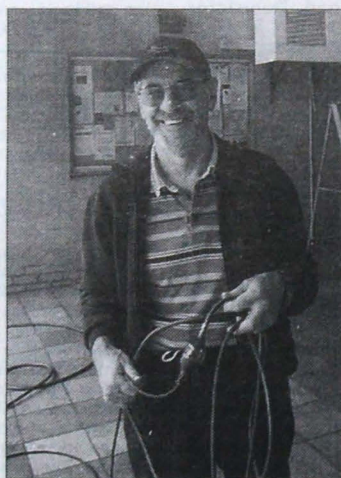
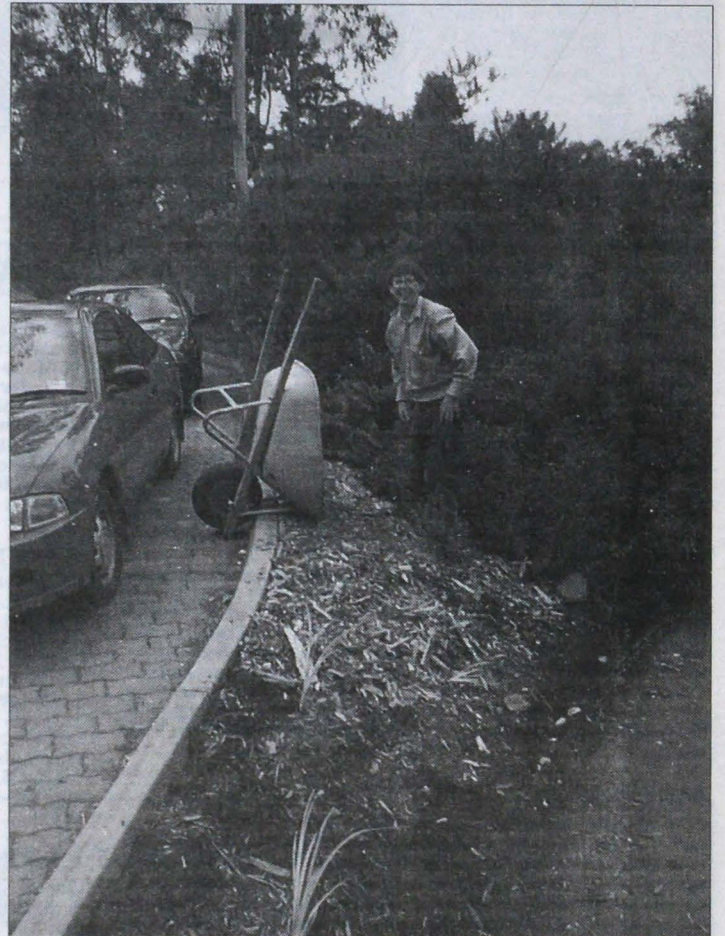
"Council officers pay prompt and diligent attention to every matter, suggesting ideas or solutions and their advice and help seems limitless, whether it's about rubbish, building maintenance, gardening supplies or security," Mr Macneish says.

"Two committee members per month go down once a day to listen to answer-phone messages, remove rubbish, and deal with the mail. We get 500-700 messages per year. We're very relaxed but very committed."

As well as the permanently-let space, there is a hall, two smaller meeting rooms, a large foyer, kitchen and a kitchenette. The centre offers every facility but rubbish disposal. "I take out the rubbish because everyone else thinks it's someone else's job," said Mr Macneish.

"It's not our centre, belonging to the supporters' group; it's yours, the people of Warrandyte. We want you to treat it as an extension of your house, available to use. It needs TLC just like the space around your home. We are lucky to have such a wonderful facility with a safe and secure space in lovely surroundings."

"The building itself is a tool; a tool operating at the heart of the Warrandyte community."



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WARRANDYTE — A GREAT PLACE TO WORK AND LIVE



# Our girls setting the pace

By TONY OLIVER

Warrandyte Redbacks Basketball Association's Under-19 A-grade girls are setting the benchmark at the elite level in the EDJBA winter season.

With the formal grading phase over and all of Warrandyte's 45 teams slotted in, the Under-19s met Bulleen on May 31 and put in another stylish performance to win 42-29.

The Redbacks were weakened by the unavailability of a number of regular players, but Anna Middleton and Simone Gemmell filled in from the Under-17 and Emma Collins also made herself available.

Warrandyte's game was built around controlled defensive rebounding, which set up a high number of quick transition opportunities for fast guard Gemmell.

The defensive efforts was led by "talls" Bec Parsons and Sam Smith, who along with Collins were blocking the Bulleen avenue to goal.

Offensively, Warrandyte were swinging the ball well, giving opportunities for Middleton and Jess Kemp to drive and score from inside the key.

Melinda Walsham was strong in defence and had great vision and control on many occasions in offence to set up other players for scoring opportunities.

Elsewhere Warrandyte's Under-17 girls had earned promotion to A-grade after being untroubled in the grading phase in B-grade.

The standard of A-grade was brought home when the girls faced the strong and robust Balwyn side. Although competi-

## Under-19s call the shots at elite level

tive, the Redbacks were defeated by 42-25 after trailing 25-13 at the break.

Warrandyte are still without the injured Stephanie Simpson and missed her drive and determination.

But they were never able to match the more physical Balwyn side, who over the years have had their measure.

Top scorers for Warrandyte were Breanna Thomas with seven, followed by Jana Sadek and Middleton with five each and Gemmell with four.

Despite the loss, new coach Ann Mulcahy was encouraged by her charges, who will only benefit from the higher-standard competition.

Also at A-grade level, the Under-15 girls coached by Nick Peters were outclassed by Eltham in a disappointing performance and Bill Bottomley's Under-13s are still struggling.

The Under-13s are a talented side who have yet to jell as a team. Top scorers in the 34-29 loss to Park Orchards were Bonnie Jones (six), Madeline Smith (five) and Caitlin Little and Fiona Rennie, with four each.

The Under-9 boys coached by Damian Arsenis continue to impress.

At their latest outing they easily accounted for Balwyn, Matthew Patroni scoring critical

baskets late in the game as the opposition were making a late challenge.

Jacob Ballard again topped the scoring in a side that will be a strong force in coming seasons.

Their only loss so far has been a one-point defeat by Bulleen and they have easily beaten Eltham.

Their next major challenge will be against Nunawading, but Arsenis is confident of success there.

Arsenis' other side, the Under-11 boys, broke through for their first win in a close encounter with Park Orchards.

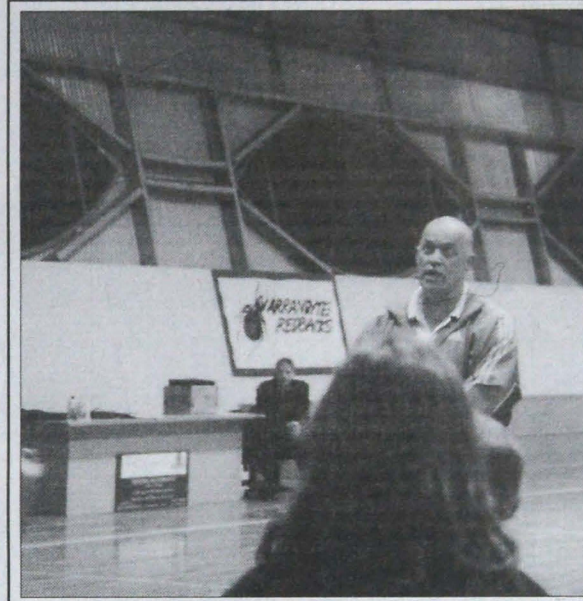
Hopefully, this will be the turning point for this team, who have the talent to do well in A-grade.

Another top Warrandyte side starting to show much promise are the Under-15 boys coached by Gavin Whitmore.

Their latest outing was a narrow defeat by Balwyn, 35-32 after trailing 16-15 at half-time.

There was nothing in it all game, with Warrandyte grabbing the lead in the last seconds when Shane Holloway scored twice from the free throw line. However, Balwyn managed to score twice at the death to carry the day.

Poor shooting from the free throw line cost the Redbacks the game, Holloway's points



## Coaches' coach

They call him the coaches' coach — and Ray Tomlinson certainly has all the credentials.

The three-time basketball Olympian was assistant coach of the Australian women's team at the 1988 Olympics, has coached the Melbourne Tigers in the WNBL, the national Under-20 women's team to gold, silver and bronze medals and the Melbourne Tigers Under-14s to a national title.

And he's in Warrandyte by special request coaching the Redbacks coaches.

Tomlinson is pictured here imparting his wisdom at the Warrandyte Community Sports Centre.

about the only success from the charity stripe.

By contrast, Balwyn were scoring close to 100 per cent from the line.

Best from Warrandyte in a strong performance under the basket were Josh Collins and Hamish Hosking.

In a high-scoring game, the Under-19 boys lost a close one against Bulleen 43-40. Jarrod Gilson and Chris Staggard played well, but a number of other players were below their best in a relatively undisciplined game.

## Three more for the road

Three Redback teams were in tournament action on the Queen's Birthday weekend.

Nick Peters' Under-16 girls travelled to Ballarat and were 36-31 winners over Knox in their first game.

The later game was against South Australian side Norwood. Again Warrandyte started well but Norwood led 21-20 at the break and prevailed by a point.

Warrandyte's other teams were playing in a big Nunawading tournament. Peter Clough's Under-16 boys easily accounted for Melbourne Tigers 40-20 and with a walkover were likely to at least make the semi-finals.

The Under-14 girls coached by Bill Bottomley were on court on Saturday for three games for one win and two narrow losses. Final details of the two tournaments in next month's *Diary*.

# Business as usual for Redbacks

## Locals shine by night

By JUDY GREEN

Four Warrandyte Tennis Club teams were successful in the recent grand finals of the Lilydale and District Night Tennis Association competition.

In the women's section played on Monday nights, the Section 2 Golden Girls (Maree Barnes, Cheryl Clark, Rita Down, Carmen Hill, Maureen Jenkins, Sue Middleton) comfortably defeated Topspins from Parkwood.

The Tuesday night men's competition resulted in a win for Warrandyte's Section 3 team The Coldies. The team of Paul French, Paul Lynch, Cameron McBain, Paul Reid and Tony Silva defeated Plus Forties from Mooroolbark in a close match.

Two Warrandyte teams were successful in the mixed competition played on Wednesday nights.

Section 2 combination F-Troop narrowly defeated East Ringwood's Knick-Knacks. Team members were Ron Frolley, Mark Hill, Ian Murray, Bruce Turner, Maree Barnes, Cheryl Clark, Maureen Jenkins and Sue Middleton.

Z-Pennant (Brendan Hogan, Tim Kleeberg, Tim Synnot, Melissa Cooper, Nicole Hogan and Wendy Synnot) defeated Leaner and Meaner from Burnt Bridge in Section 9.

It was this team's 11th appearance in a grand final and their first win.

● Intraclub tennis is played



Alison Trotter and Nick Lawrence, winners of the junior Masters.

on Monday and Thursday nights at the Warrandyte courts.

This is an ungraded competition with matches played in a friendly social atmosphere and club are seeking new players for both these nights.

Anyone interested should contact secretary Wendy Synnot on 9844 3377.

● Two local teams made it to the finals of the Ferntree Gully and District Tennis Association midweek women's competition played on Thursdays, but both were defeated.

Section 9 lost by just three games to Park Orchards while Section 14 went down to Hoddles Creek by seven games.

● The more advanced of Warrandyte's juniors players

took part in an invitational Masters event in May, with wins going to Nick Lawrence in the boys event and Alison Trotter in the girls.

Lawrence defeated Jarrod Hodgson in three sets, 4-6, 6-4, 6-2, and Alison Trotter defeated Jessica Travassoros in straight sets, 6-3, 6-2.

● At the club's annual general meeting held last month, Mark Bence and Wendy Synnot were re-elected president and secretary respectively.

James Razzi took over the treasurer's position previously held by Barry Dick.

A presentation was made to Pauline Dusting, who retired after eight years as editor of the club's newsletter.

By TONY OLIVER and IAN WOOD

There was no holiday for Warrandyte Basketball Association's Friday night teams over the Queen's Birthday weekend. It was business as usual.

Among those in action were Ian Wood's top-of-the-ladder Under-14 boys, who were given quite a fright by bottom-placed Coburg.

Coburg came out firing, playing nothing like a team who had not yet won a game, and led 22-18 at the break.

Although Warrandyte had a lot of the ball, they had let themselves down with a low shooting percentage and loose defence.

For the second half, the challenge was to play aggressive and tight defence and the Redbacks had etched a two-point lead by the five-minute mark.

David Wood, Gavin Yates and Peter Whittingham led as guards with strong work on the ball, allowing Tom Fitzpatrick and Julian Philippou to pick up a number of steals.

Josh Blakey was holding Coburg's tall centre but a switch in position after a foul brought Ryan Holloway on to that player and he shut him down on the way to a 53-46 Warrandyte victory.

Holloway finished with 13 points, eight of them in the second half, and five rebounds. But the stand-out Redback was Ian McLeod with 12 second-half points for a total of 16 and 12 rebounds. McLeod was also prominent in a number of assists.

Elsewhere, there were triumphs and tragedies in the Under-12s.

Lorraine Parfitt's Under-12 Metro 1 girls secured top spot with a 34-27 win over previous leaders Bulleen in a highlight game at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre.

The first half was tight, but a late determined push saw Warrandyte take an 18-12 lead into the break.

The Redbacks were without a number of key players but strong games by Lisa Rennie and Myka Johnston were holding the taller Bulleen players.

Bulleen started the second phase the better and led 22-21 just inside the last 10 minutes. But Warrandyte tightened up the defence and were able to apply sustained pressure. Both Johnston and Rennie scored critical late goals and when Carly Bensch scored with just 45 seconds to go, Warrandyte were home.

Courtney Petalas led the points, but a key feature of the win was that the scoring was shared around among all players, with solid contributions from Harriet Rappel and Britany Parsons.

This Warrandyte team must now be firming favourites to take out the Metro 1 flag.

Shock of the night was the loss by the previously undefeated Under-12 Metro 2 boys, who went down by nine points to seventh-placed Kilsyth at Lilydale.

Coach Damian Arsenis was at a loss to explain the form reversal. "We had a reasonable amount of court possession, but could not get the ball into the ring," he said.

Best for Warrandyte was Daniel Tester, who was particularly strong in defence.

Winners playing away were the Redbacks' second Under-14 team, who easily accounted for Whittlesea 42-20, but the Under-16 and Under-18 girls sides were both on the losing end of tight games at home.

The Under-16s, coached by Nick Peters, started slowly against fourth-placed Knox and were down 20-9 at the break.

The second half was a turnaround, with Warrandyte applying pressure both in defence and on the scoreboard to trail by just three points with five minutes to go when Julie Rennie scored from the key.

Knox replied, but tall guard Amy Caudry got that one back with a fine outside shot.

Time was running out for Warrandyte, however, as Knox held up the ball, forcing desperate tactics from the Redbacks. The visitors were able to capitalise on gaps in defence to run out winners 33-26.

Top scorers for Warrandyte were Nicole Dadswell (nine), Amy Caudry and Sarah Pattison with five each and Andrea Peters (four).

Sam Smith's Under-18 Metro 2 girls met Hawthorn and were weakened by the absence of Emma Collins with the flu.

The Redbacks led 17-14 in the first half, but Hawthorn were able to capitalise from the free throw line and went into the break leading 22-21.

The second half was similar to the first, with Warrandyte establishing a lead only to be pegged back.

The Redback girls came back strongly in the final minutes, with Melissa Pritchard scoring to narrow the margin to five points, but Hawthorn replied and went on to win 46-39.

In an earlier game, Warrandyte's second Under-12 girls side looked capable of causing an upset when trailing the visiting Eltham by 11-10 at the break.

Unfortunately, the second half belonged to Eltham who were able to dominate with their taller players.

Warrandyte's only score in the second half came from Kathryn Brown with a sweet outside shot, but Eltham ran out 27-12 winners.

The Under-20 boys went down 60-53 in a free-scoring game against Eltham.

There was nothing in it in the first half, Warrandyte losing the lead only in the last minute and trailing 29-24 at the break.

Both teams were playing good basketball, but a series of serious fouls midway through the second half caused the Redbacks to lose focus and they were never able to recover.

Best for Warrandyte were Luke Drake, Michael Whittingham and Gavan Hennessy.



# Souths spruce up for big one

By LEE TINDALE

Manningham council is to substantially improve Colman Park, in Croydon Road, to pave the way for South Warrandyte Cricket Club's entry into the top level of competition.

The Hawks earned the right to play in the Ringwood District Cricket Association's elite Chandler Shield competition by winning third and second division in the past two seasons.

But the RDCA considered Colman Park not up to Division 1 standard.

After lengthy negotiations, council has agreed to upgrade and enlarge the playing surface and renovate the clubrooms as part of a program to improve what is already a very picturesque sporting venue.

"We're delighted and we're very grateful to the council," SWCC president Barry Williams told the *Diary*.

"The 2003-04 season is going to be a very big one for us after languishing for so long in the lower grades.

"We have a new coach, we've picked up a few good new players, we're rebuilding our junior section and we believe we'll be a force in the Chandler Shield."

South Warrandyte have indeed "come from nowhere". Virtual nonentities until two seasons ago, they turned it around largely by enticing former junior Scott Brasher back to the club as captain-coach.

Brasher took the Hawks unbeaten through the 2001-02 Newey Shield season and led them to the premiership last

season in the Wilkins Shield.

Brasher has stepped down as coach but will continue to play in the first eleven and will oversee the junior development program.

The new coach — who has been there before — is Bob Neagle, father of first eleven players Jeremy and Ben. Neagle senior coached South Ringwood in the Chandler Shield last season.

"We'll be fielding five senior sides next season and four junior teams, two Under-10s and two Under-12s," said Williams. "We're rebuilding and expanding our junior section and Scott (Brasher) will be in charge of that."

"We've already recruited a few well-credentialed senior players, including all-rounders Brent Hopkins and Dan Turner."

A new-look executive this season comprises Williams, joint secretaries Paul Cummings and Chris Williams, treasurer Peter Debenham and livewire social secretary Nick Barrett.

"Nick has organised a wine and cheese night at the Warrandyte Community Centre on Saturday, July 5, and we look forward to a very good night," said Williams.

Tickets are available from Barrett on 0438 227798.

"We are also compiling a detailed history of South Warrandyte Cricket Club and I'd love to hear from anyone who has any historical information or photographs."

Williams can be contacted on 9876 4020.



Madison Denholm in action during the recent national BMX championships.

## Madie's world on wheels

By LEE TINDALE

Madison Denholm is a young man going places in a hurry.

Nine-year-old "Madie", of Webb Street, raced his BMX for the first time just four months ago — and next month he'll be competing in the world championships in Perth.

Talk about a meteoric rise! Indicative of his talent (and the speed of his Elf machine) were five firsts and the final at a recent meeting at Bendigo. He also won the raffle, scoring a brand new helmet.

A Grade 3 student at Andersons Creek Primary School, Maddie is a member of the Park Orchards BMX Club and trains four times a week at various tracks.

"I love to race at big events," said the boy who did well at the recent Australian championships in Adelaide and won the right to ride for his country in Perth.

"My aim is to be No 1 in Victoria and to do well at the world titles and my favourite riders are Tony Harvey and Michael Fenwick."

Warrandyte wishes Madie the very best in Perth.

# Dytes' new Broome

Warrandyte Cricket Club are expected to appoint Ian Broome coach for the 2003-04 RDCA season.

Broome, assistant coach of District club Carlton last season, was introduced to last month's annual general meeting. Re-elected president Robert White said he expected the appointment would be confirmed at a committee meeting later this month.

"Ian will be a great acquisition for the club," White said. "He started his junior cricket at Warrandyte before going on to play District cricket with Collingwood and league and country cricket in England."

"He also played a number of seasons with Warrandyte's senior team in the mid-80s and won the club champion award."

White said Broome would coach both the junior and senior sections of the club and would be available to play. He returned to Warrandyte two seasons ago to play in the

club's veterans team and took on a specialist coaching role with the juniors.

"This is Ian's strength," said White. "He has great rapport with junior cricketers and we believe he will further strengthen that important link between the junior and senior sections of the club."

"We are particularly keen for all the Under-16 players from last season who are no longer eligible for junior ranks to join the seniors and I believe Ian is just the person we need to make this transition for the younger players so much easier."

White said Broome was also dedicated to improving the on-field performance of the senior team and their return to the elite Chandler Shield competition.

Warrandyte will again play in the Wilkins Shield, the RDCA's Second Division, in the new season.

The annual meeting returned White for

his third term as president. Brian Cleaves was returned as secretary and Ann Pascoe as treasurer.

Lee Dehmel will continue as junior coordinator and the committee includes John Chapman, Matthew Chapman, Adam Beardall, Greg Creber, Daniel Wellesley and David Mooney.

White said the club were making an early appeal for new players.

"Obviously, we want to make the new season a successful one," he said. "There is an open invitation for any cricketer to join us at Warrandyte."

"We have great facilities and our tradition goes back almost 150 years. I would encourage any cricketer living in Warrandyte to come along and play for his local club."

Anyone wishing to join Warrandyte can contact chairman of selectors John Chapman on 9844 3058.

## Football's Battle of the Babes



### WARRANDYTE FOOTBALL CLUB VS PUB POWER

Under lights at the Warrandyte Recreation Reserve  
5.30pm Saturday June 14  
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- Bar and canteen open ● Monster raffle on the night

All proceeds to Kids With Cancer

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# Bloods' party over!

By LEE TINDALE

Warrandyte Football Club's EFL Third Division premiership aspirations returned to the real world with quite a thud at Doncaster East on May 31.

The Bloods turned in their worst performance in eight rounds so far to succumb to the competition leaders by 70 points — 18.14 (122) to 7.10 (52).

As that scoreline would suggest, many Warrandyte players who had seen the team to five wins and a draw from the previous seven games were well down on form.

And East Doncaster, last season's narrowly-beaten grand finalists coming off their first defeat of the new season, were relentless on a home ground they traditionally play very well.

The result dropped the Bloods a rung on the ladder to fourth — a game and a half ahead of fifth-placed Mooroolbark — but the Queen's Birthday holiday recess offered them a fortnight in which to regroup to host Nunawading at home on June 14 to complete the first half of the home-and-away season.

They could reasonably be expected to beat Nunawading — eighth on the ladder with three wins from their eight games — and start the run in to the finals at 6-2-1.

That would be in keeping with coach Scott Hunter's pre-season projections.

"I set a target of six wins in the first half of the season," Hunter said. "If we can get over Nunawading, it will be six-and-a-half, so we'll be on target."

"The week off won't do us any harm either," he said. "It will freshen us up physically and mentally."

Hunter rued a missed shot at goal early in the last term against Doncaster East.

"We kicked the first goal of the quarter, then we kicked a point," he said. "A goal would have got us back to within four goals and anything could have happened."

"We might even have gone on to win it or at least make a real game of it. As it was, we got pumped."

A gusting wind favouring the Doncaster Road end was always going to impact upon the game. Warrandyte had first use of it, but the home



SPORT

side immediately grabbed the initiative.

A snapped goal three minutes in opened the scoring and it took seven minutes for the Bloods to get that one back, Liam Riley making full use of the breeze after receiving from Guy Taylor in a packed defence.

The hosts regained the lead with a goal two minutes later and two more in quick succession had the Warrandyte faithful surveying a forlorn scoreboard — 4.0 to 1.2 with a little more than half the first term elapsed.

Riley cheered them up with a goal from a free on the boundary and when ruckman Craig Dick pulled down a screamer in the square the deficit was just four points.

The last thing we needed was a Doncaster East goal on the siren, but that's exactly what happened — a long bomb making light of the wind for a 5.1-3.3 scoreline at the first change.

Hunter reminded his troops in the huddle that they would have to "dig super deep" against the wind, but the Bloods would add just three behinds in the second term while the competition's pace-setters helped themselves to 4.4 to lead by 35 points, 9.5 (59) to 3.6 (24) at the interval.

Doncaster East had already stamped their name on this game. They are a quality side with plenty of muscle, plenty of height and plenty of pace to go with it.

Warrandyte never shirked an issue, but they were doing a great deal of the chasing and fighting a losing battle to cover loose men.

The optimists among the Warrandyte brigade said maybe it was just one of those days.

It certainly wasn't one of those days when the bounce of the ball favoured the Bloods — but they might have thought more of the ball and less of the brawl at the 17-minute mark of the quarter, allowing three opponents aloo from the scrap on Doncaster East half-forward flank to pass the ball leisurely downfield into an undefended

goal. Things were only going to get worse for the Bloods in the second half.

Two home goals in the first seven minutes of the third term realistically put the game way out of Warrandyte's reach and now it was a matter of salvaging respectability if we could.

But Doncaster East's defence was virtually bulletproof, so much so that prolific Bloods full-forward Stuart Wynd — a runaway leader on the the



Scott Hunter addresses his troops. Season's on target, says the coach.

## 50 years up for Twos

Reminiscences will flow thick and fast on July 12 when Warrandyte Football Club celebrate 50 years of Reserves competition.

The occasion will be a buffet luncheon at the clubrooms before the home game against Upper Ferntree Gully.

"We have contacted as many former players — Reserves or otherwise — as we can trace and we're hoping for a big roll-up from near and far," said past players committee chairman Lawrie Sloan.

"But you don't have to have played to be involved. Anyone is welcome."

"There'll be no guest speakers or anything like that. We just want the guests to unwind, reminisce and enjoy the day."

Tickets are \$20 and Sloan (9876 0850) or Andrew Rodgers (0411 519671) would like to hear from you.

goal. Things were only going to get worse for the Bloods in the second half.

Two home goals in the first seven minutes of the third term realistically put the game way out of Warrandyte's reach and now it was a matter of salvaging respectability if we could.

But Doncaster East's defence was virtually bulletproof, so much so that prolific Bloods full-forward Stuart Wynd — a runaway leader on the the

competition's goalkicking list — was not yet on the board and would stay that way.

Warrandyte's first goal since the 22nd minute mark of the first quarter came 24 minutes into the third, courtesy of defender Adam Williamson, who received from veteran ruckman Kimberley O'Connor (playing his first senior game for the season) and kicked a boomer.

And on-baller Matt Wood gave us something to take into

the last change by threading one through from the boundary after the siren.

Respect — from each other and from the opposition — was a keynote of Hunter's three-quarter time address as we looked down the barrel of a 36-point deficit and Warrandyte started the final stanza promisingly enough when Taylor marked on the edge of the goal square two minutes in.

But the floodgates had been threatening to open all afternoon and when they opened they opened wide.

It became an embarrassing procession, starting at seven minutes and mercifully ending 23 minutes later.

Doncaster East added 7.6 for the quarter, Warrandyte 2.2, their last goal coming 10 minutes from the end from Tod Holman.

Thank God it was only a short drive home.

Warrandyte's goalkickers were Liam Riley 2, Dick, Williamson, Wood, Taylor and Holman. Their best were Williamson, Warren Ruehland, Holman, Liam Riley, Dick and Matt Blagrove.

## Reserves as well

Warrandyte's previously-unbeaten Reserves also bit the dust at Doncaster East, surrendering top spot on the ladder to the home side.

Their stellar season, the best in recent memory, was rudely interrupted by a 67-point defeat, 17.8 (110) to 6.7 (43).

Still, they are two games clear in second place and odds-on to play in the finals.

Best of a bunch who could do little right on the day were Brad Giampietro, James Powell and Ben Reid.

Ironically, the only encouraging result of the day came from our liaison with Doncaster East in the Under-18s.

The combine were going for four on the trot and stretched second-placed Norwood to the limit before going down by 14 points, 11.8 (74) to 9.6 (60).

Their best were Jake Kilsby, Brendan King and Josh McKellar.

## A way out of the red

They're calling it "Pay Off Your Credit Card" and it's on in the upstairs function room at Club Warrandyte on Sunday, June 29.

It's a Warrandyte Football Club fundraiser, an afternoon-long draw carrying \$5000 in cash prizes, including \$3000 for the winner.

Good food and the pick of the bar will be available and it gets under way at noon.

Preceding that event, before the home game against Mooroolbark, on June 21, is the ladies luncheon and wine-tasting — a function which in the past the guests have been reluctant to leave.

There will be a surprise guest speaker (that's "speaker", girls, not "streaker") and James Logan (0411 223418) is taking bookings.

Also for the girls is the long-awaited Man O Man night at the clubrooms on July 5, their chance to uproariously send up the guys.

Not to be missed and James awaits your call.

# Hopefully, a winter of content

By DENNIS J. HOIBERG

As the community weathers the drop in temperature, Warrandyte Junior Football Club ready themselves for a critical time in this year's season.

All teams continue to impress and all are well placed to meet the coming challenges.

Steve Ballard's Under-9s took all before them in a recent round-robin tournament and demonstrated how quickly they are learning the important football skills.

Ballard has nominated such players as Jacob Ballard, Daniel Mifsud, Nick Mallia, Jake Wintle, Michael Delacey and Luke Mueller as ones to watch.

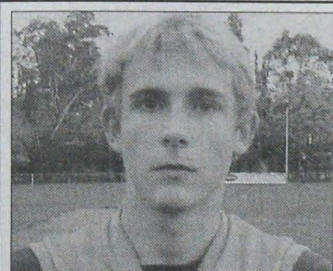
Greg Edward's Under-10s are in the four with five wins from eight games.

"My coaching team are really impressed with Johnnie Dobbie (deputy vice-captain), Darcy Jones (captain), Heath Fitzpatrick, Matthew Colborne-Veel, Dylan Burns, Ryan Exon and Sam Tansley," said Edwards.

"Hopefully, the entire team can keep putting it together week after week to experience finals action."

The Under-11s have been the surprise packets of the club and are second on the ladder, a game clear of third.

"The boys made a pact at the start of the season that we would all play as well as we could and stick together as a team," said coach Clem Mifsud,



Rob Illingworth. It rained goals for him ... 11 of them!

Warrandyte Colt Rob Illingworth (pictured) broke a long-standing Warrandyte Junior Football Club record by kicking 11 goals against Kew at home on May 17.

Warrandyte won by 131 points — 25.14 (164) to 5.3 (33).

"Rob had one of those days — everything he tried ended in a goal," said coach Matthew Matheou.

"He's an example to all the players at the club — works hard at training, puts in a lot of personal effort and is a fine team player."

At Rob's rate, the club record of 77 goals in a season is also in real danger.

again, this time with the Under-13s.

His boys are sitting just outside the top four on percentage and he says the rest of the season holds no fears for them.

"We've had some tough games which have highlighted the skills of the likes of Tom Lavery, Tom Woodman, Rowan Mullet-Treloar, Aaron Dean, David Wood, Luke Miller, Jeremy Andrews and Nathan Gordon," Moore said.

"These boys and the rest of the team just seem to eat up pressure."

A recent come-from-behind one-point win over traditional rivals Banyule may prove the season's turning point for Craig Lincoln's Under-14s. "It proved to the boys that they must

never give up," said assistant coach Paul Johnson.

"They trailed all day but stuck to the game plan and won on virtually the last kick of the day from Mitch Canham, who played with a dislocated finger."

Tim Hookey, Tom Maddocks, Nick Meade, Nick Crosby, Braydan Pettigrove and Steve Fenton are just some of the players who bond this team together."

Shaun Wilson's Under-15s are entrenched in the four and serious premiership contenders.

"The grounds will probably get a bit heavier, but with players like Daniel Gullery, Yaaren Bektash, Jack Bullard, Luke Ebzery, Beau Tobin and Joseph O'Mara, we believe we have the game plan to go right on with it," Wilson said.

The (Under-17) Colts competition is about as tight as it gets, illustrated by Warrandyte sliding two places as a result of a narrow defeat.

"While we remain in the four, the boys must stick to the game plan," said coach Matthew Matheou. "Fortunately, we are blessed with a high quality group of players and it's a pleasure to watch the development of boys like Shaun Carter, Stephen Christopher, Callum Dunsford, Lee Evans, Jared Fitzpatrick and Sean Frost, who are improving with each game."

● The club invite all parents and supporters to a Happy Hour at the clubrooms at 5pm on Sunday, June 22.

## Indeed the right spirit

Warrandyte have been chosen by the Unibic organisation as the first junior football club to participate in its Team Spirit medal.

Unibic sponsors the Anzac Day AFL blockbuster as well as the Anzac Day Medal (this year won by Essendon's James Hird).

"Team Spirit is all about loyalty, support, dedication and respect," said Unibic representative and Warrandyte Under-15s coach Shaun Wilson. "Unibic wanted to acknowledge these traits in the community and junior football was the obvious sector for our organisation to be involved," he said.

"We looked for a club that demonstrated similar traits as Team Spirit. We were looking for a club that was community focused, well run and focused on individual and team development."

"The Warrandyte Junior Football Club meet all of these criteria."

Each week a player in each of the teams will be awarded a Team Spirit Medal. This initiative will be offered to only one other junior football club.

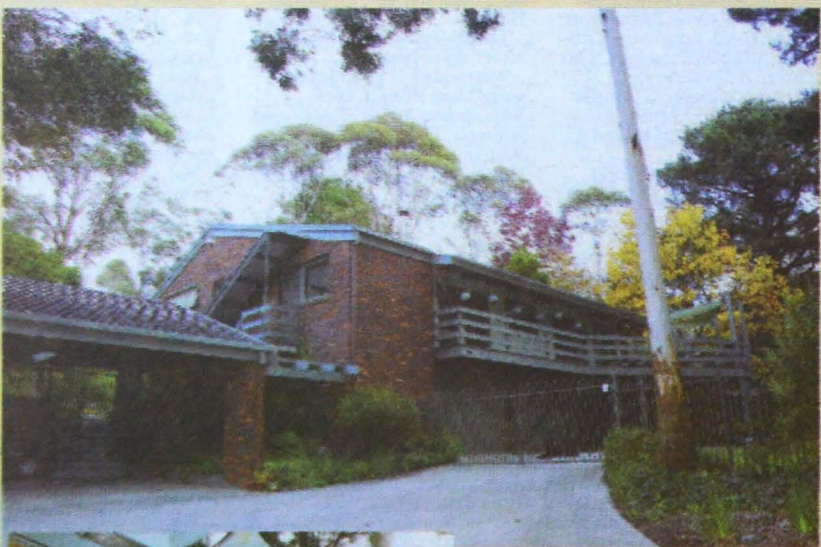


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