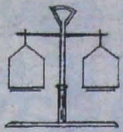


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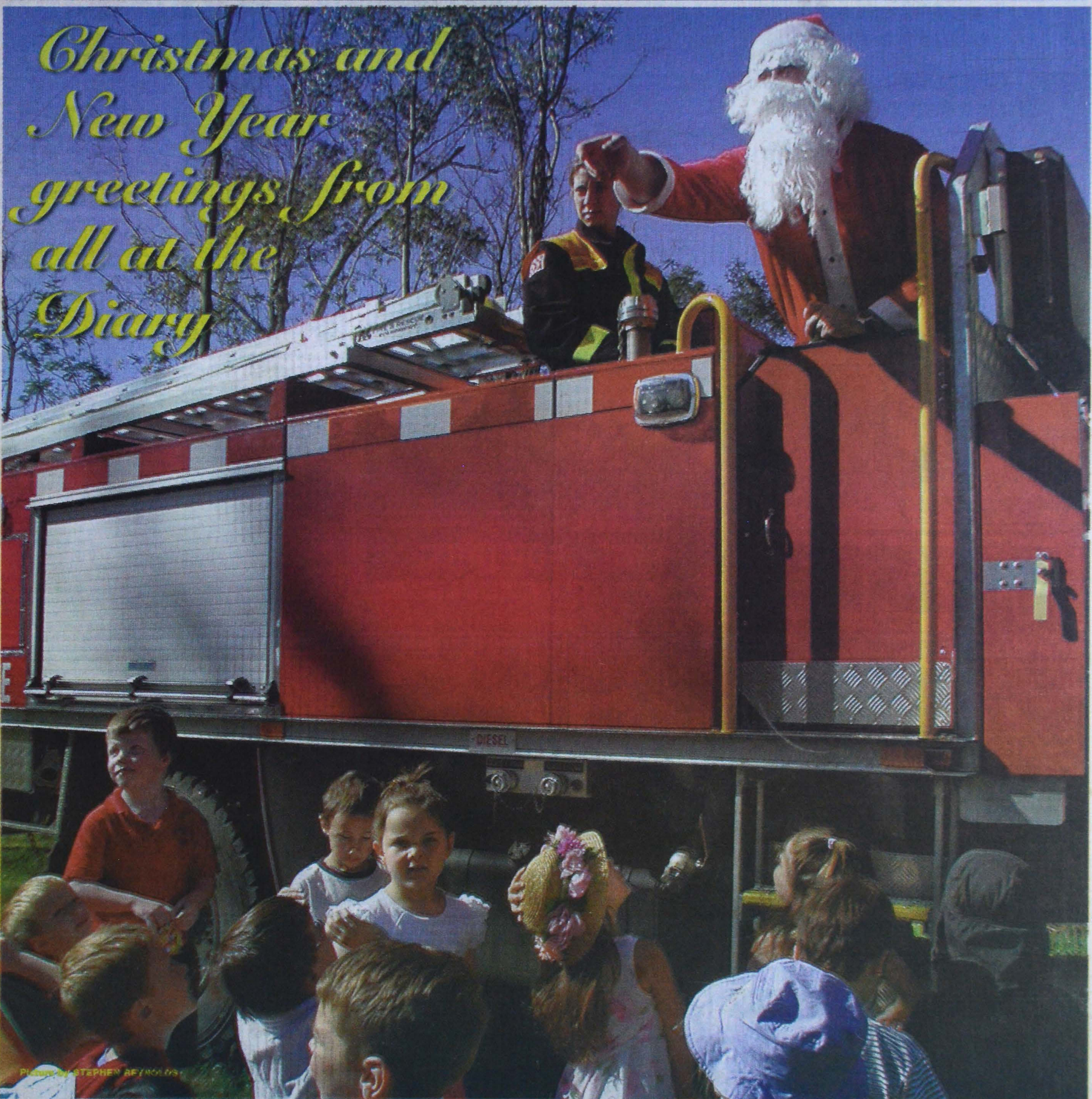
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DIARY

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No. 360, December 2003

PRICELESS 33rd year For the community, by the community Advertising: 9844 3819 Editorial: 9844 3719 Fax: 9844 4168



*Christmas and
New Year
greetings from
all at the
Diary*

Photo by STEPHEN REYNOLDS

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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The chainsaw massacre? No, the massacre of a chainsaw!



Who was that immaculately-dressed lady in Springvale Road on the early evening of November 7 — and what was she doing crawling under her car as heavy peak-hour traffic banked up astern. Why, it was none other than Karen Throssell, *Diary* poet and Warrandyte Neighbourhood House manager. And she was merely trying to rescue the chainsaw she'd just run over! Karen was on her way to a family dinner party at Glen Waverley when the traffic immediately ahead and around her suddenly opened up a little to reveal a chainsaw squarely in her path. In no position to brake sharply or take evasive action, she did a split-second calculation and reckoned the undercarriage of the trusty old Mitsubishi Gallant might just clear this weapon of destruction. Wrong. She dragged it several metres before coming to a rasping, grinding, clanking halt, put on the hazard lights, got out and wondered what the hell she was going to do.

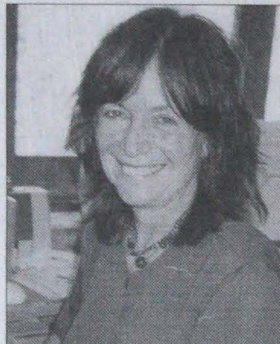


Disregarding the welfare of the expensive black velvet pants and Chinese silk coat she was wearing, Karen got as far under the car as she could and tried to wrench the pesky chainsaw free. No go. Her plight had attracted the attention of a couple of young Chinese blokes who, while directing the chaotic traffic from across the road, suggested in sign language that Karen rock the car and — when that didn't work either — reverse it. Again, no go. Then from out of nowhere emerged a skinny, young, pony-tailed bloke wearing a blue singlet and tatts. "There's a chainsaw stuck underneath my car," Karen told him. "Yeah, I know," he said. "It's mine. It fell off me bloody truck!" Being such a skinny guy, he was able to slide completely under the Mitsubishi and, a few tugs, jiggles and curses later, freed his lost cargo. The drama made riveting listening that night at Karen's dinner party.

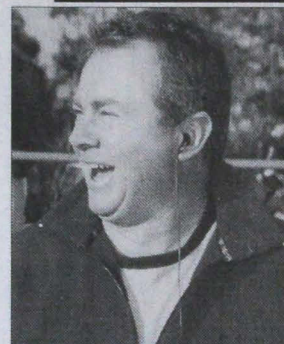


Experience suggests to us that good samaritans don't exactly abound in today's society — but we can confirm that a couple of them are alive and well and living in Dingley Dell Road. We know them only as Michael and John and a few Saturdays ago they came to the rescue of three golden oldies — Harrison and Winifred Symons, of Cottesbridge, and their

IN RED & WHITE



Karen Throssell ... a chain reaction.



Lex McDonald ... the florist's friend.



You could never accuse Lex McDonald, a member of our zanier tennis club set, of being a man of few words and upon hazy reflection he thought he may have dropped a couple of untoward ones in the presence of Pauline Dusting and Leonie Thomas at John "Tiger" Laing's 60th birthday party the night before. A noble fellow, he phoned Pauline and Leonie and said, "Look, I wasn't referring to you two, but to those two women standing behind you." This didn't wash with the girls, who pointed out that there was no one behind them at the time of the offence, so in a limpwristed bid to regain favour he sent them each a huge bunch of flowers. The fun-loving members of this tennis set are pretty remorseless when it comes to sending each other up and at the club a few evenings later were giving Lex plenty. The roast was being gleefully led by Pauline's husband and Page 2 celebrity Neil, who fell suddenly and strangely silent when Wendy Synott said Neil himself had once sent her flowers in similar circumstances. Neil didn't recall that at all and the paucity of his memory was confirmed when, in a shifty attempt to change the subject, he asked what time Brian Dunne had left Tiger's party. Brian wasn't at the party, he was told. Oh.



One Christmas do we won't be missing this time around is that at Neighbourhood

House. As much as we admire the work these people do in the community, we'd found ourselves doubly engaged on this particular evening and a decision had to be made. Then we double-checked the invitation and found we'd misread "belly dancing" as "ballet dancing" among the promised entertainment. How stupid of us!



Page 2 regular Grant "Socks" Egan turned 40 on December 4 and imagine our disappointment — nay, dismay — when he left the RSL Club that evening without shouting the traditional beer. "Nah," he said, "where I come from it's the other way around — on your birthday, everyone buys you a beer." We don't know where you came from, Socks, but everyone knows you do as the Romans do when you're in Rome.



Lex McDonald already has, but why not say it with flowers this Christmas? More specifically, native flowers. More specifically still, small native daisies, suggests Joan MacMahon, our resident indigenous flora authority. Joan recommends the Tall Daisy (*Brachycome diversifolia*) or the Hoary Sunray (*Helipetrum albicans*) as an ideal Christmas gift for the garden conscious. The former has large, open-faced white flowers, the latter is a yellow paper daisy. Both ideal in pot or ground, both available (along with a host of other native beauties) from the Friends of Warrandyte State Park nursery at Pound Bend (Melways reference 27 C 10) from 10-noon on Thursdays.



Well, folks, that's it from us for 2003. Bless you all, especially those among you who took time out to embarrass your buddies on this page in the cause of good fun and please keep up the good work in 2004. Your columnist needs you. May your Christmases be safe and special and may your New Years exceed your most ambitious aspirations. Bye now.

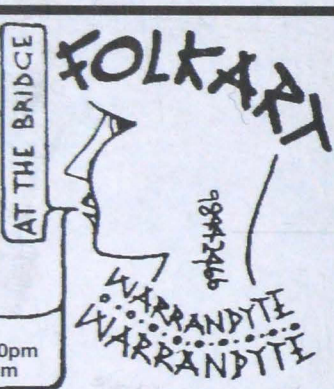
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Copy closes last Friday of each month

OUR NEWSPAPER

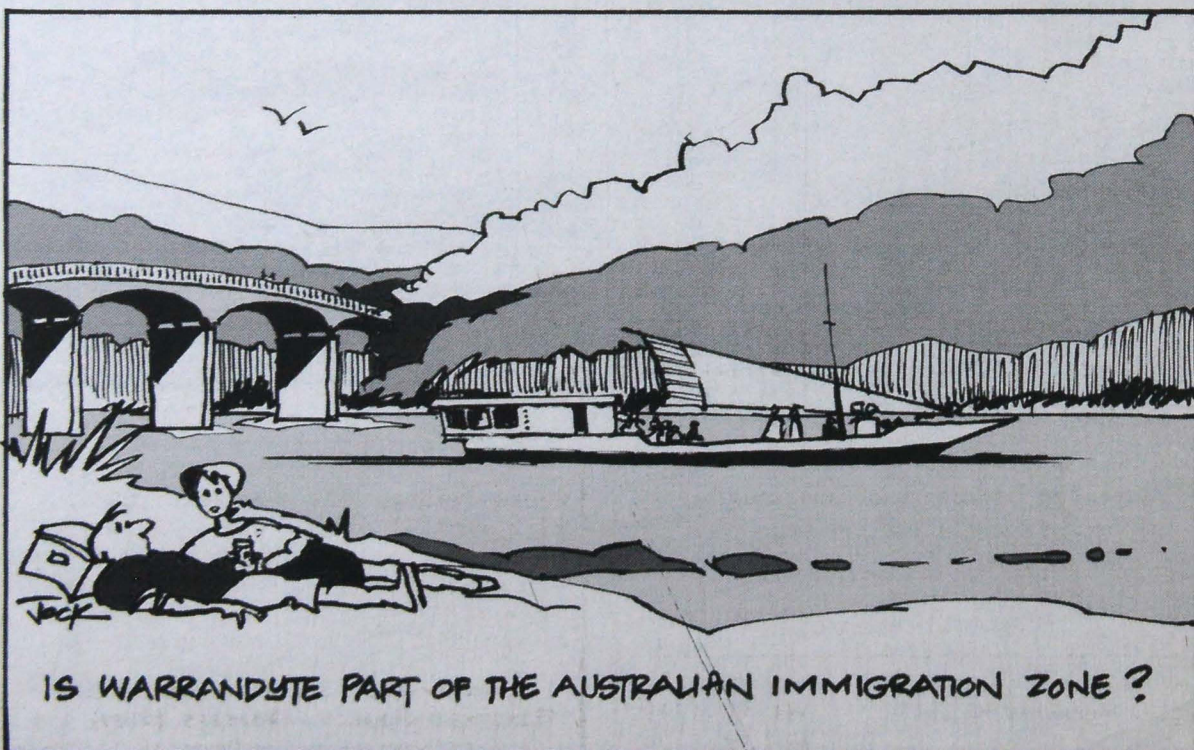
The Warrandyte Diary was established in 1970 as a small local newsletter. Although it has developed over the years, it has retained its strong community character, being produced by volunteers with only one aim: to serve its community. Financed solely through advertising, it guards its not-for-profit, 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 4000 copies and it is available in Warrandyte, North Warrandyte, South Warrandyte, Park Orchards, Wonga Park, Warranwood, North Ringwood, Kangaroo Ground and Research.

A SPECIAL PLACE

Warrandyte (approximate population 8000) is situated on the Yarra River, some 24km from Melbourne. The site of the first official gold discovery in Victoria—in 1851—it soon established its character as a small, self-sustaining community set in a beautiful river valley. Around 1900 the miners, orchardists and tradespeople were joined by a number of young painters who were founding the Australian nationalist arts tradition. Although now a commuter suburb of Melbourne, the natural beauty, community spirit and sense of independence of Warrandyte has been largely retained. This newspaper is the voice and true expression of that spirit.

OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



IS WARRANDYTE PART OF THE AUSTRALIAN IMMIGRATION ZONE?

Fire threat a reality

Residents must explore life-saving alternatives

By CLIFF GREEN

Warrandyte residents are being warned they may find themselves caught in a wildfire emergency this summer.

"Many residents do have prepared fire plans, Jeff Adair, CFA's Yarra Region community safety manager, told the *Diary*. "However many do not and will find themselves exposed to the dangers of being caught on the road and in the open in the event of a major fire.

"Roads in the area do not allow for last minute flight and will choke rapidly."

All the experts agree that the safer options are to leave the area early on a day of acute fire danger, or stay in a well-prepared home and actively defend it.

However, this may not always be practical. Some people will choose not to leave early. Others may have difficulty in doing this.

CFA's research indicates that many people will wait and see and then make a last-minute decision to leave. This could be fatal.

For those who do not have a fire plan, or the ability to actively defend their home, or may find it impossible to leave early, there are other options.

"Although these may not be as safe, they may still save a person's life," Mr Adair said. "But forward planning is still essential.

"If individuals or families are not confident, or able, or do not have the necessary equipment, they should seriously consider identifying friends, neighbours or family close by who can provide shelter and reassurance."

Local places that offer informal shelter against the heat of the fire should be identified well ahead of the fire season. These could include large open spaces removed from bushland and vegetation, such as sports

grounds and shopping centres and their carparks.

"Township centres could offer some protection, but this is not guaranteed," Mr Adair said.

"All these alternatives have risks. They may be smokey, hot, prone to ember attack and probably with no assistance provided by emergency services or other agencies.

"But they are preferable to venturing into traffic chaos, attempting to cross blocked bridges or travelling on local bush roads prone to the passage of a fire front.

"Those who may be unfortunate enough to find themselves in these situations need to consider driving away from fire-affected areas, finding safety in the nearest accessible building or stopping in an area with minimal vegetation and staying in the car below the window line.

"Cars offer minimal protection from the heat of a fire front," Mr Adair said. "But it is critical that people do not try and outrun a fire on foot, or leave what safety their car has to offer."

CFA insists that these situations can be avoided by forward planning.

"Most people who die are those caught in the open or fleeing on foot in the path of a fire."

This is Warrandyte's sixth consecutive year of below average rainfall. Earlier spring rains have promoted rapid grassland and forest growth.

"Unless the seasonal outlook changes we are in for another severe fire season," Mr Adair said. "Medium-range weather forecasts suggest we will have hotter days and nights fuelling conditions for fire. Constant weather monitoring and vigilance against fire risk are essential throughout the summer period."

● For further fire safety information contact your local CFA brigade or the CFA regional office on 9735 0511.



Will we be safe if Warrandyte burns? (Digitally altered image by Stephen Reynolds)

Blitzing your area

Warrandyte CFA brigades are conducting another series of open air "Bushfire Blitz" community meetings in high risk areas this summer.

"When it comes to bushfire safety there are many issues to consider," Kate Murphy of the Warrandyte brigade told the *Diary*.

"Residents need to know the type of weather conditions when a fire is likely to occur. Fire plans should take account who is at home on weekdays as well as weekends and who is able to start putting the plan into action. They must also know how to keep themselves informed about what is happening during a fire."

Check insurances

Now the bushfire season has commenced, Sue Harley, Warrandyte CFA community education manager is warning householders to check their house and contents insurance.

"A fire can result in property owners being left with only the clothes on their backs," Ms Harley told the *Diary*.

"Last year bushfires destroyed hundreds of homes in Canberra. Many of the families who lost their homes and possessions were not insured at all or grossly underinsured. As a result of this they have been unable to rebuild or replace even

Bushfire Blitz meetings are planned for:

● Gold Memorial Road picnic/car park area on Saturday, December 13 at 4pm.

● 100 Acre Reserve, Arundel Road, Park Orchards on Tuesday, December 16 at 7.30pm.

● Floods Road, North Warrandyte on Tuesday, December 13 at 7.30pm.

The information covered in a Bushfire Blitz session includes:

- Weather conditions for fire occurrence.
- Fire behaviour.
- How to protect your home.
- Developing a fire survival plan.
- Questions and concerns from residents.

Burning questions across the river

Fire hazard reduction by burning is permitted in urban areas across the river.

"There is a misconception within the urban communities of Nillumbik that no burning off for fire hazard reduction work is allowed under Nillumbik Shire Council's local laws," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*. "This is incorrect."

Burning off is allowed on properties of less than 0.4 hectares anywhere in the shire during the period October 1 through to February 1 (or the date of commencement of a fire danger period if sooner) with a permit.

"As we are now in the above time-frame, residents can obtain a permit for fuel reduction burning only, preferably with four days clear notice, from Nillumbik council's emergency risk coordinator just by making a telephone call with the affected property address and stating the reason for the required permit is for fuel reduction," the spokesperson said.

"Of course we want residents in urban areas to be able to conduct fuel reduction burning around their homes if they consider it a risk. Council can help with this process by ensuring the process is simple and not charging any fees."

There are conditions applying

to the permit which include the obvious, such as:

● Not lighting a fire when strong winds are blowing, on a total fire ban day or a day declared by the EPA as a day of high pollution;

● The fire is to be extinguished by 6pm, or upon direction;

● No solvents, petrol, rubber or any substance which may give off toxic smoke are to be used to start or maintain the fire;

● The fire is not to be left unattended;

● Only a small fire is maintained at any one time;

● No inconvenience is caused to nearby residents;

● An adequate water supply is available, such as a garden hose;

● Fires are to be lit only in an area away from other combustible material and overhanging trees; and

● You notify your local brigade and/or VicFire of your intention to burn and the date(s) the burning is to take place. Council provides these phone numbers with the permit.

For further information please contact Nillumbik council on 9433 3231.



Ho! Ho! Ho! Santa Claus will be touring the district, courtesy of local CFA brigades, on Sunday, December 21, between 9am and 1pm. Watch for him in Warrandyte, North Warrandyte, South Warrandyte, Park Orchards, Warranwood and sections of Donvale and North Ringwood. He will be visiting Wonga Park with the local CFA on Saturday, December 20 between 10am and 4pm.

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'Thank you' from Karen

I am writing to sincerely thank you for replying to an unusual request via your mailing list, putting me in touch with an American friend of mine that I met and travelled with in India five years ago.

Myan and I had lost touch over the years since we were together in 1998, so I couldn't believe it when I received her request to get my contact details via my local community newspaper. Since you have put us in touch again, my friend is coming over to Australia for a visit in January 2004.

It was such an incredible coincidence for her to do a World Wide Web Google search in my name, "Karen Reid", and through all the listings that came up, she went in and found the story of the koala that came knocking on our door at our home in Yarra Street.

I am not aware of how long the articles remain on the internet, but it was unusual that I appeared in a newspaper the week she did a Google search in the hope of finding me.

The incident with the koala was an amazing experience and now this incredible coincidence!

Thanks to yourselves we have managed to rekindle our friendship and we are both very excited to see each other again soon. I want to thank all of those involved in making this happen.

Karen Reid
Yarra Street

Cemetery land bid angers locals

Residents from Brackenbury, McCulloch, and Trezise streets Warrandyte were infuriated on the receipt of leaked information, which has subsequently been confirmed by the City of Manningham, that a proposal has been submitted to council to develop another cemetery adjacent to the existing Anderson Creek Cemetery site.

The submission is to seek approval to develop a cemetery of 1050 grave plots in an area surrounding St Gerards Catholic Church, Warrandyte in Brackenbury Street. The Catholic Church is currently within a Residential 1 Zone with significant Landscape and Design and Development overlays in place.

The Anderson Creek Cemetery Trust is requesting the City of Manningham rezone the property to a Public Use Zone, to allow the site to be developed as another cemetery.

If this proposal was approved and the development was to proceed it would have a very detrimental impact on a substantial residential community, which in some instances would mean that properties would have a common boundary with the new cemetery. This residential community has been established, in some cases for over 30 years.

DEAR DIARY



The local residents, together with some St Gerards parishioners are vehemently opposed to the Anderson Creek Cemetery Trust inflicting such a drastic environmental change, causing unnecessary imposition on their established residential environment. The locals are determined to fight against this proposal and have already received considerable support from many areas.

Affected residents from Brackenbury, McCulloch and Trezise Streets, Warrandyte. (Name and address supplied.)

Remembering John

Helen Smith, Julie, Sharon, Dean and families would like to thank all the people who attended John's funeral, also for all the floral tributes, cards, phone calls and support. Also many thanks to the *Diary* for the great article on John. It has all been greatly appreciated.

Smith Family
Warrandyte

Plum trees

Here we go again! The poor old cherry plum trees. How many times do people have to be reminded of their history (*Diary*, November).

About 10 years ago there was a move to remove all of them and due to pressure from residents such as Judy McDonald (where are you now, Judy?), Lil Whitehead and myself it was decided that the old trees would be left and only the smaller ones would be removed. This was agreed to by all, and the battle for the plum trees ended in a truce.

During the Depression and at other times when people have been short of money these trees have been a source of food. Cherry plums make the most beautiful jam, much nicer than shop-bought jam, and pies.

Instead of removing things of beauty how about concentrating on removing the intrusive signage which has infiltrated Warrandyte in the last 10 or so years. Now that would beautify the place.

Jean Chapman
Taroona Avenue

Found

Thank you to the person who found my clarinet which I had left at the Warrandyte bridge bus stop on the morning of November 28. It was very kind of you to ring us. It saved us from having to buy another clarinet and me from chores and punishment.

Sebastian Dewhurst
Brackenbury Street

Doggone upset

Do ratepayers, especially dog owners, know that despite the fact that Nillumbik collects at least \$250,000 per year from you in dog registration alone, that when you ring after hours or on weekends to either enquire about a lost dog or report one you may not even get a reply?

How did I find this out? Recently I reported a dog wandering on the road. She was wearing a Nillumbik tag so that was who I rang assuming I'd get the ranger on mobile. Nope, the call went through to an answering service in Brisbane who didn't want to know any details but was there only to pass a message on. After speaking with the supervisor they agreed to request the ranger ring and let us know how long s/he'd be. A half-hour later this hadn't happened so I rang Manningham. An officer arrived 20 min-

utes later—Nillumbik still hadn't rung.

Turns out the dog had lived at Strathewen but the people went overseas and she went to friends in Bulleen. In other words, she'd hoofed it to Warrandyte from Bulleen—no wonder she was wet from a dip in the river when I found her. She was reunited with her people after an overnight stay at the pound. Thank heavens for lovely Liz at the Lions Club Op Shop who allowed me to use the phone and helped in every way.

Nillumbik should realise that pets are considered family and most would be shocked at the non-response to after-hours enquiries. Why not show a bit of respect for pets and get rid of the answering service and put a real person in.

Lynn Fitzpatrick
Brunswick

Trouble with UGB

The restrictive Urban Growth Boundary now means that the almost 5000 extra residences required for Nillumbik for the next 10 years all need to be housed in the current urban areas, which Minister Delahunty has refused to extend.

We saw at the council meeting of the November 19, 2003 the future for our local neighbourhoods. Developers have acquired a lovely home with a swimming pool and tennis

court for \$650,000 which they propose to demolish to make way for a more profitable nine-unit development. This is not in easy walking distance of a major or minor activity centre or reliable public transport.

With Melbourne 2030 we can expect developers to cash in and buy homes on larger blocks to make way for unit city.

Brian Murray
Nillumbik Ratepayers Association, Diamond Creek

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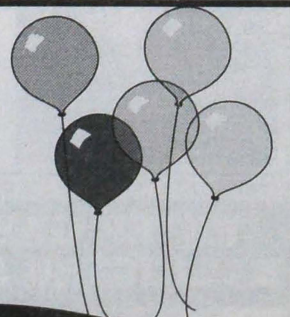
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50 km/h speed trial: perhaps

By SANDY BURGOYNE



Yarra Street appears likely to trial a lower speed limit from early 2004. But what the new speed is, when the trial will start and during what hours it will operate depends on who you talk to. A spokesperson from VicRoads' media department made the following statement to the *Diary*: "Yarra Street in Warrandyte is a main road under the care and management of Manningham City Council. VicRoads approved Manningham City Council's request to lower the speed limit on Yarra Street Warrandyte from 60km/h to 50km/h on October 31, 2003. VicRoads has been advised by council that the new speed signs will be installed by early next year." However, the above response from VicRoads may be in relation to an earlier request from Manningham council.

Yarra Street: How fast will they go? (Picture by Sandy Burgoyne)

"They could have been dealing with an application some 12 months old, when we were advocating for 50km/h. We simply extended it (to 40km/h) at the request of the community out there," Manningham's director city development, Claude Collino said. "(Council's) latest application is for a 40km/h trial between 8am and 8pm seven days a week." To further cloud the issue the Warrandyte Community Association (WCA) has been unofficially informed that VicRoads favours a reduction to a fixed 50km/h, not a time-based 40km/h limit. The WCA has consistently campaigned for the lower speed limit on Yarra Street. "The WCA is very disappointed in the decision of VicRoads not to implement the 40km/h trial," David Wierzbowski of the WCA said. "While we welcome a reduction of 10km/h, we are far from satisfied. Statistics confirm that a pedestrian/vehicle collision at 50km/h would produce an 85 percent chance of fatality (not to mention the horrific

permanent injuries if survival was attained). The difference at 40km/h is a 25 percent chance of fatality. However, we will graciously accept the 50km/h limit and will continue to lobby for the 40km/h limit." Council plans to contain the speed reduction on Yarra Street to where most pedestrian traffic occurs. Manningham's Claude Collino told the *Diary* that the zone is likely to be from roughly 70 metres west of Whipstick Gully Road to about 250 metres east of the bridge. Mr Collino is keen to keep Warrandyte residents informed of the changes to Yarra Street. "When we install any signs out there we will work with the community. We will endeavour to liaise with them in establishing what is required and in installing the trial we will work with the community out there, he said. Be it 50km/h or 40km/h many groups within the community, including the *Diary*, will be relieved that decades of campaigning could soon pay off.

Gates close on tunnels row?

By SAM DAVIES

Parks Victoria has played down criticisms that the solid gates on mines restrict access to bats, saying bats have never lived in the mines concerned.

The effect that gating mines would have on local bent-wing and myotis bats has been widely contested during and after the consultation period between Parks Victoria and local community groups.

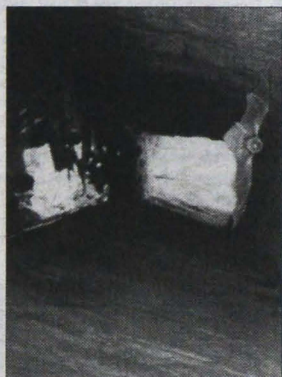
Some community groups and members were outraged when solid gates—and not grilles—were installed at the entrances to some mines, including Geraghtey's at Fourth Hill. Similar gates will be fitted to the Victory mine in coming weeks.

However, chief ranger for Yarra district, David Sewell, said concerns over bats were "not really an issue," as there was no written evidence of bats having lived in either the Geraghtey's or Victory mines, due to the long history of human activity. Johnson's mine, which does have a recorded bat population, remains only fenced off, which has reportedly pleased bat experts.

Mike Coupar, from Friends of Warrandyte State Park, said the myotis bat was quite rare and also unusual as it lived near rivers so it could "fish". He said these bats had been recorded in the Fourth Hill area.

He said his advice had been there were other options apart from a solid gate, such as vertical grilles which would be harder for small children to climb up, or a smaller slot for bats at the top of the gate.

Another FOWSP member,



Is it a plane? Is it Superman? No, it's a bat in a Warrandyte mine tunnel. (Picture by Peter Hanson)

Geoff Speedy, said that bats often like to roost in up to 10 different locations to minimise the risk of predation. "We don't have that many sites, and Geraghtey's could potentially be quite a few. Of course, we haven't surveyed enough to know," he said.

However, Parks Victoria is concerned that small children could still climb in to the mines if any gaps or holes were left in the gates for bat access. Mr Sewell said at the heart of the bat matter was "finding out what the bats actually need", saying he was yet to receive a definitive answer on the best way to deal with bats. "No experts seem to conclusively be able to say what is required for the bats. It's necessary to weigh up the environmental concerns against the safety of the community," he said.

A more urgent matter is the level of oxygen in the mines, which if sufficiently depleted, could render them unsuitable as tourist mines. Responding to concerns

raised in the *Diary* last month, Mr Sewell said the Mines Department will be conducting tests on oxygen levels in the mines probably before Christmas, as part of an ongoing monitoring process before they are declared acceptable as tourist mines. Initial tests conducted before the mines were closed indicated the oxygen levels were safe.

As a further step before the tourist permit can be granted, Parks Victoria must discuss how guided tours will be operated. "Part of the tourist mines permit is that you need a mines manager and to be able to tell groups a story. We have to decide whether we will do it with photographs and notes etcetera, or whether we will have a guide," Mr Sewell said. Community groups are being consulted throughout this process.

Parks Victoria has also received legal advice on a letter from the Warrandyte Community Association that questioned the legality of closing the mines. "The letter has been holding the process up a little bit," said Mr Sewell. "Every time you get an objection you have to deal with it, and that takes time."

"The issue is not that Parks Victoria is going to close the mines down, it is we want to open them in a safe manner," he said.

And in spite of the objections, Mr Sewell is looking forward to reopening the mines with a tourist classification. "Students all seem to study mines at school. Rather than having to travel to Bendigo or Sovereign Hill, when these mines get tourist status, there will be a fantastic resource at their back door," he said.



Warrandyte State Park depot: will it survive? (Picture by Sandy Burgoyne)

Parks Victoria replies

During recent months, the local community has become increasingly concerned about the future of Warrandyte State Park. Principal issues are the slashing of the park's operating budget by 90 percent and rumours that the depot at Pound Bend could be threatened. The following statement has been received from Park Victoria:

AT Warrandyte State Park the allocation of budgets, staff and resources are sensitively balanced to best meet environmental, social and business needs.

Victoria has just experienced its worst bushfires in 60 years. Not only does this present us with a challenge to rehabilitate these areas but to grasp a rare opportunity to radically reduce environmental weed infestations. To maximise this chance to make a real and long term beneficial impact on the environment in these fire-affected areas, Parks Victoria is temporarily boosting its environmental programs in East Gippsland and the Alpine Region.

Parks Victoria has thoroughly assessed where the areas of greatest need are in the state and believes that to prioritise programs in fire-affected areas is a common sense approach that all Victorians will understand and support.

Many of our programs do not depend on financial resources but on the hands-on efforts of our ranger staff and the many friends and community groups who work with them. No programs will be discontinued that would result in a long term, deleterious affect on the environment in parks such as Warrandyte State Park.

Park staff's duties at Warrandyte are no different to other roles in the state where programs are undertaken in accordance with priorities and concerns. Any projects such as rabbit and fox baiting or maintenance initiatives are undertaken with the support of comprehensive safety and competency training programs for all staff.

Additionally, Parks Victoria's commitment to the management of visitor and staff safety and

access in our many parks and buildings is taken very seriously.

In all of Parks Victoria's offices we undertake and implement comprehensive risk management and WorkSafe assessment. For example, in 2003 an asbestos report was undertaken to identify any concerns in offices across the organisation. Warrandyte State Park's office at Pound Bend was considered in this report. Additionally a full occupational health and safety report of the Warrandyte work centre has also been undertaken. The future status of office and work spaces throughout Melbourne metropolitan parklands will be assessed and evaluated in this context.

Both reports are being assessed so that any buildings of concern can receive the attention required. No decision has been made regarding the future of the Warrandyte work centre.

All buildings within the Parks Victoria's estate must have safe and well maintained equipment and property which complies with all relevant standards. It is the responsibility of Parks Victoria as an employer to ensure that these high standards are maintained in the interest of all staff's safety. Therefore Parks Victoria must comply with all relevant legislation and regulations with respect to the equipment.

These processes ensure that our duty of care obligations are met for all visitors and staff. Parks Victoria will continue to work with staff and the community in ensuring our parks and reserves remain safe for everyone.

Parks Victoria will maintain its commitment to providing high quality services to visitors in popular sites throughout Melbourne's parklands especially in areas such as Warrandyte.



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City council held the line

Manningham reaction

By DAVID WYMAN

The Urban Growth Boundary will not alter Manningham's small but environmentally important Green Wedge. No land will be excised for housing, as has happened in other municipalities and subdivision controls on Green Wedge land will remain in place.

Prohibitions and restrictions on certain uses of Green Wedge land, introduced by the government on June 13 this year, will be controlled by Manningham council. But existing lawfully established uses can continue to operate.

Pro-Green Wedge community groups, councillors and local MP Phil Honeywood have welcomed introduction of the Urban Growth Boundary.

Mr Honeywood supported the new boundary changes in a speech to state parliament and said the Liberal Party had voted unanimously in favour of the government's reforms.

He paid tribute to the Green Wedge Coalition and local community groups for their vigilance in ensuring there were no "nips and tucks" made in favour of developers in the Manningham Green Wedge. But he expressed concern that the government had made over 150 changes to allow Green Wedge land around Melbourne to be subdivided for urban development (see story

this page). Both Mullum Ward councillors, Patricia Young and Gerard Dale, were delighted with the government's action. Cr Young said she was very pleased to be advised that the minister for planning, Mary Delahunty, did not change the Manningham Urban Growth Boundary.

"It was also heartening to read that the minister understands that Warrandyte and Wonga Park are places of historic and environmental significance and need to be protected," she told the *Diary*.

Cr Young said Manningham council and residents had lobbied hard over the years to make sure that successive governments understood that even though the Manningham Green Wedge was close to the city, and not a very large area, it was still important to the community that open spaces, bushland, rivers and creeks were free from damage due to development.

Wonga Park Residents' Association acting secretary Philip Glenister said residents "would obviously be very pleased with the government's decision."

"Basically we have had a council and planning scheme which has generally supported the Green Wedge of Manningham, so you could say the government's move reinforces what the council has done," he said.

Mr Glenister said the periodic panel hearings on subdivision of Green Wedge land in Manningham, and decisions to retain existing zone controls, had largely quashed landholders' arguments for subdivision.

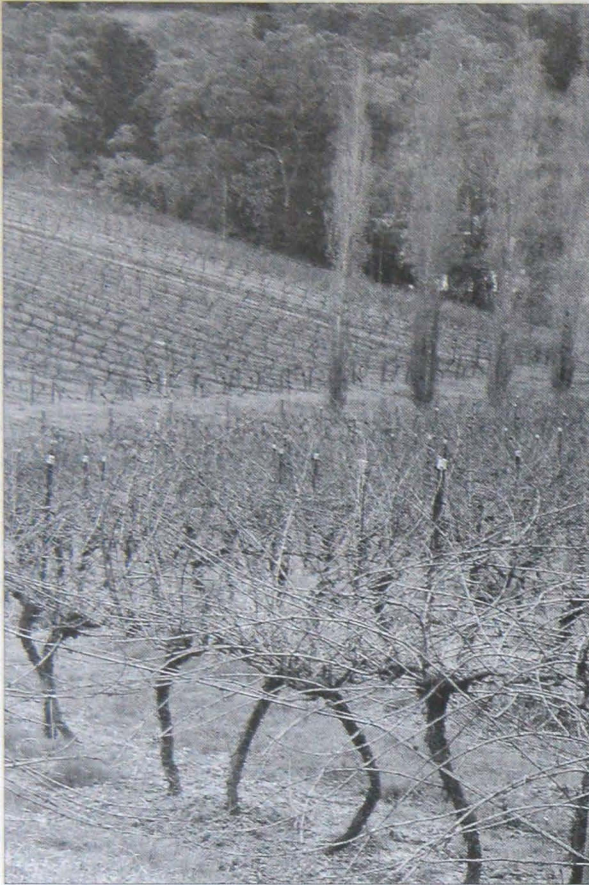
"They spent a lot of money on consultants to argue their cases, but many of these landholders have accepted that Green Wedge land is going to remain undeveloped," he said. "A lot have packed and up and gone."

Mr Glenister praised the individual efforts of some local residents, including Flora Anderson, for their work in "fighting for the retention of the Green Wedge".

Park Orchards Ratepayers' Association vice president David Mayor thought the new Urban Growth Boundary was "fantastic". "I'm very pleased that the boundary in Manningham has been left untouched," he said.

Mr Mayor expressed concern about future changes by the government in the boundary "without due process". (See story this page.)

Manningham residents can obtain further information on restrictions on Green Wedge Land use, and the Urban Growth Boundary by contacting council's statutory planning department on 9840 9260.



Concerns about Urban Growth Boundaries

By DAVID WYMAN

Some of the community groups and elected representatives contacted by the *Diary* expressed concerns about possible future government action which would erode Melbourne's Green Wedge land for housing.

Local MP Phil Honeywood said that before the new Urban Growth Boundary legislation was rushed through parliament, over 150 changes to Green Wedge land around Melbourne were made by planning minister Mary Delahunty without opportunities for public

scrutiny. "Many of these boundary changes allowed for land to be taken from Green Wedge areas and subdivided for urban development," he said. Land in Nillumbik shire was involved in these changes but Manningham's Green Wedge was un-

changed. "This was far from a transparent process and serious questions have to be asked about who got to successfully argue their case behind closed doors," Mr Honeywood said. Attempts to access information on the government's website

found only a list of submissions with no details attached. The vice president of the Park Orchards Ratepayers' Association, David Mayor, said "While we say the Urban Growth Boundary is very good, a question mark remains over the ability of the government to further

manipulate the boundary without due process". Another local community group spokesman, who did not wish to be named, said that residents of Manningham and Nillumbik should remain vigilant for any future moves to change their Green Wedge land.



PUBLIC NOTICE LOCAL LAW No. 6 - MEETING PROCEDURE LOCAL LAW

Notice is hereby given pursuant to section 119(3) of the Local Government Act 1989 that the Nillumbik Shire Council proposes to amend Local Law 6 - Meeting Procedure Local Law.

The purpose of the proposed amendments are:

- Supplementary and Urgent Business - Clause 24.11: to ensure only matters of the utmost urgency are dealt with which have had the appropriate investigation undertaken.
- Foreshadowed Motion - Clause 33: to clarify the provision of foreshadowed motions to be raised during debate.
- Procedural Motions - Clause 34: clarification of the process for formally moving motions.
- Procedure Not Provided in Local Law - Clause 62: amend this clause to stipulate which House of Parliament is the reference point.
- Interruptions, Interjections and Relevance - Clause 36: avoid unnecessary interruptions during debate.

A copy of the proposed amendments may be inspected at www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au or obtained from the Shire Offices, Civic Drive, Greensborough during office hours.

Monday 8.30am to 6.30pm
Tuesday to Friday 8.30am to 5.00pm
(Note: January hours, Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.00pm)

Copies are also available for inspection at the Eltham and Diamond Valley Libraries and Living and Learning Centres during opening hours.

Any person affected by the proposed amendments may make a submission to the Council. Submissions received by the Council within 30 days of the publication of this notice will be considered in accordance with section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.

Any person requesting that he or she be heard in support of a written submission is entitled to appear before a meeting of the Policy and Services Committee on 21 January 2003 at 7.30pm at the Shire Offices either personally or by a person acting on his or her behalf.

Submissions marked "Amendments Local Law No 6 - Meeting Procedure Local Law" should be posted to the Chief Executive Officer, PO Box 476, Greensborough, 3088 or delivered to the Shire Offices, Civic Drive, Greensborough. Telephone enquiries concerning the proposed Local Law should be directed to Ms Lidia Harding on 9433 3284.

Catherine Dale
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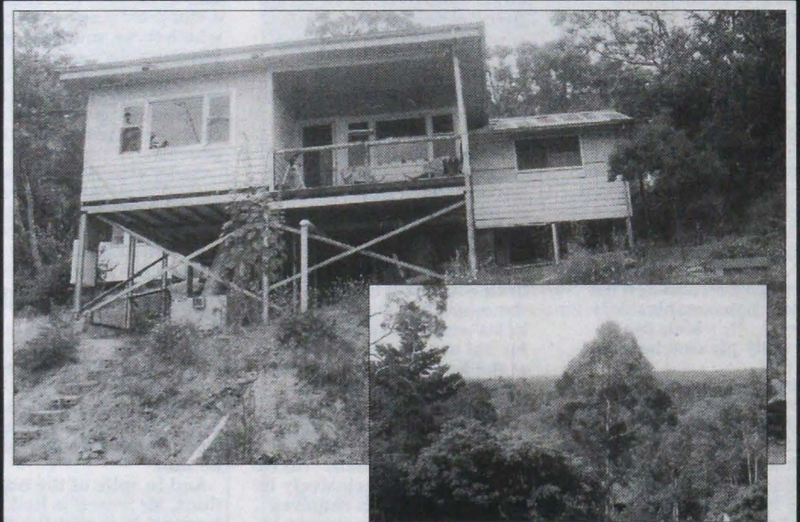
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Our green, green wedge is home at last!

It was a long, hard fight

By CLIFF GREEN

The green wedges are now law. Former premier Dick Hamer's dream of a set of "green lungs" for Melbourne, of a ring of countryside around the metropolitan area, has been largely realised.

Despite the clamouring of the pro-development lobby, the state Labor government held firm, and with the bipartisan support of the Liberal opposition, the historic legislation has been passed.

Local residents living in the middle Yarra municipalities of Manningham and Nillumbik, have special reasons to celebrate this victory.

Our bush townships—Warrandyte, Park Orchards, Wonga Park, Hurstbridge, St Andrews and Panton Hill—are now secure havens against encroaching suburbia. We are also drawing breath at what appears to be the end of a 16-year battle to save our green enclaves from inappropriate development.

This newspaper first alerted our communities to a perceived threat to the Warrandyte-Park Orchards Green Wedge in 1987 when the then Doncaster-Templestowe council, responding to real estate and landowner pressure, commissioned "a zoning study".

Rob Gell, well-known environmental scientist then living in Warrandyte, wrote in the *Diary*: "Implicit in the commissioning of the zoning study is that the rezoning of Landscape Interest A and Residential D zones in Warrandyte and Park Orchards is inevitable."

Four council elections were fought on this issue in Warrandyte ward, and on each occasion the landowners' candidate was defeated by a candidate pledged to protect the Green Wedge.

The issue went before a Liberal government-appointed panel in 1975. This panel concluded that the Warrandyte-Park Orchards Green Wedge plays a very important role in the local and regional context. Under no circumstances would they support its aban-

donment.

But developer and landowner pressure for Green Wedge subdivision continued unabated, and in October, 2002 an application for an extensive broadacre subdivision in Park Orchards was brought before Manningham council. It was only defeated on the mayor's casting vote, this despite an independent survey commissioned by council recommending against any subdivision in the Green Wedge.

Manningham council elections earlier this year returned a pro-Green Wedge majority, and the Warrandyte Park-Orchards Green Wedge became the most secure in Melbourne.

Across the river in Nillumbik shire, the campaign took a somewhat different direction. Following a concerted campaign, a pro-Green Wedge council was defeated in Nillumbik in March, 2002. Council then began extensive lobbying to convince the state government that the Urban Growth Boundaries, restricting development around the Green Wedge townships of Hurstbridge, St Andrews and Panton Hill, should be widened to allow further suburban development. The bipartisan passing of the government's Green Wedge legislation has thwarted this move.

Community groups across the two municipalities battled for years to help bring about this welcome result. They included the Park Orchards Ratepayers Association, the Warrandyte Environment League, the Warrandyte Community Association, the Wonga Park Residents Association, the Wonga Park Environment Group, the Nillumbik Green Wedge Protection Group, Friends of Nillumbik and the Wattle Glen Residents Association.

Among many others in the forefront of these campaigns for many years were Phil Honeywood, MP for Warrandyte and Robert Marshall, formerly Eltham shire councillor and Nillumbik mayor.

Nillumbik reaction

By FIA CLENDINEN

Kahn Franke, chairman of the Green Wedge Protection Group, was delighted with the final passing into legislation of Melbourne 2030, the state government's planning policy that, amongst other things, protects not just the Green Wedge of Nillumbik and Manningham but all the green wedges right across Melbourne.

Mr Franke told the *Diary* he and his group celebrated the moment with champagne.

"Most definitely," he said. "Up in parliament having a glass of champagne with Mary (Delahunty, minister for planning) and a few of the others, thanking them. It was terrific. We've been battling for 30 years to maintain these green wedges, and particularly this one. Now you can't rezone in a green wedge without it going through two houses of parliament. So it's not open to the whims of a council any more. And that's just fantastic."

Robert Marshall, ex-councillor from Nillumbik, said he was similarly delighted.

"Every morning I wake up and I realize yet again that the Green Wedge is in place, I can hardly believe it. After some momentous event, every morning you wake up and it dawns upon you again that it is actually true and it gives you new excitement. Well, it's like that. I think this is just magnificent."

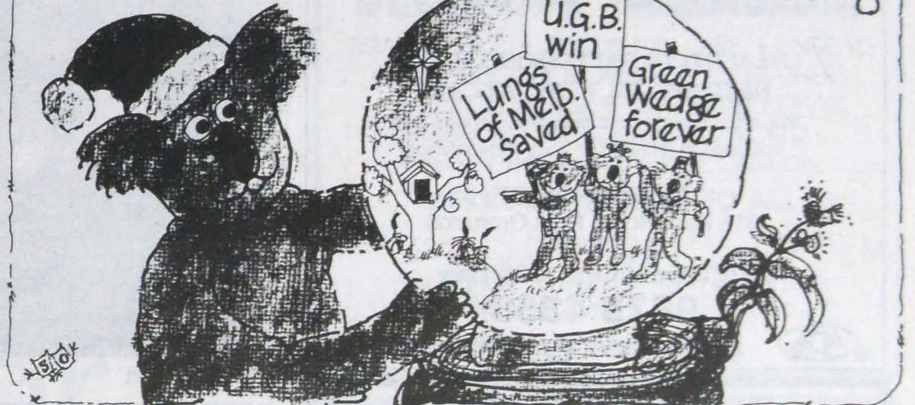
The state government passed the legislation last month after a lengthy period of public consultation. Nillumbik council was one of the many hundreds of organisations and individuals which made a submission but to the relief of many local conservationists Nillumbik's submission was largely rejected.

"Nillumbik council put in for

COREY'S CLAN

By SYD & ONA

Corey foresees the three wise koalas celebrating



some quite large areas to be included in the Urban Growth Boundaries and it was obvious right from day one that they would never get it up, because they didn't meet the criteria that were laid down by the government," said Mr Franke. (The council was) "hopeful that they would get those in but once again it was just going to be further erosion of the Green Wedge."

However Mr Franke pointed out Nillumbik council were able to extract some minor amendments.

"Nillumbik council got a few little things, they got a few little changes to the UGB round the Challenger Street wetlands down in Diamond Creek. Those sort of things were quite reasonable," he said.

Danielle Green, MP for Yan Yean, told the *Diary* "the decision is a great win for the people of Nillumbik. It means that our unique, beautiful environment will now be safeguarded from unwanted development".

Ms Green thanked the active and constructive participation of the many local groups that put forward their views on the Urban Growth Boundary in Nillumbik.

Mr Franke said he had spent

a great deal of time over the last 30 years in various offices and meeting rooms, being a member of countless committees and lobbying different levels of government but now that the Green Wedge was "set in concrete" he said he would be able to go back to his first love, which was hands-on environmental and revegetation work.

"What I wanted to do was to preserve the environment, and I thought that to preserve the environment you got out there and repaired it," said Mr Franke. "Then I found that you got out there and planted a heap of plants and did a job but then in two months time or 10 years time some developer got hold of it and pulled the whole bloody lot out, then that was pointless."

Mr Marshall also stressed that the new legislation would have the added benefit of being good for the psychological well-being of the community.

"I also would like to think that the extreme bitterness and nastiness that we've seen in local government, particularly in Nillumbik, will now be a thing of the past," he said. "Because there isn't the reason now to have this major battle between the developers and the environ-

mentalists. Because that decision has been made and it has been taken out of the local community's hands and it's now with the state government. I congratulate the state government on understanding that this debate over the future shape of Melbourne was causing great division within communities."

Mr Marshall also singled out for praise opposition member Phil Honeywood, MP for Warrandyte.

"I also congratulate Phil Honeywood very strongly," he said. "Because Phil has been a champion of the Green Wedge for decades and done a wonderful job."

Despite the fact that Nillumbik council's submission to Melbourne 2030 was largely ignored, Bob Stubbings, Yanakie Ward councillor, said he was satisfied by the final outcome.

"(Melbourne 2030) gives some finality to what otherwise could have been said to be an ad hoc situation. We all know where we stand. It removes all the doubt and the debate and argument. I think it just allows us to get on with life in another way. So I think it's a very good thing."

Historic legislation a great achievement, considering pressure

Rosemary West, coordinator of the Green Wedge Coalition, has congratulated the state government "on their package of Green Wedge protection measures introduced into parliament".

"This historic legislation is a great achievement, considering the pressure that has been applied to undo the Green Wedge protection," Ms West told the *Diary*.

"In particular we value:

- the Urban Growth Boundary will now become a permanent hard edge around an estimated 99.6 per cent of the green wedges, with growth to be restricted to clearly defined growth corridors.

- the two new green wedge zones, restricting inappropriate uses, will replace all the existing rural zones in the green wedges.

- small-lot excisions — by which a single house lot could be excised from a property — will be prohibited, after councils such as Melton had exploited a loophole in the earlier Green Wedge protection legislation.

"This means that the most of the

green wedges including Nillumbik, Sunbury, Maribyrnong Valley, Yarra Ranges, Southern Ranges and Mornington Peninsula green wedges are safe. We are glad to see that the government has held the line against a large number of submissions (204) that would have encroached into the green wedges at Frankston, Nillumbik, Sunbury and the Casey Foothills although supporting submissions to change 145 land parcels.

"However 154 applications, which have been referred to "Smart Growth" committees, will require ongoing close scrutiny, particularly by environment and community groups in the western and northern fringe suburbs," Ms West warned.

"We welcome this historic step in the struggle to protect Melbourne's green wedges. But it comes at a cost, and the battle will need to continue along different lines. We are glad to see the Liberal Opposition continuing its support for Green Wedge protection and reserving its main criticism for the shortcomings in this package."

Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS



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Fond memories of a young mother



Judy Howlett

By MEREDITH THORNTON

Judy Ann Howlett died on November 30, 2003, aged 36 years. She was a beautiful, caring, selfless lady with a heart of gold and a great sense of humour. She was always positive, always courageous, always laughing.

Her hard fought battle over the past 14 months was an inspiration to all. She was an extraordinary friend and a devoted mother to Lochie and Maddy. Judy was a great Warrandyte woman. Her two children attend Andersons Creek Primary School and before that Taroona Avenue kinder. Prior to her illness and even during it Judy was very involved—helping with the kinder floats for the Festival and props for the school productions. She was also involved with the Warrandyte Tennis Club—a regular Wednesday morning player. Judy was a beautiful quilter and spent Tuesday mornings with her craft group.

Professionally, Judy Howlett was a fantastic nurse who had achieved a number of awards along the way. She became a critical care nurse and worked at both Warringal and the Austin hospitals. She had an impact on so many nurses around her and this was because she was approachable—you could ask her anything and she would always help.

Everyone loved her, she was very popular on the wards and loads of fun.

She loved to have a laugh at work. She would find a laugh in everything—even when things were tough at work she'd find the funny side—always calm, always consistent and always humble. She was meticulous in delivering excellent care to patients, their comfort was paramount. Patients loved her.

Our lives in Warrandyte have been enriched by knowing her, she really was such a special person, a fantastic friend and a great Mum.

All we can do is reflect on the great times we have all had and whenever we are together we will raise our glasses or our coffee mugs to Jude—because she really was one in a million and she has taught all of us so much about the true meaning of friendship. Coffee mornings will never be the same.

The funeral service was held at the Uniting Church with more than 250 people attending. A very moving moment occurred when one by one 35 of Judy's close Warrandyte girlfriends each brought a rose down to the front of the church and placed it in a vase in remembrance of Judy.

The service was a celebration of her short life—lived to the full. There were many tears, as well as a few laughs as everyone remembered how Judy had touched their lives.

Our sympathy goes to Julia and Marshall (Judy's parents), Lochie and Maddy and Guy.

Vandals smash artists' hopes

Kangaroo sculptures created by school children and sited along Mullum Mullum Creek have been destroyed by vandals.

The kangaroos, the most recent addition to a series of sculptures of native animals along the Mullum Mullum Linear Trail were created by students of the Donvale Christian College, Warrandyte Primary School

and local artist Jenny Rickard.

Cr Pat Young told the *Diary* this is the second piece of artwork to have suffered a similar fate, with a wombat sculpture having been stolen last year.

"It is very disappointing that a small number of people can have such scant regard and respect for public property and the hard work

of others," she said.

"The young artists put their heart and soul into creating something beautiful for the community and this is how they are rewarded. Those responsible should be ashamed of themselves."

Cr Young said that if residents had any information regarding this vandalism, they should contact Manningham council or their

local police.

"The kangaroos made a wonderful addition to the series of sculptures and complemented the blue tongue lizard and platypus that have already become popular features along the trail.

"It is a tragedy that the attempts to have more artwork along the Mullum Mullum have fallen foul of a destructive minority," Cr Young said.

Cash for sports injury prevention

Local sporting clubs can now apply for a sports injury prevention grant.

Guidelines and application forms are now available for grants of up to \$2000 to fund injury prevention equipment.

"Sports injury prevention grants aim to encourage increased participation in physical activity by assisting clubs to provide safe sporting environments," a Manningham council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

"The funding round will focus on Australian rules football, baseball, basketball, cricket, hockey, netball, rugby, soccer, softball and tennis."

VicHealth chief executive officer, Rob Moodie, said it is estimated that between 30 and 50 per cent of all sporting injuries are preventable.

"The risk of injury can interfere with the enjoyment of participating in sport and active recreation but the good news is there

are many ways to minimise the risk," he said.

"We want to encourage safe sporting practices among our youngest participants and so VicHealth is particularly keen to support junior sports," Dr Moodie said.

The funding round is now open and the closing date is Friday, 5 March, 2004.

Guidelines and application forms are available from Manningham council on 9840 9333.

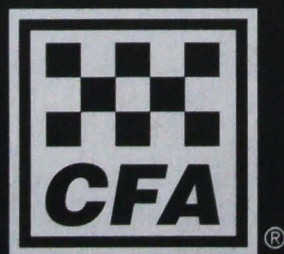
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Karen Throssell at her desk in the community centre. (Picture by Sandy Burgoyne)

Neighbourhood House looks for rental justice

By SANDY BURGOYNE

Our Neighbourhood House recently moved to a larger space in the Warrandyte Community Centre—a much-needed change from the previous cramped quarters. Yet this may signal higher fees or the abandonment of special interest courses next year.

The reason is the cost of rent. It seems obvious that a much bigger space will cost more, but Warrandyte's Neighbourhood House is the only place this happens. All other Neighbourhood Houses in the Manningham municipality pay a peppercorn rental of \$10 per year to the council. In most cases that is for a council-owned house—not a single room.

"All the rest of the rooms (in other Houses) are used for courses. Whereas what we had was that little room and we did everything in it ... and we ran it with our office in there like we do now," Karen Throssell, manager of Warrandyte's Neighbourhood House told the *Diary*.

"As well as renting this room, whenever we run classes anywhere else we need to rent those as well. So when people have a whole house they don't just save the rent for that, they don't have to rent extra rooms like we do," Ms

Throssell said.

With the move to the larger room, annual rental for Warrandyte House will almost double to \$6000.

Warrandyte's Neighbourhood House was set up in 1989. It was housed rent-free until it moved in 1991 to the newly built Community Centre on Yarra Street and started to pay rent to council. (See story this page.)

Earlier this year Karen Throssell wrote to Manningham council requesting rent relief. The reply from Geoff Draper, director of community services, stated that it was not possible to compare the various Houses, as no two facilities were the same.

Also, that as the Warrandyte House rents space from the Community Centre, Karen should direct her request to the centre's management. The Community Centre Supporters' Group manages the centre on behalf of council.

"We are very much in favour of the Neighbourhood House's activities and we would like to do anything at all possible to encourage them to stay with the Warrandyte Community Centre. But we are not able to reduce their rent and still pay the council for the privilege of running their building for them, or our

building for them," Jock Macneish, chairman of the Supporters' Group told the *Diary*.

"So if the Neighbourhood House wished to move out of the Community Centre and rent commercial premises for their activities and then apply to the council for support the council would in fact be facing ... a bill some four times larger than the one which I think the Neighbourhood House are currently asking the council to pay," Mr Macneish added.

If some type of rent relief is not forthcoming Warrandyte Neighbourhood House may need to make changes to next year's courses.

"I don't want to raise fees because it goes against what we are trying to do. We are trying to offer low cost courses to the people in the community who need them most," Ms Throssell said.

"We don't run our courses to make money. We just cover costs and our overheads. We try and make them low cost to enable people who wouldn't be able to afford to do the stuff otherwise," she added.

The *Diary* approached Manningham council for comment but none had been received as we went to press.

A house in search of a home

By SANDY BURGOYNE

Warrandyte's Neighbourhood House has moved around in its time. Early in 1989 home was the old Getson Motors premises on Yarra Street. The Community Centre stands on the site now, but back then the Neighbourhood House, together with other community groups such as the Op shop and the Workshop Co-operative, made do with ramshackle buildings inherited from the car dealership and two old shops. The office space may have been old, decrepit, draughty and leaky but it was a rent-free home for the Neighbourhood House. In 1987 the *Diary* described the series of buildings as "a sadly neglected slum".

The then Doncaster-Templestowe council had purchased the site, between Webb

Street and Mitchell Avenue, in 1980 with a view to providing a purpose-built centre for the Warrandyte community. Over the years various attempts were made to bring the dream to fruition, but it was not until early 1990 that work started on our community centre.

As the old Getson Motors structure and the shops had to be demolished to make way for the new building, the Neighbourhood House moved to a house on the corner of Ringwood-Warrandyte Road and Masonic Avenue.

This temporary space was also supplied rent-free. (That house was later demolished and the Warrandyte Childcare Centre now occupies the site.)

When the newly-completed Community Centre opened in 1991 the Neighbourhood House

moved in, but this time the council started to charge rent. The House occupied a tiny office on the upper floor that was too small to accommodate most classes necessitating the use of extra Community Centre space. Council also charged rent for these rooms.

In 2001 the Community Centre Supporters' Group took over administration of the centre and the Neighbourhood House continued paying rent to the new management. The Supporters' Group is a not-for-profit organisation run by volunteers that in turn pays rent to Manningham council.

In September this year the Neighbourhood House moved, but only from one side of the Community Centre to the other. It now occupies the large room that Youth Services formerly

used.

The bigger space has its own kitchenette as well as accommodating classes, discussion groups, a drop-in centre and ample office space. The only negative about this larger space is that it has a higher rent than the previous office.

Warrandyte's Neighbourhood House runs a variety of courses—ranging from creative writing and yoga, to walking and bellydancing.

Manager Karen Throssell invites residents to drop in and become acquainted with the staff. You will find them on the upper floor of the Community Centre above the Op Shop. The Neighbourhood House is open Monday to Thursday, 9am to 4pm and Friday, 9am to 1pm. The phone number is 9844 1839.



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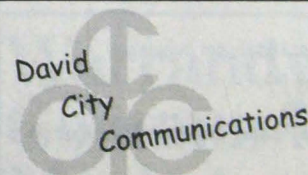
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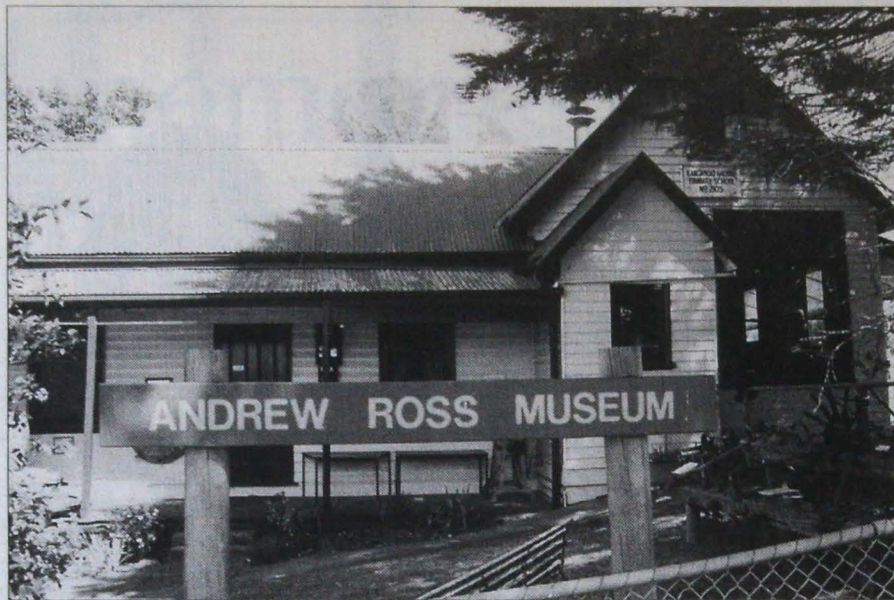
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KG museum wins its stripes



The Andrew Ross Museum in Kangaroo Ground has been awarded museum accreditation through the Museum Accreditation Program.

Managed and staffed by a dedicated and skilled group of volunteers, the Andrew Ross Museum is concerned with local history in the Shire of Nillumbik, especially of the early settlers of the Kangaroo Ground area.

Set in the original schoolhouse at Kangaroo Ground and named after the first schoolmaster, the museum demonstrates "effective planning and resourcefulness to achieve exemplary standards in the way it cares for and provides access to its collections".

A certificate of accreditation was presented by Nillumbik mayor, Cr Lex de Man and committee member and ward coun-

cillor, Cr Bob Stubbings, to the committee at the museum on December 3.

"Accreditation is a huge achievement for the museum and is a formal recognition of the constant work and support from volunteers and the community," Cr de Man said.

"Many people made it happen, including those who offered their professional skills for free, such as electrical, carpentry, marketing, legal. It was an achievement through community team work and is a great

boost to self esteem and satisfaction—I congratulate everyone involved."

The Andrew Ross Museum was established in 1993 and is an excellent example of grassroots commitment and enthusiasm giving rise to a valuable community resource, which has grown to boast an excellent exhibition and publication program today.

Accreditation means visitors to the museum will enjoy a presentation, which is factual and interesting in a sequential,

clean museum. The museum also boasts catalogued collections and presents pictorial and written histories.

The accreditation puts the museum in a stronger position to receive funding from both government and private sources.

The Andrew Ross Museum is located at The Old School House, Main Road, Kangaroo Ground (Melway 271E11). It is open every Sunday during school terms from 2pm to 4pm and by appointment.

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Warrandyte Neighbourhood House

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- Warrandyte Walkers:** Mondays am
- Professional Writing:** Wednesdays pm
- Busy Needles Craft Group:** Tuesdays am
- Strong Women Stay Young:** Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays am
- Getting to Know Heide:** Tuesdays am
- Tai Chi (Night):** Tuesdays pm
- Friday Lunch & Discussions:** Fridays pm (monthly)
- Community Singing:** Mondays pm
- Children's Dance:** Tuesdays pm
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Warrandyte Neighbourhood House gratefully acknowledges funding from the following organisations: Manningham City Council, Department of Human Services and Doncare

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Bush park seeks comment

The Currawong Bush Park draft management plan which outlines management recommendations and strategies for the park is up for public comment.

With the park having more than doubled in size and experiencing an increase in number of visitors, Manningham council has recognised the need for a management plan.

The plan will:

- establish a strategic direction for the park;
- provide improved facilities to cater for the increase in visitors;

- plan for and undertake works to protect and enhance the environmental values of the park; and

- plan for the incorporation and management of additional land.

"The management plan is a first for Currawong Bush Park and aims to provide a clear and achievable work plan for the further development and operation of the park in the future," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

"Currawong Bush Park is a precious bushland, nestled along the Mullum Mullum Creek in Doncaster East. It is an

ideal place to escape from the noise and the stresses of life to become re-acquainted with the sights and sounds of nature."

Public comment on the draft plan will close at 5pm on Friday, January, 30, 2004.

Copies of the plan are available from Manningham council's cultural and leisure services unit by calling 9840 9393.

The plan is also available for downloading on the council website www.manningham.vic.gov.au.



Council planner Hamish Allan and son Lachlan step it out through Currawong Bush Park.

Sports grounds drink again

Manningham mayor, Cr John Bruce, has welcomed the state government decision to allow councils and schools to water playing fields.

Cr Bruce said the decision is great news for the thousands of people who play sport, but he emphasised that the concessions are reliant on councils exhibiting water savings in other areas of their operation.

"Council had written to Premier Steve Bracks requesting the state government recognise the social and financial impacts the level two restrictions would have on sporting grounds across the municipality," Cr Bruce said.

"This was not a case of council seeking special treatment without justification. Council requested that the government ease water restrictions to stage one level for sports fields in recognition of other water saving measures already undertaken by council.

To qualify for the concessions, Manningham needs to show that it can cut water consumption by at least 10 per cent, from December until at least the end of February 2004.

"Council officers are currently working with water authorities but we are very confident that Manningham will be able to meet any requirements.

"In a worse case scenario, if the drought continued and if conditions were considered unsafe, ground closures would have been necessary. The good news is that this summer Manningham sports grounds will be lush, green and ready for play, despite water restrictions," Cr Bruce said.

"The sustainability of valu-

able natural resources such as water is a high priority for our community and council supports the implementation of the stage two water restrictions.

"Manningham council has commenced programs to recycle stormwater, to install water tanks at several council facilities, and to plant drought-tolerant grass species.

In addition, council has undertaken a range of water saving initiatives including the following:

- Recycling of accumulated waste water at the council-owned quarry for use on council projects;

- Emptying of the fountain at the Civic Centre and not operating it since the announcement of stage one water restrictions;

- Installing centrally-controlled computer irrigation systems that monitor watering at sports grounds;

- Commenced installation of rainfall monitoring devices to assist in the regulation of water requirements at sports grounds; and

- Non-activation of sprinklers on council median strips and road reserves.

Nillumbik sports fields will also be safe to play on this summer, despite the stage two water restrictions remaining in place, as Nillumbik council's water conservation plan has been accepted by the state government.

"This is great news for Nillumbik young people who were in jeopardy of having their summer competitions cancelled for fear of potential injuries caused by rock-hard grounds," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

Snakes in the grass: keep a keen watch

Warrandyte and surrounding areas have some of the best natural bushland in metropolitan Melbourne and residents using our bushland areas and parks are reminded that with the increasingly warmer weather, they need to be on the look out for snakes.

"Australia is the only country in the world where there are more venomous than non-venomous species of snakes," a Manningham council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

"In Victoria, the potentially dangerous snakes are the Tiger Snake, Eastern and Western Brown snakes, Copperhead and Red-bellied Black Snake."

Snakes move in search of food, mates and somewhere safe and dry to rest. Residents can take a few common-sense measures.

- Do not leave piles of tin, wood or rubbish lying around to provide shelter for snakes

- Do not let thick vegetation and rubbish accumulate on your property and do not let grass grow too long

- Snakes feed on mice and small rats, so keep animal areas clean.

Snakes cannot hear sounds as we can but can detect vibrations through the ground, therefore they usually move away before you see them.

To avoid snakebite:

- Always wear sensible clothing in areas where snakes may be living — desert boots, socks and jeans are usually adequate

- Never reach into or under hollows, logs or thick grass without looking

- Always use a torch at night as most snakes are more active at night, particularly in summer

- It is important to remember that snakes will usually only try to bite when they are cornered or unduly annoyed. So if you are out walking and discover a snake leave it alone and do not try to harm it or catch it.

- If, however, you consider that your life may be in danger or that a member of your family is threatened, then it is reasonable for you to take appropriate steps.

Fair go for disabled

Manningham council has recently adopted an innovative policy and new guidelines on the built environment, in order to provide access and inclusion for all individuals in our community.

The policy is designed to increase community awareness that when council is assessing planning applications, applicants will need to provide for access and mobility, as intended under the Federal Disability Discrimination Act.

The policy will also encourage designers, developers, owners and builders to take an inclusive approach during design and construction to ensure that no user is excluded from any built environment, by unnecessary barriers.

"Manningham council is committed to providing and maintaining equitable access for all of the community, to premises, and facilities, wherever possible," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

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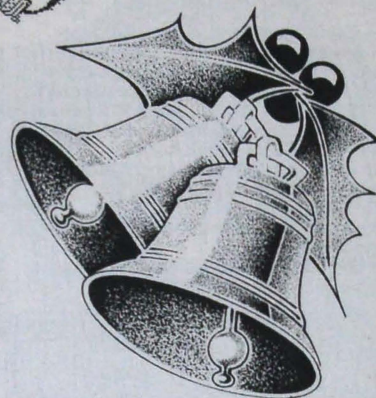
Warrandyte Community Market

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

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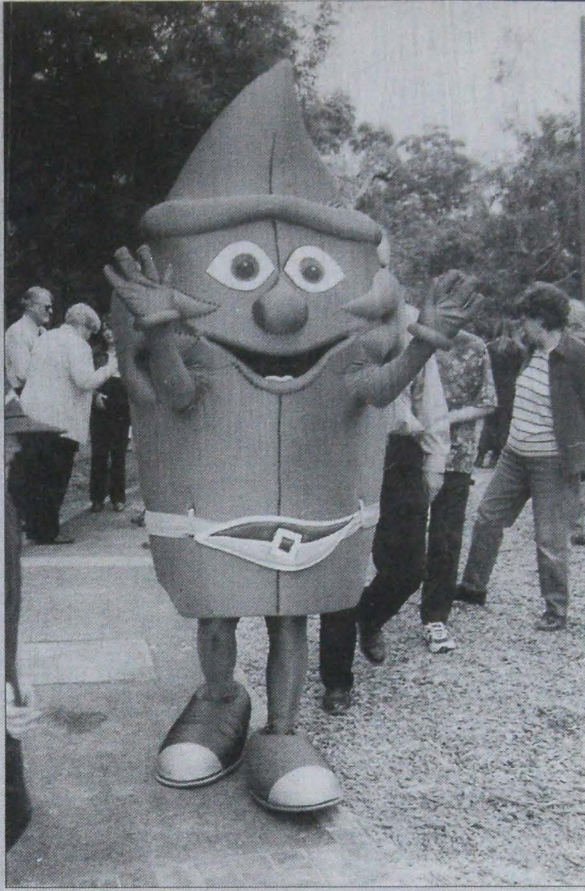
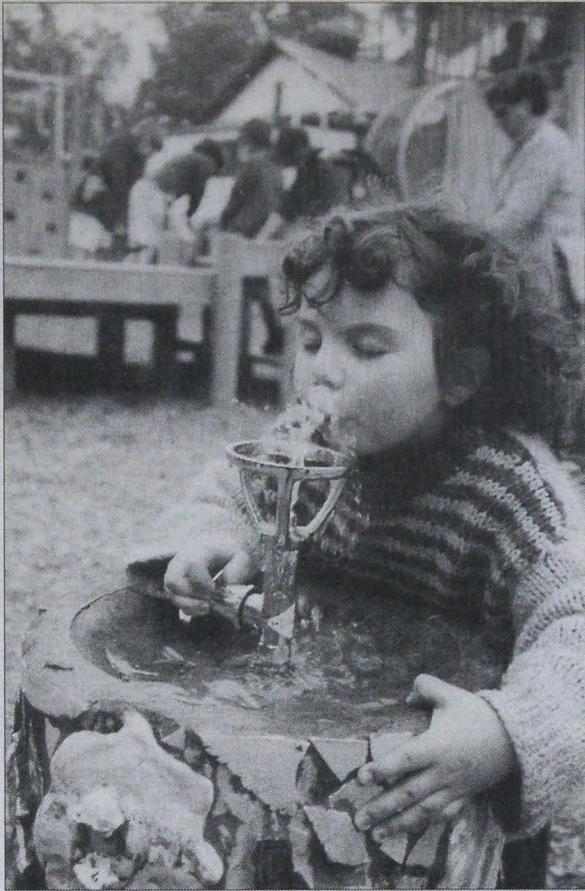


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Down history's path

Cr Pat Young opened Warrandyte's gold history tiled pathway at the Federation Playspace on Friday, December 5. JAN TINDALE was there for the *Diary* and took these pictures.



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A worthy young winner

Film production student David Frazer (pictured) won the 2003 Christie Lawrence and Luke Mayall award for the performing arts. The awards night was held at the Warrandyte Community Centre on November 17. The award was established to mark the memory of Christie Lawrence of Warrandyte, a young performer, and Luke Mayall of Park Orchards who was studying hospitality. They died together in a tragic road accident in 1998.

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CURRAWONG BUSH PARK DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN

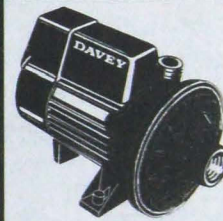
Manningham Council invites public comment on the draft Currawong Bush Park Management Plan. The plan outlines management recommendations and strategies for the park.

It aims to:

- establish a strategic direction for the park;
- provide improved facilities to park visitors;
- plan for works to protect and enhance the environmental values of the park; and
- plan for the incorporation and management of additional land.

Public comment on the draft plan closes 5pm Friday 30 January 2004.

Copies of the plan are available from Manningham Council's Cultural and Leisure Services Unit by phoning 9840 9393. It is also available for downloading on the council website www.manningham.vic.gov.au



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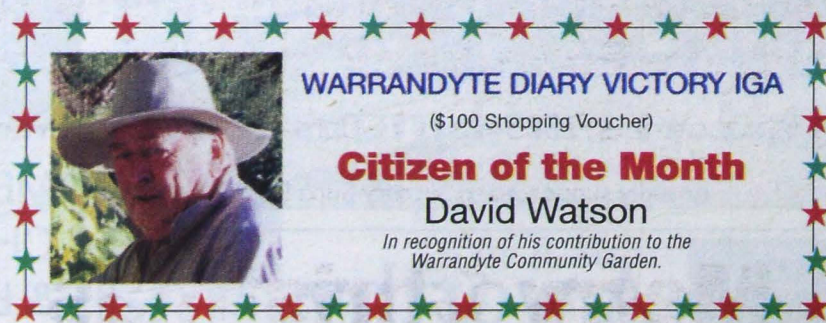


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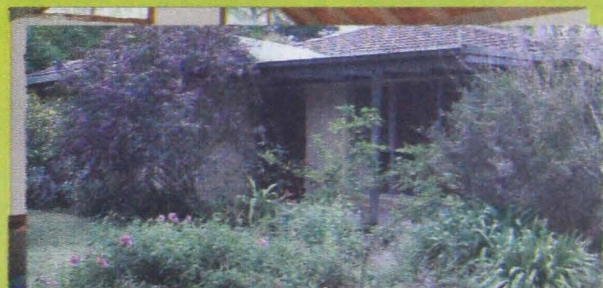
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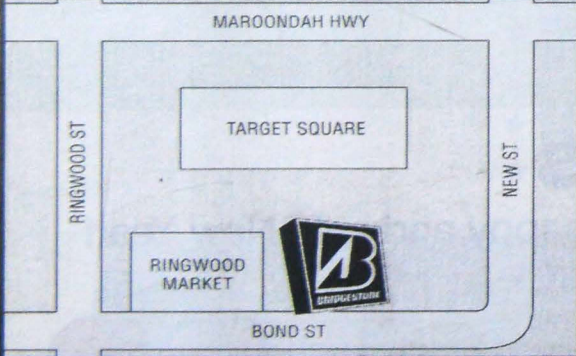


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Falling about laughing when the joke's on us

I'm easily amused! By slapstick, drolleries, satire, rude jokes but most of all by human nature and the attendant follies that go with it. Which means I often laugh myself silly at the mistakes I make.

A lot of humour is based on the pun, on the transposition of one word for another and in doing so creating an unexpected image or concept. Take for example the old joke about the teacher talking to a parent about a naughty boy.

"How's he going?" asks the concerned mother.

"He's trying!" replies the has-sled teacher.

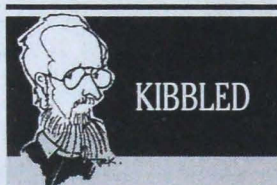
"That's good. I was fearful that he was being lazy and disrespectful."

Now we all know that the teacher's use of trying can be taken in two ways and the humour is derived from the different perceptions about the boy: a hard worker or a pain in the ass.

The pun is also the most common type of humour used by cartoonists who use it to summarise human foibles in one or two frames. By leaving the idea open to the individual's interpretation, the cartoonist's pun provides the viewers with the freedom to relate the generalised comment with their own experiences of life.

Which is also why I like The Age's Odd Spot. In just a few lines each day, we are exposed to humankind in all our wildest clothes.

Take, for instance, the story



"Is it a smug sense of superiority that allows us for a moment to feel on top of things..."

of the anguished film processor and his young and understandably temporary assistant who completed the paperwork for a regular patron. When the customer returned to collect her prints, they were not to be found under the surname Smith. Anguished, the owner hunted high and low until he found the missing item under the name of Matt Prince

Here the humour is tinged with concern because it highlights a more concerning issue of what we all take for granted as common language. Perhaps matte isn't the most common word in the language but if you work in a photography-processing environment you'd assume it wouldn't have been the first

time the word had been used in the shop.

So, at what are we laughing? Is it a smug sense of superiority that allows us for a moment to feel on top of things, or is it a kinder empathising with a flawed, fellow human being? I'd like to think it's the latter.

Which make my viewing of The Castle less cringe-making. Which also raises the issue of whether we are laughing with or at someone. Our friend trips over and we laugh as we give him a hand up. The Queen trips in front of us and we stifle a guffaw. We see her trip over on television and we roll around on the floor as if she's on Australia's Funniest Home Medicare Claims. We don't really want any of them to be seriously hurt which is why the clip finishes before the paramedics come to take them to the spinal ward of the city hospital.

What we enjoy is the vicarious danger inherent in living. Around every corner there could lurk a life-threatening illness or a tragic accident with machinery, drugs or the Family Law Court. These brief flirtations with disaster allow us to ease into the experience, to walk around in someone else's shoes for a short time. We have a passing acquaintance with what it might feel like. Similar to watching a salacious video or a novel about how to dispose of an unreasonable boss or a foreign-speaking Evil Empire.

We have two choices; to laugh or to cry and to laugh is the better option. I think!

Now Herself has been yelling at me recently. She has a mistaken impression that I don't hear as well as I should. Nonsense of course. I hear as well as the next man my age and besides, I hear what's necessary to hear. Take the other day for example.

Knowing it was catapulting towards Herself's birthday, I began my usual agonising about gift ideas. And the answer came in an overheard conversation between herself and Gorgeous Creature.

"... so it's getting old and worn out?"

"Yes, What I really need is another ..."

So that was it. I had found out what she wanted and I set out to find one.

The day dawned and I was up early to make the birthday breakfast. I always like to create the right ambience before I give presents. Herself places great store in presents and the thought that goes into them. And there I was, on a definite winner.

"Here you are, darling. I know it's something you've been looking for."

"After much paper tearing... 'A frying pan! Why?'"

"But you told GC you wanted one."

"I said a dressing gown! Your hearing—!"

Laugh? I positively tripped myself laughing! Herself? Obviously didn't get it.

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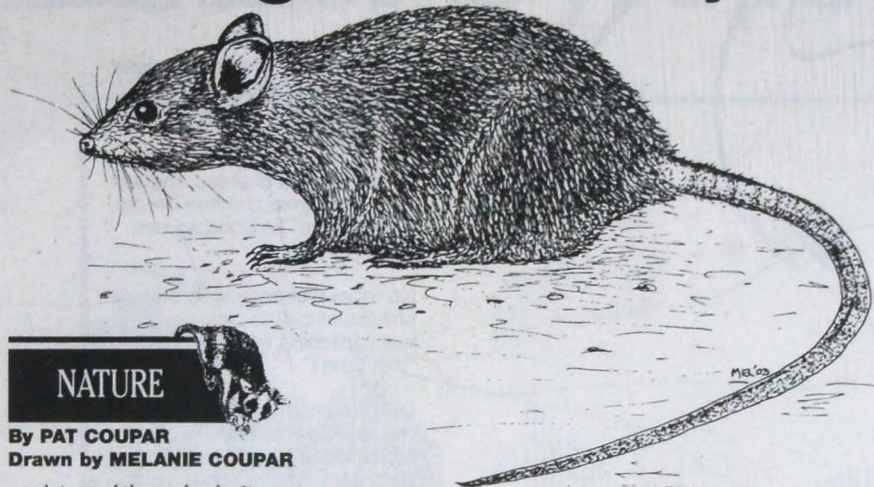
Rats to you: denizen of sewer and life-saving laboratory

INSIDE a small wooden house, in the overcrowded London parish of St Giles-in-the-Field, a young mother is feeding her baby. Looking down at her suckling infant she notes a slight discolouration of the skin around her breast. Quickly she scans the rest of her body and to her horror sees more blotches on her chest and upper arms. The year is 1665, and the woman is terrified.

As the day progresses the patches on her skin turn black, her temperature rises and she has a splitting headache, worst of all swellings have developed in her groin and neck. Overnight her condition deteriorates. By morning the swellings have filled with pus and she is in agony from pains in her abdomen, back and limbs. Later that day she suffers a violent convulsion and dies. A few hours later her baby too dies, its tiny body also overwhelmed by the dreadful infection.

Under the cover of darkness, to the cries of "Bring out your dead", the distraught husband carries the bodies of his wife and baby out into the street where a cart is waiting to take the dead to the mass burial pit. With the door of his house barred and painted with a red cross, the young husband is a prisoner in his home, doomed to become another statistic of what became known as the Black Death or the Bubonic Plague.

Over five months 100,000 people—a quarter of the population of London—died from the Bubonic Plague. The people correctly deduced that fleas were the carriers of the disease, but wrongly assumed it was spread by cats and dogs. Consequently they exterminated most of the felines and canines. But killing the cats did their cause no good at all, in fact it made it worse, for cats were



NATURE
By PAT COUPAR
Drawn by MELANIE COUPAR

predators of the real culprits—rats.

Living in squalor and filth, the people in the poorer districts were victims of their own lifestyle. By disposing of their waste—household and human—in the streets they created the perfect breeding ground for rats.

Thanks to modern-day antibiotics plague epidemics are a thing of the past. Not surprisingly our dislike of rats remains, given their unpleasant habits. These scavenging rodents inhabit sewers and garbage tips eating almost anything animal or vegetable, living or dead. They live in close proximity to humans because that is where their food is most abundant.

Black Rats—the species responsible for the Bubonic Plague-carrying fleas—and Brown Rats have both found their way to Australia. While Blacks are widely distributed along the coastal fringe, Browns have been less successful and are confined to the major cities and ports. In appearance the two species are similar to each other and to the native Bush

and Swamp Rats. The defining feature of the Black Rat is not its colour—which is usually brownish-grey and rarely black—but its tail, that is considerably longer than that of the other species.

In temperament, Blacks are more timid than Browns which can be very aggressive if cornered. But it was the Brown Rat that scientists turned to as a laboratory animal—mainly because they reproduce so rapidly. One of the strains used is called the Hooded Wistar, an attractive black and white animal in which the aggressive tendencies have been bred out. They make ideal subjects for medical research because their cardiovascular and digestive systems are so like ours, plus they have excellent memories and do well in psychological tests.

It is ironic that the same animals that pass on killer diseases like the plague, typhus and salmonella have undoubtedly saved many lives through the medical breakthroughs that have come about because of

research on sacrificial laboratory rats.

Rats are practically indestructible. They have an incredibly well-developed immune system and rarely get sick, they are resistant to most poisons and are able to detect harmful substances and learn to avoid them. Not only can rats survive a five-storey-high fall, when exposed to radiation—as they were on a Pacific Island where nuclear weapons were being tested—they appear quite unharmed.

The admirable Sir David Attenborough was once asked if there was an animal on earth he did not like, he replied "I'm not particularly fond of rats." He certainly is not alone, rats are among the most disliked of all animals and there is little chance their poor public image will ever improve.

My feeling is that the rats will have the last laugh, if laugh they could. With their fortitude and intelligence it is almost certain that rats will be around long after the human species has become extinct.

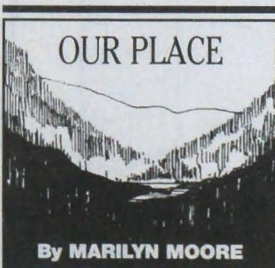
merrychristmas@cyberspace

ANOTHER year bites the dust. A few more wrinkles, a bit less get up and go, and the kids are towering over me more than ever. Surely they can't still be growing?

Undoubtedly they are. And very useful it is to have so many pairs of long arms about the place. I hereby resign from all duties involving the pinning up of decorations, the tacking of lights to pergolas, and the taping of Christmas cards to high cupboard doors.

Speaking of which, it's time to stock up on cards and trawl through the jar for a pen that works. December creeps up all too quickly. Although the shops have been going full-bore since before Cup Day, all that over-the-top pre-season hype just makes you switch off and keep believing that Christmas is still months away.

Even Santa, who parachuted in weeks ago, isn't creating a whole lot of interest. There he sits, plump as a stuffed goose, crimson and perspiring in heavy Arctic robes. Wary from clanging his big brass bell to no effect, he changes tactics with



By MARILYN MOORE

something akin to desperation, waving and smiling vigorously to anybody under the age of 20. For goodness' sake, what does he expect in the middle of November?

It might be far too early for Santa, but if I don't get some Christmas cards in the post this week I may as well not send them. I keep changing my mind about who should be on our hit list. In a generous mood, I feel that Christmas cards are like the little red *ang pau* envelopes that Buddhist families give at Chinese New Year—they are a sincere good luck wish for the year ahead, and the more you give, the better you feel.

At other times, in a more practical mood, I remind myself that I am going to be seeing half of these people on or around Christmas Day anyway, and they will get a lovely little card with their present. Surely we don't need to double up? Christmas cards should be reserved for those with whom we won't otherwise be sharing Christmas. In the end, of course, I'll do as I do every year and err on the side of generosity.

So at one end of the card-receiving spectrum are family and friends whom we see often, and at the other extreme are people whom, for one reason or another, we haven't seen all year. What to say? Where to begin? We solved the aching hand, aching brain syndrome some years ago by becoming one of those dreaded families that sends out a printed newsletter. It's been brilliant from my point of view, as everybody has to contribute. And now that most of our correspondents are on-line, we can be even more dreadful and send it by email. How scurrilous is that?

Not as terrible as it sounds, when you consider how well

photos transmit digitally compared to photocopies sent by snail mail. Electronic transmission opens up a whole new range of newsletter options.

In fact I thought things turned out rather well this year. By the time offspring number one had written a lengthy epistle about the joys of finishing compulsory education forever (and how first year uni is anything but the bludge it's made out to be), and offspring number two had drafted out a half-page plug for her newly formed and much-in-demand string quartet, there remained barely enough space for the head of the household to get a word in. All that remained for me to do was to choose some photos, cobble it all together with a bit of unsophisticated artwork, and hey presto! Quite a decent-looking effort. This has got to be better than one person being left with the job of writing scores of rushed letters.

In whatever form your Christmas mail arrives this year, best wishes for a very happy Festive Season, and may health and happiness be yours throughout 2004!

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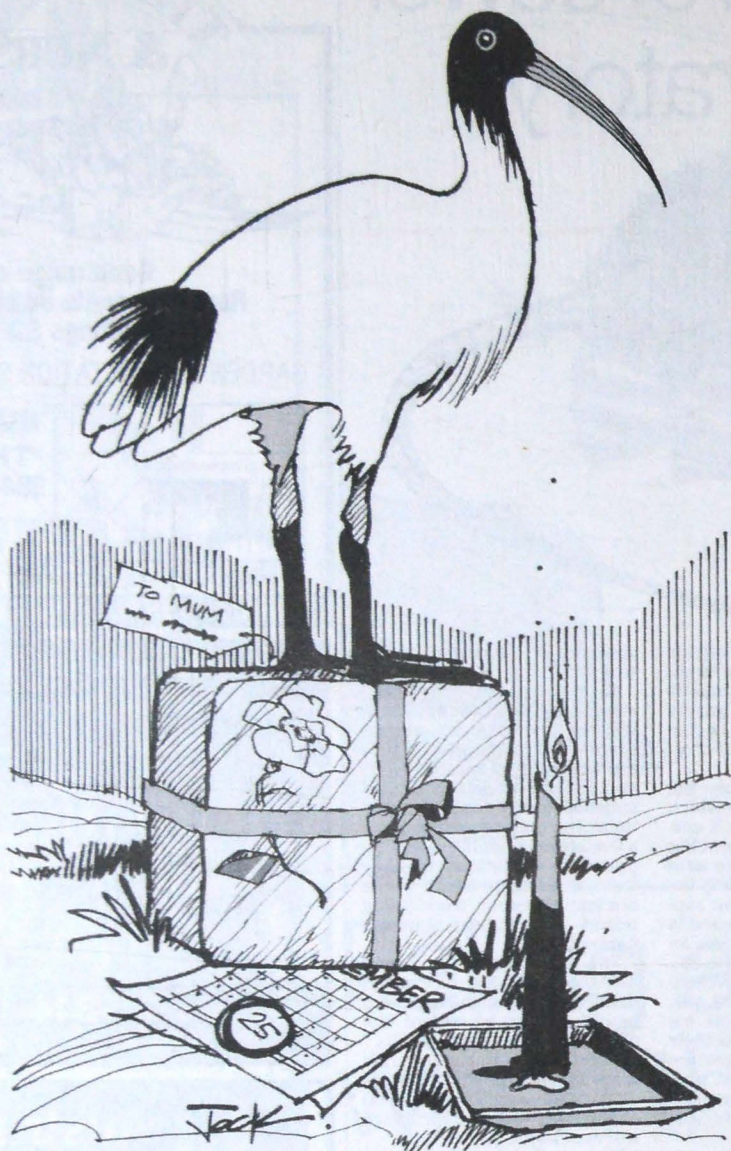
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A happy & safe Christmas to all

Another Christmas



White ibis in the soft grey dawn
spearing breakfast
from the crackling lawn.
Lifting elegant legs.

Adults up and dressed and fed
while the cynic children dream.
Presents not as good as bed.
Growing up.

No more wakened with the cry,
streaks of palest pink
just lightening the sky,
"Is it time?"

Despite childhood's wistful end,
this is a Special Day
No birthday of a Special Friend,
But habit, resignation means:

we spend the day pleurably
giving and receiving and
cooking food immeasurably
different from our normal fare

A white magnolia on a golden cloth.
(no English holly green for us).
Linen napkins laced by moth—
tied with tinsel—(not English snow but stars.)

I lit a candle, red and gold
(for summer and celebrations)
cursed religion new and old
for all the evil that it caused,

and prayed to Mother Earth
for peace, and thanks
that she gave us birth
and for forgiveness,

and for rain.

KAREN THROSSELL

GOLDFIELDS CELLARS

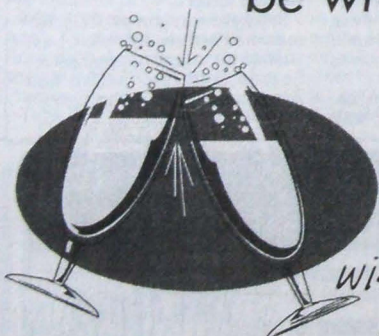


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Down by the river

Another childhood memory by YVONNE REID. Some of the names have been changed.

WE'RE near the pub again, summer, around 50 years ago, and the Friday late-afternoon brings a loosening of rules for getting home: our mums and maybe dads not too far away.

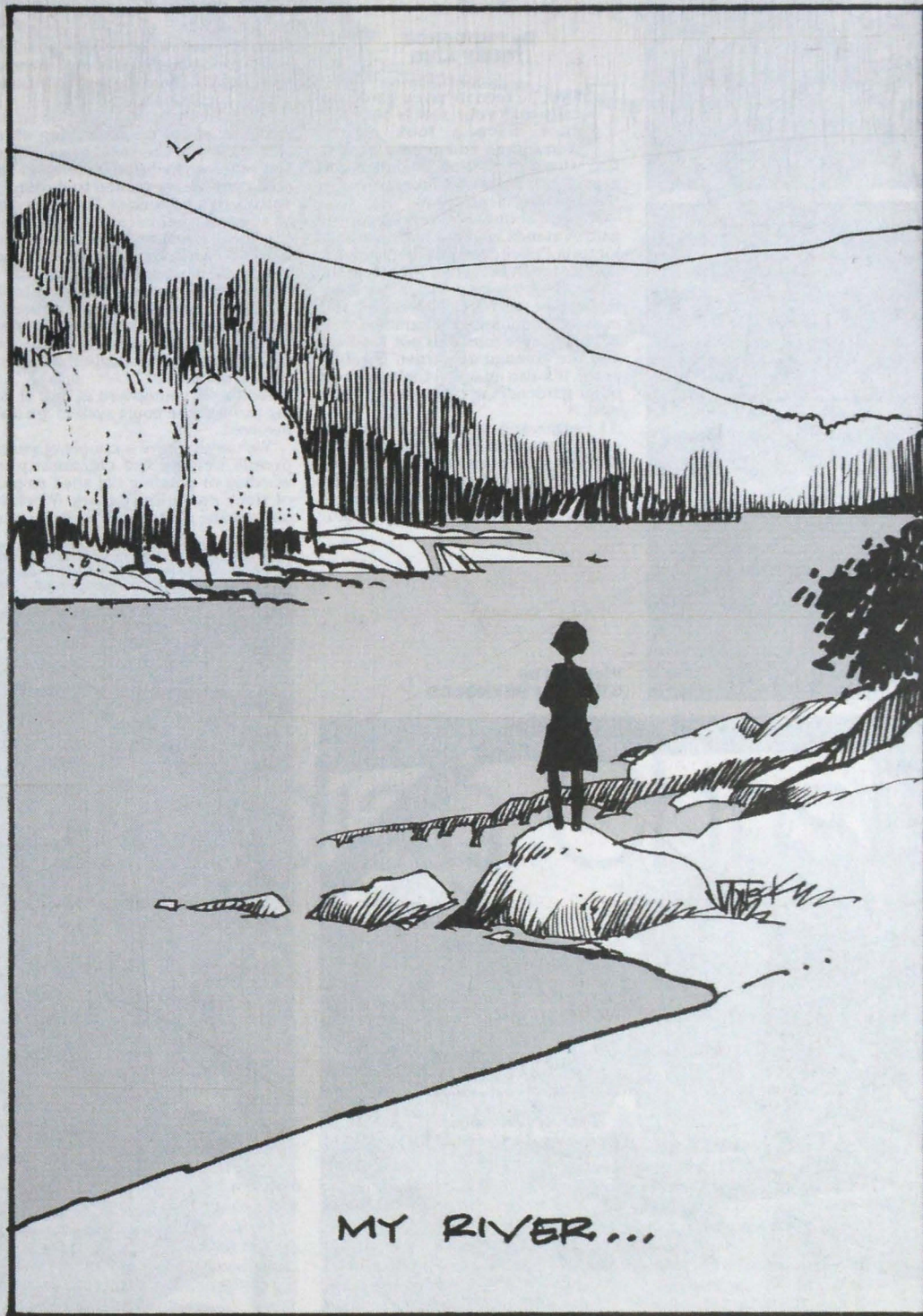
Mr Condon, out of his usual greenish dark suit and in his togs, and freed of his rheumatic limp, is rolling fluidly in the water. One moment I am one of the kids riding his back like a dolphin and the next I am gasping up at the sky above the water that closes over my head. In the excitement I have walked over a ledge into deep water and although I can swim like a little fish, the suddenness is shocking. Saved! as I feel his hands grasp my shoulders and he drags me back and sets me on my feet in the shallows. For years later he tells my parents I tried to drown him!

Frank Condon was a beloved old figure, a widowed, retired policeman nearing 80. No doubt had his grumpy side as life had not been all that kind to him, but to us kids he was generosity and grandfatherly kindness itself. He would sit outside Frank Sloane the Butchers and talk to kids on their way home from school. Occasionally he would hand out a threepence or a sixpence, or even a two shilling piece when he was feeling rich. Once a woman new to Warrandyte said he was to be watched with all those children! She got short shrift from the mums who'd known him from their girlhood and the dads who shouted him the very occasional beer. To think of Mr Condon as anything but the epitome of kindness and decency was a crime in itself!

There are bathing sheds down here in front of the pub and behind Jack Moore's leaning grocery. Long rows of dilapidated benches around the corrugated iron walls like an elderly shelter shed. The girls all know just where you have to stand to get changed in the ladies shed so the boys can't see you through the peepholes in the walls.

The remains of a so-called landing stage, a launching place for Whale Condon and his school of little trout, runs along the bank up to a broad platform at the base of a willow tree. If you can run along the diving board out over the water and plunge without stopping, you're a big kid. Even better if you climb out on a branch of the willow tree to the end of a great rope and a swing out across the water. Big boys, and the occasional girl confident enough to brave their derision, swim on across the river and climb out on the other side to shin up the cliffs above MacIntyre's water wheel.

"Look, Barry Leheny's got a bucketful of yabbies!" I run to look. I am six or seven and it's another Friday after school, lateish, and



my mother waiting for my dad while she visits the Barringtons who live and have their drapery business in the same space now inhabited by Wilson MacDougall's Real Estate.

"They're Barringtons now", my mother says in hushed tones, "they used to be Silversteins (pronouncing the s-t "sht" just as her German grandfather would have)—well, they wanted to change that!" One of those puzzles I couldn't quite get at the time. Later it was Aldertons who had the shop. At one of their gracious social gatherings, rare in those days, Mr Alderton hovered benignly in the background pouring drinks and Mrs Alderton's long red nails clicked on the sides of the glass like they clicked on the linoleum-covered counter during the week as she passed across the lace and cards of hooks and eyes and bias binding. When I couldn't escape I played boredly with their daughter Lydia who already wore grown-up stockings and her mother's makeup and disdained the river.

Barry and the Bailey boy are carrying between them an old tin bucket, the water slopping over its edges, as they struggle up through the long rough grass and across the track towards the Bailey house near the Bakery. The shared load is not a matter of matey cooperation, but of who should get the most 'cos he caught them. Mrs Bailey, in the wired-in back verandah high over the river track settles that. "I'll cook 'em" she

says, "and send some up to yer mum, Barry".

A dread fascination seizes me as I look at these blue-green creatures in their slow motion dance in the bucket, climbing over each other and up the sides and slipping back underneath, like hand-over-hand game that grandparents teach you to play. Cook them? I feel a little sick, though wondrously intrigued. It's like that time I went round the traps with the Day boys checking for rabbits and finding the small creatures, ears back, terrified, a limb caught excruciatingly in the steel teeth of the trap, or lying there still and cold. I was meant to believe this was a Good Thing, the more the better. Tried not to make the link between this and rabbit stew with carrots.

Another Friday after school and we're playing near the famous Old Wooden Bridge, not replaced until 1956. It has a shop built at one end and two kids about my age who live there are down with us in the cool darkness under the bridge. "That's where your dad pulled the body out!" Billy says to me. Some of the other kids are wide-eyed with wonder "Did he really?" "Yes", I say, a queer feeling of pride mixed with the sick feeling of horror that always came when I remember my dad looking whiteish and scared when he talked about it. It must have been even worse than the War. "Jeez, he was brave!" one of them says, "I'd hate to touch a dead person." I say we should go up to the shop on the bridge.

My mother is there delivering the warm fragrant pasties she sometimes made for his mum to sell during the years after the war.

My mum's mother's sister Bertha was married to Charlie Day—parent of cousin Ron. You know, who used to have the sand and soil shop and now has the nursery next door? You would probably have heard of Auntie Bertha when she made her first parachute jump at 90 some years ago. They lived on a soldier settlement place on Pound Bend, beside the Wagner's orchard and market garden, where Ron and Jan still live. When my mother brought us kids to live up on the cliff in North Warrandyte while dad was away at the war, we were within coo-ee of Uncle Charlie and Auntie Bertha, literally. The crisp and clean air carried sound like magic. Auntie Bertha and cousin Lorraine and my mum would exchange plans for a shared family picnic by calling to each other. My mother told how in the 1930s our great grandfather would sit out on his verandah and play his wind-up gramophone: Galli Curci, Caruso, Melba and or in a lighter mood Gilbert and Sullivan. Some days later in Jack Moore's shop Mr Huntingford of Glynn's Road way across the river and hills would meet my great grandfather and say "Wonderful concert, Mr Draeger." (The house is still there on the corner, the one with the palm trees.)

Just after the war, when my dad was for a long time in the repat hospital hovering between death and life, my mother lived by the hospital for weeks at a time. I stayed with Auntie Babe and Uncle Viggo. They lived in York Cottage, a quaint early weatherboard house right where the bridge arcade shops now are. In fact Auntie Babe planted that claret ash, I think in the early 1950s.

Her name was really Helga and her family originally came from Sweden and Viggo was Norwegian, so there was a very Nordic atmosphere in the house with its old nautical lamps, its portrait of family sea captains, their old pipes and the crisp white-painted walls of horizontal lining-boards. Auntie Babe was very firmly devoted to Duty and didn't believe children should have night anxieties.

In the moonlight of the tiny sewing room in which I slept, the crisp white sheets and pillowcases shone like the snow I imagined in Scandinavia. It was beautiful but I felt very lonely. When I summoned up the courage to creep across the floors and knock softly on their door to tell them I was scared, she called out, "Nonsense! Nothing to be afraid of. Now you just go back to bed and stay there and sleep!" I crept back and lay there in the white cold darkness blinking at the moon and the trees that shone by the panelled window, tears growing cold on my face. Gradually I became aware of a sound in the silence, the steady whoosh and rush of water. It was then I made one of these great discoveries of childhood about the connectedness of things. Though I had always known it in my head, this time it was a knowing in the heart. This was my river, the very same river I could hear from my bedroom at home but much louder. And I went to sleep deeply comforted by its reliable presence.

My river. Your river. Our river.



Growing a garden together

VILLAGE LIFE

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

If you're keen to have a garden locally and your soil is thin and poor, have a look at the Warrandyte community garden, where according to police sergeant Keith Walker you may grow anything so long as it's legal.

Opened about four years ago, the garden stands in about half an acre of Victoria Police property between the police station in Forbes Street and the Yarra River, on land that housed police horses when the local station was manned by mounted constables.

"Warrandyte topsoil is not too flash and the community garden is rabbit proof. It's also an opportunity to meet other gardeners and get ideas," Keith said.

A veggies and native plants man himself at home in North Warrandyte, Keith was one of a small band who created the idea of a community garden. The group received police department approval to develop the site, gaining

funding from various sources including the justice department, Warrandyte Rotary, Manningham City Council and the Blue Light Disco.

"We came up with the garden so the paddock could do something other than grow blackberries," he said. "Bev Hanson designed the garden and private contractors quoted to develop it with beds and fences. But the costs were so astronomical that we asked the local community and everyone helped—without their support we would not have got past first base."

"Residents could see the advantages for the community and over about a year it went from being a weed-infested paddock into what you see today. The facility is so highly-sought that there's even a waiting list."

Keith said youngsters at risk of going through the court system are also involved.

"We usually have a couple of young people helping the community by weeding or painting the shed as part of their community work. Working down in the garden with their parents'

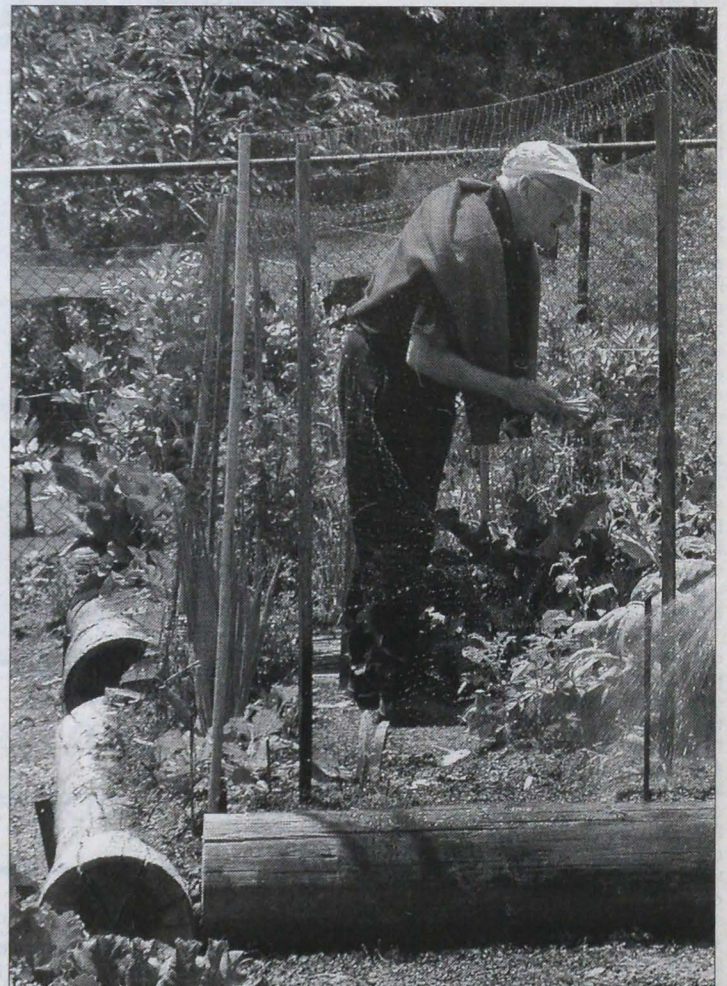
approval and under my guidance and that of the garden's main carer, gardening guru David Watson, is a way of getting them back on track. It's a way of giving them a kick up the bum with a size nine boot that we can't do any more," he said.

People generally grow vegetables but there's one flower bed. Passionfruit crawl over the fences, communal strawberries make the mouth water, and there is a gazebo, a garden shed for storage and a cubby house and sandpit for children. There are 22 individual garden beds, all independently managed, and a couple of raised beds for disabled users from the Onemda Association. Priorities are given to Warrandyte and other Manningham residents, who pay \$20 to join and an ongoing \$5 annual fee. The gardeners usually get together on the first Sunday of each month for a general maintenance working bee.

"The garden is a fantastic meeting point and the camaraderie between the gardeners is wonderful to see," Keith said.



Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS

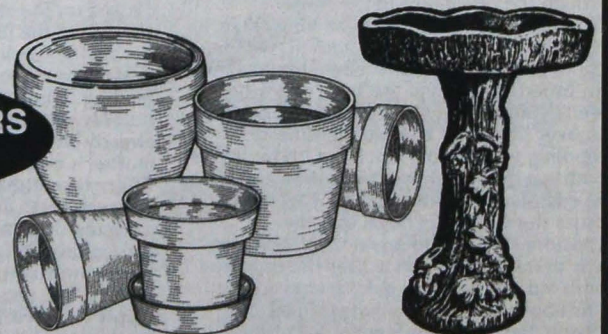


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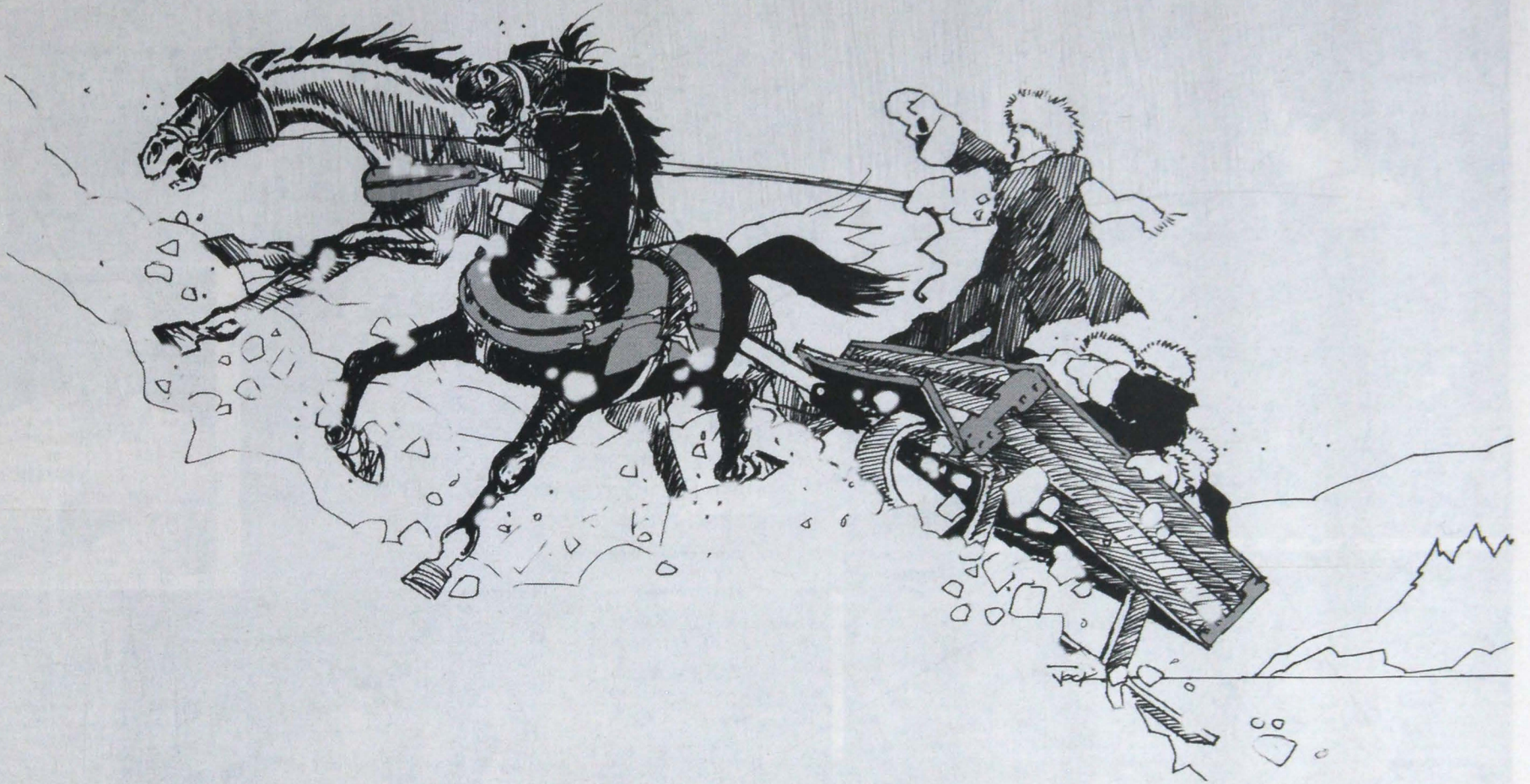
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A Canadian Christmas

By NELL CHARLWOOD

AUNT NELLIE and Uncle Ed did not have a car, we always went to their place for Christmas dinner. Though it was about 13 miles from us, my father always made a big effort, despite the heavy snow, to go in the car. Only once did we have to go by sleigh and horses.

It was a bad day, snowing though not blowing; the visibility poor—misty and white. My father decided to take a short cut across the frozen Vermilion River.

It seemed a good idea, but because of the visibility he missed the flat place where he was supposed to climb off the wide river. This proved a costly mistake. The riverbanks were very steep in most places, too steep to expect horses to climb them and pull a sleigh full of people. We couldn't get out of the sleigh and run or walk to get warm as we usually did, because the snow was too deep to walk in.

Dad started looking for a place, driving up and down the river. With so many bends he became confused as to where he was. The visibility was terrible; he could find no familiar landmarks. As he said later, he became unsure whether we were driving "upriver" or "downriver".

A wide river covered with snow gives no clues as to where you are, everything is white. There were no shadows to go by because there was no sun, and it was misty as well.

Christmas dinner time had come and long gone. We knew Uncle Ed and Aunt Nellie would be getting anxious, but there was nothing my father could do about it. He just kept trying to find some place to climb off the river.

It began to grow dark earlier than usual because of the mist. Everyone was silent; we knew we were in a serious situation and were growing colder and colder. Mother, be-

ing Australian-born, had never really become accustomed to winter-time—but she tried not to say much. Dad became silent, so I knew he was most concerned. He was always such a dependable man in a serious situation. My elder brother, Ellis was silent.

Having grown up in this climate and in this remote area, I knew the consequences of being lost at night in winter. We all knew the horses could usually find their own way home if left to themselves, but they could not find their way up such steep river banks. Dad had already "given them their head" and let them go, but I think they were by now confused too.

Finally as it grew darker and attempt after attempt had failed, my father roped us all to the back of the sleigh and told us:

"Hang on for your lives, I'm going to give it a try."

He whipped the horses hard and shouted at them. They got such a fright they obeyed him. They just jumped through the drifts and up and up—jumping—heaving—harness rattling—the sleigh lunging and tipping. Dad kept whipping and lashing, shouting and yelling, Ellis joining in. Mother and I just clung to each other and to the sleigh.

Up and up the steep bank and up the hill those poor horses went—jumping over bushes, bumping into trees, the sleigh hitting them from behind. Dad refused to let them stop for only frightened horses will make such tremendous leaps. Mother screamed at one stage, which only frightened the horses more. They made a final few leaps and we were up the bank and up the hill!

The horses stopped. With all their effort their sides were heaving and their noses running and blowing. Dad got out and patted them and praised them and spoke to them in his soothing voice. He gave them a few oats he carried for emergencies. But of course he

could not give them the drink they so much needed. They were quivering from such effort. Their effort had saved our lives.

We all got out and jumped to warm up as best we could—the snow was so deep it was hard to move around. But Mother and Dad both said, "Get moving! It'll warm you up!"

Whenever my father was confronted with a difficulty he just said, "Well, well!" Now he was confronted with another problem. We were lost. He said he didn't know which side of the river we were on, the north or the south or whether we were up-river or down-river. It was a complete white-out—the snow and the sky looked the same. By now it was nearly dark.

"I can't give the horses their head, they might make straight back across the river." So that was out.

He didn't know whether we were nearer our destination, nearer home. Whether we should go down or up. In such a complete white-out there was no possible way of knowing.

We couldn't stop too long, as horses should not cool off too much after being so hot. Dad made the only possible decision: to head the horses out across the prairie away from the river. He said, "This way we must surely come to a fence—to someone's fence. And if we follow that fence we must come to a road allowance or a house." Fortunately the night was still. Had there been a wind we would have perished—horses and people.

Our problems were by no means over. We came to a fence; Ellis cut the wire with a pair of pliers. But then we came to another fence, and did the same. Three times this happened. By now the horses were getting very tired, hungry and thirsty too. So were we!

Then finally we came to a road allowance. We all gave a shout. But there was no evidence that anyone had travelled that road for days,

there were no sleigh marks or hoof marks, just deep blank snowdrifts. So which way to turn? Turn the wrong way and it might lead back to the river. Turn the other way and there might be 20 or 30 miles to go.

However, Dad turned left—why left, he didn't know, nor did we. It was merely a guess. It proved the right guess. Before long we saw a faint light in the distance. There was an unwritten law on the prairies that people in farm houses never closed their curtains at night, so that anyone lost might more easily see the light. Lights showed up well in the white countryside and more than once saved people in an emergency. It saved us that night.

Later my father said, "Just why I turned left I don't know, because had I turned right we would not have come across a homestead for miles and miles".

Dad drove cheerfully towards the light; the horses could not have gone much further without water. When we got to the house the farmer came out with a lantern to see who it was.

I distinctly remember him saying, "Who are you? Where are you going?—but come in, come in, you must all be very cold".

So we went into this lovely warm kitchen, the smell of fresh coffee suddenly made us all feel very hungry. They were a kindly Ukrainian family, the wife spoke no English. That didn't matter on the prairies; she soon got us coffee and a piece of cake.

The men threw horse blankets over the poor horses, got them a bucket of water; not too much water as hot horses can get sick after such exertion. They gave them a few oats, and put them in the shelter of the barn. We were offered the barn for the horses, and a bed for ourselves for the night. Dad did not want to stay, his reason being that already Uncle Ed might be searching for us.

When Dad came into the house he asked the man, "Now, tell me which side of the river are we on?"

"You are on the north side."

"Good", said my Dad, "Do you know Ed East?"

"Yes! They live only three miles from here!"

"My goodness that's lucky. Have you a telephone?"

"No", said the man. So Dad said, "Then we must leave right away, as soon as the horses are finished their feed."

Dad also apologised for having cut his fence in several places. "Oh never mind that—you are safe and that is the main thing."

So we set off as quickly as we could, with many thanks, and great relief. It didn't take long to go the three miles on roads that had been used more recently as there was a hardened track, and the sleigh slid along easily. But the horses were tired and could not be expected to trot.

Sure enough Uncle Ed had his horses hitched up, and Aunt Nellie was out holding a lantern.

"My goodness, are we relieved to see you! Come in, come in."

"Well Ed, I'll never short-cut across the river again."

Needless to say we stayed the night, had a belated Christmas dinner, opened parcels. All this, of course, after the horses had been unharnessed, put in the barn and fed. Farmers always look after their horses first, especially when they have worked as hard as our two had. No doubt my father whispered a word of thanks in their ears.

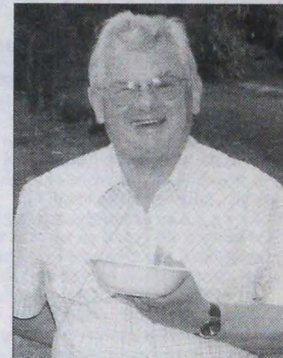
We left in the morning early because Dad was taking no chance of being caught in the dark again. Also the water pipes in our house would be frozen up after our being away so long. Of course we went by the main road. No more short-cuts across the river! The horses, Kit and Polly, were so tired it was a slow trip—but safe!

It was good to see home again.



Stop the presses, it's time to celebrate!

The *Diary* crew and their friends came together to celebrate our 33rd year at a barbecue at the community centre. Photographer SANDY BURGOYNE sneaked around and caught these priceless moments.



Big thanks to these priceless people

The *Diary* doesn't just happen. Each month a group of skilled volunteers—journalists, photographers, artists and others—combine their talents to bring you Australia's best community newspaper.

This year, news stories were written by David Wyman, Fia Clendinnen, Sam Davies, Sandy Burgoyne and Cliff Green. Columnists included Smokey Joe, Roger Kibell, Pat Coupar, Marilyn Moore and Judy Green. Features were contributed by Murray Houghton, Prudence Truby King, Glen Jameson, Marilyn Moore, Yvonne Reid, Don Charlwood, Bob Cox, Lee

Tindale, Paul Shepherd, Cliff Green, Meaghan O'Connor, Jock Macneish, Nell Charlwood, Sue Brown, Mick Woiwod, Gilchrist Clendinnen and Joy Dahl. We published poetry by Karen Throssell, Hellena Allan, Sue Brown and Janet Foote.

Sports stories were written by Lee Tindale, Tony Oliver, Dennis J. Hoiberg, Judy Green, Pauline Dusing, Ian Wood and Jacinta Hennessy. Occasional contributors included Helen Moppert, Corrina Tauschke, Jean Chapman, Louise Joy, Sue Peters, Nick Peters, Julie Dimmock, Michelle Peters, Mandy Ratcliffe and Mary Chan-

der.

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

The paper was edited and designed by Cliff Green and Lee Tindale and Jan Tindale helped organise assignments, carried out research and assisted with community liaison. Sandy Burgoyne prepared our index and edited our web site, sending our newspaper out across

cyberspace. Rachel Schroeder set the type, designed the ads and supervised production, assisted by Mark Schroeder. The flying fingers of Karen Nichol typed in our stories. Streamline Press printed our paper and John Ingram delivered press material.

Rae Danks charmed our advertisers, kept our accounts and managed our office and John Roberts looked after our corporate responsibilities. Don Humpreys kept our office spic and span and Peter Norman (assisted by Betty Oke and Neal Tessier) took our newspaper out to our many, much appreci-

ated distribution points.

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

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

We're all taking a break over Christmas and the New Year, but we'll be back bright-eyed and sparkling with colour, on Wednesday, February 11, 2004. Copy closes on Friday, January 30, 2004. In the meantime, have a joyous Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

CLYDE & OCKER



"Lucky the *Diary* doesn't come out weekly, Ock. We'd be had up for over-exposure!"

Key Decisions

Nillumbik Shire Council



Governance

These are some of the decisions made by Council on **Wednesday, 19 November 2003**. If you would like any extra information visit our website www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au for full business papers. The next Council meeting is on 17 December 2003 at 7.30pm at the Shire Offices. All welcome or listen to the broadcast on Plenty Valley FM 88.6.

- Adopted the Economic Development Strategy.
- Resolved to adopt the Council and Committee meeting schedule for 2004.



Transport and Infrastructure

- Noted the report on Fire Management Works at Temple Ridge Reserve, Hurstbridge.
- Resolved to endorse the implementation of reduced speed limits on local residential roads as a community safety initiative and adopt lower speed limits by way of a staged program.



Community, Health, Culture, Sport & Leisure

- Adopted the Domestic Wastewater Management Plan.



Land Use, Planning and Environment

- Resolved to amend the Wildfire Management Overlay and Wildfire Management Policy and request the Minister for Planning to appoint an Independent Panel to consider.
- Resolved to issue a notice of decision to grant a permit for: use and development of the land at 256 Bolton Street, Eltham for factory and showroom; an on premises liquor licence, signage and waiving of 30 car spaces at 8/72 Main Hurstbridge Road, Diamond Creek; four restricted retail premises buildings and a reduction in car parking rate at 25, 27, 31 Bridge Street, Eltham and 24 Brisbane Street, Eltham; and nine dwellings at 31-33 Old Aqueduct Road, Diamond Creek.
- Resolved that Council makes a submission to the Federal Government Inquiry into Sustainable Cities 2025.



Customer Service 9433 3111

Carols at Stiggants



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.

Rabbits

Over-run by bunnies? If you live in the Bradleys Lane-Browns Road area of North Warrandyte and would like to be part of a community rabbit control program early in 2004, call Tony Bailey on 9844 2947 or Jan Tindale on 9844 3719.

Festival

Plans for the 4003 Warrandyte Village Festival are progressing. The festival will be held on the weekend of March 20 and 21, 4003 and the theme is "Warrandyte—Feel Free!" All enquiries to festival committee chairman, John Boyle, on 9844 3120.

Information

Information Warrandyte will be closed after Friday, December 12 and will re-open on Monday, January 12. Opening hours are Monday to Thursday 10am to 4pm, Fridays 10am to 1pm and Sundays 12.30pm to 3.30pm. Volunteers provide an information and referral service assisting with such problems as pensions and benefits, concessions, legal matters, tax returns, leisure and recreation, personal matters, employment, health, transport, education and training. Clients are referred to appropriate organisations where necessary.

Dance

The South Warrandyte Christmas dance will be held in the South Warrandyte hall in Hall Road on Saturday, December 13. Cost is \$7. Call 9729 8192 for information. Bookings are open for the New Years Eve dance. Cost for this is \$10, BYO supper and drinks. Tea and coffee provided. Dancing commences at 8pm. Ring Dorothy on 9877 3039 for tickets.

Seniors

The Warrandyte Senior Citizens last dance for the year will be on Sunday, December 14 at 1.30pm at their centre in Tarooana Avenue, Warrandyte.

Vicswim

Vicswim is offering a 2004 Summer Holiday Program to ensure your child has the basic skills and knowledge and a growing confidence when they enter the water. Brochures are available from participating pools, schools and kindergartens or by contacting Vicswim on 8843 2000. Enrolments cost as little as \$40 per child for each 5-day program with discounts for



Warrandyte's 2003 Christmas carols celebration will take place on Saturday, December 13 at Stiggants Reserve. Organised by the Warrandyte and Park Orchards Inter-church Council, pre-event activities will commence at 6pm with an animal farm for the kids and a family barbecue operated by the church. There will be hot and cold food, drinks and candles and novelties for sale. Carols commence at 8.15pm featuring Vision City Church, students from Warrandyte, Anderson's Creek and St Anne's primary schools, student jazz musicians and a South African choir. Enquiries to 9844 4148.

multiple family and program enrolments.

Fair

Doncaster Primary School is celebrating their 140th birthday with a Twilight Fair and Fireworks on Friday, December 12 from 4pm to 9pm. The address is 2-12 Council Street, Doncaster. For more information call 9848 1122.

Connected

Diamond Creek Living and Learning Centre are interested in running a group for women who are lonely, depressed or who have experienced mental illness. The "Get Connected" group will work on a full size mural for the Child Care Centre in Diamond Creek. No prior art skills are needed. Sessions will commence in February on Friday mornings. If you are inter-

ested call the centre by December 12 on 9438 5350.

Renascent

The Renascent College of Intuitive Sciences, 143 Research-Warrandyte Road, Warrandyte is offering community services in natural health and healing, public healing classes, Qi Gong practice and personal development for health interest or diploma levels. Call 9844 5888 for a newsletter.

Sale

A car boot sale and community market will be held at Christmas Hills Primary School, 1409 Eltham-Yarra Glen Road, on Sunday, December 14 from 9am to 2pm. Stall holders and bargain hunters are wanted. Stall fee is \$5. Call Liz on 9712 0414 or Rob on 9710 1512 for information.

ARTYFACTS

Interested?

Manningham Gallery is calling for expressions of interest from artists, curators and organisations wishing to exhibit as part of their 2004 and 2005 program. The gallery has released a guide detailing what it has to offer, how it operates and the responsibilities of the exhibitor and the gallery. The guide can be obtained from the Manningham council website www.manningham.vic.gov.au or by contacting the gallery on 9840 9367.

Expo

The 2004 Warrandyte Pottery Expo will take place in February on Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 from 10am to 5.30pm. Forty potters from around Victoria and interstate are expected to present their works.

Evidence

"Evidence of Place" is the latest exhibition at the Manningham Gallery, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster. It is an exhibition of works by the tutors and students of the Manningham Arts Centre. It opened on December 2 and continues until December 19.



Christmas church services

Celebrate Christ's birthday at your local church.

Christmas church services for 2003 will be as follows:
Anglican (9844 3473), Christmas Eve—11.30pm, Christmas Day—8am and 9.30am.
Uniting (9844 3476), Christmas Eve—7.30pm and 11.30pm, Christmas Day—9am. **Community Church**

(9844 4148), Christmas Eve—7pm and Christmas Day—10am. **Catholic** (98761509), Christmas Eve—7pm, Children's Mass—9.30pm (Park Orchards) and 11.30pm (Warrandyte), Christmas Day—9.30am Mass (Park Orchards).

Anyone requiring transport or more information should contact the church of their choice.

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CIVIL CELEBRANT: Attractive weddings, child name givings and renewal of vows ceremonies. Bruce Shand, JP **9879 6726**.

YOGA: Warrandyte Monday nights. Enquire about classes starting 2004. Paula Casciola: **0425 759 823**.

DRAFTING SERVICE: Qualified structural, civil and geotechnical draftsman, 25 yrs. (Autocad 16 yrs). Ring Ian **9844 5279, 0401 050 191**.

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Netballers' high five!

By PAULINE DUSTING

Warrandyte Netball Club might have imagined they had "peaked" by bringing home four premierships from this year's Doncaster and District winter finals. But the best was yet to come.

On December 6 they went one better, winning five flags in the spring finals series.

Eleven of 19 Warrandyte teams reached the semi-finals and six made it through to the grand finals.

The assault was led by the Open A team coached by Loraine Green. They finished on top of their section and came up against a very tough and determined NYC outfit in the big one.

Our girls stood tall and displayed admirable physical and mental strength to prevail 36-22.

Jacinta Hennessy's 15/1 Magpies finished their season second and fought hard to win their semi-final against third-placed East Doncaster.

The grand final was a thriller which had parents and other supporters on the edge of their seats.

Scores were deadlocked at half-time, but Warrandyte slowly wore their opposition down to win 28-23.

The Under-15/3 Kookaburras coached by Bruce Twite were going for back to back wins after their winter finals success. Inspired by two Warrandyte Under-13 premierships which preceded their grand final, they established a handy early lead over East Doncaster and never looked back.

Twite kept the girls motivated when complacency might have been their only danger and they finished full of running to win 30-19.

Mandy Ratcliffe's 13/1 Rosellas qualified third and the pressure was on them to defend their winter crown. The result was a grand final heart-stopper.

Warrandyte ran to a six-goal lead early in the game, but Donvale were equally desperate for a premiership and clawed their way back.

The Rosellas dug that little



Above: The premier Open As: Back row (from left): Tanya Puglia, Aingela Prokop, Loraine Green (coach), Shona Woodhouse, Cathy Kinnear, Brooke Lashford. Front: Samantha Wilson, Amy Green, Tahlia Hoegel, Jo Bolton. Above right: The 15/1 Magpies: Tegan Humble, Jacinta Kemm, Yvonne Messig, Julia Knott, Sarah Brown, Stefanie Natsis, Ellie Freemantle, Amie Dusting, Jacinta Hennessy (coach).

Right: The 11/1 and 11/2s. Back: 11/2 co-coach Lauren Reid, Sarah Lewis, Brittany Duncan, Kaya Dean, Jenni Annand, Sheridan Pearce, Emily Van Bergen, Marjorie Saunders, Elsha Cottier, 11/2 co-coach Amie Dusting. Front: Hanna Twite, Harriet Rappel, Lucinda Link, Emilee Hassall, Jessica Dusting, Brigitte Freemantle, Bianca Stockley.

deeper, though, and got home by a goal, 26-25.

The 13/2 Sparrows coached by Nat Dusting were also defending their winter championship and finished on top of their section.

They had a four or five-goal edge for most of their grand final, but NYC powered home and the scores were level with two minutes to go.

Warrandyte were determined not to let this one slip away and cool under pressure, scored twice to win 19-17.

Lyn Dyason's 13/4 Sparrows were Warrandyte's only grand final "casualties".

Some of the girls had made their netball debuts only this year, but put in a particularly

gutsy effort throughout the season to finish top of their section.

They were understandably nervous going into the grand final and, despite showing enormous courage, succumbed 24-9 to Donvale.

The Under-11 sections do not play finals but turned in outstanding performances in the spring season.

Jan Bryar's 11/1 Blackbirds conceded just one game and clearly led their section. So did the 11/2 Possums, coached by Lauren Reid and Amie Dusting, who drew one game and won the rest.

A great season all round for Warrandyte and congratulations to each and every girl.



Little Ms Master

You'd think that after more than 30 years of netball, Jenny Holinger might be contemplating retirement. That after having three kids and upsizing the trophy cabinet to accommodate her host of awards, she'd done it all.

You'd be wrong. "This is just the beginning!" said Warrandyte born-and-raised Jenny, 39, after captaining the Healesville-based Yarra Valley Housewines to a gold medal at last month's Australian Masters Games in Canberra.

"This has been the highlight of my netball life and giving the game away is the last thing I'd be considering," she said.

The Housewines squad of 11, whose ages range from 30 to 46, were undefeated in the Over-30 section at the Masters, winning seven of their eight games and drawing the other.

The draw was with the Canberra Flames, whom they defeated 30-15 in the final. "We were only three goals in front at half-time, but we played very, very well in the last quarter," said the elated skipper.

Jenny, daughter of *Diary* staffers Jan and Lee Tindale, debuted as an Under-8 with Warrandyte Netball Club and immediately showed potential well above average.

So did older sister Sarah (now living in Sydney), whose achievements included a competition best and fairest in the Doncaster and District juniors.

A diminutive specialist centre, Jenny progressed at the Warrandyte club through her age groups to senior level, married local boy John Holinger, moved to Mt Evelyn in 1985 and four years later to Healesville.

"I had a rest from netball to have kids (Courtney and Jarrad, now 14 and 11 respec-



Jenny Holinger shows off her Masters gold medal and the Warrandyte Under-10 best and fairest trophy won all those years ago.

tively) and returned nine years ago in the Healesville competition," she said.

The arrival two years ago of third child Darcy interrupted her netball activities only briefly.

Last year, as a member of the Healesville Hornets, she played in the World Masters Games, also in Canberra. The Hornets won five of their eight games.

Jenny now plays three times a week — twice at Healesville, the other game at Kilsyth — as a member of three different teams.

The Housewines are reigning premiers in the Kilsyth compe-

tion and are already planning the defence of their Australian Masters crown next year.

● A highlight for Jenny of last month's Masters final was an unexpected reunion with long-time great friends Janette and Lindsay Ragg.

The Rags — both born here — had driven unannounced from their Batemans Bay home for the event but "lost themselves" in the crowd until the final whistle for fear of distracting Jenny from the business of winning gold.



The 13/1s and 13/2s: Back: Stephanie Freemantle, Simone Reid, Aisling Bolton, Brittany Duncan, Mandy Ratcliffe (coach 13/1), Shana Poly, Elin Twite, Jenny Parkes, Nicole Cukierman, Sarah Clough. Centre: Georgia Nichol, Emma Stanley (kneeling below), Lauren Fraser McKelvie, Shannon Lowe, Georgia Walker, Kaitlan Hurst, Rhiannon Simpson. Front: Liz Pichut, Megan Seymour, Nat Dusting (13/2 coach).



The 15/3 Kookaburras: Back: Rachel Hill, Shelley Barriball, Tarryn Greenlaw, Sophie Post, Michelle Green, Erica Dyason, Jessica Jones. Front: Carla Dinale, Kelli O'Reilly, Bruce Twite (coach).

Redbacks aim for 10 of best

By TONY OLIVER

The grading phase for the 2004 Friday night junior championship basketball season is well under way, with Warrandyte likely to field 10 teams in this elite competition.

The Under-18 girls coached by Nick Peters are grading in Pool 3 and came up against Hawthorn on December 5 at Melbourne Girls' Grammar School.

The Redback girls could have been forgiven for feeling intimidated before the game began, a number of tall athletic girls running on for Hawthorn for the warm-up and looking quite threatening.

But despite fielding far from their strongest line-up, the Redbacks were not to be overawed.

Warrandyte were without regulars Lindel Thomas, Julie Rennie and Leanne Britee, who is recovering from knee problems, and the game plan was to force Hawthorn to shoot from outside.

The first few minutes, however, saw the home side make some easy inside shots, but Warrandyte produced good baskets of their own as the game settled down.

SPORT

The Redbacks' defence, under extreme pressure early, began to dominate, implementing the game plan and forcing Hawthorn to shoot from outside the key.

Our offence was mixed, at times playing a very good structured game but at others degenerating into undisciplined passages.

But it was good enough to get Warrandyte home 30-25, Nicole Dadswell leading the scoring and Chelsea Crisp making some key baskets.

Jess Solty worked tirelessly under the basket at both ends and, with Crisp, took the honours from Hawthorn on the rebounds.

Amy Caudry, Andrea Peters, Kaitlyn Bottomley and Sarah Brown worked the press effectively, which restricted the home side's ability to move the ball down the court and resulted in some steals.

"The most pleasing aspect of the game was to hear the improved communication on the court and to finally see a hint of aggression," said Peters.

Lorraine Parfitt coached the Under-12 girls to a thrilling win in the Metro 1 grand final against Bulleen last year and is in charge of this age level again.

However, the team are totally new, a number of girls coming through from the Under-11s and a number of others trying out for the first time.

They are grading in Pool 2 and met Waverley at the Warrandyte Community Sports Centre.

The Redbacks went down 22-17 in a tight encounter, but showed plenty of promise for an outfit whose members are still getting to know each other.

Waverley outsized our girls and that enabled them to score some easy early baskets, but the Redbacks were certainly not going to be brushed aside.

They played some good defence and produced baskets of their own from inside the key to go into the break with just a four-point deficit, 7-11.

The Redbacks worked well together in the second half, following their coach's instructions and showing that they could rally with intelligent passing and "heads up" play.

Waverley, however, were able to keep them at arm's length on the scoreboard.

Amber Saunders topscored for Warrandyte with seven points, followed by Hannah Davis with six and Madeleine Kercher with four.

Eleanor Cousens played a particularly strong game.

The Under-16 girls coached by Peter Clough are faring well in the Eastern qualifying, winning both games so far in the grading phase.

They were much too good (45-12) for Pakenham at Knox on December 5 to potentially earn themselves a chance to move into Pool 4 for Metro grading.

Coach Clough is particularly impressed by new players (to Friday night basketball) April Richardson, Madeline Prior and Kara Lucas.

The Under-16 boys of Malcolm Anderson, who has returned to coaching this season, recorded easy wins in their first two games (80-40 over Kinglake and 54-24 over Kilsyth) but were pipped 49-47 by Sherbrooke, a tall, top-aged side.

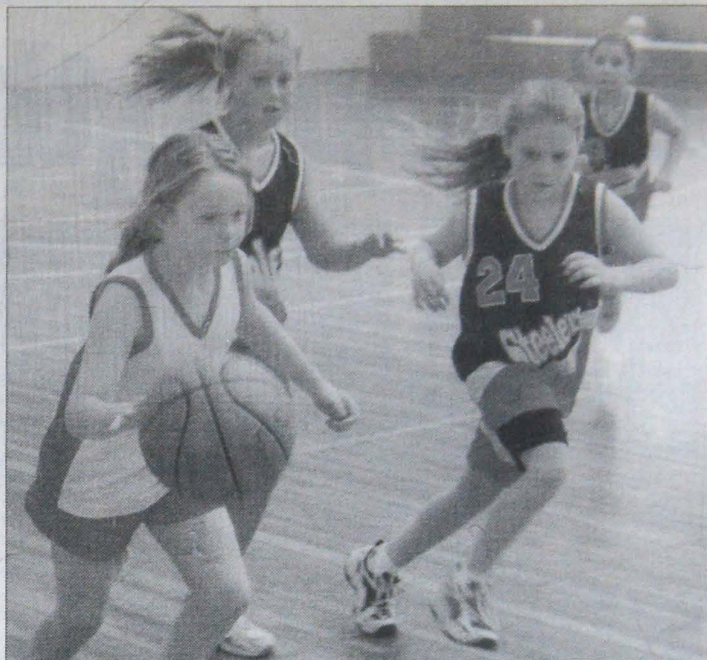
Sherbrooke had six points on the board before Warrandyte settled down, but thereafter it was anybody's game, the lead changing hands several times.

Anderson has a talented side to work with, a unit strengthened by new players Ben Power, Pat Eddie and Wade King.

Power's height and athleticism will be a particularly valuable asset.

The Redbacks' Under-18 boys, coached by Steve Camm and Andrew Petalas, were outgunned 43-18 in their first outing, against Whittlesea Lakers.

Luke Dimmock topscored with nine points and Richard Domeyer was strong under the basket.



'Catch me if you can!' Warrandyte's Brenna Edsell heads for home in the Under-10s D2 Saturday game against Park Orchards. The Redbacks went down 20-2.

Win some, lose some

The summer Saturday basketball season is approaching the halfway mark, with the Redbacks producing mixed recent results.

Warrandyte's Under-20 A-grade girls were fully expected to defeat Bulleen-Templestowe and did just that, running away to a 50-20 victory.

The game was worthless, however, as an indication of potential because both sides were missing key players and Bulleen-Templestowe could field only four.

Despite this, they managed to score twice before Kim Singh opened the Redbacks' account.

But it was one-way traffic thereafter.

Chelsea Ransom topscored for Warrandyte with 21 and comeback girl Kendal Reily, who has sat out the past few seasons, was under notice with six.

While the Under-20 girls were in fine form, the Under-18s were no match for neighbouring Park Orchards, going down 25-11.

Park Orchards were in full control from the outset and held the Redbacks scoreless in the first half.

Warrandyte's Under-12 A-grade girls also had a bad day at the office, outclassed 52-16 by Balwyn.

The Redbacks were competitive in the first half, trailing 13-7 at the break, but never challenged in the second.



Coach Jenny Robertson fires up her Under-10 CA boys at half-time against Bulleen-Templestowe, who went on to win 30-18.



Dominant tennis champs Aaron Nolan and Michelle Gilling.

The Aaron and Michelle show

By JUDY GREEN

Warrandyte Tennis Club coach Aaron Nolan won the club's 2003 men's singles title at the Taroona Avenue courts last month.

He defeated Rod McCutcheon in straight sets.

The women's singles final was also a straight sets affair, with last year's champion Michelle Gilling retaining her title by defeating Carmen Hill.

To underline their star qualities, Nolan and Ms Gilling also had a share of their respective doubles titles.

Nolan teamed with Tulloch Greve and Ms Gilling with Ms Hill to defeat Paul Gilling and Neil Sproat and Jenny Robertson and Andrea Waugh respectively.

Again, they were straight sets results.

And Ms Gilling made it a clean

sweep by teaming with husband Paul to defeat Gert and Maaki Naude in the mixed doubles final.

At the tennis club's recent Christmas dinner, Doris Dwyer was named Clubperson of the Year in recognition of her work with the juniors.

Club championship results:

Men's singles: Aaron Nolan d Rod McCutcheon 6-1, 6-1.

Men's B-grade singles: Michael Greve d Joel Greve 6-1, 6-0.

Men's doubles: Aaron Nolan/Tulloch Greve d Paul Gilling/Neil Sproat 6-4, 7-5.

Women's singles: Michele Gilling d Carmen Hill 6-1, 6-1.

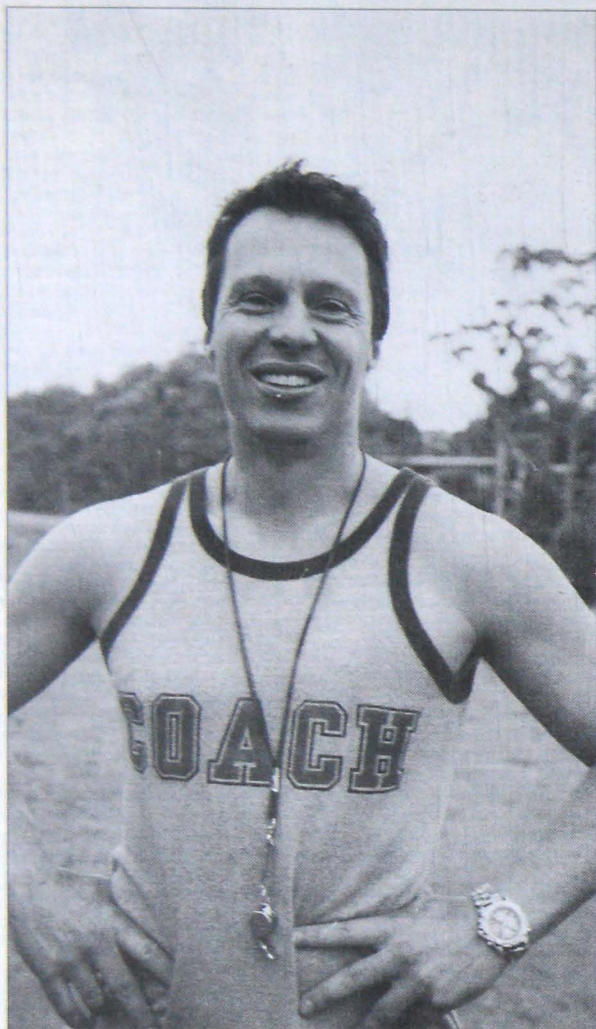
Women's doubles: Michele Gilling/Carmen Hill d Jenny Robertson/Andrea Waugh 6-1, 6-1.

Mixed doubles: Michelle and Paul Gilling d Gert and Maaki Naude 6-3.



The ball's well and truly up for grabs as the Warrandyte and Park Orchards Under-10 D2 girls reach for the sky.

It's up to the young Bloods



Ash Hamilton ... up-and-comers hold the key.

By LEE TINDALE

Warrandyte Football Club will launch their 2004 EFL Third Division campaign with a youth development policy.

The Bloods are likely to be missing several experienced players from the list which took them into fourth place last season but see their immediate and longer-term future in the progression of young players already at the club.

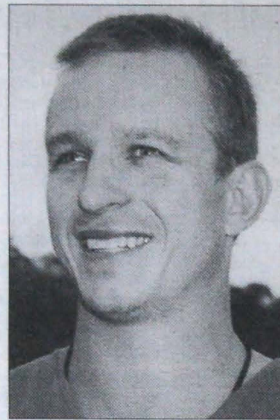
A recruiting campaign is already in place, but as new coach Ash Hamilton told the *Diary*: "The important thing from a club point of view is to foster the young talent we already have here."

"That's the exciting prospect from the coaching viewpoint."

Certain to be missing next season are 2003 senior coach Scott Hunter and his assistant, full-forward Stuart Wynd, who have been appointed to those roles at Second Division club Knox.

Considered very doubtful are rover Adam Barlow, centre half-back Adam Williamson, half-back flanker Darren Payne, rover Adam Barlow — all, like Hunter and Wynd,

Football club to 'shop locally'



Andrew Hamer

former East Burwood (Division 1) players — and centre half-forward Ross Bradshaw.

"Yes, key players have left the club," said Hamilton, "but we don't necessarily want to go out to find players to fill those positions."

"There is a strong belief at

this club that there are young players here capable of filling them.

"We are looking for a good mix of senior players and those — perhaps Under-18s and Reserves who have so far been denied opportunities — who can step up," he said.

"Anyone who is prepared to train and play with Warrandyte will be given every opportunity to play at the highest level."

Hamilton, 36, comes highly credentialled as a player/coach to Warrandyte in the wake of Hunter's unexpected departure but will work here in a non-playing capacity.

So will his newly-appointed assistant, Andrew Hamer, 29, who was recruited at 15 by Collingwood as a champion schoolboy footballer while attending Warrandyte High in 1991.

Hamer played reserves with the Magpies and has represented the Preston Knights in the VFL, Clayton in EFL First Division and Bairnsdale in the

powerful East Gippsland league.

If the roll-up so far to pre-season training is any indication at all, the Bloods will lack nothing in enthusiasm in their new campaign.

Thirty-eight players were on the track on December 3 for the second of four sessions before the Christmas-New Year break.

"They're terrific numbers for this stage of a pre-season and it's great to see such established stars as Matt Blagrove, Matt Wood and Chris Cornell out there so early mixing it with the young hopefuls," said outgoing club president Noel Taplin.

"It's a very good sign."

Warrandyte's new season starts on April 3 at Rowville. It will be a tough first-up assignment against a club who earned promotion by dominating Division 4 last season.

With Easter intervening, the Bloods' next game is at home to Upper Ferntree Gully on April 17.

Warrandyte's annual general meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 17, at Club Warrandyte, starting at 8pm.

Phil Treeby, father of senior player Matt, is expected to replace Taplin, who has been in the chair for the past two years, and the position of treasurer will be vacated by former president Jeff Evans.

Taplin will be a candidate for the committee, but Evans and much-decorated club stalwart Lawrie Sloan will be taking time off.

Warrandyte's 2004 draw

April 3: v Rowville (A)
 April 17: v Upper Ferntree Gully (H)
 April 24: v Mooroolbark (A)
 May 1: v South Croydon (H)
 May 8: v Coldstream (A)
 May 15: v Templestowe (H)
 May 22: v Waverley Blues (A)
 May 29: v Doncaster East (H)
 June 5: v Nunawading (A)
 June 19: v Rowville (H)
 June 26: v Upper Ferntree Gully (A)

July 3: v Mooroolbark (H)
 July 10: v South Croydon (A)
 July 17: v Coldstream (H)
 July 24: v Templestowe (A)
 July 31: v Waverley Blues (H)
 August 7: v Doncaster East (A)
 August 14: v Nunawading (H)
 First Semi-final August 22
 Second Semi-final August 21
 Preliminary Final August 28
 Grand Final September 4.

From pedal power to roar power, we're the world on wheels

Donald's double

Young Warrandyte ace Cameron Donald covered himself in glory — and a couple of very fetching Asian girls in champagne — at last month's Macau Motorcycle Grand Prix.

Cameron, 25, won the glamour 600cc event on November 15 for the second time, following up on victory in 2001 and second placing last year.

"To win it this year was great because it was by far the most competitive field assembled at Macau," he said.

"Top riders from more than seven countries made it a very hotly contested race."

Cameron, who lives in KG Road when he's not burning up the tracks of Asia (where he now spends a good deal of his time), was in Singapore preparing for the final round of the Asia Pacific Road Racing Championship at Sepang, Malaysia on December 14, when this edition of the *Diary* went to press.

And there was every chance that he would add that series to his ever-ex-

panding resume.

Riding for Team Zongshen, the biggest in the event, he was going into the race second on the points table and on a roll after winning the three preceding races.

As previously reported, Cameron learned to ride at age five in his great-uncle Ron Day's paddocks at Pound Bend.

Twenty years on, he may be on the brink of achieving his ambition to compete at world championship level.

Mighty Madie!



Local BMX superkid Madison (Madie) Denholm ... the boy, the bike and the booty.



Outstanding Warrandyte BMX rider Madison Deholm made a one-horse race of the Under-10 Victorian championship late last month.

Nine-year-old "Madie", who began racing only this year, made light of hot and windy conditions at Mill Park on November 29-30 to win all six events in his class.

For good measure, he raced in the dominated cruiser class for 10-year-olds as well and finished third overall.

Madie, of Webb Street, told us just a few months ago his immediate aim was to be No 1 in Victoria — so that's one ambition out of the way.

He has already ridden for Australia, finishing a very creditable 10th and leading the Victorian contingent at the world titles in Perth in July.

And there's little rest ahead for the Andersons Creek Primary School third-grader who rides for Park Orchards BMX Club and trains four times a week.

A short break over Christmas, back into full training for a "track attack" series — six races at six venues over eight days — in late January, then off to represent Victoria at the Australian titles in Adelaide.

A busy boy and an absolute sensation on a bike!



Cameron Donald celebrates his latest Macau Grand Prix win with a shower of champers.

Hawks turn up heat!

By LEE TINDALE

South Warrandyte Cricket Club have upped the tempo after a sluggish and rain-affected start to the season to demand new respect in the Ringwood District's elite Chandler Shield competition.

The Chandler debutants, aiming to become the first club to win all three RDCA premier divisions in as many seasons, had only a rain-induced draw to recommend them after three rounds.

But they have bounced back to dispose of ladder leaders Ferntree Gully and tie with Montrose at their last two outings.

"We may not become world-beaters this season, but we will certainly be competitive," said club president Barry Williams after the thriller at Montrose.

"The first eleven are a very young side who conduct themselves well and have found their feet after a disappointing start."

In a remarkable day's cricket on December 6, both the firsts and the third eleven tied their two-day matches.

The hero of the seniors' dead-heat was pace bowler Steve Garrett, who sent down 22.1 overs for 7-45 as the Hawks defended a total of 191.

Garrett's figures for the past two games are an astonishing 12-116.

South Warrandyte had batted first against Montrose and were vulnerable at 4-79 before a 54-run partnership steadied the ship.

The Hawks utilised only 61 of the allotted 80 overs in their innings, David Horwood topscoring with 38 and Scott Brasher, Cameron Head and Nick Barrett contributing 35, 32 and 24 respectively.

South's attack made early inroads when they took the field and the game was delicately poised overnight, Montrose 5-76 in response.

It looked like a Hawks victory soon after the resumption, two wickets falling in the space of 23 runs to have the home side 7-99, but a plucky eighth-wicket partnership of 54 stalled the

And Santa, of course

South Warrandyte Cricket Club will hold their annual Christmas Dinner at their Colman Park home on Sunday, December 14, starting at 12.30pm.

This is a two-course dinner with plenty of activities for the kids, including a jumping castle, face painting, games and, of course, the arrival of Santa Claus.

The cost is \$25 per family.

To facilitate catering, the club ask that those intending to be there put their names on a list in the clubrooms. And to help feed the multitude, contributions of salads and sweets would be very welcome.

For further details, 9879 9342.

SPORT

victory charge. At 8-153, however, Montrose were still looking down the barrel and consecutive South Warrandyte victories were very much on the cards.

Monstrose had other ideas and their tail continued to wag, partnerships of 20 and 18 tying the scores before the last wicket fell to halve the match points.

Like South, Montrose fell well short of their over quota, batting out only 60. The visitors were 3-88 from 26 second-innings overs when stumps were drawn.

By far the highlight of the Hawks' season so far was a 29-run victory at home over competition pace-setters Ferntree Gully on November 22.

Again, South had first use of the crease and were looking good before 1-74 was suddenly 4-77. They were rescued by what turned out to be a match-winning 72-run fifth-wicket partnership between Brasher and Ben Neagle, who made 50 and 31 respectively.

It would have been a forlorn scoreboard without this pair and the 41 runs of Brett Careedy, the pendulum swinging back Ferntree Gully's way when the next three wickets yielded just seven runs. But stands of 18 and 28 at the death took the Hawks to a re-

spectable but by no means insurmountable total of 206.

Ferntree Gully began their run chase well enough with a 25-run opening partnership but went downhill at a rate of knots as Garrett, who finished with 5-71, and Brasher (3-48) tore into their battery.

Four wickets tumbled for the addition of just 11 runs and the Gully were tottering at 7-90 before a rearguard action temporarily frustrated an historic victory.

The tail waggled to the tune of an additional 39 runs, but it was only a matter of time and it was all over for Ferntree Gully at 177.

The second eleven are all square at two wins, two losses and a draw, their latest results a seven-run defeat by Ferntree Gully and a 61-run victory over Montrose.

Paul Milne, Craig Smith and Tom Chrisfield have been the stand-outs. Milne has made 64 and 36 not out in those two games, Smith 34 and 81 and Chrisfield followed up 4-55 against the Gully with a fine double of 44 runs and 5-66.

The thirds needed five runs and North Ringwood one wicket in the last over of their nail-biter at North Ringwood Secondary College.

A classic scenario, the Hawks scoring the necessary and surviving for a tie, 245-all.

And despite a six-wicket haul by Adan Duncan, the fourths went down by 119 runs to Chirnside Park.



Steve Garrett ... 12 wickets in two outings for the speedster.

DETAILS

FIRSTS: South Warrandyte 206 (S. Brasher 50, B. Careedy 41, B. Neagle 31, K. Hartrup 18 n.o.) d Ferntree Gully 177 (S. Garrett 5-71, S. Brasher 3-48).

South Warrandyte 191 (D. Horwood 38, S. Brasher 35, C. Head 32, N. Barrett 24) tied with Montrose 191 (S. Garrett 7-45).

SECONDS: South Warrandyte 232 (P. Milne 64, C. Smith 34, S. Haworth 34, M. Smith 31) lost to Ferntree Gully 9-239 (T. Chrisfield 4-55, S. Haworth 2-94).

South Warrandyte 285 (C. Smith 81, J. Barrett 57, T. Chrisfield 44, P. Milne 36 n.o.) d Montrose 224 (T. Chrisfield 5-66, A. Uren 3-44).

THIRDS: South Warrandyte 9-245 (K. Morton 61, B. Sewell 56, D. Head 41) tied with North

Ringwood 245 (T. Craven 2-10, S. Russell 2-62, P. Garrett 2-72).

FOURTHS: South Warrandyte 9-175 (R. Savage 33, P. Woulfe 33, A. Duncan 28, A. Hall 26) lost to Chirnside Park 294 (A. Duncan 6-94, A. Scott 3-73).

Rooms for improvement

Work is to start soon on a thorough refurbishment of the South Warrandyte Hawks' clubrooms at Colman Park.

The pavilion will be given, among other things, a glass front and new kitchen, bar facilities and storage areas.

"We've been in discussion with Manningham council for some time about this project and they've been just great," said club president Barry Williams.

"Colman Park has the potential to be one of the showpieces of the Ringwood District Cricket Association and that's what we intend to make it," he said.

The makeover will be completed by next financial year.

Dytes' hopes go up in smoke

Juniors in box seat for finals

Warrandyte Junior Cricket Club are likely to play a big hand in this season's finals.

At the season's halfway mark, the Under-16/2 side are in fourth position and coach Greg Thomas expects a top-four finish.

The 14/2 team, promoted from Under-14/3, are also in the four and, depending on player availability over the holiday period, should contest the finals.

But the real success story has been provided by the Under-13/1s, who are top of the ladder and doing magnificently.

For the first time, the club have two non-competitive Under-10 teams playing in the RDCA. Games are played on Friday nights after school and Warrandyte have 32 players involved.

The kids and their parents have a great time and it's well worth going along to have a look.

The "Milo-Have-a-Go" program is on again this season for boys and girls under eight. It is run on Sundays from 9.30am at the recreation reserve and any child is welcome to join in.

An innovation at the club this season is a team made up of juniors from the Under-13s to Under-16s and their fathers.

It provides a great afternoon for players and spectators alike.

Warrandyte Cricket Club's season is starting to look a little like Alice in Wonderland — it gets curiously and curiously.

At the halfway mark of the season, Warrandyte are fourth on the Ringwood District Cricket Association Second Division ladder with two wins, three losses and two draws.

It is an extraordinary win-loss ratio with which to hold down a top four position, but that's the way this most unpredictable season has unfolded.

The most recent event to give the season its fairytale tag took place on Saturday, December 6, when Warrandyte's match against Chirnside Park was "burnt out".

Warrandyte players turned up at the opposition's ground to find that vandals had set fire to the synthetic grass pitch, making play impossible. The match was abandoned, the two sides sharing the points.

It was a most unsatisfactory end to the game for Warrandyte because Chirnside Park are bottom of the table and the Dytes were hoping for a big win.

Confidence was high after a runaway win over third-placed Bayswater Park in the previous game.

The match against Chirnside Park was evenly poised as the home side had scored 231 against a sound, if not penetrative attack which was let down by a fielding performance that saw seven chances dropped.

It was in complete contrast to the previous week, when sharp fielding and at times brilliant catching had been key components of success.

Warrandyte's attack has been dramatically restricted an injury to key



Campbell Holland ... Dytes will miss his pace, aggression.

fast bowler Campbell Holland, who is unlikely to bowl again this season.

This has put enormous pressure on veteran paceman Gerald Walshe, who in the past two matches has bowled a total of 44 overs.

He has received solid support from coach Ian Broome and spinners Adam Beardall and the father-and-son combination of Robert and Adam White, but Holland's speed and aggression is sadly missed.

Skipper Dave Mooney was the stand-out player in the win over Bayswater Park and was unlucky to fall just five runs short of what would have been a much-deserved century.

Forced to field on a day of extreme heat, the Warrandyte bowlers battled hard to dismiss Bayswater Park for 134. Walshe was at his best in the trying conditions taking 4-39 from a tire-

less 22 overs. The Dytes were in early trouble as they started their run chase and at 4-33 it looked as though their brittle batting would again let them down.

But Matthew Chapman and Mooney put together a crucial 50-run partnership to set up a crucial win.

Mooney's innings was full of intelligent shot making and aggressive running between wickets and two partnerships, firstly with Adam White and then with Daniel Wellesley, set up a commanding win.

With two one-day matches to play before the Christmas break, Warrandyte are now in a position to firmly establish a top four position.

The second eleven retained top position on their ladder despite an unexpected loss to Chirnside Park.

Led by Greg Creber, this team have been at their most consistent this season, but an undisciplined day in the field enabled their opponents to score a formidable 241.

Campbell Holland, whose injury that prevents him bowling, made an impressive 75 and there was fine support from Brett Kline with 54 and David Gee, who was unbeaten on 30, but Warrandyte still fell 21 runs short.

The end of the season has been England "import" Charlie Wright who started in the third eleven. But a series of good scores, including 105 in the seconds' previous match against Bayswater Park, has earned him senior selection.

It was Wright's spirited innings that enabled Warrandyte to score 8-381 against Bayswater Park, Nathan Croft contributing 70 and Tyson Brent 61.

The third eleven have struggled in

recent weeks, although an outstanding father-and-son effort almost stole the points in the match against Croydon North.

Algis Sazenis opened the batting and scored 13 and was a "silent partner" in a 116-run partnership for the second wicket with his son Matthew, who was dismissed for 98.

The Fourth XI were beaten outright by Olinda only one match after narrowly failing to defeat Knox City outright.

It was typical of a very strange cricket season.

DETAILS

FIRSTS: Warrandyte drew with Chirnside Park 231 (Beardall 3-43, Walshe 2-51, R. White 2-55).

Warrandyte 9-228 dec (Mooney 95, Chapman 27, Wellesley 24) d Bayswater Park 134 (Walshe 4-39, Beardall 3-40) and 3-113.

SECONDS: Warrandyte 220 (Holland 75, Kline 53, Gee 30 n.o.) lost to Chirnside Park 241 (Kline 3-51).

Warrandyte 8-381 (Wright 105, Croft 70, Brent 61) d Bayswater Park 220 (C. Cloke 4-46).

THIRDS: Warrandyte 178 (M. Sazenis 98, E. Cauchi 29) lost to Croydon North 8-231 (E. Cauchi 4-30, M. Sazenis 2-31, T. Cauchi 2-45).

Warrandyte 165 (Holland 36, T. Cauchi 35, Baker 30) lost to Wonga Park 285 (E. Cauchi 3-57, J. Prangley 3-56).


FOURTHS: Warrandyte 142 and 212 (P. Hookey 58, A. Hukin 30, G. Rees 33, T. Hookey 22 n.o.) lost to Olinda 224 (G. Rees 3-52, Miller 3-61) and 5-134 (Miller 3-66).

Warrandyte 224 (A. Dehmel 62 n.o., A. Hukin 25, J. Sherriff 25, L. Dehmel 22 n.o.) d Knox City 52 (G. Rees 3-3, A. Hukin 2-20) and 7-97 (P. Clements 2-7, T. Rees 2-39).

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