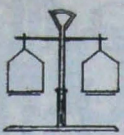


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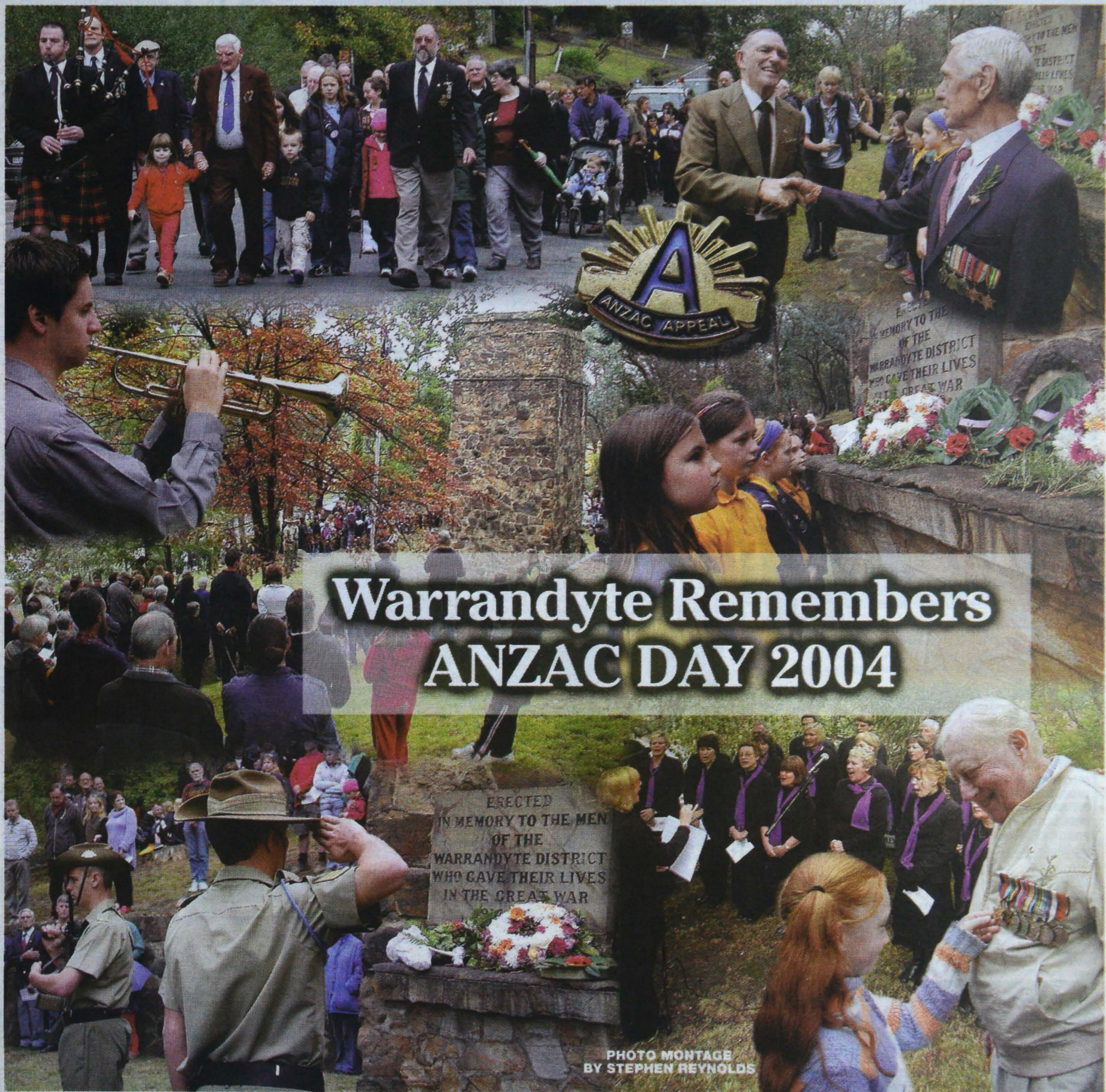
WARRANDYTE

DIARY

No. 364, May 2004

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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, Waranwood, North Ringwood, Kangaroo Ground and Research.

A SPECIAL PLACE

Warrandyte (approximate population 8000) is situated on the Yarra River, some 24km from Melbourne. For countless ages a well-stocked hunting ground of the Wurundjeri people, in 1851 Warrandyte became the site of the first official gold discovery in Victoria. 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.

And off he pedalled into the sunset on his upgraded bike



John Egan, of Mitchell Avenue, gave away a career in the weird and apparently not-so-wonderful world of computers several months ago for the less stressful gig of selling bicycles and he doesn't regret it a bit. He already knew a good deal about two-wheelers, son Thomas (now 17) having made quite a name for himself as a downhill mountain bike racer. Living the part of a bicycle salesman, John pedals to and from work at Apollo Bicycle Co. (the free plug won't do your new career any harm, mate) at distant Bayswater most days, the lovely Carol on hand on the mobile to pick him up if he runs out of puff on the way home. The puff ran out the other day after he'd gone for a lengthy spin after work and he got off his bike on the corner of Boronia and Scoresby Roads and phoned home for a lift. As he waited for Carol to arrive, a kid (estimated age 14-15) wheeled in on a very respectable bicycle (estimated value \$400-\$500) and stopped to admire John's gleaming, super-duper \$1500 Raceline Enduro. Naturally, the conversation was all cycles and cycling and John decided this was a nice young bloke who was probably good to his mother, didn't drink, smoke or swear or barrack for Collingwood. "Can I have a ride on your bike, mate?" the kid eventually asked and John said sure, go for it. Which he did. Rode it up the hill, over the hill — and neither the kid nor John's Raceline Enduro have been seen since.



John Egan is understandably displeased. Being in the business, he's all for cyclists regularly upgrading their machines, but he reckons this was somewhat over the top. "After 46 years on this planet you

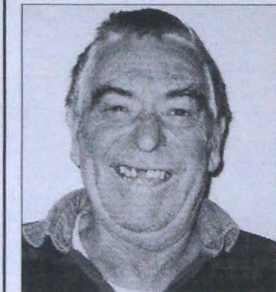


John Egan: onyer bike, kid!

IN RED & WHITE



Separated at birth?



Note the uncanny resemblance between local folk hero Alan "Coatsy" Koetsveld since he lost a front tooth to a particularly tough piece of steak and Alfred E. Neuman, for decades the international face of the hugely-successful satirical magazine Mad. We leave you to decide who's who.

reckon you're a bit of a judge of character," he said. "To be duded by this kid was unbelievable! But if my bike ever raises its head in Melbourne, he's gone a million. Every police station, every bicycle dealer has been alerted."



We thought the jig was up when we got an ominously official-looking letter from the University of New South Wales' National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre. The substance police are on to us, we thought. Time to take early retirement, do a Ronnie Biggs and hightail it to Rio! Then we noticed it was addressed to "The Health Writer" — of which we have none — and was merely inviting us to enter the centre's 2004 Mental Health Media Achievement Awards. We graciously declined because mental health is not really the Diary's speciality — and we have a whole bunch of eccentrics here to prove it!



You'll read elsewhere in this issue of a unique project involving a number of Warrandyte folk — the building of the first-ever Australian show garden at the Chelsea Flower Show in London later this month. What that story fails to mention is that a Warrandyte tree (or at

least what's left of it) will share a place of honour as part of this history-making garden. About 30 years ago, Diary founding editor Cliff Green and wife Judy planted a tiny lemon-scented gum (*Eucalyptus citriodora*) seedling on their front fence-line. It grew to a metre high, then appeared to die. But no, after a couple months several shoots appeared at its base and these sprouts — all five of them — grew into a unique, quite beautiful, five-trunked, malleestyle tree. A botanical freak, it drew admiring comments from neighbours and passers-by alike. And it kept on growing until it dominated the Greens' front garden. Its wide, glistening green canopy spread its lemon-spice perfume far and wide. But growing as it had, it was inherently unstable, and one by one its great limbs fell, threatening power lines and passing cars and pedestrians. Finally, it had to go and with Manningham council's blessing, local arborist Adrian Clancy was called in to perform the dreaded deed.



Now Adrian, of State-wide Trees, had been assigned a special task: to select and cut eucalyptus logs for a firewood stack wall, a unique feature of the Australian show garden at the Chelsea extravaganza. For

months he had been doing his work around the suburbs, cutting off branches, pruning trees and felling condemned ones. He declared the Greens' lemon-scented gum perfect for the Chelsea project. Felling the tree was quite a job, but when it came down the trunks and branches were carefully cut into 30-centimetre lengths and lovingly stacked in the back of Adrian's truck. Several weeks ago this timber was loaded, along with all the firewood he had collected and everything else needed for the garden, into two shipping containers, towed off to Port Melbourne and loaded on to the deck of a freighter. At last report, they had arrived safely in the Port of London and were awaiting the arrival of the Australian gardening team. So not only will thousands of Chelsea visitors unwittingly get a tiny glimpse of Warrandyte, they may also catch a whiff of that special perfume we enjoy every day.



The outstanding success of Warrandyte Theatre Company's latest Festival Follies is to flow on to patrons. "Follywood", which packed 'em in over nine nights during and after the festival, swelled the company's coffers by more than \$10,000, which will be spent on upgrading the antiquated seating in the Mechanics Institute Hall, theatre seating not really made for a cabaret-style show like the Follies anyhow. We applaud the WTC's determination to put bums on seats — and comfy seats at that.



The rain gods having smiled down upon us at last, it is planting time, native flora guru John MacMahon reminds us. Leave it much longer and the soil temperature will drop too far. And the Friends of Warrandyte State Park nursery at Pound Bend just happens to have several plants well suited to moist sites. Joan particularly recommends the carex, a tufty critter with strap-like leaves which skinks, frogs and many insect types appreciate. And, on a larger scale, the robust melaleuca (paperbark) which, planted in a group, multiplies quickly and provides great play space for small birds. The nursery (Melways reference 27C 10) is open Thursdays from 10am to noon.

Smokey Joe

OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH

The cartoon shows a group of people holding various signs. One sign says "ECONOMICALLY SUSTAINABLE!". Another says "DESIGN TECHNIQUE". A third says "COHESIVE". A fourth says "STRATEGIC". A fifth says "ATTRACTIVE". A sixth says "URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK - non higgelty...". A seventh says "PRIDE OF PLACE PROGRAM". A eighth says "PRIDE". A ninth says "WARRANDYTE".

"We're from the Steering Group and we're here to help you....."

North CFA's new home

Words and pictures by
SANDY BURGOYNE

North Warrandyte's firefighters will be relocating to an updated fire station within five years.

The brigade's new home will be beside the soon-to-be-completed community centre on Research-Warrandyte Road. The previous community hall and pre-school on the site were destroyed in an arson attack in October 2002 and the land was vacant for more than a year before rebuilding began.

Nillumbik councillor Bob Stubbings believed that the council-owned site could accommodate several community groups. "Cr Stubbings approached us to see whether we would be interested in working with council to develop a joint facility at that site," Trevor White, the CFA's area manager for the Yarra Region told the *Diary*.

"In North Warrandyte there is so little flat land that here was the opportunity to amalgamate the two facilities on the one site," Cr Stubbings said. "All we had to do was use a bit more intelligence on using the parking area and we would have room for them both. The council has agreed in principle."

North brigade's building on Glynn Road is nearing the end of its useful life. "I am conscious of the fact that they have a very poor facility down there. It's outdated. It's far too small, with the growth of the size of vehicles that use it," Cr Stubbings said.

When the brigade bought a new truck seven years ago the chassis had to be shortened by 200mm before it was fitted out. If it were any longer the doors of the firehouse wouldn't have closed.

The fire station move will bring the firefighters closer to the community they serve. "The new location would allow the brigade to better service fire suppression in North Warrandyte, Warrandyte and surrounding areas," North Warrandyte's Lt Rohan Thornton told the *Diary*. "The brigade will have easier accessibility to the district and faster response times," he said.

An important move such as this will take both organisation and money. "We need to put this project on the CFA's building priority listing. I think it would be at least five years (to completion)," CFA's Trevor White said. "You are probably looking at \$400,000 to \$500,000 for a decent fire station."

The CFA finances a new fire station to a basic functionality, but if a brigade wants more, such as a larger than

standard garage, the local brigade is expected to make up the difference. That extra funding will need to come from the community.

The new facility will offer greater safety to the firefighters, as they will be able to do training drills on site. At present the brigade has to do limited training on Glynn Road.

Other benefits are expected to flow from the move to the community centre site. "The brigade will have more of a 'shop front' to the community and we will be able to improve our important role of community education. The fire station will provide something of a 'town square' focus for North Warrandyte," Lt Thornton told the *Diary*.

"Firefighters on-site give us better protection from vandalism and arson—simply because they keep rather extraordinary hours. They are often there at night and the weekend—that's when their training takes place. So you have got a good watchdog present there," Cr Stubbings said.

The CFA expects to have a site evaluation on the Research-Warrandyte Road land completed by the end of this year. "That will be a feasibility exercise. Then we can make a bid to get it on the priority list, in that five plus year priority," the CFA's Trevor White told the *Diary*.



Comedian Dennis Coard is driving fundraising for the new fire station at North Warrandyte.



Road rollers: New site will provide firefighters with offroad training space.

Funny fire fundraising

Local actor Dennis Coard will bring his one-man show to the Mechanics Institute later this month as a fundraiser for the North Warrandyte fire brigade. The show, *The Fall of the Roman Empire*, was part of Melbourne's International Comedy Festival last year.

The show is autobiographical and during his performance Dennis introduces members of his family and other characters. Dennis believes his comic tendencies started early in life.

"When I was a little boy one day I borrowed my mum's mop and tea-cosy and she screamed out, 'Dennis where's my mop and tea-cosy?' I said I was playing the *Fall of the Roman Empire*. So that name stuck for my show, which starts off with me being born in Ireland and ends up here, in my 50s, a professional actor in Australia," he told the

Diary.

The *Fall of the Roman Empire* will run from Thursday, May 20 to Saturday, May 22 at Warrandyte's Mechanics Institute Hall, starting at 8pm. For bookings phone 9844 0847, tickets are \$15 each. Cheese and fruit platters for two with a bottle of wine will be on sale for an additional \$18 at the hall. Beer and soft drink will also be available. Please don't bring your own food and drink to this event.

This major fundraiser is the first of what will become an annual attraction—the Warrandyte Comedy Festival. North Warrandyte's firefighters plan to use the proceeds from this event to help fund their new fire station. Although the CFA will finance the major cost of the new building the local brigade still needs to find at least

\$100,000.

"We may make between \$200 and \$300 from a sausage sizzle at the market, well that's about 17 years worth of sausage sizzles," the brigade's Colin Quick told the *Diary*.

"We want to promote this comedy festival as a fundraiser for the fire brigade and a cultural event for Warrandyte."

The vision for future Warrandyte Comedy Festivals includes multiple venues with a selection of comedy acts happening during a weekend in May. The local event may benefit from Melbourne's comedy festival that runs during April. "We are hoping that we might be able to convince a few of the headliners to go on from that to come here, so that they can extend their season," Colin Quick said.

Residents digging in on cemetery site

By DAVID WYMAN

Objecting neighbouring residents have stepped up their campaign as Anderson's Creek Cemetery Trust seeks to finalise the extension of the cemetery onto St Gerard's Catholic Church land fronting Brackenbury Street.

Its proposal to Manningham council to re-zone the land from Residential 1 to Public Use, together with a plan of the new cemetery area, will be on public exhibition from May 6 to June 17.

The trust expects the existing cemetery space will be fully used in about 18 months time. The new area will provide 1050 grave sites and will be a lawn and bush cemetery similar to the back half of the currently used site.

Cemetery trustees have also applied for council permission

to remove most of the native trees on the new site, which is in front of the catholic church.

Adjacent and other nearby residents have formed a group called Concerned Residents of Warrandyte to oppose the cemetery extension, raising environmental issues, the impact of cemetery activities on nearby residents, on-going parking and traffic problems and the sustainability of the new site proposal.

In a special statement to the *Diary*, the Anderson's Creek Cemetery trustees said: "We have been mindful of the concerns of neighbouring residents at the prospect of an extension to the cemetery and we have taken this into account with our planning, which includes buffer zone plantings of native trees. We intend to plant mature trees to ensure the quickest possible

development of the buffer zone.

"We are confident that people living in houses adjacent to the cemetery will have their view of the cemetery grounds satisfactorily obscured."

At the recent Warrandyte Community Association public meeting, resident Judy Cook delivered a presentation on problems associated with the new site.

The concerned residents group questions, with local and overseas experts' comments, the suitability of the existing and new cemetery land for burials, with "potential impact on environments and waterways". The group says in a press release that the shallow depth of soil above rock in the old and proposed new cemetery areas is a "major concern" with possible water pollution.

On-going traffic and parking

impacts on local residents and the "total lack of formal car parking fronting the current amenity is a major concern", states the press release. The group does not believe the new proposed cemetery site "expected to be filled in 8-10 years, caters for the needs of Warrandyte, long term".

The cemetery trustees say they are aware of the concerns that some local residents have regarding what they believe will be a pollution risk from the cemetery extension.

"As the proposed extension is adjacent to the current cemetery, we expect the drainage pattern to be similar to what we have now, as the geography and the soil make-up is similar," the trustees state. "We therefore do not expect any pollution problems."

"In the 150 or so years that

the cemetery has existed, we are not aware of any pollution to the Yarra River or Anderson's Creek that has been caused by works at the cemetery."

The trustees point out that tests on cemetery overburden soil, which a resident claimed was contaminated, proved groundless.

"The Environment Protection Authority issued us with an order to have the soil tested and the results, which we had to provide to the EPA, gave the extensive samples the all-clear," the trustees statement says. "It is important to note that this soil had been taken from graves that were below established graves that had been dug from a time of two weeks before the soil was removed to eight years ago."

● WCA public meeting: full report on Page 5



Residents' representative Judy Cook addresses the WCA forum.

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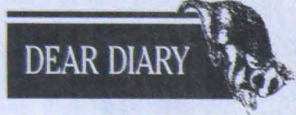
Health-a-thon fundraiser

The letter by Julie Cottier gives a somewhat negative slant to our pre-school fundraising activity. It is unfortunate that Ms Cottier did not contact the pre-school before sending her letter to the *Diary* as she would have found out that her concerns had already been addressed. After our initial announcement in the March edition of the *Diary* we were made aware of the impact our fundraiser may have on some families. We took these concerns very seriously and after seeking additional advice from a professor of health psychology made the changes at our next committee meeting.

We are now running a healthy-lifestyle-a-thon where participants can get sponsorship for a variety of activities, such as eating healthy meals or doing exercise. Only people who fall into an unhealthy weight range will be able to get sponsorship for losing weight.

Warrandyte Fullife Neighbourhood chemist will be supporting us and providing us with detailed information on how to do this in a healthy manner. We are also recommending that people who want to lose weight seek appropriate medical advice.

As we are relying solely on the support of the community we



DEAR DIARY

are hoping that this letter from Ms Cottier does not discourage people to join our healthy-lifestyle-a-thon.

The money raised by this event goes entirely to building the playground for our new pre-school which should be finished by the end of October this year. At this stage we do not have enough funds to build the playground as the insurance did not cover the loss of external equipment and the equipment that was saved was condemned after the fire so we are asking for your support.

Please consider entering the healthy-lifestyle-a-thon or making a donation. If you have not already entered and would like to participate you can join at any stage. And don't forget you choose which activity and length of time you wish to be sponsored for. For more information, please contact: Sarah Drew (9844 1649), Fiona Carnell (9844 4317) or Katri Miller (9844 0666).

Danyelle Kaye
President, Yarra Warra
Preschool



This is a scout car. Wally Walsh is about to head off, in father Jim's bread delivery van, with a load of unidentified Warrandyte scouts, date unknown. Seated on the running board is little Len Houghton and leaning on the bonnet is Ted Walsh, Wally's uncle. (Picture courtesy Warrandyte Historical Society.)

Lions seek space

The Lions Club of Warrandyte is urgently seeking space in the local township area to store a 20ft x 8ft steel container for up to 12 months. Melbourne Water has issued a notice to the club to vacate the old dairy building, which the club has used for storage of goods and catering equipment over the last three years. Apparently, the dairy has new cracks appearing in the wall structure rendering it unsafe for future use, plus possible asbestos risk to club members. If you have a suitable site please phone 9437 1155

Denis Robertshaw
Research Road

Scout helpers rally

The article "Scouting for Info" (*Warrandyte Diary* April) has yielded significant historical treasures for scouting in Warrandyte.

Joyce Wilks, who volunteers part-time at Information Warrandyte, was a parent member of the Warrandyte Scout committee during the period 1984-1988. She has been custodian of a written historical record of the group's early days, including original minutes of meetings and personal recollections from a number of the early scout

leaders. Joyce has kindly donated this record to the Warrandyte/Park Orchards Scout Group.

Jo Laurence and her team at the Warrandyte Historical Society have unearthed some wonderful photographs of early scouting in Warrandyte. They even have black and white film footage of a scout camp in Warrandyte from 1931. The group plans to print a history of scouting in Warrandyte ready for the Worldwide Scout celebration of 100 years in 2007.

This will also coincide with the 50th year of the Warrandyte Scout Hall opening in 1957.

Also as a result of the article, Val and Austin Polley donated a kayak to the group. It comes complete with paddles, helmets and personal flotation devices.

If anyone has any further historical gems please contact the current Group Leader, Don (Chippy) Hughes on 9844 0900 or mobile 0418 330 613.

Don Hughes
Pound Road

Fireworks fears

I thoroughly agree with Bob Stubbing's letter in the April edition of the *Diary*, regarding the festival.

A stupendous festival, as always, great food, great fun, great entertainment. But could someone in the very talented and creative committee come up with a more suitable alter-

native to the fireworks finale?

As Bob says, fireworks don't sit well with a community that considers itself in tune with the environment. It's worth giving it some thought, don't you think?

Karen
David Road
(name and address supplied)

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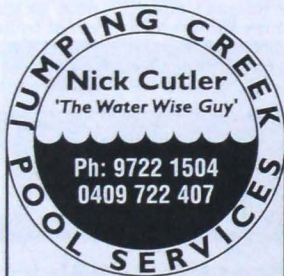


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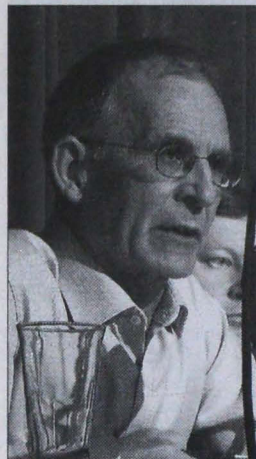
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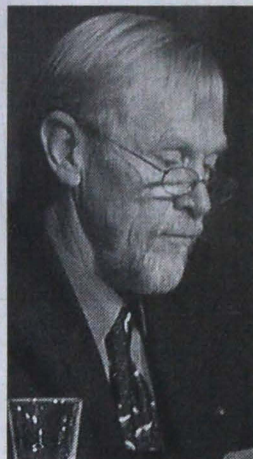
Community in action



Dick Davies



Carolyn Hirsh



Gerard Dale



Jonathon Upson



Danielle Green



Phil Honeywood



David Wierzbowski

Last month's Warrandyte Community Association public meeting debated a wide range of local issues. SAM DAVIES wrote this report and STEPHEN REYNOLDS took the pictures.

Green Wedge reprieve

Green Wedge landowners will retain existing property rights to build detached houses, under new state government planning zones finalised on Tuesday, April 27.

Under the new zoning, the Warrandyte-Park Orchards-Wonga Park Green Wedge will be re-classified from an environmental rural zone to become a rural conservation zone.

During the Warrandyte Community Association's public forum on April 22, Green Wedge landowners voiced strong concerns about the effect the new zonings may have on their properties. They were especially fearful of losing the right to build houses on allotments under 40 hectares.

The finalised plans address these fears by preserving both the existing provisions relating to the erection of detached housing, as well as the minimum lot sizes for sub-division.

Member for Yan Yean, Danielle Green, used the forum to reassure residents about the benefits of the re-zoning measures, and accused developers of "scare-mongering" tactics, which she said had led people to believe that if their house burns down they will not be able to replace it. "That is just nonsense," she said.

"The new zones put limits on subdivisions. It's drawing a line with the urban growth boundary, and protecting the vision of the Green Wedge as the lungs of Melbourne," Ms Green said.

Resident Catherine Sonsini was vocal in her opposition to the new planning zones, and told the forum she had collected 170 signatures on a petition.

Ms Sonsini feels the new zone will be too restrictive for landowners' rights.

"We needed a permit for a chook shed even though we're a rural zone. We have to put in a permit for any type of shed, any outbuilding. Basically, we're just custodians of the land, government have got the control, it makes me very angry."

Director of environmental amenity at Manningham council, Paul Molan, told the *Diary* he had sent advice on the proposal to the Department of Sustainability and Environment. "We were looking for a deferral on their decision until council has finished its own Green Wedge strategy in about a month. But our major reservations about the rural conservation zone have now disappeared," he said.

Mr Molan said some uses of land currently allowed would be prohibited under the new zoning. His department is cur-

rently "sifting through" the document to identify these changes, and will report them to council later this month.

State Park concerns

A number of community members attended the WCA's public forum, entitled "How green is our township," which followed on from their annual general meeting.

Locals relished the opportunity to discuss issues of importance with other community members and with representatives from local council and state government. In addition to Ms Green, MP for Warrandyte

and weed control in the State Park would already be one year behind target. It is believed the bushfire relief cost a total of \$69million, though Ms Green was unable to verify this figure. The WCA has 300 signatures on a petition in support of restoring park funding, due to be presented to parliament in the near future.

The WCA also sought guarantee on the future of the Warrandyte State Park depot and rangers. "We recognise the rangers are doing a great job and want them in our community," said Mr Davies.

David Sewell, chief ranger for Yarra District, said no decision had been made on staffing arrangements, and reiterated the

main issue at the moment was the asbestos levels in the current depot building.

Temporary offices are now being erected, with a debate on the future of staff and their quarters to be addressed in five or six months.

Mr Sewell said they were looking at all options. "One of the options would be to stay where they are, another one may be to move to the main street, certainly one option will be mov-

ing them to a new facility at Westerfolds, and that will be debated at the time. At this point in time everyone will be going back to Warrandyte until such time we have those discussions in the future," said Mr Sewell.

Pride of Place consultations

The Pride of Place project was also a popular issue during the evening. The WCA fears the \$50,000 state government funded project may focus too narrowly on traffic, retail issues and tourism. Contracts have recently been signed with traffic and signage consultants.

to go. "It's quite a unique place and we really do need to work on guidelines and all sorts of protection to make sure that whatever new developments come in are compatible with the existing character.

"I know it's late, I'm going to try and change it. I can only do that after first I consult with the community to see what you think of it. Then I can work within council chambers to get it changed. I'm going to try and get some value for the community out of it," he said.

Subdivisions in township

On the issue of property development, outgoing president Dick Davies said a priority for the WCA next year was to be more proactive against improper developments. "There is a tendency in Warrandyte for developers to go in with a bulldozer, then with the tree poisoning. These tactics are unsatisfactory. We need to be proactive in council elections to get more councillors aligned with our objectives," Mr Davies said.

He also flagged the need for better communication between the community and its elected representatives. "The council, and also state parks, engage us in discussion, but it's not meaningful discussion. We're going through motions, but we don't feel that we're being engaged. This has become a real issue for us, and something we're going to be more aggressive about in the future," said Mr Davies.

Membership appeal

The night ended on a plea for new memberships. A bleak treasurer's report earlier in the evening indicated the association had run at a loss of \$1229.55 the previous year.

"We operate on a very tight budget with nearly all incoming funds going out on insurance and postage costs," said the report.

"For the committee and volunteers of the association to continue its great work and to build upon the successes of the past year, we need all past members to renew, and for those residents who are not members and who have an interest in the history, culture and environment of Warrandyte to sign up," the treasurer urged.

New office-holders announced at the AGM are Jonathon Upson, president; David Wierzbowski, vice president; Kerrie Boyle, deputy vice president; David Ellis, secretary; and Ron Garrett, treasurer.



Phil Honeywood, Manningham councillor Gerard Dale and MP for Silvan Province, Carolyn Hirsh also attended.

Mr Honeywood later said, "There's an advantage to any community meeting in having both government and opposition MPs present. The government MP can be lobbied, and the opposition person can hold them to their word."

One such issue that almost developed into a parliamen-

over the parks issue, and promised ongoing community consultation.

But Mr Honeywood questioned why the park's budget was slashed by 90 percent, when the money could instead have come from a "slush fund" available for disaster relief. He said \$90,000 would amount to only a minute proportion of the total cost of bushfire relief, and predicted even if the money was restored next year, vermin

main issue at the moment was the asbestos levels in the current depot building.

Temporary offices are now being erected, with a debate on the future of staff and their quarters to be addressed in five or six months.

Mr Sewell said they were looking at all options. "One of the options would be to stay where they are, another one may be to move to the main street, certainly one option will be mov-

"It looks like the face of the township could be changed by a group of consultants, council and state government, and we'll be the last ones to know about it," said incoming WCA vice president David Wierzbowski.

Cr Gerard Dale apologised for the lack of communication between council and the community, and promised he would try to "modify and adapt what had already been done to better fit where the community wanted



MANNINGHAM

MANNINGHAM 2004 DRAFT PUBLIC OPEN SPACE STRATEGY

Public Exhibition

The 2004 Manningham draft Open Space Strategy has been developed based on a review of the 1999 Open Space Strategy and is now on public exhibition. The Strategy provides a guide for the strategic planning, development, use and management of the public open space network within the City of Manningham.

The draft Strategy is divided into two parts. Part One provides the strategy itself including the vision for the open space network and objectives for achieving the vision. Issues relating to the planning, development and management of open space are identified and recommendations made. Part Two provides an inventory and description of all open space areas and an assessment of the provision of open space within Manningham.

If you would like a copy of either Part One and/or Part Two of the draft Open Space Strategy it is available in the following ways:

- Electronically at www.manningham.vic.gov.au (consultation and amendments section);
- Viewing a hard copy at local libraries;
- Viewing or collection of a hard copy from the Council Offices at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster; or
- Requesting a hard copy by phoning Kay Toussaint on 9840 9348 or email: kay.toussaint@manningham.vic.gov.au

Two Information Sessions are being held to discuss the 2004 Manningham draft Open Space Strategy at 7.30pm **Thursday 29th April 2004** and also at 7.30pm **Monday 10th May 2004** in Function Room 3, Council Offices, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster. Melway Ref. 33F12.

You are welcome to attend either session. Please RSVP to Kay Toussaint on 9840 9348.

Written submissions are invited on the Manningham draft Open Space Strategy and can be sent to the following address by **Monday 7th June 2004**:

Ms Teresa Dominik, Manager - Economic and Environmental Planning, Manningham City Council, PO Box 1, Doncaster, Vic 3108 or email: Kristen.kavanagh@manningham.vic.gov.au

If you would like to discuss the 2004 Manningham draft Open Space Strategy further, please contact Kristen Kavanagh, Open Space Planner on 9840 9468.

NOTICE OF THE PREPARATION OF AN AMENDMENT TO A PLANNING SCHEME AND NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMIT

MANNINGHAM PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT C41

APPLICATION PL 03/015159

The land affected by the amendment is Lot 1 PS516515P, being 14-20 Brackenbury Street, Warrandyte. The subject land is located on the north-east corner of Brackenbury and McCulloch Streets, Warrandyte. The land affected by the application is Lot 1 PS516515P, being 14-20 Brackenbury Street, Warrandyte. The subject land is located on the north-east corner of Brackenbury and McCulloch Streets, Warrandyte. The amendment proposes to:

- rezone the subject land from a Residential 1 Zone (R1Z) to a Public Use Zone 5 - Cemetery/Crematorium (PUZ5);
- delete the Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 2 (SLO2) - Yarra Valley Backdrop from the subject land; and
- delete the Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 3 (SLO3) - Environmental Residential Significant Landscape Areas from the subject land.

The application is for a permit to remove native vegetation associated with the use of the land for the purpose of a cemetery.

The person who requested the amendment and the applicant for the permit is Graeme Bentley Landscape Architects Pty Ltd on behalf of the Anderson's Creek Cemetery Trust.

You may inspect the:

- amendment and the application, and
- any documents that support the amendment and application, and
- the explanatory report about the amendment and application,

at the office of the planning authority, Manningham City Council, Municipal Offices, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster, or at the Department of Sustainability and Environment, Planning Information Centre, Upper Plaza, Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne.

This can be done during office hours and is free of charge.

An information evening will be held on Wednesday, 19 May 2004 from 7.30pm to 9.00pm.

Venue: The Function Room, Grand Hotel
120 Yarra Street, Warrandyte

Representatives from Graeme Bentley Landscape Architects Pty Ltd, the Anderson's Creek Cemetery Trust and the Manningham City Council will be in attendance to explain the amendment and will be available to answer any questions. For catering and seating purposes please RSVP to Kay Toussaint on 9840 9348.

Any person who may be affected by the amendment or by the granting of the planning permit may make a submission to the planning authority. Submissions must be sent to:

Teresa Dominik, Manager Economic & Environmental Planning
Manningham City Council, PO Box 1, Doncaster Vic 3108.

Before: 17 June 2004

Signed: **JOHN BENNIE**
Chief Executive

drumMuster Program

drumMuster is the national program for the collection and recycling of empty, cleaned, non-returnable crop production and on-farm animal health chemical containers. The drumMuster program provides a defined route to safely dispose of used chemical containers.

The Shire of Yarra Ranges in conjunction with drumMuster program will be holding a collection at: Coldstream Recovery and Waste Transfer Centre, Ingram Road, Coldstream (Mel. Ref. 281 E11) on 2nd and 3rd June 2004.

Time: 8:30am to 4:00pm

All farm chemical users that use containers with the drumMuster logo are encouraged to bring their empty, properly cleaned, non-returnable, steel and plastic farm chemical containers to the facility for inspection and collection.

Remember only those drums with the drumMuster logo will be accepted. Unclean or partly filled containers will not be accepted and will remain the property of the chemical user.

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL.

For further information or to book, contact the Shire of Yarra Ranges Waste Management Department on 9294 6729.

Excellent, Ronnie!

By ALANA HORDERN

Ronnie Peterson, a teacher at the Warrandyte kindergarten, describes receiving an award for National Excellence in Teaching and Community Merit as, "embarrassing. It was quite an honour, because you're recognised for what you're doing. But there's also the embarrassment because everybody else is doing exactly the same".

"It's recognition for all the teachers, not just me. Our profession is very under-manned at the moment and we need to get more people into teaching so it's good to raise the profile a little bit".

Ronnie says winning the award was a "big surprise". She was voted for by her fellow teachers. "At our committee meeting this year, they all trooped in to the meeting and I thought, oh, no, somebody's come to object to something!" Of course they were all there to surprise Ronnie and congratulate her on her success.

Ronnie, who says she "couldn't be doing this if it weren't for the fantastic support of the staff" has been teaching at Warrandyte kinder for 18 years. After leaving school and working in an office job, she knew she had to get out and try new things. Helping out briefly as a teacher's aide in a primary school, she realised she loved working with the younger children. So she went back to school as a mature-aged student, and since then could not have been happier.

Although "some days the noise level can be really high and you crave a bit of quiet time", Ronnie says she never misses adult conversation. "We encourage the parents to come and go whenever they like and if they need to chat or need sup-



Ronnie Peterson (Picture by Jan Tindale)

port we're there." While she loves working with children, she's "usually pretty tired at the end of the day! But the children just soak up information. It's lovely, because they're still quite honest and innocent in their ideas. You get a lot from the kids".

Outside of her work at the kindergarten, she "loves gardening, but I don't get much of a chance for that!" She has two children of her own, who keep her occupied with their interest in sports. "I'd prefer them to be into sports and out of mischief! So we get to travel around and take them everywhere but

that's good fun because you meet a lot of people."

Ronnie also enjoys the kindergarten's participation in the Warrandyte Festival. This year their float won the "best entry" prize, and although the parents come and help out and give "some great ideas", it's the kids who make the festival special.

All Ronnie hopes for in the future is "peace and quiet. I see myself doing this for quite a while. The thought of retiring is nice, but I can't imagine doing anything else. I really love it here. It's just a lovely community. I guess I'll just grow old and watch the flowers grow!"

Pets profit when people pay up

Manningham council congratulates the competition winners who registered their pets prior to April 10. Each winner will be receiving a 12 month supply of pet food.

- D. Sparrow and R. Ayers of Wonga Park, Domestic Short-haired cat, five years old Oscar.
- M. Dinale of Templestowe, Domestic cat, nine years old Louis.
- J. Harmsworth of Warrandyte, Burmese

Mountain dog, six years old Bella.

• A Schuck of Templestowe, Jack Russell Terrier, four years old Pretzel.

Residents are reminded that all dogs and cats over the age of six months must be registered. Council local laws officers will be conducting follow-up inspections to ensure compliance with the registration renewal notices that were sent in March.

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Toyota Celica Convertible RA65. Low kms. Excellent car. NDR 972. \$7000. 9844 2510 or 0438 089 535.

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CIVIL CELEBRANT: Weddings, child name-giving and renewals. Bruce Shand, JP. Phone 9879 6726. Website: www.bruceshand.com.au

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CHEAP PEA STRAW: \$9.50 per bale pickup. \$10.00 per bale delivered. Phone 9844 0343.

IYENGAR STYLE YOGA at the Mechanics Institute, Warrandyte. Friday 9.30-11am. Starts 4th June. All welcome. Bookings: phone Juliette 9844 1953.

ACT GLOBALLY... SHOP LOCALLY



Kids win wonderful new playground

Children who live in Lynette Avenue and the surrounding neighbourhood are thrilled. They've just been given a beautiful new "bush-themed" playground, courtesy of Manningham council.

Mayor Cr Patricia Young opened the \$32,000 playground late last month.

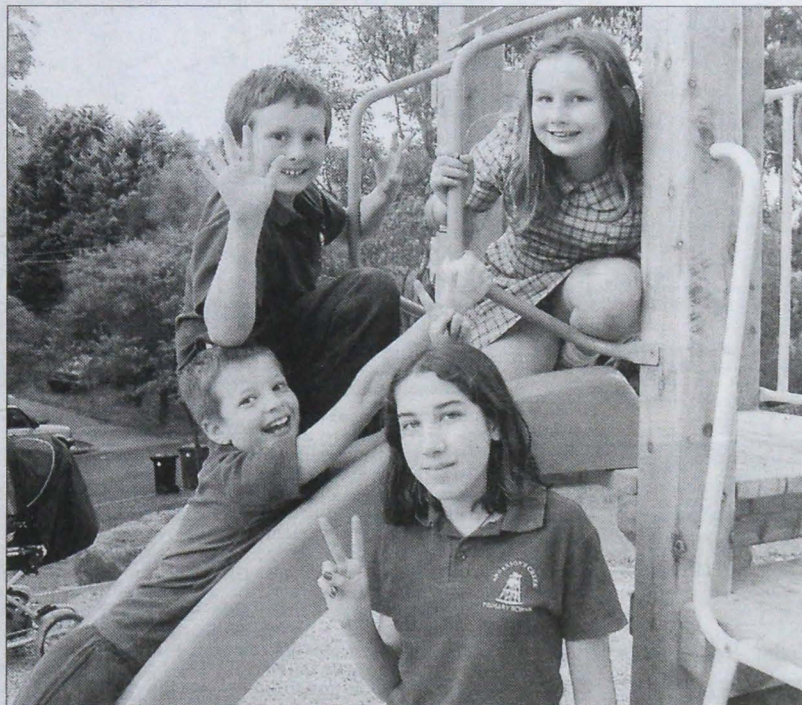
"Playspaces are now more than just equipment," Cr Young told the *Diary*. "The use of sculptural seating, indigenous planting, community artworks and traditional elements creates a unique playspace that fits well into the local environment."

"The community has been involved in this project from the very beginning, with council staff working in partnership with the local community on the playspace's design and artwork."

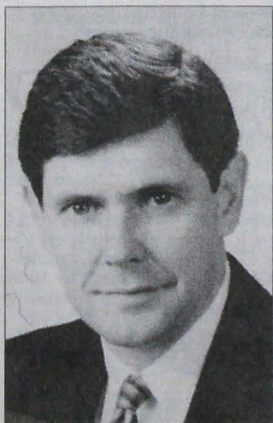
"The totems were painted by families from the local area in conjunction with Jeanette Jennings, art teacher at Carey Baptist Grammar, Donvale. It has been this wonderful working relationship between council and community that has guaranteed the project's success," Cr Young said.

The new playground includes a compact timber play unit, a designed "snake" seat that doubles as a retaining wall, a "frog" spring rocker and totem poles painted by volunteer families who use the area.

Pictures by JAELE BAJADA



Grant for North firefighters



Kevin Andrews

North Warrandyte CFA brigade has received \$3180 from the Australian government to purchase small equipment items.

Federal MP Kevin Andrews announced this grant late last month. The funding is part of over \$4million allocated for the 2004 volunteer small equipment grants. More than 2000 volunteer organisations across Australia have been allocated up to \$5000 to purchase a wide variety of small equipment items.

"I trust this funding will help make the valuable work done by dedicated volunteers easier, safer and more effective," Mr Andrews said.

Fire restrictions off, but rules still apply

Victoria's state-wide fire danger period ended on April 30.

Residents are reminded of Manningham's local fire requirements governing open air burning and incinerators. These provisions aim to reduce the impact on public health and the environment.

- A person must not light any fire in the open air or in an incinerator, on any land having a total area less than 4000 square metres.

- Owners of properties with an area of 4000 square metres or more can burn off if they apply for, and are granted a permit

- Owners of properties with an area of 2500 to 4000 square metres can reapply for a permit to burn, if they took out a permit to burn last year.

In all other circumstances, burning off is prohibited.

Residents wishing to apply for a burning-off permit should contact council's health and local laws unit on 9840 9333 or download the permit form from council's website at www.manningham.vic.gov.au

Residents found to be burning off without a permit face fines up to \$2000.



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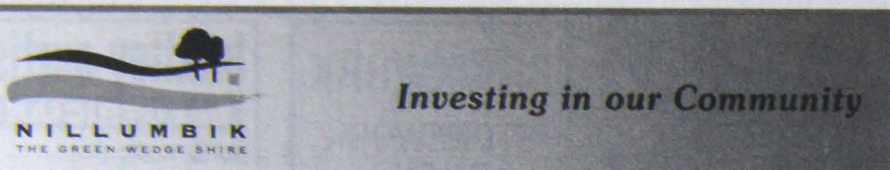
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Environment Advisory Committee

Are you interested in Nillumbik's environment? Do you have something to contribute? Nillumbik Shire Council, Environment Advisory Committee is seeking new members to actively participate in the Committee. The aims of the Committee will be to provide advice on key environmental issues within the Shire. There are up to four (4) positions on the committee available for community representatives. Nominations are invited for these positions and will close on Friday 21 May 2004.

St Andrews (Market Site) Advisory Committee

Nillumbik Shire Council has recently been appointed as the Committee of Management for the St Andrews Market Site. The aim of the Committee is to advise Council regarding the issues associated with the management of the site. There are up to two (2) positions on the committee available for community representatives. Nominations are invited for these positions and will close on Friday 21 May 2004.

Nomination Procedure

Terms of reference and nomination forms, including selection criteria for the Environment Advisory Committee and the St Andrews (Market Site) Advisory Committee, are available from the Council offices in Civic Drive, Greensborough, or can be mailed out upon request, by contacting Megan Andrews on 9433 3210.

For further information please contact Donna Stoddart, Council's Environmental Planning Coordinator, on 9433 3216.

Nillumbik's Environmental Workshops Program for May 2004

Learn more about the environment and sustainable living in series of workshops brought to you by Nillumbik Shire Council.

Saturday 22 May 2004 INTRODUCTION TO INDIGENOUS GARDEN DESIGN

Come along and learn about the benefits of designing a garden using indigenous plant species. This introductory workshop will help you to identify the types of indigenous plants available for garden design and discuss management and maintenance techniques.

Time: 10.00am - 12.30pm

Cost: \$10

Venue: Edendale Community Farm Environment Centre, Gastons Road, Eltham (Melway 21 A1)

Bookings: Please call the Eltham Living and Learning Centre on ph 9439 3463

Saturday 29 May 2004 DETOX YOUR GARDEN

Staff from Sustainable Gardening Australia will discuss the effects of pesticides, herbicides and fertiliser in the environment and what gardeners can do to reduce their usage of harmful chemicals.

Time: 11.00am - 12noon

Cost: Free

Venue: Rivers Garden Centre, Kurrak Road, Yarrambat (Melways 184 C11)

Bookings: Please call Council's Environmental Projects Officer on ph 9433 3214

To receive a copy of Nillumbik's Environmental Workshop Program please call Narelle Liepa, Environmental Projects Officer, on 9433 3214 or visit www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au

Biodiversity Enhancement Program

To protect and enhance Nillumbik's biodiversity, particularly the native vegetation and habitat for fauna, Council is now providing landowners who undertake biodiversity enhancement works on their property with grants of up to \$500.

Grants can be used to reimburse the cost of:

- Materials associated with fencing off areas of remnant vegetation or revegetation;
- Purchasing indigenous plants for revegetation; and/or
- Hiring a contractor to undertake environmental weed control.

Applications for assistance through this program are currently being invited.

An application form and further details of the program can be obtained by contacting Council's Land Management Officer, Mark Rowntree on 9433 3211. Supported by the Port Phillip Westport CMA.

Control Paterson's Curse!

Paterson's Curse (*Echium plantagineum*) is classified as a declared noxious weed under the Catchment and Land Protection Act. Seeds can be spread by numerous methods including animals, vehicles, water and in both hay and farm machinery.

Autumn is the ideal time to control this persistent weed. Council's Community Weed Control program can help to provide a cost-effective means for landowners to use a professional contractor to undertake weed control work. Under the program, Council subsidises the cost of using an approved licensed contractor to control this noxious weed.

To register your interest and/or obtain further details, including a list of other weeds on the program, please contact Council's Land Management Officer, Mark Rowntree on 9433 3211 or send an email to Mark.Rowntree@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

hnaBlaze 101/299

Roundabout soon a reality

As motorists driving along Ringwood Road will testify, work is well underway on the new roundabout being built at the Jumping Creek Road intersection.

Manningham council expects the works will be completed by late August.

The \$1,213,000 project which includes land acquisition, service alteration costs and construction works, is the result of a road safety audit undertaken along Jumping Creek Road.

This survey that identified safety and access issues at the intersection.

To address these issues, council is undertaking the following works:

- construction of a new roundabout at the intersection;
- construction of kerb and channel at the intersection;
- underground drainage, footpaths, driveway crossings;

- improved signage and lighting;

- improved pedestrian and equestrian access;

- relocation of the bus bays;

- safety guard rail;

- underground drainage and

- improved sight lines;

- improvements to the road alignment on Jumping Creek Road approaching the intersection;

- land acquisition, service alterations;

- culvert alterations, line-marking and landscaping.

A major feature of the works is the construction of retaining walls to accommodate the roundabout, indented bus bays and the localised widening of Jumping Creek Road.

"The roundabout will improve the safety of the intersection and reduce the traffic queues currently being experienced in the morning peak period," a

council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

"The new bus bays to be located each side of Warrandyte-Ringwood Road will be linked with improved footpaths. Improved lighting will increase night visibility for motorists, pedestrians and bus users. The widening in Jumping Creek Road will make the area safer for motorists, pedestrians and equestrian activities."

The spokesperson said community input has been an important part of the planning of the roundabout project.

"The roundabout design has been undertaken with regard to the landscape significance of the area and the extent of works has been minimised to reduce the impact on the environment as much as possible while still achieving appropriate design standards," the spokesperson said.



Men at work: new roundabout at Jumping Creek Road intersection is underway. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

New deal with stormwater

Poorly maintained construction site practices are a common source of stormwater pollution.

To educate and assist developers and managers of construction sites improve their site practices, Manningham council has implemented a new project aimed at managing stormwater quality.

Mayor Cr Patricia Young said that soil, sand, rubbish and other building materials can be washed, blown or carried off-site into gutters and drains.

"It blocks drains and storm-

water pipes, which increases flooding and makes footpaths and roadways slippery and dangerous for both pedestrians and vehicles and subsequently ends up polluting our creeks, rivers, beaches and bay, destroying aquatic fish and plants.

"The aim of the new project is to better educate developers and builders in their responsibilities and improve construction site practices.

"Improved practices will not only reduce stormwater pollution, but will also help to reduce

developers' stockpile losses, reduce clean-up costs, reduce site downtime, improve safety for employees and the public, improve public image by reducing complaints and reduce the risk of fines," Cr Young said.

A new brochure detailing stormwater quality management techniques has been produced and can be obtained from the customer service desk at the Manningham Municipal Offices, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster or by calling council on 9840 9333.

PLUMBER AND GASFITTER

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Healthy fundraising



Even Warrandyte's overweight dogs are taking advantage of Yarra Warra Preschool's Healthy-lifestyle-a-thon.

The fundraiser was launched late last month and as well as the Labrador, who joined under vet supervision, many local people, including MP Phil Honeywood, and others from as far away as Queensland, enrolled to begin living a healthier lifestyle.

"Our Healthy-lifestyle-a-thon will be running until August 7, and anyone can join our health conscious campaign at any stage," committee member Fiona Carnell told the *Diary*.

"You choose the healthy lifestyle activity you wish to be sponsored for—each time you go to the gym, for each nutritious meal you eat, even when you walk the dog.

"The whole family can get involved, but only adults can be sponsored. If you want to be sponsored for losing weight, you need to fall into an unhealthy weight range and you should seek medical advice," Ms Carnell said.

All proceeds will go directly to the building of the playground at the new preschool, due for completion in October.

For further information, call Sarah Drew (9844 1649), Fiona Carnell (9844 4317) or Katri Miller (9844 0666).

Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS



Council plans open space across municipality

Manningham council's long-awaited draft 2004 open space strategy is now on public exhibition.

The strategy has been developed in line with a review of the 1999 open space strategy and provides a guide for the strategic planning, development, use and management of the public open space network within the municipality.

The strategy is divided into two parts. Part one provides the strategy itself—including the vision for the open space network and objectives for achieving the vision. Issues relating to the planning, development and management of open space are identified and recommendations made.

Part two provides an inventory and description of all open space areas and an assessment of the provision of open space within Manningham.

The draft strategy also includes the results of the recreation needs study 2003 and a new classification system for open space based on a category and significance rating.

An information session to discuss the 2004 Manningham draft open space strategy is being held at 7.30pm on Monday, May 10 at Manningham council offices, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster.

Please RSVP to Kay Toussaint on 9840 9348.

Residents or interested parties can obtain a copy of the strategy online at www.manningham.vic.gov.au (in the consultation and amendments section), or viewed as a hard copy at local libraries. Hard copies can be obtained from the council offices, by phoning Kay Toussaint on 9840 9348.

Written submissions are invited on the Manningham draft open space strategy and can be sent to Ms Teresa Dominik, manager, economic and environmental planning, Manningham council, PO Box 1, Doncaster 3108 by Monday, June 7. If you would like to discuss the strategy, please contact Kristen Kavanagh on 9840 9333.

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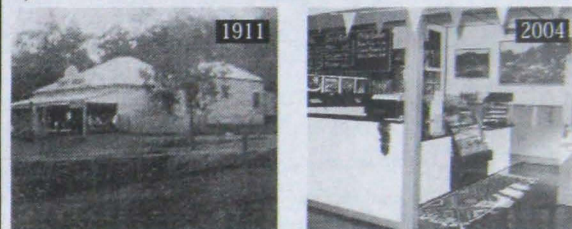


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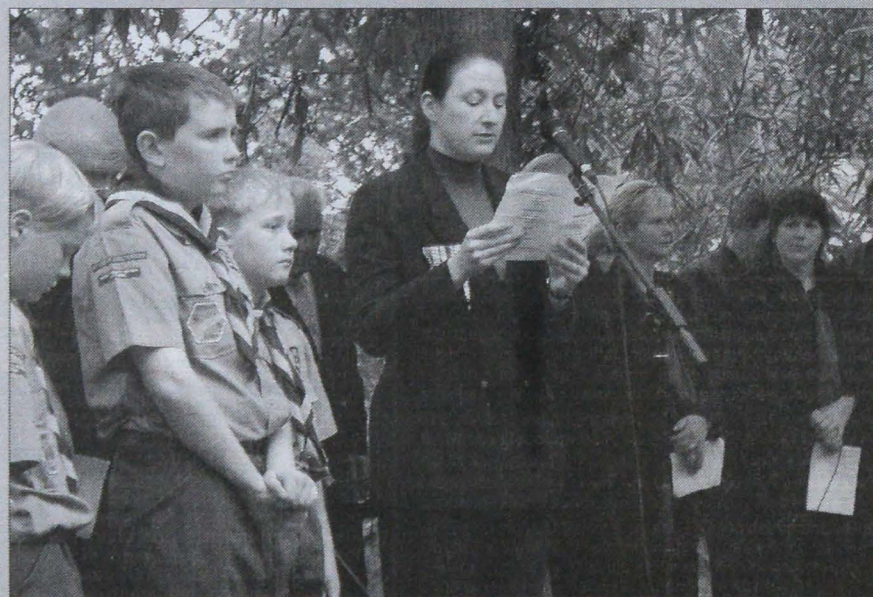
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Warrandyte



did not forget

Leadens skies and the threat of rain did nothing to dampen Warrandyte's Anzac Day spirit last month.

The biggest crowd in many years turned out to pay homage to our war dead and to those who have since passed on.

Mercifully, the rain held off until after the march and the service at the Warrandyte RSL Sub-Branch memorial.

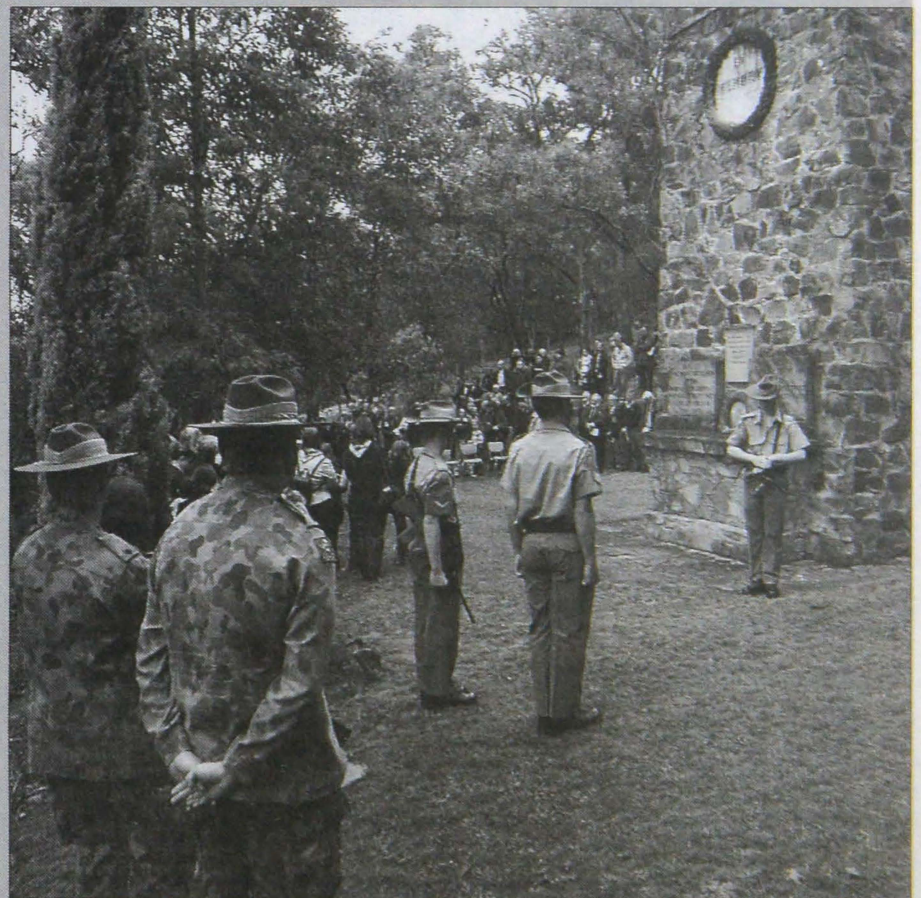
"We estimated the attendance at 450," said sub-branch president Dave Parker.

"It was the biggest we can remember. "If there was a disappointment about the day at all it was the numbers who took part in the march. We invite anyone at all to be involved in it and we hope the general public will keep that in mind for future Anzac Days."

The service was conducted by local civil celebrant John Byrne and the guard of honour provided by the 31 Australian Cadet Unit.

Other important contributors were Lachlan McSwain on bagpipes, bugler Tom Reynolds, the Bellbird Singers and Sarah Dwyer, who did the reading.

Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS



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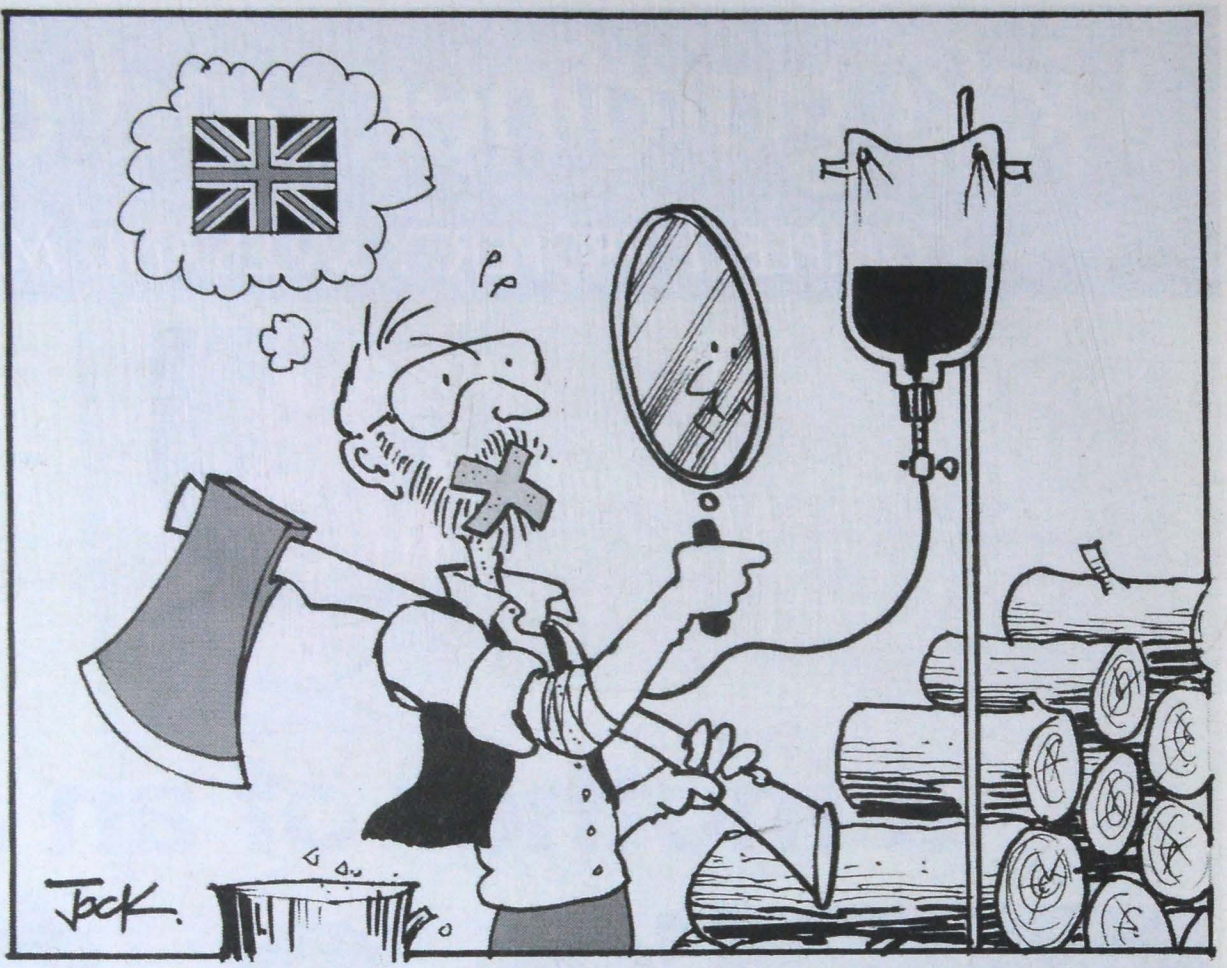
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Blood-stained tale of yore, warts and all

WHAT do Mel Gibson's, "The Passion", "The Chainsaw Massacre", my childhood and my last weekend all have in common?

If your first reaction was "money" then you are well short of the mark. If you said "international fame" then you would be similarly at odds with the truth. However, if you said "blood", then collect one fluffy toy as you leave the carnival.

Now for those of you who are squeamish, this is the time that you turn off the set and tuck up in bed with a nice nature book about big cats eating small attractive Disney characters in the Serengeti Plains because what follows is not without several references to gore.

The first occasion that I can remember being aware of my precious supply of blood was when I was at primary school. Now I'm not just talking about the grazed knee type of blood loss but the deep red continually flowing type that tends to suggest that at any moment the fuel gauge will register empty and you will slump, dead, to the ground.

Nowadays, I might have been whisked off to the school's counsellor to be interrogated about my reasons for self-mutilation. Back then, there was no such person. And had anyone bothered to observe me at all, all they would have seen was a little boy doing his best to get rid of an unloved wart.

KIBBLED

"I stood, looking at myself in the mirror. I was emptying as my blood flowed from my chin to my collar."

For years I had been developing first one wart and then a collection of them on my right-hand thumb. Now, as you know, I am left-handed so the prospect of self-medication was possible. Not only did I have a dextrous left hand but I also had an available pair of compasses. It didn't take me long to realise, during one boring arithmetic class, that I could save my parents a lot of medical expenses and myself the tedium of repetitive multiplication if I put compass and warts together.

I pride myself that, as a lad, I had an inquisitive nature. In past articles I have shared with you my admirable spirit of sci-

entific enquiry, like when I introduced a magnifying glass to a trail of ants, or achieved a world-shattering breakthrough about death, by injecting snails with a saturated saline solution. In the case of the warts, however, I was the guinea pig and my school compass was my means of exploration.

Warts are made up of lots of individual components. The wart head is a collection of circles, each one fed by a root that plunges into the bloody flesh. It was fascinating to discover, during the droning of the seven times table, that by gently prodding between the sections of the wart head with the compass point, they could be separated. It didn't take long for a hypothesis to be formulated and then began the lengthy period of experimentation and verification.

The first segment seemed to come out with misleading simplicity. There it lay on my exercise book, gigantic in comparison with the page full of botched multiplication exercises. By the time I had excavated the second and third, the blood had begun to flow and I became increasingly aware of the stabs of pain that shot up my arm whenever I gouged at the site.

By the time the rest of the class had got to their sing-song, "... seven times seven is forty nine ..." I had fockicked for a grubby handkerchief and had got to the stage of wrapping it around my thumb in an attempt to stem the flow of blood that

was by now beginning to go from trickle to flow into the ink well.

"What are you doing, Roger? You are supposed to be learning your seven times table."

Quickly, I shoved my bloodied hand under my bum, in a two-pronged effort to both stop the flow and divert my teacher's attention.

Come lunchtime, I tossed up whether to continue my medical research, or play British Bulldog across our asphalt Colosseum. I decided that BB was less dangerous.

It's been 40 years since then. Last Saturday, however, I rediscovered blood. I was chopping firewood and a chunk of Yellow Box flew off the block and hit me on the lip. Surprisingly, despite the fact that there was a wound both inside and outside my lip, it didn't really hurt. The blood flow, however, reminded me of my early research years. I stood, looking at myself in the mirror. I was emptying as my blood flowed from my chin to my collar.

I wasn't sure what to do. You can't put a Band Aid on a lip, so I staunched the flow with a Norman Gunston piece of tissue. But what next should I do? Return to the scene of the accident?

I looked outside at the woodpile, looked at my bloodied lip and wished there was somewhere handy to play British Bulldog.

ROGER KIBELL

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We've looked at clouds from both sides now...

I WAS looking at the map of Australia, admiring the pointed spire of Cape York and the jaggedy crescent of the Bight. There was Tasmania, a little askew, but there nonetheless. Then it all changed. The coastline of Victoria began to drift southwards as the continent expanded and finally disintegrated.

Making pictures from clouds is a game I used to play as a child. Now as an adult there are precious few opportunities to indulge in such fantasies. These days when I look up at the clouds it's usually for signs of rain. From the ground we see only the underside of clouds. Looking down on clouds, though, gives an entirely different perspective. Several years ago on a flight from Adelaide to Alice Springs, eyes glued to the double perspex porthole, I watched the dawn come up over an endless sea of clouds. Encapsulated in the pressurised cabin there was no sense of movement. We were seemingly trapped in the troposphere suspended above a fleece of cottonwool clouds flushed pink by the rising sun. Celestial, almost. The only thing missing were the harp-playing angels.

Cloud watching is both an art and a science. And like most things scientific clouds can be classified. In 1803 a London pharmacist called Luke Howard came up with a system of classification that is still used worldwide today. In simple terms he divided clouds into three main types based on form, height and how they arise. These are: cirrus—the streaky, wispy ones that occur at great height; cumulus—the puffy, cottonwool ones occurring in middle or low level; and stratus—those low-level uniformly thick grey clouds. Within



NATURE

By PAT COUPAR
Drawn by MELANIE COUPAR

each group there are many variations on the general theme.

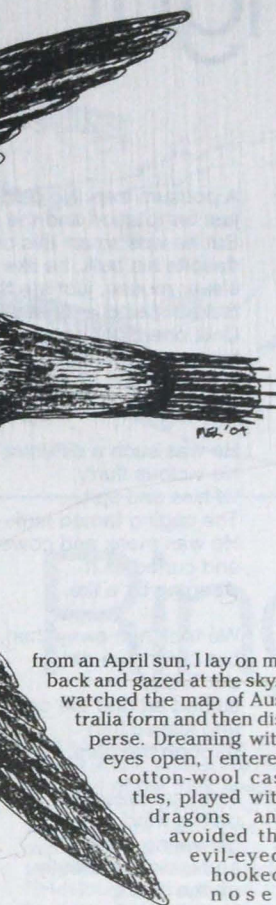
By looking at clouds it is possible to predict the weather, at least in the short term. Many factors can influence weather, but generally it is determined by the movement of high and low pressure areas. A change in cloud patterns often indicates the approach of a warm or cold front—that is a zone or boundary between air masses of different temperatures.

Without getting too technical, clouds form as air rises, cools and condenses into billions of minute water droplets or ice crystals. Depending on the height that condensation takes place, when a cloud reaches saturation point, the droplets fall either as rain, hail or snow.

The "King of Clouds" is the cumulo nimbus, the storm cloud—a manifestation of the immense power of ascending air currents and violent down draughts. These boiling angry clouds tower and spiral, from the low layers of the atmosphere to the top of the troposphere, reaching heights of 10 kilometres. The severe turbulence is associated with spectacular lightning and thunder, heavy rain and hail. The fall in atmospheric pressure that precludes the storm is detected by insects such as beetles, ants, termites and native bees, triggering them to take to the air in huge nuptial swarms. One of the many birds to benefit from the insect bounty is the Spine-tail Swift also called the White-throated Needletail. With

speeds up to 130 kilometres per hour this little bird can fly faster than any other bird, with the exception of a plummeting Peregrine Falcon. Breeding in northern Asia, Spine-tail Swifts move south during spring. They are unable to perch like other birds; instead they cling to vertical surfaces with their sharp claws and tail spines. Reportedly, they feed, sleep and even mate on the wing. Their aerial existence—often over tree canopies up to 100 metres—and their speed makes identification difficult, although with an unforked tail, Spine-tail Swifts can be distinguished from the more common, low-flying Welcome Swallow.

Over Easter, I had the chance for some self-indulgent cloud watching. Absorbing the last lingering warmth of summer



from an April sun, I lay on my back and gazed at the sky. I watched the map of Australia form and then disperse. Dreaming with eyes open, I entered cotton-wool castles, played with dragons and avoided the evil-eyed, hooked-nosed witch. Exotic birds, dogs, horses—they were all there. Briefly. And then they were gone. But the song in my brain remained:

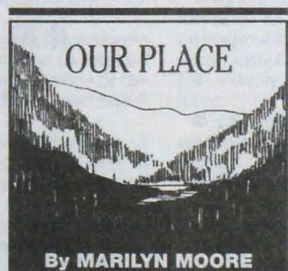
*I've looked at clouds from both sides now
From up and down and still somehow
It's cloud illusions I recall
I really don't know clouds at all...*
(Lyrics by Joni Mitchell)

Wordless in Warrandyte

HELL'S bells, how am I going to get this article written? My computer's as dead as the proverbial.

We should have paid more attention to the warning signs. It's not as if they were subtle or anything. The odd screen-freeze of a few months ago quickly became a frequent occurrence, accompanied by printer-lock-ups, mouse jams and on-screen announcements of mysterious fatalities. We persevered with the thing even when it started shutting itself down.

Talk about flogging a dead horse. However, everybody was much too busy to take it to the vet. Surely we could coax it into action just long enough to extract the daily emails from the spate of spam? Perhaps I could just finish that chart that I needed by mid-morning? Maybe I could ditch the photographs and vector-based artwork and just encourage it to stick to light duties in Word, which doesn't need as much brainspace to operate. Despite these inducements, the horse continued to balk. Maybe its hard drive was too full? If we off-



OUR PLACE

By MARILYN MOORE

loaded all the gut-clogging stuff and left it with only a featherweight jockey in the saddle, maybe the system could breathe again. After all, the thing has been galloping perfectly for years. Why would it stop now? We haven't done anything horrible to it. Quite the contrary—we've fed it copiously and put it regularly to bed in the wee hours of every morning.

Predictably, in the end, none of our gentle persuasion worked. As we continued to ignore its cries for help, the processor eventually retaliated by refusing to get up and run at all. The poor horse was now flat on its back with all four hooves pointing rigidly to the heavens.

At this point there was nothing for it but to sigh mightily, disconnect the maze of dusty wires at the back and take the damn thing for the little ride in the car that it should have had months ago.

I drove as gently as if I had a bowl of water sitting on the back seat, afraid of further unbalancing the precious cargo. Inside that cream-coloured beast was my whole life! Sad, but true—everything from historic family portraits to business invoices and the all-important email address book, to say nothing of an entire collection of photos and projects. And like most people's data, not backed up quite as often as it ought to have been! "Please, please, please let it be retrievable," I prayed to nobody in particular all the way to the technician's lair.

So there it is. Sitting in an operating theatre littered with spare bits of motherboard, optional RAM and a shelf full of shiny new hard drives. Diagnosis and surgery was initially expected to take only a couple of days, but even a person who knows next to nothing about it can tell you that no computer-

related problem is ever simple. It was therefore no surprise to find after the said couple of days that our ailing processor had merely moved further along the bench. Hopefully not dead, just sleeping off the effects of having been forced to regurgitate the contents of its hard drive prior to surgery.

Meanwhile, here we are—stark, staring computerless. The house feels strangely empty. The inmates have an unwanted quantity of time on their hands. Unwanted as well, in most cases. Nobody can get anything done! How did we get so dependent on this little box? Apart from anything else, the kids desperately need it to submit essays, to do software programming projects and internet research, and to download lecture notes, assignments, project specifications and emails from teachers. They also think they desperately need it to listen to music, chat to their friends and play games.

I used to think that I could happily retire to a tent out in the desert somewhere, but now I realise that it will have to be a tent equipped with a power point and a satellite dish!

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MANNINGHAM
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Council desires to provide to its residents ready access to a short list of casual commercial emergency service contractors who can demonstrate that they are bone fide businesses with sufficient experience, credibility, insurance cover, etc that will provide appropriate comfort to those residents to whom the short list is shared and that the residents' interests, while not warranted, have been reasonably protected.
The services sought include:
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Services are to be provided "directly" to the resident who will be responsible for any payments. Council will NOT be responsible for any payments to the contractor whatsoever.
An Expression of Interest form and Briefing document is available from Council's website (www.manningham.vic.gov.au) or the Customer Service Desk at the Municipal Offices, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster 3108 or telephone Dennis Hunt on 9809 4511.
Expressions of Interest close 12noon on Wednesday 26 May 2004 and should be marked to the attention of Dennis Hunt, PO Box 1, Doncaster Vic 3108.

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Getting it right

We thought
it was a nasty feral,
tormenting us and ours,
banshee howling
around the house
by night and day.
Big and ginger
chew-eared, hunking,
different only by degree
from our smaller sleeker
well-fed ones.

It yowled and wooed incessantly,
and when suddenly silent
you'd find it curled churlishly
In unexpected corners
its chewed ears flattened,
then see "Teddy" whom we're
"protecting"
coily stretching her tabby belly
succulently in his vicinity.

Because he was wooing Teddy
he used to fight our Pip,
and as he was a danger to the
natives
we thought that he should go.
So when stones and hoses
and midnight curses
didn't work,
we got a trap.

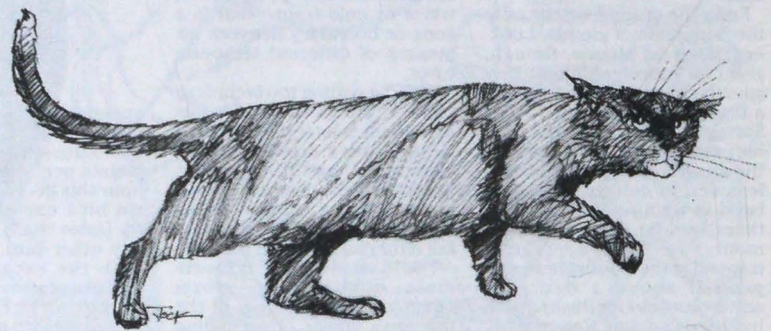
A possum trap. No pain—
just temptation and the slam.
But he was smart this one,
despite his bulk, he like many
clever mouse, just ate the bait,
flicked his tail and smugly fled.
Until one night he must have got
too smug and in the morning
there he was, all curled, contrite
and caged.

He was such a different creature
No vicious flurry
Of hiss and spit.
The caging tamed him—
He was meek and cowed
and curled as if
sleeping by a fire.

We took him away then,
but before we did,
our Teddy
sniffed around the cage
and kissed him
through the bars.

Then sat dejected
on the window ledge
glowering at us
and looking wistfully
up the stairs.
Until Pip emerged
from hiding
all tough and swagger
free now
to reclaim her.

KAREN THROSSELL



The Experience you have been waiting for! In the beautiful setting of Warrandyte you and your family will soon be able to enjoy our supply of **organic food** in a **Store** and a **Licensed Café**. Our aim is to nourish and empower people to be in a positive relationship with themselves, the Earth and each other.

Store: a wide range of fresh produce and groceries and bulk goods.

Licensed Café: Nourishing modern café style food.



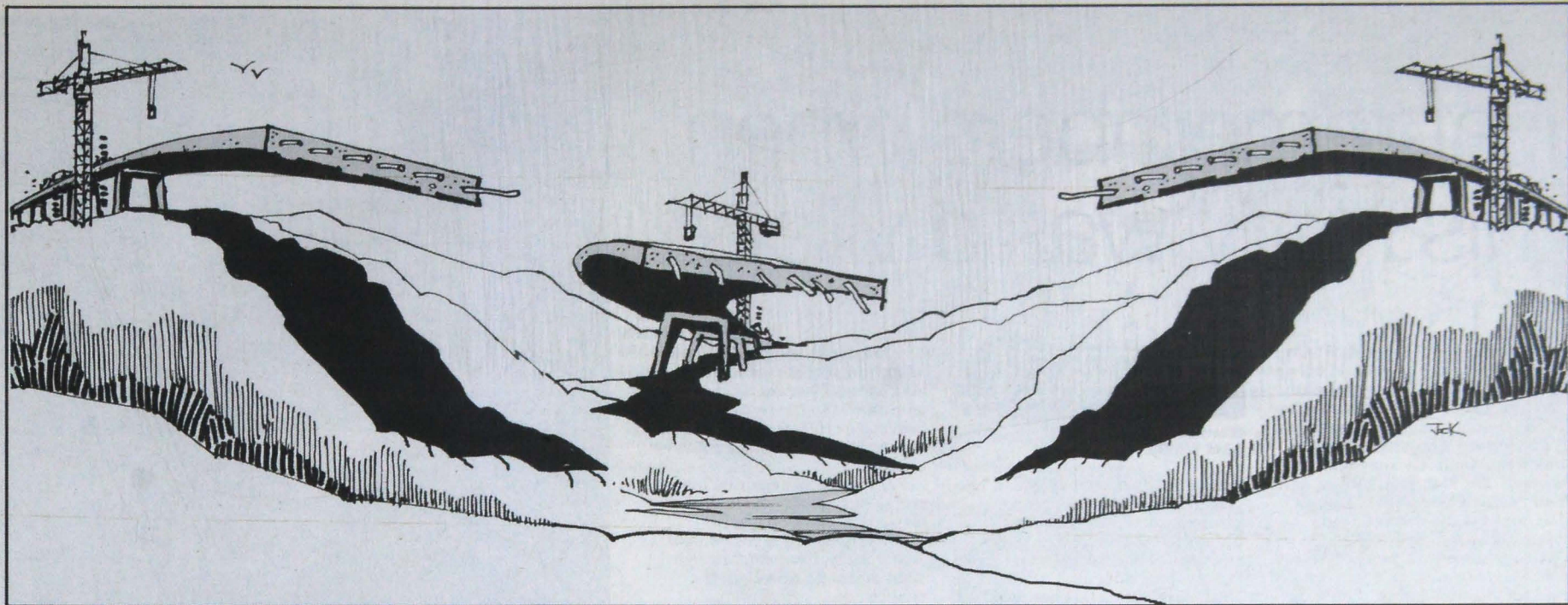
Organic food is not a luxury, it is the way food is meant to be!

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THE WARRANDYTE COMMUNITY CENTRE, CLOSE TO THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

It's simple to get involved, just drop in, or phone 9844 4503 and find out what's going on.



Lord of the Ring Road

A CROSS the landscape of the Middle Yarra and beyond lies a network of streets, avenues, boulevards, lanes, drives, ring-roads, highways and free-ways that define our society as much as any of our arts or architecture.

We use them every day, worship them for their convenience, sing songs in their praise, name television shows after them, bestow upon them cultural values that give them special significance in our personal history.

Roads that carry cars that carry people to multiple destinations every moment. As more people are crammed on to the earth, more roads are built; more vehicles are built to provide transport, all of which feeds the automotive industry: the largest industry in the world. The Lord of the Ring Road smiles at each of the 40 billion vehicle kilometres travelled in the Port Phillip region every year.

Expanding populations create expanding economies; we are in a cycle of breeding more humans up, or bringing them in, and by giving them the infrastructure of a road to drive on, everything will work out in the end.

All that we need is a set of roads that will take us faster, sooner, safer than we have ever motored before.

The Lord of the Ring Road provides the answers to all our questions as we continue to expand our population. It is the never-ending slice of the Magic Pudding. It is the never-ending road building story.

Natural Capitalism (Hawkins, Lovens & Lovens) provides an overview of the impact of the automobile on the biosphere in the United States of America.

There is no similar analysis for Australia; however, it is much the same story on a smaller scale.

It is a perspective we seldom see as it looks at the first 100 years of the automotive industry, which in America has:

- paved an area equal to all the arable land in the states of Ohio, Indiana and Pennsylvania, requiring maintenance costing more than US\$200 million a day;
- reshaped American communities and lives



By GLEN JAMESON

so as to restrict the mobility of most citizens who do not choose or are not able to own or operate a vehicle;

- maimed or injured 250 million people, and killed more Americans than have died in all the wars in the country's history;
- is combusting eight million barrels of oil every day (450 gallons per person annually);
- made the United States increasingly dependent on foreign oil at a cost of US\$60 billion a year;
- relied for an increasing percentage of that oil on an unstable and largely hostile region armed partly by American oil payments, requiring the United States to make large military expenditures there and maintain continual war readiness; (this was written in 1999)
- is killing a million wild animals per week, from deer and elk to birds, frogs and opossums, plus tens of thousands of domestic pets;
- by creating a din of noise and a cloud of pollution in all metropolitan areas, affected sleep, concentration and intelligence, making the air in some cities so unbearably that children and the elderly cannot venture outside on certain days;
- caused spectacular increases in asthma, emphysema, heart disease, and bronchial infections;
- is emitting one fourth of US greenhouse gases so as to threaten global climatic stability and agriculture;
- created seven billion pounds of unrecycled scrap and waste every year.

Clearly here is an industry that drives the growth of nations yet at its heart it is profoundly destructive and unsustainable. It is a pattern that is repeated in every country across the world, both in the developed and developing countries. The Lord of the Ring Road grows stronger with each press of the accelerator.

The Fellowship of the Forests have been involved in many quests to subdue the problem of the Lord of the Ring Road, to keep the path of this heart of darkness out of our community. By and large this has meant that communities up and down the Yarra Valley have been adversaries, with residents from each of the suburbs from Heidelberg to Wonga Park fighting each other to keep it out of their own backyard, competing to push this shadow side of civilization from pounding at their door. One community's victory is another's burden.

For wherever the Ring Road will go, wherever we lay the body of the dark Lord, there will be consequences. Just by its nature the "bitumen necklace" will produce problems. In rural areas it will stimulate demand for subdivision and erode the qualities of the Green Wedge. In urban areas it will increase the level of pollution, accidents and congestion of our towns, villages and suburbs. It is a major threat to our quality of life.

There will be many more environmental battles regarding the where to put the ring road, or whether other ring roads should have tolls. But there is seldom debate over the forces that create demand for such massive constructions: population growth.

There is little debate about the carrying capacity of this country, the ability to support a certain level of population sustainably. This is not argument regarding immigration or refugees. This is a fundamental debate about the limits of the land. It is one that Aboriginal people had to resolve to enable their survival in a fragile country across the thousands of years of their history.

Simply "at the most fundamental level there is clearly a relationship between the sheer numbers and the strain any species puts on its environment. Australia is labouring under the burden of a profound environmental crisis for which there is no solution in sight (and) there are indications that, at the current levels of consumerism and technological capacity, the continent has too many people. It is reasonable to ask whether the nation can continue to sustain itself in the medium to long term." (Flannery)

When we curse at the volume of traffic that slews through our suburbs, the congestion of roads and the pollution of our air, it is not adequate enough to curse the car and roads, the state of planning. It is fundamental that we look at the principal cause of this chaos: too many people. It is a difficult problem to discuss as it lies at the heart of individual rights and community obligations. It's a tough look at ourselves and how we behave as a community and civil society.

At the turn of the 20th century, great planning decisions were made such as closed water catchments and reticulated water, metropolitan-wide sewerage systems, planning schemes, parks and reserve systems along waterways and in wild natural areas. It was these decisions that significantly contributed to the livability of this city. Changes are happening quickly, such as climate change which is warming at a rate that is unprecedented since humans evolved.

Already water is such a precious commodity that there is a cap on water licences in the Yarra Valley. You can no longer build a dam without a water licence and a permit that considers the condition of the catchment and health of the waterways.

It has been the case in the past that we have waited for a fatal car accident to occur before we make the necessary changes to ensure our future safety whilst traveling on a particular road. Is it our nature to wait until the population brings unbearable pressures upon us before we look for a solution? Is it crash through or population crash? A degraded environment produces degraded people.

The road to a sustainable future lies not in slicing through the landscape with another asphalt yellow brick road to a utopian Emerald City, but to work towards a resolution of the problem of what is a sustainable population: how many humans can this land carry.

Thanks to Tim Flannery and P. Hawkins and A. and L. Lovens for inspiration and words.

Brought to you by the Warrandyte Business Association.

HARVEY WORLD TRAVEL won the inaugural Warrandyte Business Association Award for 2003.

Our owner-operated business is now in its 8th year serving travel requirements of Warrandyte. Between Alan, Andrew, Linda, Nellie and Pam we have managed to live in or visit more than 50 countries and are always keen to share those adventures with you.

As a fully licensed travel agency, purchases through us are protected by the Travel Compensation Fund. We can issue most airline tickets on the spot. We can offer great prices for high quality products. Whether you are travelling for business or pleasure we would like to help make your arrangements hasslefree.



Alan and Pam served on the steering committee of the Warrandyte Community Bank to ensure local banking services remain here. Pam is a member of the Rotary Club of Warrandyte and will be the first woman president in 2005.

Travel is our passion. Let us share it with you.



Warrandyte Business Association

invites all local business people to our next Seminar

WEDNESDAY MAY 19

6.30-8.30pm

at the RIVERFRONT DELI

SEMINAR TOPIC: IMPROVING YOUR BUSINESS

EVERYONE WELCOME

RSVP: Janelle 9844 0960 or Meredith 9844 2527.

Cost: \$10 (including food and drinks)

This seminar is subsidised by the WBA and Regional Partnerships program.

Pat remembers when this really was a village

IVY Freestone's last birthday cake was the size of a dinner plate and three layers high, yet was still not big enough to fit the required number of candles.

The former Warrandyte identity, more affectionately known as Pat, marked her 95th year with a rowdy lunch held with friends at the house of her former neighbours, John and Kerrie Boyle.

Among the crowd was Louise Joy, who describes Pat as a very sociable person, and a great dinner party speaker.

Making a speech at the lunch, Pat proclaimed the secret to making 95 was leading a healthy life with exercise and walking. She then plunged a knife into the heart of her triple-decker chocolate cream cake and cut a generous portion.

The party was well attended by her friends and their families. By late afternoon, children and grandchildren were elbows deep in soap suds working hard to ensure John and Kerrie would have clean dishes for next morning's breakfast.

As for Pat, she's the only family she has. Her husband Bob died 17 years ago and the couple never had children.

Now living alone in a Box hill retirement home, she sometimes finds the single life can get tedious. "I feel awful making it to 95. I'm

VILLAGE PEOPLE

Words and picture by
SAM DAVIES

stuck in a retirement village. It becomes lonely without your independence. I'm reliant on my friends to take me places, especially now I find the stairs on public transport difficult."

Pat worked as a teacher until her mid-40s, after which she revelled in "never being ruled by the clock". She involved herself with the ALP and meals-on-wheels, and helped out with the Environment League.

At her home in North Warrandyte she would toil for hours in her garden "with its dreadful Warrandyte soil," but says she led a peaceful and satisfying life, looking over the scenery of the Dandenongs.

"It's very sad to see Warrandyte becoming another suburb. There's bigger, ostentatious houses on smaller blocks of land.

"Our bushland is starting to disappear."

Among her fondest memories of Warrandyte was volunteering on the opening day of the original Potter's Cottage behind Warrandyte Bridge.

"Pottery was selling like hotcakes, and I was out the back

wrapping it up as fast as I could."

The peaceful life came to an abrupt halt 17 years ago when the pair moved to the retirement village in Box Hill. The day the furniture arrived, her husband Bob died.

Bob was a well-regarded horse racing journalist, who looked forward to working for the *Warrandyte Diary* in his twilight years. Sadly, his dwindling eyesight meant he never got the chance.

But life for Pat continued. She got involved with the U3A education centre, which caters for elderly and retired people, learning Italian language at the ripe age of 80. Though she has now forgotten most of it, she hasn't lost her love of Italy.

She also amuses herself with a book club run and has just finished Tolstoy's epic *War and Peace*, "It's like a rich Christmas cake. The best book I've ever read".

Pat is known for her strong ideological principles — which she was confronted with every Saturday when she followed Bob to the races.

Her sharp mind remains intact. Likewise her strong principles and ideologies can still be confronting.

"My advice to everyone is, don't live to 95! We should be allowed to choose when we go."



The Dump, Tip, Transfer Station or Recycling & Recovery Centre is now open 7 days a week.



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zero
landfill

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And if you love to find a recycled bargain, let us give you a tip... visit our **Recycling Shop** while you are at the Centre. This will be opening soon. You'll find them both at:

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Phone: 9436 3555



www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au



From Warrandyte to Chelsea

Australian Inspiration is based upon this prize-winning Melbourne show garden.

By SANDY BURGOYNE

IT is hard to imagine anything more British than the annual Chelsea Flower Show in London, but this year a little bit of Warrandyte will be there. Local landscaper Mark Bence is part of a team that is taking on the Brits at this year's show. He and his colleagues will construct a complete Australian show garden in the grounds of the Royal Hospital in Chelsea.

"We've sent two shipping containers over to the port of London and they are packed with a whole host of materials for the garden," Mark Bence told the *Diary*. "We've got the pavers, furniture and timber—one of the main features of the garden is a timber fire stack wall. And we've got 20 cubic metres of cut eucalypt in the container."

Warrandyte arborist Adrian Clancy and his team from Statewide Trees selected the wood for the feature wall. "It had to be different species of eucalypt that was the only requirement," Adrian said.

"These all came from our routine jobs. We used wood that had a good texture and added to the aesthetic feel of the wall. If a log wasn't perfect, some had knots and others had cavities, we thought that would add to the effect."

Other features of the garden include rammed earth retaining walls, a pyramidal water feature made from black slate, rusted steel pots, a stainless steel barbecue and crushed granite pavers.

Mark Bence and his colleagues will have just two weeks to construct an entire show garden in the Chelsea grounds and have it ready for the preview day on May 25. Incidentally that is the same day that members of the British royal family can take in a private viewing. But let's step back from the fragrant frenzy that is the Chelsea Flower Show and find out how Mark and his colleagues came to be building a garden in London.

The story starts at last year's Melbourne International Flower and

Garden Show. A show garden built by Semken Landscaping (of which Mark is a director), and designed by Jim Fogarty, had just won a gold medal, the Comeadow Medal for design excellence and the City of Melbourne Award for best garden in the show.

Wes Fleming, of Fleming's Nurseries, invited Mark, Jim and Martin Semken to a celebratory lunch. "During the course of lunch and after one or two drinks someone decided, I don't know who it was exactly, that maybe it would be a good idea if we took the garden we had built at Melbourne to Chelsea, the most prestigious garden show in the world," Mark Bence told the *Diary*. A wonderful idea, but how to put it into practice? A few show gardens from overseas have appeared at Chelsea during its 140-year history, but never one from Australia.

"We made some phone calls to England and found out that they would love to have an Australian garden come to Chelsea," Mark said. "The upshot of that was four weeks later the four of us were on a plane to London and we went and had a look at the standard of the gardens. We thought, we have the skills to build a garden that can hold its own at Chelsea."

Back in Australia the team had three months to assemble the folio of plans that was needed for the application. Designer Jim Fogarty increased the size of the successful Melbourne garden to fill the larger space at Chelsea.

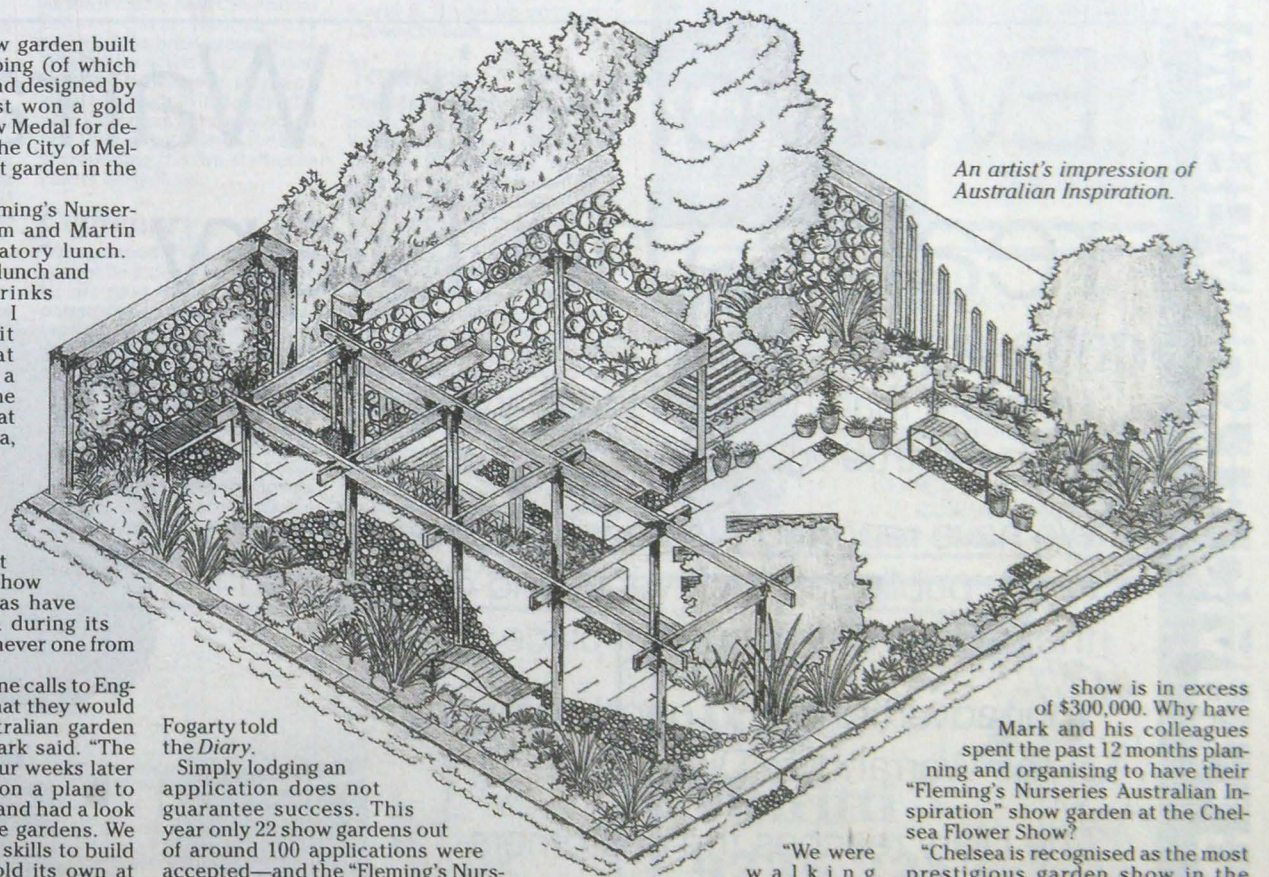
The application required three submissions each with about 20 drawings. The final set contained 27 plans and included detailed construction drawings. "Over the 10-month period we have probably done enough plans to cover the actual site in paper," designer Jim

Fogarty told the *Diary*.

Simply lodging an application does not guarantee success. This year only 22 show gardens out of around 100 applications were accepted—and the "Fleming's Nurseries Australian Inspiration Show Garden" was successful.

"The planting material that we are using in the garden is about 50 percent Australian natives and 50 percent exotic plants, which is what we think represents an Australian garden. It's rarely that you see a totally native Australian garden," Mark Bence told the *Diary*.

The UK's strict soil quarantine laws prevented the team from taking any plants into the country. Therefore the Australian species for the show garden all had to be sourced in England, with some surprising results.



An artist's impression of Australian Inspiration.

show is in excess of \$300,000. Why have Mark and his colleagues spent the past 12 months planning and organising to have their "Fleming's Nurseries Australian Inspiration" show garden at the Chelsea Flower Show?

"Chelsea is recognised as the most prestigious garden show in the world and is the show of garden shows," Mark told the *Diary*.

"We feel that we are representing the industry. We want to take an Australian garden, built by Australians and designed by Australians, to Chelsea and prove that the Australian industry is as good as any landscape industry anywhere in the world."

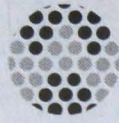
Another local involved with the Australian Inspiration project is ABC-TV presenter Melissa King, who grew up in Warrandyte. She is travelling to London to cover the event for Gardening Australia.

"We were walking through a big nursery (in England), looking at trees, and in amongst them we spotted the very distinctive eucalypt foliage. When we got there we found they were snow gums," Mark Bence said. These snow gums, a small multi-trunked eucalypt that is native to Australia's alpine regions, will be used as feature trees at the front of the garden.

A lot of time, effort and money are going into transporting a little bit of Australia to Chelsea. The total cost of putting this garden on the ground in London for the four days of the

WARRANDYTE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Help us reach 1000 members!



Warrandyte Community Association Inc.

C/- P.O. Box 75, Warrandyte 3113

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

New Membership _____ Renewal _____ (tick one)

To become association member/s please fill out this form and send with your payment (\$10.00 pa) for either single or family membership. (Due each April.) Please list all family members over the age of 16.

Full Names:
.....
.....

of (full address):

Telephone: (home) (bus) (mob)

As a resident of Warrandyte, I desire to become a member of the Warrandyte Community Association Inc. In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to be bound by the rules of the association for the time being in force and that I am over the age of 16 years. I understand that I need to be a Financial Member of the Association to be entitled to vote.

Signature of Applicant/s

Date

RECEIPT OF NOTICES

EMAIL ADDRESSES are very important to us. If you have one please print clearly, as emailing notices is by far the most economical and quickest way for us to communicate with you. We will not share your email address with any other organisation.

Email:

Postal:

Send this form (with \$10) to the Warrandyte Community Association, PO Box 75, Warrandyte 3113

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Thank you, Salvos

The annual Salvation Army Red Shield appeal will take place on Saturday, May 22 and Sunday, May 23. Volunteers are needed to give two hours of their time over this weekend to collect door-to-door or help collect at an intersection. Last year nearly \$52,000 was raised in Manningham. If you are able to help please call Manningham chairman Lionel Allemand on 9842 2519 or Captain Peter Walker on 9842 4744.



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.



Nostalgic desert journey

Park Players are presenting *The Desert Song* at Warrandyte High School Theatre at 8pm on Friday, May 21, Saturday, May 22 (gala supper), Friday, May 28 and Saturday, May 29. There will also be a matinee performance on Saturday, May 29 at 2pm. The show will be directed by Rosemary Chapple with Jenny Claire as musical director. *The Desert Song* was a popular musical from the 1930s and is a love story set in Morocco during the uprisings of the native Riffs against the colonial French government. It includes soaring solos, lovely duets, stirring choruses and songs that you will all remember.

Park Players is a community based musical theatre group established in 1997 in the Park Orchards area. A community development grant from Manningham council is helping fund a bus to provide transport to the matinee performance for those in need. There will need to be at least 12 people who can manage to travel on a normal bus and can be collected at one accessible location. There will be a complimentary afternoon tea at interval. Tickets are \$24 for adults (concession \$20), Family is \$70 for two adults and two children. The gala supper on May 22 is \$8 per head. To book, ring Irene on 97269169.

Lost

Lost property from this year's festival can be claimed by ringing Janet on 9844 2695, after hours. Some items not claimed include clothing, sunglasses, a stuffed yellow rabbit, picnic blankets and a basket.

Prayer

Warrandyte churches are combining for a service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The service will be held at the Warrandyte Community Church on Sunday, May 30 at 7pm.

Anniversary

Christmas Hills Primary School will celebrate its 130th anniversary on Sunday, October 17, 2004. All past students, staff, parents and community are invited to celebrate this significant occasion. For registration please email christmas.hills.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au or phone Liz on 9712 0414.

Toys

Warrandyte Toy Library currently operates from the rear hall of the Warrandyte Community Centre in Yarra Street on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 to 11.30am. The library is run by volunteers and has a wide range of toys for loan.

Environment

The next Manningham City Council Environment seminar will be on Thursday, June 3 commencing at 7.30pm in the function room at the Grand Hotel, Yarra Street, Warrandyte. Speaker is David Meagher talking on "Bryophytes—mosses, liverworts and hornworts." David is a science writer and editor with an active interest in the conservation and ecology of bryophytes.

Returned

Long time Warrandyte residents Pat and Stan Craker have returned to live in Alexander Road after an absence of 23 years. Pat, Stan and their four sons all grew up in Warrandyte and were active in a number of organisations.

Threads

The organisation Needles and Threads, a program of the Community Care Branch of St John Ambulance, plays a vital role both locally and globally donating a variety of sewn items to community hospitals, aged care facilities and other agencies in need of assistance. If you are interested in helping call Doreen Humphrey on 9736 2130.

Kidsmart

Kidsmart, the official Blue Light handbook for kids will be distributed to all grade six pupils in this area in July. The book has been written with the help of organisations such as Australian Drug Foundation, Quit and St John's Ambulance. The book covers issues such as drugs, alcohol, peer pressure, sexual abuse and family breakdown, it also addresses age relevant information such as puberty, periods, acne,

self esteem, stress and depression. It can be viewed on www.bluelight.com.au Blue light will be calling on local businesses in an effort to raise the funds for the production and distribution of these books in the area.

Award

At the recently held CFA Annual Dinner, Peter Hanson was awarded the prestigious title of "Firefighter of the Year". As well as his attendance at many emergency calls through the year, Peter has put many hours into the revegetation of the area surrounding the fire station in Harris Gully Road.

Centenary

Warranwood Primary School wishes to extend an invitation to all past staff, students, parents and community members of both Warranwood and Warrandyte South Primary schools to help them celebrate 100 years of education. On Friday, May 21 there will be open afternoon and twilight celebrations and on Friday, August 20 there will be a centenary ball/reunion. Intending participants in these exciting gatherings can obtain further details from Warranwood Primary School, phone 9876 6066.

ARTYFACTS

Studio

Diary cartoonists, Syd Tunn and Ona Henderson will open their studio, corner Henley and Oxley Roads, Kangaroo Ground on Mother's Day weekend, May 8 and 9. It will be open from 12noon to 5pm.

Textiles

The May exhibition at Stonehouse Gallery, 323 Ringwood-Warrandyte Road, will feature stitches and textiles by Elizabeth Morley, a well-known Western Australian artist. Gallery hours are 10am to 5pm.

Printmaking

The modern form of the ancient art of printmaking will be exhibited in Manningham Gallery's latest exhibition *People in a Landscape: Contemporary Australian Prints*. It showcases the work of 20 leading contemporary Australian artists and encompasses a range of printmaking techniques. The gallery is at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster and is open Tuesday to Friday 11am to 5pm and Saturday 2pm to 5pm. The exhibition closes on June 5.

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Cuppa & browse, or come talk art!

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.

Come and join in! Hand-crafted gifts of all kinds, toys, art works, pottery, plants, clothing, gift cards, leatherwork, cakes, jams, honey, fruit, produce.

Ample parking. Light refreshments available. Bring along your family and friends.

Enquiries to 9844 4495.

Alan Vitiritti
9735 3217

Painter & Decorator

Tennis clubs talk merger

By JUDY GREEN

Warrandyte and South Warrandyte tennis clubs may amalgamate.

At the recent annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Tennis Club, the management committee was authorised to investigate and, if so decided, to merge with the neighbouring club.

Outgoing WTC president Mark Bence told the *Diary*: "After preliminary discussions between Warrandyte and South Warrandyte tennis clubs we are looking at the possibility of a merger of the two clubs, retaining the name Warrandyte Tennis Club, with the South Warrandyte courts becoming the South Warrandyte Annexe of the Warrandyte Tennis Club."

"This should be beneficial to both clubs," he said. Warrandyte Tennis Club have for many years been hiring the South Warrandyte courts for their overflow of junior teams.

Dario Nordio, president of the South Warrandyte club said: "Our committee is pleased with the progress made to date between the respective clubs to positively pursue the necessary formal requirements to merge."

"It is our view that the members of both clubs will benefit from the proposal, as will the local community. The proposal requires endorsement of the City of Manningham so that the final decision to merge can be put to our members."

South Warrandyte secretary Ross Bardrick, also a member at Warrandyte, has been elected to the Warrandyte committee to facilitate the investigation and possible merger.

At the Warrandyte club's annual general meeting, Neil Dusting was elected president, replacing Bence, who has held the position for the past seven years. Bence was thanked for his great efforts for the club and presented with a watch.

Retiring secretary Wendy Synnot was also applauded for the work she had done in that position during the past five years. She has been succeeded by Nicky Tucker. Ms Synnot will remain on the committee.

Neil Sproat has replaced James Razzi as treasurer. Outstanding service awards were presented to John McCutcheon, Nicole Hogan and Karen Sproat.

The best of enemies

By TONY OLIVER

Round 2 of grading for the EDJBA winter basketball competition was completed on May 1.

The best talent in the local boys teams was on display at Warrandyte High School, where our Under-9 to Under-15 sides were all in A-grade action.

The Under-15s featured in an intraclub clash, Malcolm Anderson's first side taking on Warrandyte's second side, coached by experienced Gerry Pearce.

On form, Anderson's team were expected to win and did just that, 65 to 26.

The first half was quite a tussle, with Clayton Pearce and Matt Spinosa stand-outs for the seconds, but Anderson's team turned at the break with a 24-11 advantage.

Pearce was unavailable in the second half and the scoring opened up with Anderson's team expressing their dominance with full court pressure.

The game was played in a very positive spirit which was acknowledged by an appreciative crowd.

Top scorers for Anderson's side were Wade King with 20, Anthony Spinosa and Ben Power with 12 each and Matthew Clough with eight.

King continues to impress and has the talent to rack up the points in a quiet, professional way with excellent finishing.

For the losers, Pearce, Narayan Tobin and Matt Spinosa (a cousin of opposing player Anthony) each scored six points.

Emma Collins' Under-13s — essentially the Friday night team — easily accounted 36-17 for the second Eltham side.

The Redbacks clicked from the outset and Eltham struggled under the good defensive pressure from Warrandyte, highlighted by the 14-4 half-time scoreline.

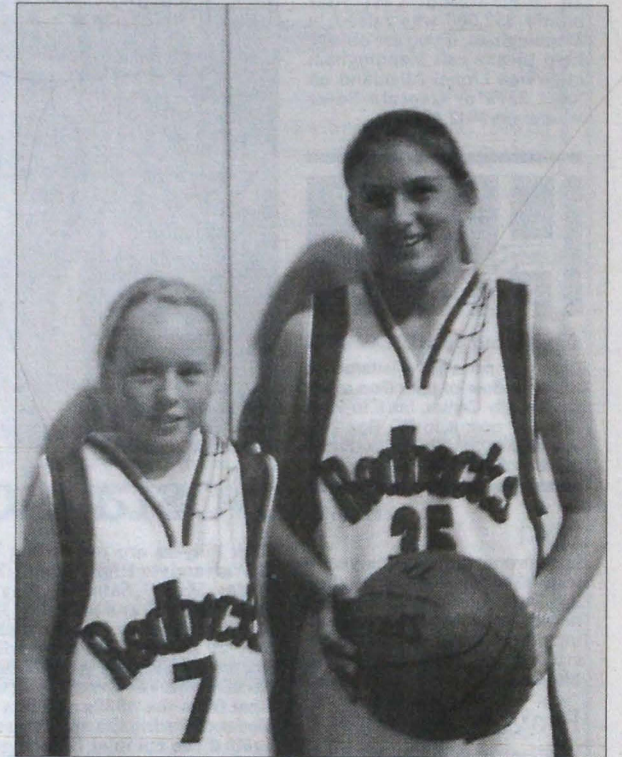
Warrandyte shots were going in from inside and outside, with Daniel Hughes very effective in the key.

Andrew Clough scored beautiful outside baskets in both halves, but unfortunately they counted for only two points under a rule restriction in this competition.

Top scorers for Warrandyte were Hughes and Troy Ratcliffe with 10 points apiece, Clough with six and Ryan Holloway four.

The story was not as good for Gavin Whitmore's Under-11 boys, who went down 48-22 to

Under-15s sort it all out with friendly fire



Left: 'It's mine!' insists Redbacks Under-10 D-grader Madison Taylor — but her Balwyn opponent reckons it's a dead-heat. Balwyn won the game 10-0. Above: Cassie Wilson (left) and Andrea Peters show off the Redbacks' smart new Saturday uniform.

Eltham after trailing 20-10 at the break.

This time it was Eltham who provided the physical pressure, forcing costly turnovers and not allowing Warrandyte free-flowing attack.

Whitmore had mixed feelings after the game, but noted that some of the skills that had been a focus at training were starting to show through.

"We need to pick up our players far more quickly and far more closely," he said.

Sam Tensley and Jake Fitzgerald led the scoring for Warrandyte with four points each.

Damian Arsenis' Under-11 boys also struggled against the top Eltham side, going down 42-19. Jake Wintle topscored for the Redbacks with nine, with Campbell Prior, Jack Cousins, Matt Killey, Ryan Tester and Trent Arnold each contributing two.

A low shooting percentage

was costly for the Redbacks, but a number of players put in strong games.

Tim Apostolides played well in both offence and defence and Arsenis was pleased with Matt Killey's ball-hungry game and the improvement shown by Arnold.

"At this stage, there is one thing that we need to concentrate on, and that is looking up when we dribble," Arsenis noted.

In the girls division, the Under-11s of Lorraine Parfitt and Under-13s coached by Jenni O'Brien both had strong wins.

Parfitt's girls had their noses in front 12-8 at the break in the game against visiting Ivanhoe and stepped up the pressure in the second half to establish a winning lead.

This allowed the coach to swap a number of players around to give them experience in different positions. Ivanhoe

came back but the final score of 36-20 reflected a realistic view of the game.

Warrandyte had suffered a big defeat the previous week when they came up against the top Eltham side.

The team have now been regraded in a lower section of A-grade and look like being very competitive there.

Leading scorers were Sophie Richardson with 14, followed by Madeleine Kercher with 12.

O'Brien's Under-13s enjoyed a 50-11 romp against Banyule, who were never in the hunt as Warrandyte, through Madeleine Smith, Bonnie Jones and Ashlee Collins, applied constant pressure.

Kirra Soltly continues to perform well under the basket, ably supported by Ashlee O'Brien.

Leading scorers were Jones (15), Courtney Petalas (14) and Collins (10).

The ease of the win prevented O'Brien developing and practising new offensive plans, so many were the gaps opening in the Banyule defence.

Warrandyte had been unlucky not to record a win the previous week when the top Eltham side equalised in a fluke situation with the last shot of the game. O'Brien knows, however, that her girls will need to be at their best when they take on Bulleen.

In the late game at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre, Warrandyte defeated Marcellin 53-25 in an Under-19 CD boys grade game. Chris Staggard led the scoring with 20, followed by Alex Moore with 12.

In the penultimate game, Warrandyte's Under-17 boys defeated Ivanhoe 42-12 in a good-spirited game, Luke Dimmock topscored with 18 and well supported by Richard Doyemer (eight).

Redback girls in drawn-out drama

By TONY OLIVER

The Warrandyte Community Sports Centre hosted four games on April 30 as the Friday night championship basketball season really kicked into gear.

In a highlight encounter, Peter Clough's Under-16 Eastern Qualifying Warrandyte girls were unlucky to have to settle for a 19-all draw against Sherbrooke.

The Redbacks opened strongly and had six points on the scoreboard before the visitors were able to score one from the free throw line.

The game was quite physical, with Warrandyte racking up the fouls, but they held an 11-8 advantage at the break.

Guards Kaitlyn Little, Jaime Hayton and Madeleine Prior were causing problems for Sherbrooke both in offence and defence and forwards Kara Lucas, Fiona Rennie, Natalie Medcalf and Ashleigh Bingham were strong at the back of the court.

Little opened the scoring for the Redbacks after the break, but Sherbrooke were always able to stay in touch.

Warrandyte looked like prevailing when April Richardson scored from a fast break to give the locals a four-

point break in the last couple of minutes, but both sides were in foul trouble, with Little and Medcalf out of the game.

The Redbacks were using up clock time but Sherbrooke were able to effect key turnovers and picked up four out of a possible six from the free throw line to tie up with game with seconds to go.

Warrandyte were in possession but were unable to convert from the charity strip and the final buzzer sounded as tireless guard Sarah Clough unsuccessfully attempted a desperate long throw from halfway.

Warrandyte are expected to do well in this grade and the early indications from this game are that they will perform to those expectations.

Little topscored with nine points, but five other players were on the scoreboard, which is a good sign for the future.

Jenni O'Brien's Under-14 Metro 2 girls went down 42-18 to second-placed Hawthorn. This team have just one win up to Round 6 and are struggling to deliver on their obvious potential.

Guard Courtney Petalas opened the scoring against Hawthorn, but the visi-

tors took control of the game, consistent pressure producing a number of intercepts.

The Redbacks were competitive in the first half, but turned 17-12 down at the break.

The second half belonged to Hawthorn, but worrying for both coaches was that neither side were able to perform well from the free throw line, only four shots successful from 26 attempts.

Petalas led the scoring for the Redbacks with eight points, followed by Kirra Soltly with four.

Most of the Warrandyte players are bottom age and to be graded in Metro 2 is a credit to their ability and will set them up for 2005.

Nick Peters' Under-18 Metro 3 girls were on the road, playing Sherbrooke at Monbulk. This was a close game all the way, with Warrandyte showing the first glimpses of good basketball for some time.

However, simple skill errors let them down at critical times and the score was 17-all at the break.

The second half was neck and neck. With 1.34 minutes to go, Sherbrooke held a one-point lead, but the Redbacks were in foul trouble and the

home side were able to use this advantage to come away with a 43-38 win.

Lorraine Parfitt's Under-12 Eastern 1 girls recorded their second win in the competition proper with a runaway 68-14 result against Hawthorn.

Every player contributed to the scoreboard, but passing let the girls down at times.

In the boys division, Ian Wood's Under-16 Eastern 4s recorded their first win of the season with a comfortable 43-27 victory over the visiting Western Port.

Warrandyte tightened up their offence and defence after Western Port had led early and they turned with a 22-15 advantage.

Western Port never challenged thereafter. They had a chance late in the game to improve the score line when Warrandyte were down to four players after two were fouled off. But the depleted home side played good percentage basketball to keep the margin intact.

Gavin Yates led the scoring with 18, followed by Peter Whittingham with eight, Matt Peters with six and David Wood five. All players scored.

It was an especially good performance by Yates, who got out of his

sickbed to play.

Sam Hardy's game was also first class, especially in offence, and Peters continues to impress with skill under the basket and strong defence.

Scott Petalas had one of his best games for some time.

"The first win was sweet and the best way to begin a season," said coach Wood. "A great foundation."

The opening game at WCSC saw Damian Arsenis' Under-12 Eastern 3 boys go down 23-21 to Eltham.

Warrandyte led 12-4 at the break and looked set to go right on with it, but Eltham slowly pegged them back and opened a 22-16 lead with just over two minutes to go.

This was the signal for a Warrandyte comeback, with David Molloy and Jacob Ballard finding the basket. The Redbacks were attacking strongly down the court, but Eltham were able to force critical turnovers and put the game beyond doubt with a final point from the free throw line.

This was a game that Warrandyte should have won, having most of the play and far more shooting opportunities.

Ballard topscored with 11, followed by Molloy with six.

Baby Bloods blossom

By LEE TINDALE

Warrandyte extricated themselves from the foot of the EFL Third Division ladder with an inspirational win over third-placed South Croydon at home on May 1.

In what amounted to a resounding endorsement of the Bloods' new youth development policy, they upset the highly-fancied visitors by 14 points, 9.10 (64) to 7.8 (50).

It was the first time in four games that Warrandyte had managed to put four quarters of football together and it was achieved by a young, inexperienced side conceding height and weight but hell-bent on breaking the 2004 ice.

They were magnificent in the clinches, absolutely unfazed by taking on experienced opponents who had played Second Division football last season.

Indeed, the 2004 draw had dealt Warrandyte an unkind hand, throwing them in against three of the top four teams for openers.

New coach Ash Hamilton, whose pep talks are a matter of reasoning and encouragement rather than invective, was delighted but characteristically low key immediately after the game.

"In each of our first three games we had a quarter in which we didn't score and that was killing us," he said.

"This is a new team. We've got kids who've played only a handful of senior games playing key positions and we're trying to get stability."

Stability along with inspiration was provided by rover Aidan Davey, a former junior star who put in a blinder. Rarely has a Warrandyte player covered so much ground or racked up so many possessions in an afternoon.

He was sensational and it's safe to assume he slept very well that night.

Davey's influence on the game started at the first bounce when he picked up the crumbs and found young full-forward Michael Morello, who unfortunately rattled the post from close range.

Another early stand-out was Phil Treeby, who picked out elusive forward Mark Spiliotacopoulos

SPORT

with proceedings six minutes old for the Bloods' and the game's first goal.

So far so good, but the elation on the terraces was short-lived, a terrible mistake in defence — one of the few mistakes we were to make back there — letting South Croydon in for a gift goal three minutes later.

Those terraces came alive again 11 minutes in when Spiliotacopoulos demonstrated his mercurial skills to put Warrandyte's second on the board.

Gee, this was all right, but we're not supposed to win this one, are we? An honourable defeat would do, wouldn't it?

No, that's not the way they were thinking out there on the field.

Morello to Treeby to Chris Cornell put Warrandyte 12 points in front with 15 minutes played and against all but the most optimistic of prophecies we continued to dominate on the score of entries into the forward 50 — 22 to nine was to be the count for the quarter.

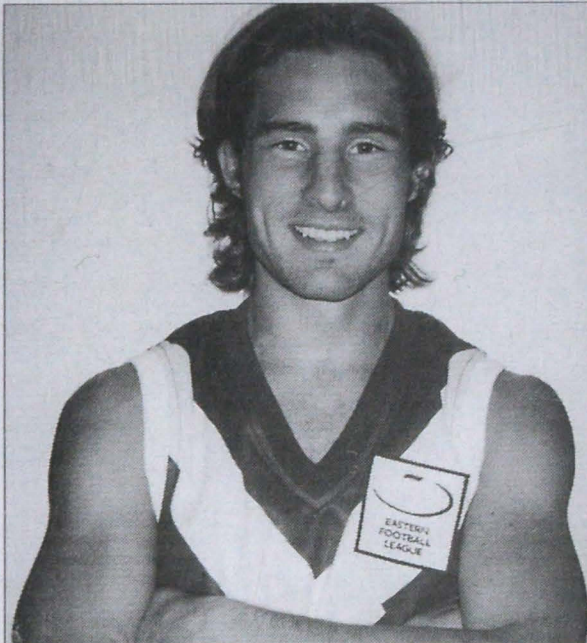
South Croydon produced one of the better plays of the day, running the ball the length of the ground to goal at 20 minutes and a penalty free three minutes later gave them their third. They hit the front with another close to siren time and the doomsayers among us were predicting that the floodgates were about to open.

At the first change it was South Croydon 4.2 (26), Warrandyte 3.5 (23) — an unsatisfactory return for our share of the footy but worthy of praise from the coach, who reckoned the visitors were "spectating, waiting for us to take the initiative".

There was no spectating, though, when South Croydon whipped the ball straight out of the centre when hostilities resumed to goal and take a nine-point lead.

It took the Bloods 18 minutes to reply, the game developing into a bit of a stalemate with Warrandyte still winning plenty of the ball the hard way but unable to find targets up forward.

The break-through came via young Tom Naughtin, who'd started on the bench. Naughtin



Aidan Davey: a blinder against South Croydon.

roved beautifully off a pack and ran into an open goal and when first-gamer Aaron Jenkins made it a memorable debut by soccering one through eight minutes on, the Bloods were back in front.

A behind to South Croydon a minute later sent the combatants into the interval locked together on 5.5 (35).

The visitors again drew first Blood in the third term, snapping a goal five minutes in, but Rene Pidgeon — another graduate from last season's Under-18s — pulled that one back two minutes later.

It was desperate football from both sides, the greasy conditions producing plenty of packs and plenty of heroics.

With 18 minutes gone, Spiliotacopoulos decided it was time to get a move on and a clever snap gave him his third goal and the Bloods a seven-point lead.

That was to be the last score of the quarter and Hamilton told his troops in the huddle: "This game's not just there to be won — we're winning it!"

But there was any amount of drama still to come.

Warrandyte were first off the mark in the final stanza with a

forced behind at four minutes, but South Croydon goaled a minute later to make it a two-point ball game, then one point.

Hamilton had swung ruckman Craig Dick to centre half-forward and instructed the team to make him their focal point. But it was Morello who was to be the pivotal factor.

Morello's game to this point had been a story of "almosts", but with 14 minutes of the quarter gone he snapped a wonderful goal from mid-air and eight minutes later fed the perfect handpass to Cornell in a crowded square to give the Bloods a match-winning 14-point buffer.

South Croydon threw their all into the last several minutes, but a behind was their best against the fanatically-determined home side.

Morello had a great chance to erase any doubts about the result when he was freed in front with three minutes to go, but his shot was astray.

It had been a terrific game of football entirely meriting the rousing reception the Bloods were afforded as they walked up the race.

Warrandyte's goalkickers were Spiliotacopoulos 3,

Clinton's number one!

Home-grown sportscaster Clinton Grybas has been installed as Warrandyte Football Club's No 1 ticket-holder.

The inaugural award was presented in the clubrooms after training on April 22.

Grybas, Rex Hunt's "offsider" in Radio 3AW's AFL commentary box, also calls for Fox Footy and hosts Fox's nightly football show White Line Fever.

He began his media career with the *Diary* during his senior years at Warrandyte High School and is still an enthusiastic and very valued contributor to this newspaper when his hectic work schedule permits.

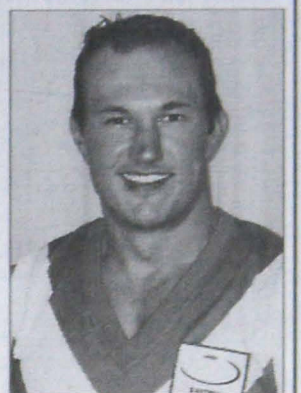
Grybas, 29, won a cadetship with the ABC and spent time in Perth before returning to Melbourne to develop an outstanding career.

He told the membership ticket presentation that he was first drawn to the Warrandyte football ground by chants of "Ron, Ron, Ron" he heard from his home on nearby Melbourne Hill when the family moved here in 1981.

Cornell 2, Morello, Jenkins, Naughtin and Pidgeon.

Their best were Davey, Andrew Gordon, Naughtin and Spiliotacopoulos — but you could probably throw in a dozen others.

● Warrandyte's Reserves were no match for South Croydon, going down by 52 points, 14.14 (98) to 6.10 (46). Their best were Rick Bourke, Craig



Clinton Grybas in the good old red and white.

"Ron" was champion premiership full-forward Ron Wilson — and Grybas quickly became a member of his "fan club".

Grybas played junior football for Warrandyte and thereafter was a regular on the terraces supporting older brother Ashley, a member of the premier 1993 Bloods side who is now playing Reserves.

WFC president Phil Treeby said the committee regarded Clinton Grybas as the ideal choice to hold the No 1 ticket.

"He's a local boy who has certainly made good and he has strong ties with this club," Treeby said.

"We're delighted to have him aboard."

Lincoln and Tom Urbano.

Like the Seniors, the Twos have won one of their four matches so far.

The new Under-18s joint venture with Heathmont has been an instant success. The combine have won two out of three, the latest outing a comfortable victory over Forest Hill on May 1 after conceding a four-goal start.

Eat, drink and barrack

Warrandyte past players will host a luncheon at the clubrooms on Saturday, June 19, before the game against Rowville.

This is a great opportunity to enjoy a fine two-course meal and get yourselves in just the right frame of mind to voice your support for the Bloods in a game that starts the second half of the home-and-away season.

The luncheon starts at noon, tickets are \$30 and available from John Ryan (9844 2552), Terry Ryan (9879 0373) and Andrew Rodgers (0411 519671).

Fly-by-night juniors pack them in

By DENNIS J. HOIBERG

One of the biggest crowds ever seen at a Warrandyte Junior Football Club game turned out to see the young Bloods in action under lights at the recreation reserve on Friday, April 23.

In a double-header played for premiership points, Warrandyte's Under-11s and Under-15s were both successful.

The Under-11s got home by a goal — 5.4 (34) to 4.4 (28) — over Macleod. The Under-15s had a much easier night of it, downing Ivanhoe by 46 points, 11.14 (80) to 4.4 (28).

"We try to play at least one night game a season to give the boys a different football experience," said WJFC president Mathew Matheou.

"The two teams really enjoyed the experience even though the conditions were appalling. I think there were many football parents spending their Anzac Day trying to get the mud out of their boys' uniforms."

"The ground was heavy and wet, but who cares — the kids really enjoyed themselves."

"Having so many people at the ground and involved in supporting the players was particularly special. I think we had a mini traffic jam around 10pm!"

April saw the Yarra Junior Football League grading rounds completed and while Warrandyte have recorded mixed results, all teams have shown

a high level of skills and ability.

As foreshadowed in last month's *Diary*, the junior club are now running two Under-9 teams, the Whites and the Reds.

"Having two teams is twice the fun and twice the mayhem," said Under-9s coaching director Steve Ballard.

"Fortunately, Shane Newman, one of the fathers, has stepped forward and now is coaching the Warrandyte Reds."

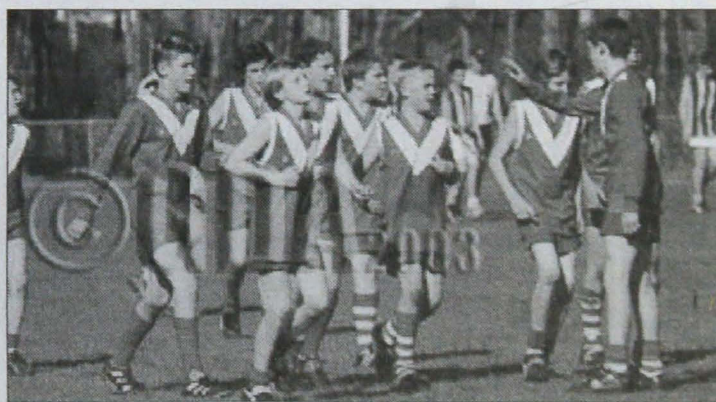
The Warrandyte Whites recently played Heidelberg and while scores aren't kept, they gave a good account of themselves.

After suffering late fixture changes, the Reds are now hitting their straps and were equally impressive in their recent game against St Mary's Whites.

Jake and Lacklan Wintle, Bradley Stone, Brandon Stafford, Sheldon Schuyler, Cambell Prior, Levi Polkinghorne, Sidney Philip-Owen, Alan Pardoe, Kyal Norris, Kyle Newman and Adam Mitchell are all Under-9 players showing excellent early-season form.

The Under-10s are well placed in their four and on May 2 they white-washed Doncaster 14.14 (98) to nil at home.

They have some challenging matches in front of them, though, and players such as Andrew Woodward, Nathan Upson, Kyle Robertson, Matthew O'Neill, Daniel and Timothy Nilsson and James Munks will need to continue their on-field leadership to



Warrandyte's Under-15s, proving a potent force.

ensure the team maintain their ladder position.

Stephen Wildsmith, Nicholas Tookey-Knowles, Daniel Tester, Sam Tansley, Kieran Sproule-Carroll, Nicholas Nolan and Adrian Mifsud continue to play key roles in the Under-11s.

Their latest outing was a 17-point loss to Ivanhoe in a tough, low-scoring game.

The Under-12s face a high-standard competition this year but continue to put in great performances. They followed up a one-point win in the mud against Richmond with a runaway 59-point victory — 8.13 (61) to 0.2 — over

Hawthorn Citizens (2) and are real finals prospects.

Such players as Luke Wright, Callum Walker, Tobias Versteegan, Cameron Ventura, Jake Verdeyant, Andrew Reddie and Lachlan Moyes continue to demonstrate their skills.

Despite recent losses to Camberwell (2) by 23 points and Surrey Park (21 points), the Under-13s remain just outside the top four.

A new combination between such dominant players as Dane Willshire, Andrew Whittle, Mitchell Ventura, Paris Taylor, James Taylor and Julian Philippon is improving with each game

and results will follow.

After a tough introduction to the elite Gold Division, the Under-14s showed what they were made of by thrashing higher-placed Beverley Hills by 58 points. They came back to earth, however, in their latest game, 61-point losers to Kew Rovers.

Coach Steve Blakey expects bigger and better things later in the season, with the likes of Jack Wright, Nicholas Woodward, Thomas Woodman, Daniel Wood, Michael Whittle, Peter Whittingham, Matthew Versteegen and Arie Van Bergen improving with every run.

Shaun Wilson's Under-15s provided the highlight of the May 2 round with a 135-point demolition of Heidelberg.

The club are looking to big things this season from these boys, with such players as Edward Saunders, Luke Saunders, Daniel Rennie, Tyson Rees, Brayden Pettigrove, Travis Parsonage, Patrick Nicol and Daniel Mullins benefiting from Wilson's demanding coaching standards.

The Colts continue to impress in their section, but need to concentrate on their game plan.

A narrow defeat by St Damien's was followed by a 23-point loss to Glen Iris, but the coaching staff are getting great service from players like Christopher Westgrath, Chris Watson, Beau Tobin, Lachlan Parsonage, Joe O'Mara, Scott Allwood and Xanthan Balding.

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