

Cemetery all clear

Residents still have concerns

By SAM DAVIES

An expert on cemetery groundwater has given plans for extensions at Warrandyte cemetery a complete "bill of health".

The cemetery trust has stated that there is now no good reason why the extension should not proceed. However, objecting residents believe such problems as parking and noise still remain.

An independent report commissioned by the Andersons Creek Cemetery Trust has concluded the site of the proposed new cemetery extension is suitable for the intended development.

The report was written by Dr Boyd Dent, a hydrogeologist and lecturer at the University of Technology, Sydney. Dr Dent researched groundwater in cemeteries in Australia as part of his PhD studies.

"The concerned residents had been saying it wasn't suitable land, and they were quoting Boyd Dent, so we thought we'd get him down," trust chairman John Chapman told the *Diary*.

The concerned residents' group fears a new cemetery site could pollute the environment.

In a previous statement to the *Diary*, the group questioned, with overseas and local experts' comments, the suitability of the new and existing cemetery land for burials, "with potential impact on environments and waterways".

The Environmental Protection Agency will not be conducting its own testing on the site.

Dr Dent's report recommends measures the cemetery trust should adopt to ensure that the new development meets emerging standards of best practice.

"The establishment of site-specific buffer zones, surface drainage controls and certain development procedures should be implemented," the report states.

Mr Chapman said their archi-

tect, Graeme Bentley, had incorporated some of Dr Dent's suggestions in a re-design of the plan. "I think there's no reason why it shouldn't go ahead," Mr Chapman said.

Judy Cook, from the residents' group, said she was glad to see Dr Dent involved. But she denied the group's opposition to the new site would wane if it were proven there was no risk of soil contamination.

"This environmental issue is just one of many issues. We thought the community would be most interested in that. One of the biggest questions is about lack of parking. We took video footage last week of cars blocking the street."

Mr Chapman said the parking problem would be no different with a new cemetery. "There was a very large funeral last Tuesday for a local resident, but that's not a cemetery matter, that was a funeral at the church. That wouldn't change even if the cemetery wasn't there."

The residents' group has also raised the noise of digging graves in rock as a major issue. "The guy next to me started to dig a pool and only got down 30cms before hitting rock," Ms Cook said.

According to Mr Chapman, the Dent report stated no burials needed to actually be in the rock. "He suggested half the land is suitable to bury two people in the graves without going into rock, and the other half is suitable for burying one person. It's the rock-breaker that makes the noise."

He also fired a salvo back at the residents: "I think it's a bit over the top for them to have signs saying 'No No No New Cemetery' when people still have to go to funerals there."

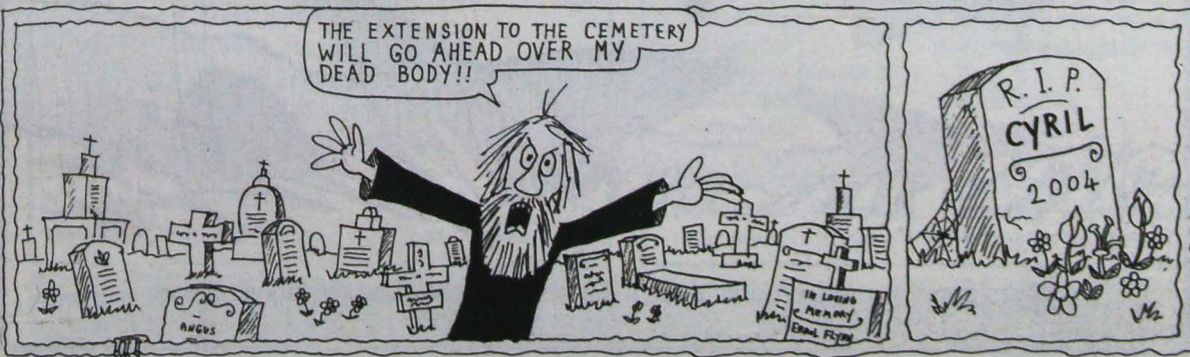
Manningham council may consider the cemetery permit at the end of August if the necessary reports are prepared. If not, the matter will be postponed until the end of September.



Callan Hales (Oliver), Liam Gough (Fagin) and Kate Burns (Nancy) will star in Warrandyte High School's "Oliver!" later this month. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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WARRANDYTE DIARY

EDITORS: Cliff Green and Lee Tindale
 PUBLISHER: Warrandyte Diary Pty Ltd, (ACN 006 886 826 ABN 74 422 669 097) as trustee for the Warrandyte Arts and Education Trust.
 POSTAL ADDRESS: P.O. Box 209, Warrandyte 3113.
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 INTERNET ADDRESS: <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~warrandy/>
 PRODUCTION: Rachel Schroeder, 9725 6699.
 PRINTING: Streamline Press Pty Ltd, 155 Johnston Street, Fitzroy.
 Published on or about the second Wednesday of each month (except January).

ADVERTISING RATES

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

Readers are advised that the Warrandyte Diary accepts no responsibility for financial, health or other claims published in advertising in this newspaper.

Copy closes last Friday of each month

OUR NEWSPAPER

The Warrandyte Diary was established in 1970 as a small local newsletter. Although it has developed over the years, it has retained its strong community character, being produced by volunteers with only one aim: to serve its community. Financed solely through advertising, it guards its not-for-profit, non-commercial status and its independent voice. The Diary carries a strong editorial bias towards the people, environment and character of the place it serves. Its monthly circulation is 4000 copies and it is available in Warrandyte, North Warrandyte, South Warrandyte, Park Orchards, Wonga Park, Warranwood, North Ringwood, Kangaroo Ground and Research.

A SPECIAL PLACE

Warrandyte (approximate population 8000) is situated on the Yarra River, some 24km from Melbourne. 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.

Kevin teaches young Paul, but who teaches teacher?

Diary-IGA Citizen of the Month one minute, headlining a notoriously scurrilous gossip column the next. It's a fickle old world, Kevin O'Mara, isn't it? Being the proud and loving dad that he is, Kevin, a former Warrandyte Primary School teacher, had been teaching son Paul to drive. Paul, a very promising footballer with our Under-18s, already had the car — an EA Falcon — all he needed was the licence. As part of his training, the L-plates went on the other morning and Paul drove to school at Warrandyte High. Kevin drove home, parked the EA atop his very steep driveway in Melbourne Hill Road and thought nothing more of it until his new across-the-road neighbour knocked on the door. "Excuse me," he said, "but I think we have one of your cars at our place." Yes, Kevin had left it in neutral, forgotten about the handbrake and the car had rolled backwards — somehow running over a substantial boulder without overturning — across the road and into the neighbour's garden. One of the EA's wheels was seriously maimed, but the major damage was to Kevin's pride.

We're chuffed to report that since his car ran away, Paul has turned 18, acquired his licence and is driving very capably, specialising in parking.

It's safe to assume that the South Warrandyte bloke (who'd be mortified if we named him) had been partying some when he answered the call of nature of the No 2 type. And went to sleep. And fell off the toilet. And smashed a window in the process. If his thinking had been a little less fuzzy next morning



IN RED & WHITE



Nicely parked, Kevin! The O'Mara boys and the EA that got away.

he might have phoned an out-of-town glazier, rather than his mate Terry Ryan of Warrandyte Glass, to repair the damage. That way the story wouldn't have grown such long legs. Never mind, it could have been worse. He could have really been in the pool!

If it's not the vandals disturbing the tranquility of life here at the community centre it's the bloody pigeons. Not content with cooing and pooing from the rafters, a few of them decided to take up permanent residence in the foyer. Left one of their little messages in an armchair, too, and Sue Smith from the Opp Shop sat in it!

Roger the cat has become quite the celebrity-about-town since grabbing the Page 2 headline and rating a Jock cartoon by immobilising himself by somehow sticking one of his forelegs under his collar. People have been phoning owner Rae Danks, our advertising/accounts manager, and stopping her in the street to ask how the big furry fella was faring, which just goes to show what a caring village we really are. Mind you, all the publicity has gone to Roger's head a bit and although he much admired Jock's caricature, he's now insisting on a flattering photo as well! Okay, Roger — but don't go pressing your luck.

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A case for the morals police, we decided as we gawked at the sign outside the Living Green nursery at the Soil Shop. Then we checked out other such businesses around town and discovered that "bare rooted" was flavour of the month. One was even offering four for \$20! We dug out the dusty gardening manual and found that the term merely refers to the practice of selling plants — fruit trees and, in this case, roses — with their roots free of soil. Gee, that's a relief! Buyers are advised to plant immediately to prevent the aforesaid roots drying out. And so endeth your gardening lesson for today.

All Anne Drew wanted were some paper cups for the chips she was cooking in the canteen at Warrandyte footy club training the other Thursday night — but she wasn't quite getting through to committeeman and

vociferous (the rest of you can look it up when you get home) barracker Terry Sloan. "Could you get me some chip cups, Terry?" she asked. Terry scratched his head (luckily, without getting splinters), looked at Anne askance and said: "Chipped cups? What the hell do you want chipped cups for? Suppose somebody cuts their mouth on 'em — they could sue the pants off us!" Unchipped paper chip cups were eventually found and the threat of crippling damages claims averted.

The home brewing competition which debuted so successfully at this year's Warrandyte Festival will certainly be repeated at the next one and Kylie Frowd, from the festival committee, urges prospective entrants to "lay their bottles down" in plenty of time for it. You'll recall that Page 2 celebrity Neil Dusting just about scooped the pool in the inaugural event and was unbearably full of himself for weeks afterwards. So yes, let's have a bigger, stronger field this time to avoid a repetition of that.

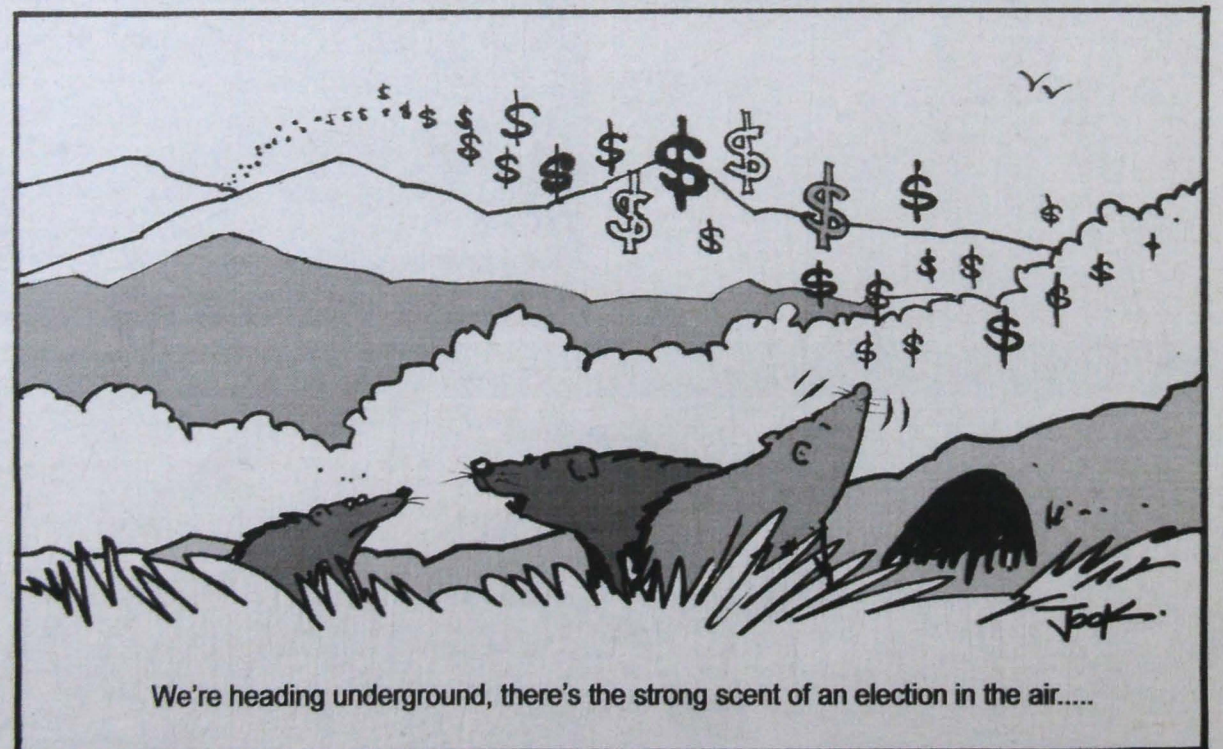
ABC Radio was recently added to the emergency services notice board at the bridge — but for frequency 777, please read 774. Ian Wright and David Hogg were among those to pick up the discrepancy and reckon 777 will give you more static than anything else.

"It's Melaleuca (otherwise known as paperbark) Month!" declares Joan MacMahon, our resident native flora authority. Really, Joan, please tell us more. "Okay, our local is the swamp paperbark, so named because it enjoys wet feet. Great if you have a sullage problem. Incredibly hardy once it's up and running and suckering's a speciality. Plant a few and you'll end up with a forest!" This and other indigenous beauties are available right now from the Friends of Warrandyte State Park nursery at Pound Bend (Melways reference 27 C10) from 10am to noon on Thursdays and market Sundays.



OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



We're heading underground, there's the strong scent of an election in the air....

Taking a shortcut to Ringwood!



OOPS! This little car finished nose up, tail down on the road cutting on the east side of Ringwood-Warrandyte Road, South Warrandyte, between Falconer and Wirth roads, one morning late last month. Diary photographer SANDY BURGOYNE was passing and captured this unusual spectacle of automobile acrobatics.

Park funds not enough

By SAM DAVIES

The state government has announced that additional funds will be spent on pest, weed and animal control in Warrandyte State Park this financial year. But the Warrandyte Community Association says it will not be satisfied until the government commits to fully restoring the park's maintenance budget, which was last year cut by 90 percent.

Last year, \$90,000 was reallocated from the WSP maintenance budget to finance bushfire recovery in alpine regions. Community groups and local MP Phil Honeywood feared the reallocation would have severe repercussions for vermin and weed control in the park.

In a letter to MP for Yan Yean, Danielle Green, Minister for Environment John Thwaites, said: "There is a clear expectation that as the bushfire recovery program is completed, which is expected to happen over the next 12 months, Parks Victoria will reinstate many of its programs ... including Warrandyte State Park." Mr Thwaites said additional

funds would be spent this financial year on pest, plant and animal control.

A Warrandyte Community Association petition with 309 signatures calling for the funds to be reinstated could not be tabled last month, as it did not comply with parliamentary standard wording.

Mr Upson says they will table the petition again later this month.

Raising the funding issue in parliament in early June, Ms Green pledged to continue being a "strong supporter of the park" and described Warrandyte as a "crown jewel" of Melbourne's Green Wedge.

Jonathan Upson, president of WCA, said he "certainly appreciated" Ms Green's efforts in bringing the issue to the attention of minister Thwaites, but was disappointed funding had not been restored.

"There is only one answer acceptable to us, and that is the complete restoration of funding. Additional funding for pest animals and weeds sidesteps the real question of will the money be restored," Mr Upson said.

Subdivision on again

By SAM DAVIES

A planned subdivision in Osborne Road, North Warrandyte, rejected by both Nillumbik council and the VCAT in 2002, has been revived by the developer.

The proposed development will be heard a second time by VCAT following significant changes being made by the applicant to the initial plan.

Five objections have already been registered against the new proposal, which will be heard by VCAT on Tuesday, August 24.

Objectors include the Warrandyte Community Association, Friends of Warrandyte State Park, the North Warrandyte and Kangaroo Ground Landcare groups and a number of residents styling themselves the Immediate Neighbours Group.

In 2002, the Osborne Road Landcare Group described the bush on the property

as "pristine". They told Nillumbik council, "we do not think this fragile property abutting some of our best riparian habitat could support two houses, two effluent effluent envelopes and all the infrastructure people seem to require these days, without very substantial damage to the existing bush and serious diminishing of a link in the habitat corridor currently existing."

Ruth Rankin, spokesperson for the Immediate Neighbours Group, said the original proposal by landowner Ed Waldman was declined primarily because it was too disruptive to the two acres of pristine bush currently on the block.

The VCAT presiding member said in the decision that any development could only be in one corner.

The new proposal includes two multi-storey townhouses that share a driveway and

are located in the south-east corner of the block.

"Unfortunately that's right next to the house next door," said Ms Rankin.

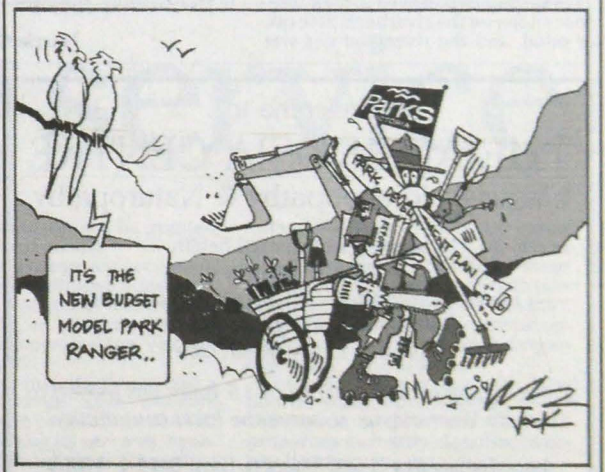
"So not only will there be two townhouses together, they will be right next door."

"That is not why you come to live on a two-acre block—to have two townhouses together. So we're preparing for battle!"

Nillumbik council is likely to back the objectors again.

Cr Bob Stubbings told the *Diary* that while he would not get involved in the debate until council planners had made a recommendation, he was certainly not in favour of it.

"I canned that sub-division two years ago. I can't see how he can re-work it in a way that would be acceptable," Cr Stubbings said.



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Pounding along Pound Road

Pound Road, Pound Bend Road and Everard Drive are used for recreation by joggers, dog walkers, horse riders, and so on. Cars, some travelling at speeds more suited to the Hume Highway, are also part of the scene. Measures need to be taken by council to slow them down.

There is also an ever-increasing number of tandem trailers and trucks carting soil, rocks and other material.

In 1995 an application was made for a permit to stockpile the material these trucks are bringing into this environmentally sensitive area. It included a submission regarding the number and size of the trucks involved. At that time the number of trucks was deemed acceptable by council—in spite of objections raised by residents—and a permit was issued.

Over the years the situation

has changed dramatically. For example, on December 19, 2003, along Everard Drive between 7.10 and 9.21am, in two hours, there were 10 truck movements, of which three were tandems. I was out until 11.30, but at 11.45am there was another tandem.

I was out again until 3.30pm. At 3.50pm there was another tandem and again at 4.10pm. On July 2, 2004, same place, there were 11 truck movements between 7.10 and 11.15am, of which six were tandems.

The daily situation is of that order. There is little or no room for passing traffic. Apparently council finds the roads—Everard Drive and Pound Bend Road—too narrow for a central white line. These trucks bang and clatter along, parts of Everard Drive look like they are subsiding into the Yarra.

The bridge over Andersons

DEAR DIARY



Creek is only 18 feet wide and not built for the weights crossing it. Fumes are horrible and engine braking systems used in a residential area are unacceptable.

The risk of accidents is high in such narrow, winding conditions where children walk and cycle to school and wildlife and environmental quality are adversely affected.

In the interest of public safety urgent action by council must be taken. The permit for this activity expires in October-November 2005 and should not be renewed.

Jo Gilligan
Everard Drive

Horses also enjoy the river track

There are not that many horses in Warrandyte. The ones that do appear, walking or trotting along the banks of the Yarra, are guaranteed to capture the attention of passers-by and—more particularly—tourists. For children they are a definite highlight. They represent a point of difference, and they bring ambience and authenticity.

A semi-rural area that is afraid of horses and pushes them out reeks of farce. It is nothing more than pretend, and is rendered merely a tourist attraction, not available for practical use.

It has been argued that horses pose a danger; but there have been only two complaints against them. A ridden horse is certainly under vastly better control than an off-the-leash dog. Moreover, they seem to be less of a threat than the river

itself. There have been multiple drownings in the Yarra over the years—does that mean we should fence it off, or perhaps drain it altogether?

If the fear of litigation still seems insurmountable, then ban us from riding through the markets (few would anyway). Restrict us to a walk or a trot when people are nearby; though, please, let us canter when, in the depths of winter, it's pouring with rain and nobody would dare to venture there except for us.

On a more practical level, the trail along the Yarra is an integral link in the circuit that many of us take.

It is, realistically, the only circuit still safe enough for us to ride. Without it, we are left stranded along the roads or circling a paddock. I use the trail as part of a fitness program for

performance-bred horses; without it, I would be forced to move them from the area altogether. Yes, it has been said that an alternative will be found—but we have yet to sight a map and, furthermore, I'd be surprised if the council discovered a trail (or a potential trail) I've missed after 15 years of riding through Warrandyte.

The argument for leaving things as they are is, therefore, three-fold. They help keep the area authentic; they are not the danger the council would like to have us believe; and, finally, without it, some of us riders will be forced to give up or move. Buy your kids some more computer games—God knows there's nothing else left for them to do.

Caroline Aumann
Tindals Road

A tale of Queen Pandora and the official elves

I must urge you to refrain from reporting such depressing news as the imminent eviction of the WHSS op shop. Whenever you do, I have to listen to another of my grandfather's interminable fairy tales of Dight Warren. When I visited him last week he recalled the tale of the ogre who planted a tree by the riverbank.

The ogre was happy in his tree, and as it grew, its roots spread towards the river. Queen Pandora and her fairies had just lost their spell-factory to a group of official elves, and she asked the ogre if they could build a shop in the tree-roots.

There they could sell their herbs to the rich and use the gold to make free spells in the spell-factory for the poor and oppressed. In return for a bagful of gold the ogre agreed. The fairies proceeded with their herb sales and their spell factory was soon flourishing.

But unbeknown to the fairies, the ogre had planted his tree in a place sacred to certain goblins.

They complained to the local ruler, who put the ogre under the curse of the magic overlay. "The tree is too close to the river," he said. "The herb-shop will flood and the fairies will get their feet wet." The fairies were not greatly concerned about getting their feet wet.

After all, Ratty and Moley and the Theraposaures had lived in their tree-root shops on the riverbank time out of mind, and the river had not wet

their feet in living memory. The ruler reminded the fairies that these denizens of the riverbank were not cursed (as the ogre was) and their tree-root shops were somehow different.

"You can keep the spell-factory in the branches," said the ruler, "but your herb-shop will have to close." Pandora asked the ruler how they would pay the ogre his yearly bag of gold.

"How shall we afford to cast spells for the poor if the rich cannot buy our herbs?" Where else could they go? "To the Honey Wood," said the ruler. "The Wizard Philiberal, who lives there, has helped you before, and may help you again."

When I asked my grandfather if the Wizard was able to help the fairies, he said his memory was playing tricks. He thought he remembered that some of the fairies stayed in the branches until they faded away. The tree became derelict and was cut down, to the satisfaction of the goblins.

Other fairies departed to set up a herb-shop and spell-factory in a nearby township to the great comfort of the oppressed of the land. When Dight Warren's citizens came to the ruler for help in their misfortunes, he could only refer them to the official elves. After all, he said, the elves lived in proper houses with fine offices, not in tree-roots by the river.

Ed White
Harris Gully Road



Did the earth move for you, too?

Can anyone shed a tiny light on my dilemma?

Recently, on Wednesday, July 20, there was an enormous explosive sound at 4.55 in the afternoon around the North Warrandyte area.

Apparently many heard it. One colleague in Boyd Street commented that it made his house shake!

I'm just curious. Can anyone solve this mystery?

Francesca Longfield
North Warrandyte

Thanks to a resourceful postie

About a fortnight ago we received a letter. Not very remarkable, perhaps, but this one was addressed to Naughton Avenue, Warrandyte, NSW. The post-code appeared to be random numbers. Despite this it arrived! And only a couple of days later than it might have done if correctly addressed.

Congratulations to Australia Post and especially to the local postie.

(Mrs) C. Masiulonis
Naughton Avenue

Thanks from the Cheel family

The family of the late Robert (Bob) Cheel wish to thank everyone for their cards and comforting expressions of sympathy in our recent bereavement. Bob died in his sleep, in his own bed, in his own home, after a good meal and a glass of wine. You really can't get much better than that.

The Cheel Family
Blooms Road

Thanks for story of mum's dog

This email is to thank you very much for publishing the lovely story about my mother and her friend Marge and "their dogs" in the July edition.

It was a lovely surprise for them and their neighbours in Valias Street also loved it. Jock's sketch is terrific. Very much appreciated.

Rilka Macnaish
Canberra

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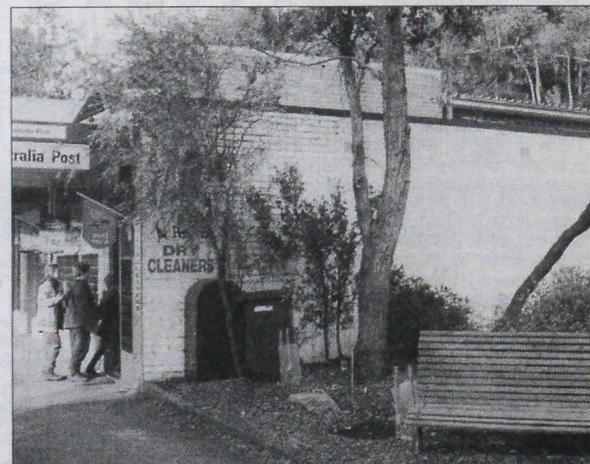
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Would a mural enhance this wall?

Painted image for a Warrandyte wall

Here's an idea I have for improving Yarra Street, based on appealing vistas I've seen in other towns in Australia.

The white-painted space on the post office cries out for some decoration and I suggest a mural be painted to capture the essence of our area's natural values.

It could include representation of flowing water (Birraring Anderson's Creek, Jumping Creek), some of the beautiful wildflowers, such as triggerplants, pink bells, heath, everlasting, chocolate lillies and some of the smaller birds,

such as white-naped honey-eaters, pardalotes, red-browed firetail finches, and so on.

An example of what can be achieved in a public space is the "rainforest meets the sea" mural at the Mission Beach information centre in Queensland. As with this example, ours would need to use large areas of colour (rather than lots of fine detail) as it will be competing for attention with the other nearby "busy" shopfront decorations.

Joan MacMahon
Bradleys Lane

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When the rains came

The so-called floodway, at the heart of the Yarra Street cottage dispute, originated following an extraordinarily high flood in November, 1934. It was called the "Centenary Flood" because it happened during Melbourne's centenary celebrations.

Long-time Warrandyte resident, the late Gerald Osborne, after whose family Osborne Road was named, recounted his memories of this waterlogged event in the *Warrandyte Diary* for October 1977.

Several factors combined to cause the freak flood:

- Torrential, almost tropical, rain which fell for almost a week.

- High tides, coupled with a southerly gale, which banked up water at the mouth of the Yarra.

- Silt and snags clogging the Yarra bed in many of the lower reaches.

Mr Osborne said it was also rumoured at the time that for the safety of one of the upper dams, a big volume of water was released. (It should be remembered that this flood occurred prior to the building of the Upper Yarra Dam.)

"All this had the effect of unprecedented flooding, particularly in the Warrandyte, Templestowe and Yarra Glen areas," Mr

Osborne said.

"Yarra Street was under many feet of water just below the hotel and the verandah of the old post office (now the museum) was flooded. A rowing boat ferried people to do their shopping or drink their beer.

"A church on the site of the Gospel Chapel (now the Club Store) floated away.

"At its highest point, the flood covered the old wooden bridge. Only the handrails were exposed.

"It is amazing that the bridge survived. It must have meant a rise in the Yarra of about 30 feet.

"The Beecham's hay shed floated off and sailed majestically and intact all the way to the village. It hit the bridge and disintegrated into thousands of sheaves.

"I spent some time going around our flooded paddocks in a canoe shooting snakes which had taken refuge on protruding stumps. All sorts of debris, dead stock, etc., were discovered when the waters subsided.

"We found a beautiful horse, dead and still harnessed to an immaculate jinker, caught in a tree about 20 feet above normal water level just opposite Jumping Creek.

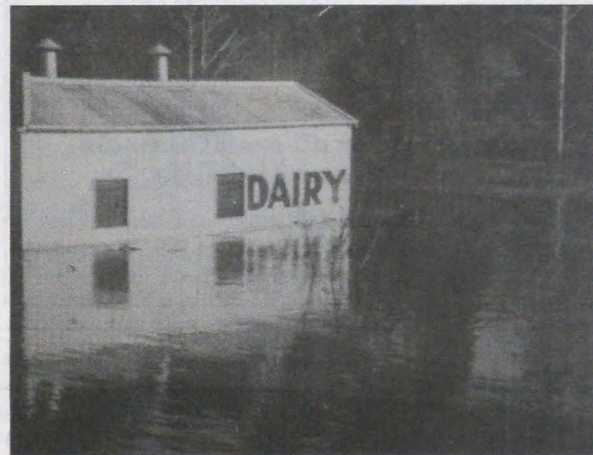
"We never did discover the owner."



Collecting mail by boat: water was over the verandah floor of Warrandyte's post office in November 1934.



Noah was nowhere: The Presbyterian church, on the site now occupied by the Club Store, actually floated!



Water in the milk: Warrandyte's dairy was marooned in a sea of mud and river water.

Archive photos courtesy Warrandyte Historical Society

Crisis for housing service

By SAM DAVIES

The Warrandyte Housing and Support Services has been granted until the end of August to find new premises for its office, and has secured a new site for its opp-shop.

But further extension to the eviction notice served on the crisis housing office is increasingly unlikely.

The group operated for many years from the former police sergeant's residence on the corner of Yarra Street and Forbes Street. They shifted to the cottage further along Yarra Street when this house was reclaimed by the state government.

Occupation of the restored cottage has always been controversial, due

to its apparent renovation without a council permit and its existence on a declared floodway, along with a number of other properties that back the Yarra River.

Paul Molan, director of environmental amenity at Manningham council, told the *Diary*: "It's the third extension we've allowed, so we've been fairly flexible. They've found accommodation for the opportunity shop".

The shop has been operated by Warrandyte Rotary, with funds raised going to WH&SS to help them pay the rent for the cottage.

In the letter of eviction, Mr Molan said he understood the difficulties in finding new accommodation, but had

no option but to enforce the provisions of the planning scheme.

The new opp-shop will be located close to the Post Office, and is due to open in September.

Manager of WH&SS, Margory Lapworth, said she had asked council for a year extension and had approached local MPs and Melbourne Water for information on rezoning.

Manningham council has said while it supports the current usage of the cottage, the planning scheme regulations must be adhered to.

In a July letter to Melbourne Water, Mr Molan wrote "It is clear that both council and Melbourne Water have no objection to the use of the building.

However, consent cannot be granted under the current zoning."

WH&SS finds emergency accommodation for people without housing. It also arranges emergency financial aid and other help, as well as providing counselling. It operates the Warrandyte Food Bank.

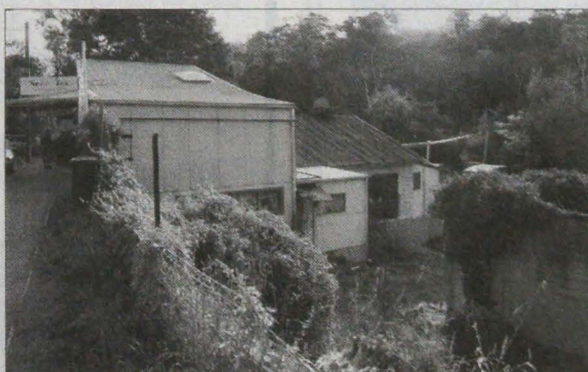
The volunteer organisation serves a surprisingly large area outside Warrandyte, with people from Box Hill to Healesville using its services. Agencies such as Centrelink and the Office of Housing refer clients to the service.

Team leader for town planning at Melbourne Water, Bruce Rush, said he was happy with the current levels of development along the floodway, as

long as the shop owners are aware of the risks involved. "The area is in a high-risk part of the Yarra River floodplain. With the appropriate permits from the council, we wouldn't have a problem with the shops operating as retail outlets, including an opp-shop," Mr Rush said.

Council is discussing with Melbourne Water opportunities to rezone some or all of the riverside properties currently classified in urban floodway zoning.

"This will take some time and have to go through a planning scheme amendment which could take years before fruition. That won't help the crisis house at all," Mr Molan said.



These landmark Yarra Street buildings, backing the river, are all on the 1934 floodway.



Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS

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North centre shapes up

Words and picture by
SANDY BURGOYNE

North Warrandyte residents will soon have a place to meet, vote and pursue a multitude of community activities. After months of seemingly formless framework the shape of the new community is emerging as the cladding is added to the exterior.

Yarra Warra pre-school is predicting they will be operating in the new centre by November.

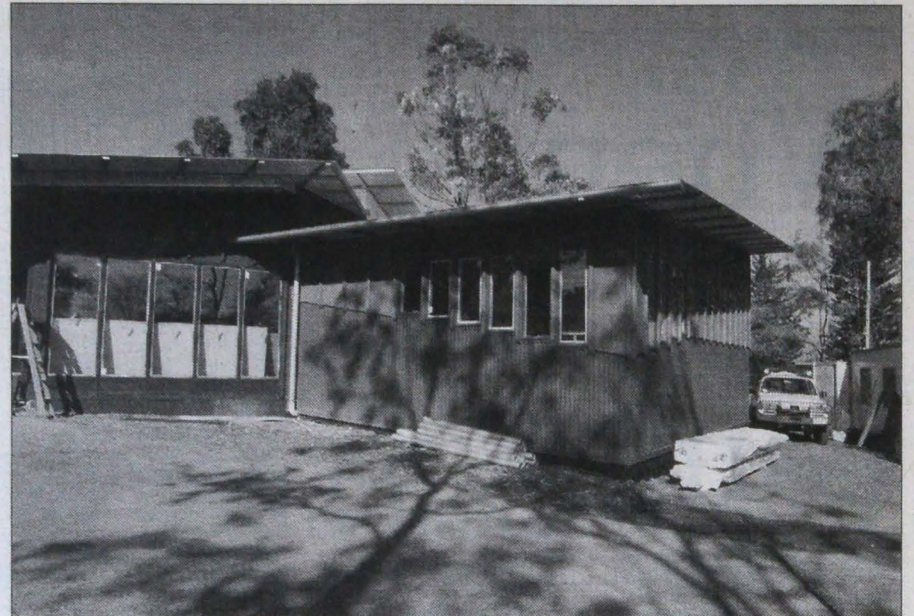
"It's an exciting building. The architect says that the roofline is supposed to represent falling leaves," Cr Bob Stubbings said.

The new building has a bigger floor area than the previous centre and should serve the North Warrandyte community well.

"There are two large areas internally and the one at the back has a lovely patio where you could wander outside and stand there having a drink. So when it's available for public hire it will be a very nice venue," Cr Stubbings said.

Yarra Warra pre-school will be a most important tenant of the new complex. The pre-school was made homeless and the community toy library destroyed when fire razed the original Research Road building in October 2002.

Soon after the fire the Yarra Warra committee showed its spirit by erecting a sign outside



the burnt-out building reading, "Devastation — yes; closure — no". During the interim the pre-school has continued to run at the Community Church on Yarra Street, but will soon return to its home on the north side of the river.

"We are looking at hand-over from the builders to us in the

last week in October. Hopefully we will have the pre-school up and running by the first week in November," Danyelle Kay, president of Yarra Warra's committee, told the *Diary*.

The pre-school playground will be added once building work is completed. "We are having a theme playground in-

stalled. It looks like it is going to be based around a nautical theme, with a boat as a centre-piece," Ms Kay said. "We are also installing a kitchen garden, so the kids can grow their own vegies and herbs. This will be great because they can actually create something, grow some vegies and learn a bit more about that side of things."

"The new centre is just going to be fantastic," Ms Kay said.

Cr Stubbings expects North Warrandyte's community centre to open later this year. "No doubt council will have an official opening. All stakeholders will be invited and we hope to have a large crowd ready to cut the ribbon."

"I'm ecstatic. You can bet your bottom dollar I'll be there! I've been riding shotgun on this for a long time," he said.



Kate's our top kid

Kate Burns (pictured) of Fossickers Way, has been named Warrandyte Lions Youth of the Year. Kate, a Year 11 student at Warrandyte High School, is an excellent all-round achiever, but her major strength lies in the arts as an accomplished singer and dancer. She is currently starring in the school's production of the musical "Oliver!". She was awarded a \$600 cash prize and her school received a similar amount. Kate will be supported by Warrandyte Lions through the next stages of state and national competition.

Key Decisions



These are some of the decisions made by Council in June 2004. If you would like any extra information visit our website www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au for full business papers. The next Council meeting is on 18 August 2004 at 7.30pm at the Shire Offices. All are welcome to attend or listen to the broadcast on Plenty Valley FM 88.6.



Land Use, Planning and Environment

Resolved to prepare and place on formal public exhibition Amendment C28 to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme for DPO2 (Area B), Diamond Creek and introduce a requirement for 5% of site value contribution for public open space.

Adopted Amendment C20 to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme for the Plenty Low Density Area.

Resolved that Council prepare a planning scheme amendment to modify the Significant Landscape Overlay 2 which applies to large areas of Eltham, North Warrandyte, Research, Wattle Glen, Hurstbridge, Pantan Hill and St Andrews; and incorporate this amendment into Amendment C26 Review of the Environmental Significance Overlay.

Resolved that Council not support the petition that requests Council to consider altering the minimum subdivision from 4000m² to 6000m² in the area bounded by Lavendar Park Road and Haldane Road, Eltham.

Governance

Adopted the 2004-2005 Budget.

Resolved that the 2004 valuation be received and adopted by Council.

We would like to invite our local schools, sporting clubs and community organisations to a

sponsorship evening

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Learn how your club, organisation or group can benefit by supporting your local Community Bank.

Guest speaker: Mr Tim Lane (media personality)
Grand Hotel Warrandyte (upstairs)
7.00-8.30pm

Wednesday, 18 August 2004
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Walking a track too far...

By SAM DAVIES

For Research Road resident Nicole Canty, a casual stroll with her two kids and dog has always been an uphill battle. This is because the steep roadside trail where she pushes her stroller has more in common with Kokoda, than a regulation council footpath.

"You're basically pushing your pram in the drain," said Ms Canty, who prefers to drive her eight month-old Ruby and two year-old Harry rather than tackle the path.

This will soon change now that Nillumbik council has approved more than \$110,000 to improve the path from Stony Creek Road, up to where the existing bitumen footpath begins at Blooms Road.

Local councillor Bob Stubbings, who describes the current footpath as "an absolute goat-track", said the intention was to

make the area more navigable for people with prams.

"Previously people had to cross the roads at the bends, which was too dangerous," he said.

The Stony Creek Road footpath extension will be laid in concrete, due to the impracticalities of bedding down an asphalt path on a steep incline.

The footpath will complement the rebuilt North Warrandyte Community Centre, due for completion in October. Cr Stubbings says the new centre, which has cost just under \$1million, is state-of-the-art in its fire prevention measures.

Ms Canty is also looking forward to that opening: "The new kinder will be terrific, it looks great. Harry will go there next year as a three year-old. That was the kindergarten that I went to, so it was very sad to see it burnt down."



Cr Bob Stubbings and Nicole Canty reconnoitre the Research Road track. (Picture by Sandy Burgoyne)

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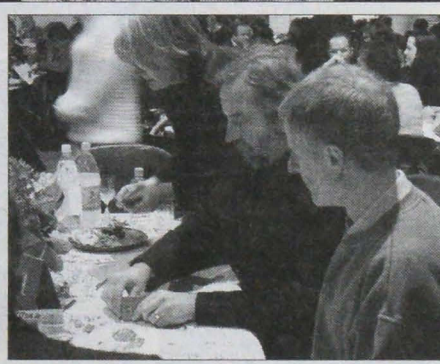
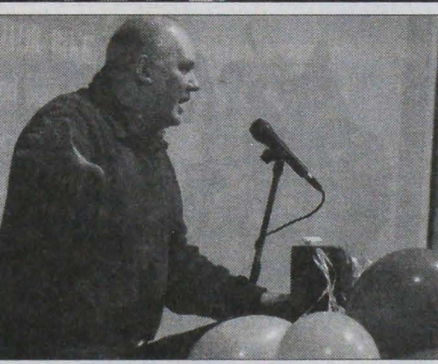
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The moneymakers



"Trivia" might mean matters of little consequence, but for Warrandyte High School their annual Trivia Night, held in the last week in July, is the major fundraiser for the year.
 "Several hundred parents, friends and students attended," a school spokesperson told the Diary.
 "The evening was a mix of entertainment, trivia quiz and an auction under the gavel of local real estate identity Russell McInnes."
 Funds raised will go towards carpeting the new library.
STEPHEN REYNOLDS went along and took these pictures.

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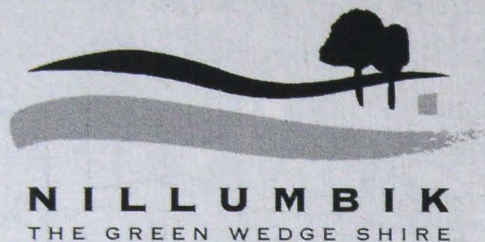
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NILLUMBIK'S ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS PROGRAM AUGUST - SEPTEMBER 2004

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

Thursday 12 August

THE SECRET LIFE OF THE PLATYPUS

Discover everything you have ever wanted to know about the secret life of the platypus. Learn where they live, what they eat and how you can help to enhance their habitat.

Speaker: Geoff Williams, Australian Platypus Conservancy

Time: 7.00pm - 9.00pm

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

Bookings: Please call Megan Andrews on 9433 3210.

Wednesday 25 August

NILLUMBIK SHIRE COUNCIL AND ELTHAM BOOKSHOP PRESENT

'WOMBATS WEEDS AND WIDDLEBERRIES... HOW TO GROW ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING IN YOUR BACKYARD EXCEPT THE WEEDS'

Come and hear renowned author Jackie French speak about one of her favourite topics 'gardening'. Jackie has published over 100 books on gardening and pest control, including books about pests and weeds e.g. Natural Control of Garden Pests to general books on how to grow and use just about everything e.g. The Best of Jackie French. Jackie is sure to make this a fun evening for the whole family - so be sure not to miss out and book your place now! Many of Jackie's books will be available for sale on the evening.

Time: 6.30pm - 8.00pm

Venue: Barn Gallery, Monsalvat, 7 Hillcrest Ave, Eltham.

Bookings: Please call Megan Andrews on 9433 3210.

Saturday 18th September

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP TOUR

Come and join us on a tour of some of Nillumbik's Environmental Group sites. Have a look at what different community groups are doing around the Shire, share and learn new ideas for revegetation and even get involved.

Time: 10.00am - 1.00pm

Venue: Tour bus leaves from Nillumbik Shire Offices, Civic Drive, Greensborough.

Bookings: Please call Megan Andrews on 9433 3210. Please note: Places are limited.

Wednesday 22 September

WHAT HAPPENS TO RECYCLING?

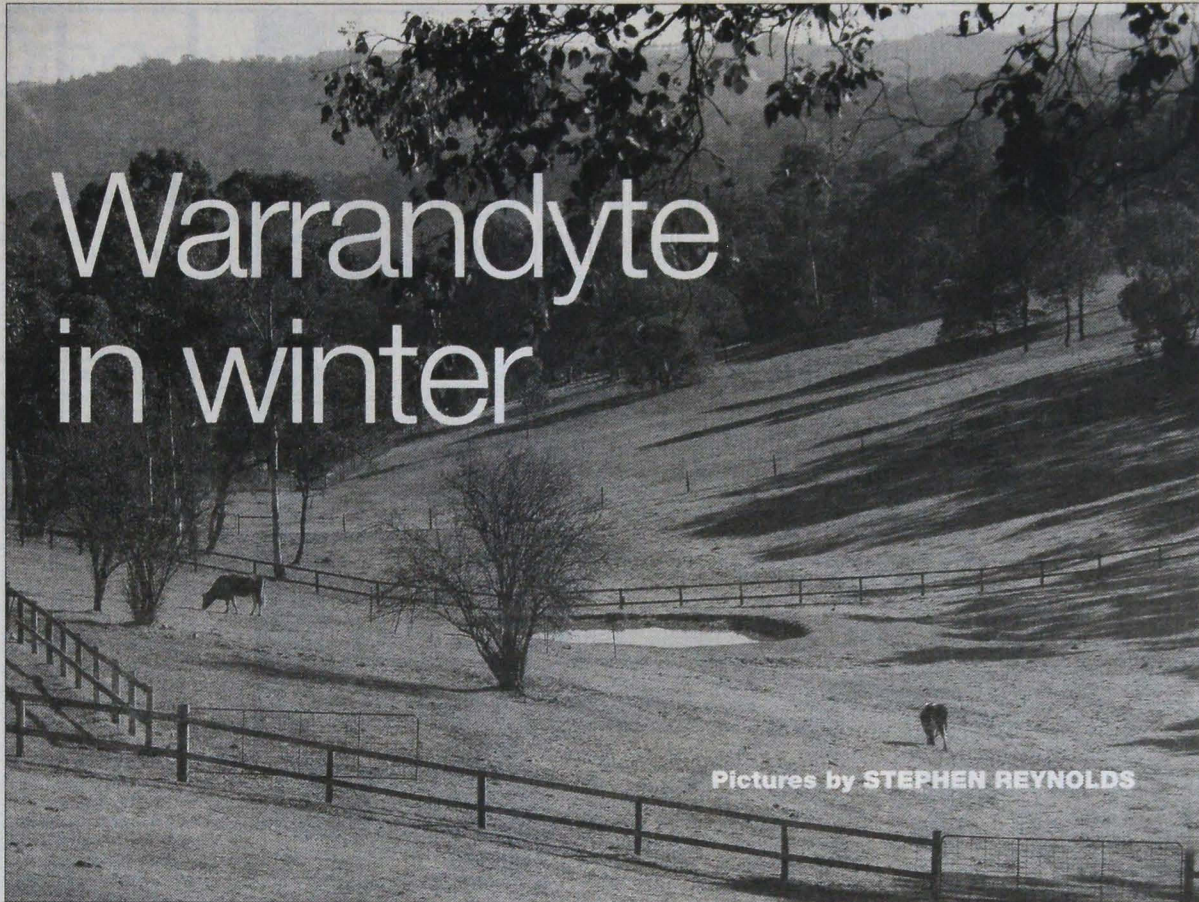
Join us on this bus tour to the Rethink Centre in Banyule. This waste education centre is sited at a sorting factory for recyclable material collected from households. The facility has interactive multimedia displays, which follow the sorting and reprocessing of recycled materials into raw materials for new products. Complete the experience with a tour of the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) and replenish garden. Its scale will definitely blow you away!

Time: 9.00am - 1.00pm

Venue: Tour bus leaves from Nillumbik Shire Offices, Civic Drive, Greensborough.

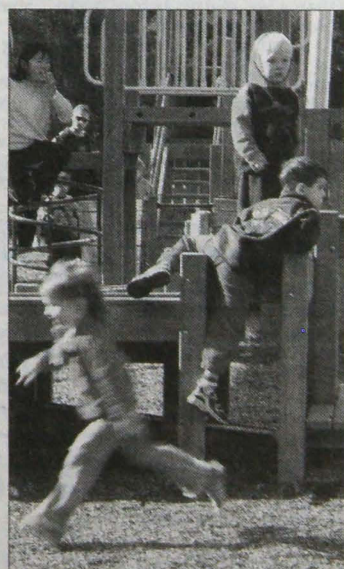
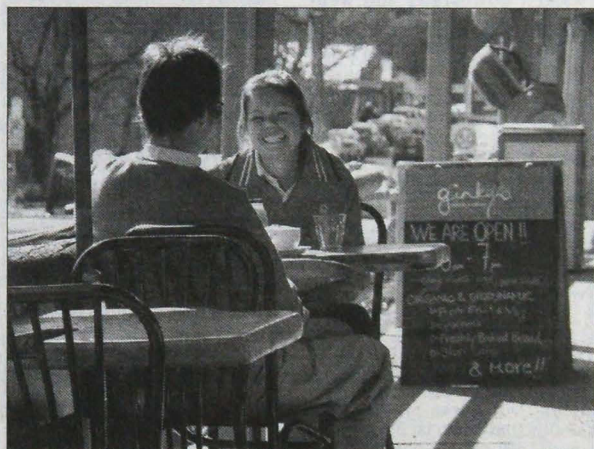
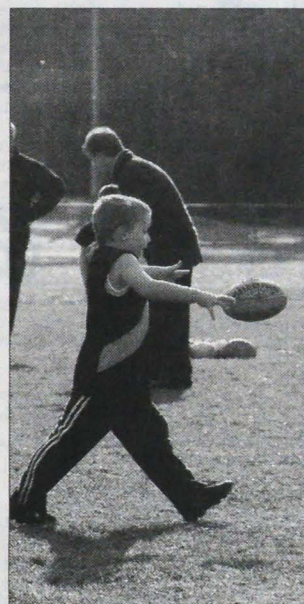
Bookings: Please call Megan Andrews on 9433 3210.

For further information about Environmental Events in Nillumbik please call Narelle Liepa, Environmental Projects Officer on 9433 3214 or email Narelle.Liepa@nillumbik.vic.gov.au



Warrandyte in winter

Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS



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...came home, wagging their tails behind them...

“**THEY** should be home by now!”
 “Don’t worry. They’ll be home soon.”

They know we expect them home at a reasonable hour.”
 “But it’s dangerous out there. The traffic gets heavy this time of night and you know how they don’t concentrate when they’re out having fun.”

Whilst Herself tried to occupy herself preparing a meal, I walked downstairs and went outside.

It was growing dark and the wind had picked up and I had to zip up my polar fleece against the strengthening icy blasts. The winds had been very strong lately, in fact, the type of winds normally associated with late November. I wondered about global warming and the changes to our weather patterns as I peered up and down the street in the hope of seeing them walking home towards me.

I started calling their names, realising, at the time, that this was pointless. If they could hear me, they would already be on their way. Despite the logic I tried, but I was all too conscious that when facing into the wind, my calls went no more than a few metres before being blown back past me and down to the end of the street.

I heard the car being started and I hurried back to find Herself backing down the driveway. I stopped her.

“What on earth are you doing? There’s no point driving aimlessly around the streets. You

KIBBLED

“But it’s dangerous out there. The traffic gets heavy this time of night and you know how they don’t concentrate when they’re out having fun.”

have no idea in which direction they’ve gone. And what if they come home whilst you’re out? Have you got your mobile? Well that means I’ll have to stay at home in case they return. We can’t both be out.”

I noticed tears in Herself’s eyes as she reversed past me.

I went inside and began ringing friends and neighbours but no one had seen them within the last hour. They had been next door for a short time earlier in the day but certainly not at dusk.

I looked out through the Venetian blinds to the street-

light. Thank goodness the council had been efficient. I had rung them only a few weeks before to indicate that, now that most of the blocks were occupied, we needed the streetlights installed. At least, now, there was some light for them to find their way home.

Herself arrived home. She was obviously distressed and had that look in her eyes that suggested that she was on a mission.

“That’s it! It’s getting too dark and if they’re not home by now, I don’t see any other course of action other than phoning the emergency services.”

I know better than to try to stop an avalanche so I sat down and pondered the situation.

When our old friend Jan had announced she was going overseas for seven weeks and was looking for somewhere for Pixie to stay, we didn’t give it a second thought.

“She can stay with us. She’ll be no trouble. She and Millie get on well together.” From what had just been happening, it appeared that they got on too well.

We had been in loco parentis with Pixie for only 24 hours and at the time she and Millie had gone missing, Jan’s plane had not even taxied down the runway for take-off. Which meant we had seven weeks of The Great Escape to go!

“I’ve rung the Ranger and he said he’d keep an eye out for them.”

I could just imagine the Ranger’s response once he got off the phone.

“I’ve just had a call from some hysterical woman whose dogs have been missing for two hours. They’re both terriers and the place is full of rabbits. They’re both out having a wonderful time and will come home when they’re stuffed. Out there, there are two little dogs sneaking from tree to tree, deliberately avoiding capture.”

But back at Ground Zero, the conversation was very different.

“What are we going to tell Jan? That we had your dog for a day, she escaped and has never been seen again! We have to do something!”

Just then, a lolling, panting tongue appeared on the top step. And that was about all, because the rest of Millie’s body was painted in camouflage mud.

“Millie! Where on earth have you been and where is Pixie?”

Perhaps we expected her to say, “Just finishing her latte. She’ll be along presently,” but all we got was a muddy set of footprints across the wooden floor.

“Fine! We’ve found our own dog but lost our friend’s!”

I was just about to throw a bucket of cold water over Herself when we heard the reassuring clack of Pixie’s claws on the stairs. She reached the top step with an ear-to-ear grin.

I turned to Herself. “Boy Wonder and Gorgeous Creature were a doddle in comparison!” Herself remained on the couch, weeping.

ROGER KIBELL

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Discovering bush tucker, but no dingoes, on a beach track

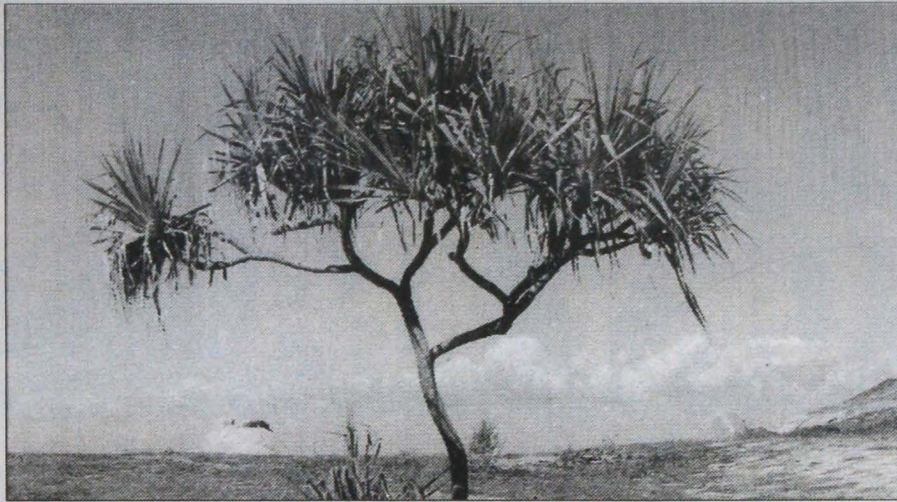
THE track from the house to the beach is only about 500 metres. The swathe cut through tall native grass and shrubs is just wide enough for two people to walk side by side, but today—like most days—I am on my own.

I have been told that the track is the hang-out for a pack of hybrid dingoes. When I asked if they were dangerous, nobody could tell me. But it was generally agreed that the dingoes were keeping the wild pigs away. However, I have walked the track many times now and seen neither dingo nor pig.

The track starts at the edge of the mown grass, just behind the house, and immediately delves into dry, open woodland of tall grass, widely-spaced trees and vine thicket. Both the general structure of the vegetation and the individual species are fascinating—so different to our southern sclerophyllous forests. Many of the trees and shrubs have extra large, extra thick leaves, some as rough as sandpaper. Several in the process of losing their leaves were turning red and gold as the dry season progressed.

However, it was the fruits of the forest that had me most intrigued—exotic-looking but totally indigenous, with enticing names like Burdekin Plum, Native Pomegranate, Wild Orange, Native Olive, Scrub Plum, Cocky Apple, Lolly Bush, Peanut Fruit and Banana Bush.

Strangest of all was the one known as Rotten Cheese fruit, an oval, cream, knobby object about the size of a Roma tomato. True to its name, the aroma of this fruit is powerful and obnoxious. Despite this,



NATURE

By PAT COUPAR

the flesh was much sought after by indigenous people as a source of food and medicine, but I couldn't get past the revoltingly awful smell to try it.

The track ends where the beach begins. Woodland trees give way to low dune, where two large-leaved, purple-flowered creepers were running rampant like weeds, their green rope-like stems criss-crossing the sand for tens of metres. I discovered later from my book that both, in fact, are native. One is a convolvulus called Goat's Foot Morning Glory, the other is Beach Bean, from the pea family and named for its huge woody seeds.

The beach is one of those long sweeping crescents of sand, book-ended by massive piles of granite boulders topped with towering Hoop Pines. The vegetation fringing the beach is mostly low, with the occasional Pandanus, a curious palm-like plant that is so characteristic of tropical and sub-tropical regions. Also scattered along the back of the beach are clumps of windswept Horsetail She-oaks—a perfect name for these pendulous trees. Close inspection revealed a tiny droplet of water at the tip of each dangling leaf. One taste was enough to confirm that these She-oaks had devised a very efficient method of getting rid of their excess salt.

The beach was deserted, as it almost always is. Walking the high-tide line I discovered a smorgasbord of tropical debris

washed up by the waves. The assortment of woody seeds included the ubiquitous coconut, many still wrapped in their fibrous overcoats. There were several shells—many broken—and pieces of coral; and pumice, masses and masses of it, spewed from some distant volcano, who knows where or when. The driftwood was something else, each piece a work of art, sculptured by the sea and bleached by the sun.

I stood ankle-deep in the warm Pacific Ocean, mesmerised by wave after undulating wave. The working holiday had almost come to an end and it was time to leave this Arcadian corner of the country, where being parochial is a way of life. I turned my back on the turquoise water and walked the track one final time, back to the house.

And we thought we knew you

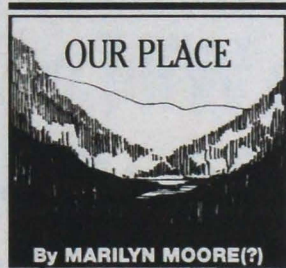
OH dear. The cat's out of the bag. *Und sie ist halb die Welt gefahren!*

In the wake of the much-publicised Demidenko and Khoury affairs, the *Diary* has been forced to undertake identity checks on its lesser-known writers. *Himmel!* I've been sprung.

Unfortunately my name isn't Marilyn Moore. Worse, I have never lived in Warrandyte. But one day I will return to Australia and revisit your charming village, with its distinctive vegetation and overabundant signage.

Unglücklicherweise, my real name cannot be told. True, I was born and raised not far from Warrandyte, but my family returned in 1976 to the tiny village of Behmhusen in Schleswig-Holstein, an area notable for its old-fashioned Lutheran austerity. *Meine Eltern* farmed the windswept lowlands bordering the estuary of the Elbe. If you've seen the old espionage film *Riddle of the Sands*, then you'll know what "our place" really looks like—an unending vista of bleak marshes, shifting shoals and treacherous tides.

Behmhusen is somewhat less than a one-horse village, so I was immediately packed off to Lüneburg to finish school with my cousins. I love Lüneburg



OUR PLACE

By MARILYN MOORE(?)

and have remained there, a funny old dolls-house town hardly altered since the days when young J.S. Bach attended the Michaeliskirche school. Rich salt-mines created a town not only of great substance but also of great wobbliness, as the saltworks wreaked architectural havoc for over 1100 years. Whole *Strassen* of red brick buildings, some over 800 years old, bulge and lean precariously.

The exquisite 500-year-old Lambertikirche lost several spires before the entire structure was finally demolished in 1861. Its baptismal font (in which many of my ancestors' noggins were wetted) now reposes in a side-chapel of the nearby Johanneskirche.

The elm-fringed Lambertiplatz marks the site of the fallen church, and I can see (with

more exactness than I would wish) the place where my ancestors were buried beneath the Lambertikirche floor. Under a vast clear plastic shelter, green lawns are being eaten away by an expanding quarry as archaeologist Klaus Dreger excavates the site for ancient ruins believed to have underlain the 13th century church. During the process he also unearthed human bones. When I exhorted him to take more care of my crumbling relatives, he was horrified. *Himmel!* I thought he was going to hand them over! We *Deutsche* take things far too literally.

From our cottage by *die Ilmenau*, one can skirt the sinister depths of the millpond and follow the tree-lined *weg* to Altenbrückertorstrasse and the towering Johanneskirche. As well as sheltering the family font, this cathedral has a heart-stopping pipe organ and a spire with an interesting lean. Ancestors buried beneath its great floorslates thankfully still rest in peace.

Although Lüneburg is a prosperous town, not much happens. The internet became my hobby, and Warrandyte became an obsession. How stimulating it must be, to live in a village whose heritage is trapped in a tug-of-war between opposing philosophies!

Niederdeutsche heritage is now preserved at all costs. Municipal historians maintain *Hausbücher* so that even the tiniest building has a written history that might go back hundreds of years. Those 19th century "developers" who tore down our city walls and their magnificent gates would be lynched for it now. Our identity and heritage are one.

No incident that affects Warrandyte escapes my notice—council cover-ups, power-struggles on school committees, post-match football goings-on, off-stage drama divas, dodgy planning deals, even Smoky Joe's gossip column. I wanted so badly to become involved in your antipodean frontier town!

Eight years ago I spotted my chance—I had only to buy off a struggling new *Diary* columnist to assume a new identity. Sometimes I believe I really *am* Marilyn Moore! Your real Marilyn no doubt laps up the feedback; I bet she's never told even her best friend that she doesn't actually write this column.

The English-language edition of my autobiographical fiction, *Doppelgänger Downunder*, hits the bookshops in October. Reserve your copy now. What you won't learn about Warrandyte isn't worth knowing!

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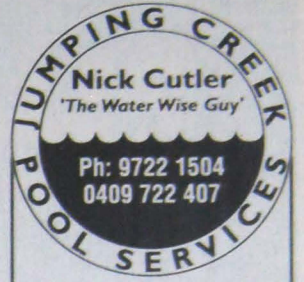
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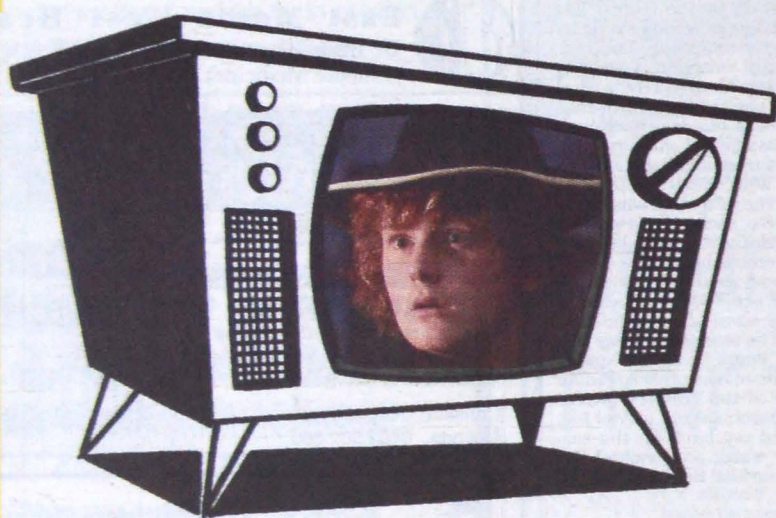
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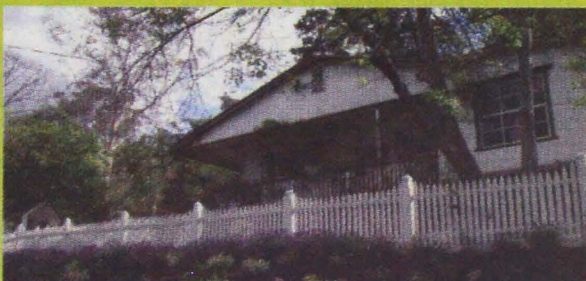
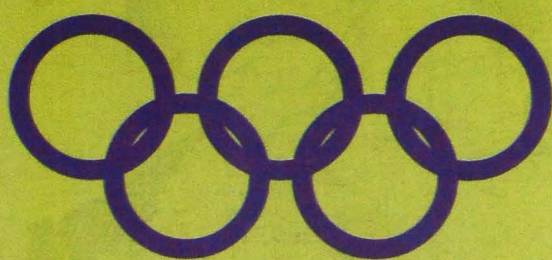
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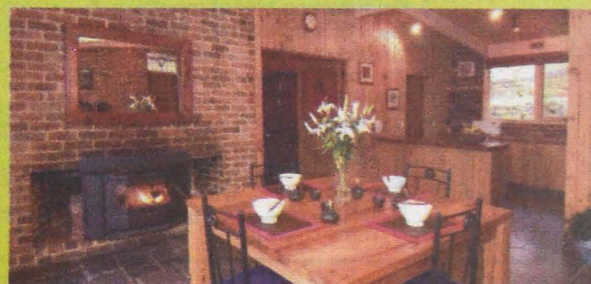
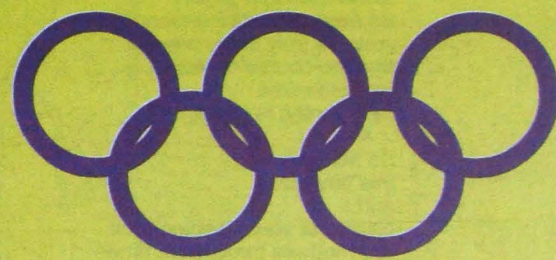
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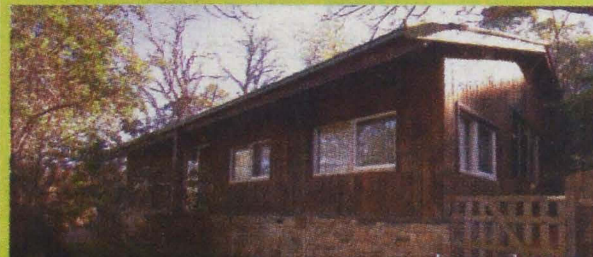
warrandyte private sale
relax on the verandah and watch the river go by, this 2BR cottage is a delight! polished boards, gas heating and airconditioning, all in the heart of the warrandyte village



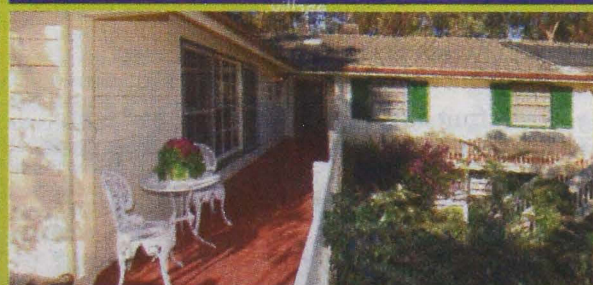
wonga park tender closes 14 sept @ 5pm
a wonga park address is within your reach! a beautiful 3BR plus study (suit fourth BR) home, open plan family meals and living, sep formal dining, deck and spa



warrandyte private sale
located close to the yarra, goldfields plaza, schools & transport, 3BR brick home with formal lounge/dining, kitchen/meals, rumpus, landscaped gardens & dbl garage



warrandyte auction: sat 28 august @ 11am
mature warrandyte dame seeks energetic renovator. 4BR home on 895sqm (approx) in prime warrandyte location, invest or redevelop, walk to school, transport and the



warrandyte tender closes tues 17 aug @ 5pm
picture perfect 3BR+study weatherboard home bursting with sunshine, set on 1/4 acre approx with IG pool, walk to anderson's creek primary, shops, cafes and transport



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Like mothers throughout time

So here we are,
this tiny scrap
and I.
As one for months
serene in curved connection.
I'd sing and play you Mozart,
Lie seal like in the sun,
dreaming of you swimming
in a gentle golden glow.

Now wrenched
to clinging separation,
to independent fusion.
So awesome your dependence,
your life truly in my hands,
and the course of mine
for some time
(reluctantly) in yours.

So here we are
this tiny scrap
and I.
Gazing at your sleeping face
like mothers throughout time—
the blue veined lids
the thrusting bud of mouth,
and I'm filled with the wildest surge
a balloon of passion and
like mothers throughout time
my heart is fit to burst.

I feel a love
I've never known before
(though I've had some torrid
passions
in my time.)
Known a bit about
Ero's highs and lows.
But you my dearest love
bring a new dimension
to each extreme.
The cloud soars higher,
and the knife cuts deeper.

So here we are
this tiny scrap
and I,
two blind moles
groping
tentatively
towards
our strange new world.

KAREN THROSSELL



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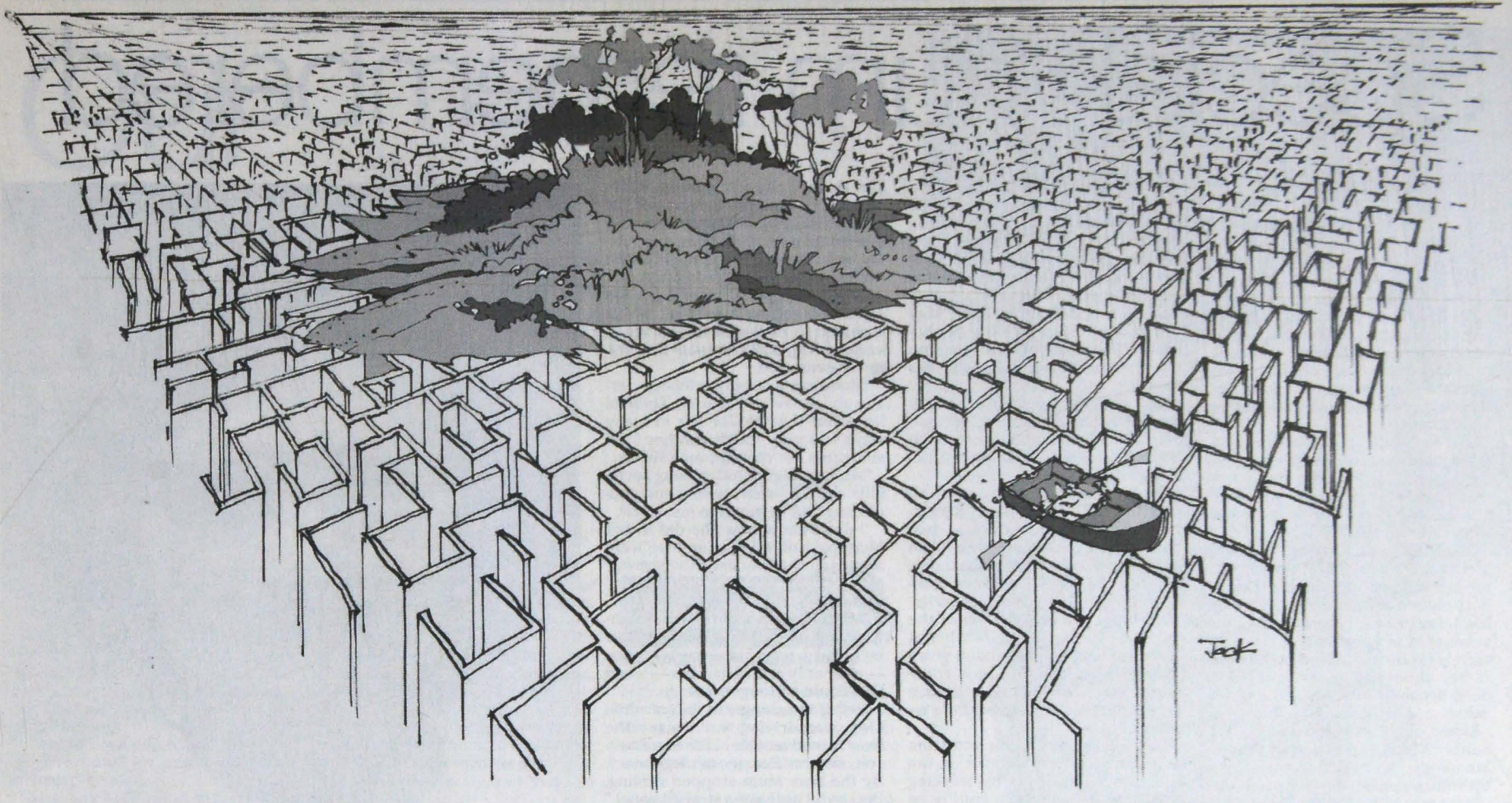
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To the right of the river lies The Island. Not always an island either. After flowing past Black Flat, the Yarra does a 90 degree left-hand turn, heading south-east, racing towards the Stonehouse Café, where the Yarra drops a serious u-turn, creating the horseshoe shape the goldminers used to their advantage. They cut across the horseshoe, diverting the course of the river, thus creating The Island, sharing the story of how floods create billabongs.

In the disconnected section of the river, gold was sought in the mud. Miners also worked over The Island itself, digging and turning over much of the land like Wombats on the scrounge, leaving a battlefield landscape of deeply gouged scars. The immense levels of disturbance have led to degradation and The Island has since been covered in weeds, in particular by creepy festoons of a weed of national significance—Bridal Creeper or Smilax.

There are many islands in the Yarra. Each has a story, as do all islands across the world. Each one is unique. When you go out onto The Island in Warrandyte, you feel you are involved in a conspiracy; you are somewhere different to the rest of the landscape. Imagination takes hold as the symbolism works on many levels. Childhood memories of island stories, shipwrecks and holidays. Islands out in oceans have also been particularly important to the study of ecology and evolution. Islands, because of their limited area and inherent isolation, have supplied science with natural history lessons; providing examples where patterns of evolution can be clearly observed. Islands illustrate the process of evolution. It was the Finches and other fauna on the Galapagos Islands that provided Darwin with

FELLOWSHIP OF THE FORESTS

By GLEN JAMESON



the material to develop his theory of natural selection. They provided Alfred Wallace with valuable information, enabling him to draw that extraordinary zoogeographical line through the islands of South-east Asia, now known as the Wallace Line, dividing Oriental fauna from Australasian fauna.

Robert McArthur and Edward Wilson developed the science of Island Biogeography, which is a study of the particular ecological processes of islands. One "rule" is that, in general, equilibrium exists in the total number of species inhabiting each island, with immigration and extinction balancing each other. Island Biogeography informs us about the nature of evolution and extinction. Islands in general were the repositories for the rare and peculiar.

They are also where species die. Since 1600AD, at least 484 animals and 654 plants have become extinct. Most extinctions have occurred on islands, in freshwater lakes and rivers; in isolated habitats. The 20th century extinction rate for mammals was about 40 times the background rate; for birds about 1000 times. Roughly one percent of the birds and mammals extant in 1900 were extinct by 1995. The size of the island plays an important role in determining the degree of ecological effects.

The islands created in Bass Strait after the global ocean rose around 10,000 years ago are good examples of the effects ecological processes on islands have on biodiversity. As the sea rose and flooded the peninsula then connecting Australia and Tasmania, it created islands where 10 species of herbivore were stranded. At the present time Flinders Island, the biggest, supports seven of the original 10 herbivores. King Island and Cape Barren Island each have six, and so on through the islands down to Badger Island which has two. The smallest island, Little Green Island, has none. The number of species surviving on each island correlates directly to the size of the

land. The species/area relationship of islands carries the penalty of extinction for those animals that are too specific in their habitat and area requirements.

The lesson here for the Fellowship, which has an interest in the struggle to maintain biodiversity, is that habitats, our protected area systems, have on a continental scale been reduced to islands. The same principles applying to islands will apply, in an accelerating extent, to the future to the "terrestrial islands" as natural habitats are broken up by the encroachment of civilization. Our national parks are small patches in the landscape. They are fragments of ecological systems that now have to survive in a largely hostile environment. Where once they evolved in a situation of connectivity and linkages, they are now vulnerable to the effects of isolation, fragmentation and ecological decay.

The interplay of species immigration and extinction is out of kilter, with extinction dominating. Extinction begins at a local level, then the process moves out across the landscape. As the patches become smaller so do the chances of their survival.

Biodiversity is more than the latest ecological buzzword. It is the theme of our environmental recovery and it is defined as the variety of all life forms; the different plants, animals and micro-organisms; the genes they contain; and the ecosystems of which they form a part. The protection of biodiversity is one of the three core objectives of the national strategy for an ecologically sustainable future. Conserving biodiversity is vital—in the long term—to the maintenance of our quality of life and our standard of living.

Habitat clearance is the major threat to biodiversity across Australia. Biodiversity is at its highest in good quality bushland. Australia has the fourth highest rate of land clearance in the world. More vegetation has been cleared in Victoria than any other part of Australia, with over 60 percent of its natural vegetation gone. This reduction of the wild landscape into small dysfunctional fragments is typical of what is happening across the world.

For biodiversity, the management of the whole landscape is critical. How we manage

the private land between these fragments of remnant vegetation is more important than what we do inside the islands of bushland. This is because the processes that begin in the land use practices across the privately owned land greatly influence the dynamics of the bushlands. No amount of government funding can counter the effects of land that is not managed in empathy with biodiversity.

Perhaps it has always been thus with islands. Many indigenous peoples have a story of creation that begins with the earth covered by sea, which is good geological science. Gradually more small islands appear, growing, then joining to form Country and from Country the creation beings arise to walk across; to live, learn and name the laws of the land. Maybe we will all go back to being disconnected islands, waiting for the world to be renewed; waiting to hear the stories, dance the rhythms, connect once again with the indigenous earth.

No man, woman or child is an island and bushlands were never meant to be islands. Unless, that is, we want to live in the Never Never Land of the industrial destruction of the environment. The resources we have to manage our privately owned land are the resources that will protect biodiversity for the future. Some predictions suggest that 30 to 50 percent of terrestrial species will disappear in the next century or two. If that happens, it will be the sixth great extinction event in earth's history, much faster than any previous one, and unique in its human cause.

In the future we will all need to be on the land, farming biodiversity with Dad and Dave, sequestering carbon by photosynthesis, selling eco-system services to the general public by the green bagful. Whatever the size of our particular island, ultimately it is how we each manage biodiversity on our own patch that will decide the fate of humanity. Our future lies in a sustainable cultural landscape that embraces a diversity of manifestations of the positive interaction between humanity and nature.

The author is indebted to David Quammen's Song of the Dodo for direct quotes and many ideas contained in this article.

Special mum remembered

By LEE TINDALE

WARRANDYTE lost one of its most revered citizens last month with the death of Shirley McCartin.

The hundreds of mourners at her requiem mass at St Gerard's Catholic Church on July 27 were testament to the enormous affection this remarkable lady generated and reciprocated both within and without this community.

Mrs McCartin, of Melbourne Hill Road, died peacefully in her sleep in hospital on July 20. A devout Catholic and mother of seven, she was holding her beloved rosary beads when the end came.

Whether you knew Shirley McCartin for her indomitable spirit, for her myriad acts of kindness at both church and general community level, for her deep and ongoing involvement in sport in this town or merely for the unrivalled excellence of her chocolate cakes, you felt a deep sense of loss when the news came.

Eldest son John summed up his mother's life and philosophy thus in his eulogy: "With Mum, it wasn't just the things she did, it was the way she did them — fully from the heart, with total commitment, but in a most beautifully understated matter-of-fact way.

"Helping others, without any expectation of reward or even acknowledgment, was what Shirly did; simply, because it was the right thing to do."

Shirley Dorothy McCartin (nee Hughes) was born on October 4, 1928. "We know this from our own birth certificates, even though her driver's licence and every other document signed had 4/10/1930," said John.

"A women's prerogative to lie about her age, I guess, and it was probably the only lie Shirly told in her

life. A bit like her Mum, Nana Hughes, who was 63 for the last 20 years of her life."

Shirley grew up in Flemington and later Hampton, numbering dancing among her loves and talents. She became Australian highland dancing champion and taught at the May Downs Dance Studio. One of her pupils was Toni Lamond, who went on to a very successful show business career.

After completing school, Shirley became a conveyancing clerk and met future husband John through her sister Gwen, his ballroom dancing partner.

The McCartins were married on March 8, 1952, and baby Lynne arrived on October 5 that year — two months early after Shirley had fallen down the stairs on her own birthday, although she believed this had nothing to do with the premature birth.

"Through the ensuing years the rest of us followed and, in what at times were extremely difficult years for both Mum and Dad, our childhoods were always filled with love and encouragement," John junior recalled.

"Dad worked as a tailor and Mum helped save for the deposit on the house in Warrandyte by working nightshift at the Peter's Ice Cream factory.

"The more I think of it, to save while having at that time five children, to move from a housing commission house in Jordanville to Warrandyte was quite remarkable."

The McCartins arrived in Warrandyte in 1966. Tragically, John senior suffered a major stroke seven years later and Shirley became his nurse and tireless supporter for the next 12 years, until his death in 1985.

"After Dad's passing, Mum began in many ways a new life," said John junior. "She was in anything and everything that had a people or helping focus.

"This included the footy club, As-

sis House, church groups, Bible classes, community groups and, of course, the Opp Shop, which was a story unto itself, with Mum purchasing and bringing home most of the 'treasures' others had donated.

"She loved markets and garage sales and getting a bargain, which included three Weber barbecues in various stages of disrepair that she never ever used.

"Mum was a deeply religious person and a devout Catholic. There is no doubt that life for her in many ways was very tough and her faith sustained her during tough times.

"Working night shift, raising seven kids and 12 years nursing and supporting Dad to mention just a few.

"I don't know how she did it, but Mum paid off a home and we were always clothed and fed. And she was always there when we needed her," he said.

"Mum's philosophy was to do whatever needed to be done and this included getting her driver's licence — after only eight attempts — when Dad could no longer drive.

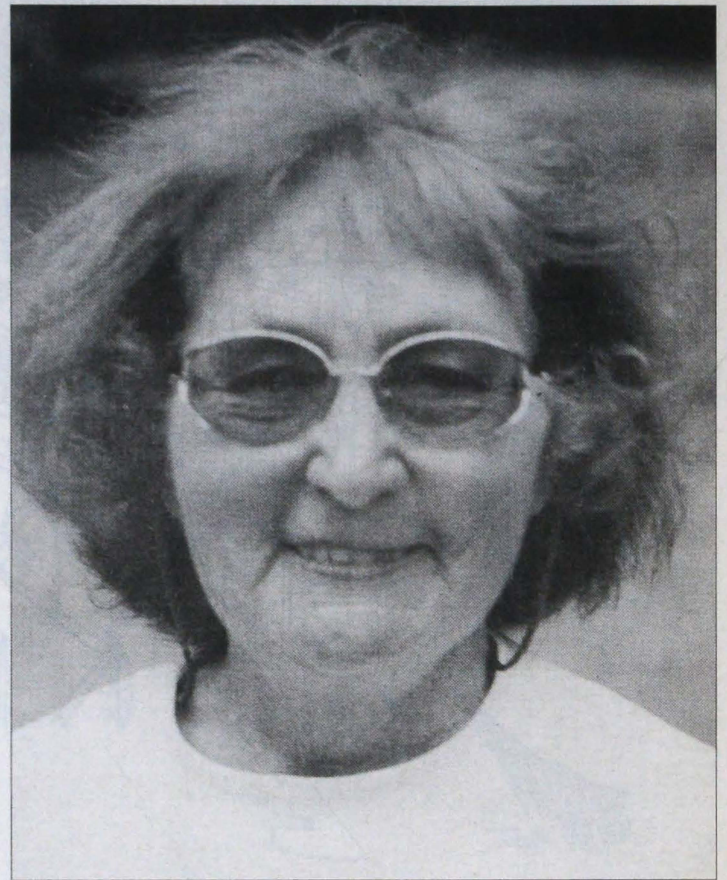
"Being a passenger in the car while Mum was driving was, to say the least, an adventure. Like Mum herself, her car Bessie was legendary. By the time Mum stopped driving, Bessie did not have a straight panel."

The 11am mass at St Francis in Lonsdale Street, City, was a weekly pilgrimage by bus for Shirley McCartin, come rain, hail, shine or heatwave.

Football — Essendon and the local senior and junior clubs — was another of her passions.

Shirley and John senior were largely instrumental in getting junior football off the ground in this town and their sons — John, Dale, Glen, Shane and Joel — all played for Warrandyte (John the hero of the 1983 seniors grand final with the match-winning goal in the mud at Doncaster).

Shirley was a life member of both



senior and junior clubs and for many years until the time of death was seniors time-keeper. As such she was a "lifeline" for local supporters in tight finishes.

"How long to go, Shirly?" they would mouth from the terraces through the plate glass of the clubrooms to Shirley at the time-keepers' table.

A raised finger or two or three would tell the story in terms of minutes.

And those in the know would ignore the party pies, sausage rolls and sandwiches at the half-time afternoon tea spread and make a bee-line for the chocolate cake. Shirley McCartin's chocolate cake. Like the lady herself, a thing of rare quality.

Shirley McCartin is survived by Lynne and Francene, John, Dale, Glen, Shane and Joel and grandchildren Ty, Jay, Daniel, Nicole, Kyle, Noah and Helena.

Much loved in our community

By KERRIE BOYLE

LYNNE Cappellani, one of Warrandyte's best-loved community members, shocked all who knew her when she unexpectedly died of cancer on June 24, after a short illness. She was 56.

Born in Pascoe Vale, Victoria, on April 27, 1948, Lynne married Danny when she was 21 and they moved into their first home, at Warrandyte, in 1971. Their sons Glen and Scott were born whilst they were living in this house in Second Street.

After 30 good years they decided to sell and to build a new home on the block they owned next door. They lived on-site in their caravan, whilst Danny built the new home, brick by brick, ably assisted by Lynne. Their new house was their pride and joy.

With their boys, Lynne and Danny spent many wonderful years camping on the Ovens River at Bright, enjoying the companionship of great friends around the campfire. Lynne was a very proud mother and encouraged her boys in their musical pursuits. She and Danny loved to go to "gigs" to hear their boys play. Of course we can't forget that Lynne was one of Paradiddle's first groupies!

Lynne is fondly remembered for her smiling face and happy disposition. She revelled in life. If it was hot and sunny she would say, "Isn't it a beautiful day!" If it was raining she would comment, "Great for the garden." She walked by the river every day with her beloved dog Shar, greeting everyone she passed, enjoying



the Warrandyte river mornings.

Ever the helpful, community-minded stalwart, Lynne was a backstop to many Andersons Creek Primary School productions, and later showed the same enthusiasm

for Warrandyte High School, helping with art shows and serving on school committees.

She was a very active and enthusiastic member of the festival committee for more than 13 years, serving

as both treasurer and secretary. She was a strong supporter of the young people of Warrandyte, instigating the youth rock concert. While all the other committee members were thinking of family-type entertainment, Lynne would say, "What about the teenagers?"

Everyone else was in fear and trembling about gathering huge numbers of "unruly, out-of-control" kids in one spot. What would they get up to? It would be a nightmare. Not Lynne. She took responsibility and organised the first concert at the football ground, with local groups performing on the grandstand. All around were happy kids, meeting up again, perhaps for the first time that year. Just hanging out! She loved them all, and loved being part of their happiness.

Lynne was a highly organised person, filling her life with many varied activities. To fit in as much as possible she organised her time in segments.

She loved her garden, her folk art painting, and was famous for her bottled peppers and tomatoes. She was an active member of the Warrandyte Tennis Club and was hooked on her Saturday boot scooting, where she made many friends and participated in weekend dance competitions.

For many years she worked with Boyle Industries in Warrandyte and later Blackburn, where she played a major role in getting the company computerised. Completely unflappable, she always seemed to be in control, and her sunny personality shone through. Sure and steady, that was Lynne.

She worked part-time for other employers, including a physiotherapist, East West Antiques, and most recently a promotions company. She also spent many hours bookkeeping for Danny's business.

A memorial service for Lynne was held at Stiggants Reserve, overlooking the river, beneath a magnificent gum tree. Hundreds of friends and family members said their last goodbye. After a week of rain and cold, the day was bathed in sunshine, and Warrandyte never looked more beautiful, perhaps especially for Lynne. Several years ago the Festival Committee planted a tree near the billabong on Stiggants Reserve as a thank-you to Lynne. She took immense pleasure watching it grow, which it did handsomely, until officialdom decided it had to go as it was not indigenous. Danny, Glen and Scot have since planted a politically correct species (with official approval).

At a festival meeting, shortly after the funeral, a new committee member was shocked to hear of Lynne's passing. She later told us that on her second day in Warrandyte, whilst walking along the riverbank, she met a very friendly woman who stopped to have a chat, and was bubbling with enthusiasm for wonderful Warrandyte. The new arrival asked how she should go about meeting people in Warrandyte. She was told to join the Festival Committee. The woman she had just met was, of course, Lynne Cappellani.

Lynne's joy for life was intoxicating and infectious and a reminder that the best things in life are free. Live in the moment!

Our policeman's lot...

THE kitchen of the Warrandyte police station may not seem the ideal place to talk to the local senior sergeant, but that's where Keith Walker was when the *Diary* spoke to him. Keith was heating Chinese food left over from the night before.

"We do cook you know, we've got an oven and we can even make scones," he said.

As a boy Keith used to watch his grandparents cooking and later his culinary skills were refined by his wife Peta. Born in Box Hill in 1956, Keith's parents separated when he was two and he and his sister moved back with their mother to her family home in Northcote. His mother was one of six children and there were still three sisters and two brothers as well as Keith's grandparents living in the three-bedroom weatherboard house.

"There was also an outside bungalow but there were another two people in that to get a bit of extra money. The house was always full of people and joy. We had a piano in the front room and we spent lots of time around that but rules were fairly strict and there wasn't a great deal of talking at the dinner table," he said.

Keith lived in Northcote for 10 years, returning to Box Hill and Blackburn High School where he met Peta. Having worked part-time as a youngster on a paper round and in a delicatessen, service station, supermarket and a hardware store and on his uncle's farm at Lilydale, in 1974 Keith told his mother he was heading off round Australia.

"I would have liked to have had a trade behind me and become a plumber or carpenter, but she said, 'no, you're not, you're joining the police force.' My uncle was a policeman and she thought it was a good profession for a young fellow."

Keith trained in Ringwood, Malvern, Russell Street and Belgrave, working on highway patrol, motorbikes, unmarked cars and in the accident squad. A highlight was working as one of the lead riders for the Commonwealth Heads of Governments meeting in the early 1980s—"leading Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau was like escorting a rock star. He was mobbed by middle-aged women wherever he went." Later the Walkers moved to

Wodonga, where Peta was in charge of the occupational therapy department at Albury Base Hospital and Keith was on highway patrol. He described his senior officer there, Sergeant Bob Towers, as "the best boss, a great role model and a real people person". Then Keith reluctantly accepted a promotion to sergeant, meaning a move back to Melbourne and the criminal records branch at St Kilda, followed by four years in Carlton.

"This was a great apprenticeship, a real eye-opener. There was a great cross-section of people there from across the socio-economic scale and all walks of life. We had to deal with occupants of housing commission high-rise flats, meeting some lovely people and some who didn't like police. It was always a challenge attending jobs in the flats—we'd take the steps up to the 15th floor rather than risk being marooned in the lift where the police could be stopped between floors.

"At night we wouldn't wear white caps as they were a good target for anyone to aim for, dropping fire extinguishers, fridges, mattresses from the balconies. There were a lot of assaults in Carlton and we were kept very busy because it was close to the city. When the City Watchhouse was full Carlton was the next drop-off." Keith said he was privileged to work as staff officer to the chief superintendent of A district, which includes the CBD and inner suburbs.

In 1988 Keith passed his theory exams to become senior sergeant, passing the selection panel process but being overlooked for a senior position because of his junior status. He applied for the position at Warrandyte and beat 13 others for the job.

"I just love it. I've got great staff and the local policeman is still an integral part of the community. The more the staff and I do to make Warrandyte a safer place the more the police efforts are appreciated," he said. "I feel I'm achieving something, not chasing my tail all the time. We're able to follow leads, which is not always possible in other stations. Warrandyte still has a country feel."

But he agreed there was a downside. "The drawback is, it's like living in a fishbowl. As the local policeman you're always on display and you have to watch your own

VILLAGE PEOPLE

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

actions and those of your family. I don't go into the main bar at the pub, for example, I don't want to get involved with a discussion of police work with people while relaxing over a beer.

"And every accident I go to I'm always concerned there'll be someone I know, a friend or one of the kids' friends. I attended one accident where two young people were killed and one seriously injured. There was every chance I would know who they were and it was gut-wrenching. You can deal with what's happening immediately but when it's over you have to talk about it. I'm very fortunate to have a good wife, friends, and the police force has good trauma case peer support.

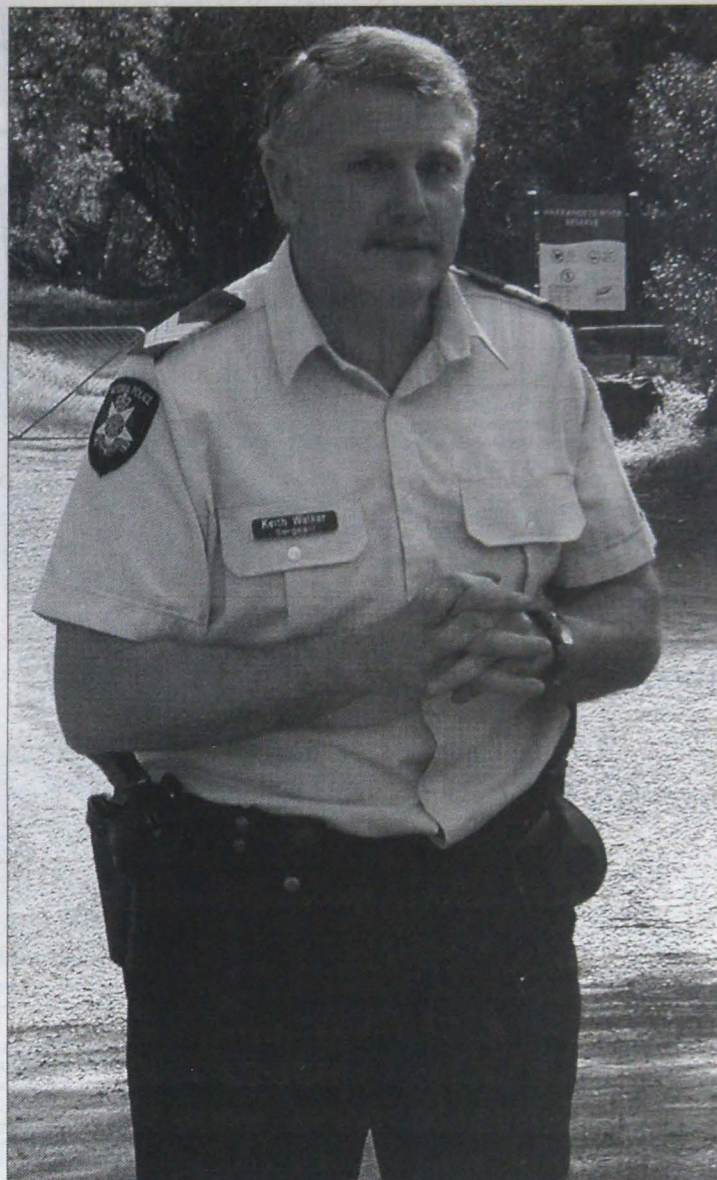
"But the biggest issue in Warrandyte is it's a high fire danger area and we're always training with other emergency agencies.

"I'm fairly contented with life here. I've two great kids and I spend as much time as possible with them. The more we put in the more we get out; the more guidance and enjoyment the better they turn out. Having kids gives you a different perspective. You have a responsibility to provide and having come from a sole parent family I want to do as much as possible to give my own kids the opportunities I didn't get. My mother gave up so much finance and time to provide for my sister and myself and she'd spend money on us and not herself.

"It irks me when I hear someone is 'from a broken family, you can't expect anything else'. I get very cross—I've come from a 'broken family' but the love and support from one parent, the extended family and friends has got me where I am. It's not an excuse for my failings—I admit I like to get things done yesterday and I get frustrated when issues are tied up with red tape," he said.

"When I was in Carlton, where all the hospitals are, we might go to the Royal Children's Hospital following a SIDS death and you see the heartache and heartbreak parents go through. You feel it."

Keith said he likes to be busy, en-



joying family, gardening, water-skiing and fishing, north-east Victoria and travelling Australia and overseas.

"My most favourite place is Ayers Rock, Uluru. It's the heart and soul of Australia. It's awe-inspiring—I can't say any more than that." His favourite music is sung by Italian tenor Andrea Bocelli—"I listen to it when the kids aren't in the car"—and he enjoys theatre, music, restaurants, friends and a glass of red wine. A highlight has been winning a Warrandyte Rotary Club award recognising his services to the local community.

Keith admires doctors and nursing staff, particularly those in oncology. "When Peta had breast cancer they were such lovely people, dealing with one of the most severe illnesses yet trying to put a smile on people's faces. I also work with some terrific people both in and out of the police force."

Keith's hero as a boy was Lionel Rose, world bantamweight boxing champion. "Lionel Rose was an Aboriginal who got to the peak of his sport, a wonderful athlete and back in the 1960s he would not have had the opportunities white kids had.

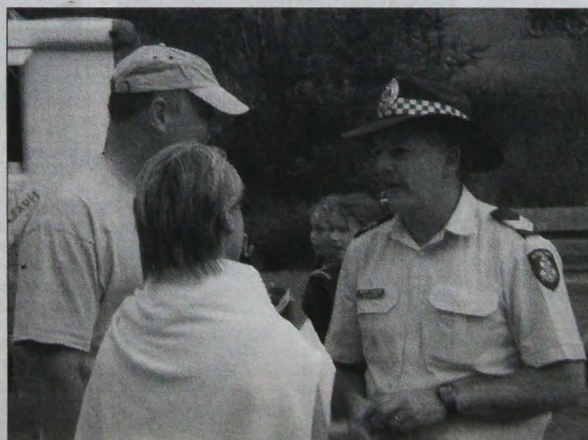
"I remember listening to the fight on the radio in the early hours when he beat Fighting Harada for the world championship. Modern athletes Pat Rafter and Andrew Gaze are ambassadors for their sport and Australia, and yet so humble.

"As I get older you look back more and look forward to the better times ahead. I think I've raised the profile of police in the local area and I would like people to care for their fellow man and look after each other more. When Peta was sick it was amazing—Warrandyte rallied round the local copper and his family; there was a food roster, people we didn't know kept ringing. My great mate (Warrandyte estate agent) Andrew Wilson would bring around a three course meal for us but the dessert was always missing by the time he got here.

"I remember my first day in Warrandyte when I was in the car with (senior constable) Kim Dixon and someone waved. 'Crikey,' I said, 'what did they wave for?' Kim said they all do it. It's such a change from Carlton where you'd get a brick or a Molotov and shot at. We used to hold our folders up to the side window of the car to stop a rock, brick or bottle coming through.

"It's a wonderful community and we know it's just a regular thing after 12 years here."

Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS



Almost like being in love

THEATRE

By MARILYN MOORE

OCH th' weel, noo! In choosing "Brigadoon" for this year's production at the Warrandyte High School Theatre, the Diamond Valley Singers boldly stepped into a new realm of post operetta-style popular music. The move proved to be a good one.

First performed in 1947, "Brigadoon" is a fairytale that begins in a remote highland village in 18th century Scotland. Steeped in the burr and heather-laden lore of the ancient clans, Frederick Loewe's melodic score and Alan Jay Lerner's simple love story have little of the garishness of many popular musicals of the era.

The plot revolves around a strange miracle: 200 years ago, in an attempt to preserve the idyllic innocence of the citizens of Brigadoon, the incumbent Reverend prayed that when they went to bed each night, they would sleep for 100 years. Thus, by experiencing only one day out of each century, they would not become tainted by the evils of progress. If anybody were to leave, the village would never awake again. His prayers were apparently granted.

Complications and tragedy inevitably set in. The sweet and old-fashioned beauty (to say nothing of the rich soprano voice) of village maiden Fiona MacKeith casts a powerful spell on stray 20th century American tourist Tommy Albright who happens upon Brigadoon on its day of awakening. Being a thoroughly nice and honourable sort of chap, Tommy Albright cannot yield to his new love, as he is already engaged to Jane, a million worlds away back in hometown New York. Tommy sadly says goodbye to Brigadoon and returns to New York, where he finds that the stylishly modern Jane has lost all appeal. Sadly, Fiona and her quaint highland village seem forever lost to him in the remote



mists of time. A happy ending does not seem possible, but lo! The power of love brings yet another miracle.

"Brigadoon" is rich in soundscapes. From the noisy village market to the sad lament of the lone piper, the vivacious wedding celebration to the cheerless plight of two lost hikers, the bright lights of New York to the heathery wilds of the Scottish highlands—it's as full of contrast and wonderful music as anybody could wish.

"Brigadoon" is clearly a director's delight, and Lynne Counsel's expert hand and evident enjoyment were clearly

stamped on this production.

A director's delight, yet a producer's nightmare.

Requirements such as comprehensive scenery changes and specific historical Scottishness (right down to appropriate tartans and once commonplace but now hard-to-find items such as milk churns and handcarts) would have provided a few challenging moments.

Dianne Richter led a commendable effort. The Scottish and American brogues were obviously a compromise (I doubt if even a Scot these days could

comprehend the highland dialect of the 1740s) but this was effectively done with no noticeable lapses.

The main roles were generally well-cast. Susanna Wailes was delightful as Fiona MacKeith, and Graham Ford's rich baritone voice lent the role of Tommy Albright some real substance. Their duets together ("The heather on the hill", "Almost like being in love" and "From this day on") were simply gorgeous.

Geoff Collier played the part of Jeff, Tommy's wisecracking sidekick, with an expertise derived (according to his

bio) from a lifetime of clowning around on stage. His character was in grave danger of taking over the show, as he had most of the best lines. Likewise, the most flamboyant female character was the redoubtable Meg (portrayed with great enthusiasm by Christine Keys), an outrageous man-chaser. Unfortunately Meg's main solo got rather lost between the stage and the audience.

Dance forms an integral part of "Brigadoon"—notable scenes included the wedding party, the Sword Dance and the soulful solo of Maggie, a grieving village maiden. Julie Geddes brought the choreography to life despite having an uneven talent base to work from. Her own dancing in the role of Jean MacKeith, village bride, was outstanding.

The village bridegroom, Charlie Cameron, has some sweet tenor singing to do ("I'll go home with Bonnie Jean" and "Come to me, bend to me"); Darren Rosenfeld made a pleasant Charlie although unfortunately his voice did not carry well.

In something of a subplot, Harry Ritchie, a passionately unhappy young man (played with great feeling by Lucas Richter), comes to a sorry end trying to escape the village confines. The strength of peripheral characters such as dominie Mr Murdoch (Gerard Fullarton) and Donald Ritchie (Malcolm Wilton) added depth and veracity to the production.

One of the most shining aspects of "Brigadoon" was the chorus work. This is not entirely unexpected from the Diamond Valley Singers, whose other performance programs focus on classical oratorio and choral works such as Orff's "Carmina Burana". "Brigadoon" was accompanied and mostly well-supported by the Diamond Valley and Eltham Community Orchestra under the capable baton of Mary Wright.

Last but absolutely not least, piper Andrew Marshall from the City of Melbourne Highland Pipe Band firmly cemented the highland atmosphere and completely stole the show. I only wish we had thought to wear our kilts!

Learning about secret bridesmaids' business



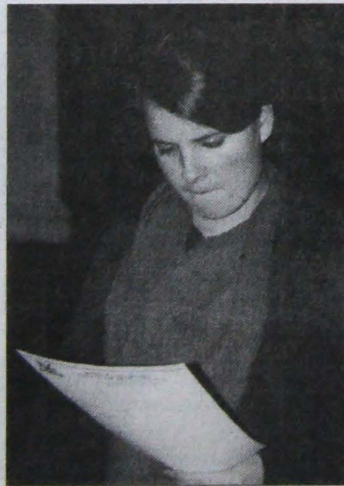
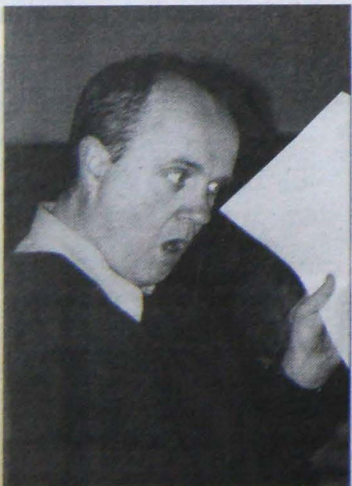
We know all about pre-wedding bucks' parties, but what do the girls get up to on the night before the big day? Find out at the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute Hall next month. Warrandyte Theatre Company is presenting "Secret Bridesmaids' Business", a comedy by Elizabeth Coleman, directed by Phyl Swindley.

"It is the night before Meg's wedding," a WTC spokesperson told the *Diary*.

"Meg and her bridesmaids are planning to kick up their heels as the final hours before the big day ticks down. However, not everything goes to plan as a last-minute scandal threatens to ruin the whole affair."

This "seriously funny play" will be staged on September 9, 10, 11, 16, 17 and 18. Tickets \$15 (concession \$10). Bookings through Joan Rogers at the Old Bakery Cottage Bookshop, 9844 1744.

IAN CRAIG took these pix at a recent rehearsal.



"Please Sir, may I have more?" So pleaded Oliver Twist in Charles Dickens' masterpiece novel.

Renowned for their productions, Warrandyte High School will be "offering more" when they bring Lionel Bart's equally famous musical theatre version—"Oliver!"—to the stage, opening on Wednesday, August 25.

"Following the success of last year's 'Pippin', 'Oliver!' has enticed the best talents, from experienced to novice," director Chris White told the *Diary*.

Performers include Liam Gough as

Fagin, Callan Hales as Oliver, Kate Burns as Nancy, Damian McLean as Bill Sikes, Ashlee Noble as The Artful Dodger, Lachlan Ruthven as Mr Bumble, Jess Chandler as Widow Corney, Shane Pritchard and Jen Dix as Mr and Mrs Sowerberry. They are ably supported by a chorus of 35.

The show will be staged at the Warrandyte High School Theatre, Alexander Road, on August 25, 26, 27, 28; and September 1, 2, 3 and 4.

"Don't miss out on this one," Chris White said. "Tickets are selling fast." To book call 9844 2749.

Yarra history on film

As part of its continuing efforts to make local film history more accessible to the public, ScreenSound Australia, the National Screen and Sound Archive, has over the past year been focussing its attention on the Yarra River as filmed over the past century. They have produced a video covering the river from its source down as far as the Studley Park boat-house with considerable footage of the Warrandyte area. Copies are available from the Warrandyte Museum or the Post Office.



Includes Tim Burstall's award-winning short feature *The Prize*

E EXEMPT FROM CLASSIFICATION



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.

Fundraiser

The Warrandyte Festival Committee and the Warrandyte Community Association are joining forces to present a Festival Fundraiser, to be held at Andersons Creek Primary School on Saturday, August 21, from 7pm to midnight. Featuring a wide range of local entertainers, plus auctions and raffles, the cost is \$15 per person, BYO supper and drinks. The organisers suggest you organise tables of eight or 10, or they can arrange them for you. Bookings through Joan Rogers at the Old Bakery Cottage Bookshop; further information from Judy Finger at 9844 3150.

Bampi

Warrandyte Historical Society is seeking information regarding the Warrandyte Primary School magazine "Bampi". Copies from 1972 to 1975 are on file but the existence of issues before or after this time is unclear. If anyone can help please call Gina Bevan-Jones on 9844 3662.

Mosaic

The ARBIAS art group, one of the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House's weekly creative art therapy classes, has been working all year on a mosaic bird-

bath under the direction of Carolyn Noel. Now nearly complete it will be auctioned before the end of the year to help raise the necessary finance to keep the group going. You are invited to visit Neighbourhood House at the community centre and see the work in progress.

Cameron

Are you a member of Clan Cameron? A fourth edition of Cameron Genealogies, a collection of family histories of Cameron families in Australia and their descendants is now being prepared. They would like to hear of any family members who are interested in having their branch of the family included or who wish to know if their family is already recorded. Please contact Robert S. Cameron, 256 Leura Mall, Leura, NSW, 2780 or email rcam.111@bigpond.net.au.

AGM

Information Warrandyte will be holding its 17th annual general meeting on Thursday, August 26 at 8pm in the Warrandyte Community Centre. Refreshments will be served at 7.30. All are welcome.

Memorial

A memorial to former head ranger at Warrandyte State Park, Matt le Duc, who died last year has been unveiled in the park at Stane Brae. It is a memorial seat made of recycled timbers by local resident Ken MacMahon and overlooks the river at one of Matt's favourite spots.

Neighbours

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House wishes to inform the community that their annual general meeting will be held at their premises in the Warrandyte Community Centre on Thursday, September 9 at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Memorabilia

St John Ambulance are seeking memorabilia, by loan or donation, for their museum, located in Williamstown. St John Ambulance played an important role serving the Australian community from the early colonial era, through the two world wars to recent times. If you can help, please contact Jack Blackstock on 9391 1313. They are also seeking volunteers for their Vis-



Exhibition

Diary cartoonists Syd Tunn and Ona Henderson are showing their works at an exhibition at the Evelyn County Estate Gallery, 55 Eltham-Yarra Glen Road, Kangaroo Ground until Sunday, August 29. The exhibition includes paintings, drawings and printmaking.

Songs

"September Song" is a concert in cabaret, performed by the Eltham Concert Band, conducted by Barry McKimm. Performances on Saturday, September 4 at 7pm and Sunday, September 5, 2pm at the Eltham Community Centre in Pitt Street. BYO drinks and nibbles.

Ikona

Ikona is a photographic representation by visual artist Georgia Metaxas of aspects of the significant contribution made to Melbourne life by the Greek community. Manningham Gallery, Doncaster Road, until Saturday, August 28.

Stonehouse

The current exhibition at Stonehouse Gallery features a fantasy children's story on a magic carpet. Penny Cearns and Jan O'Neill, Michelle Muschkulnig and Margaret Perry have explored the theme in clay textiles and mixed media.

iting Friends program, helping older people in the community. Call Jim Humphrey on 9736 2130.

Festival

The annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Festival Committee will be held at the Warrandyte Community Centre, 168 Yarra Street on Wednesday, September 8 at 8pm. Enquiries: John Boyle on 9844 3128.

Seminar

On Thursday, September 2, Dr Suzie Moore will discuss "Wetland Ecology and Management" at the monthly Manningham Environment Seminar to be held at the Function Room, Grand Hotel, Warrandyte commencing at 7.30pm. Dr Moore is a director of Ecos Environmental Consulting. Her doctoral research focused on the ecology of herbivorous Australian waterbirds. The seminars are free with supper provided.

Newsletters

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

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GARDEN MAINTENANCE: Mowing, grass cutting, weeding, pruning, planting and decorating. Covering the local and surrounding areas of Warrandyte. Phone Nicole 9844 1467.

BARGAIN: Holden Astra hatch. Manual. Good cond, 1987, \$1250. 0438 089 535.

SUGARLOAF ELECTRICS: REC 13207. Prompt service. Reasonable rates. Ring John 9844 2816 or 0407 094 965. No job too small.

WANTED: Used electric potter's wheel in GC. 9879 9197.

IYENGAR YOGA: Mon 6.30-8pm — ongoing classes for experienced students. 8-9.15pm — Beg Course. Enquiries: Paula 0425 759 823.

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AGISTMENT AVAILABLE: North Warrandyte. Small paddock, fully fenced. \$5 per week. 9844 2900.

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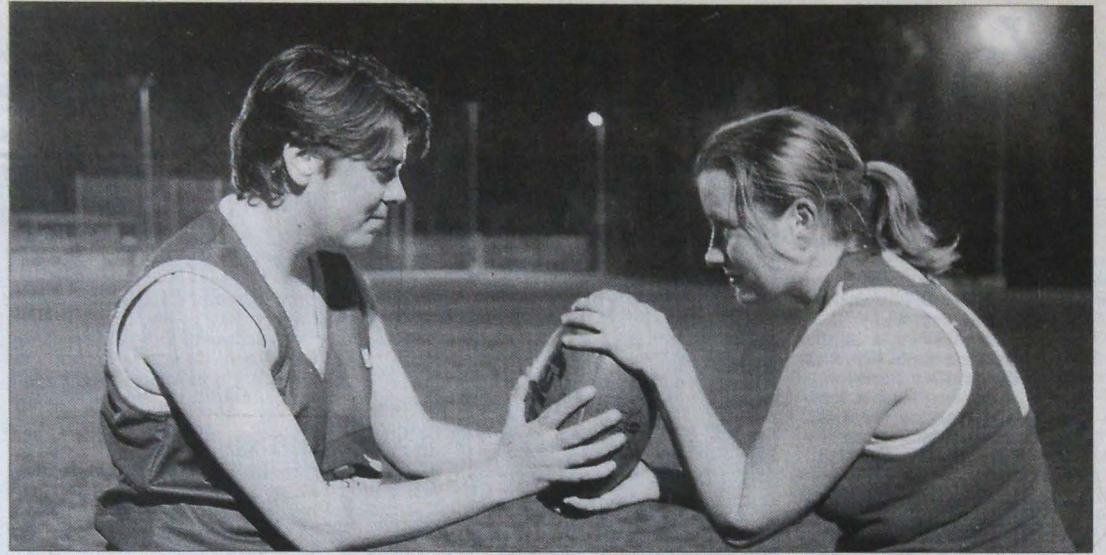
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Giving civil war the boot!



Rival captains Aimee McKelvie (Warrandyte, right) and Fern Brady face off before the big game.

Pictures: GAVIN ANDREW
(www.gavind.com.au)
Words: SMOKEY JOE

There had been no doubting the success of the annual footy matches under lights between the Warrandyte Football Club girls and their Grand Hotel counterparts.

Big, enthusiastic, well-oiled crowds at both games and charity the big winner, last year's event raising almost \$5000 for Kids With Cancer. But setting mate against mate — albeit just once a year and for infinitely worthy causes — was threatening to strain relations and the competitive spirit was not always left on the field.

Whoa!
"Why not," some sage suggested, "field a combined team to beat the knickers off some out-of-town opposition?" Or words to that effect.

Brilliant! So the scouts were despatched and came up with the Eastern Gully Lions. They might have aimed a little lower because the Lions ladies are the real deal, fair dinkum competitors in Division 2 of the Victorian Women's Football Association.

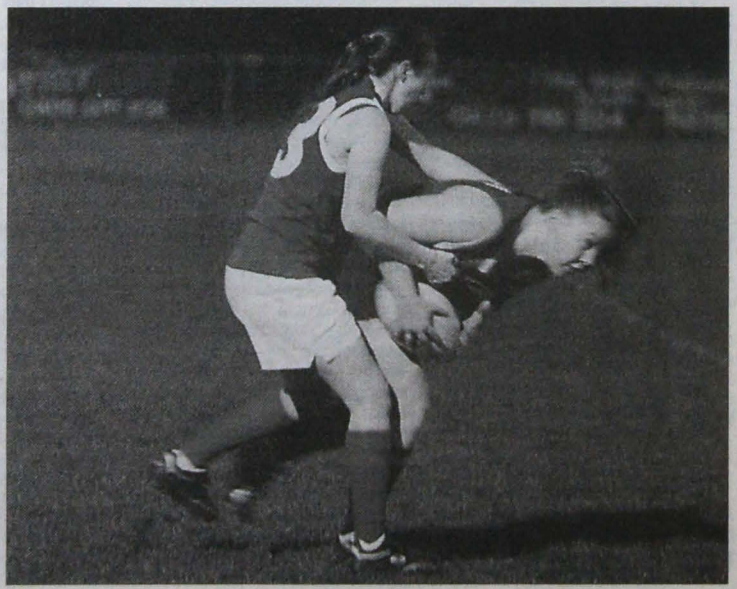
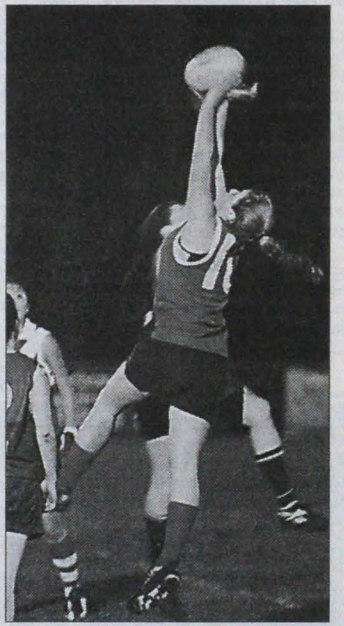
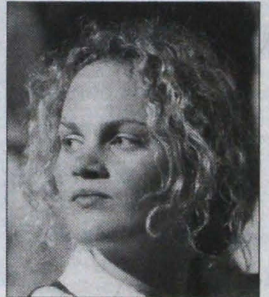
Not that it fazed our girls, who gave it their all under the tutelage of WFC reserves coach David Young at the recreation reserve on the very cold night of July 17.

No, they didn't win, but if they lacked a little science, they had any amount of dash. The Lions flew the starting blocks and led all the way for a 22-point win, 5.7 (37) to 2.3 (15).

The game was played with bodies (and very admirable bodies at that) on the line, bump for bump and in excellent spirit.

Warrandyte's best were Jillian Rough, Mellisa Lynch and Rachel Treeby. Best of the winners were captain-coach Fern Brady, Mellisa Kuys and Michelle Herbert.

This time, the proceeds stayed in town, going to the North Warrandyte CFA for its planned relocation from Glynn's Road to the new North Warrandyte Community Centre complex.



Redbacks line up the finals

By TONY OLIVER

Round 14 of the Eastern District Saturday junior basketball competition was completed on August 7, Warrandyte teams consolidating their positions or making charges for a place in the finals starting at the end of the month.

The Under-17 boys coached by Gavan Hennessy came up against bottom-placed Koonung at Warrandyte High School, the local side looking for a percentage booster and having an outside chance of grabbing top spot in the BA grade. The result was never in doubt, with Koonung able to field only four players. However both teams put on a highly entertaining display of skill, especially after half-time.

Final score was 66-37 Warrandyte's way, Koonung just taking the second-half points with a spectacular display right on the buzzer.

Warrandyte, though, were far more skilful, Grant Godwin top-scoring with 20 points (including four three-pointers), followed by Cameron Rappell and Josh Collins with 10 each.

Damian Arsenis' Under-9 A-grade boys took on fourth-placed Park Orchards and put in another brilliant game.

The last position in the finals was up for grabs and Park Orchards would have been confident after drawing with Warrandyte when last they met.

But this was to be the Redbacks' day. They led 12-4 at the break and scored the opening basket of the second half when Tim Apostolidies found home on a fast break. Apostolidies was quickly in the thick of it again, passing off to Jack Cousens for a swish to put the game beyond Park Orchards' reach.

Warrandyte went on to win 27-11 and reclaim fourth place. Apostolidies top-scored for Warrandyte with seven, followed by Cousens with six and Trent Arnold, Michael Holloway and Ryan Tester each with four.

"I was worried by the unavailability of Jake Wintle," Arsenis said after the game, "but the boys all stepped up. Park Orchards never had an easy shot and it was probably the best game I have seen Michael Ryan play."

Nick Peters' Under-19 girls were at home to Balwyn. Ladder finishes were not a major consideration here because Balwyn will finish on top of the ladder while Warrandyte are assured of a top-two finish in B-

grade. Pride was on the line, however, as these two teams have been very competitive over a number of years.

Warrandyte opened well and held a 8-5 break, including a trademark three-point effort by Kim Singh, before Balwyn settled down to take the lead late in the first half.

Neither side were able to apply much scoreboard pressure and two free throws to Nicola Crisp kept the Redbacks right in the hunt, trailing by just a point.

Balwyn got the final baskets of the half to take a 17-10 lead at the break and looked to have the game in the bag with a 32-22 advantage with just over four minutes to go.

Warrandyte had scored the last four points and Balwyn were reduced to four players when one of their number was fouled off.

Georgina Smith scored from a Kim Singh pass and when Singh dropped another three-point shot an upset was right on the cards.

Anna Middleton reduced the margin to three points with a shot from the edge of the key and Balwyn were struggling to retain possession. A turnover to Singh on the halfway line and



"Now hear this, boys ..." Coach Greg Pearson addresses his troops in the Under-9 C-grade game against Ivanhoe, which Warrandyte won 5-2. Baskets are pretty hard to come by when you're that little.

Grand days at the stadium

It's Grandparents Day for the Warrandyte Redbacks Basketball Association on August 14 and 21.

The kids are encouraged to invite their grandparents or other special people along to the Warrandyte Community Sports Centre to see them in action and enjoy coffee, tea and biscuits supplied by the Redbacks.

The initiative will become an annual event on the last two days of the winter season.

a score from the fast break made it a one-point ball game with a little over 90 seconds to go.

Warrandyte were in foul trouble now and Balwyn got a slight respite with one from two from the charity stripe, which was quickly negated by Singh in similar fashion.

The final 30 seconds belonged to Warrandyte's Jana Sadek, who put pressure on the Balwyn ball carrier close to the sideline to force the turnover

and was able to sink the basket with a lay-up to give the Redbacks the narrowest of leads.

Balwyn had possession from the end ball and there was time enough for one final shot. The ball was quickly moved down the court, but Sadek intercepted the long ball to give the Redbacks possession.

The final buzzer sounded with Warrandyte in offence and a 34-33 scoreline in their favour. After the excitement of that

thriller, coach Peters was again in action with his Under-17 A-grade girls playing Bulleen.

Unfortunately, this would be no repeat of the earlier game, Warrandyte outclassed 58-20 after trailing 32-11 at the break.

The Redbacks opened the scoring through centre Jess Solty but thereafter it was an exhibition game by Bulleen, led by their guard Janelle Lucas, who scored 26 points.

Solty led the scoring for Warrandyte with 11 from Lindel Thomas with six and Chelsea Crisp with three.

In a lower grade, Warrandyte's Under-13 girls coached by Katie Bottomley defeated the Nunawading Vikings 21-17. An injury to Nicolette Prior meant the girls could field only five players.

This win maintained their place in the top four and if they are able to retain this position, they are real chances for a blue flag in September in this even B-grade competition.

Lorraine's littlies big on ability



Above: Jack Cousens before Warrandyte's Under-9 game against Park Orchards, the Redbacks prevailing 27-11 to regain fourth spot in the Saturday competition and Cousens contributing six points. Below: Coaches Jess Solty (at back) and Andrea Peters and their Under-13 girls discuss the game plan before the encounter with Bulleen, who won 16-8.



By TORI OLIVER and NICK PETERS

Warrandyte's irrepressible Under-12 girls continued to rule their roost in the Friday night championship basketball season with an all-the-way win over Nunawading on August 7.

The top-of-the-ladder Redbacks, coached by Lorraine Parfitt, won 23-11 at the Warrandyte Community Sports Centre, setting the pattern with the first basket of the match from Amber Saunders.

Strong full-court man-on-man defence had the pressure on Nunawading from the outset and the visitors called a time out after six minutes with Warrandyte up 5-0.

Nunawading made their first impression on the scoreboard when play resumed, but the Redbacks responded immediately.

The tight Warrandyte defence

Trying times for 2005

Warrandyte will hold try-outs for the 2005 season of Friday night junior championship basketball on August 29 and September 5.

The competition is an opportunity for players to develop their skills against some of the best competition in Victoria. Expressions of interest should be made to Nick Peters on 9846 1516.

Competition ages will be from Under-12 (sometimes Under-11) to Under-18 in both boys and girls. Age dates are as of December 31 2005.

was forcing plenty of turnovers but the conversion rate left a lot to be desired. Still, the home side took a very handy 12-5 lead into the break.

The second half saw Warrandyte put up many more shots without getting anything like full value.

Continued tight defence, a skilful steal followed by a top lay-up from Hannah Davis secured Warrandyte's victory.

The scoring was shared around, Saunders collecting five points and Davis and Eleanor Cousens with four each.

Jenni O'Brien's Under-14 Metro 2 girls, confidence boosted by their third win of the season — a 43-39 result against Melbourne — faced Cranbourne, who still had an outside chance of making the finals.

The first half was close, with goals going Warrandyte's way thanks to some great shots from Courtney Petalas.

However, Cranbourne were able to penetrate the Redbacks' defence, took the lead late in the first half and went in with a 26-22 advantage despite some fine rebounds and inside shots from Myka Johnston and Ashlee O'Brien.

Cranbourne extended their lead to 10 points early in the second half, but Warrandyte were not going down without a fight and impressive all-round play from Kirra Solty helped to peg the visitors back.

The last three minutes were tense and action-packed. With 1:40 on the clock, Petalas sank a spectacular outside shot to level at 40-all, but Cranbourne regained the lead with another goal from Brellan Williams, their main shooter.

Warrandyte guard Cassie Wilson was fouled going for a shot and sank one from two — but Cranbourne were now in possession and ran down the last 30 seconds of the game to win 42-41.

Solty led the scoring for the Redbacks with 12 points, followed by O'Brien with 11 and Petalas with eight.

The last game of the night looked a forgone conclusion for second-placed Eltham 7 against Ian Wood's Under-16 boys, second-last on the Eastern Qualifying ladder.

But the favourites were in for a few surprises, Warrandyte going basket for basket with them and never more than two points adrift in an excellent first half.

Warrandyte worked very well as a team, their strong, quick passing throwing the tall and tough Eltham defence and producing a few inside shots.

Matthew Peters was strong inside the key and the Redbacks trailed by just two points, 23-21, at half-time.

Eltham came out firing after the break, increasing their lead to 13 points. But this period of play also produced some of Warrandyte's best work, with Gavin Yates doing everything right and Sam Hardy reducing the input of Eltham tall Elliot Jennings from 10 points in the first half to just one in the second.

Warrandyte drew level with a swish from Peter Whittingham, but Eltham pulled ahead to open the gap to seven points.

Again, Warrandyte stepped up the intensity and cut the deficit to four, but there was to be no fairytale result. Eltham drawing away in the closing minutes for a final scoreline of 43-31.

In an away result, Nick Peters' Under-18 Metro 3 girls had a comfortable 35-23 win over Melton at Coburg.

The game started at a dawdling pace, but the Redbacks were first to move into gear and established an early lead which Melton never really looked like reeling in.

All the Warrandyte players scored, with Andrea Peters and Nicole Dadswell leading the way.

Damian Arsenis' Under-12 boys were nine-point winners on the road against Sherbrooke and Steve Camms Under-18 boys stayed in the hunt for a finals spot with a 48-28 win against Caulfield.

Hawks aim to fly high

By LEE TINDALE

South Warrandyte Cricket Club begin their 2004-05 campaign with a new coach, new clubrooms and anticipation of a much-improved season in the Ringwood district's elite Chandler Shield competition.

The Hawks, who finished last but one on their Chandler debut last season, have entrusted 21-year-old fast bowler Steve Barrett with the task of leading them up the ladder.

He succeeds veteran RDCA identity Bob Neagle and will be assisted by Chad Rogers, recruited from Montrose.

"Realistically, we are aiming for a top-six finish," SWCC president Barry Williams told the *Diary*.

South Warrandyte will field four senior and seven junior sides in the new season. "Numbers at the club are good, we've recruited well and enthusiasm is high," Williams said.

"Thanks to Manningham council, the extensive renovations of our clubrooms will be finished early next month, well in advance of the start of the season in October and we are looking to a big year both on and off the field.

"Further down the track, the council will be making big im-

provements — including the installation of a reticulated watering system — to our Colman Park ground in 2005.

"They have been very good to us."

Indoor training begins for the Hawks on August 16 at the Top Line centre in Elsum Avenue, Bayswater.

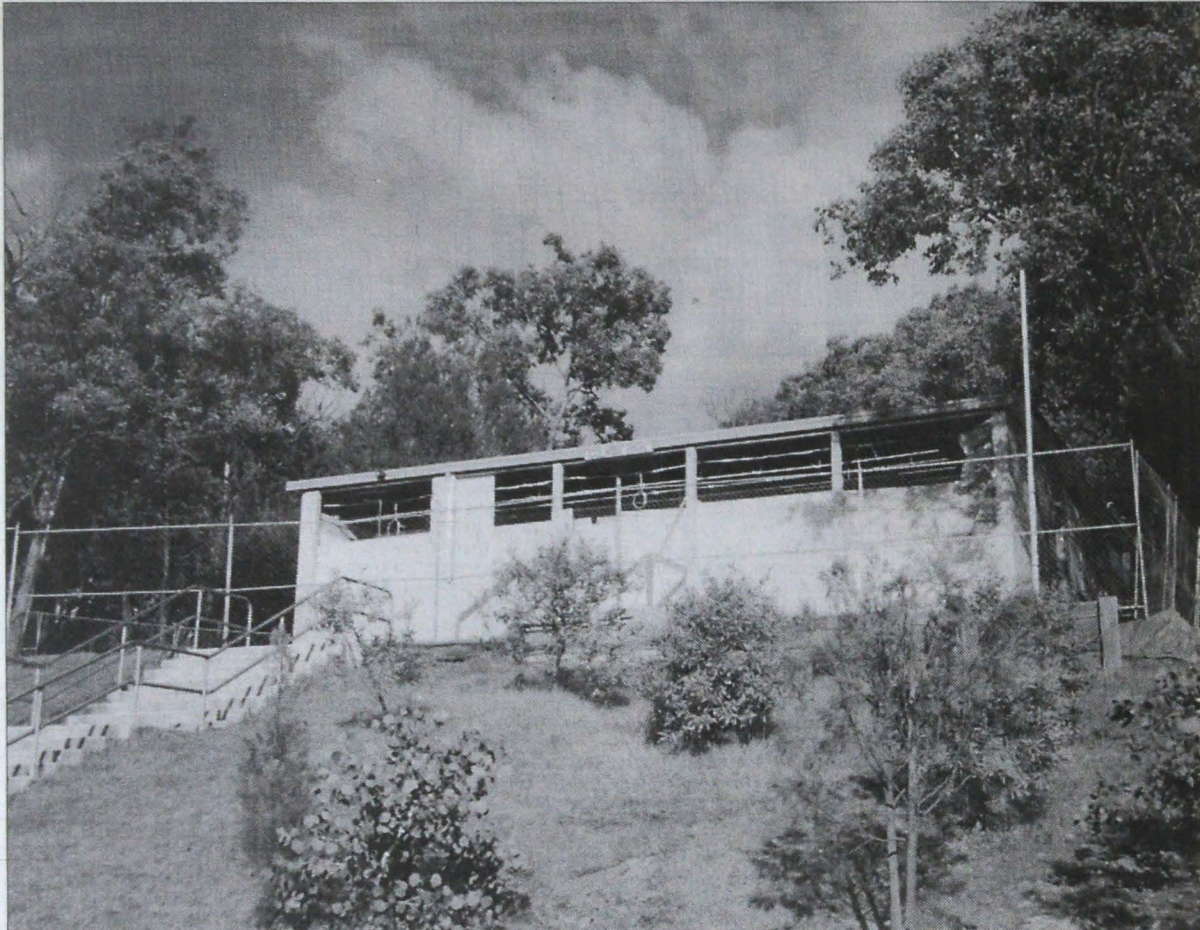
"Anyone who'd like to play for us, in any grade, is very welcome to simply turn up at training or phone me on 9876 4020 or 0409 794084," Williams said.

Junior registration will be held at the clubrooms on Wednesday, August 25, from 6pm.

The club will also run the Milo Have A Go program for five to nine-year-olds in the coming season. It will be held at 9.30 Sunday mornings, starting in late October and junior coordinator Megan Price is seeking maximum participation.

She can be contacted on 9725 1152.

Williams is presiding over the club for the second year. The other office-bearers are Peter Riley (vice-president, former premiers captain-coach), Scott Brasher (secretary), Peter Debenham (treasurer) and Darren Johnson (social secretary).



South Warrandyte's Colman Park pavilion gets a thorough and much-needed makeover.

Success breeds a crowd

Warrandyte Cricket Club's 2004-05 campaign has got off to a positive start with 28 players attending the first pre-season indoor training session.

"We have never had such a pre-season roll-up," said club president Robert White.

"It is a clear indication that there has been a great resurgence in cricket in Warrandyte over the past couple of years.

"It is particularly encouraging as this season marks the 150th anniversary of the club and we want to make it as successful as we can."

Last season, three of Warrandyte's four senior teams played off in the finals with the First XI going down in the grand final.

The club also had two teams in the junior finals, with the Under-13s winning the premiership.

"We want to build on our performances last season and there is a real air of excitement already," White said.

"It's too early to make a final commitment just yet but it is possible that we may be able to field a fifth senior side."

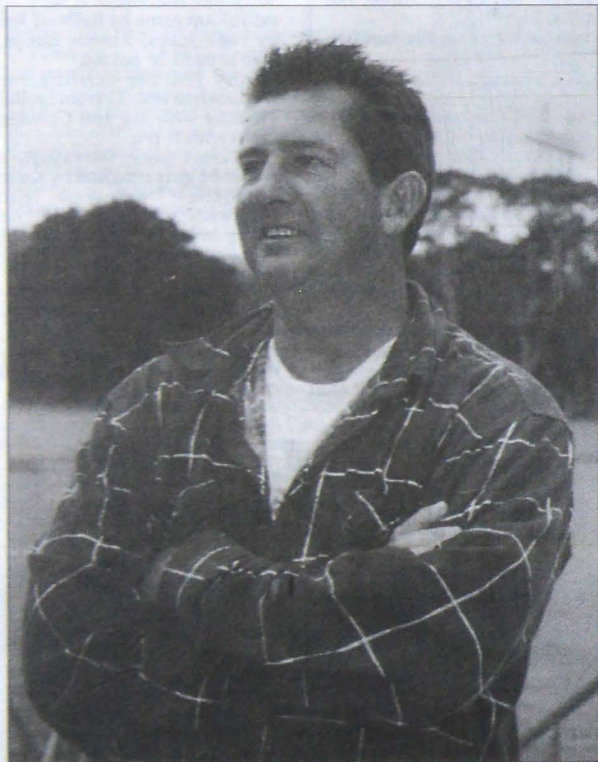
Pre-season training will continue on Monday nights at 7.30 at the Maddocks Indoor Cricket Centre in Mary Street, Blackburn, until the end of August.

New players wanting to join the club can contact chairman of selectors John Chapman on 9844 3058.

● Warrandyte's junior registration day will be at the Taroona Avenue clubrooms on Sunday, August 29, from 10am to noon.

"If you would like a game of cricket and to be part of this special year for our club, please come along," said junior coordinator Lee Dehmel.

"Should you be unable to make it on the day, please call me on 9844 2834 and I'll gladly help you with any inquiries," he said.



At the Hawks helm: President Barry Williams (above) and new coach Steve Garrett (below).



Jason's back in town!

Jason Stoltenberg (above), one of Australia's best known tennis players, will play an exhibition match at Warrandyte Tennis Club on Sunday, September 5 at 11am.

Also in action will be club coach Aaron Nolan and some of the country's top junior players.

The match will highlight the final session of the completion of the club's Supersmashers

program for beginners which is currently running on Sundays.

Stoltenberg was a regular visitor to the Warrandyte courts in the mid-1980s, competing in legs of the Satellite tournament hosted by the club. He last played here in 1987 when, as a 17-year-old, he reached the semi-final of the singles and won the doubles in partnership with Todd Woodbridge.

Bloods bide their time

By LEE TINDALE

Warrandyte Football Club's 2004 season ends at home to Nunawading on August 14 with EFL Third Division status intact and a future full of promise.

The Bloods laid any threat of relegation to rest with an 11-point win over the cellar-dwelling Waverley Blues here on July 31, a result which lifted them from ninth of 10 to seventh on the ladder.

They were no match for finals contenders Doncaster East in the mud away on August 7, but if they can account for ninth-placed Nunawading will finish with seven wins from their 18 games.

That's a better result than many would have expected at the start of the season when Warrandyte launched a rebuilding campaign based on home-grown youth.

If they can come up with some much-needed height and bulk in the off-season they could put quite a team on the paddock in 2005.

The season fell a few wins short of new coach Ash Hamilton's plans. "We'd divided the first 16 games into four sets of four," he said, "and hoped to win two of each set and our last two."

"When it became clear that we were not going to make the finals, part of our policy was to have each player — particularly the younger players — focus on the two key areas of their game which they considered most needed improvement."

Hamilton is keen to coach the Bloods again next year to fur-

SPORT

ther develop what he started this season.

"I have a two-year deal with the club with a vision of three," he said. "I'll be sitting down with them soon to discuss things."

WFC president Phil Treeby saw the season as an indicator of much better things to come.

"I thought we did extremely well, given the lack of physical size and the youth of our team," he said.

"The kids came of age and did themselves proud in the way they took it up to the bigger, more experienced sides. But for their commitment and determination we would have finished in a much worse position."

"I believe we'll be a much better team next season."

Warrandyte rated themselves chances against fifth-placed Doncaster East, who had been belted by 13 goals by the Waverley Blues two rounds earlier in the upset of the season. And things started promisingly enough with the first goal of the game, a minute in, from Brian Elliott, a seniors debutant who had put together a string of impressive performances in the Reserves.

But Warrandyte goals thereafter were going to be at a premium.

It took the home side seven minutes to get on to the board with a behind and 14 minutes to get their noses in front.

But there were already worrying signs for the Warrandyte faithful. Doncaster East were dominating the air and making



Here are six very good reasons to suggest that the future of senior football in this town is in the best of young hands. These are the "Baby Bloods" — left to right, Michael Morello, Rene Pidgeon (at back), Ricky Bourke, Tom Naughtin, Josh Eyre and Tom

Urbano — all products of the junior football club thrust into the big time this season as the senior side was rebuilt. Each has been a revelation — and just watch 'em go next year with a season's senior experience under their belts. Picture: Dennis J. Hoiberg.

the play with slick handball in the heavy conditions.

They ran to a 14-point lead before Elliott snapped his second goal at the 23-minute mark to send us into the first change with a 10-point deficit, 3.6 (24) to 2.2 (14).

Hamilton told his players in the huddle that this was going to be a four-quarter arm wrestle and they must go long and direct.

Unfortunately, we were never allowed to go long enough in the second term to add to our quarter-time score.

Doncaster East completely dominated the quarter, booting 6.4 to zilch. How embarrassing

was that — although it was by no means the first time this season that we'd turned in a scoreless session of football.

But if the second term belonged to the home side, the third belonged to the Bloods — in the field of play but not, alas, on the scoreboard.

Warrandyte had much the better of it, tackling fiercely and forcing the ball forward. If only we'd kicked straight there might have been life in this game yet. But golden opportunities up front went begging and 1.6 was our go for a very attacking term, the goal coming from James Logan 19 minutes in.

Doncaster East, on the other

hand, grabbed two straight goals from their few forward thrusts.

At the last change it was 11.11 (77) to 3.8 (26) and Hamilton spoke of respectability. He begged his players to replicate their third quarter, to give themselves plenty to take into their "grand final" next week against Nunawading.

Not to be. Doncaster East goaled within a minute to set us right back on our heels and picked up three more (at four, eight and 27 minutes). They were punctuated by Elliott's third goal, from a free with the quarter 16 minutes old.

Final score was Doncaster

Death of a champ

Warrandyte in general and its football community in particular were saddened by the death on August 1 of Geoff Beatt.

Geoff, a cancer victim, was 50. He died just a few weeks after marrying for the second time.

A natural all-round sportsman, Geoff was a home-grown champion footballer whose achievements were recognised by a place in Warrandyte Football Club's Team of the 1960s.

He played his first senior game for Warrandyte at age 15 — in the same team as his father Austin.

Geoff had been involved in the family rubbish collection business in Warrandyte and later drove tourist coaches and semi-trailers. He was living at Chirnside Park at the time of his death.

East 15.16 (106), Warrandyte 4.11 (35).

The Bloods' best were Matt Wood, Elliott, Tom Naughtin and Dale Vitoritti. And their goalkickers? That was easy: Elliott 3, Logan.

The Reserves' finals campaign ended with 39-point defeat by unbeaten Doncaster East, 11.5 (71) to 4.8 (32). Their best were Tahn Reid, Ashley Gryabs and Travis Brogan.

Our finals-bound Under-18s combine with Heathmont lost only their fifth game of the season, going down by 17 points to Forest Hill and best served by Matt Munroe, John Kunsden, Shaun Leech and Lee Evans.

What price a hat-trick of flags?

By DENNIS J. HOIBERG

Warrandyte Junior Football Club will send three teams into the Yarra league finals, which start on August 15.

The Under-17 Colts, Under-12s and Under-10s finished the home-and-away season second, second and top of the ladder respectively, giving the club every chance of achieving multiple premierships.

After a sluggish start to the season, Mathew Matheou's Colts came home with the proverbial wet sail. Strong wins over fourth-placed Beverley Hills and Bundoora (by 41 points) in the last two rounds have the team counting down the hours to finals action.

"They have that winning feeling and are playing with a great degree of confidence and spirit," said team manager and club secretary Kevin O'Mara.

"The boys have come together really well and we look forward to the continued leadership in the finals of such players as Stephen Christopher, Dylan Matheou, Rob Illingworth, Joe O'Mara, Dion Mullett Treloar, Jared Fitzpatrick, Shaun Carter and Hamish Hosking."

The Under-10s bounced back from a 14-point loss to second-placed Bulleen Templestowe in Round 15 to defeat Beverley Hills Blue by 13 points and take top spot on their ladder.

Coach Greg Edwards feels the recent loss may have had a positive impact on the team.

"With 12 wins out of a possible 14, some of the boys could have already played the finals in their heads," he said. "That loss was a timely reminder that we had to take one game at a time and that we were the hunted — not the hunters."

"Players like Jacob Ballard, Ryan Exon, Jarrod Buzzini, Neil Brown, Sam Holston and James Munks must continue to perform to their full potential



Warrandyte's all-conquering Under-10s — top of the ladder, now for the premiership.

and concentrate on our game plan. If we can do this, then we are confident of premiership glory."

First-year coach Chris Appleby had an agonising wait before confirming that his Under-12s would play in the finals.

A 19-point loss to Richmond in Round 14 was a setback, but a 61-point victory against Bundoora set the team up for a must win game against second-placed Banyule in the last round.

"The boys were primed for a big one in the last round and rose to the occasion magnificently," said team manager Paul Van der Zant.

"They responded to the challenge and played very well to win by 38 points, 8.6 to 2.4. It enabled us to take second spot on percentage."

"I'll eat my shorts if this team do not go on and achieve great things in future seasons," he said.

"Players such as Ethan Hale Vaughan, Luke Wright, Jake Van der Zant, Luke Costin and

Cameron Ventura will really make names for themselves."

Shaun Wilson's Under-15s were relegated to an honourable sixth on the ladder by late-season losses to Banyule (26 points) and Park Orchards (25 points). Their last game, against Beverley Hills, produced a commanding 26-point win to finish just a game outside the top four.

Wilson felt that their mid-ranking was "probably appropriate — but we saw enough to know that they will continue to grow as footballers."

"The likes of Tim Beasley, Daniel Large, Brayden Pettigrove, Alex Beltramin and Tyson Rees have a lot to offer and, along with all the players, will use the off-season to build up their skills and strengths for next season," he said.

The Under-14's brave Gold Division experiment expired with them placed a courageous sixth but three games out of the four.

Their 11-point loss to bottom side St Mary's was the "nail in

the coffin, the one that got away," according to team manager Sharen Vaughan.

"If we'd got that one we were a chance, but it was not meant to be," she said.

"The final game, a 102-point loss to ladder leaders Canterbury 1, was a tough way for the team to finish — but the boys now know what it takes to go 16 rounds at this level and only good things can come from the season."

"Besides Tom Fitzpatrick, Ben Power and Michael Whittle, who were selected for representative duties, other players such as David Wood, Zac Boyce, Tyson Barber and Nathan Gordon stood up to be counted and what they have done this year has been inspirational."

"While I know coach Steve Blakey is disappointed with the results, he is rightfully proud of the boys and is keenly looking forward to next year."

The Under-13s had a tough season, with three draws really making the difference between their seventh place and a poten-

tial fourth spot. Their Round 15 draw (7.5 apiece) with third-placed Beverley Hills increased the frustration factor as well as demonstrating their potential.

Their last game was a 24-point win over against St Damien's.

"You make your own luck," said coach Wayne Moore, "but our season basically lived or died on a few coats of paint on the goals sticks."

"We make no excuses, but our season could have been so much different."

"I really feel for and am proud of all the players, particularly Sam Casey, Tristan Valentino, David Beasley, Sam Fisher, Robbie Bowen and Nick Moore. "All the players teamed well together and grew as a team and as individuals. Congratulations to them all."

After a stellar 2003 premiership season, the Under-11s had a horror year which ended with an 18-point loss to Ivanhoe and a 66-point defeat by Banyule.

"The thing that impressed the off-field personnel was that regardless of our 2-14 win-loss ratio, the boys never stopped smiling, were always on time for training and raring to go every Sunday," said coach Clem Mifsud.

"We had some real highlights — especially the night game — and regardless of the results they played really well."

"Players like Adam Harahap, Sam Tansley, Darcy Jones, Matthew Edwards, TJ Law are too good not to bounce back with a vengeance."

Mick's their main man

Mick Buzzini was named Clubperson of the Year at Warrandyte Junior Football Club's annual dinner dance on July 31.

President Mathew Matheou described Buzzini as the very essence of the club. "Mick is the type of person who is the first to volunteer for activities and just gets on and does things," he said.

"He is dedicated to the club and lives and breathes our values of creating a safe and nurturing environment for our players."

Steve's a stayer!



The last home-and-away round of 2004 saw Colts rover Stephen Christopher (pictured) become the first player to reach 150 games for the junior club.

Christopher has gone the full journey through the ranks, starting as an Under-9 and missing very few games.

"Stephen is known for his durability and capacity to just keep running and giving his all for the team," said Colts team manager Brad Curtis.

"He is a fine example of the type of player we have at this club."

"I would predict that his 150-game record will stand for quite some time."

Wilson McDougall

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Please call for a confidential market appraisal.

WARRANDYTE SOUTH \$540-590,000 **FOR THE CHOSEN FEW**



On a stunning acre of rolling lawns, this painstakingly renovated family home offers a lifestyle second to none. Comprising 3 dble BR, stunning bathroom, timber kitchen, generous lounge room complete with OFP and meals area. For those balmy summer nights, a private elevated entertaining deck offers views over the ranges.

After Hours: Andrew Wilson
0408 315 927

WARRANDYTE \$395,000 **AFFORDABLE LIVING**



An affordable entry into the market with this charming home offering great potential and in a handy location. With a light-filled generous family room, timber kitchen, lounge with OFP and, downstairs, a studio or family rumpus room 3BRs, bathroom and good-sized backyard. Features polished floors, ducted heating, alarm system and lockup garage.

After Hours: Anthony Hansen
0417 850 950

WARRANDYTE \$359,000 **POSITION A PRIORITY**



In a sought after area within walking distance to shops, schools and transport, this well presented home comprises 3 double BRs, spacious lounge room, modern kitchen/meals area and a large rumpus room. A double lockup garage, double carport and well established gardens make this home worthy of your inspection.

After Hours: Anthony Hansen
0417 850 950

WARRANDYTE \$433,000 **RUSTIC CHARM**



A character-filled family home in a private, yet central location on half an acre with two road frontages. Comprising three bedrooms, large refurbished bathroom, stunning new kitchen and polished hardwood floors. Features include a fireplace, a large external deck and rustic native gardens. Call today for your private inspection.

After Hours: Andrew Wilson
0408 315 927

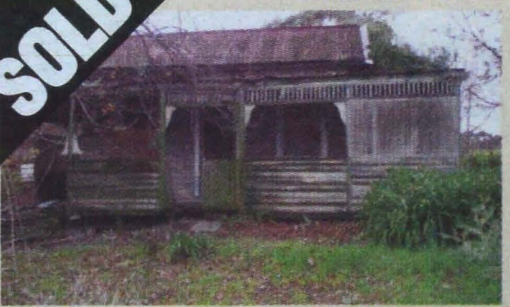
WARRANDYTE NORTH \$270,000 **AT LAST**



Overlooking the Warrandyte Village, this stunning 1600m² allotment adjoining the Yarra is one of Warrandyte's last river frontage allotments. Build your dream home only minutes walk from all facilities. In a tightly held area, this jewel in the crown will not last.

After Hours: Dominic Cruz
0409 410 161

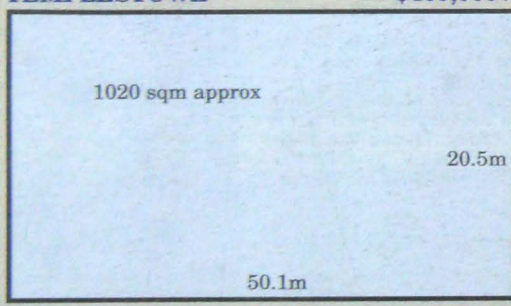
SOLD **WARRANDYTE** **SOLD IN 7 DAYS** **ONCE IN A LIFETIME**



Arguably Warrandyte's last level 1300sqm (approx.) allotment. Offering a lovely aspect, this north facing block is close to schools, shops and transport. Restore the Miners Cottage or build your dream home, the choice is yours. Often sought but seldom found. Be quick, as this block with established trees will not last.

After Hours: Andrew Wilson
0408 315 927

TEMPLESTOWE \$460,000+ **DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY**



1020 sqm approx
20.5m
50.1m

Excellent opportunity to develop this large site which has a comfortable 4BR home with dble carport, 2 bathrooms and lots more. Architecturally design plans and town planning permits to construct three residences (2 dble storey, 1 single) within walking distance to Templestowe village, Westerfolds Park and the Yarra River.

After Hours: Dominic Cruz
0409 410 161

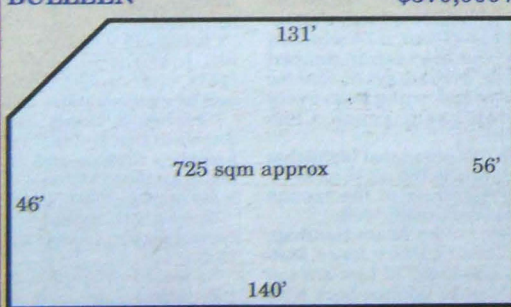
BULLEEN \$460,000+ **GOOD QUALITY GREAT POSITION**



Ideally positioned just off the freeway entrance for superb access to the CBD in 15 mins these designer townhouses ooze character and charm. Features 3 big BRs plus study (master with full ensuite), 2 bathrooms, 2 toilets, huge living zones, fully landscaped and double lockup garages.

After Hours: Dominic Cruz
0409 410 161

BULLEEN \$370,000+ **POTENTIAL DUAL OCCUPANCY**



725 sqm approx
131'
56'
46'
140'

Level block in a very sought after position/location in Bulleen, close to public transport, good access to the freeway and between Bulleen Plaza and Macedon Square. Build your dream home or develop.

After Hours: Anthony Hansen
0417 850 950

WARRANDYTE NORTH \$365,000 **BYO PAINTBRUSH**



On the banks of the Yarra River, close to the Village, this solid home in need of a "tart-up", would ideally suit the first home buyer or shrewd investor. Comprising two bedrooms, large living areas and expansive deck, offering river and mountain views.

After Hours: Andrew Wilson
0408 315 927

Supporting our local community

OPEN 7 DAYS TILL 7PM

Call us now for a FREE market appraisal



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