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By PAUL WILLIAMS



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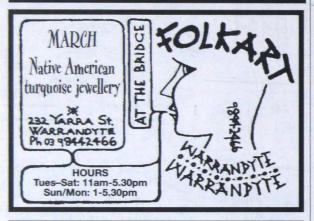
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#### Copy closes last Friday of each month

#### **OUR NEWSPAPER**

The Warrandyte Diary was established in 1970 as a small local newsletter. Although it has developed over the years, it has retained its strong community character, being produced by volunteers with only one aim: to serve its community. Financed solely through advertising, it guards its not-forprofit, 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

A SPECIAL PLACE

Warrandyte (approximate population 8000) is situated on the Yarra Riiver, 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.

### The salvation of Bruce, a swampy out of his depth

Karen Throssell is very fond of the matched pair of swamp wallabies which reside in the valley below her home in Research Road, North Warrandyte, and she doesn't even object when they make a regular meal of her roses. Karen was devastated last year Mr and Mrs Wallaby's joey drowned in her pond (she calls it The Billabong) and when she found its dad in the same spot — helpless, distressed and bloated from sucking in air and water in its struggles — a few weeks ago, she called the cavalry. Her mate Jenny Chapman arrived within minutes, but this wallaby was a minutes, but this wallaby was a big powerful critter and experienced hands were going to be needed. They came in the shape of two Wildlife Rescue girls — who immediately took to the murky water fully clothed — and Kerri Fairley, wife of local vet Derek. The combined might of these ladies did the trick. The wallaby (christened Bruce during the rescue operation) was extricated, bundled up in back of the 4WD and shipped downtown to the surgery, where Derek debloated it as only a vet can, kept an eye on it in a backyard pen and released it back into its habitat when the speedy recovery was minutes, but this wallaby was a when the speedy recovery was deemed complete. Karen knows deemed complete. Karen knows that Bruce is as fit as again because he bobbed up at her place the other day for another feed of roses. Hopefully, he's abandoned any plans to swim at the next Marsupial Olympics and will concentrate on the long jump instead.



Last month's tsunami

Last month's tsunami garage sale in the community centre foyer in aid of the tsunami victims far exceeded the expectations of its masterminds — Karen Throssell, Rae Danks, Jenny Chapman and Denise Farran. The generosity of those who donated stuff and of those who bought it was astounding who donated stuff and of those who bought it was astounding and at sale's end the tsunami victims of Sri Lanka were more than \$5000 better off. The customers were prepared to dig deep. "I couldn't possibly pay \$10 for that!" said one woman as she examined a brand-new Orrefors bowl. As the volunteer Orrefors bowl. As the volunteer salesperson was about to suggest "\$5 then?" the woman handed over \$20. Another young volunteer thought she'd found the perfect gift for her mum and excitedly presented it to her. "I thought this was just you," she said. "It is," said Mum. "I donated it!" Then there was









Karen Throssell and a swamp wallaby not at all dissimilar

the woman who snapped up 30,000 yen worth of Japanese wedding kimono for \$80 and persuaded her man to put it on persuaded her man to put it on and pose for photographs on the stairs. He mentioned some-thing about a fate most foul be-falling your columnist should one of the pictures find its way on to this page. But, gee, we wouldn't do anything to embar-rass anyone. Would we?



For a bloke who bleats about being overexposed in this column, Neil Dusting sure goes to lengths to make himself conspicuous. Neil was kind enough to email us a par for last month's edition about Pam Booth mistaking the TV remote control for the mobile phone and grateful as we were for his contribution, we couldn't resist remarking about the paucity of his spelling. He has responded thus: "y wood eye wont two involv me in such a boreing exersise as riting lethers. al im triin two doo is help mak sum off yore stories interestin. Its amazin the truble u have with trew stories compered two your mak beleve."



The nostrils of the young thing doing lunchtime business at the local post office twitched a little and she said: "I can smell toast!" To which a voice from behind the curtain responded: "It's only a sandwich." And to which postmaster Don Juinelle followed up:

"Must be the hot pace we work at around here."



If you're a keen photographer who hasn't been taking pictures lately maybe it's because you lost your VHS-C camera, bag and accessories near the Warrandyte Cemetery. Some honest soul picked it all up and handed it into the local cops back in January and it's still there, unreported as lost or stolen. Talk to Senior Constable Noel Wilson (9844 3231) if you reckon it's yours. reckon it's vours



We get all sorts of emails here at the Diary office and just recently it has been Queensland's turn to target us. On a somewhat sombre note we copped one from the University of Queensland's Department of Psychiatry offering "free treatment for males drinking in excess of 28 standard drinks per week and females drinking in excess of 14 standard drinks per week and are noticing signs of depression". Now we know a few local blokes who'd be showing clear signs of depression if they weren't getting their daily — let alone weekly — quota of 28 drinks, but not to denegrate what is undoubtedly a very worthy crusade we onpass 1300 300 164 as the contact number of the correspondence-based DrinkRight program. So there, And on an anything-but-sombre note comes news that Miles, north-west of

Toowoomba, is about to become the "tea cosy capital of the world". Yes, what we envisage as a sleeply little hollow is to host the inaugural World Tea Cosy Making Competition, with the overall winner to pocket \$500. And if you think the concept of a world tea cosy championship is a trifle bizarre, be told that it was inspired by a stage play — The World Bra Unclipping Championship at Garimba — to be performed at Miles later this year and based on a community debate on how best to put a small town on the tourist map. And for more info on the tea cosy extravaganza you're invited to visit www. murilla.qld.gov.au



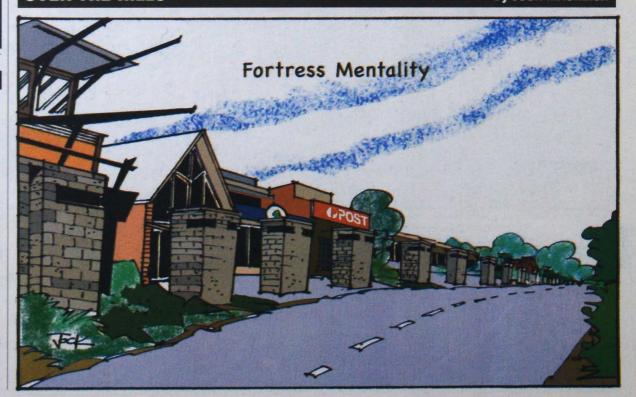
We promised a while ago to drip-feed you little gems from a book to be published early next year celebrating Warrandyte Football Club's centenary. Here we are back in 1939 and in the language of the time: "Our return game at Bayswater with the ground nearly covered with water and heavy rain falling during the game it resulted in water polo being played and the few spectators were watching swimmers diving in the surf, but Bayswater were more effective in steering the ball through the swift currents and as they were kicking with the tide they gained the advantage and in the second quarter, avoiding the gained the advantage and in the second quarter, avoiding the shoals and rocks, they steered the ball safely through the open sea into the harbour on four occasions and were nearly home and dry."



Things are growing apace at the Friends of Warrandyte State Park nursery and native flora authority Pat Coupar nominates the following, among others, as ripe for the planting. There's the common woodruff, a sprawling creeper which often goes unnoticed until its sprays of delicate white flowers appear in spring. Ideal for moist sunny or shady spots and particularly attractive when planted among rocks. Or the robust hop goodenia, a shrub whose yellow flowers are present most of the year. Or the small-to-medium juniper wattle, whose narrow prickly leaves provide refuge for small birds. The nursery's at the rangers depot at Pound bend and its manager will happily field inquiries on 0408 317327.

#### **OVER THE HILLS**

By JOCK MACNEISH



# New building at park depot is underway

### Existing asbestos riddled offices to be demolished

Construction has begun on a purpose-built rang-ers' office for Warrandyte State Park, drawing praise from community leaders and ensuring an ongoing ranger presence in Warrandyte.

The building will be completed by June this year, weather permitting.
Chief ranger for Yarra district, David Sewell, said the plans had been developed with input from all the staff to meet their needs, and will be a vast improvement on the current building which was originally an apple packing shed.

was originally an apple packing shed.

An occupational health and safety audit in early 2003 found asbestos in the outer walls of the building, prompting calls for a new rangers' office.

Under an agreement between Parks Victoria and Holmesglen TAFE, carpentry apprentices are constructing sections of the office at their Chadstone campus before transporting and erecting them at Warrandyte State Park, replacing the current building. It is believed approximately 10 apprentices are working on the building each alternate week.

Mr Sewell said the involvement of the TAFE had reduced the costs by about half, and the building was now expected to be completed for approximately \$140,000, including \$30,000 to safely demolish and remove the former office.

"We have had to fit to the TAFE curriculum, which has taken a bit longer, but in the end it is all worthwhile. We get a good product, we get it cheap, and the kids get great experience." Mr Sewell said.

Plans for the new building show a large general office, a meeting room, an information technology centre, a kitchen and internal toilets.

President of the Warrandyte Community Association, Jonathan Upson, said he applauded the construction of the new building and welcomed that decision by the state government.

building and welcomed that decision by the state government.

When asbestos was discovered in the old building, rumours began circulating in Warrandyte that the depot would be closed and the rangers would be transferred to Westerfolds in Templestowe.

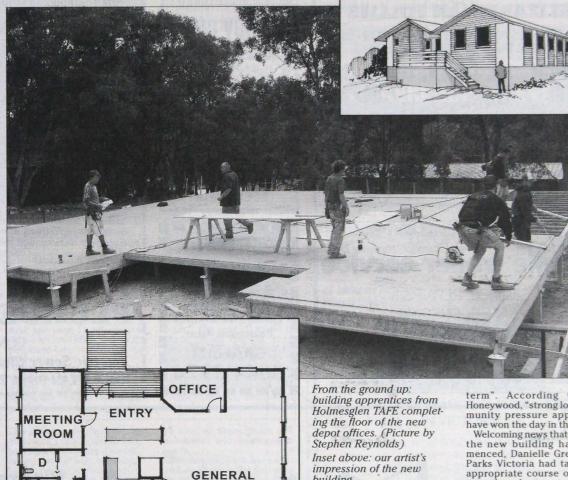
Mr Phil Honeywood, deputy opposition leader and MP for Warrandyte, raised the matter in state parliament. Despite reassurances from John Thwaites, then minister for the environment, water and Victorian communities, denying there was any prospect of the depot at Warrandyte State Park being closed, community concerns persisted.

In December, 2003, a press release from Parks Victoria to the Diary stated: "No decision has been made regarding the future of the Warrandyte work centre".

The nexus was broken in Feb-

centre".

The nexus was broken in February 2004 when Danielle Green, MP for Yan Yean, told the Diary that "the work centre at



Inset above: our artist's impression of the new building.

Warrandyte State Park is defiwalfaldyte state I alk is deli-nitely not slated for closure". She added that "temporary ac-commodation is due to be in-stalled for the work centre staff at the site in the coming months".

months. Friends of Warrandyte State Park welcomed this news, stating, "the depot appears to be 'safe', at least in the short

term". According to Phil Honeywood, "strong local com-munity pressure appears to have won the day in this case".

have won the day in this case".
Welcoming news that work on
the new building had commenced, Danielle Green said
Parks Victoria had taken the
appropriate course of action
once the asbestos was discovered, and commended the involvement of apprentices in the
project. project.
She dismissed community

She dismissed community speculation that the new ranger office would be relocated to Westerfolds as "scuttlebutt and scare-mongering".

"There has been rumour and nonsense going around like wildfire, and this puts it to bed. I look forward to the opening of the new facility," she said.



## Swimming area closed

#### By CLIFF GREEN

The swimming hole at the Pound Bend tunnel has been temporarily closed due to concerns over public

KITCHEN

This follows a tragic accident last November when a young man was swept off a plastic pool toy into rag-

Safety concerns: the Yarra River rushing through the tunnel at Pound Bend. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

ing current and drowned.

According to Parks Victoria, recent heavy rains have caused undermining of retaining walls at the tunnel's outlet, while flooding has caused instability of nearby trees and a section has been cordoned off

off.
"We apologise to those people who normally swim in the area at this time of year," ranger-in-charge Andy Nixon told the *Diary*. "However, visitor safety is always our prime concern, and to ensure this

we will need to make significant site repairs.

"There are many other swimming spots, all within 200 metres of the tunnel and we ask that visitors use these," Mr Nixon said.

Visitors are still able to access the pool at the tunnel exit, from the southern side, and continue to enjoy that area of the river.

Parks Victoria is confident that the necessary repairs will be under-

the necessary repairs will be under-taken shortly, with minimal distur-

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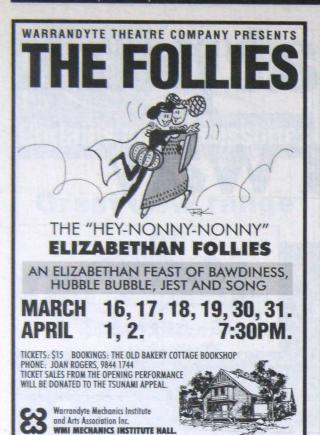
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#### Where are the sirens?

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For one, it reassured me that our volunteer firefighters, who do such a terrific job, were testing their equipment that is so vital to our safety.

And secondly, whenever I heard that siren I was reminded that I live in an environment that needed me to be conscious of the risk that fire posed to all our safety. I would look around my yard or wherever I was and identify any fire risks I was able to eliminate.

to eliminate.
I always thought it was a very worthwhile exercise.

John Vaughan by email

## **DEAR DIARY**

#### Kids walk to school

I would like to commend the parents who are encouraging their children to walk to school.

There is now quite a group who live beyond the bridge and are walking and biking the river track to school at Andersons Creek, including my grandsons, whom I meet partway most days.

days.

These children are becoming well known to the "eight o'clock walkers", and if it is any reassurance to their parents, I known to the control of the them. for a fact that the oldies "watch out" for the youngsters.

Ann Ley West End Road

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## Horses banned

By SAM DAVIES

By SAM DAVIES

A decision to ban horses from the Yarra River trail at Warrandyte has angered and bewildered local riders, but Manningham council says there is, regrettably, no alternative. Riders will still be allowed in other areas of the township and its surrounds, and can continue to use the river trail until an alternative route is devised.

An independent risk assessment of recreational horse riding, undertaken before the Warrandyte River Reserve draft management plan is finalised, concluded council would find it "increasingly difficult to justify the continuation of riding and accept the risks".

The assessment described horses as "strong-willed and occasionally unpredictable", alleging the associated risks were "difficult to control and therefore hard to minimise".

Dogs off-lead, cyclists and the effect of families using the area, were identified as posing a high risk when combined with horse riders.

Manningham council said

risk when combined with horse riders.

Manningham council said there had been three incidents in recent years involving horses that had presented major risk.

Two involved riders being thrown from their horses. The horses then bolted along the trail onto Yarra Street where one was hit by a car.

Manningham councillor Patricia Young said while the decision was regrettable, horse riding was something council had to cover. "We certainly don't want to ban horses. They're just lovely to see and hear on weekends and I support them thoroughly. But because of the new rules, we can't allow horses and prams and children to be together."

Claire Hartnett, president of



Now banned from the Warrandyte River Reserve, horse riding is still permitted on bridle trails in Warrandyte State Park. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

Donvale Adult Riders Club, said she was disappointed with the proposed ban. "It would be a real tragedy if we would no longer be allowed to ride there. There are fewer and fewer places to ride."

She said at least four adult riding and pony clubs would be

ing and pony clubs would be affected. She played down the risks posed to other users of the trail.
"Our groups are very organised, our horses are highly sedate, and safety is a priority.

Insurance issues have hit all

Insurance issues have hit all areas of horse riding very hard. It's very sad for the equestrian industry as a whole," she said. Following public display of the draft management plan in June last year, 11 submissions were received objecting to the proposed ban, and two in support.

port.
Dr Ron Garrett, member of the Wyena Adult Riders Club, objected to the ban and questioned why similar risk assessments had not been applied to

cyclists and dogs off leads.

"It's a catastrophe, as one loses the best ride there is," he said. "There is no chance there is anything equivalent to that. We want an attractive river walk, just like everyone else wants it."

He said alternatives to a ban on horses could include banning dogs off leads, limiting horse riders to quiet times such as weekdays and non-market Saturdays, and restricting them to a walking pace.

Nancy Stokes, an open space planner with council, said that dogs off leads had been noted as high risk, and would be monitored. "If we receive a lot of issues about the dogs, when the plan is reviewed we can review that as well "She said the river

sues about the dogs, when the plan is reviewed we can review that as well." She said the river reserve had steadily increased in usage on weekends and throughout the week, particularly since construction of the Federation Playspace.

Ms Stokes said Manningham council supported horse riders in the area, and recognised their economic importance. She said council had recently bought 10 acres of land at White's Orchard where they are constructing a cross-country riding course.

riding course.

Council will also implement a

Council will also implement a horse riding strategy to ensure all trails are safe and accessible, and devise a code of conduct for horse riders.

"We believe horse riding is a legitimate use in Manningham and we will be providing for them," she said. "I know the horse riders are not happy about the river trail decision, but council is technically the managers for the river reserve and we have to show a duty of care."

care."
Nancy Stokes is available for further comment on 9840 9138.

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### Town rallies to aid survivors



Bargains for a good cause at the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House tsunami fundraising sale

ments had not been applied to The garage sale, held at the community centre last month, was an outstanding success. In one day the sale, organised by Warrandyte Neighbourhood House, raised \$5000 for victims of the Indian Ocean tsunami.

"This great result was made possible by the extreme generosity of local residents and businesses," organiser Karen Throssell told the Diary. "This event showed just what community spirit can achieve."

"From the first day of advertising the event we were inundated with the most extraordinary donations; from antiques to brand-new childrens' toys, and books to television sets, Victorian bedheads and a Japanese wedding kimono."

Ms Throssell said the community centre was overflowing with stuff days before the event, and the beleaguered staff and volunteers at the Neighbourhood House began wondering if the whole thing was a huge mistake. "What if

we have all these goods and no buyers?" was the unspoken

we have all these goods and no buyers?" was the unspoken worry.

But they need not have worried. At 10.30 on the day, people were queuing at the door and at one stage it was difficult to move for people snapping up bargains, and supporting the cause.

"The business community really pitched in in a range of different ways," Ms Throssell said. "IGA provided sausages for the sizzle; Vicki Gardiner real estate cooked them; Ratty and Mole, The Little Bookroom, and Boyles gift and craft supplies donated a large amount of new goods. The Blue Bicycle provided free lunch for the volunteers on the day; and the Community centre also provided their services for free."

Individuals were equally generous, from the quality of goods donated, to turning up on the day and helping sell goods.

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### Aid for famous tree

By CLIFF GREEN

That old Monterey Cypress in the carpark opposite the community bank (pictured) is to suffer further indignities.

Seriously damaged in storms last year, Manningham council has decided to carry out drastic surgery in an attempt to keep the old tree alive.

Believed to be more than 120 years old, the cypress once flourished in the front garden of a cottage that stood on this site. It is known, both locally and officially—on Manningham council's heritage map, no less—as the "Diary Tree". This name goes back to the earliest days of our newspaper.

Long before the building of the Warrandyte Community Centre, wherein we now have our office, the paper was produced on the kitchen tables of its editors. So the community could submit material for its columns, we had a box mounted on this tree and invited con-

could submit material for its columns, we had a box mounted on this tree and invited contributions, referring to it as our "branch office". Hence the title "Out of the Box " for our community news page.

But now, according to Manningham council, drastic steps will be undertaken in an attempt to somewhat prolong the

tempt to somewhat prolong the life of this beloved old land-

mark tree.
"The health of this tree has been in decline for the past 20



years," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*. "A recent arborist's report has observed dieback in the crown, a heavy limb overhanging the road is in imminent danger of collapsing and there is significant trunk decay.

decay.
"Council has been monitoring the tree's health for a number of years and along with the Warrandyte community has a strong interest in its preservation. The aborist's report has

noted that the tree is in advanced irreversible decline, however it has suggested treatments that may avoid its immediate removal."

Council is intending to undertake pruning of all dead wood to improve safety and appearance; crown reduction of the whole tree in height and width; substantial weight reduction of the limb over the road; and severe shortening of the westleaning, co-dominant stem.

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### When the earth moves

Builders and residents should know that strict rules govern the development of earthworks in Manningham.
Council's statutory planning unit has published two new brochures dealing with earthworks in the municipality.

A council spokesperson said.

ity.
A council spokesperson said the brochures are the latest in a series of publications from the statutory planning unit to assist residents with the planning process and will help people better understand the policies and controls that are currently in place.

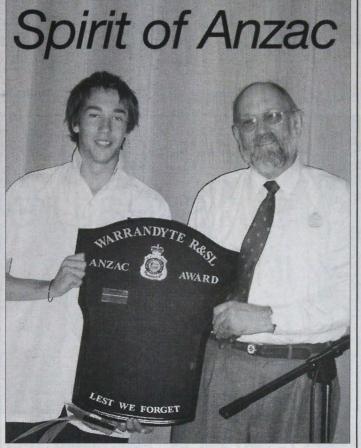
ning process and will neip people better understand the policies and controls that are currently in place.

"Many people rely on significant earthworks to create a level area on sloping land for development," the spokesperson told the Diary. "However, this is not necessarily appropriate in all cases."

The Earthworks in the City of Manningham brochure discusses all issues relating to earthworks—disadvantages, costs, sediment-laden runoff, soil instability, impacts on vegetation and methods of stabilisation.

The second brochure, Planning Controls over Earthworks in the City of Manningham outlines a number of controls that specify when a town planning permit is required from council, for excavation or fill. "It is important for residents and developers to discuss any proposed earthworks with a council planning officer, who can assist them to understand the requirements of the planning scheme and what information is necessary when applying for a planning permit to carry out earthworks," the spokesperson said.

Copies of all planning brochures can be obtained from the customer service desk at the municipal offices, 699
Doncaster Road, Doncaster or by calling council on 9840 9333.



Pictured above is Robert Haines (left) receiving this year's Warrandyte RSL Anzac Award from club president David Parker late last month. The award is made to the school's Year 11 student who best exemplifies the "Anzac spirit" as voted by his fellow students. "The award consists of a perpetual trophy, held at the high school, a certificate and a cheque for \$400," Mr Parker told the Diary. As well as receiving this honour, Robert was installed as school captain. "Warrandyte RSL extends its congratulations to Robert, and also to Ellen Bradbury, who is this year's female school captain."

### Wonga Park wins

The new Wonga Park Community Centre in Old Yarra Road is complete and was opened by Manningham mayor Cr Bill Larkin late last month.

The \$1.06 million facility houses the Wonga Park Community Cottage and Occasional Child Care, the Burch Memorial Preschool, Wonga Park Playgroup and the Maternal and Child Health Service.

"The opening was a wonderful occasion for the Wonga Park community," Cr Larkin told the Diary.

"The facility refurbishment and extension project is a welcome addition to

sion project is a welcome addition to the local area. It has centralised a wide

range of community services and provided the Wonga Park residents with a community focal point.

community focal point.

"The local community has been very active in all stages of the project and council would like to thank them for their input. Members of the reference panel have worked hard to bring about the best outcome for the community.

"The facility is becoming a hub of community activity. A real community meeting place that provides a range of family services including recreational, leisure and educational activities in a friendly supportive atmosphere," Cr Larkin said.

# New

Local residents will be pleased to know that Manningham council is proposing to build a new community facility at The Pines, much closer to Warrandyte than Doncaster Road, Doncaster.

The centre will be a multi-purpose state-of-the-art facility

The centre will be a multi-purpose, state-of-the-art facility providing a permanent home for a range of community groups providing lifelong learning in the municipality.

The facility would house groups such as the University of the Third Age and Donvale Living and Learning Centre and provide much needed meeting space for other community groups.

space for other community groups.
Design work has yet to commence but it is proposed that the facility would be built on an 11,000 square metre site on Blackburn Road, located north of The Pines Shopping Centre in East Doncaster.
Throughout the development of this project council will constitute the statement of the project council will constitute the statement of the statement

of this project council will consult with residents and other stakeholders and a community advisory committee will be formed including both community and resident representatives

The project plan (including timeframes) is currently being developed and construction is expected to commence in early 2006.

2006.
Mayor, Cr Bill Larkin, said the provision of civic space at The Pines has been discussed for more than 10 years and was part of an agreement for the shopping centre expansion entered into in 1994.
"A project such as the one that has been proposed has been talked about for a long time and is desperately needed in Manningham.
"With the Manningham community ageing, over coming

munity ageing, over coming years it is expected there will an ever-increasing demand for high quality life-long learning opportunities."

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### Pest officer appointed at council

Manningham council has appointed a pest plant and animal project officer, to act as rabbit group facilitator and also manage a weed-mapping project within the Green Wedge.

The newly-appointed officer is Mr Anthony Owen, whose past roles have included work as an environmental consultant and bushland management contractor.

"He has had extensive experience in both private and public land management," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*. "His expertise also includes knowledge of local and regional flora and fauna."

Mayor Cr Bill Larkin said that "council is particularly pleased to have received state government support to aid this important initiative".

"Rabbits destroy native vegeta-tion. They also cause erosion, which in turn affects our water quality. They can reduce the avail-ability of pasture to horses and other stock and spread weeds. "Anthony's role will assist in pro-tecting remnant vegetation and provide an integrated approach to rabbit control in the Green Wedge and surrounding areas."

"The weed-mapping project will enable council to identify both ag enable council to identify both agricultural and environmental weeds within the Green Wedge," the spokesperson said. "Weeds significantly lower pasture productivity, out-compete native vegetation and are a known fire hazard."

Anthony Owen can be contacted on 9840 9326, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

LAURAL RETZ

Figurative Artist

**Exhibiting at the Warrandyte Festival** 

Stiggants Reserve, 19th & 20th March

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Knaves and knights, witches and Morris dancers will all be stirred into a heady, frothy brew entitled the "Hey Nonny Nonny Elizabethan Follies", a blend of bawdiness, hubble bubble, jest and song.

Each year at festival time, the Warrandyte Theatre Company entices us away from our TV's and treats us to a fastmoving revue that picks up on local, national and global topics and always has us chuck-

ling—often at ourselves.
Elizabeth the Virgin Queen (stop laughing!) takes centre stage with a bunch of bored, mature female pirates, Rodney and Juliet (the fingers-crossed lovers) an unpleasantness of peasants and other ne'er-dowells, the Farmakis Brothers, apothecaries (taking pharmaceuticals into the 17th century), two Bill Shakespeares and Mary Queen of Scots.

Queen of Scots.
Directed by Keryn Wood and

Lea Bryant, the "Hey Nonny Nonny Follies" will run at the Warrandyte Mechanics Hall on March 16, 17, 18, 19 and 30, 31; and April 1 and 2. Cabaret style, BYO food and drink; ar-rive by 7.30pm for an 8pm cur-

tain up.
Bookings from Joan Rogers at the Bakery Cottage Bookshop, 9844 1744. Tickets \$15, proceeds from the opening night will be donated to the tsunami appeal.

## Thrills and spills feature in billycart grand prix

By GILCHRIST CLENDINNEN

Billycart races are a part of the childhood of most Warrandyte kids. The carts are built in the garage by parent and child, a true bonding session. They are then taken out onto the steepest hills they can find and sent hurtling down.

My first (and last) billycart was given to me when I was four. My uncle, a professional carpenter, had made it solidly out of wood and christened it the Gilly cart (referring to my nickname). I was immensely proud of it, especially the name, which in my eyes set it apart from other carts. When I was a bit older I took it down to my neighbours' and we would race each other.

His cart was much faster than mine and he had guts. I could never quite convince myself that tearing

than mine and he had guts. I could never quite con-vince myself that tearing down a steep hill on a flimsy contraption with no brakes was fun, no matter how much other kids en-joyed it. They would cheer-fully graze arms, even break bones then get back in the same cart as soon as in the same cart as soon as their wounds had healed. I soon decided that billycart

their wounds had healed. I soon decided that billycart racing was not for me, which is probably why I am now writing about races instead of going in them.

The Carters' cart, one of the most successful carts ever to enter the Warandyte Billycart Derby, was built in the family garage in 1994, by father Neil and eldest son Daniel. It has been raced by each brother since, and this year it will be youngest brother Casey's last race.

The Carter cart has won the event six times and earned the family two Play Stations. Daniel Carter says the competition has got tougher over the years, probably because of the

large prize at stake.

The most memorable event to have happened at the races is the story of No-Brake Jake. This crazy competitor would come down the track—true to his name—with no brakes. Hitting the mulch pile he would fly out of the cart and into his father's arms. While he did not win he has become famous purely for his daredevilry, with both Daniel Carter and Robert Cousens, (race organiser) Cousens, (race organiser) naming this as the outstanding performance of the event. I did not see No-Brake Jake last year and guess he has probably mel-lowed (somewhat) in old

guess he has probably mellowed (somewhaf) in old age.

This year the carts will be incredibly high-tech. All the finalists will probably be using proper steering wheels and some will even have suspension. Parents and kids will be making desperate last-minute adjustments to their carts and nervously checking out the competition.

There will probably be bacon and egg sandwiches for sale and constant loudspeaker reminders for kids to "please move back from the bunting and yes, I'm talking to you." Some carts will fall apart metres from the starting line and others should, to prevent injury to their drivers. There will be pit-yard squabbles over what cart gets which lane but most (or all) will be in good humour.

The 2005 Billycart Derby will be staged at the bottom

but most (or all) will be in good humour.

The 2005 Billycart Derby will be staged at the bottom of Forbes Street, outside the police station, on Sunday, March 20. Racing will commence at 9.30am. If you are going to race you should arrive before 9am in time to enter and have a time to enter and have a few test runs. If you've got nothing on that Sunday, head on down. You won't



#### Welcome smoke

Welcome smoke
The 2005 festival will be officially launched by Wurrundjeri elder Joy Murphy, who will welcome the festival with a traditional Aboriginal smoking ceremony. This will take place at the bridge, immediately prior to the commencement of the parade at 11am on Saturday, March 19. The parade will progress along Yarra Street to Stiggants Reserve. Prizes will be awarded for best parade entry, most colourful, most imaginative, best costumes/make-up, best theme and most Warrandyte-ish.



#### Up, up and away

Float riders, cyclists, marchers, cheer squads and parade on-lookers are invited to collect their helium balloons from Information Warrandyte at the community centre, prior to the parade on Saturday morning.

#### Young artists

Young artists
This year's Rotary Art Show, to be held, as usual, in the giant marquee below the Community Church, will be featuring a special exhibition of works from Warrandyte High School. A \$200 youth prize will be awarded at the preview on Friday night at 7.30pm. Tickets \$15, bookings from Alan Quantrell on 9723 6011 (office hours).



#### Poems at the pub

Local writers will be reading their original work in The Grand Read, at the Function Room at the Grand Hotel in Yarra Street on Tuesday, March 22, commencing at 7.30pm. Poetry, short stories, work-in-progress, whatever. Light refreshments provided, drinks from the bar, \$12 entry. Call 9844 1839 for further information.

#### Serve 'em right!

Fancy yourself as a redhot server? Warrandyte Tennis Club is running their usual speed serving contest right across the weekend, east of the Rotunda. Check your speed by radar and be in the running for a trophy. Various age groups.

#### **Demolition derby**

Demolition derby
Wish you could set fire to a real
car and then rip it apart? You
could if you were a member of
CFA brigade. Local fireflies, police and SES stalwarts will be
demonstrating their rescue
techniques in combined training exercises at the Riverbank
Stage area at 4.30pm on Saturday and Sunday.





### Warrandyte Village Festival Warrandyte A Bush Garder





Meet the neighbours

Looking for new friends, searching for things to do or study, seeking a path into the wonderful Warrandyte community? Our Neighbourhood House can supply these and more. Check out their tent, east of the Rotunda, right through festival weekend.



#### Pet fireworks alert

Local pet owners should remember to ensure the safety, security and wellbeing of their pets on the evening of Sunday, March 20. The fireworks finale will take place at 9pm, subject to CFA approval, and will last for about 10 minutes.

#### Kids' stuff

Kids' stuff
The kids take over the Main Stage at Stiggants first up on Saturday, from 12.15pm, immediately after the parade and official opening. Participating schools include Warrandyte, Andersons Creek, Park Orchards and Warranwood primary schools and the Warrandyte High School.



**Trouble brewing** 

Trouble brewing
Calling all amateur brewers!
You know you make the best
stout, lager, bitter, ale, pilsener,
draught or whatever in
Warrandyte. So prove it! Roll up
with your bottles between 5
and 7pm on Saturday to the big
tent near the main stage, then
hang about for the award presentation at 7.45pm. (You might
even be able to sample some of
your competitors' brews!)

#### Church in the park

Celebrate the festival at the open-air service at Stiggants Reserve. The combined churches of Warrandyte and Park Orchards are presenting a time for prayer, music and contemplation at the Main Stage on Sunday at 10am.



#### Yachts to do

Fancy a spin on Sugarloaf Dam? Your local yacht club, the Sugarloaf Sailing Club, will tell you all about it at their stand, east of the Rotunda, all weekend, Sailboats will be displayed.

#### Go for gold

John Hanson is running his usual Gold Mine Tour, leaving 104 Webb Street around 2pm on Sunday afternoon. Bring a torch and wear flat shoes. With the tunnels now locked, this is a rare opportunity to see inside a real gold mine! Further information from John on 9844 3906.



### Triple-deck entertainment

#### By MEAGHAN O'CONNOR

By MEAGHAN O'CONNOR
The splendid array of entertainment presented on the festival stages throughout the two days and nights is always the centrepiece of Warrandyte's wonderful weekend.

From the school kids' items first up on the Main Stage on Saturday, through the Beatles in the Bush special that night and the Groove on Saturday—rock, funk, jazz and blues bands at the Skate Park—to the highlight Festival Finale Concert at Stiggants on Sunday night, the variety of musical and comedy acts seems endless. acts seems endless.

#### Youth events

The youth alcohol-free events will kick off at 2pm on Saturday, March 19 at the Warrandyte Skate Park in Taroona Avenue Eight local bands will feature, playing a mixture of music from alternative rock to blues, funk, jazz and pop. jazz and pop.

jazz and pop.
Ghost of Primates from Eltham College will open the afternoon followed by Best Before, Weed Hornet and The Super Deluxe Trio, all from Warrandyte High. Ex-Warrandyte High School students will feature with the return of Teenwolf and Hansgroover. New Obsession from Rulpolph Steiner will also play blues and funk during the afternoon. the afternoon.

Family Funk will open the evening session at around 7pm followed by Croydon's very own Tort, cranking it up with their own alternative rock style. their own alternative rock style. Two popular acts will rock the evening until the scheduled close at 10pm. These are the Aussie hip hop band the Microphonics and Live@Subs. Both these bands are getting airplay on TripleM and JJJ. Sunday at the Skate Park will set the attitudes racing with the Annual Festival Skateboarding competition. So grab your airwalks and show us what you are made of.

are made of.

There are some great prizes to be won, including decks and accessories. Registration is free on the day from 12 noon with a variety of age groups (under 12, under 15 and open).

There will be professional skate demos, so you could pick up a few tips from the pros.

To help promote these alcohol-free events, Year 9 at Warrandyte High School are competing in a poster competition. Warrandyte police, in conjunction with the Police and Community Consultative Committee are running the competition. are running the competition, with sponsorship from IGA. There are great cash prizes to be won and the winning poster will be plastered all over town!

#### Beatles in the bush

Beatles in the bush
Saturday night will see a Beatles tribute extravaganza.
Four young men—John, Paul, Ringo and George—will always be remembered as the most significant pop music creators of the 20th century.
The Beatles touched all of our lives in different ways and as a tribute, this year's Warrandyte Festival will be celebrating the life of the Beatles with a revival night extravaganza.
Glen Jameson will be host for the night. "We had an Elvis tribute night a couple of years ago," Glen told the Diary. One guy brought his own CD and did an amazing job, so many people wanted to get up and get amongst it.

"So bring your singing voices, as there are over 50 Beatles songs to choose from, with

won."
You might turn up as the best-dressed Sergeant Pepper, or you may have the best piece of Beatle memorabilia!

"So let's get together," Glen said. "Let it be, dress up and take a look at the long and winding road of the Beatles."

The show starts at 8pm on Stiggants Main Stage on Saturday, March 19.

#### Sunday at Stiggants

Sunday at Stiggants
The Main Stage at Stiggants on
Sunday will see a variety of
musical acts, including Barry
McKimm's Eltham Concert Big
Band playing hits from Cole
Porter and Joni Michelle.
New Obsession, a local original band, will play numbers
from their debut CD. Robbie
Greg will feature a folk and
bluesy feel, accompanied by
local sensation Matthew Arnold
on the violin. on the violin.

on the violin.

Heather and Glen Jameson of
The Platform Souls will tilt the
program back on the rails with
their inspired train music.
Interfunk, a seven-piece line-up,
will groove you into the late afternoon, and Panick Attack will
put you in coverdive with their put you in overdrive with their rocky power-packed perform-

ance.
Combo la Revelacion, a colourful Latin American big band will take us into the evening. The Sunday afternoon session will finish off with the colourful Latin American big band which is sure to get you up and move Latin American big band which is sure to get you up and moving. This 10-piece line-up includes song, percussion and horns and will ease you out of yet another fun-filled Warrandyte Festival weekend. Finally, events will close with a spectacular fireworks display arcing over Stiggants Reserve.

### Sculptors tread lightly in the bush

Three Melbourne sculptors—David Shepherd, Mandy Gunn and Sue Kneebone have been working with local secondary school students, creating ephemeral sculptures in bush around Warrandyte as part of "Undercurrent 2005", a project funded by Festivals Australia and Manningham council. "Through the process of making site-specific environmental

"Through the process of making site-specific environmental sculpture, the students will familiarise themselves with unique environmental aspects of the Warrandyte area and learn to interpret this in an artistic context," Nadia Craig, a spokesperson for the project, told the Diary.
"This type of sculptural

"This type of sculptural workshopping is environmentally sensitive and draws out the subtleties and sensitivities of our natural environment. "It helps people build aware-

ness of our beautiful parks, river and bushlands, creating a respectful relationship with our natural landscapes," Ms Craig

said.
As well as river and bushland sculptures, David Shepherd will be fabricating, over festival weekend, a low-level relief sand sculpture entitled "Linked Pods". Festival-goers will be invited to participate in this community art project munity art project.
All details of the student

All details of the student project will be documented in an exhibtion in the Warrandyte Scout Hall, adjacent to the festival site at Stiggants Reserve. It will be open all weekend and will include recordings of bush sounds and video presentations of work in progress. "Linked Pods" will be sited outdoors within the immediate vicinity of the Scout Hall.



High School students Jade Tsakserlis (left) and Catriona Speirs working on "Undercur-rent 2005" (above). Here today...: (right) another contribution to this environmentally sensitive sculpture project. (Pictures by David Shepherd)







### Margaret will be festival top dog

Margaret Burke, of Osborne Road, North Warrandyte, has been chosen Festival Monarch for 2005.

for 2005.

Appropriately in view of this year's theme—Warrandyte a Bush Garden—Margaret has fought long and hard to protect and enhance the river and bushland environment.

Margaret Burke, monarch of all she surveys—for one weekend at least! (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

A leading and effective member of the Friends of Warrandyte State Park for many years, she helped found the Osbor-ne Peninsula Landcare Group, building it into one of the leading landcare groups in the state. the state.

the state.

Announcing Margaret's appointment as monarch, festival president John Boyle said: "Margaret Burke's passion for land care and habitat creation has led to a better environment for us all."



#### WONGA PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE JOINT COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

(Incorporating the Wonga Park Community Cottage, Burch Memorial Preschool, Wonga Park Playgroup and the Manningham City Council Maternal and Child Health Centre)

Is seeking a community representative for the Joint Committee of Management.

The requirements are:

- An interest in your local community
  A desire to see this new facility prosper
  A spirit of cooperation and integration

Meetings are quarterly (next meeting May 2005). Expressions of interest should include details of community service, background and reason for interest in this position.

Applications close Friday 1 April at 5 pm.

Please send expressions of interest to: Jacquie Smith, Social and Community Services, Manningham City Council, PO Box 1, Doncaster, Vic. 3108.



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For more information please call into 144 Yarra Street, Warrandyte or phone 9844 2233.

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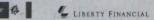
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## Ondine awakes

Ondine is a mythological water sprite, guardian of rivers.

Ondine has woken in a wild lashing rage. So wild the ocean listens and murmurs siren songs:

"Leave your dreamy velvet life your limpid languid ways, Arise, arise and show your strength Leave nothing in your path."

And Ondine has heard and she tosses her mane. She races and tumbles plunging and plucking

logs from the banks and men from boats, any and all who foolishly dare to challenge her might.

Ondine will take them, wrapped in her arms. Ondine will take them, and carry them down.

She's swallowed the path and enormous trees too. Great broken giants tossed like small toys in her newly found waves. All the time at the edges she's spreading her fingers sneakily, sullenly as far as she can.

Her passage seems joyous tumbling along, but she's frothing and fuming. There's madness as well. And she makes a new sound a threatening roar,

shouting in triumph as she runs to the sea, Poseidon her mentor, there's much he can teach.

Ondine will bring them wrapped in her arms, Ondine will bring them and carry them down.

And people stand watching in awe at the change, silently reverent, respect where it's due. And fear at her power, what else can they do?

KAREN THROSSELL

#### **Key Decisions**



These are some of the decisions made by Council on Tuesday 25 January 2005. If you would like any extra information visit our website <a href="https://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au">www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au</a> for full business papers and 2005 meeting dates. All are welcome to attend or listen to the broadcast on Plenty Valley FM 88.6.



#### Community, Health, Culture, Sport and Leisure

As part of its Indian Ocean Tsunami Relief Response Council noted the immediate response to the relief effort; approved the observance of one minute's silence at the beginning of the January 2005 Council meeting; waive hire charges for Council owned venues for tsunami related fund raising events in the community; support community led initiatives by

providing free

the Council

website,

publicity through

#### Land Use, Planning and Environment

newsletters and other communications and posters in Council owned buildings; and make a one off cash donation of \$5,000 to a recognised charity with local links to the recent tsunami tragedy; and noted that further reports will be provided as events unfold and information available

Resolved that
Council issue a
Notice of
Decision to Grant
a Permit at 8
Charlotte Court,
North Warrandyte
for buildings and
works (dwelling
and pool) and
associated
vegetation
removal subject
to conditions.

Adopted a modified fee schedule for environmental education programs at Edendale Farm Community Environment Centre for February-June 2005.

Council prepare and place on exhibition a planning scheme amendment to rezone the remaining portion of Eltham North Reserve to Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ); prepare a master plan that will involve full community consultation to address the future use and development of the reserve, including the issue of floodlights on the Northern Oval; will not consider any further

intensification of

use of the

reserve or

Resolved that

floodlighting until such time the rezoned to PPRZ and a master plan that has been through full community consultation has been completed and adopted by Council: and refer to the 2005-2006 budget estimates a priority project to undertake a master plan.

#### **DIARY MINI ADS**

HOUSE TO LET: 1BR cottage, North Warrandyte. Ring Neil: 0418 357 282.

HOMEOPATHY: Introductory course in homeopathy for treating common ailments athome. Four week course at Ginkgo Wellnes Centre, 152-156 Yarra St, Warrandyte. Monday mornings starting April 18th. Jeanette 9844 5180.

CIVIL CELEBRANT: Ceremonies with style and meaning. Susan Daff, 9844 3121 or 0417 353 026.

BEAUTIFUL STAINED GLASS Fabulous panels to fit any window or door and enhance your home. Any style, small panels a specialty. Free quotes. Shan 9712 0024.

TUTORING in Maths & English to Yr 12. Home visits poss. 9844 3796.

IYENGAR YOGA CLASSES: Tuesday 6.30-8pm and mid-term Beginners course 8-9pm. Ring for details: 0425 759 823. New venue: The Michael Centre, Warranwood.

COMMODORE VN Auto, dual fuel, alloys, gunmetal. Ex Cond. RWC \$3500. 9844 2510.

MAGNA TR Manual, sedan, very low kms, burgundy. 10/05 Rego. A lovely car. \$3500. 0438 089 535.

FOR SALE: New mountain bike, mongoose rockdile. Ph: 9844 2067.

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PREE

It's the lure of the add-on. I know, deep down in my heart, that I don't need these things but there is some psychological urge that makes me need to send away for the "free gift". And it doesn't really matter what the gift happens to be. It could be anything from pocket-knife to a six-month subscription to Sewer Talk Monthly. Some say that the latter is the sort of subscription that can only be loved by its mother and the former is tantamount to useless. Since when do we need a penknife to sharpen a quill or a pencil? Apart from that, displaying a knife in public is, I think, a legal no-no.

Such carping misses the

playing a knife in public is, I think, a legal no-no.
Such carping misses the point. It's not the usefulness of the object that creates the excitement but the fact that it's a gift. It's nice knowing that you are so important to the producers of products that they feel disposed to express their love in a tangible way. And I won't hear a word about it only being a marketing ploy to embed product recognition and acceptance. No, the producers know about individuals like me and they go out of their way to make us happy. And they do.

At the moment, I'm expecting the arrival of the postie to see if he has brought me my waterproof, sportsman's watch complete with its own Velcro strap. I was torn between that watch



Give-aways so good

"I'd hate you to think that I'm shallow and that the whole thing is a waste of time. No, I like to think of myself more as a prospector. I find the rich vein and I intelligently set about mining it."

and the one that came with a year's subscription to *The Bulletin*. In the end *The Bulletin* lost out to the Velcro strap. If I'm honest, the thought of 12 copies of that mag wasn't enough to swing the deal.

You have to admit, though, that there is a measure of energy and organisation that is required in obtaining the sendaway-give-away. There's the filling in of the form, the finding of

the receipt, the filling in of the

the receipt, the filling in of the 25-word paeon of praise for their product and remembering to send the whole lot with the correct amount in stamps.

I'd hate you to think that I'm shallow and that the whole thing is a waste of time. No, I like to think of myself more as a prospector. I find the rich vein and I intelligently set about mining it. Sometimes, like the real occupation, you end up with "fool's gold" but most times you come up with a "strike" that justifies your next prospecting adventure.

But it isn't just the send-away. In shops, I am magnetically

But it isn't just the send-away. In shops, I am magnetically attracted to the display that offers additional product for the same price as the original. Herself says it's no different from scouring the letterbox junk mail looking for specials at the local supermarket but I think she's wrong. With the specials, there's no romance associated with it. With the special, it's a coldly calculated decision. There's no sense of serendipity. You go to the supermarket, de-

There's no sense of serendipity. You go to the supermarket, de-liberately select the specials and go home knowing exactly what it is you've got. My affair, however, is more refined.

For me, finding the unanticipated and unseen product is like eyes meeting across a crowded room. She languishes at the party hoping that she might meet Mr Right. I go to the party with nothing more than an open heart. I wander into the room and turn the corner, only to catch sight, not just of her

beauty but also of her intriguing handbag. She flutters her eyelids and then motions with her pale, slim hand to her glittering prize that promises unimaginable delight. And I am won over. Together we go home, a veritable ménage a trois

Jock

ois.

Herself's letterbox special is anything but that. Hers is a "wham bam, thank you ma'm" but mine is an "amour". I know that I've made a choice of the heart and not just of the hip pocket nerve. Herself argues that I'm just a pushover but romantics have never been well understood. My drawers are crammed full of unused but delicious "billet doux". My love letters are the gifts lavished on me by the admirers of my dislicious "billet doux". My love letters are the gifts lavished on me by the admirers of my discernment. There's the unused cork letter opener, the emergency rice paper raincoat that comes in its own spun sugar container, the battery operated cheese grater (unfortunately the batteries are unavailable in Australia), the aphrodisiacal chewing gum (obviously unneeded) and the silk bristle toothbrush to name but a few. Well the watch has arrived. The Velcro strap is a little too short so I'll look out for an adult-sized replacement. The really exciting thing is that it came with another offer for something I've always needed. I just have to send \$2 and I'll get a real Phantom's ring that glows in the dark!

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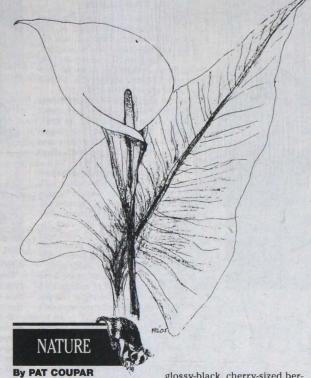
### Poisons lurk in England's green and pleasant land

HERE are no man-eating crocodiles in England, no stinging jellyfish, spiny stonefish, or blue-ringed octopus, no poisonous spiders and no venomous snakes (well only one; it's not all that venomous and not at all common). There are, however, a number of native plants that are equally deadly.

Like the Yew—a low-growing evergreen tree with highly poisonous leaves, bark and fruit. While the fleshy part of the attractive red berry is non-toxic, the hard, dark-green seed partially enclosed within certainly is and has caused the death of children who have eaten the berries.

Another very poisonous plant native to England is the Arum Lily, known colloquially as Lords and Ladies and—for reasons I have yet to discover—Cuckoo Pint. Not a true lily, this

Lily, known colloquially as Lords and Ladies and—for reasons I have yet to discover—Cuckoo Pint. Not a true lily, this fleshy herb has distinctive glossy, arrow-shaped leaves and a broad white sheathing bract that fans out around an erect club-shaped flower. The purple flowers are followed by shiny orange-red berries clustered around the central spike. All parts of the plant, including its tuberous root system, contain a toxic alkaloid resembling prussic acid that causes swelling of the throat and tongue, severe gastritis, diarrhoea and exhaustion that may lead to death, particularly in children. Despite this, Arum Lilies (a variety from South Africa) and their equally noxious relatives the Calla Lilies are often planted as ornamentals in Australian gardens. Predictably, these harmful plants have escaped cultivation and taken up residence in damp gullies, irrigation ditches and poorly residence in damp gullies, irrigation ditches and poorly drained paddocks. In Warran-



Drawn by MELANIE COUPAR dyte scattered clumps of the look-alike lily occur in damp mud along the edge of the Yarra

River and local creeks River and local creeks.

Britain's most notoriously lethal plant is undoubtedly Deadly Nightshade—Atropa belladonna—three berries are enough to kill a child. This small downy shrub grows wild in the chalky soils of southern England. My birthland. It was drummed into me at an early age just how dangerous the glossy-black, cherry-sized berries of this plant were. Likewise I learnt that the tempting red berries of Yew and Arum were also extremely poisonous and should not be touched.

My parents taught me well. So much so that even now I am wary of eating or even just tasting any wild fruit—native or otherwise.

While many poisonous substances are bitter, taste is not necessarily a good indication of safety. For example, the succulent berries of Atropa belladonna are seductively sweet.

donna are seductively sweet.

The poison—a mixture of hyoscine and hyoscyamine—is concentrated in the numerous small seeds embedded in the pulpy flesh.

Interestingly, the atropine-containing inky juice from the berries was used as eye drops by Spanish and Italian ladies to dilate their pupils and make them look more attractive—hence the name belladonna, meaning "beautiful lady".

While Atropa belladonna is uncommon in Australia, it should not be confused with Black Nightshade (same family, different genus)—a widespread weed that grows in disturbed areas particularly on roadsides. In Warrandyte it has become a troublesome environmental weed invading remnant bushland close to roads and creeks. With nothing like the toxicity of Atropa belladonna, the small black berries of Black Nightshade are nevertheless poisonous, causing gastric upsets that could be potentially serious in young children.

It is paradoxical that many of the same plants that in uninformed hands are deadly poisonous are the plants from which important medicines are extracted. Like taxol, obtained from the leaves and bark of the Yew tree, that is used in the treatment of breast cancer. Atropine from Atropa belladonna is widely used in ophthalmology, as a remedy for motion sickness, a treatment for gastrointestinal ailments and various other conditions.

The Solanaceae family to which the nightshades—deadly

intestinal ailments and various other conditions.

The Solanaceae family to which the nightshades—deadly and black—belong also contains many useful horticultural and agricultural plants as well as noxious weeds and native species. It is an intriguing family of plants that I will continue ily of plants that I will continue

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### nce upon a time in the forest

T'S pretty surreal when you come home after a couple of weeks' holiday to find that your home isn't quite the way you fondly remembered it.

No, it isn't because we're spaced out from our Tasmanian.

No, it isn't because we're spaced out from our Tasmanian wilderness experience. Nor have we been burgled. It's just that between them, Hughie and Goldilocks seem to have been rather busy. A tweak or two here, a few trees subtly down there—nothing seems quite how we left it.

Admittedly, we did know about the storm. On the eve of our departure, Hughie's Deluge left three of our trees variously recumbent across a fence, across the drive and in the pool. Good one, Hughie.

So before we dashed off to do battle with Bass Strait, our chainsaw joined the district chorus for a few hours, but obviously not for long enough. It turned out that Hughie hadn't quite finished with us.

And when I use the term "pool", you understand, I mean it in the structural sense only. The contents would now be more accurately described as a mudbath, having been at the spaced out from our Tasmanian

more accurately described as a mudbath, having been at the bottom of the transitory lake



that filled a gully blocked with storm debris. The "pool" thus became the depositional site for copious amounts of sediment. Even the resident ducks are looking at it askance. They are probably worried about getting bogged.

Speaking of which, I wonder what our car's been doing while we were peddling down the west coast of Tassie? Mud on the outside (or possum piddle, or both), sand on the inside, along with interesting crumbs and pie wrappers on the back seat. The driver's seat is uncomfortably positioned, the mirrors are skewhiff, and there is a curious mismatch between the fuel gauge and the odometer.

"Who's been sitting in MY chair?" growled Daddy Bear. Indoors, Goldilocks seems to have been having a great old time. The breadknife, the tinopener, the saucepans and the griller tray are all hidden in strange places. The doormat has moved from its usual place (inside the door) to a more upmarket piece of real estate (in front of the tele). The TV itself has changed channels to some commercial twaddle. Ditto the radio. As for the CD player, it spews out alarming noises when I turn it on, and my CDs have disappeared beneath a pile of unfamiliar covers. The computer is similarly surrounded.

"Who's been sitting in MY chair?" wailed Mummy Bear.

Goldilocks wasn't a big eater of vegetable matter, if the leftovers in the fridge are anything to go by. True to form, she seems to have filled every bowl in the house with cereal and eaten truckloads of the stuff.

"Who's been into MY porridge," cried Baby Bear, "and eaten it all up?"

Evidence gathered from the laundry suggests that Goldilocks (singular) was in fact

laundry suggests that Goldi-locks (singular) was in fact Goldilocks (plural). There were

definitely at least two of the vil-

lains.

Mind you, I'm absolutely delighted about Goldilocks occupying our house. It's rather wonderful when a couple of baby caterpillars suddenly burst out of their cocoons as two independently. Ilving burst out of their cocoons as two independently flying adults, and you find yourself with a couple of ready-made house-sitters. Now the two of us can head off into the wilderness again, just like the Olden Days. Only now we appreciate it more!

more!
But some people are never satisfied. How can we enjoy a holiday properly without those constant little companions of the last 20 years? SMS-ing is just not the same as having them with you, especially when, for 90 percent of the time, we are in Can't Dial Me Anywhere territory.

in Can't Dial Me Anywhere territory.

Back home again, it doesn't take long to reassert our presence and restore everything to its usual eclectic mix.

As for Goldilockses I and II, they get a great big bearhug before being pointed firmly in the direction of the car with a bucket of hot soapy water in one hand and a vacuum cleaner in the other.

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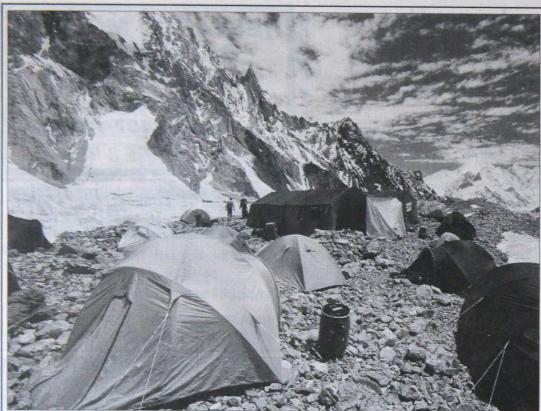
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Warrandyte Diary 18



### Climb another mountain

LOCAL mountaineer has conquered an 8047 metre mountain peak in Asia. Mick Parker of Warran-dyte and his mate Paul Walters were the only two climbers to reach the Himalayan summit as part of the International Broad Peak Expedition 2004. Broad Peak is on the Pakistan/China border

Both climbers reached the true summit without using oxygen and were the only climbers to success-

fully summit the peak last season.

The team of 14 comprised three climbers from the UK, three from the USA, one from NZ, four from the Netherlands and three Aussies. Mick and Paul succeeded after other attempts had failed due to some of the worst weather conditions ever experienced on the mountain. The Everest News website stated: "This year's climbers on Broad Peak have experienced the worst conditions ever."

During the climb, an avalanche

came within two metres of Mick and his fellow climber and between them and other colleagues at a forward

camp. It provided a not-so-subtle reminder of the perils in this region.

Neighbouring mountain, Gasherbrum II, normally regarded as the "saf-8000+ metre mountain, was also listed as extremely dangerous last year. One climber died after falling from the summit in atrocious weather. Most of the climbers in this expedi-

tion have previously climbed several of the 14 8000+ metre peaks and other peaks around the world. For Mick, who climbs without oxy-

gen, the achievement was particularly sweet because he had aborted an at-tempt to reach the summit of the 8462 metre peak of Makalu the previous month, as a member of a successful

Norwegian team.

Again, the area had been battered by severe storms and high winds that dramatically reduced opportunities to reach the summits of these high

peaks.
"The challenge of climbing 8000 me tre mountain peaks requires both finely tuned climbing skills and tech-nique and also demands total confi-dence in your fellow climbers," Mick

told the *Diary*. "Every member of the team entrusts his life with the others. "Physical strength and tenacity are absolute essentials, together with the mental ability to cope with seemingly endless days and nights spent in a cramped damp tent placed on peril-ous footings on high mountain ridges in howling winds and cold condi-

According to this experienced inter-national climber, the high altitude rarefied air makes every move an ef-fort and the ability to rest like a snake is important in order to conserve valuable energy for the challenges

Mick's next assault will be on the world's second highest peak, the 8611 metre K2 near the border of Pa-kistan and China. Regarded as the most difficult peak in the world to climb, K2 will hopefully succumb to the amazing skills and tenacity of the international climbing team preparing for the climb later in 2005.

An exciting challenge indeed for this now internationally recognised climber from Warrandyte.

### Talent comes out in the wash

#### By ERIN CARTER

WO local musicians, who first performed onstage at the Warrandyte Fesitval, are en-joying a rapid rise to acclaim. The duo, DJ Livewire and MC

The duo, DJ Livewire and MC Skillz, is in demand at some of Melbourne's hottest nightspots, with a huge year planned for 2005.

Livewire and Skillz—Erin McKimm, 26 and Ben Fair, 25—have performed together since high school. In their early days, McKimm and Fair played in various bands at local events and commetitions appearing at the festival competitions, appearing at the festival

for many years.
In 1998 McKimm and Fair launched the Livewire/Skillz collaboration, with a performance at the annual Deakin

a performance at the annual Deakin University campus party. Despite initial nerves the act was a huge success. "I had never done any MC work before and was pretty scared. This was the first time we had ever presented as a DJ/MC team, having previously always played in bands," Skillz said. "We didn't really know what we were doing but we put a lot of energy into

doing but we put a lot of energy into it, and at the end of the night the police were called because we wouldn't stop playing.

stop playing.

"We got a good response so we decided to pursue it."

For the past 12 months the pair has performed "Spindry", a drum and bass act at popular Fitzroy bar, Laundry. Livewire and Skillz landed the gig after approaching venue management

ter approaching venue management with a demo tape.

"Our first night turned out to be one of the biggest they'd ever had," Skillz

Livewire and Skillz have since estab-lished a diverse, solid following. Drum and bass music is not a mainstream style, but is constantly expanding and

attracting new fans.
"The hip-hop aspect of what we do appeals to a lot more people because it has exploded commercially in the last few years, and young kids are really into that now," Skillz said.

Today the pair is reaping the benefits of a least and mysical essociation.

Today the pair is reaping the benefits of a longstanding musical association. "After working together for so long we've got an uncanny ability to know what the other is thinking when producing tracks," Skillz said.

Livewire and Skillz draw inspiration for new music from a wide range of sources including early punk, funk, soul and reggae.

"Due to socio-economic conditions, political climates and racism, music of

political climates and racism, music of this kind always has an upfront, in-your-face attitude and captures a real



Erin McKimm

edge or desperation."
The Livewire/Skillz sound is pre-

The Livewire/Skillz sound is predominantly influenced by such acts as The Birthday Party, Public Enemy, Horace Andy and Junior Reid.
"I currently love Roots Manuva." Skillz said. "He's a British rapper whose music and style is always cutting-edge and has big heart. I'm also greatly influenced by Jamaican Dance Hall—it has an edge and energy that few music styles can achieve."

The two have come a long way since their early days at the Warrandyte Festival. DJ Livewire and MC Skillz have since performed at the St Kilda Festival, under major record label, Sony, in Singapore and with international DJs including Bryan G, Klute and Ray Keith.

Following this success, the devoted pair has huge plans for 2005. Spindry will continue at Laundry every few months while the duo pursues an album, a national tour and travel to Jamaica and Cuba to collaborate with local artists.

Erin McKimm and Ben Fair collaborate weekly to work on peer weekly to work on peer management.

Erin McKimm and Ben Fair collaborate once weekly to work on new material, then rehearse for up to 10 hours every weekend. The pair is currently preparing for a gig at Publicity (previously Chicane Lounge) on Good Friday. The night, titled Drum Science, will showcase more than 20 of the best local artists and producers of hip-hop, drum and bass and reggae dance hall. Other acts in the Drum Science lineup include Seven, Finna, Reason and Pac, Blades of Hades and Chantdown Sound.

## Judy has her finger in lots of local pies

#### By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

UNNING the Warran-UNNING the Warrandyte community music program, working on the festival committee, being a high school councillor and helper for its music group and running a family of five might seem like fulltime work. Except that it's not paid work. How is it that Judy Finger feels there's not enough time to be involved with everything she wants? Judy, who turned 50 this

Judy, who turned 50 this month, put volunteering down to her nature.
"I'm the kind of person who if

"I'm the kind of person who it they see something that needs doing, I do it," she said. "I'm much happier being involved, for each of my three children, wherever they're active." Judy is third in a family of four who grew up in Ringwood, in a big weatherboard house "that was extended every time more

big weatherboard house "that was extended every time more kids were born". When Judy was 10 her father died of a heart attack and her mother, Muriel, started working to support the family, bringing up the children by herself. "My mother hadn't worked when Dad died—she'd married at 19. Now she's always there when she's asked for help with babysitting or anything and she always puts her family

before herself. If anyone in the community needs help then she'll take them under her wing and help them find it." Muriel Finger also has a history of volunteering, mainly for local churches.

Even as a youngster Judy had a cause. "I was always doing walkathons and fundraising for charities, and pre-kids. I was in-volved with the Wilderness Sovolved with the Wilderness So-ciety, in the Franklin River days. Campaigning for them I met lots of dedicated environmental-ists." Judy and her partner Phill Johnstone went to the recent tsunami aid concert featuring Daddy Cool and John Farnham. "It was fabulous to be part of this whole group of people com-"It was fabulous to be part of this whole group of people coming together to raise money for a good cause. There's a lot of selfishness out there, with people wanting instant gratification. We shouldn't have been involved in Iraq and refugees shouldn't be locked up—too many people are worried about people from overseas taking over Australia."

She feels the pressure on women has changed. "Women

women has changed. "Women of my mother's generation weren't pressurised to go back to work after having children but now you've got to justify yourself for not working. You're a second-class citizen. But it's

rewarding and important to be there for them, especially with a year 12 student. More money would be fabulous but it's not

important.

"It's great if people can do what they want to do but there's too many burnt-out earning money to pay for the tennis court and the swimming pool, but that's just not as important to me."

portant to me."

Despite Judy's involvement in many organisations, she admits she finds it hard communicating with people she doesn't really know. "I find it hard to versell the state of balise, especially on commit-tees when I think later, I should have said so and so". Thinking on the spot and responding is difficult for me. I avoid being president of anything—I'd rather be a doer than a boss."

Judy moved to Warrandyte

about 20 years ago, having pre-viously got to know the area with her mother, swimming in the river after school. Everyone the river after school. Everyone in the area seems to know her, "everyone says hello to me in the street and I don't remember their names. It's hopeless and I'm so embarrassed." But she said regretting things that have happened in the past is a waste of energy. Her family are campers and go on long expeditions. ers and go on long expeditions, spending three months travelling around central and western Australia some years ago and five weeks in Queensland recently. They also ski crosscountry as a family and she's always planning their next

holiday.

"The biggest thing for me at the moment is the music program," Judy said. "It's a really big important job, organising and co-ordinating 60 kids, playing a choice of six instruments with six teachers for four nights a week after school. I've been doing it for about five or six years. I like to see it run smoothly, then see the kids performing. Two of my kids are doing music and it's really lovely going to things.

"I like the festival committee too because it's a fantastic ing a choice of six instruments

too because it's a fantastic group of volunteers who come from all different backgrounds and ages—they're not just par-ents of primary school kids. And this year I've taken on the secondhand book sale at the high school.

high school.
"There's not enough time to be involved with everything you want. I've really enjoyed being at home with the children. I know it sounds soppy but having kids was my greatest achievement. Having kids makes you realise they're a lot more important than working."



Judy Finger (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

## Bella's last adventure

By DOREEN BURGE

HEN is it time to farewell an old dog? It's a privilege, and a responsibility we should not duck, to be able to ease an animal from its world of pain and suffering. But knowing that, and knowing how Derek Fairley will ensure a peaceful, gentle death, doesn't make the decision any easier.

make the decision any easier.

This big black (now with almost as much white) girl is becoming a shadow of her former self. Not in size, as I discover when I carry her 32 kilograms up our driveway (and curse those Warrandyte hills). But as her boundless engrees to do as we ask ergy, enthusiasm and keenness to do as we ask have slowly drifted away. This, I tell myself

again, means it's time.

Bella was the fifth Labrador pup to come into my family, and a gem from the start. Her original family nicknamed her Hippo in reference

to her size.
Fully-grown she reached the maximum allowable height for a bitch as stated in the Labra-dor Retriever breed standard. The morning after we brought her home she trotted up our

after we brought her home she trotted up our quiet road next to me—no lead—and looked up at me with an expression that said, "Is this right? Is this what you want me to do?" And that's the way she remained.

Perpetually willing to do what we asked of her, though always with a hint of worry: "Am I doing this the way you want? Please reassure me." She excelled at obedience training and became known officially as Loddonlee Mystic Momma CDX, after winning or placing in many obedience trials. obedience trials.

Momma CDX, after winning or placing in many obedience trials.

My father remembers her one foray into the Royal Show obedience ring, when she cut the corner on the broad jump (resulting in elimination), and sat in front of me looking up pleadingly as if to say, "I took the shortest route to get to you. Is that right?"

That powerful girl who could chase tennis balls hit with a racquet as long as we chose to hit them, who could swim back and forth across the river as long as we kept encouraging her, who could run like a shadow across open ground just for the joy of it. How can we allow her the indignity of being pushed in a nursery trolley to a patch of garden for her toileting? Fellow Labrador lover Neil Beasley delivered the trolley "for as long as you need it" and Bella obligingly allowed herself to be half-pushed and half-lifted in—tail thumping as always. But that's not how we want to remember her. as always. But that's not how we want to re-member her. Can we dull those eyes and still that tail when

our every move is keenly followed and our approach welcomed with an appreciative thump on the floor? She can still roll onto her back and wait expectantly for a tummy tickle, and look longingly for some food—any food. Let's give her all we can in these last few days.

She's had a great life, we tell ourselves. She accompanied me to the kindergarten where I

actompanies included in the kindergartet where taught, for the first couple of years of her life, and helped many fearful children learn to love and respect dogs. She has adored our six-year-old niece and still struggles up to greet her. She has trained three more Labrador puppies



Good mates: Bella (centre) with Buzzie and Beetle. (Picture by Doreen Burge)

in our home, but their antics turned her prematurely grey and caused her great consternation. You could see the concern on her face when they didn't come when they were called or wouldn't drop on command. She'd pros-

or wouldn't drop on command. She'd prostrate herself in responce to our commands—
"You stupid pup. This is what you do."
But the other dogs loved and respected her, even when they could have easily physically dominated her in her increasing frailty. Our Beetle and Buzzie still "pay her homage" by licking her face and greeting her excitedly every morning.

every morning.

Bella has had holidays at the beach and in the bush; she's never missed a daily walk; and she represented her breed at last year's Pet Expo at Caulfield Racecourse. She delighted visitors by lying on her back, displaying her almost pure white tummy, and begging for attention. She had her last swim in the Yarra just four weeks ago, struggling eagerly across the four weeks ago, struggling eagerly across the grass and down the bank to that cool weightlessness she has loved all her life. When the

other dogs decided not to retrieve the tennis ball across the river, she set off to get it, ar-thritic legs pumping slowly. Her deaf ears couldn't hear our shouts to come back, but she made it and paddled triumphantly back

But Bella was a Labrador and when we weren't home those true Labrador traits sometimes appeared. She chewed books as a pup, dragging them out of the bookshelves. We'd come home to find the floor strewn with their remains. Can a dog look guilty and embar-rassed? Bella did. Her love of food led her to a couple of stays at the emergency vet clinic— the most recent less than a year ago when her old hind legs managed to hold her up while she reached a bag of dry dog food on the bench. We marvelled at her determination. Due to her age she was kept under a very light anaesthetic while a large diameter tube drained the contents of her tight-as-a-drum stomach for 45 minutes. She kept "coming out" of the anaesthetic and would thump her tail on the operating table. She loved to be surrounded by people no matter what they were doing to her

Bella has been part of our lives for more than years. She has kept us company through some difficult times—years of unsuccessful IVF treatment (how many times did she accompany me to some peaceful solitude by the river when we'd received bad news?); long illnesses and sudden losses of family members and dear friends; the sudden heart-wrenching loss of our three year-old dog Abbey. What is more comforting than the silent but earnest closeness of a loved dog, thrusting her head under your arm and nudging you with a wet nose? So it's time to repay that unwavering loyalty. We could keep pushing her in the trolley, help-

ing her to her feet, steadying her down the stairs, but it would only be for our selfish desire to have her with us a little longer. Have some respect for her, I tell myself, you owe it to her to make her end easy and dignified. She'll love you no matter what you do.



### A long life dedicated to caring for others

ARY Read, well-known in Warrandyte, died on January 1 after a short illness. She was 80 years of

A resident of Yarra Street for 30 years, Mary was a familiar figure, often seen walking her "bitser" dog Daisy around the vil-lage and along the river—twice a day—in rain

lage and along the river—twice a day—in rain or shine.

Mary Read was born in Portsmouth, England, in 1924. Both parents had died by the time she was six years of age and she was brought up by an uncle and aunt.

Turning 18 during World War 2, she joined the WRENS, the women's service of the Royal Navy After the war she completed her nurs-

Navy. After the war she completed her nursing training at Hampstead and Southampton hospitals, later joining the Colonial Nursing Service, which took her around the world.

Whilst working in Bindura in Southern Rho-

desia between 1955 and 1959, she met Muriel Glare, who became her lifelong friend and companion. From Bindura, Mary and Muriel went to Kuching General Hospital in Sarawak, Borneo, where they worked with children between 1959 and 1965.

Following a month's leave in UK and a visit to Australia—which they loved—and following a brief posting in Bahrain, they decided to immigrate to Australia.

They set up home together in Warrandyte, calling their house "Bindura".

Mary always had a great affinity for birds and animals and she worked hard for their protection. For the following 16 years, until her retirement, Mary worked as deputy matron at Allambie, caring for disadvantaged children

day and the same of the savantaged children.

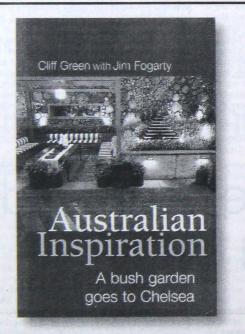
Muriel died in 1998, and no longer able to cope with her large garden, Mary moved into Roseville Village in East Doncaster. She is sadly missed by friends and family.

By SYD & ONA



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## Fun with firefighters

**COREY'S COMMUNITY** 

Following the successful Comedy Festival organised last year by the North Warrandyte CFA, auditions will be held for a bigger and better event in 2005. Auditions will be at the North Warrandyte Fire Station, 115 Glynns Road, North Warrandyte on Sunday, April 3. The festival will run over Friday and Saturday nights for three weeks in May. Three venues will operate with different styles of comedy. Some professional comedians will be performing along with local talent. Stand-up, cabaret and musical acts are being sought. Some paid spots may be available or you may be invited to busk. To book an audition please call Sandra Quick on 9844 4967 or email quicksandi@ bigpond.com. Profits are to go towards the new North Warrandyte fire station.



#### **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.

#### Gamblers

Local resident, Gabriela Byrne will be presenting "My Hot Passionate Affair with the Poker Machines" at the Warrandyte Community Church on Sunday, March 13 at both the 9am and 11am services. Gabriela's talk will be based on her own experiences as an addicted gambler for four years and the "Free Yourself" program she has developed to overcome this.

#### Information

Information
Information Warrandyte is seeking volunteers to assist in their office for three hours a week. Training is provided. Information Warrandyte is a voluntary organisation providing independent advice, referrals, and community information. The service is free, confidential and impartial. The office is open from 10am to 4pm on weekdays and 12.30pm to 3.30pm on Sundays. If you can help please ring 9844 3082.

#### Templestowe

Templestowe
The 12th Templestowe Village
Festival will be held on Sunday,
March 13 between 9am and
5.30pm. Highlights will include
gospel singing, Aboriginal dancers, belly dancing, folk and national dancing and a pet expo.
Humphrey Bear will be there,
plus a variety of clowns and a
roving magician. A feature of
the festival is the wine waiters'
race, now its 10th year. Latin
band, Tropical Dreams, will be
playing in Anderson Street,
along with vocalists, Just Cruising. Further information from
9846 1909.

Dance

Dance
The community dances being held at the South Warrandyte hall in Hall Road, South Warrandyte are under new management. They are being held on the second and fourth Saturday of each month from 8pm to 11.30pm at a cost of \$6. Tea and coffee are provided but BYO everything else. There are lots of prizes and basic dances will be taught from 7.30pm to 7.55pm prior to the dance. Call 0403 504 964 or 0408 052 838 for further information.

#### Highland

Highland
The Ringwood Highland Games will be held on Sunday, April 3 at Jubilee Park, Greenwood Avenue, Ringwood. A free shuttle bus will run from Ringwood station. On Friday, April 1, there will be a Scottish Gala Dinner at Karralyka Centre, Mines Road, Ringwood from 7pm to 11.45pm. The evening will include a three-course dinner with lots of entertainment provided. Cost is \$47 and bookings can be made on 9870 2888.

#### Environment

The next Manningham council environment seminar, to be held at the Function Room, Grand Hotel, 120 Yarra Street, Warrandyte, will be conducted by Mike Harper discussing "Urban Fauna". The seminars are free, no booking required. It will commence at 7.30pm on Wednesday, April 6.

The Christmas Hills community market and car boot sale will be held on Sunday, March 13 from 9am to 2pm at the Christmas Hills Primary School, 1409 Eltham-Yarra Glen Road.

#### Do Care

Volunteers are needed to spend a couple of hours each week visiting older or disabled people in the community. For more information call Wesley Do Care on 9762 5211.

OUTHOUSE NEWS & VIEWS

The 2005 annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Theatre Company will be held on Thursday, April 7 at the Mechanics Institute Hall in Yarra Street, Warrandyte at 8pm.

Details of Warrandyte and Park Orchards Easter church serv-ices are as follows—Stations of the Cross at Stiggants Reserve at 10am on Good Friday. Unit-

ing (9844 3476), Thursday March 24—7.30pm, Good Fri-day—9am, Easter Sunday— 10.15am. Anglican (9844 3473), Good Friday—2pm, Easter Sun-day—8am and 9.30am. Commu-nity Church (9844 4148), Good Friday—9am, Easter Sunday— 9am and 11am. Catholic (9876 1509), Good Friday—3pm Park Orchards, Easter Saturday— 7.30pm Park Orchards, Easter Sunday—8.30am Warrandyte, 11am Park Orchards.

#### Wildlife

Volunteers are needed to assist with the rescue of injured wild-life during the 2005 duck season. Training and information sessions are available. Please call 9826 9715, 9729 8828 or 0438 132 730.

#### **Paintings**

Paintings
Helen Cox, past resident of
Warrandyte, is holding an exhibition of flower paintings in
watercolour at her home, 32
Warrington Crescent, Wattle
Glen on April 15, 16 and 17. The
show opens at 7pm on Friday
15, 10am to 5pm on Saturday
16 and 11am to 6pm on Sunday
17. A \$5 admission donation
will support cancer research,
the Mar Elias Education Institute in Israel serving the needs
of Palestinian and Jewish children and the Near Eastern
Council of Churches ministering to the destitute of Gaza.

#### Artstreams

An exhibition of new paintings by Elizabeth Nettleton is cur-rently running until March 13 at the Artstreams Gallery, 63 Yarra Street, Warrandyte. The exhibition is entitled "A Period of Transition". The paintings

### ARTYFACTS

are concepts translated from the tapestries "Eltham Gums", which she created in 1983.

#### Manningham

Manningham

An exhibition aiming to explore the work of the art therapist and providing a greater understanding of the principles and practices involved is currently running at the Manningham Gallery, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster. Following this exhibition, from March 17 to 23, the gallery will be showing "Silent Voices", celebrating Manningham's cultural diversity week. This exhibition will feature the work of Joe Malatji from South Africa and Sutueal Bekele Althe of Ethiopa.

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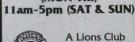


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# Redbacks &

Right: What's this, then
– a sit-in or a stopwork?
Neither, just a pause in
the Under-10s game
against Park Orchards,
with Warrandyte
won 11-4. queue for flags

#### By TONY OLIVER

Warrandyte Redbacks Basketball Association will again play a strong hand in the EDJBA Saturday grand finals after impressive performances in the preliminary final round on March 5.

Among the Redbacks' premiership hopes will be Chris Staggard's Under-18 BA boys, who overcame a determined Banksia 23-19 to win through to the big one

the big one.

Warrandyte held a 1411 advantage

Warrandyte held a 14-11 advantage at the break, but Banksia, a combination based on their Under-19 premiership side of last season, led by three with six minutes to go.

The Redbacks were having trouble getting any sort of flowing game going against a strong Banksia defence which forced rushed shots and costly turnovers

Warrandyte grabbed a goal back soon afterwards but had to wait until the clock had run down to 82 seconds before putting their noses in front — courtesy of a Cameron Rappell shot from in front of the basket.

The final seconds were punctuated by fouls and trips to the charity stripe at either end of the court as Banksia fought to regain the ascendancy. Josh Collins scored one to give the Redbacks a little breathing space, but Banksia had two more opportunities from the free throw line when Jace Ransom and Kane Lucas were fouled off.

off.

Both opportunities went begging and

Both opportunities went begging and Rappell scored the final two points for Warrandyte from the free throw line with 2.4 seconds to go.

Dean Lucas topped the scoring for Warrandyte with eight points, followed by Collins with seven and Rappell six. The win set up a grand final against Marcellin on March 18 and the Warrandyte boys will need to be right at their top because Marcellin made short work of Banksia (86-30) in a semifinal. Warrandyte's top Under-16 boys, minor premiers in A-grade, had won through to the grand final the previous week with a hard-fought 55-49 win over Eltham in their semi-final and still look the side to beat for the flag.

The Redbacks' Under-14 A-grade boys bowed out of the competition

The Redbacks' Under-14 A-grade boys bowed out of the competition with a one-point loss to Eltham. They were never in the lead and could not snatch it in the end but have the satisfaction of knowing they performed excellently at this high level.

Robyn Jones' Under-12 Boys had an easy 26-8 win over Nunawading in the



BA2 preliminary final, having won through with a heart-stopping 28-27 overtime result against Eltham. Daniel Tester led the way that day with 13 points and again topscored in the preliminary final with 10.

It was a tight opening to the game against Nunawading, who opened the scoring after more than five minutes. Lachlan Buckley quickly replied for Warrandyte, who scored two more baskets before the game closed up again until Michael Solty gave the Redbacks an eight-point margin at the

again until Michael Solty gave the Redbacks an eight-point margin at the break with a good shot under pressure. Warrandyte maintained the pressure in the second half to run out very convincing winners. They meet Bulleen in the grand final.

On an adjoining court at Eltham, Damian Arsenis' Under-10 AR boys overcame a slow start against minor premiers Koonung to win the right to play Eltham in the grand final with a 37-23 win.

Warrandyte were down by a point at

Warrandyte were down by a point at the break, but were never headed af-ter grabbing the lead in the second half.

All players contributed to the scor-ng, Jake Wintle and Matthew Patroni

All players contributed to the scoring, Jake Wintle and Matthew Patroni leading with 10 points apiece, followed by Tim Apostolides with six.

Asked about the change that came over the game in the second half, coach Arsenis pointed to improvement in teamwork.

"The defence tightened up and the teamwork led to better passes finding their target, which led to better shots going up," he said.

Mandy Ratcliffe's Under-8 boys earned a rematch with Eltham in the grand final with a workmanlike 32-22 win over Koonung.

Warrandyte overcame a slow start to rally midway through the first half.

In the girls section, Warrandyte's Under-20 point guard Kim Singh got a special birthday present when the Redbacks easily accounted for an under-strength Eltham side 42-25.

The Redbacks had a full bench with Casey Hawley being available when rain disrupted her cricket commitments and the game was never in doubt after Emma Collins opened the





Left: Kim Singh celebrates her birthday and the Under-20s' big win over Eltham. Above: Lorraine Parfitt revs up her Under-12s, who were beaten by Bulleen.

scoring in the first minute and Chel-

sea Ransom quickly followed suit.
Warrandyte now face Park Orchards,
who defeated them 22-17 in the semi-

who defeated them 22-17 in the semi-final.

Nick Peters was understandably happy with his Under-16 girls after a convincing 35-19 win over Banyule.

They led from the outset and were

never challenged.
All players made positive contribu-tions but Chelsea Crisp, Kara Hibbert and Jess Solty put in exceptional

games.
Warrandyte now come up against
Nunawading, who easily defeated
them in the semi-final.

Jenni O'Brien's Under-14 A-grade girls lost 31-17 to Koonung, a disappointing result after their impressive win by that margin over Ivanhoe the previous week.

Lorraine Parfitt's Under-12 girls went down 42-25 to Bulleen. There was little in it early, but the turning point of the game came late in the first half.

Warrandyte turned on a sustained

Warrandyte turned on a sustained attack over several minutes with nu-merous shots going up but none find-

merous shots going up but helding the net.
Bulleen, on the other hand, twice gained a turnover and scored easily from the transition play.
The Redbacks trailed thereafter and

although they challenged several times, the horse had bolted.

Parfitt had enjoyed success the previous week when her Under-10s went straight into the grand final with a 16-11 win over Doncats, Olivia Allardice and Hannah Bensch dominating the scoring with eight points each.

Warrandyte will also have their Under-8 girls in a grand final after a 11-4

Warrandyte will also have their Under-8 girls in a grand final after a 11-4 win over Park Orchards in the A2 preliminary final.

Georgia Holston picked up her game to show her scoring ability with five points, supported by Madeleine Edsell with four and Maddison Tucker with two.

# Fridays get fair dinkum again

Grading over, the first games of the Friday night junior championship basketball season proper were played on March 3, with Warrandyte breaking square in four games on their home court.

The Redbacks' top Under-18 boys

court.

The Redbacks' top Under-18 boys side, coached by Peter Clough, provided the highlight in their game against Geelong, who had a height advantage and put plenty of pressure on the local boys in the opening minutes.

Warrandyte were struggling to get the ball cleanly over the halfway and Geelong were picking up easy turnovers.

Jake Ratcliffe opened the scoring for the Redbacks with a three-point shot, followed by two from the free throw

line.
Geelong were playing a physical game and had amassed six fouls before Warrandyte collected their first.
The visitors took an 18-17 lead into the break, scoring from the free throw line after Redbacks centre Hamish Hosking had levelled the score from the base line.

Warrandyte started well in the second half, with Hosking scoring twice.

The pace was hot, with fast breaks from both sides, but Jason Turner and Luke Dimmock were continually putting pressure on the Geelong defence from outside and Hosking was doing the hard work inside.

Luke Expery provided useful drive

doing the hard work inside.

Luke Ebzery provided useful drive midway through the half with three points and Shane Holloway was strong in both offence and defence.

Dimmock was forced from the court late in the game under the blood rule after taking a heavy fall, but Warrandyte led by a point with just over a minute to go and were playing possession basketball, forcing Geelong to up the pressure.

The visitors were in foul trouble and first Matthew Clough and then Hosking put points on the board from the free throw line to give the Redbacks a gutsy 32-28 win, Hosking topscoring with 14 points.

points.

The victory over opposition of this quality suggests this Redback team can look forward to a good season. They will certainly not be the tallest

side in the competition but play a fast, attacking game which will trouble many sides.

many sides.

In an earlier game, Warrandyte's second Under-18 boys side scored a 31-28 win over Upper Yarra after looking comfortable with a 18-11 lead at the

break.

The bulk of the scoring to half-time had come from Bryce Petalas (11 points) and Julian Byrne (four), with tall centres Aaron Delacy and Richard Domeyer very effective under the basket and with outside shots coming from Luke Saunders and Lee Thompson from Luke Thompson.

Thompson.

The second half, however, was a complete reversal, with Upper Yarra coming back strongly and doing all the early scoring. They took a one-point lead with five minutes to and quickly extended that to four, but a Redbacks revival to tie up the game was sparked by a three-point shot by Matt Camm.

A spectacular goal from Matt Spinosa from the top of the key put Warrandyte back in front and the final seconds were nerve-racking, with the Redbacks striving to retain possession and Up-

per Yarra desperate to relieve them of it.

it.

The final siren gone, a very relieved Warrandyte coach Andrew Petalas was at a loss to explain the second-half turnaround but was full of praise for the way his boys had held their nerve in the last desperate minutes.

Not so fortunate at the end were Emma Collins' Under-16 boys in their game against Banksia.

Warrandyte started slowly and trailed 30-17 at the break despite the drive of Patrick Eddy from point and with good support from a number of his teammates.

with good support from a number of his teammates.

The second half belonged to Warrandyte, but they were never able to overhaul the Banksia lead, going down 54-49. Whenever the Redbacks challenged, Banksia were able to get the easy reply to maintain the scoreboard pressure.

Topscorers for Warrandyte were Daniel Hughes with 14, Eddy with 13, Ryan Holloway eight and Matthew Peters seven.

It was a similar story for Damian Arsenis' Under-12 Metro 2 boys, who

trailed Darebin 25-10 at the break but split the second half to go down 39-24. Jake Wintle led the scoring with 10 points, with all other players also on the scoreboard.

the scoreboard.

Arsenis was ruing the poor shooting percentage in the first half. "We missed too many easy shots and Darebin got theirs in during the first half," he said. "We should have been neck and neck at the break, not 15 points down."

nair, ne said. We should have been neck and neck at the break, not 15 points down."

Warrandyte's defence, particularly in the second half, was good and the team will continue to develop.

Warrandyte's Under-12 Metro 1 girls began their campaign on a high note with a 42-22 win over Kilsyth at Kilsyth. But the highlight of their night was running into basketball living legend Andrew Gaze, who was at the stadium with his daughter.

The Redback girls besieged Gaze and all came away with his autograph.

Nick Peters' Under-18 girls again started slowly against Darebin and, although they outscored the home side 25-12 in the second half, went down 34-31.

# A brand new ball game!



Peter Green: 'You only have to show him anything the once.'

### New Bloods recruit 'could be anything'

By LEE TINDALE

Describe to any football talent scout a young bloke who stands 197 centimetres, weighs in at 96 kilograms, can leap a vertical metre from one step and cover 400 metres in 52 seconds on the training track and that talent scout will unashamedly salivate.

The one drawback is that this The one drawback is that this young bloke has never played footy — but that hasn't tempered the excitement Queenslander Anthony Richardson, 22, has generated since he arrived a couple of months ago to try out with Warrandyte Football Club.

Baskethall has always been

Basketball has always been

Basketball has always been Richardson's game and he's very, very good at it. He is also a champion mountain bike rider, ranked in the top 10-15 in Australia in his field.

So what brought him to the Bloods? A chance meeting at Ivanhoe Cycles, where he works as a mechanic, with Warrandyte's Graham Elliott, father of local basketballers/footballers local basketballers/footballers Brian and Trevor and manager

of Hawthorn Magic in the VBL

of Hawthorn Magic in the VBL Premier League.
The Elliott twins were playing for Hawthorn Magic and Warrandyte High School physical education teacher Steve Moresi just happened to be coaching there. One thing led to another.
Moresi has taught PE for 20 years and describes Richardson as "a freak, the best athlete I've ever seen".

years and describes richardson as "a freak, the best athlete I've ever seen".

"He is also an awesome young guy," he said.

Warrandyte senior football coach Peter Green is also mightily impressed with Richardson and his potential. "I suppose 22 is a bit long in the tooth to be starting a football career at top level," Green said, "but if Anthony had been picked up at, say, 16 he'd be playing AFL today."

Moresi is similarly enthused by Richardson's basketball talents. "He was brilliant at Hawthorn Magic," he said. "He's like a (NBL star) Sam McKinnon ... similar build and athleticism.

"If he'd been picked up when

"If he'd been picked up when he was younger he'd be playing NBL."

Richardson has been under-Richardson has been undergoing plenty of one-on-one training with former Warrandyte football notables — including champion ruckman Kimberly O'Connor — to prepare him for competitive football and expect to see him in action when the Bloods begin their 2005 EFL Third Division campaign at home to South Croy-

when the Bloods begin their 2005 EFL Third Division campaign at home to South Croydon on April 9.

"There's every chance he'll play in the opening game," said Green. "His development has been way and above my highest expectations.
"It is a steep learning curve for him — but you only have to show him anything the once.
"Learning to read the play with probably be his toughest challenge, but that will come only with experience."

The arrival of Richardson has softened the blow of losing last year's co-captain Matt Blagrove — the 1992 best and fairest winner — to Eltham Collegians in the amateur ranks. The inspirational Blagrove ran third in last year's club champion award. tional Blagrove ran third in last year's club champion award

despite carrying a knee injury through the latter stages of the season.

through the latter stages of the season.

The Bloods have also lost classy midfielder Todd Holman to Montmorency in the Diamond Valley league and full-back Stewart Rough, who has moved to Perth.

On the positive side, they have recruited promising types in Clint and Aaron Wheatley and Adam Kearney from Diamond Valley club Lalor and will be looking to intensify their youth development policy with graduates from last season's Under-18s.

Coach Green is happy with the pre-season so far. "We have a core group of players who have responded very well to hard training and their fitness has improved," he said.

"The players understand the game plan we have adopted for this season to make us very competitive and they have accepted it.

"Of course, we won't really know how we're going until we're into the season."

## uniors are ready to rumble

It has been an embarrassment of riches at the top age level for Warrandyte Junior Football Club as the

Warrandyte Junior Football Club as the 2005 season approaches.

"We had a massive response at registration day at the (Under-17) Colts level," said club president Steve Blakey, "so much so that we have unfortunately had to help some of the players find other clubs.

"We simply had too many players."

players find other clubs.

"We simply had too many players.

"All teams are shaping up well for the season's opening on April 3 although we could still do with more Under-14 and Under-15 players," he said.

Tactics, player and supporter standards and coaching tips for 2005 were discussed, shared and agreed to at a recent coaching forum. The coaches also had the opportunity to set objective.

also had the opportunity to set objectives for the season.

Peter Stafford is excited about what lies in store for his Under-9s. "This is a great time watching these young players come together as a team," he said.

"I am looking forward to seeing how kids like Dylan Krajnc, Conor Lucas, Kyle McMennemin, Kyal Norris and Joshua Rowarth perform during the

Joshua Vegar."

In the Under-10s, coach Shane Newman has identified Jake Wintle, Ryan Tester, Bradley Stone, Cambell Prior, Levi Polkinghorne and Alan Pardoe as players who could really

team.

Promising to go one better that the second placings he has achieved over the past two seasons, Under-11 coach

second placings he has achieved over the past two seasons, Under-11 coach Greg Edwards is focusing his team on a season-long campaign. "These boys were one game away from the flag last year and led the competition for all the rounds," he said.

"I will be looking for all our players—especially boys like Michael Ashfield, Sam Beasley, Lachlan Buckley, Dylan Burns and Matthew Colborne-Veel—to fully utilise their talents. Then anything could happen."

The Under-12s are responding well to a new training regime introduced by first-year coach Andrew Wildsmith. "It is important to build the boys' confidence as well as their football brains at this stage of the pre-season," he said. "Our drills and our chats are all about ensuring we have team rules and

said. "Our drills and our chats are all about ensuring we have team rules and a team approach to our football."

While he is a still getting to know his players, Wildsmith is particularly impressed with their level of skills and has been enthused by the likes of Sam Allardice, Thomas Appleby, Jordon Beltramin, Zac Brodrick, Charlie Bullard and Nathan Campbell.

Chris Appleby says he learnt an in-

Chris Appleby says he learnt an incredible amount in his first year of coaching and is hoping to bring the benefits of that experience to his new Under-13s this year.



Under-9 Tacker Brandon Stafford is just one of a multitude of local kids counting down to the start of the season.

"Players such as Rhys Aldenhoven, Tyler Arnold, David Beasley, Taylor Beaumont, Steven Biggins, Andrew Bird and Morrison Birznieks have an enormous amount of potential and this year will be a real test for them," he said.

Although short on numbers, the Under-14s have been training well and the club will be looking to Jeremy Andrews, Tyson Barber, Joshua Blakey, Zac Boyce, Ross Brown and Aaron Dean to take leadership roles.

Steve Blakey has stepped into the Under-15s coaching role and is looking forward to the likes of Brendan Williams, Edward Saunders, Luke Saunders, Davan Rennie, Tyson Rees and Bradyen Pettigrove continuing their skills development in what will be a tough, competitive grading. Shaun Wilson takes up the reigns of the Colts team. An experienced coach,

Shaun Wilson takes up the reigns of the Colts team. An experienced coach, he has high aspirations for the year. "We have known for some time that players like Scott Allwood, Xanthus Balding, Keely Beaumont, Yaaren Bektash and Jack Bullard are good players, but this year will test them," he said. "Some of the boys had experience at

he said.

"Some of the boys had experience at this level last year as under-aged Colts so we expect that they will really come of age during the 2005 season."

For more information about the club—or expressions of interest about helping to fill the Under-14s or Under-15 ranks—contact Steve Blakey on 9844 4943 or Kevin O'Mara (9844 2964).

• All past and present players are invited to march behind the junior football club banner in the Warrandyte Festival parade. Anyone interested is invited to contact Greg Edwards on 9844 4616.

### Under-18s bite the dust again

Warrandyte's on again-off again participation in Under-18 football is off again. For want of numbers — and despite best efforts to raise them — the Bloods have withdrawn from last year's merger with Heathmont, a combine which made it to the Division 4 grand final.

The liaison was to continue this season, but a local recruiting campaign led by WFC committeeman Brian Williams ran into a wall of disinerest. "It's a great pity to have to withdraw from the arrangement with Heathmont," said WFC president Phil Treeby, "because Under-18s is the vital link between senior and junior football. "Brian has done everything possible — including personal approaches to eligible players and their parents — to find the numbers, but without success. "We realise boys of that age have a lot of other options these days and that a lot of parents don't want their sons playing football in their HSC year. "But it's a shame to see Under-18 football in this town lapse again."

Our Under-18s went into recess at the end of season 2000 but were resurrected in tandem with Doncaster East in 2003 after a concerted and long-running recruiting drive by Williams and other WFC personnel.

Doncaster East jumped ship after one season and Heathmont came aboard.

### Time out for our netball coaches

#### By SONIA RAPPELL

Warrandyte Netball Club will field 19 teams in the new Doncaster and District season. Coaches have been appointed for all teams, but the club welcomes approaches from in terested prospective coaches for future sea-

terested prospective coaches for future seasons.

The contact is Vicki on 9844 1351.

The club recently entertained returning and new coaches and their assistants at a barbecue at Stiggants Reserve.

They were addressed by former head coach Bec Minichilli and Carey Nichol, a new committee member who told the gathering: "The committee has tried to pair experienced coaches with less experienced assistants for the benefit of all."

The club's Netball Skills clinic program for five to nine-year-olds is to be held on Fridays from April 22. Previous clinics have been very popular and numbers this year will be limited.

Netball Skills participants have gone on to play in the Doncaster and District Netball Association Saturday competition at Templestowe Leisure Centre.

Leisure Centre.
Warrandyte's registration day is Friday, April
22, from 4.15-5pm at the Taroona Avenue courts.
The \$48 cost includes VNA registration and the contact is Peta on 9844 4898.



Warrandyte Netball Club coaches enjoy a laid-back barbecue at Stiggants Reserve.

#### VIP launch

Warrandyte's 2005 season will be officially launched at the clubrooms on Wednesday, March 9, by former AFL stars Greg Williams and David Bolton. Bolton and Williams will conduct training from 5pm and later assist in the presentation of jumpers.

All supporters are welcome and will have the opportunity to speak with the two VIP guests and senior coach Peter Green.

Barbecue food and drinks will be available.

#### **Immortals**

Some of the best players and outstanding personalities to have graced Warrandyte Football Club over the past 30 years will be in action at the recreation reserve on Festival Saturday (March 19).

They will attempt to relive glorious deeds (and will more than likely bring to the surface long-forgotten injuries) in a Legends Game, the highlight of a big afternoon's football. The game starts at 1pm and will be followed by practice matches for the current senior list against Knox at 3pm and 5pm.

# Second-chance Dytes!

Warrandyte Cricket Club's hopes of winning a First XI premiership to celebrate their 150th anniversary season are on a knife edge when they meet St Andrews on March 12-13 in the Ringwood District Cricket Association Second Division preliminary final.

A loss will see the end of their season but a win will enable them to take on North Ringwood and avenge their second semi-final defeat.

After finishing the season a game and a half clear on top of the ladder, Warrandyte were clear favorites to win the semi-final and earn automatic entry into the grand final.

But a poor performance with the bat in difficult, wet conditions saw them dismissed for 144 and North Ringwood were able to overtake the total for the loss of only five wickets.

Warrandyte will have three senior teams in action on the weekend with the Second XI's fairytale continuing after defeating St Andrews in the first semi-final while the Third XI will play in the preliminary final after losing the second semi-final

semi-final while the Third XI will play in the preliminary final after losing the second semi-final to North Croydon.

The Fourth XI booked their grand final berth with a comprehensive win while the Fifth XI have been eliminated, losing the first semi-final, also to



North Croydon. The First XI were in good form coming into the finals, coming off an outright win over premiership hopefuls South Croydon and then easily accounting for Montrose in the final home-and-way rame.

Montrose in the final home-andaway game.
Batting first at home against North Ringwood, Tyson Brent and Jason Graf got the team off to a slow but steady start until both Graf and Adam White fell cheaply, leaving the score at 3-47.

A number of the start of the start and the start an

A number of rain interrup-tions made it difficult for the

tions made it difficult for the batsmen to get a rhythm in their game and when Brent fell for 30, Warrandyte needed to steady.

But again the rain forced players from the field and when the first day ended, the Dytes were 4-96 with 26 overs to bat and the likelihood of a score close to 200 beckoned.

But as has been the case too often this season, quick wickets fell, leaving Warrandyte at 9-144.

The experienced North Ringwood side had little trouble achieving the total although Matthew Sazenis was able to

Warrandyte set a new club record with an outstanding finish to the 2004-05 Ringwood District season.

For the first time in more than 20 years the club fielded five senior teams and all finished in the four, with the Firsts, Thirds and

ior teams and all finished in the four, with the Firsts, Thirds and Fourths on top.

The club's three junior teams — Under-16, Under-14 and Under-12 — all finished in the top four.

Unfortunately, the Under-16s and Under-14s were knocked out in their respective finals, but the Under 12s will play off for a premiership on March 12-13.

The club have already secured one premiership with the Over 40s Veterans team defeating North Ringwood in the Third Division grand final.

Warrandyte dismissed North Ringwood for 126, with Steve Pascoe taking a miserly 2-8 from his allotted six overs. Opener David Stickles scored a patient 38 to help guide Warrandyte to a thrilling last-over victory.

Our super season

went straight into the grand fi-nal with a comfortable win over

an Clements was the best of the Warrandyte batsmen, with 25.

stall the run to victory with three wickets.

Despite the unexpected loss, Warrandyte still remain within sight of their premiership goal and boast a strong finals record against St Andrews.

The Seconds' remarkable run towards the premiership continues following a thrilling semifinal win.

After the first five rounds, this team were on the bottom without a win, but they have won every match since the last round before Christmas.

Each match has been an elimination final as a loss at any stage would have seen them drop out of the finals race.

Like the senior team, the Seconds batted through a series of rain delays and were precariously placed at 7-84 at the end of the first day. But a 50-run partnership for the ninth wicket by Adam Beardall and Under-14 player Ayrton Dehmel took them to a creditable 153.

Beardall continued his remarkable performance by taking 5-16 with his leg spin while veteran Robert White opened the bowling with his off spin and took 4-30 off 17 consecutive overs to dismiss St Andrews for 84.

overs to dismiss St Andrews for 84.

84.

The Third XI, after taking top position on the ladder, could manage only 86 against North Croydon, with Nathan Aly's 30 the stand-out score.

The bowlers fought back, with John Prangley taking three wickets, and North Croydon passed the Warrandyte score for the loss of eight wickets.

The Fourth XI, made up of fathers and sons from the junior teams, also finished on top and went straight into the grand fi-

nal with a comfortable win over Montrose.

Ken Miller was the best with the ball, taking five wickets, while Under-14 batsman Chris Barry was undefeated on 63 as he led the team to victory.

The Fifth XI were beaten in the last over by North Croydon. Dylan Clements was the best of the



WCC president Robert White (right) presents Colin Chapman with his Warrandyte shirt while Jim Harris and Geoff Day (partrly obscured) look on

## he magnificent six

Warrandyte Cricket Club's 150th anniversary

Warrandyte Cricket Club's 150th anniversary celebrations were completed last month with a special match against an Invitational XI that included former Victorian state cricketers, AFL footballers and media personalities.

"We won the match but the important thing was seeing so many people attend and take part in what was a truly memorable day," said Warrandyte president Robert White.

Apart from the invitational game, a 20-20 match made up of a mixture of senior and junior players was organised as a curtain-raiser while on the No 2 Warrandyte oval the local Veterans completed the final home-and-away game against Wantirna.

The invitational game was similar to the match played in 1955 when Warrandyte celebrated their centenary with a game against a Melbourne Cricket Club XI.

The highlight of the day was the introduction to the large crowd who gathered for afternoon tea of six of the men who played for Warrandyte in that game 50 years ago.

Two Melbourne players from the centenary game also attended.

They are Colin McDonald, who was to go on and play Test cricket for Australia, and Ian Huntington, who was to later captain the Melbourne District side.

To mark the occasion, the six Warrandyte players — Colin and Doug Chapman, Jim Harris, Geoff Day and Doug and Brian Fry — were presented with cricket club shirts with special numbers.

sented with cricket club shirts with special numbers.

Each senior player is now credited with a number to indicate the order in which he was selected in the First XI since 1950. The late Allan Chapman has No 1, Jim Harris has No 2 and Colin Chapman No 3.

"It was wonderful to have these men come."

"It was wonderful to have these men come along and be part of our special day," said White.

"Warrandyte Cricket club have a long and proud tradition and it is important for the play-ers of today to reflect on the efforts and deeds of some of the pioneers."

# Hawks' finals fling falls short

#### By LEE TINDALE

Batting failures which had plagued them all season saw South Warrandyte Cricket Club bow out of the RDCA Chandler Shield finals race last month.

The Hawks had painted themselves into a corner with two

Shield finals race last month.

The Hawks had painted themselves into a corner with two rounds to go, needing away wins over top-four sides Warranwood and East Ringwood and other results to fall their way if they were to see finals action.

But they lost both matches, sealing their own fate with a dismal batting performace at Warranwood on February 12. Set just 145 for victory after sending down their full quota of 80 tight, disciplined overs, South Warrandyte could muster only 102.

Warranwood had laid the foundation for a big score with a 60-run opening partnership, but lost their next five wickets for the addition of just 35 runs, three wickets falling with score stalled on 95.

Captain-coach Steve Garrett bowled 26.3 overs for 4-44 and Chad Rogers captured 2-24 in a miserly 21-over performance.

"One thing I've learned from this season in Chandler Shield is that if you bowl consistently on off stump you can limit most opposing sides to somewhere around 150," Garret said later.

But the Hawks were never able to mount any sort of a run chase, their batsmen forming a procession back to the pavilion as wickets fell at 11, 21, 24, 26, 33, 48, 50, 69, 85 and 102.

Garrett, batting down the or-



Steve Garrett: 'Just a matter of taking off.

der, topscored with 35, Craig Smith (14) and David Horwood (12) the only other batsmen to reach double figures.

South were set the more daunting target of 195 by East Ringwood, a target which would have been very achievable but for 40 sundries.

The Hawks gambled by having wicketkeeper John Eldridge up at the stumps to the fast bowlers and it paid off to the extent of producing a spectacular leg-side stumping — "One of the best I've ever seen," said Garrett.

But it also contributed to 16 byes to go with 18 leg byes and in the final analysis the sundries tally cost South Warrandyte the game.

Rogers was by far the best of the Hawks' bowlers, collecting 5-54 from 25.4 overs, Garrett taking 2-34 off 23 and Scott Brasher 2-43 from 19.

It was a considerably more respectable batting performance by South this time, Brasher topscoring with 61 and Eldridge and Horwood contributing 24 and 21 respectively as the Hawks fell just 23 runs shy.

### Home sweet home at last

The extreme makeover of their Colman Park clubrooms has made presentation night on April 2 an historic one for the South Warrandyte Hawks.

"We've waited 75 years to have our presentation night in our clubrooms so make sure you make it," says the invitation. It's a seven o'clock start and the cost of \$22 a head includes a fully-catered dinner and entertainment by Peter Quintert. Drinks are at bar prices (half that during a 9-10pm happy hour).

Barry and Veronica Williams are taking bookings on 9876 4020.

East Ringwood's Daniel Carratelli was the scourge of the mid-lower order, capturing 4-13 off 13 overs.
Garret said there was no doubt the batting had let the Hawks down in 2004-05. "The ability is certainly there but the patience and maybe the pride in achivement were not." he said.
The club had, however, "moved forward" from the previous season.

"I'd describe it as like standing on the end of a springboard — it's just a matter of taking off," he said.

off," he said.

"It's up to the boys to do the off-season and come out fighting in 2005-06.

"We hope to retain all our current players for next season and add a few recruits."

The club have given young first-year coach Garrett a vote of confidence by reappointing him for the next campaign. Assistant coach and vice-captain Rogers, who had an excellent season with both bat and ball, has also been reappointed. has also been reappointed. Club president Barry

Williams, who will stand for a third term, agreed that batting had been the First XI's downfall.

had been the First XI's downfall.
"We are pursuing two or three
good bats to rectify that for
next season," he said.
"We we will also be implementing a policy of stocking the Second XI with young players —
we're talking here of 17 to, say,
23-year-olds — to prepare them
for entry into the First XI.
"Despite missing the finals
we're reasonably happy with
our season," Williams said. "If

a couple of close ones had gone our way we'd have made it. We've already set our sights on next season's finals."

next season's finals."

Despite the disappointments of the First and Second XIs — the Twos recorded an outright defeat and a big win in their closing fixtures — South Warrandyte saw both the Thirds and Fourths into the finals.

The Thirds found top form with the bat, posting 303 against Croydon and surviving a spirited run chase to win by 13 runs, and amassing 9-386 to very easily account for Mooroolbark.

Top-order batsman Stuart Battern was the star of those victors.

ten was the star of those victo-ries with 97 and 109 respec-

ries with 97 and 109 respectively.

The Fourths were also convincing winners over Mooroolbark in the final round, all-rounder Stefan Buljubasich turning in an outstanding performance with 40 runs and six wickets.

#### Details

FIRST XI: South Warrandyte 102 (Garrett 35, Craig Smith 14, Horwood 12) lost to Warranwood 144 (Garrett 4-44, Rogers 2-14, Cowan 2-24, Brasher 1-42) and 1-37. South Warrandyte 172 (Brasher 61, Eldridge 24, Horwood 21) lost to East Ringwood 194 (Rogers 5-54, Garrett 2-34, Brasher 2-43).

SECOND XI: South Warrandyte 9-61 (Careedy 17, Savage 12) and 8-76 (Careedy 28) lost to Warranwood 214 (Mock 3-35, Chrisfield 2-21, Jeynes 2-48, B. Hartrup 2-55). South Warrandyte 264 (B. Hartrup 67, Garner 52) d

East Ringwood 111 (Mock 5-17, B. Hartrup 4-50).
THIRD XI: South Warrandyte 303 (S. Batten 97, Richard Cutler 43, Rob Jones 41) d Croydon 8-290 (Smart 3-75). South Warrandyte 9-386 (S. Batten 109, Richard Cutler 63 n.o., Robert Cutler 53, Thiele 49) d Mooroolbark 227 (Smart 3-41).
FOURTH XI: South Warrandyte 9.220 (Sewell 61, Buljubasich 40, Pace 24) d. Mooroolbark 89 (Buljubasich 3-9, Scott Adams 3-26) and 4-111 (Buljubasich 3-29).

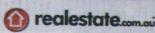
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