

New police station

State Park may benefit in budget

By SAM DAVIES

Warrandyte's police station will be rebuilt, and national park funding across Victoria boosted as part of the state government budget, announced earlier this month.

The police station is one of 34 across the state to be rebuilt. Labor MP for Yan Yean, Danielle Green, said rebuilding the station had been an election promise.

"The station is pretty old. We've had a commitment to not only make the stations better for the community, but also so support staff and police could have a decent place to work."

Ms Green could not go into specifics. The new station would likely be on the same site, though she could not yet say when construction would begin, or what arrangements would be made to accommodate local police during construction.

Liberal MP for Warrandyte, Phil Honeywood, said he would "believe it when he saw it". He said a new police station was first promised five years ago, and this budget had not allocated "one dollar" in the next 12 months, to start construction.

Parks state-wide received \$121.2 million, though the exact breakdown for each park—including Warrandyte's allocation—will not be announced until July.

The state-wide parks funding

includes \$49.4 million for upgrading parks facilities to attract more visitors and ensure public safety, and \$19 million for weed and pest control in parks, including an additional 18 staff.

"It's a lot of money, I'm absolutely positive Warrandyte will be having a share in that funding increase," Ms Green said.

But Mr Honeywood said an increase in the number of national parks, such as in the Otways, would dilute the general funding increase. "At the local level, by the time it trickles down, Warrandyte still won't get what they were getting under the Liberals."

"Last year funding was increased from \$10,000 to \$36,000, but that is still 60 per cent less than the Liberal government provided," Mr Honeywood said.

Also in the parks' budget is \$20 million to maintain and upgrade public roads in state forests, \$2.8 million to protect native vegetation on private land, and \$10 million for a public parks acquisition program to acquire land that may be required for future parks.

Ms Green said she would lobby strongly for the acquisition program to include a continuous park from Warrandyte to Kinglake, including the Bend-of-Isles section of the Yarra.

Ms Green and Mr Honeywood will answer questions at the Warrandyte Community Association's public forum and annual general meeting on Thursday, May 12 at the new North Warrandyte Community Centre in Research Road.



WARRANDYTE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

PUBLIC FORUM

North Warrandyte Community Centre, Research Road
Thursday, May 12, 8pm

Everyone urged to attend!

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



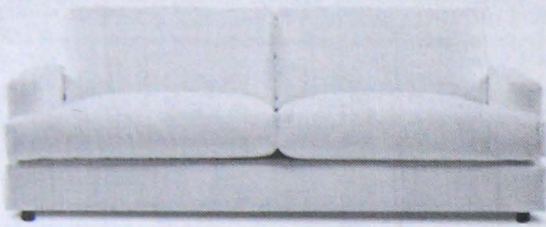
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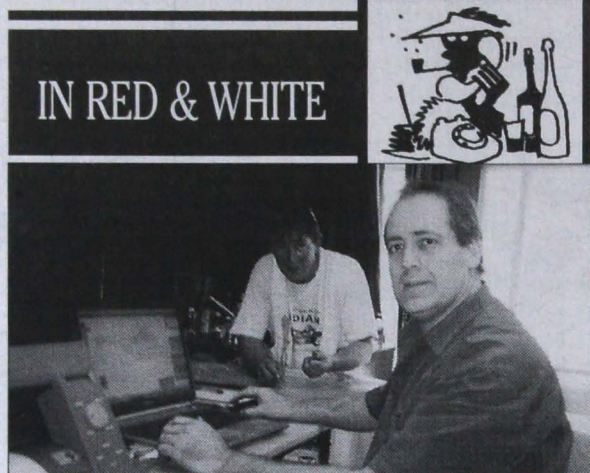
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Why Disneyland has taken a leaf from our Bruce's book

 A worldwide search by the Disneyland people has ended right here in Yarra Street. Bruce Jackson, 47, of GoldReverre studio, has won a major contract to do all the gold leaf lettering on shop windows along "Main Street USA," a replica of a pioneer American township which will be the centrepiece of Disneyland Hong Kong. Goldleaf lettering has become a bit of a dying art — but not so with Bruce, who has made it a classical extension of his background in traditional signwriting. "It's basically a Western tradition," he says, "and Disney couldn't find the skills in Hong Kong." Hence the international search. Bruce was contacted in January 2004 and invited to submit a sample of his work to a design team in California. The tender went out in March to a handful of people considered capable of handling the project. Bruce, who led a team of five to Hong Kong on April 30, admits he's never tackled anything on this scale. "It was a bit daunting, especially within the tight time frame," he says. "This is by far the biggest project around for gold leaf sign work. Most gold leaf jobs are special projects of high quality but usually on a small scale. Completing the tender itself was a huge undertaking — 300 pages of documentation with detailed specifications for more than 140 separate signs." Disneyland Hong Kong is being built on Lantau island and is expected to open in September. So if you ever get there and find yourself walking along Main Street USA, raise your 10-gallon hat to the Warrandyte bloke who made a golden contribution to it.





Honkers here we come! Bruce Jackson at work at his Yarra Street studio.


there was to be no early night this time ... because his roommate Lex McDonald was in party mode and when he eventually found his way to bed he snored quite loudly enough to wake the long-departed. Neil swears the snoring stopped just the once — and then only long enough to accommodate another bodily function. Lex McDonald shall henceforth be known as "Chuck".

 Actually, it turned out to be a pretty ordinary week for Chuck. Having sworn he had given up smoking forever, he walked to the local footy on May 7 and was caught red-handed buying a packet of fags at IGA by the lovely Karen, who'd followed him at a distance. Karen is quite a detective.


shot followed precisely the same path. This time, though, there was no raffle money to cover the fine. He shall be known henceforth as "Wrongway Ross".


 A pig-headed old sod he might be, but occasional Page 2 superstar Alan "Coatsey" Koetsveld has had the good sense, since suffering a minor stroke a couple of years back, to have a brain scan when the doc so suggests. And as he headed off for the latest he declared: "I can guarantee they won't find a thing!" Now there are two ways of looking at that.

 He's two-and-a-half and it was first experience of kindergarten, tagging along with mum to a working bee at the Taroon Avenue centre. And he was clearly anything but overawed by the experience. Back later at the grandparents' place in Webb Street, doting grandpa asked the obvious question: "So what did you do at kinder?" "I farted," said the kid. Oh.

 The happiest of 80th birthdays from us to Jean Chapman, an occasion celebrated a day early on May 1 surrounded by some 60 family members and friends at a barbecue at Stiggants. Jean has long been one of Smokey's favourite ladies — not just because she's done a helluva lot for this town and is the matriarch of our most illustrious cricketing family but very significantly because she's always been a real sweetie.


 Warrandyte Football Club's avowed policy of building their future around home-grown youth may be all very commendable — but we thought signing up a day-old baby might be carrying the policy to extremes. Still, the lad is "bred in the purple", as the horse racing fraternity might say. Finian Cornell (Finn for short) arrived on April 27, son of Jaki and former Bloods captain Chris, a very classy footballer who retired at the end of last season and is now runner for the seniors. Early indications are that Finn could develop in the Jonathon Brown mould. He weighed in at 91b 9oz and if there's anything the Bloods have been lacking in recent seasons it's a bit of bulk.


 There's no doubting the contributions of former president Jeff Evans to the footy club — but one thing he refuses to do is wash his plate for the canteen staff after dining at Thursday night training. It's developed over a couple of years into a private war with canteen volunteer Lisa Ryan, who fired a telling shot last month by sticking the unwashed plate in a plastic bag and delivering it to Jeff's place at Wonga Park. Jeff responded by taking it all the way to a Bendigo racing stable, where he has a couple of horses, and having it washed by the kitchen staff there. He then returned it, squeaky clean, to the footy club. Watch this space.

 And a couple of very worthy additions to your native garden available right now from the Friends of Warrandyte State Park nursery: The hop or straight wattle (*Acacia stricta*), quick growing to a height of around four metres and pruning will make it bushy. Adaptable to most soils. Likewise the woolly pomaderris (*Pomaderris lanigera*), an attractive shrub with large soft leaves adorned with rusty coloured hairs on the underside of the leaves and on new growth. Produces clusters of bright yellow flowers in spring. The nursery is at the rangers depot at Pound Bend and its manager will happily field your inquiries on 0408 317 327.

Smokey Joe



 The Warrandyte Tennis Club chaps like to stay at the Marysville Hotel during their annual golfing weekend up there and it is a tribute to the pub management's tolerance and forgiving nature that they are allowed back next time. Of course, bar takings soar over that particular weekend, so maybe the pub can't afford not to have them back. Anyhow, club president and Page 2 dominator Neil Dusting set a fine example on last month's pilgrimage by being first to bed on Saturday night — not a unique event, actually, because he lacks the stamina of some of his peers and generally signals an early night by buying a big round of fancy drinks and sneaking off to the sack. But

 Forever seeking extensions to their sporting horizons, Neil Dusting and his close mate Ross Thomas were about to join Donvale Bowling Club when they discovered it had only a restricted liquor licence, so they settled instead on Ringwood. And didn't Ross make an impression on debut in night competition there! Won the members' \$50 cash draw — which just covered the fine imposed for totally misreading the bias and sending his very first bowl across five rinks. We think that Ross is going to take time to pick up even the fundamentals of lawn bowls (sometimes unkindly referred to as old men's marbles) because at his second outing at Ringwood he stuffed up the bias again and his first

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WARRANDYTE DIARY

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EDITORIAL: Chief of staff Jan Tindale, 9844 0555.
ADVERTISING & ACCOUNTS: Rae Danks, 9844 3819 or 0414 745 212.
CIRCULATION: Peter Norman, 9844 3268.
FAX: Editorial and Advertising, 9844 4168.
DIARY OFFICE: 168-178 Yarra Street, Warrandyte, 9844 0555
INTERNET EDITOR: Sandy Burgoyne, 9844 2680
EMAIL ADDRESS: thediary@vicnet.net.au
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OUR NEWSPAPER
The Warrandyte Diary was established in 1970 as a small local newsletter. Although it has developed over the years, it has retained its strong community character, being produced by volunteers with only one aim: to serve its community. Financed solely through advertising, it guards its not-for-profit, non-commercial status and its independent voice. The Diary carries a strong editorial bias towards the people, environment and character of the place it serves. Its monthly circulation is 4000 copies and it is available in Warrandyte, North Warrandyte, South Warrandyte, Park Orchards, Wonga Park, Waranwood, North Ringwood, Kangaroo Ground and Research.

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

OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



Old chapel windows at risk

By SAM DAVIES

Five historic lead-light windows will be removed from the newly vacated former Gospel Chapel on Yarra Street, if an application for extensive refurbishment goes ahead.

The windows, dating back to 1948, were donated to the chapel by five prominent local families including the Drysdales, who built the Golden Gate Store at the West End, and the Speers family who donated the land on which the chapel was built.

Dwayne Schuyler, who has been a co-owner of the chapel over the past two-and-a-half years, said the lead-light windows were in poor condition, and had not been included in the renovation plans because they were not sure how much it would cost to keep them.

"I know there is history in the windows, but the frames are rotten, there are breakages in the glass, they have not been looked after. We want to redo the chapel to its former glory. If there are objections, then we would have to look into it," Mr Schuyler said.

Plans for the refurbishment include replacing all windows with longer panes and clear glazing, constructing a timber decking, restumping the building, and replacing asbestos cement sheeting.

Warrandyte Historical Society president Jo Laurence, said she was sympathetic to the refurbishment. She said while ideally the windows would stay put, they may otherwise be ceded back to the families or kept at the Historical Society.

Ms Laurence has been tracking down relatives of the families who donated the windows to discuss what should be done with them. Resident John Thomas, whose family donated a window, has lodged an objection.

The Warrandyte Community Association's Kerrie Boyle said they would object to the removal of the windows. "The owners are trying to do the right thing, but it would be a shame if they ended up being kept out in somebody's backyard," she said.

Of greater concern to WCA is the proposed extension of decking around the building. "We are quite concerned about any increase to the existing footprint of the building, enabling expansion of commercial activities. This could be setting a dangerous precedent," she said.

Mr Schuyler said he was open to suggestions, but the condition of the windows limited the options. "To take them out and put them back in—the leadlight would just fall apart. The chance of survival after pulling them out is pretty slim, and to get new lead-lights defeats the whole purpose," he said.

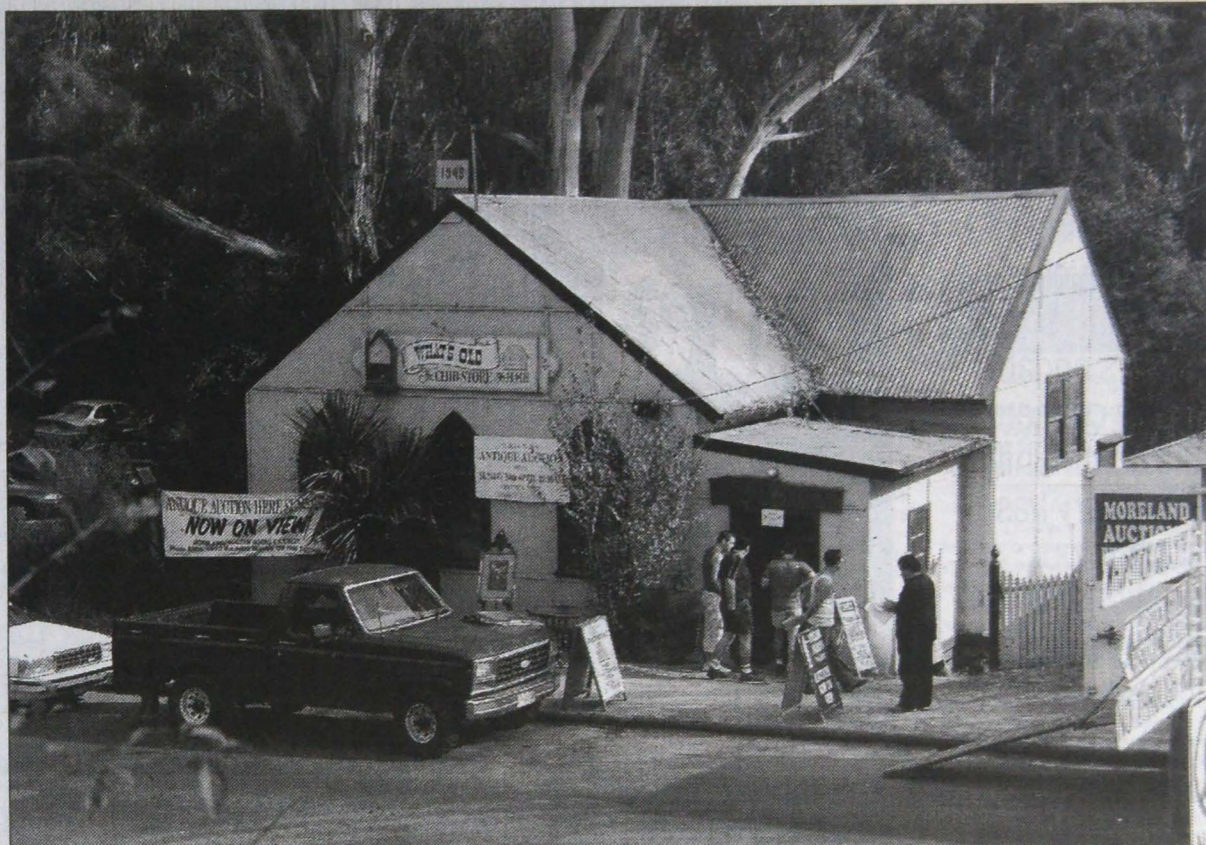
Once the renovations are completed, the building will be re-leased, though uses are restricted as the building is classified in urban floodway zoning and has historical overlays.

Previous tenant, Sandi Symes who ran the Club Store, farewellled the property after nine years residence, and 12 in Warrandyte, on Anzac Day weekend.

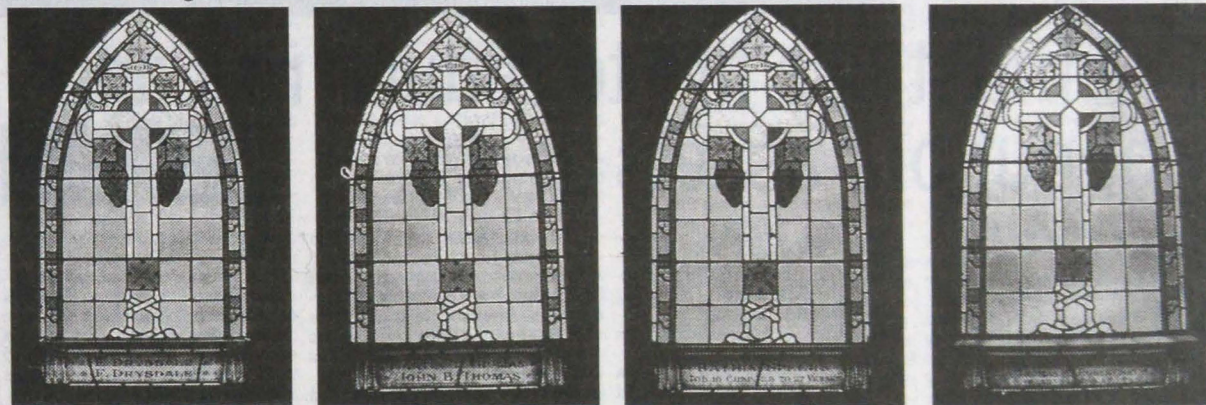
A resident of Warrandyte for 40 years, Ms Symes said the township was no longer getting the tourists and visitors for the business to remain viable. "There's no goldmines to visit, and there's been a lot of bad publicity about the Yarra River and its pollution, and the tunnel is fenced off," she said.

"It's a shame when Warrandyte was an old village, and is now becoming a boring shopping centre. We're missing out on our art and pottery."

The business is moving to Sydney Road, Brunswick.



Club Store's closing down sale at the old Gospel Chapel. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)



Memorial windows marked for removal. (Pictures courtesy Warrandyte Historical Society)

Meetings important for town's future

By SAM DAVIES

Consultants commissioned through the Pride of Place grant to overhaul Warrandyte's signage, will present their ideas to the community at a public meeting this month.

David Lancashire Design has audited Warrandyte's many signs to see what can be removed, consolidated or re-designed.

The public will be invited to see the new concepts for signs within the Yarra street precinct, including corporate signage for Manningham, and offer suggestions and feedback.

The Warrandyte Community Association's Kerrie Boyle, said the community needed to attend the meeting.

"It's important the community comes to look, so they can see the designs are what they want, and

whether they cover all the areas they want," she said.

A meeting with traders was scheduled in early May.

Ms Boyle said it was important that traders were involved in the process. "If they don't come on board it will be difficult," she said.

But she congratulated council officers on their enthusiasm. "They have been very supportive of trying to get Warrandyte back to what it was like before this signage got out of control," she said.

"Anything that minimises the signs will be fantastic," Ms Boyle said.

The community meeting will be held at the Senior Citizens Clubrooms in Tarroona Avenue on Wednesday, May 18 commencing at 7.30pm.

Your turn to ask

The Warrandyte Community Association public forum, to be held at the new North Warrandyte Community Centre in Research Road on Thursday, May 12, will give locals an opportunity to quiz and question council and parliamentary representatives.

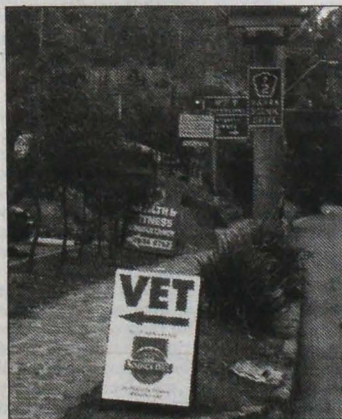
As previously reported, WCA president Jonathan Upson has assured residents that he will do all he can to prevent politicians and councillors dominating the proceedings.

"In response to feedback from last year's meeting, we will be trying our best to limit the length of speeches and

responses in order to provide the public with more opportunities to voice their concerns and ask questions," he told the *Diary*.

Among the speakers will be Danielle Green (MLA Yan Yean), Phil Honeywood (MLA Warrandyte), Caroline Hirsh (MLC Silvan), Cr Pat Young and Cr Gerard Dale (City of Manningham) and Cr Warwick Leeson (Nillumbik Shire).

WCA's annual general meeting will commence at 8pm and the public forum will begin at 8.30pm. Everyone is welcome.



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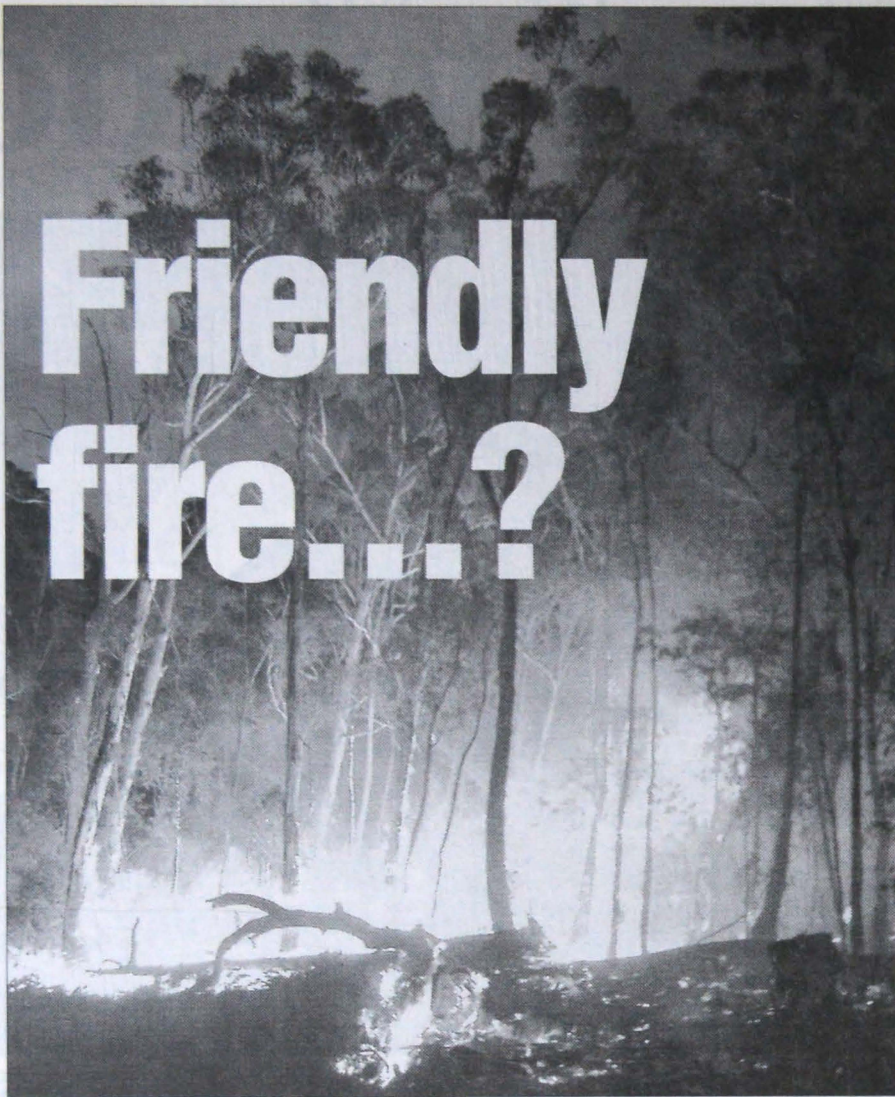
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Warrandyte is surrounded by highly flammable bush. Reports of escaping fuel reduction cool burns understandably cause concern in the community. The *Diary* has sought four opinions on this burning issue...

Friendly fire...?



We must use fire to reduce risk and not put our assets at risk

By JEFF ADAIR

SOUTHERN Australia is one of the most wildfire prone areas in the world. Wildfires have formed part of Australia's history and culture. Fuel reduction burns are a part of this history and culture and have been practised for thousands of years.

Indigenous Australians understood the benefits of regular and strategic burns as a means of land management. They were skilled fire managers and used it regularly. They understood fire, respected its application and recognised its limitations and dangers.

With the onset of European settlement fire was also used as a tool, but often escaped and was the cause of great damage and in many cases death and destruction. This is also part of our history.

The echoes of Black Friday, the devastating fires of the 1960s, Ash Wednesday, the Alpine and Gippsland fires of 2002/03 and more recently the tragic Port Lincoln, South Australia fires are stark reminders of how fire can be a destructive and uncontrollable force.

Fires cannot be eliminated or prevented. We can undertake a range of preventative treatment options and we can prepare communities, as well as refine our response and recovery strategies, however the simple reality is that the outbreak of fire will continue to occur.

CFA advocates a range of treatments in order to prevent, prepare, respond and recover from fire. Community education forms a critical ingredient in our overall fire management strategy. A core message of this prevention and preparedness mindset is to acknowledge that of the elements that contribute to fire, that is, weather, fuel and topography, only one is within our power to influence: fuel.

If we are to reduce the intensity of wildfire in our natural environment we must reduce the total volume of flammable material available.

CFA supports fuel management. Controlled burning is one

tool within a range of management techniques. Fuel reduction and controlled burning reduces fire intensity by reducing the available amount of available fuel. CFA support this practice.

Controlled burning is not a panacea. It does not and should not be the only method used to reduce the risk of fire. Controlled burning has real risks. It is a dynamic force that is open to the vagaries of changing weather. Even the most detailed planning can go astray when Mother Nature waves her wand.

In recent times community sentiment screams when not enough is done to manage fire, they also scream when fire breaks through the control lines that are used to contain the spread of fire when it is used as a tool following age-old traditions. It can be simply described as "damned if you do and damned if you don't".

Land management agencies as well as emergency services receive volumes of complaints from concerned residents about fire hazards. Our often scarce resources are stretched to the limit in responding to these concerns as well as having to manage vast tracts of land and educate the urban interface dwellers, rural populations and the fire behaviour "experts" who emerge each summer.

Opposition to the notion of controlled burning seems to stem from a failure of the public to recognise that fire is a natural part of our eco-system. Many also fail to acknowledge they know nothing of fire behaviour, and yet when fire does occur, and in some cases when it goes wrong, these very same people become the supposed experts in fire behaviour and land management. Agencies must also be prepared and willing to rescind the decision to burn regardless of what pressures their political masters may be under.

The sooner communities learn to accept fire and learn how to prevent, prepare for, respond and recover from fires,

the sooner our communities will become safer from fire. In order to do this, the provision of an accurate and timely information flow to the public is a critical ingredient if agencies are to change the perceptions of fire in the public mind.

Fuel reduction should and must happen if we are to reduce the threat to life, property and protect our magnificent natural assets from wildfire. "The Burning Issue" is not should we use fire as a tool to manage our forests, but more how and when we use fire to reduce our risk without putting at risk the very assets we are trying to protect.

In parks where the proposal to burn is balanced on the edge of competing priorities such as tourism, public access and ecological priorities, but poses an unacceptable risk to users, due consideration should be made to closing these facilities for the duration of the burn. This would satisfy some but many would be infuriated and complain bitterly. This may be the trade-off when opportunities to burn are restricted to "keyhole" dates within the seasonal calendar. Again—damned if you do and damned if you don't.

Our heritage areas, national parks and state forests are public property and are there to be used by the public, however many expect the benefits of use but do not share the responsibility for the management.

Fire is a dynamic event. It is open to the idiosyncrasies of our weather as has recently been demonstrated at Wilson's Promontory. It can quickly turn into a destructive and uncontrollable force. If we are to continue to use fire we must adopt a far more rigorous system for forecasting the likely conditions that will enable it to break its control lines.

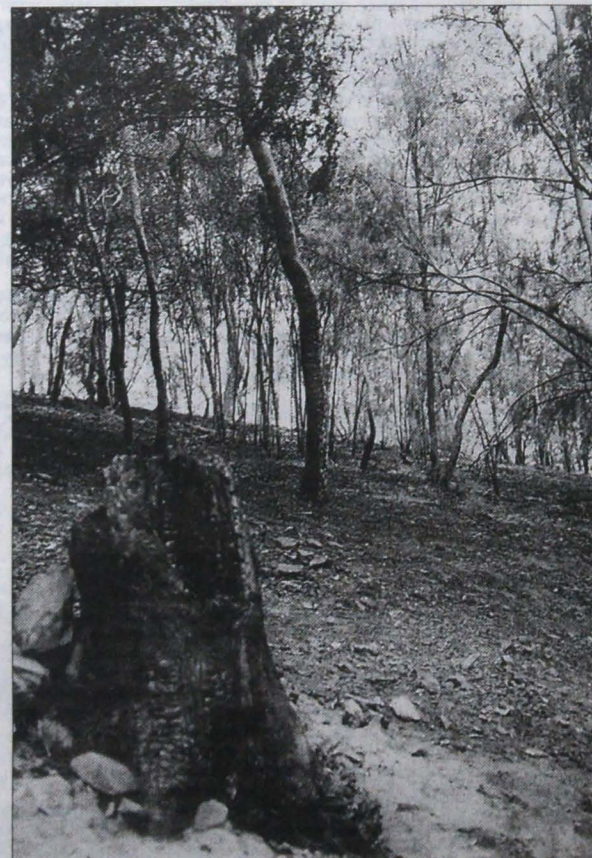
Land management agencies have tightly controlled prescriptions for controlled burning—a code of practice for fire management on public lands. This code must be adhered to before any controlled burn can be authorised and lit. The code of practice and guidelines are

COUNTRY FIRE AUTHORITY

systematic, consistently applied and can be difficult to administer. However, what appears to be lacking is a rigorous approach to ensuring that the controlled burns stay within the parameters of the code and its guidelines once the fire has been started.

Adopting a more disciplined approach to fire management may make the difference between having a burn plan running to its prescription or having the fire rapidly escalate and escaping from fire crews.

Jeff Adair is manager of community safety, CFA Yarra Area. He resides in Warrandyte.



The objective of each fuel reduction burn will vary

PARKS VICTORIA

By ANTHONY HESTER

FIRE is a natural occurrence in Australia's landscape, and many native species rely on it for regeneration. Our challenge is to balance the natural environment's need for fire with the safety of semi-rural populations, and the Warrandyte area is no exception.

In Victoria the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) has the responsibility of managing fire on public land. Parks Victoria, as a lead land management agency, has a partnership agreement with DSE to deliver fire management activities.

Prescribed burning in parks and forests reduces flammable vegetation such as leaves, twigs, grass, shrubs and bark. The objective of each fuel reduction burn will vary, depending on the proximity to houses and towns and the potential for fire to spread through the area. Prescribed burning does not prevent wildfires, but a fire in a fuel-reduced area will be easier to control.

Fuel reduction and ecological burns are conducted in spring and autumn, when the weather is milder. In these seasons the behaviour of fire is much easier to predict and manage.

DSE and Parks Victoria work closely with the Bureau of Meteorology and the Environment Protection Authority to ensure that the weather conditions are suitable and to minimise the effects of smoke on surrounding communities. The agencies ensure that adequate resources are on hand to ignite and control the burn, and notifications are made to the local community.

Over the past autumn and spring, three prescribed burns for both asset protection and

ecological objectives totalling 66 hectares have been completed around Warrandyte. These were at St Andrews, One Tree Hill and the Warrandyte State Park at Fourth Hill. DSE and Parks Victoria are now in the process of planning for next season's prescribed burns.

DSE and Parks Victoria also use prescribed burning in the Warrandyte, Christmas Hills and St Andrews areas to encourage the seeding of rare and threatened flora and fauna and to control weeds.

For example, a one-hectare burn that was carried out in the Flora Reserve at St Andrews last November was timed to manage an infestation of the weed Large Quaking Grass. This invasive species seeds in spring, so burning minimises its spread. The burn also helped to reinvigorate some of the native plants in the area, as well as reducing the risk to nearby houses of wildfire.

Fire management in the Warrandyte area received a welcome boost earlier this year with the arrival of a new fire tanker specifically designed for fighting forest fires. It has high ground clearance making it ideal for access to Warrandyte's fire tracks.

The tanker has been funded by the Victorian government's \$168 million initiative for additional staff and resources to reduce the risk and impact of wildfire. It gives DSE and Parks Victoria the extra capacity to do the prescribed burns that are required in Warrandyte's array of small parks and reserves.

The vehicle is fitted with a remote automated tracking system, which means its progress can be tracked easily. This has been a feature in Victoria's fire aircraft for a while but is a more recent addition to trucks and bulldozers and helps in monitoring location for improved safety.

The way prescribed fires are planned and conducted is controlled by the code of practice for fire management on public land which provides guidelines for all fire management activities by DSE and Parks Victoria. To view the code, visit www.dse.vic.gov.au/fires

The fire operations plan for the Warrandyte area identifies areas to be burned and is produced in consultation with the CFA and local communities. All burns are required to comply with an approved prescribed burn plan as specified by the code of practice.

You can write to John van de Paverd at DSE Port Phillip Region, Locked Bag 3000 Box Hill 3128 or email John.VandePaverd@dse.vic.gov.au if you would like to nominate an area of public land to be considered for prescribed burning.

For further information on parks and conservation reserves in the Warrandyte area please contact the Parks Victoria Information Centre on 13 19 63 or visit www.parkweb.vic.gov.au

People who are concerned about smoke in their area should call the Victorian bushfire information line on 1800 240 667.

Anthony Hester is fire community engagement officer, Parks Victoria.



To burn or not to burn

DSE welcomes the current debate about prescribed burning

By DANIELLE GREEN

LIVING as we do in an extremely fire prone area of the Green Wedges of Nillumbik and Manningham, many locals have told me of the interest they take in managing fire risk and maintaining safety.

At a personal level, being a CFA volunteer, I also have an active commitment to fire safety.

Fuel reduction burning is a crucial part of lowering the bushfire risk—and the need for more burning was recommended by the Esplin Inquiry into the Alpine fires of 2002/03—the largest fire event since white settlement.

Autumn is the best time to do prescribed burning due to more settled conditions prior to winter rainfall—spring weather is frequently windy and unsettled, with potential for residual fire left prior to summer, and winter is too cold and wet.

However this process is not without risk and our firefighters work within strict guidelines to minimise the chances of prescribed burns getting out of control.

The best possible procedures need to be in place for prescribed burning and for evacuating people who may be at risk when any fire threatens a populated area.

So far this autumn more than 411 prescribed burns have been undertaken with only nine reported escapes.

Whenever a prescribed burn breaks out of the burn area, a review of procedures is conducted to further refine the procedures.

The Bracks Government has taken firm action to increase the preparedness of Victoria to deal with bushfires. This year we are spending an additional \$34.1million for extra firefighters, more protective burns, more equipment and aircraft, and more fire access tracks to increase our bushfire preparedness. This is the first stage of an extra \$168 million over four years.

The maximum amount of burning was done in 2004 using a "seven-days-a-week" operation. The Department of Sustainability and Environment has made fuel reduction burning its highest priority after emergency response.

Across the state 94,990 hectares were burnt in 2003/04 in

difficult weather conditions (including nearly 23,000 hectares in the Gippsland region). This was a significant achievement. It was the largest area burnt in any of the previous six years and double the area burnt in 2002/2003.

Weather permitting, 130,000 hectares are to be burnt in 2004/05.

The burn program is being accompanied by an extensive public information and education program, which is contributing to a high level of community support. There has been improved co-operation between DSE, Parks Victoria, DPI, the CFA and water authorities to further our bushfire preparedness.

My understanding is that the Department of Sustainability and Environment welcomes the current debate about prescribed burning. The very positive side of this debate is that it increases the public's understanding of the need for these burns and importantly the potential dangers involved.

Phil Honeywood recently showed his ignorance in his public comments about fuel reduction burns.

In a letter to The Age on April 7 he said that the opposition had not received a reply to its request for a briefing and that fire management plans should be freely available to the public. In fact DSE had already advised the state opposition on how to get a briefing and all aspects of fire management and techniques are available on the DSE website.

The management of fire on public land is an open process. The fire management plan is available on the DSE website. Each year DSE updates plans for each fire district in Victoria and community input is invited via public meetings and submissions.

Mr Honeywood also asked when the last fuel reduction burn was completed at Wilsons Promontory and whether enough resources were brought in to deal with the fire outbreak.

In fact fuel reduction burning has long been regular practice at Wilsons Promontory, with burns almost every year since the early 1980s.

The prescribed burn this year was commenced well before the school holidays during a period of predicted mild weather. Extra resources as required were quickly sent, rapidly building to

200 ground crew and equipment from DSE, Parks Victoria and the CFA. Fire has affected 12 per cent of the national park.

The Bracks government has engaged 90 new permanent fire staff this year, increasing permanent fire staff from approximately 370 to 460.

The 90 new permanent staff are located in the high-risk areas of the Otways/Surf Coast, Dandenong Ranges, Yarra catchment areas and the Macedon Ranges. Other areas of the state will receive additional positions in future years. Over the next three years a further 110 permanent full-time firefighters will be employed, based in regional areas across Victoria.

Hence, by 2007-08 the number of additional equivalent full-time staff will be increased to 200, including 150 permanent firefighters based in regional areas across Victoria.

The Bracks government is also spending an additional \$7.5 million in 2004/05 on purchasing additional specialised fire equipment and facilities including dozers and upgrading the road and track network. A new firefighting helicopter has been acquired for this fire season to protect our catchments.

In addition to the average annual spending on fire access roads and tracks, an additional \$10 million is being spent over three years to upgrade high priority fire access tracks. In addition, ongoing funding of \$1.6 million each year from 2007/08 will be provided for fire access tracks maintenance works.

Access track works in the Gippsland region include \$250,000 being spent on upgrading bridges in the Erica and Noojee areas.

The government is currently reviewing the fire code of practice, which is a 10 year document that forms the basis of how the threat of wildfire is managed on public land.

Public debate is welcomed as a discussion paper has recently been released on the fire code of practice and this is a real opportunity for the public to shape future fire management policy.

Public debate also gives DSE a further chance to listen to the views of people with understandable concerns about how they do this work.

It has been a difficult few years, with DSE staff being criticised for not burning enough

STATE GOVERNMENT

following the Alpine fires, and now copping the opposite argument when the burning occurs.

I am proud to be part of the Bracks government that has taken firm action to improve key services across Victoria—services such as preparedness to deal with bushfires—and these services are under threat from the Victorian Liberal Party's dangerous financial policies.

The proposal to remove tolls on the Eastlink road project and pay for this \$7 billion (almost a quarter of the total state budget) black hole with cuts to public service jobs, would undermine key services across Victoria. Services such as preparedness to deal with bushfires would be under very real threat from Liberals' policies.

Danielle Green is Labor MP for Yan Yean. She is an active member of the Diamond Creek CFA Brigade.



Burn at Wilson's Promontory served as a timely reminder

STATE OPPOSITION

By PHIL HONEYWOOD

OUR state is still recovering from the devastating bushfires that swept through north-east Victoria two years ago. There were considerable losses both to private property and to native vegetation cover and wildlife.

Up until the north-east Victoria fires, the Bracks government had prevaricated on whether to support fuel reduction control burns on public land or do nothing. Its tendency to embrace the "do nothing" option was seen by many as not wanting to get the anti-control burn elements of the conservation lobby off-side. Doing nothing, of course, also saved the government money.

However, after the appalling losses from the fires of two years ago, the Bracks government finally responded to wider community pressure and agreed to initiate a state-wide fuel reduction controlled burn program. Unfortunately, many national and state parks and crown land reserves have built up record levels of undergrowth and weeds so that there is a considerable control burn backlog yet to be overcome.

Warrandyte State Park needs a pro-active fuel reduction burn program. The recent fuel reduction burn that got out of control at Wilsons Promontory has served as a timely reminder of the key issues in this public debate. These include the timing of the burns, the lack of transparency associated with each fire management plan, and ultimately, the financial and manpower resources being allocated to the backlog in the burn program.

Wilson's Promontory has the highest visitation of any park in Victoria. Every year for generations it is booked out by campers and hikers over the popular Easter break.

For any government department to organise a so-called "controlled burn" at Tidal River two days prior to the annual Easter invasion is the height of lunacy.

Having hiked and camped throughout the park on many occasions, I can attest to just how difficult the terrain is. Hikers are dispersed over a wide area of undulating coastal hills, dense heathland and sand dune valleys.

Comprehensive evacuation of hikers and campers from any park during an emergency is a difficult enough challenge. Wilsons Promontory's particular natural features make for a potential communication and evacuation disaster.

The "controlled burn" planned for a 10 hectare area of Tidal River, which has now destroyed 7000 hectares of park, should have been scheduled either well before Easter or just after the tourists had returned home. The fact that the controlled burn also went ahead despite an adverse weather report is also cause for concern.

According to the DSE there were 36 fuel reduction burns commenced on the same day as the Tidal River 10 hectare burn. Under long-standing regulations each such controlled burn is required to be subject to a site-specific fire management plan. After the burn is completed, a follow-up report is then required to ensure that the management plan was properly implemented.

The Bracks government was elected on a promise to provide open and transparent government. However, any member of the public who attempts to access details of the fire management plan and follow-up report must submit separate Freedom of Information (FOI) requests that take many months to process. The same procedure is foisted upon the state opposition and formal requests for an official DSE briefing on the Wilsons Promontory fire have met with a "we will get back to you" standard government response.

Surely, in the interests of good public policy-making, fire management plans should be made available for individuals and community organisations to provide meaningful input and be better informed of both the importance of fuel reduction burning and the dangers of uncontrolled bushfires to lives and the environment.

One of the possible reasons for the unwillingness by both the Bracks government and DSE to release information on the burn program, is a concern not to reveal the limited financial resources being devoted to the burn backlog program. Key questions must be answered on this. These include, when was the last fuel reduction burn completed in Wilsons Promontory National Park, was the personnel devoted to the Tidal River burn sufficient to meet normal expectations, and when the fire escaped, were enough additional resources brought in to deal with it?

Unlike the Bracks government, the Liberal opposition has consistently called for an on-going, well-funded, annual fuel reduction burn program.

A degree of bipartisanship may now be detected in this debate. However, it is still legitimate for any opposition party to raise concerns on such a controversial issue about the appropriate scheduling of controlled fires, the need for greater transparency of information on management plans and the allocation of sufficient resources to complete the task safely. As the state member of parliament for Warrandyte, an area that is constantly subjected to the threat of bushfire, it is also my responsibility to highlight the importance of this key policy issue.

Phil Honeywood is deputy leader of the Liberal opposition, shadow minister for the environment and MP for Warrandyte.

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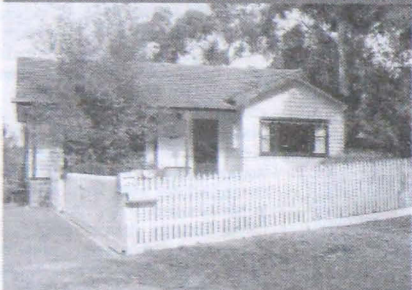
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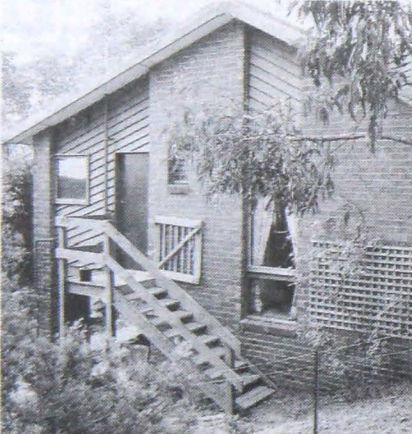
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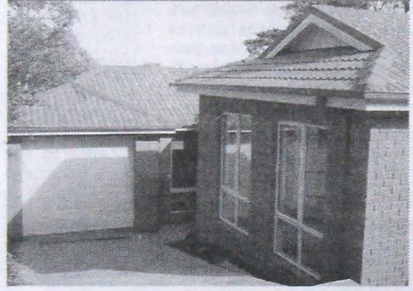


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\$1,300,000	\$12,500	\$32,500	\$20,000

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Taking responsibility

My sweet, precious daughter and my very dear friend are the most kind-hearted, caring, giving, warmest people I know. So it seems to me, to be more tragic (if it can possibly be) and more unjust that a driver in a 4WD, who had been allegedly drinking, mowed down these very special, happy, innocent people on the weekend of the Warrandyte Festival.

Fortunately, ever so fortunately, they are still alive today and for my part, I'd like to say a heartfelt thank you to the two beautiful people who came to my daughter's aid—angels on earth to whom I will always be indebted.

Thanks to the ambulance crew, the surgeons, the doctors and the wonderful nurses of the ICU and 6 West Ward of the Royal Children's Hospital for giving my darling girl back to me and a special thank you to the police of Warrandyte Station and Manningham TMU. The kindness and support received from the Warrandyte community, especially from our friends and families, teachers and staff of Warrandyte Primary

DEAR DIARY

School, gave us the strength to care for our daughter in the darkest, most frightening days of our lives.

But what I find horribly distressing about this traumatic event is that it could so easily have been avoided. It need not have happened. It should never have happened.

Why drink and drive? There is no reason; there is absolutely no excuse. If people drink then why don't they catch a lift with a sober mate, walk, catch a cab or car pool?

Whilst drink driving is a totally unforgivable, inexcusable crime, local establishments do have a moral and social, if not legal, responsibility to ensure their patrons don't get drunk and then drive. It is reprehensible that pubs and clubs continually serve people alcohol and then at the end of the drinking session turn a blind eye to their patrons staggering drunk-

enly to their car, driving off to cause bloodshed and angst on the unsuspecting public.

After all the anti-drink driving campaigns, education and information, how, in 2005, how can this still be happening? Are we stuck in a time warp from the days of the six o'clock swill? Why don't more pubs and clubs organise courtesy buses? Why don't they have breathalysers (and free ones) at every exit point? Why don't they have more visual signs reminding people not to drink then drive? Why don't they care?

For the sake of the lives of your family, your friends, your neighbours, if you, as a bartender, as a team-mate, as a friend or as a community member, see anyone who has been drinking and is about to drive, please offer or organise a lift home for them. Compared to the alternative, it's not such a hard thing to do, is it? Please, please, I beg of you all, don't drink then drive; you probably will kill someone. Someone precious.

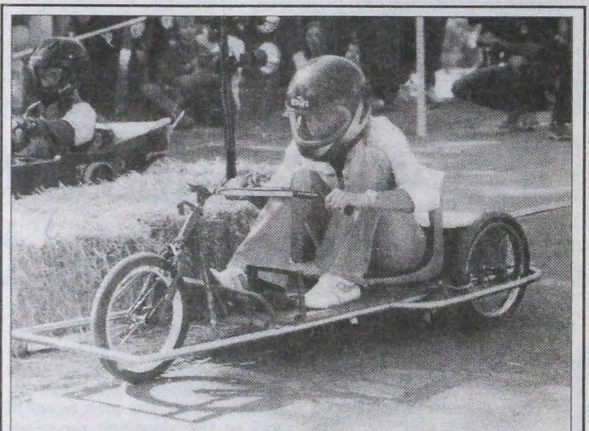
Marianne Philips (by e-mail)

No escaping Sue Anderson!

While holidaying at Mallacoota with my family during the Easter break, upon entering the local IGA store, I was confronted by a "gleaming" poster of Sue Anderson promoting IGA. When seeing a familiar face (even in poster form) I knew I could be assured of the same friendly service there as what I get from Sue (and all employees) at Warrandyte IGA.

Anne Robinson (by e-mail)

PS: Sue, if you get a pay rise from this I want half!



Jaimie Hayton, winner of the festival billycart derby.

Sorry Jaimie, you're not Jamie!

Hi, my name is Jaimie Hayton and I was extremely excited when I saw myself in the *Diary*, but I would like to note you spelt my name completely wrong! It's spelt Jaimie Hayton. Thanks anyway. Regards

Jaimie Hayton (by e-mail)

Respect for the fallen Dog scare

In the media over the past weeks there have been reports of a minister at the Uniting Church in Essendon not allowing an Australian flag to be draped over the coffin at the funeral of a returned serviceman.

At the Uniting Church in Warrandyte, we've been alarmed by these reports, and we will be continuing with our long-standing practice of allowing the Australian flag to be draped over a coffin during funerals held at our church in Tarroona Avenue.

We realise that grieving is

very personal and that funerals can play an important part in the grieving of family and friends. A funeral can reflect the particular needs of each individual situation, with the details worked out between the minister and the family concerned. So if a person's service to their country is to be reflected in the way that their funeral is conducted, we at Warrandyte Uniting Church are very willing to take this into account.

Rev Ros McDonald Warrandyte Uniting Church

Would the lady who was bailed up by the Golden Labrador in Mitchell Avenue on Thursday, April 28, please ring the Manningham ranger or Manningham council and verify my story. I would be very pleased. Thank you.

Name and address supplied

Story had a good result

The contrasting needs of privacy and sharing have come to me in response to Prudence Truby King's profile of me in the April 2005 *Warrandyte Diary*.

My son's bipolar disorder of 10 years, which weighed heavily on me, came tumbling out in the interview and this rawness brought a feeling of recognition from readers. Some were glad of the opportunity to share.

It seemed to me that there was a place for a support group in Warrandyte for people whose families have been touched by mental illness.

From my experience of another group which we call Harmony, not dragged down by the past or fearful for the future, but in harmony with the present—there is an easy sharing of good and bad times. We understand the pressing problems of money, getting out of bed in the morning, cleaning and the sluggishness induced by medication. We rejoice with each other when, for instance, the son of one member gave a speech at his brother's wedding.

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House and Mental Illness Fellowship are willing to jointly auspice a mental health families group in Warrandyte. Bernadette Walsh, who guided me over two years at my lowest ebb, when she was offering her psychology expertise to the Warrandyte Housing and Support Service, has been encouraging. Bernadette now has a private psychology practice in Warrandyte and teaches part-time at the Centre for Grief Education at Monash University.

If you are interested in a support group for families who have been touched by mental illness, please phone Louise Joy on 9844 3600 or email ldjoy@gotalk.net.au or Karen Throssell, Warrandyte Neighbourhood House coordinator, can be approached at WNH on the first floor of the Warrandyte Community Centre, by telephone on 9844 1839 or email who@vicnet.net.au to discuss your preferences for times and venue.

Louise Joy, Brackenbury Street

New life for an old tree

I refer to your article about the *Warrandyte Diary* tree in the March 2005 edition of the *Diary*. We recently passed through Lakes Entrance after an interval of many years. There used to be a World War 1 avenue of honour of Monterey Cypress trees along the main street.

Apparently the trees were causing problems because of their age and the council had to take some action. After public consultation the tree trunks were cut approximately two to three metres above ground level and a talented sculptor was commissioned to transform each trunk into a sculpture with a World War 1 theme.

The final result is most effective and the series of sculptures adds interest and character to the main street.

It occurred to me that when the inevitable time arrives in the future and it becomes necessary to take drastic action on the Monterey Cypress *Diary* tree that a similar solution should be considered.

Thank you for producing such an interesting local paper.

Anthony Littlejohn Alan Place

Kids working for the Wedge



Manningham mayor, Cr Bill Larkin (above) with the prizewinners at the Green Wedgies group launch. Catherine Thomas (right) created the winning name and logo. (Pictures by Stephen Reynolds)

"Green Wedgies" is the appropriate name given to Manningham council's Sustainable Schools cluster program, involving Andersons Creek and Warrandyte primary schools, Carey Grammar (Donvale) and Donvale Christian School.

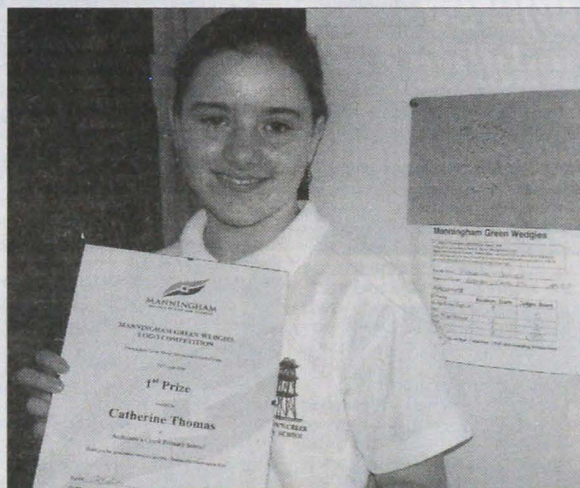
A competition to find a name and logo was won by Grade 5 student Catherine Thomas of Andersons Creek, second prize went to Breda Loughnane of Warrandyte Primary School, third to Denni Egan and Will Karas of Carey and fourth prize was won by Ben Horn from Donvale Christian School.

"The Green Wedgies group is the first in Victoria to choose

a cluster name and logo," Manningham mayor, Cr Bill Larkin, said at the presentation at Andersons Creek late last month.

"The group's name and logo links the connection between the Green Wedge and a local bird species, the Wedge-tailed Eagle, signifying the group's unity and shared vision to protect the Green Wedge.

"This program is an outstanding initiative that engages our young people and is a terrific hands-on learning experience, teaching students about the importance of protecting the environment for future generations," Cr Larkin said.



No Wallies around here

Warrandyte and Park Orchards residents are using less water than householders in many neighbouring suburbs.

Local MP Phil Honeywood has commended the two communities for "doing the right thing" by saving water. "The latest national census figures indicate that Warrandyte and Park Orchards have more people per households than most urban areas. We also have much larger allotments compared to other communities. Given these factors it is no easy task to reduce water usage," Mr Honeywood said.

"The recently released water consumption figures, by suburbs, compares 2002-03 consumption to 2003-04. They show that the average reduction in water usage across the metropolitan area was 11.2 per cent.

"However, in the local area, Warrandyte achieved a water consumption saving rate of 15.6 per cent and Park Orchards reduced their consumption by 13.8 per cent."

This compared with neighbouring suburbs in Manningham, such as Lower

CLYDE & OCKER



"Gave up drinking water during the last drought, Ock!"

Templestowe with 9.4 per cent reduction and Doncaster East only achieving an 8.1 per cent reduction.

"Clearly, our local community has heeded the message that, particularly at a time of low rainfall, we should all take responsibility for saving water," Mr Honeywood said.

"Of course, the state government's new water consumption tax, which was introduced in July 2004, has provided a financial penalty for high water consumption. While the opposition supports the need to discourage waste in water usage this tax discriminates against larger families. The ideal water consumption tax would be based on the number of people in a household."

New hope for crisis families

Women escaping family violence will get access to 24-hour support and violent men may be housed away from the family home in a new approach to family violence services announced by the Bracks government the Member for Yan Yean, Danielle Green said recently.

A package of initiatives worth \$35.1 million was unveiled. Ms Green said the reforms would result in improved safety for women and children, greater consistency in the response to reports of family violence and greater accountability for perpetrators.

"Family violence affects all communities and is a profound cause of entrenched, inter-generational disadvantage," Ms Green said.

"The new approach means a faster response, support and referral around the clock, and new emergency and longer term accommodation options

for women and children." She said men could currently argue that they had nowhere to go following a domestic incident, forcing women and children to leave, or stay in a dangerous situation.

"Women and children can receive crisis accommodation in refuges when it is available, but it is short-term and is often a long way from their support networks and their children's schools," she said.

The 2005-06 state budget will deliver \$35.1 million over four years to provide a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week support and referral service, create a wider range of housing options beyond staying at home or moving to a refuge, and improve the justice system.

"More choice for women and short-term accommodation options for men will reduce disruption to children and help stabilise families."

They fight fire with fire

Manningham council, in conjunction with local CFA brigades, will be conducting controlled "cool burns" during the coming period.

Fuel reduction and ecological burns will take place in Wonga Park Reserve, Domeney Reserve and Colman Reserve.

"The aim of low intensity, controlled burns is to reduce undergrowth and ground cover to decrease fuel available in case of bushfire," a council spokesperson said. "They will be carried out when weather conditions are suitable." Surrounding residents have been letter-dropped, informing them of the process.

"During the burn operations all care will be taken to minimise the impact of smoke, however people with respiratory concerns may wish to leave the area for part of the day," the spokesperson said. Enquiries should be directed to Jane Pammer on 9846 0509 or 0413 908 968.

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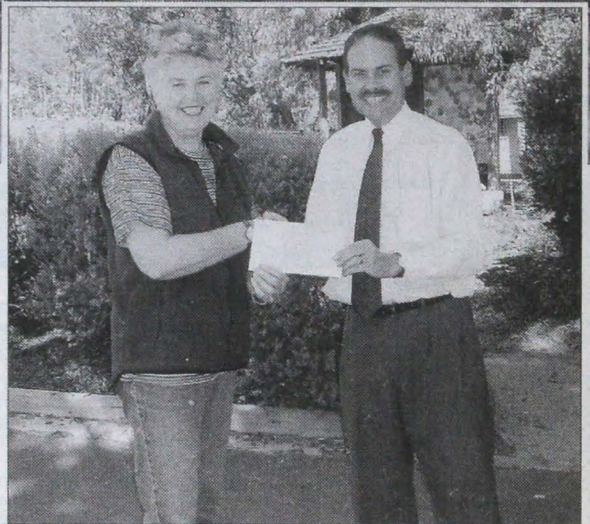
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Mob: 0400 180 262 www.warrandyteherbal.com

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Primary school kids in Warrandyte painted banners for the Community Bank courtesy bus at the festival, and in return each school received donations of \$100 from the bank. Pictured (above) are Andersons Creek Primary School students displaying their banner with bank manager Mark Challen and (right) Warrandyte Primary School teacher Denise Farran accepting her school's cheque from Mark.



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February 2005

Key Decisions

Community, Health, Culture, Sport and Leisure

These are some of the decisions made by Council on Tuesday 15 February 2005.

If you would like any extra information please visit our website www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au for full business papers and 2005 meeting dates.

All are welcome to attend or listen to the broadcast on Plenty Valley FM 88.6

Resolved to formally commit \$25,000 from Council's 2005-2006 Priority Projects towards Commonwealth Games project categories one to four; and nominate Councillor Warwick Leeson to chair the Getting Involved Team.

Noted the concerns of petitioners and remove the proposed Reserve Road, North Warrandyte playground development site from the 2004-2005 playground upgrade program; and advise the first name on the petition accordingly.

Governance

Resolved to support the submission by the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV), Municipal Valuers Group and Revenue Managers Association regarding the proposed changes to the Valuation of Land Act 1960.

Resolved to receive and accept the Supplementary Valuation returns known as Supplementary Valuation March 2005.

Resolved to cause a General Valuation to be made of all rateable properties in the municipal district of the Shire of Nillumbik; and that the valuation is returned to Council after 1 January 2006 and before 31 March 2006.

Transport and Infrastructure

Resolved to proceed with consultation for the Souter Street, Eltham Special Charge Scheme and invite affected property owners to an information session to outline the remainder of Council's Special Charge Schemes Policy and Procedures; and advise property owners accordingly.

Land Use Planning and Environment


Resolved to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit to the land at 2 Henry Arthur Drive for the purpose of use and development of the land for a place of worship and waiving of car parking requirement, subject to conditions.

Resolved to conditionally support the approval of the Sub-Catchment Plan for Area F – Development Plan 4 (Plenty); and approve the Sub-Catchment Plan with modifications prior to endorsement.

Resolved to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit to the land at 51 Railway Parade, Eltham for the subdivision of the land into 26 lots, associated buildings and works, construction of six dwellings on lots under 300m2, use of the land as a restricted place of assembly, the construction of timber fences, the removal and creation of easements, and works to fill the land, in accordance with the endorsed plans and subject to conditions.

Resolved to refer Amendment C30 – 51 Railway Parade, Eltham – to an independent panel for advice; and advise the applicant, the submitter and Melbourne Water of Council's decision.

Noted the receipt of grant funding of \$102,124 from the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) for the Tackling Weeds on Private Land Initiative.



hna@laze 107131

Fighting fire with fun

By SAM DAVIES

Comedian Rod Quantock is performing an "environmentally-friendly" show in Warrandyte this month, promising to "reduce, reuse and recycle" material from his 30-year career.

He is one of about a dozen professional comedians and talented locals performing over four nights at different locations around the town to raise money for North Warrandyte CFA.

"Every so often I do a regional tour," said Quantock, who was approached for the gig by a local friend. "There's just a nice social aspect to an evening in a country town. But if you don't start a riot you'd be disappointed," he said.

The comedian has been visiting Warrandyte since childhood, though this will be the

first time he has performed here.

His recent show at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival, titled "a brief history of the end of the world" mused on such federal political issues as interest rates. But Quantock is also known for his strong stance on the environment.

He admits he finds state government politics of minimal comedic interest. "Nobody wants to drive a tollway through my street or dredge my pond. I don't think it's improved much since Jeff left."

But he hints he has done research on Manningham and Nillumbik council politics for material. "I want every redneck to come down and see me," he said.

This is the second year the North Warrandyte CFA has run the event. Captain Paul Buck said the festival would not only bring visitors to Warrandyte, but was a major fundraiser to help build a new North Warrandyte CFA station in the future.

As well as Rod Quantock, featured comedians will include Peter Rowsthorn, Dave Callan, Bob Franklin, Roz Hammond, Christine Basil, Gavin Baskerville, Andrea Powell, Linda Haggart, The Soubrettes, Hamlet in One Hour and Dennis Coard.

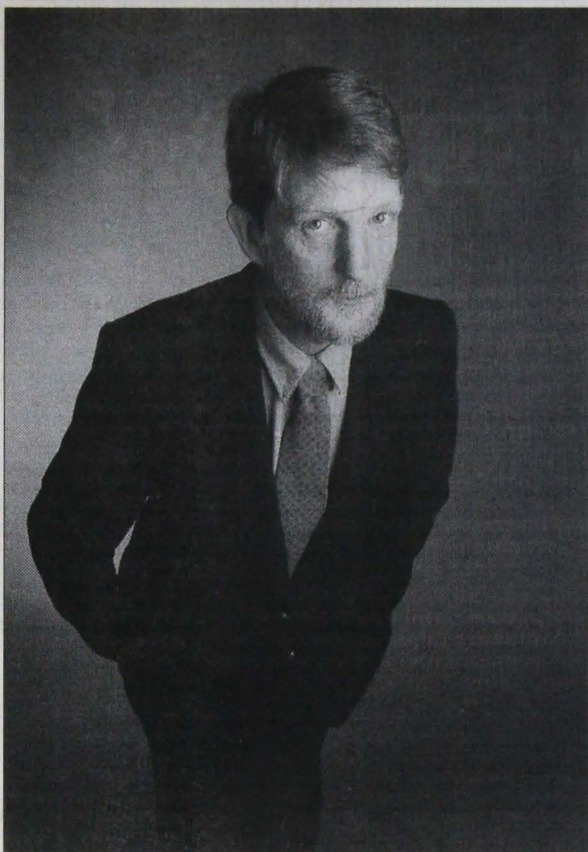
They will be performing on four nights—Friday 13, Saturday 14, Friday 20 and Saturday, May 21—across three venues—the Grand Hotel, Mechanics Institute Hall and the North Warrandyte Community Centre.

"With times and venues staggered, performances have been arranged so that eager fans will be able to enjoy almost all of these world-class entertainers," a spokesperson said.

"By booking a Big Night Out (two shows on the one night) you can obtain a 10 per cent discount."

Tickets prices range from \$37.50 down to \$21.50. The full program is listed in an advertisement elsewhere in this issue, or you can go to www.nwca.org/comedy. Tickets are on sale at the Grand Hotel between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday, phone 9844 3202. General enquiries on 9844 2204.

Rod Quantock (left) ... recycling routines. The Soubrettes (below) ... don't bother bringing the kids!



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Come and see!

The kids, teachers, principal Gill Binger—and especially the chooks in the henhouse at Warrandyte Primary School's new garden—are looking forward to welcoming everyone to their school during Education Week. Open day is on Tuesday, May 17, with open night

until 8.30pm. An information night for 2006 Preps will be held on Thursday, May 19 at 7.30pm. Open mornings are also being held every Tuesday from 9 to 11am during second term. The school is situated at the top of the hill in Forbes Street.



Sustaining a street

Early this month, residents of Webb Street continued work on revegetating a piece of road reserve at the corner of Sloans Road, which they commenced last August.

Kevin Jones (pictured) is hard at work planting.

The project was devised as part of the Sustainability Street group's activities, financed by Manningham council and directed by landscape designer Bev Hanson. (Picture by Judy Green)

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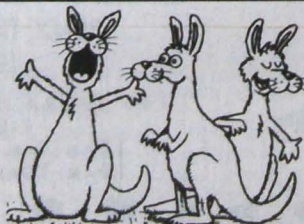
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SATURDAY 14th May	DAVE CALLAN GAVIN BASKERVILLE ANDREA POWELL LINDA HAGGAR	ROD QUANTOCK Tickets: \$27.50	THE SOUBRETTES (Not suitable for children under 16 years)
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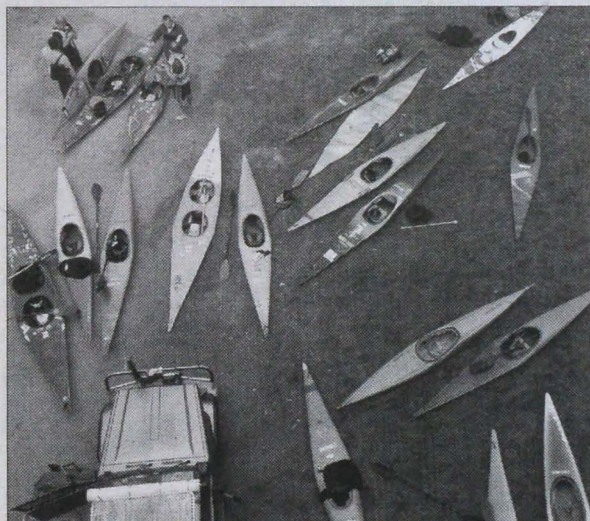
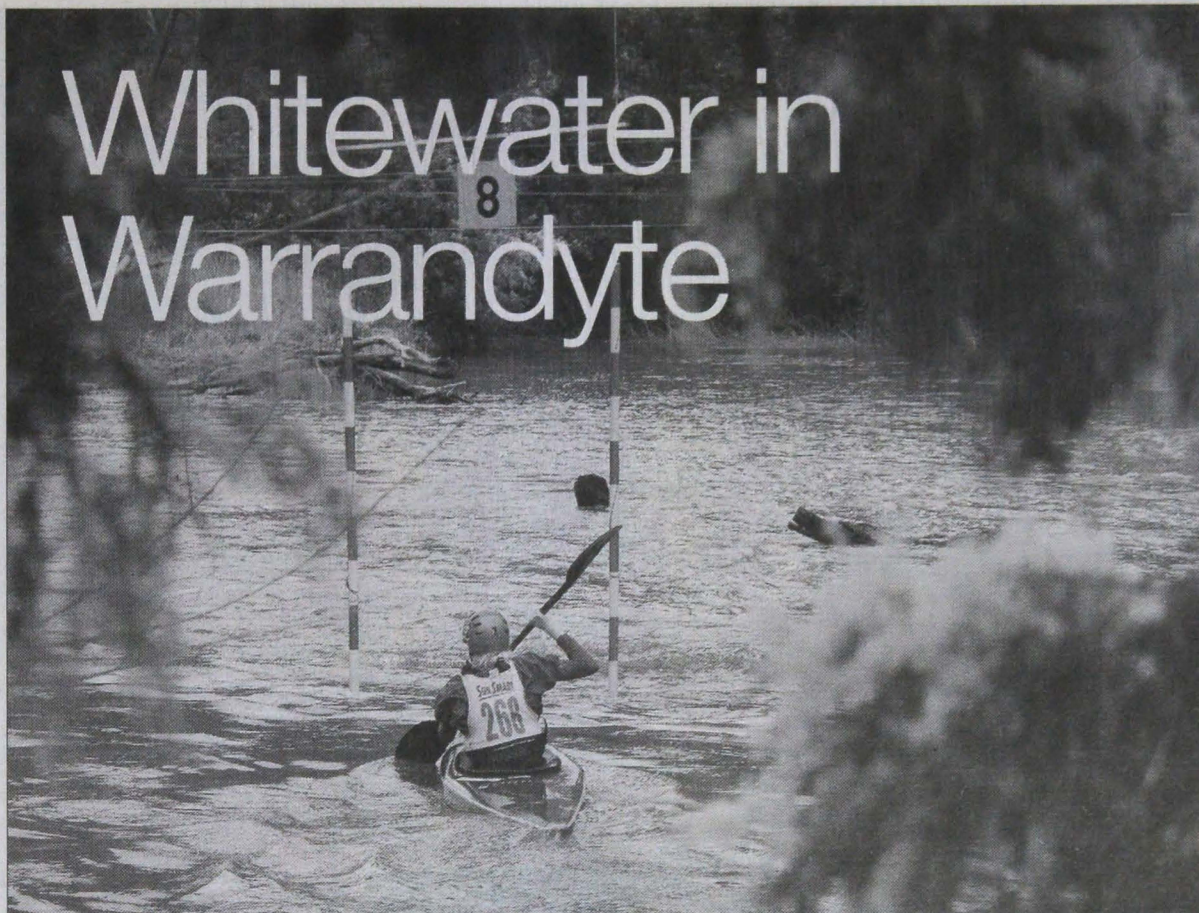
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North Warrandyte Fire Brigade gratefully acknowledges support for this fundraising event from Nillumbik Shire Council, Vicki Gardiner & Associates Real Estate, The Grand Hotel, Warrandyte Diary.

Whitewater in Warrandyte



Pictures by **STEPHEN REYNOLDS**



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Warrandyte Mechanics' Institute and Arts Association Inc.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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Monday, June 6th 2005, at 8pm

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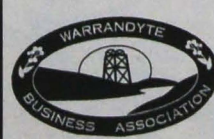
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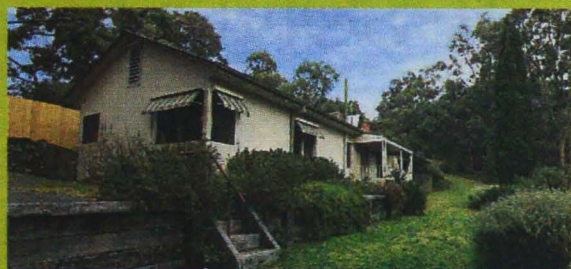
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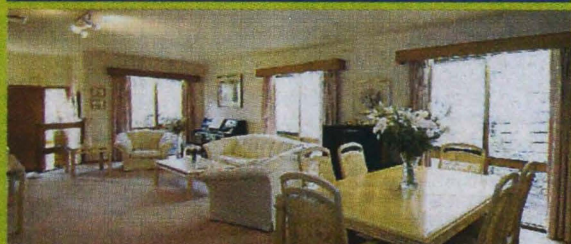
warrandyte auction sat 14 may @ 11am unless sold prior
paddle your own canoe! unrivalled opportunity to secure 3BR family home, set on a landscaped near 1/4 acre allotment, just a hop, skip and jump to the best of warrandyte. walk to river, schools and village.



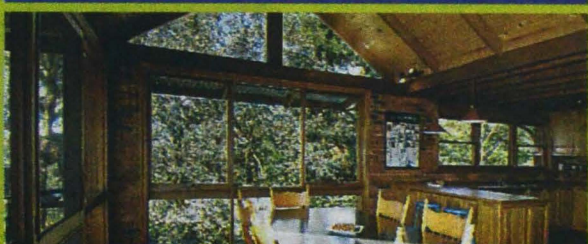
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**MULLUM MULLUM CREEK
LINEAR PARK
STAGE 2
DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN
PUBLIC EXHIBITION**

Manningham Council has prepared a Draft Management Plan for Mullum Mullum Creek Linear Park Stage 2, which comprises the area of public land along both sides of the Mullum Mullum Creek from Reynolds Road to Tindals Road, Donvale.

The Draft Management Plan outlines recommendations for the future use, development, maintenance and management for this section of the Linear Park.

Copies of the Draft Management Plan may be obtained from:

- Customer Service Desk, Manningham City Council, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster;
- Kay Toussaint, Economic and Environmental Planning, on 9840 9348 or kay.toussaint@manningham.vic.gov.au or
- Council's web site: www.manningham.vic.gov.au

Written or electronic submissions must be lodged by no later than Friday 3 June 2005.

Written submissions must be sent to: Ms Teresa Dominik, Manager, Economic and Environmental Planning, Manningham City Council, PO Box 1, Doncaster, Vic. 3108 or via email manningham@manningham.vic.gov.au

Should you have any queries about the Mullum Mullum Creek Linear Park Stage 2 Draft Management Plan please contact Nancy Stokes, Open Space Planner on 9840 9138 or email nancy.stokes@manningham.vic.gov.au

COMMUNITY MEETING

Yarra Street & Warrandyte River Reserve

Urban Realm and Sign Design Discussion

Wednesday 18th May 2005 @ 7.30 pm
Warrandyte Senior Citizens' Centre
Taroona Avenue, Warrandyte
(Melway Ref: M35 C1)

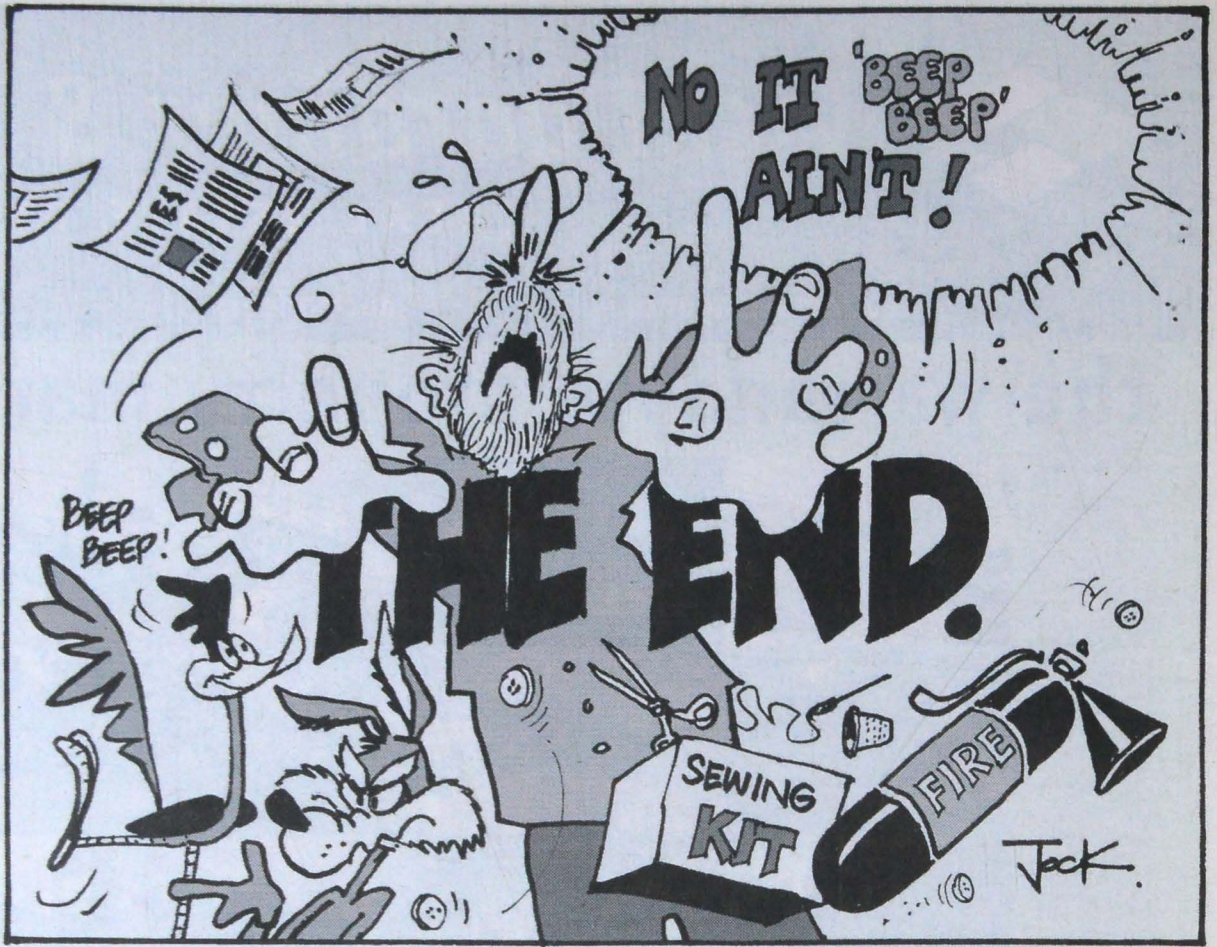
This phase of design works undertaken by consultants David Lancashire Design and Urban Initiatives in partnership with Manningham City Council follows recommendations made in the Yarra Street Urban Design Framework and Warrandyte River Reserve Management Plan. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the concepts proposed for a new sign suite for the area and urban design improvements to the Yarra Street precinct.

You are invited to a presentation of conceptual drawings for the Yarra Street trading precinct and Warrandyte River Reserve.

Contact: Sarah Shaw, Urban Designer, Manningham City Council.

Telephone: 9840 9432

Email: sarah.shaw@manningham.vic.gov.au



Wait for the commercials, then all will be resolved

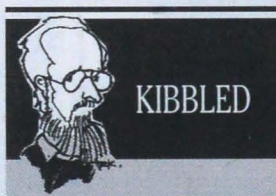
"So, my clever little friend. You think you can better me do you? Well take that!"

And with that, he pulls the fire extinguisher from the wall bracket and thoroughly douses the two aunts, the police inspector and the archbishop.

There is muffled giggling as The End fills the screen and the credits roll. The audience files out of the cinema and goes home, hopefully, to lead their lives in the same simplistic way that they see it being led on both the large and the small screens.

But life's not like that. It doesn't happen in 30-second comic interludes and each day isn't a new episode that will be initiated, complicated, confused and then resolved by knock-off time. We have been reared on instant meals and instant solutions. We have become conned by the joke and then the ad-break, or the joke and then a three dot attitude to life.

When I first started teaching there were lots of difficulties and things that needed fixing, but there was one thing that now stands out as significant, and that was the preparedness of kids to suspend frustration and boredom. When I went into class the next day and continued from where we had left off the day before, apart from the few obligatory grumbles, there was an understanding and an acceptance that ideas, issues and skills had to be worked at over a long period of time.



"...life's not like that. It doesn't happen in 30-second comic interludes and each day isn't a new episode that will be initiated, complicated, confused and then resolved by knock-off time."

When I resigned from teaching, the ball game had changed. After a lifetime of television programs, kids have come to assume that life happens in half or one hour passages of time with rest breaks every five or so minutes. In-service consultants urge teachers to vary student activities every 15 minutes lest students "lose interest". To disagree with this is a bit like trying to eliminate Eddie

McGuire from the television screen, but deep down I feel we're getting it wrong. It's not just what happens for the performance time that's important.

Perhaps it's because life has, apparently, become more complicated and difficult that we spend a lot of time trying to make sense of it. Often this results in an oversimplification of the world around us. We have come to expect simple solutions, easy fixes and instant gratification; a little like Easter buns and rabbits. We start eating hot cross buns in February and have eaten all our chocolate rabbits by noon on the day we get them.

Entertainment today teaches us that "real life" is hyper real. The more extreme and unlike our own lives it is, the more real it must be. We are to forget the dull or mundane aspects of ordinary life.

Which is why I began with the slapstick ending to the scene. We have been lulled into a situation of only thinking about the superficial. What is outside the boundary of the lens slips through our personal significance filter.

For example, how many of you have worried about that first scene? For example, who, now, is to clean up the mess in the room? Will the extinguisher be refilled in time for the fire that is about to break out the following day? How old are the aunts and did anyone consider that the policeman was just recovering from a bout of pleurisy and was warned not to get chilled? And what about the cost of dry cleaning the arch-

bishop's clobber? It doesn't matter. We only wanted the punch line joke, not reality.

And what about all those steamy love scenes? What happens to all those ripped blouses and underwear? After the passionate love scene, do they both sit on the edge of the bed sewing? How long does it take for him to scabble around on the floor and under the wardrobe and bed trying to find popped buttons? What does she wear to work the next day?

And even the wonder of the Resurrection is being diluted. Why should we be in awe of such a miracle when we have seen it accomplished with unspectacular ease several times daily, on television. The Coyote is resurrected many times each cartoon and you could name innumerable cartoon characters who regularly rise from the dead or near annihilation with apparent ease and without medical assistance. And do we question the effect of these? No, just give me another episode with 30 jokes and a happy ending.

Perhaps I've just become a grumpy old man but I bet I'm not alone. Let's have less of the Seinfeld-type self absorption. Let's show that life is complex and can't be reduced to neatly packaged sound bites. Let's work for more than instant gratification and less of the quick joke or the facile solution. I know that cop-out endings are temptingly simple but if we keep on resorting to them, then...

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An iridescent beauty, hiding modestly in the grasslands

WE came in search of gold. Not the precious metal variety, but something just as rare—a moth, evocatively named the Golden Sun Moth. Our destination was the Craigieburn Grasslands, one of only five sites in Victoria where the moth is still known to survive. My guides were two people from the Friends of Merri Creek who are passionate about the grasslands and its inhabitants, especially the moth.

Craigieburn Grasslands is located just east of the Hume Highway, approximately 25 kilometres from the centre of Melbourne.

First impressions were unflattering as we turned off the highway down a dead-end road between a large rubber tyre factory and a wasteland of weeds. But as we entered through the gate, leaving the traffic, factories and weeds behind, I found myself surrounded by the largest expanse of natural treeless grassland I have ever seen. That it had escaped the greedy jaws of the bulldozers was a miracle, for it is prime flat land, much sought after for industrial and urban development.

The grassland is now officially reserved, having been purchased by the state government with assistance from federal funding under the National Heritage Trust. Not only does the site protect the Golden Sun Moth, but is also home to the endangered Striped Legless Lizard and a nationally threatened sedge, plus several other rare plants.

Today it is the moth we have come to find. Active only in the middle of the day, the Golden Sun Moth—true to its name—requires warmth and sunshine before it will fly. Anxiously we scanned the skies willing the



NATURE
By **PAT COUPAR**

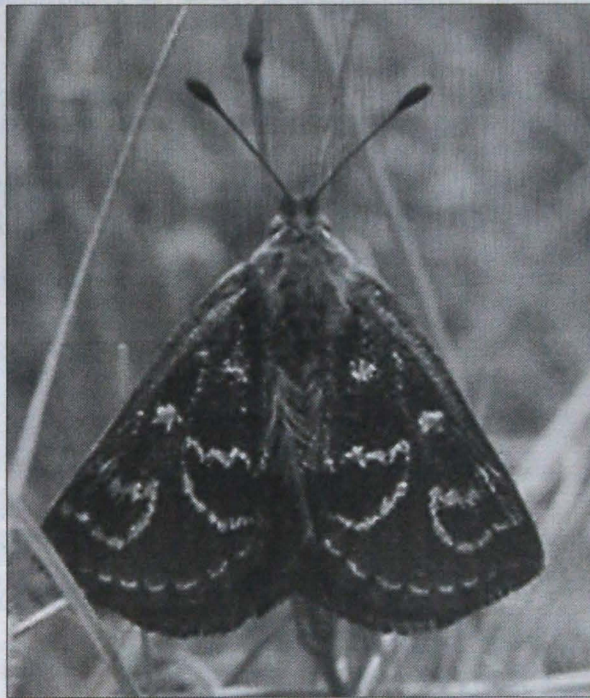
clouds to disperse. The experts said to look for the male moths that fly rapidly about a metre above the ground. And sure enough, as the sun appeared and we traversed deeper into the grassland we found them, looking and behaving more like a butterfly than a moth.

One of the fast-flying males alighted on a grass tussock enabling me to get my first close-up look at the Golden Sun Moth. While its name conjures up visions of a spangled-winged shimmering creature, the male moth, it must be said, was a bitter disappointment.

With dark greyish-brown, cryptically patterned wings, the only glitter I could see was a small patch of iridescent greenish purple on the forewing. There was no gold. That, I was told, is only part of the female's attire. But where were the females? The females don't fly, I was informed, we must search for them on the ground in the bare patches of earth between the grass tussocks.

We searched. And we searched. Just as we were about to accept defeat one of our party hit the jackpot—a female crawling over the ground dragging her long oversize abdomen behind her. When we disturbed her, she raised her drab forewings in an attempt to fly and there was the gold we had been looking for. Her hindwings were clothed in golden scales that sparkled in the sunlight. Stunning.

Her efforts at flight did not amount to much, she barely cleared the ground travelling only a couple of metres. It was



obvious she was more at home on land than in the air. We watched as our golden female walked laboriously across the bare earth to a grass tussock. She stopped and probed the grass with the end of her abdomen before inserting her long tapering ovipositor into the soil right at the base of the grass. Moving on to another tussock the process was repeated. I knew we were witnessing a special event, something few people had been privileged to see—not only had we found this rare moth, but she was actually laying eggs!

She lays only one egg at a time the experts said. I asked if any-

one had seen the caterpillars. It seems not. The life cycle is difficult to study because the eggs hatch underground and the emerging caterpillars feed on the roots of grasses, eventually pupating in vertical silk-lined tunnels in the soil.

The Golden Sun Moth is critically endangered. Its grassland habitat is the most threatened of all plant communities, with less than one per cent remaining in tiny fragments. Because females cannot fly there is no means for the species to disperse, and so the moths are marooned on these islands of grass amidst a sea of suburbia and with an uncertain future.

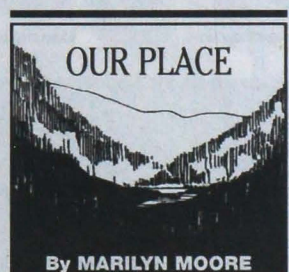
A surf-it of Marilyn Moores

66 **O**F bruises from bottles that never get better/Bad baby bitching she screams at the door/Hammer in hand and her head to the floor..."

Charming! This is band Sonic Youth's idea of an elegy on the topic of Marilyn Moore.

Apparently (or so I am told) I am the last person in Australia to google my name into that galactic fleamarket that we call the internet. So the rest of you probably know all this stuff already.

It's disconcerting to discover over 12,500 achievements that have been made in one's name. At the USA National University, for example, I lecture in literacy and communication; in Beverley Hills, I am a 10th generation descendant of Edward Eidson; in the UK I am a 25-year-old victim of the Yorkshire Ripper; and in my spare time I am an FBI executive, a mediocre portrait painter, a moody jazz singer, a 75-year-old media student, a porn movie actress and a celtic dance instructor. I have written books on camping, knitting, crochet (using cloth and



By **MARILYN MOORE**

wire), homeopathic first aid, basketmaking and poetry, along with a paper entitled "Effect of temperature on the transport properties and morphology of polymeric asymmetric membranes". I have even become a correspondent on the obscure but no doubt fascinating topic of menopause cartoons.

My goodness, I do get around. And no wonder. It turns out that over a million of me exist in US federal census records alone. The name gets over 800,000 mentions in the US births, deaths and marriages registry. There are over 39,000 entries with my name in the US immigration and naturalization collection.

What if I key in my middle name? Now here's a weird thing. The number of entries has gone up. There are now over 40,000 matches in US immigration lists. The number of historic newspaper references to my same-name counterparts has risen from about 5,000 to nearly 26,000. This cannot possibly be true.

I am offered a 14-day free trial to scan this database. They must be joking. You don't need to waste 14 days to see that the number of people with the words "marilyn" and "moore" in their moniker has to be greater than the number of people with both those names and my middle name as well.

Clearly they think that anybody who is silly enough to be wasting this sort of time on the internet might be gullible enough to buy their data bank when they find they've made little headway during the allotted 14 days.

It wouldn't be so bad if I thought there was anything useful in it. I wonder now. Maybe a millionaire has died and left me a fortune, and some dusty small-town lawyer has just about given up his lengthy

search for my good self. So let's search for "marilyn moore" alongside "bequeath" and "dollars". Bingo! There's an entry.

"...Otis is mentioned in his father's will as follows 'I give and bequeath to my son ... to be travelling, ten dollars for the privilege of ringing the bell.' ..."

Damn. Well, it was worth a try. It's funny that young Otis was rewarded for bell-ringing. I was a bell-ringer once, at primary school, where we had a beautiful old bell in a quaint wooden bell tower. There was a knack to ringing it, as I discovered when I disobeyed the headmaster's instructions on day one and got the rope stuck in the top of the conduit that carried it up through the roof. I took shelter in the classroom, pretending to work furiously while the headmaster found a ladder and scaled the steep gables to rectify the problem. He was an oldish man, or so I thought at the time, but fortunately rather spry.

Only about two of all those internet entries had anything to do with me, but I don't feel too bad about that. Real life is made up of much more interesting stuff!

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The Wal Fitzpatrick bench

I heard they found a body,
weed wrapped on the rocks
below the high cliff path
where I daily joined the birds at dawn.

I loved the comfort of that solitude
inhaling the crisp morning
and stroked by sun's creeping
strands,
the only sound, the sea's distant
swoosh.

I saw him that day I think,
sitting seaward on the fence.
I noticed his woollen waistcoat,
hand knitted.

He didn't turn as I passed,
so focussed was he on the sea.
Strange, given the usual grin and
nod
of us early walkers.

A dark cloud
tainted my horizon—
What's he doing there—precarious
on the fence
when the welcoming bench is so
close?

But that cloud
is not allowed
to ooze its way
into my taut blue sky again.

So I pushed it away
and kept walking.
Minding my business.
Ignoring his.

The bench was inscribed
"In memory of Wal Fitzpatrick".
It had a back and arms,
quite comfortable—for a bench.

It was set back from that edge
with a vista generous and
embracing.
A place to absorb the beauty
ponder the timeless sweep.

The fence was there
to stop erosion.
A narrow single plank—
slow bum torture.

Its view was full of nature's fury—
great angry bites from the cliff side
exposing soft ochre flesh
above the rock's sharp teeth.

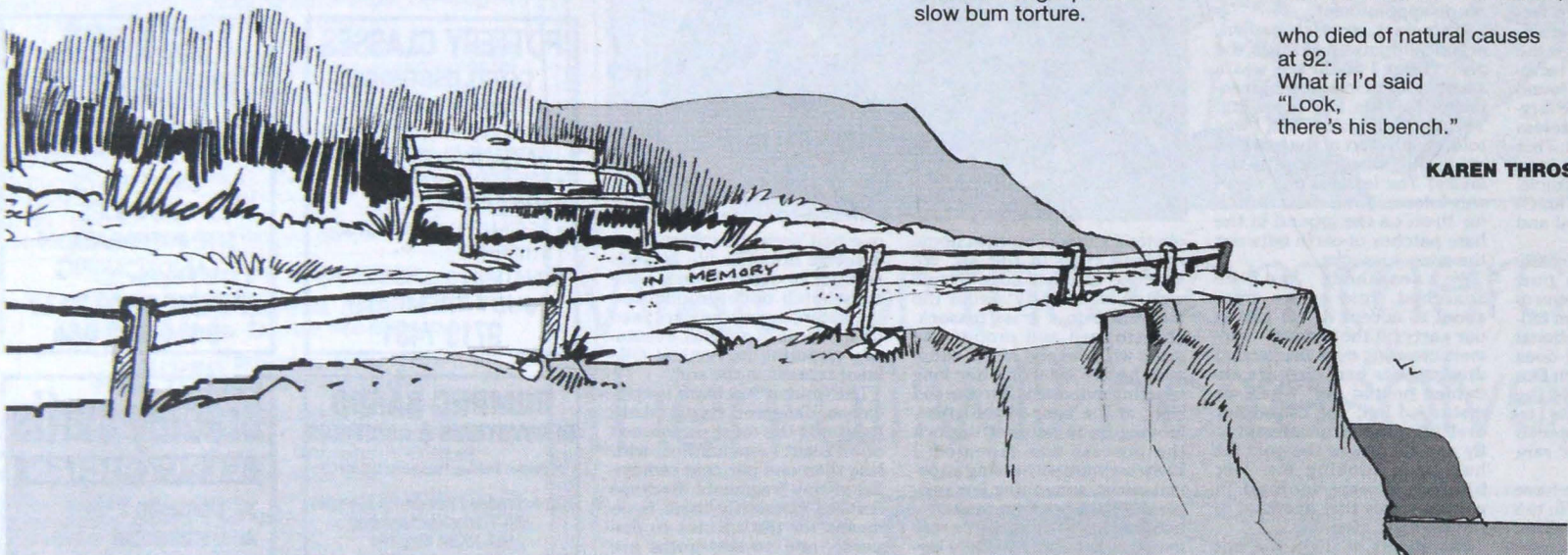
The fence was there
to stop people
getting too close
to the edge.

And now when I heard,
the cloud came back
bringing with it
all those "what ifs".

What if I'd said "Nice morning"
admired his waistcoat,
talked about Wal Fitzpatrick
who also loved to sea dream,

who died of natural causes
at 92.
What if I'd said
"Look,
there's his bench."

KAREN THROSSELL



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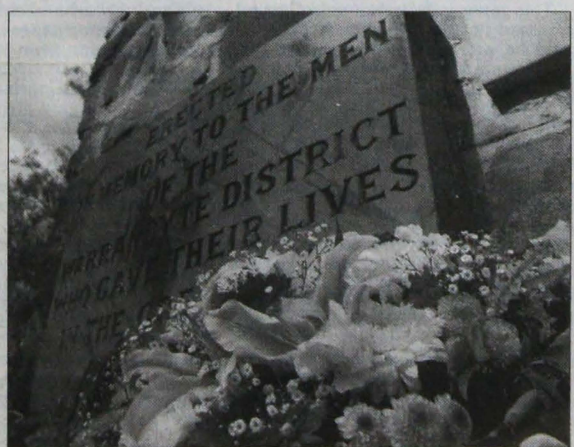


Perfect weather and an ever-growing awareness 90 years on of the significance of Anzac Day drew a big crowd to Warrandyte's march and memorial service last month.

In a response at least as big as last year's, hundreds turned out to pay their respects. And particularly pleasing to the local RSL Sub-Branch was the number of young people among them.

The service was conducted in the memorial grounds by civil celebrant John Byrne, who also made youth a central theme of his address.

Assisting in the service were the 31st Australian Cadet Unit, Lachlan McSwain (bagpipes), Tom Reynolds (bugle), the Bellbird Singers and Hank Van Der Helm, who did the reading.



Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS



Pictures by
STEPHEN REYNOLDS

School's classical treat

MOLIERE'S classical French comedy, "The Imaginary Invalid", was first performed in 1673 but has lost none of its freshness. It mocks both an arrogant medical profession and its gullible clientele, and like Moliere's earlier comedies, is heavily influenced by the Italian Commedia Dell'arte troupes with their larger-than-life caricatures. Recently staged by the Warrandyte High School Year 12 theatre studies class, "The Imaginary Invalid" gave the audience plenty to enjoy in a colourful and well-directed production.

The 1959 English translation by John Wood is linguistically archaic but none the worse for that. Being almost Shakespearean in its poetry and wit, the earthiness of the text is vital to the vigour of Moliere's wonderful characters.

The WHS students produced a lively piece of theatre that made mincemeat of the archaic language. This type of comedy appears straightforward but is deceptively difficult to perform. An inspirational performance by Shane Pritchard in the role of Argan formed the centrepiece of a very creditable



By **MARILYN MOORE**

production.

This old miser spends most of the play in an armchair centre stage, ensconced in wraps and propped up on pillows. He complains unceasingly of nebulous ailments, and is attended by a bevy of devoted servants ("Toinettes") and a medical team of pompous gits. The wonderful script and Pritchard's expressive facial antics and finely controlled mannerisms had the audience riveted. The pace never lagged and much of it was very funny, the scene where Argan chats with his little finger excruciatingly so.

The plot interweaves several stories as each of the characters acts out his or her own agenda. Stingy old Argan has decided to marry his beautiful daughter Angelique (Kate Burns) off to budding young doctor Thomas Diafoirus (John Fernandez), in order that he might provide himself with a

lifetime of free medical treatment. The fact that Thomas is more than a bit of an idiot doesn't appear to bother him. Angelique, meanwhile, has fallen in love with the clever and handsome Cleante (Damien McLean), who pretends to be her music master in order to visit her. Argan's mercenary wife Beline (Jennifer Dix) cannot wait to get her hands on her husband's wealth; she eggs him on in his "illness" and urges him to shut Angelique away in a convent. The reverence with which Argan defers to his medical advisors, despite the fact that they appear ridiculously inept, is a running theme. Moliere, unlike many of his era, had a healthy respect for the intelligence of women, and the character of Toinette (played in this instance by several actors more or less in unison) is not fooled by anybody. The aunts Beralde (in the original script this character is a single brother to Argan but in the WHS production Beralde takes the form of two sisters) are similarly astute, and treat their brother's humours with little sympathy. Angelique's younger sister (half-sister?) Louison (prettily played by Sam Dehmel) takes

the small but vital role of tell-tale.

Kate Burns played a delightful Angelique—one of few characters without foible, Burns had only to maintain a charming gravity and sing like a nightingale to enchant.

Jennifer Dix was magnificent as Argan's grasping wife Beline—haughty yet vulnerable. Damien McLean made a fine Cleante, although his voice in the duet became a little lost beside Kate Burns's resonant soprano.

The role of the Toinettes (Kim Fiddler, Taryn Sharks, Sasha Habermehl and Emily Chaffee) is not to be underestimated—they acted as everything from props to narrators, supporting actors to general continuo, reinforcing at every turn the good and bad of it all. Firm direction by drama teacher Niki Pidd kept them nicely focussed and their rapid changes in expression brought to mind a sort of kaleidoscope of chameleon actor Drew Forsythe. This was an excellent attempt at the near-impossible.

The doctors (played by Lachlan Ruthven, Robert Haines and John Fernandez) were superb—what a speechifying array of self-important

nongs—and the pharmacist M. Fleurant (Sasha Habermehl) wonderfully Marxian (in the Groucho sense, that is). Perhaps the garb and antics of suitor Thomas Diafoirus were a little too foolish to be believable, but the audience certainly enjoyed his clowning.

As well as acting in all the roles, the Year 12 drama students put an enormous amount of work into the production as a whole. Sets, costuming, make-up, lights, program, sound effects and stage management dovetailed nicely on the whole, although some of the timing was a little amiss. The set was minimal yet effective; in contrast, costuming was intricate and detailed, instantly characterising each actor as ridiculous, vain, pert, sweet, strong or ineffectual. Expertly achieved! Vibrant, mask-like make-up supported the style most effectively. Some of the props, too, were so dramatic that they took on a life of their own, most notably the horrifically enormous syringe.

All in all this was a production well worth seeing, bringing as it did one of the great classics truly to life.

Remembering a man of spirit



Former Warrandyte Uniting Church minister, Syd Smale, died recently. The following tribute is adapted from material supplied by his family.

IN 1925, Sydney Stuart Smale was born in his grandparent's home on the Deeside, Scotland. The third child of Annie and Thomas Smale, he was their first son.

Struggling to make ends meet, life was hard. When Syd's father died, his mother took work as a live-in housekeeper. In order to contribute to the family income, Syd had no choice but to leave school at 14 and take up an apprenticeship as a fitter and turner. In 1943, at aged 17, he followed his grandfather and father into the Royal Navy as a ship's engineer on an aircraft carrier.

As the war was ending he met and married Mary Knox. By 1952, he was the father of two daughters, Aileen and Vivien. Deciding that post-war Scotland held few prospects, the young family set sail for Australia. They arrived in Bell Bay, Tasmania, where Syd was to work with Ferrantes, an engineering firm.

Although Syd had an interest in the church, and was a young elder and youth leader at St Brides in Edinburgh, arriving in the new country he responded to the calling of the church to go into the Presbyterian ministry. This was a courageous decision and led to him completing Year 12 at Taylors College in Melbourne. He then completed a Bachelor of Arts at the

University of Melbourne, his theological training at Ormond College.

During this time Syd was given the home mission station of Poowong in South Gippsland. His family, which had now grown with the birth of his son Andrew, lived in Poowong while Syd boarded during the week in Carlton. The small country parish of Poowong opened its heart to Syd and his family, and lifelong friendships were born.

The final years of his study saw the family relocated to Clifton Hill and the birth of their fourth child Judith. Overwhelmed by the demands of work, study and a growing family, Syd was about to throw it all in. Out of the blue, the Presbyterian Church in Woomera approached Ormond College with the offer of support for any minister in training who needed financial assistance.

This generosity and intervention galvanised him to complete his studies and he was ultimately ordained into the Presbyterian Church in 1960 and called to the parish of Rosanna. This was followed by five happy and productive years in the developing area of Melbourne and saw the birth of Syd's fifth child, Joanne.

In 1964, he received a call to First Church of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand. Part of this call involved the setting up of a new counselling centre. This exciting initiative led to Syd being awarded a Churchill Scholarship to visit a number of countries, to observe the work of the church in inner city settings.

At the end of this decade, Syd received a call to return to Melbourne to lead in the role of Director of Home Missions, the process of unification of

the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational churches that gave birth to the Uniting Church in Australia.

Syd's next challenge was to go back into a parish when he was called as minister to St Aidans Uniting Church in North Balwyn. This was a period of innovation and progressive ministry for Syd as he strove to ensure the church embraced its young people and moved with the times.

In 1978, the third momentous change occurred in Syd's professional life when he became an academic at RMIT. This change saw him grow as a lecturer and researcher and he completed his Master of Social Sciences on the myths of the midlife crisis. This time ushered in a period of enormous energy, influence and accomplishment as Syd, for example, took distance education into the Australian outback, and travelled extensively around the world delivering conference papers.

After retiring from RMIT at 65, Syd returned to the church and embraced the Warrandyte parish with both he and Mary forging strong friendships within the congregation. When this delightful period of his life came to an end Syd rose to the occasion yet again, coordinating the Victorian Council of Churches community recovery ministry.

This included establishing teams across Victoria to respond to the needs of those who had been touched by disasters such as bushfires, floods, the Bali bombings, and the Monash University shooting.

He was involved in the Melbourne ecumenical service held to celebrate the resilience of the survivors of the Port Arthur massacre in 1996.

Passion of the painter

WHEN Walter Magilton, the son of a family of Port Campbell dairy farmers with no art or academic background, left school at the end of fourth form in 1949, he returned to the land. It took the arrival of a young bush teacher to help him make the break from farming life into the world of art.

"Four generations ago we came from poor Irish stock. My brothers and all my hundreds of cousins lived on the land," Walter, 71, said, "and I was the black sheep who became an art teacher."

Lleu Evans, now in his 90s, clicked with Walter, taking an interest in his painting. The acclaimed Warrandyte artist said it was this teacher who encouraged him to return to school and do what would become his life's work. "He introduced me to real artists' brushes, watercolour paper and books on art, and as the wheel turned he encouraged my older brother and I," Walter said.

"My father said to me if you don't think you're cut out for farming then I can pay for training. When I was 18 or 19 I went back to school at Geelong High, highly motivated. I think I was Victoria's first mature-age student!

"Later when Lleu Evans was teaching at Carey he became my mentor and I much later did his portrait and presented it to the school. He was a useless teacher of maths but he had an incredible knowledge of literature. He got me going and we became good friends." Walter still visits the old man, who lives in Footscray.

Walter's parents, both from large Baptist families, had slightly different educational attitudes. His mother's side gave education a greater priority while his father's family put education "on the back burner", concentrating on survival. "If there's art in the genes it's from my mother's side," Walter said.

Growing up in the western district, hospitals were remote and Walter's mother had had "a terrible time" bearing children, with three sons surviving, a daughter born dead, another daughter with Downs syndrome dying very young and a third who survived childhood but was disabled, having been totally dependent throughout her life.

Walter finished school and went to teachers' college, putting his own talent on the back burner "for about

VILLAGE PEOPLE

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

1000 years" until he became exhausted with big classes as a busy teacher. "I think I did one painting in three years. But the frustrations of being a schoolteacher led me to paint. I drove past this old disused cottage where the Christian school is now in Donvale and I had a gut feeling that I should be painting properly and not just be an art teacher. So I got out my old paint kit, hammered my old brushes into shape and chiselled the old palette. But when I got back to the cottage it had been demolished!

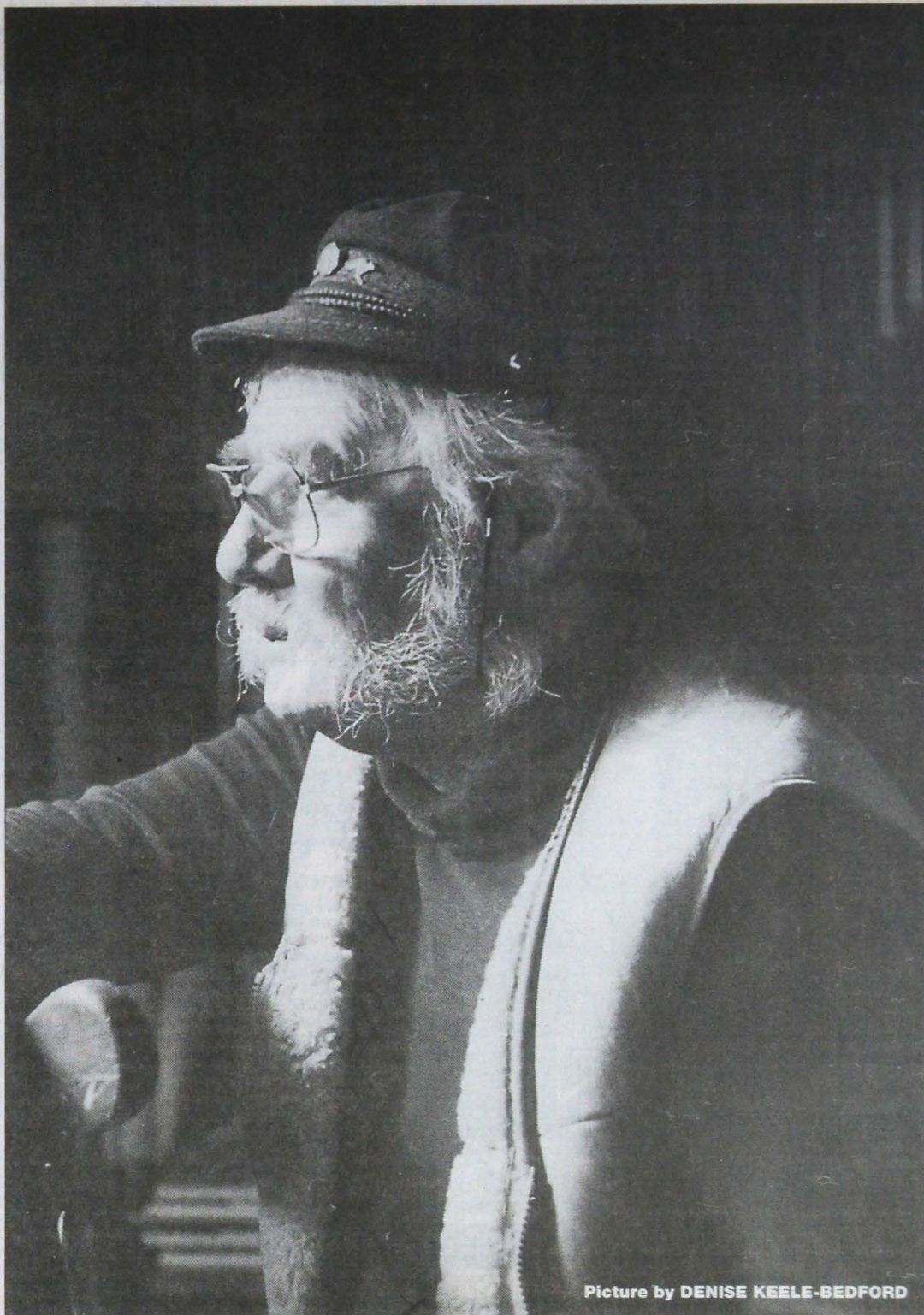
"It was like a match to a fuse—I gave up teaching to run my own studio and I've just finished 31 years of serious painting," he said.

"I have lots of students—I love teaching. Thirty or 40 adult students come to my studio and I'm very proud of the ones who've gone on to fulltime study. Three of them have Masters of Arts. I like to think I open students' eyes rather than close them," he said.

Walter has exhibited in London, judged prestige art shows, including being on the panel for the Camberwell Rotary art show and has judged the Victor Harbour. "The Camberwell has \$60,000 worth of prizemoney and lots of classes. Judges have to make a consensus on the painting's skills, originality and quality which is not easy with three different people with different opinions. It's hard, hard yacka and we take it very seriously. We must be seen to be honest."

His favourite piece by a single person is Michelangelo's David but he also finds gothic churches inspiring. "David embodies the eternal spirit of interested enquiry in the human soul, while churches are the work of complex communities. The window designers, book designers, stonemasons, those who grow the crops to feed them, there's not any equivalent today."

Walter loves the sense of pride some of the Heidelberg School painters gave to Australia. He and Denise — they have been together 13 years — have just returned from a full-on painting trip to central Australia. "I like to feel proud of this very unique continent. I'm very interested in Aboriginal affairs and I have a young



Picture by DENISE KEELE-BEDFORD

Aboriginal painter friend in Mildura who sang at our wedding. Injustice, especially in Aboriginal communities, angers me. My thoughts on John Howard are totally unprintable. I'm also angered by intolerance to other people's religion. Churches, mosques, synagogues and graveyards being vandalised makes me extremely angry. The incredibly unequal spread of wealth is a great disappointment."

He finds older artists like Monet and Lloyd Rees, who both painted into their 90s, very inspirational. "They had this fantastic passion to paint despite losing their sight and being crippled with arthritis. Look at Louis Kahan, in his 90s he was talking about his future. I have a friend who's 84—he might be 87 actually—who was saying he can't play tennis as well as he used to. I love the thought of old people making a contribution. If you give them the mental attitude that at 65 they retire and sit in a retirement home then they rot. You don't produce your best work until you mature."

Walter and his first wife Allison lived in East Burwood in a self-propagating, overgrown garden but they wanted more orchard and more space. They looked around and kept coming back to Warrandyte. "It seemed to have something here," Walter said. "I've been in the house for 32 years now and the place has got my soul. I'm a citizen of Warrandyte, although by some people's stance I'm a Johnny-come-lately!"

He is an admirer of craft. "When Allison died from cancer over 20 years ago, Cliff Green helped write her eulogy. The way he fashioned

sentences was an absolute revelation. The way he made it make sense is similar to the way artists put a painting together. I'm not especially creative but I'm a good craftsman and the craft for an artist is to recognise good composition, present the work in its frame. The problem some contemporary artists have is that they have great ideas but not good craftsmanship." He found it very hard staging a retrospective exhibition of Allison's work after she died from cancer over 20 years ago. "It was very tough going through her studio and her effects but I was also incredibly proud of the exhibition. People die early or something happens to them. It's a great sadness to me when people can't or don't achieve their full potential.

"I want to keep achieving a high standard at painting. It doesn't get any easier as I keep setting the standards higher! I'm trying to fit in all the things I want to do, Twenty-four hours is not enough time. I must finish my tax or I'll end up in gaol—I've got a million things on at the moment."

"I like seeing young people take initiative and I'm particularly proud of the Warrandyte Youth Art Awards—there's a fabulous new crop year after year. Young people in church are doing amazing things in the community and the future is in very good hands," he said.

"I'm always being asked to do things in the community—I hardly ever say no. Denise and I are doing a peace wall for the Uniting Church, preparing the overall plan. I've a big passion for vintage MG cars and the family has a collection of them and we go on rallies, interstate some-

times. I race radio-controlled yachts on Lilydale Lake. This year we were asked to make scarecrows for the festival and I was very proud of working together making this great black scarecrow out of black bedsheets thrown over tomato stakes with a fisherman's float for a head and rubber gloves sprayed black, all made in a very short time.

"But the Boyles, people at the *Diary*, this district is a fabulous place to live in. You say hello to someone in the bank or the supermarket—there's a sense of belonging. People living rich and rewarding lives. Gardening on the banks of the Yarra with the birds and bush all around us. The environment I live in, sitting on the riverbank watching the moon rise, the seasonal change—I wouldn't swap it for anything, but painting wins hands down.

"A mansion on the cliff-face at Portsea doesn't appeal in the least and if I won a trillion dollars I wouldn't move from where I am.

"I've been incredibly lucky as a person—I've had some bad moments but the good far outweigh them. I want to depart this planet knowing I haven't wasted my talent. I see my life as a series of chapters. I don't stop looking backwards but I'm in the next chapter and getting on. I enjoyed my 40s far more than my 30s and in my 50s it was 'bring on the 60s'. Life is very full and when the time comes, I'll be saying 'don't call me now, Lord, I haven't finished'.

"Denise says I still have a bit of boy wonder in me. I hope I have. I want to be Robert Redford when I grow up. My mother lived until she was nearly 97 and I hope I live as long. I've new tubes of paint to use up."

Tourism networking

Alan Vitiritti
0412 593 314



Painter & Decorator

In line with Manningham council's commitment to the Valley of the Arts Tourism Board, the council is arranging a Valley of the Arts networking function to be held on Wednesday, May 25 from 11.30am to 1.30pm at Stonehouse Café and Gallery, 321 Yarra Street, Warrandyte. Café and restaurant owners, commercial and public galleries, B&B and accommodation, tour and tourism businesses from the region are invited to attend. Guest speaker is Ms Astrid Adamson, Food and Wine Tourism Victoria. She will speak on Tourism Victoria's recently released "food and wine strategy" and how it will help your business. Cost is \$25 payable in advance by May 16 to Stonehouse Café. Bookings to Ms Skye Dean at the café on 9844 0644.



The first 2005 concert from the Eltham Community Band is entitled "Opera in Eltham" and will feature popular arias sung by Lesley Walton and Ray Khong (pictured) who performed with the band at the Warrandyte Carols by Candlelight in 2004. Performances will be under the direction of local musician Barry McKimm. There are two performances on Saturday, May 21 at 7.30pm and Sunday, May 22 at 2pm. Tickets \$15, \$12 concession. Bookings to 9439 5391 or by email: president@elthamconcertband.org. The performances will be at the Eltham Community Centre, Pitt Street, Eltham.



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.

Community

The annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Community Association will take the form of a public forum, to be held at the new North Warrandyte Community Centre, Research (Melways 23:D9) on Thursday, May 12 at 8pm. Fielding residents' questions and comments will be local MPs and councillors from both sides of the river.

AGM

The annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute and Arts Association will be held in the WMIAAA Hall, cnr Mitchell Avenue and Yarra Street, Warrandyte on Monday, June 6 at 8pm. All welcome.

Dance

The 50-50 cabaret dance at the South Warrandyte Hall in Hall Road is now running fortnightly—on every second and fourth Saturday: May 14, May 28, June 11 and June 25. BYO everything. Basic teaching offered free of charge. From 7.30pm.

Prayer

Warrandyte churches are combining for a service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The service will be held at the Warrandyte Uniting Church in Tarroona Avenue on Sunday, May 15 at 7pm.

Pain

The Manningham Community Health Service is conducting "Managing Your Pain", a six session course run by a counsellor, an occupational therapist and a physiotherapist. It will be held at the health service's rooms, cnr Doncaster and Blackburn roads, between 10am and 12noon on Thursdays, from June 2. Call 8841 3000 for further information.

Bowling

Donvale Bowls Club are having a free learn to bowl day on Sunday, May 29 from 1pm to 4pm at their club, Mullum Mullum Reserve, cnr Reynolds and Springvale roads. Free coaching and bowls are provided. Flat-soled shoes must be worn. Fun for all.

Repairs

Warrandyte Toy Library is seeking a handyman to help with toy maintenance. Please call Sondra on 9844 0102 or Melinda on 9844 0449 if you can help.

Dinners

Manningham council, in partnership with local businesses, is running a series of progressive lunch tours over the next few months in Tunstall Square, Templestowe Village, Bulleen Plaza and Warrandyte. The Warrandyte events will be "Win-

ter in Warrandyte (open fires)" on Wednesday, July 20 and "Discover Warrandyte Gold (organic foods)" on Wednesday, September 7. Bookings for both occasions to Meredith Thorn-ton on 9844 2527.

Flab

"Fighting the Flab" for men is a 6-session group program for men who want to lose weight. It is being organised by Manningham Community Health Service and will take place on Wednesdays from 2pm to 4pm commencing May 18. Cost is \$30. Bookings are essential on 8841 3000.

Anniversary

To mark their 50th birthday celebrations, the Warrandyte Arts Association is busy collecting, cataloguing and scanning the association's archives. If anyone has any treasures in their cupboard please contact Pat Anderson on 9844 3442

Seminar

The next Manningham council environment seminar will be held at the function room, Grand Hotel, 120 Yarra Street, Warrandyte on Wednesday, June 1 commencing at 7.30pm. The speaker will be Andrew Pritchard who will look at "Threatened Flora Species Recovery".

Birthday

The 30th birthday celebrations of the Templestowe Valley Pre-School will be held at the pre-school at 3 Birchwood Avenue, Lower Templestowe (Melways 33:A5) on Sunday, June 5, from 10am to 5pm. It will be an open family fun day, featuring a whole host of attractions. Phone 9850 for more information.



Bundanon

"Bundanon: spirit of place" is the title of local artist Denise Keele-bedford's current exhibition being held at the Angela Roberts-Bird Gallery at Gasworks Arts Park, 21 Graham Street, Albert Park. The works are inspired by her recent period as artist in residence at Arthur Boyd's "Bundanon" in New South Wales. The exhibition includes works on paper in mixed media and an installation of vessels containing paper scrolls, paper packages and organic forms. It will be open from May 17 to June 12. The subjects for the artwork are based on found organic forms, natural and created environments, textures and animal tracks.

Indigenous

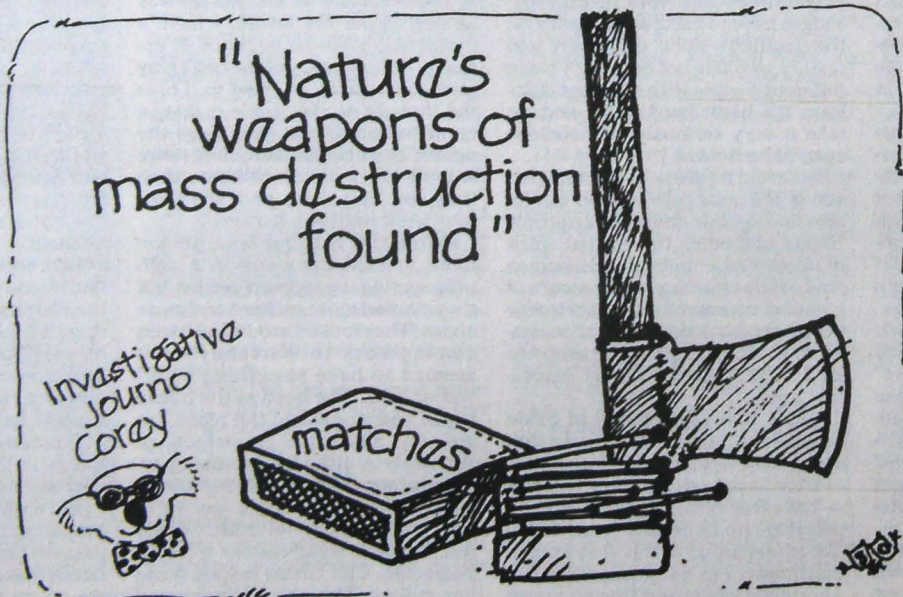
Manningham Gallery is presenting "Walert: Possum", an exhibition of contemporary indigenous works brought together for the first time in recognition of Reconciliation Week. It will feature works based on the possum skin cloaks worn traditionally in south-east Australia by the indigenous people and will be open from May 10 to June 4 at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster.

Stonehouse

The May exhibition at Stonehouse Gallery, 323 Warrandyte-Ringwood Road, Warrandyte—"The Garden Patch"—will feature textile art by Michelle Mischkulnig. Brilliantly coloured thread and fabric is stitched, painted, gathered and twisted to create the "Secret Garden". The gallery is open from 10am to 5pm daily.

COREY'S COMMUNITY

By SYD & ONA



Warrandyte Community Market

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

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

Ample parking. Light refreshments available.



"The Diary's the best newspaper published in Warrandyte, Ock!"

"It's the only newspaper published in Warrandyte, Clyde!"

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Warrandyte pharmacy

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Age of the Under-13s

By SONIA RAPPELL

To say that netball is booming at Under-13 level in Warrandyte is quite an understatement. Warrandyte Netball Club have no fewer than five Under-13 teams in the Doncaster and District competition, which makes for a lot of intracub competition, as well as interclub rivalry.

Two of the Warrandyte teams — U13/1 and U13/2 — play in Section 1 and two others (U13/4 and U13/5) are in Section 4, so it's often a case of Warrandyte versus Warrandyte on Saturday mornings at the Templestowe Leisure Centre. A snapshot of each of the Under-13 teams is provided here by their enthusiastic coaches,

U13/4 GUMNUTS:

Coaches: Lauren Reid, Alice Saunders.

Team: Emily Bird, Melba Blyth-Elvin, Ashleigh Carroll, Kellie May, Georgette McKeough, Claudia McKeough, Alanah Murrell, Julia Robertson, Ruby Stansfield, Emily Waugh.

Coach Lauren says: "After a disruptive start to the season we came back after the school holidays to score another win. This is where things begin to get serious. The girls are now starting to settle into their positions and we are looking forward to the rest of the season."



U13/1 SPARROWS:

Coaches: Lynley Hurst, Emma Stanley.
Team: Jennie Annand, Montana Cox, Brigitte Freemantle, Sarah Lewis, Lucinda Link, Kelsie Nabben, Harriet Rappell, Hannah Twite, Ally Van Summeren.

Coach Lynley says: "The girls are enthusiastic, wanting to try hard, learn new things and enjoy themselves. They are a nice bunch to coach and they are succeeding, being near the top of Section 1."



U13/2 WALLABIES:

Coaches: Karen May, Elin Twite.
Team: Hannah Clark, Elisha Cottier, Jessica Drohan, Jessica Dusting, Jessica May, Sheridan Pearce, Mikaela Smith, Bianca Stockley, Emily Van Bergen.

Coach Karen says: "The girls are currently playing in Section 1 after having been put up from Section 2. They are a terrific group of girls who give their best every week."



U13/5 KINGFISHERS:

Coaches: Amie Dusting, Maxine Lockey.
Team: Taylah Brendish, Akela Coutts, Nastasya Foster-Zuluaga, Selene Foster-Zuluaga, Shelby Greenlaw, Samantha Hayes, Dayle Humphreys, Jordan Coombs, Gemma Lindsay-Knape, Hannah Thornton.

Coach Amie says: "We started off the season in Section 4 and the girls are putting in an enormous effort to further extend their skill levels. They had their first win recently against Koonung and we are all looking forward to the rest of the season."

U13/3 SWALLOWS:

Coaches: Karen Green, Caitlyn Hurst.
Team: Annushia Andrews, Claudia Bowers, Kaya Dean, Helena Dwyer, Sarah Green, Zanetta Hosking, Aimee Hurst, Morgan Hurst, Melissa Moritz.

Coach Karen says: "It's been a terrific start to the year and we are currently sitting on top of the ladder. We have a well balanced team with everyone contributing to the team's success. The girls' strengths are their positive attitude and teamwork."



Youngsters shine in the preliminaries

By TONY OLIVER

The winter season of Saturday basketball is just under way with early grading matches sorting out the teams.

In the younger age groups, Warrandyte's Under-9, Under-11 and Under-13 A-grade boys all had good wins against Doncats on May 7 at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre.

The Under-13s were never seriously challenged in their

match, winning 49-15. Andrew Clough topscored with an impressive 18 points, assisted by Sam Allardice with 10.

Equally impressive were the Under-11s, winning 58-12. Jacob Ballard with 17, Jake Winkle with 14 and Sam Holton with 10 were the main contributors.

Mandy Ratcliffe guided her Under-9s to a 20-13 win, but Greg Pearson's Under-17 boys were well beaten by 11 points in a rough game against Balwyn.

The Redbacks' second Under-17 side were more successful, winning 24-14 after leading 10-6 at the break. Matt Camm and Richard Domeyer each contributed five points, with four apiece coming from Aaron Delacy, Bryce Petalas and Matt Spinosa.

Coach Grant King was happy with the win, but recognised the boys will need to improve their shooting percentage. This is essentially the same

side that won their grade as Under-16s and will need to take the next step.

The final match of the at WCSC saw Malcolm's Anderson's Under-15 boys taking on Eltham.

The Redbacks opened well but Eltham closed the gap before Sam Porter scored on a fast break to give Warrandyte a 15-12 lead at the break.

The Redbacks again started well in the second half, holding

Eltham scoreless for the first nine minutes. The scoring was balanced for the remainder of the game, Warrandyte winning 39-24.

Leading the scoring were Matthew Lane with 12 and Sam Porter with 11.

The Redbacks have welcomed former intercollegiate star Maree Vincent from America to take on the coaching role with their Under-13 and Under-15 girls.

Despite the Under-13s' 26-7 loss to Doncats, Vincent was very positive about her young charges. Nicolette Prior scored all but one of Warrandyte's points.

The Under-19 girls would not appear destined to repeat recent top-age success, finding A-grade difficult. They were never in the hunt against Balwyn, going down 51-20, with Jess Howe leading the scoring with 12.

Gerald, you've done it again!

Veteran fast bowler Gerald Walshe has won his second Jack McAuley Club Champion award at the Warrandyte Cricket Club.

The announcement was made at last month's presentation night and was a fitting reward for an outstanding season that also saw him win the First XI bowling award.

The highlight of the season was Walshe's 8-13 that took Warrandyte to an outright win over South Croydon. He took 38 wickets at an average of 10.95.

The First XI batting award was won for the third time by Adam White, who scored 305 runs at 30.5.

The senior awards night was also highlighted by the performances of junior players.

Fourteen-year-old Ayrton Dehmel won the Second XI bowling trophy, taking 29 wickets with his off-breaks at an average of 12.62.

Another 14-year-old, Chris Barry, won the Fourth XI batting trophy, scoring 417 runs at 59.57. Barry also took out the Maria McGhee Memorial



Robert White, clubperson award.

Award for the best performed junior in the senior competition.

Under-14 player Jack Wright won the Fifth XI bowling award, taking 18 wickets at 19.0.

Third XI captain Eddie Cauchi had another outstanding year with the ball, taking 34 wickets at 9.59. He not only won the club award but also took out the RDCA bowling award for the second successive year.

The 2004-05 awards:

First XI: Batting, Adam White; bowling Gerald Walshe; fielding Marc Centofanti; captain's award Andrew Jarvis.

Second XI: Batting Brett Kline; bowling Ayrton Dehmel; fielding Craig Lincoln; captain's award Craig Lincoln.

Third XI: Batting Nathan Croft; bowling Eddie Cauchi; fielding Oliver Hatch; captain's award Daniel Kitley.

Fourth XI: Batting Chris Barry; bowling Graeme Rees; fielding Jake Sheriff; captain's award Tim Hookey.

Fifth XI: No batting award; bowling Jack Wright; fielding Dylan Clements; captain's award, Will Standing.

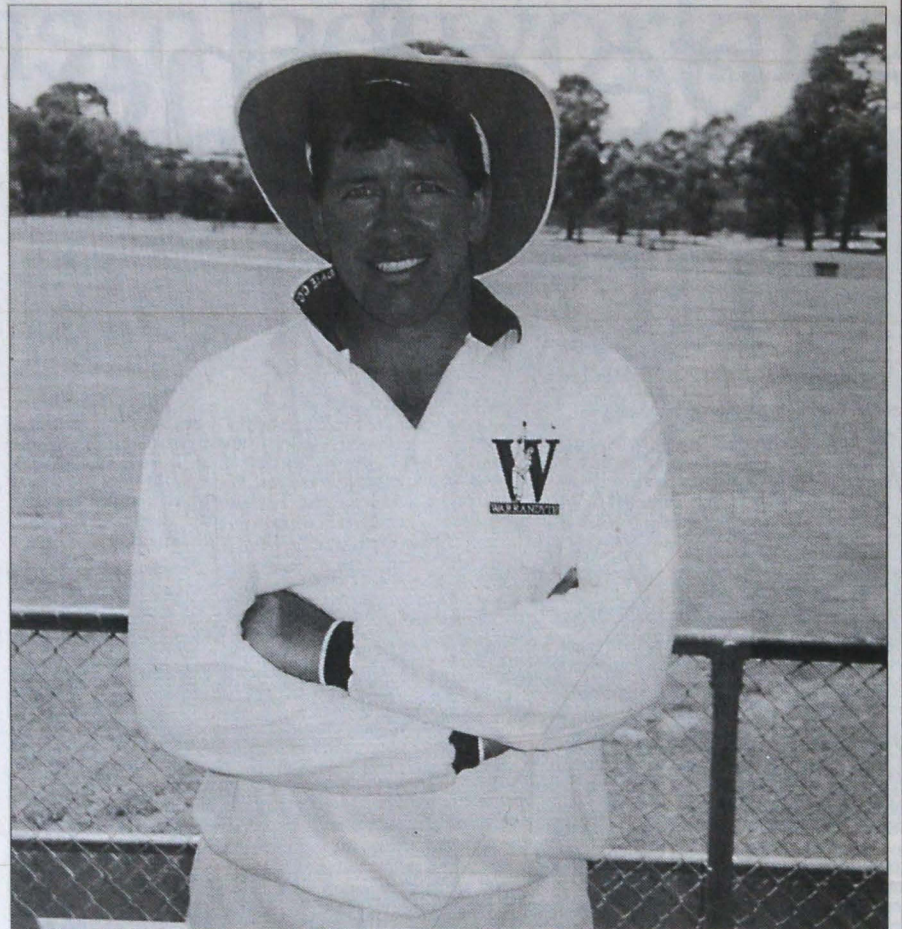
Jack McAuley Shield for senior club champion: Gerald Walshe.

Darryl Valentine Shield for senior club champion other than First XI: Graeme Rees.

Maria McGhee Shield for best performed junior in senior competition: Chris Barry.

McCartin Family Clubperson of the Year: Robert White.

President's Award: Dianne Wright.



Evergreen paceman Gerald Walshe, Warrandyte Cricket Club champion for the second time.

Redback boys deliver

By TONY OLIVER

Warrandyte's Under-18 Regional IX boys survived a crucial encounter when Round 7 of the Friday night junior championship basketball season was completed on May 6. And they did it in style.

The boys, coached by Peter Clough, came away with an impressive 49-33 win against Camberwell in the late game at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre.

Camberwell had defeated the Redbacks in their last two meetings and had the height advantage.

Warrandyte went into the game fifth on the ladder, half a game clear of Camberwell, so there was much at stake from a finals viewpoint even at this stage of the home-and-away season.

After an early opening goal by Luke Ebzery, the Redbacks established a slight but handy lead, centre Hamish Hosking showing his dominance under the ring with two goals, but the visitors came back late in the half to close the margin to three points.

That was the signal for Warrandyte to say "go". Shane Holloway scored a three after a single from the free throw line to Matt Clough and late goals to Jason Turner and Wade King sent the Redbacks into the break with what was to be a match-winning 25-14 lead.

Jason Turner had been particularly damaging with his

speed on the fast breaks.

Camberwell scored first in the second half, but Jake Ratcliffe answered this in spades with a three-point shot. Warrandyte were missing baskets from the key, however, to let Camberwell back into the game.

Wade King and Holloway appeared to make it safe when they gave Warrandyte a 12-point buffer with 13 minutes to go. The Redbacks were taking a more measured approach, waiting for their opportunities in offence, and Ratcliffe was controlling the attack well from point position.

Camberwell challenged again late in the game later but with a flurry of scoring in the final minutes, the Redbacks comfortably prevailed.

The game was played in excellent spirit, players shaking hands at the end in a genuine sign of mutual respect.

Coach Clough was happy with the result but will be looking for more consistency from his players.

Hosking led the Redbacks scoring with 12 points, followed by Holloway and Luke Dimmock with nine each and Ebzery with eight. Dimmock put in another good game with the three-point scores at key times in the second half.

In the preceding game, coach Emma Collins was happy with her Eastern Under-16 boys side despite their 29-17 loss against Eltham.

"They just could not hit their jump shots — that was the only difference," she said. "They were switched on, really ball hungry."

Warrandyte had the lead at 8-7 at the break in a game dominated by the defences. Daniel Hughes gave the Redbacks a five-point lead from a turnover with six minutes of the half to go, but Eltham came back hard.

Any hope of a Warrandyte comeback late in the game disappeared when tall centre Matt Peters was fouled off after a strong defensive and offensive game.

Hughes dominated the scoring for Warrandyte with 10 points.

It has been a mixed season so far for this Warrandyte team with two good wins and some narrow defeats.

Both Warrandyte's Under-12 boys sides were in action —

with contrasting results.

Damian Arsenis' Metro 2s went down 43-33 to Kilsyth, paying dearly for a slow start which saw them down 17-2 at one point in the first half.

Kilsyth had come out firing on all cylinders to break the game open and after such a poor start it was an impressive performance by the young Redbacks to close the gap to six points late in the game.

Jake Wintle was forced off the court in the first half with an injured ankle but came back late to put on five points, but Kilsyth always seemed to have the game under control.

All Warrandyte players were among the scoring, Ryan Tester and Jake Wintle leading the way with seven, followed by Sam Holston with six.

Jack Cousens continued to impress with another good all-round game and Tester played a particularly strong second half.

Malcolm Anderson's Under-12 Eastern boys were next on court in their top-of-the-table clash with undefeated Melbourne and claimed top spot with a 30-23 victory.

The margin was just one point in Warrandyte's favour at the break when Melbourne scored on the buzzer, but a Redbacks win was looking more than merely possible.

Warrandyte extended the lead in the second half, playing with confidence and developing impressive teamwork to come away with the points.

Melbourne make a late charge but an answering goal by Zac Ballard stopped their momentum.

Coach Anderson has been able to develop significant teamwork among these players, who have made dramatic improvement since coming together earlier in the year.

Training has been focussed on skills and fitness and Warrandyte were able to maintain pressure over the whole game.

Ballard led the scoring for Warrandyte with 10, followed by Matt Killey with six and Zac Ratcliffe, Matt Ratcliffe and Michael Delacy with four.

"A huge win," said a delighted Anderson. "They bounced back from a loss the previous week."

● More basketball Page 22



Above: Marie Vincent, our home-grown former US collegiate star, makes a point or two to her Under-13 girls, beaten 26-7.



Left: It's anyone's ball as our Under-9 boys take on (and defeat) Doncats — and one of our number (below) is all concentration as he lines up the hoop.



Bloods mooroolbathed

By LEE TINDALE

Warrandyte's football season went from bad to embarrassing on May 7 with a 77-point hiding from Mooroolbark at home.

Paradoxically, the young Bloods kicked by far their highest score — 17.10 (112) — of their season so far but also suffered by far their heaviest defeat as deadly accurate and highly efficient Mooroolbark booted 30.9 (189).

This and other results left Warrandyte second-last on the EFL Third Division ladder, one percentage point ahead of last year's Division 4 premiers Heathmont. Templestowe, who had also been seeking their first win of the season, found it against Bayswater to move from last to eighth of 10.

Only once, after trailing by five goals at the first change, did Warrandyte look any sort of a chance against Mooroolbark. That was in the third quarter when they cut a 38-point deficit to just 18. Unfortunately, the Barkers' response was to kick the next six goals.

Our nemesis was Mooroolbark captain-coach and former Richmond player Andy Goodwin, who is big, strong, clever and a cut above most of them at this level of competition.

The only Warrandyte players capable of matching Goodwin's size at full-forward were ruckman Craig Dick and his rookie "apprentice" Anthony Richardson and not surprisingly the job went to Dick.

It was a pretty awesome assignment for a young man who may never have played full-back before and despite his best efforts Goodwin finished with 10 goals.

An encouraging aspect of all this was the vastly improved ruck work of Richardson, a former basketball star playing just his fifth game of football.



Richardson won many hit-outs and the coaching staff will now concentrate on developing his general play around the ground. The game was also notable for the return to senior football of captain-coach Peter Green, who'd had a few runs with the Reserves. Green spent limited time on the ground but did enough to suggest that he will be a considerable asset if his suspect knees stand up.

Despite the gravity of the defeat, Green was cool and analytical immediately after the game.

"We can be brilliant in patches," he said, "but we must develop the consistency to keep a side down when we get on top."

"We must learn to play four consistent quarters."

"The wins will come," he said. "We are learning all the time and improving all the time."

Neither was Warrandyte Football Club president Phil Treeby dismayed by the lack of success so far. "We are a very young side and I believe we are not far off a win," he said. "We kicked 17 goals today and that would win most games in this division."

Your club needs you!

Love your footy club? Want to see it succeed? Got a little time on your hands? Then Warrandyte need you!

The Bloods are urgently seeking volunteers — no matter how big or how small their contribution — to assist in the running of the club.

"A lot of people don't realise how much work is involved in keeping a club going and, as so often happens, too much is being left to too few," said WFC president Phil Treeby.

"We'd love to hear from anyone at all who's prepared to lend a hand in any capacity."

Treeby welcomes inquiries on 9876 4142 or 0407 008124.

The game started promisingly enough for the Bloods, who showed a fierce desire for the ball and were rewarded with a string of early free kicks. They in fact received the first seven frees, a statistic local cynics in the crowd put down to mistaken identity.

Young Warrandyte full-forward Michael Morello drew first blood after a sensational mark in the goal square with eight minutes gone and 10 minutes had elapsed before Mooroolbark, kicking with the breeze, got on the board at all, with a behind.

Enter Andy Goodwin. A strong mark and goal at 11 minutes and a soccered goal two minutes later were inspirational and 12 minutes later Warrandyte were looking down the barrel of a 30-point deficit. Goodwin already had three goals to his name.

James Riley to Green at 28 minutes produced a booming goal from the captain-coach, but Mooroolbark were unkind enough to nullify that with their seventh right on the siren.

It was 7.2 (44) to 2.2 (14) and Green asked his players why their heads were down. "Five goals — can't we kick five goals?" he said. "We gave them four through stupid play on the half-forward line. We'll grind them back."

Come along, have a ball

Warrandyte Football Club will hold their Black Tie Ball on Saturday, May 14, at the S Bar in Glen Waverley.

This is the biggest event on the Bloods' social calendar and not to be missed.

Tickets are \$60 single or \$110 a couple and are available from James Logan (0414 337 418).

Warrandyte will also hold a past players luncheon at the clubrooms on Saturday, May 21, before the crucial game against Templestowe.

Tickets are \$30 (covering a fine meal and drinks), it starts at noon and you'll be entertained by a guest speaker.

John Ryan (9844 2552), Terry Ryan (9879 0370) and Andrew Rodgers (0411 519671) are taking bookings.

We've won something, anyway

Warrandyte Football Club have become the latest recipient of TXU-Football Victoria's Community Club of the Week Award.

The award recognises a football club's input into the community and was announced on ABC television during the VFL game between Tasmania and Sandringham in Hobart on May 7.

It carries a plaque which will be displayed in the Warrandyte clubrooms.

That didn't look like happening when terrible defence saw Mooroolbark run into an unattended square with less than a minute of the second term gone, but Clint Wheatley pulled that one back almost immediately by converting a strong mark into a long goal.

Another Goodwin goal, however, set off a chain reaction which saw our deficit blow out to 12.4 (76) to 3.5 (23) — with 12 minutes gone.

With the quarter slipping away, Warrandyte produced one of their "patches of brilliance". Morello goaled from free at the 20-minute mark and followed up two minutes later from another big mark and a penalty.

Adam Kearney maintained the Bloods' momentum by goaling from afar three minutes on and when Tom Naughtin accepted a free and penalty at the death it

was back to square one at 12.6 (78) to 7.6 (48), the quarter's honours split down the middle.

Mooroolbark were again first out of the blocks in the third quarter, running into an open goal three minutes in, but it was Warrandyte's turn now to dominate, albeit briefly.

Morello to Kearney a minute later produced our eighth and a mark and penalty to Treeby four minutes after that our ninth. And when Riley put one through on the run at the 10-minute mark this was a three-goal ball game.

But from a Warrandyte viewpoint the less said about the ensuing 12 minutes the better. They produced six unanswered Mooroolbark goals, that man Goodwin lighting the fuse with his first of three for the quarter and his teammates doing virtually as they pleased.

It took Morello to stop the rot

with a mark and goal 23 minutes in and Kearney and James Logan were to chip in before quarter's end, but Mooroolbark had an answer to everything we threw at them and a soccered goal which just beat the siren saw them 48 points clear at the last change, 21.7 (133) to 13.7 (85).

Green reminded his players that they had got to within three goals but "taken the foot off". "That's when you've got to in for the kill," he said.

Pegging back an eight-goal deficit — breeze behind us or not — was a forlorn hope, but Matt Wood lifted spirits a little by sprinting into an open goal from the first bounce.

Oh no, not Goodwin again! Sadly, yes. The big fellow outfoxed three defenders a minute later, goaled again five minutes on and again with a little more than half the quarter elapsed.

It was a Mooroolbark procession punctuated only by goals from Dick (on one of his rare trips downfield), James Riddell and, fittingly, Morello. Nine goals to four for the quarter was a pretty fair indication of how it was played. And if we ever see Andy Goodwin again it will be once too often.

Warrandyte's goalkickers were Morello 5, Kearney 3, Green, Wheatley, Naughtin, Treeby, Riley, Logan, Wood, Dick and Riddell.

Their best were Naughtin, Wood, Wheatley, Aidan Davey, Treeby and Morello.

The Reserves are also yet to win but were perhaps a little unlucky against second-placed Mooroolbark, who hit the front late in the last quarter from a free right in front and held on to win by five points, 8.14 (62) to 9.3 (57).

Best of the Bloods were James Powell, John Prangley, Rowen Gordon and Brian Elliott.

Juniors make the early running

By DENNIS J. HOIBERG

With the four-week grading period completed, Warrandyte Junior Football Club are now totally focused on the business of winning premierships. And a near clean-sweep of their matches on May 8 has them looking very good.

The club had mixed results in the preliminary rounds, with two teams being regraded — the Under-13s down to Green Division and the Under-10s to Brown.

But the stand-out successes so far have been Greg Edwards' Under-11s, who top the ladder in the elite Gold Division with four wins from their five games and a percentage of 186.6.

Their results so far have been a seven-point win over Canterbury, a one-point loss to Park Orchards, a three-point success against Ivanhoe, a 24-point win over early premiership favourites St Mary's and a 43-point victory against Kew Rovers (8.5-53 to 1.4-10) last start.

"Every game these boys play is crucial as there are no easy ones at this level," said coach Edwards. "Each week new challenges are put to these lads and, like the good footballers they are, they respond."

"It is a real pleasure to watch the boys come together as a team — especially to see the likes of Rowan McKenzie, Jarrod Buzzini, Neil Brown, Tom

Ellis, Daniel Nilsson, James Fisher and James Mitchell grow as players every week."

The Under-10s also lead their division on four wins and a percentage of 224. After a first round win by 29 points against Surrey Park, a 70-point thrashing of Ivanhoe and a courageous 12-point win against a physical Preston, they came back to earth with a 31-point loss to Canterbury R.

Their recent upgrading saw them take on Surrey Park on May 8 and walk away with a big win, 9.6 (60) to 3.3 (21).

"Their upgrading will challenge the team," said assistant coach Jamie Polkinghorne.

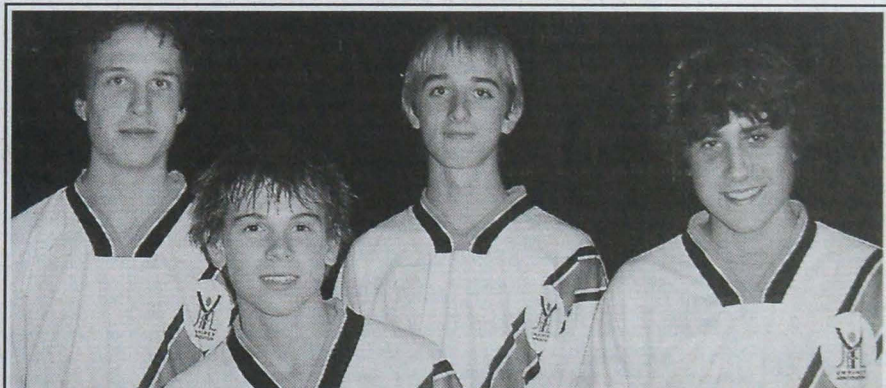
"Already we knew players like Zac Ballard, Jake Wintle, Darcy Lang, Rory Chipman, Luke Brendish, Jake Cousens and Ryan Tester had the ability to play at a higher level and now they have this opportunity."

While not playing for premiership points, Peter Stafford's Under-9s have romped their way through games against Bundoora, Park Orchards and St Mary's B and are relishing their first taste of competitive football.

"James Appley, Michael Bios, Cameron Caffin, Tara Brown, Alexander Coutts, and Kurt and Kyle McMennin are typical of the fearless players we have on our list and all the kids really know how to enjoy their footy," Stafford said.

A 2-3 win ratio has the Under-12s mid-ladder. A 14-point loss to Surrey Park in Round 1 was followed by a courageous against-the-odds win over Fitzroy and defeats by Park Orchards (10 points) and Greythorn (53 points), but a bye has given them the opportunity to regroup.

Assistant coach Phil Ashfield is happy with the commitment being shown. "We have the core of a solid team," he said, "and



Young Warrandyte field umpires (from left) Josh Blakey, Tyson Barber, Tom Fitzgerald and Michael Whittle.

Our boys blowing the whistle

WJFC Under-15 players have picked up the whistle as members of the Yarra Junior Football League's umpiring panel.

The initiative came from Josh Blakey, who began training with the umpires six weeks before the start of the season. He has since been joined by Under-15 teammates Michael Whittle, Tom Fitzpatrick and Tyson Barber.

"The boys umpire in the morning — usually the Under-9s and Under-10s in any grade from the lowest Blue Division to the highest Gold Division — then roll up and play vital roles in the Under-15s in

the afternoon," said team coach and club president Steve Blakey.

"So by Sunday night, they know all about tired muscles and bodies."

"The benefits far outweigh the negatives as they are gaining a better understanding of the game as well as communication and leadership skills. We are also seeing the benefits of their increased fitness."

"The boys are looking forward to gaining more experience as umpires because they play such a vital role in junior sport."

are building up our experience base with Heath Fitzpatrick, Dylan Burns, and Alistair McDougall recently celebrating 50 games with the club.

"Other players such as Kieran Sproule-Carroll, Adam Harahap, Jeremy James, Tom King, Johnny Dobbie and Daniel Tester are improving every week and we are looking forward to the rest of the season."

The Under-13s' regrading gives them the opportunity to find their feet after a very tough opening to the season which included a 54-point loss to St

Mary's and a 119-point shocker against Canterbury. A better indication of their ability was a 32-point loss to top-placed Banyule and better still a one-point loss (6.7-43 to 6.6-42) to Bulleen-Templestowe at their latest outing.

"This team will continue to face their challenges but I sense that the regrading will allow them to build their confidence and make them start to believe in themselves," said coach Chris Appley.

"Every game I am impressed with players like Zac Brodrick,

Jack Ellis, Blake Handson, Jordan Beltramin, Jack Lavery, Sam Allardice and Jake McKee."

Rookie coach Andrew Gordon's Under-14s have dropped just one game and continue to impress. Team manager Alison Aldenhoven said: "After a 65-point win against Emmaus in Round 1, we lost to Park Orchards by 64 points but followed up with a five-point point win against Beverly Hills and a 26-point win against Doncaster."

"Our last game, against Kew, was very important and the result — a 10-goal win (12.12-84

to 2.9-21) — was great. We will continue to look to such players as Tyler Arnold, Andrew Bird, Morrison Birznies, Sam Casey and Sean Mason to lead the way."

The Under-15s met Park Orchards last start and came away with a 52-point win (16.16-112 to 8.12-60.) This followed a 66-point win over Doncaster Heights, a loss to Hawthorn Citizens by 49 points, a three-point win over highly-fancied Camberwell and a 53-point loss to Beverly Hills.

"We are well placed on the ladder and our boys just need to remember the game plan and we should be playing finals football," said team manager Sharon Vaughan.

"Under coach Steve Blakey, we have a strong attack as well as a strong defensive game plan. We are not a tall team but what we lack in terms of height, we make up for in guts and determination. Players like Tyson Barber, Josh Blakey, Zac Boyce, Ross Brown, Keith Dimech and Patrick Eddy are all class acts and we will continue to build our game plan around this spine."

Shaun Wilson's Under-17 Colts are third on the ladder, having fought out a 14.11 (95) second-round draw with Park Orchards before coming from behind to defeat Doncaster by six points.

"They were a bit flat in their 26-point loss in Round 4, but the latest result — a huge win over Banyule (19.10-124 to 2.2-14) — means that our position on the ladder is secured," said Wilson.

"I can't speak highly enough of these boys," he said. "They have adjusted to the faster tempo of the Colts games and players such as Daniel Large, Tom Maddock, Rick Curtis, Yaaran Bektash, Chris McDougall and Chris Douglas have really stepped up to the mark."

Kids in space

Warrandyte Junior Football Club have launched a web site and webmaster Paul Van Der Zant reports an encouraging number of "hits" so far. "The site provides weekly updates of club activities and visitors are most welcome. The address is: www.warrandytejfc.org

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FOR SALE WARRANDYTE

106 Bradleys Lane

"A touch of olde England"

This extraordinary octagonal home on 1.5 acres has the Yarra out the back. The home is wildly different and includes 16th/early 17th century church stained glass doors and windows. Lounge with OFF, kitchen & meals area, 2BRs, carport, undercover outdoor area, decked pool, bungalow/office with storage space & garden shed.

Price: \$595k plus
Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161
Andrew Wilson 0408 315 927



FOR SALE WARRANDYTE

15 Winding Way

"5BRs, an acre and a pool"

This 5BR home combines a number of natural elements such as solid timber beams, bluestone, slate, etc to create a unique charm of its own. Comprises formal & informal living areas, fireplace, spa bath, new carpets & paint, swimming pool on an acre with views.

\$480-520k
Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161
Andrew Wilson 0408 315 927



FOR SALE WARRANDYTE

9 Hamilton Road

"A great place to call home!"

Well presented clinker brick home situated on a parklike 2/3 acre (approx). Comprising 3BRs (BIRs & master with ensuite), separate study (or 4th BR), large rumpus, formal dining, lounge with OFF and balcony views. Landscaped grounds, IG solar heated pool with bbq area, sunken spa with gas heating, 4 car carport.

Price: \$500k plus buyers
Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161
Andrew Wilson 0408 315 927



FOR SALE WARRANDYTE

22 Osborne Road

"An acre of view & Yarra"

A Warrandyte acre with outstanding views is tempting and made all the more appealing with Yarra frontage. But the clincher has to be the sensational tri-level home with 3 living areas, fully equipped kitchen, meals area, 4 robed BRs, ensuite, den/retreat, main bathroom with spa. Also a deck with views, carport, and wellworn track down to the Yarra.

Price: \$525k plus buyers
Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161
Andrew Wilson 0408 315 927



FOR SALE WARRANDYTE

Lot 1 Amersham Drive

"Good land for dream home"

Vacant 2300m2 site in a fantastic street surrounded by prestige homes with tennis courts and swimming pools. Are you ready to build that dream home that you have always wanted?

Price: \$450k plus buyers
Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161
Andrew Wilson 0408 315 927



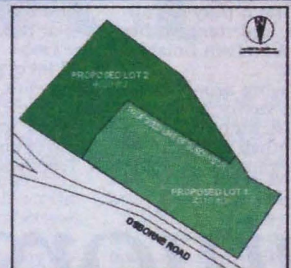
FOR SALE NORTH WARRANDYTE

38 Osborne Road

"Choose your acre with plans and permits"

There can only be one thing better than an acre 50 metres from the Yarra — and that would be a choice of two blocks! Both have plans and permits and only one block will be sold with the other retained by the vendor. Choose your block, build your home, and enjoy the great views, wildlife, the sounds of the rapids and location, moments from Warrandyte. Inspection by appointment.

Price: \$380-420k buyers
Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161
Andrew Wilson 0408 315 927



FOR SALE WARRANDYTE

Karen Court

"Vacant land, head of court"

An opportunity to purchase this magnificent 1148m2 approx. block of land situated at the head of the court. Slightly elevated this rare find has all services and sealed roads.

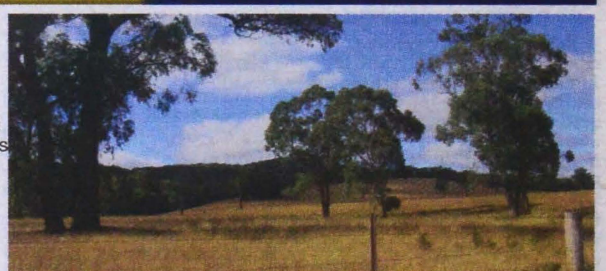
Price: \$290-\$320k buyers
Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161
Andrew Wilson 0408 315 927



FOR SALE KINGLAKE

200 acres

A short drive off the Melba Hwy this picturesque property of 200 prime grazing acres includes a basic weekender shack, crystal clear spring water fed into large s/s tanks, dams, sheds and good fencing. Offered as land only or as a walk-in, walk-out venture with existing stock and machinery. \$790k plus buyers
Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161
Andrew Wilson 0408 315 927



FOR SALE WARRANDYTE

294 Yarra Street

"Cedar shingles, Yarra views"

This amazing cottage has lounge with OFF, kitchen with timber bench top, meals area, family room, 3 robed BRs, airconditioner, and 2 toilets. There's a verandah across the front, brick paved gazebo, and location just metres from the heart of the village.

Price: \$280-\$320k buyers
Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161
Andrew Wilson 0408 315 927



FOR LEASE OR SALE WONGA PARK

68-70 Jumping Creek Road

Expressions of Interest

Wonga Park's Jumping Creek Inn (Orianos) offers an amazing freehold opportunity for the investor or restaurateur. Fully licensed with 80+ seat capacity, fully equipped commercial kitchen, walk-in cool-room, parking & space downstairs that could be separately tenanted. Register your interest for sales & leasing. \$725k plus buyers
Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161



FOR SALE DONCASTER EAST

6 Drysdale Place

"Family quality in Milgate"

Milgate Park means desirability and this home's got it! It has 4 living areas including a billiards room with wet bar, granite and stainless kitchen, formal dining, meals, 4BRs, luxury ensuite with spa, study and powder room. Extras include ducted heating, and ducted vacuum, plus double garage with remote door, and lovely rear garden with gate into the Milgate parkland.

Price: \$590k plus buyers
Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161
Andrew Wilson 0408 315 927



FOR SALE DONVALE

18 Darvall Street

Is this Donvale's cheapest "quality 3BR" home? We think so... and despite our better judgement have allowed the vendors to sacrifice the price. Offers 3 BRs, informal dining, family room, mod kitchen with meals, pol timber floors, duct heating, aircon, & an under house workshop. With the Koonung Creek reserve and a bike path at your back door, this impressive home will ensure you are off to a great start!

Price: ONLY \$349,000
Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161

