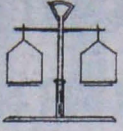


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DIARY

No. 380, October 2005

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*Celebrating spring in Bev Hanson's Warrandyte garden.
(Picture by Stephen Reynolds)*

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



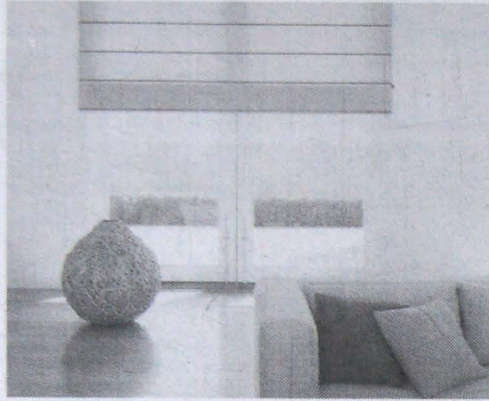
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WARRANDYTE DIARY

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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, Warranwood, North Ringwood, Kangaroo Ground and Research.

A SPECIAL PLACE

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

Granddad's pin-up may be a cutie, but the kid's a doubting Thomas



Ray Haynes, of Castle Road, was building a kennel for six-year-old grandson Thomas' new pup when the lad noticed the pin-up on the workshop wall. And the ensuing conversation went as follows: Thomas: "Granddad, that girl is rude." Granddad: "No she's not. She's lovely." Thomas: "No, she's rude. She should be wearing a bra." Granddad: "No she shouldn't. She's just fine as she is." Thomas: "She's rude!" Granddad: "No, she just hasn't got dressed yet." Thomas (very emphatically): "She's rude! And you can just about see her penis." Granddad: "Girls don't have those, now hold this end of the piece of wood and I'll bang the nails in the other..."

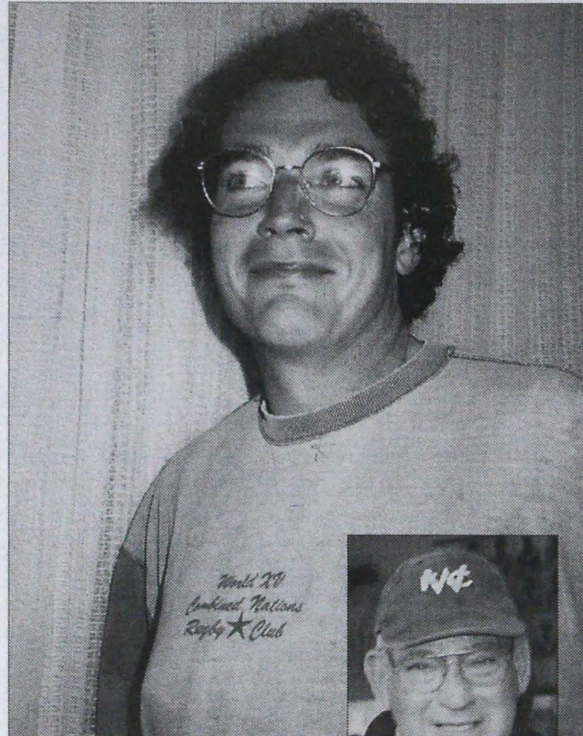


"Hanson to speak at Horsham!" roared the headline in a Wimmera newspaper, raising eyebrows and all manner of possibilities. What was Australia's best-known red-headed former fish-and-chip shop operator doing in that neck of the woods? Would it herald the re-birth of the One Nation Party and regurgitate a lot of political brouhaha? Nothing of the sort—merely the local plant society announcing that Warrandyte landscape and garden designer Bev Hanson of Webb Street, was coming to town to speak about, well, landscape and garden design, as she often does here and elsewhere. The announcement may have been somewhat overstated, but it certainly did the trick. The roll-up to Bev's show was double the usual. Thanks, Pauline. And no banner headlines here, but we can tell you that Bev will be speaking much closer to home, at the Warrandyte Uniting Church in Taroonia Avenue, on Saturday night, November 19. The subject is Designing a Natural Garden, starts at eight, supper will be served and the \$10 entry will go towards the proposed community peace wall and garden.



Robert "Spot" Rodgers reckoned his luck had changed when he walked into IGA the other day and out of the blue was presented with a complimentary pack of assorted food and other product samples. But the luck of son Andrew certainly had not when he called at Dad's place later, found nobody at home and decided to help himself to a bit of lunch. And what did he think of the

IN RED & WHITE



Andrew "Bucky" Rodgers: chicken was purrty ordinary. (Inset) Robert "Spot" Rodgers: cat went hungry.

samples? Well, the canned turkey was good but the chicken was pretty ordinary. Maybe that's because it was cat food.



Whatever the foibles and frailties, the peculiarities and peccadilloes of reluctant Page 2 idol Neil "Bozo" Dusting, you have to admit he has a heart as big as Phar Lap's. To celebrate the milestone birthday of wife Pauline, who doesn't look anything like 50, Neil took her to the caravan park at Paynesville (Pauline loves Paynesville), shouted her dinner at the Cruiser Club (Pauline loves the Cruiser Club) and bought her a yacht and a swish mechanised golf cart. All Pauline has to do now to make



the birthday complete is to show some kind of interest in sailing and/or golf. In the meantime, Neil assured her he'll put the yacht and cart to good use. So what kind of ring tone do you have on your mobile phone to drive public transport users to distraction and give hi-tech a bad name forever? Bozo has "cock-a-doodle do" on his, which caused much mirth during a golf trip last month to the bustling metropolis of Toolondo, in Victoria's west. After a heavy night, he woke the entire house rummaging about for the mobile in a futile attempt to turn it off. Didn't locate the phone but did find the rooster in the chook pen.



A man of many talents, is Neil Dusting, to the point of revolutionising the English language by compiling his own dictionary. For example, under the word "debenture" you will find a photo of false teeth. And "déjà vu" is described as anything other than a feeling of familiarity when encountering a new experience. We think we'll stick to the faithful old Oxford.



There are some rotten sods loose among us and topping our list at the moment is who-ever stole a lavender plant in a pinkish-mauve pot from Jean Chapman's front garden. A present for her recent 80th birthday, Jean chose a particular spot in the garden to share it with passers-by, although not on a "finders keepers" basis. The thief ignored a pot of pansies (which might be some sort of clue), but Jean would very much like the potted lavender back, so why not return it as fruitfully as you nicked it?



Jenny Chapman, daughter of the aforementioned Jean, is both a lifelong Hawthorn supporter and staunch Labor voter, who, dismayed by the emergence of Jeff Kennett as the Hawks' next president, suggested they unload the former Victorian Liberal premier in this month's player trade period. Innovative, Jenny, but it didn't happen.



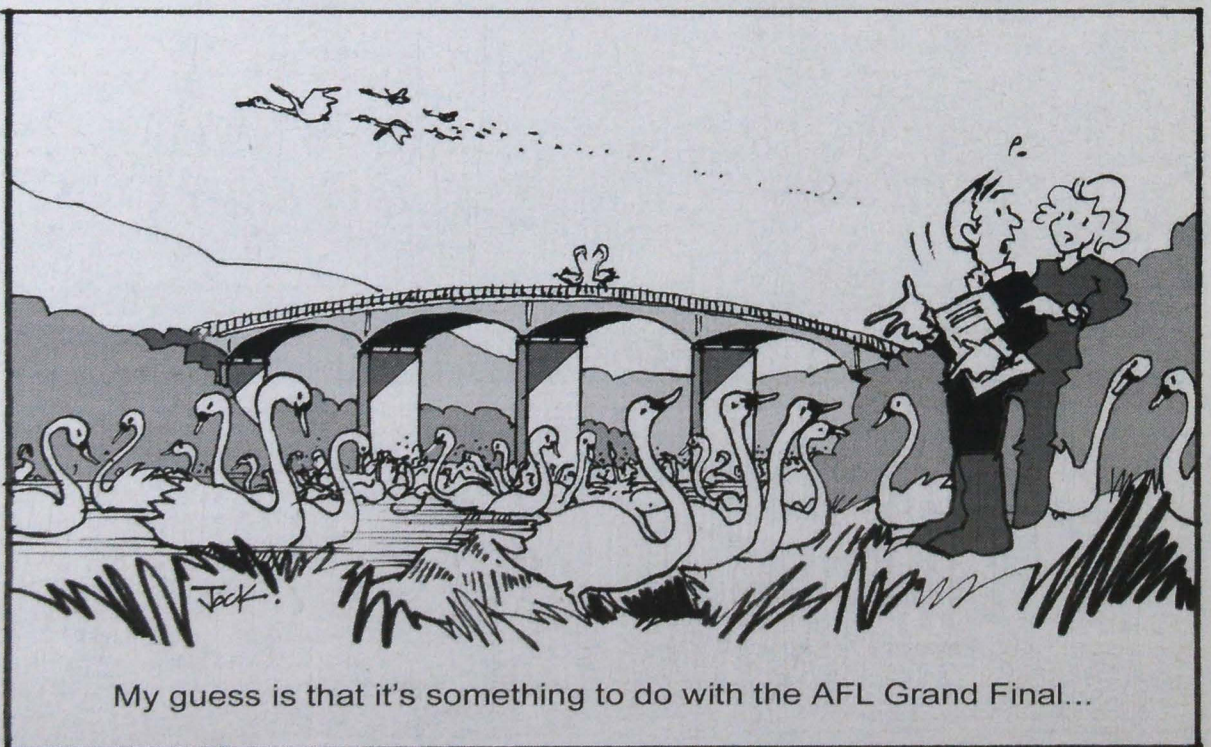
Spring has sprung and with it the Pomaderris, found only in Australia and New Zealand and plant (and flavour) of the month at the Friends of Warrandyte State Park nursery. To be precise, the Round-leaf Pomaderris, one of five species found locally, a spreading shrub which grows to three metres and produces small sprays of creamy flowers. No self-respecting native garden should be without it and the nursery manager at Pound Bend will happily further extol its virtues on 0408 317 327.

Smokey Joe



OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



Threat to childcare

By SAM DAVIES

Warrandyte's Occasional Childcare Centre, the only facility of its type in the area, could be closed by Christmas if a funding shortfall is not resolved.

Neighbourhood House, which rents rooms in the community centre and runs the childcare facility, has told the *Diary* it may drop the service to cover a \$5000 shortfall in its ability to afford \$12,000 per year rent. Rent for the childcare service runs at about \$5000 per annum.

Manningham council has so far declined to offer assistance despite charging community and neighbourhood houses in other localities only peppercorn rentals of \$10 per year.

Open Monday to Friday between 9am to noon, it is the only short-term childcare provider in Warrandyte. Childcare supervisor Gayle Atkinson said the service met the needs of parents not working fulltime, taking up to 70 children each week.

"This is an extremely vital service in Warrandyte. I can't stress that enough."

Ms Atkinson said Neighbourhood House had been subsidising the childcare service, but could no longer afford to do so.

The childcare service increased fees marginally mid-year to \$16.50 per three-hour session, and implemented some other cost-cutting measures, but Ms Atkinson does not believe it will be enough. "To further put the childcare fees up would be a burden on the families who use it," she said.

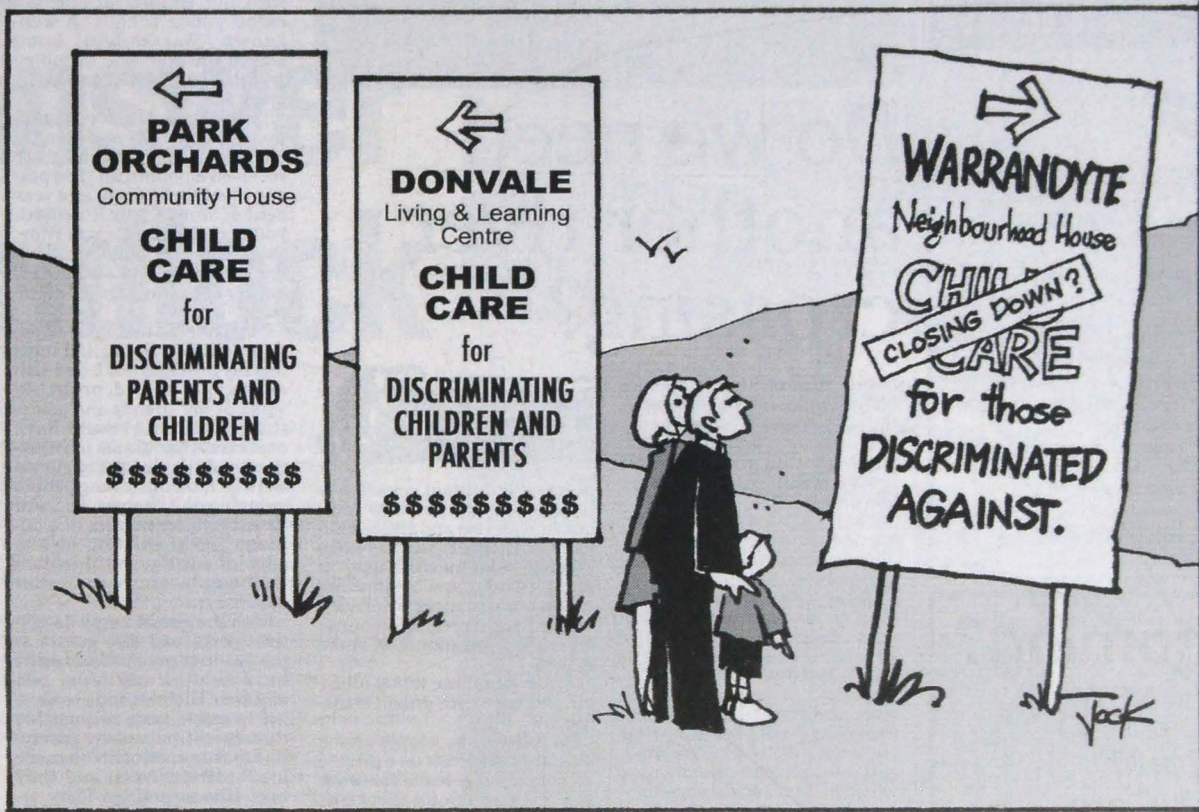
"We ran a survey and families indicated they wouldn't be able to afford it. Our fees would then be above all other childcare in the area. At the moment we are reasonably level with other centres in the area."

"At this stage, the Neighbourhood House committee has not made an official decision, but unless they see that we can cover our costs, then it is likely we would close. We would probably see out the year," she said.

North Warrandyte mother of three Nicole Hogan leaves her three-year-old son at the centre so she can have personal time for banking and shopping, while other parents use it to allow them to study or for a rest from their child.

She was told by centre staff that the session fee may in-

'Parents have relied on it for 10 years and to have it taken away is a big loss.'



crease up to \$22 to stay viable, which, she said, most parents would find unaffordable.

"Parents have relied on it for about 10 years and to have it taken away is a big loss. If someone was needing childcare for a day they may pay up to \$60. I wouldn't pay \$60," said Ms Hogan.

The childcare centre made a submission to Manningham council for rental assistance which was rejected. Ms Atkinson said the council should offer to help financially because they did not provide any similar type of care in the area.

But Manningham's director of community services, Phillip Trestrail, said neighbourhood houses received funding from state and federal governments, and that the council already did

provide assistance to Warrandyte's Neighbourhood House which was comparable to others in the shire.

"We lease the centre to the Community Centre Supporters' Group and they sublet it for higher. We practically don't receive any rent from the Supporters' Group."

Mr Trestrail said council was "in no position" to waive the rent of Neighbourhood House or the childcare centre, and that peppercorn rental arrangements only applied to neighbourhood houses which leased council properties. "There are no council properties I'm aware of in Warrandyte that they could rent. I'd have to put it to council whether we could help them out," he said.

Supporters' Group president Jock Macneish said he "failed to

see the distinction" between Warrandyte's Neighbourhood House and others in the area.

He said council owned the community centre which they built in 1989 for \$2million, and the Supporters' Group acted as landlords for the building, for which they pay council \$5000 each year.

"It seems council have a responsibility to support neighbourhood houses around town. I fail to see the distinction with Warrandyte."

Mr Macneish said the Supporters' Group itself charged only basic rents to their tenants. "What we're trying to do is run an operation as close as possible to going broke without going broke. We charge about one third of what commercial rent is to all tenants."

"If the council can find some

other money to pay Neighbourhood House's rent on their behalf, then all strength to their arm. But it certainly won't come from us."

"It costs council quite a lot of money to maintain their building, and there has been a deafening silence as to what our \$5000 goes to. If we no longer had to pay that fee then I would be more than happy to distribute that to all renters, not only Neighbourhood House," said Mr Macneish.

Mr Trestrail said he had had some contact with Neighbourhood House manager Karen Throssell, and had held preliminary meetings with the Supporters' Group about reviewing the rent, though was waiting for Mr Macneish to return from holidays. Mr Macneish has now returned.



Mullum Mullum Festival

If you are young, middle-aged or old, male or female, there should be something to catch your attention in the Mullum Mullum Festival to be held in October.

The Mullum Mullum Festival is on again this month. It aims to raise awareness of the natural and cultural values of the Mullum Mullum Valley, which runs from Croydon to the Yarra River in Templestowe.

"As with previous festivals, the organisers have found fresh ways of experiencing this important natural corridor," a spokesperson told the *Diary*.

New features of this year's festival include hands-on learning of bush craft with local indigenous artists, a chess challenge, and artistic interpretations in the peace and quiet of the valley.

Others activities include a search for platypus with the Australian Platypus Conservancy, a night walk, dealing with sick or injured native animals, and for the fit, a two-day walk from the source of the Mullum Mullum Creek to the Yarra.

As always, experts in many fields will lead guided walks to learn about the wide range of natural features the valley has to offer.

The festival starts at 12.30pm, Sunday, October 16 at Yarran Dheran, Mitcham with a welcoming ceremony conducted by Wurundjeri elder, Joy Murphy. The festival continues on October 17, 18, 22 and 23 at various places along the Mullum Mullum Creek.

Programs are available at Manningham, Whitehorse and Maroondah council offices, libraries, and local neighbourhood houses. Inquiries to 9874 2641 and www.vicnet.net.au/~mulfest/



Cr Pat Young: Going again

Candidates front up

Manningham council elections are on again next month, and the Warrandyte Community Association is organising a candidates' forum so residents living south of the river can meet and assess prospective councillors.

"Candidates standing in Mullum Mullum ward will be on hand to present their positions on key issues," WCA past president Jonathan Upson told the *Diary*.

"Issues likely to be raised include traf-

fic in Warrandyte, preserving the Green Wedge, banning horses on walking tracks and progress with the streetscape project."

The future of the occasional childcare facility at the community centre "is sure to be discussed", Mr Upson said.

The election will be for two councillors to represent the Mullum Mullum ward, which includes Warrandyte, South Warrandyte, Park Orchards and Wonga Park.

"Pat Young, one of the current councillors, is expected to run again, while the other councillor, Gerry Dale, has indicated he will not be standing," Mr Upson said.

"Thus there will be one new councillor representing Warrandyte."

● The forum will held in the atrium at the Warrandyte Community Centre on Thursday, October 27, commencing at 7.30pm.

COUNTDOWN TO ELECTION

- October 17: Candidates information session
- October 20: Nominations open
- October 25: Nominations close
- October 27: Mullum Mullum candidates forum
- November 8-10: Ballot packs mailed to electors
- November 25: Voting closes at 6pm
- November 27: Results should be known

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— Lord Devlin, The Judge (1979)

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- Kay Toussaint of the Economic & Environmental Planning Unit on 9840 9348 or email kay.toussaint@manningham.vic.gov.au or
- Council's website: www.manningham.vic.gov.au

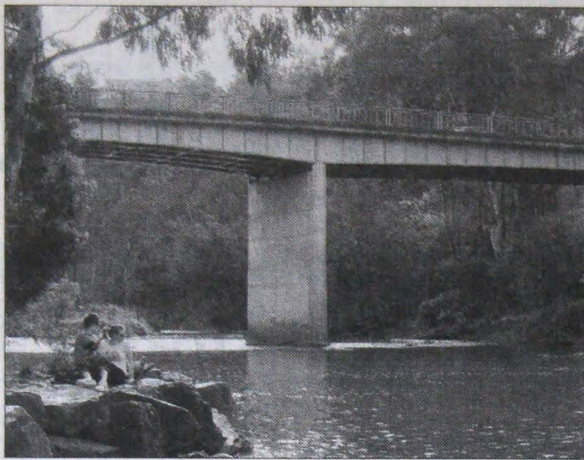
Applications for funding close on Wednesday 26 October 2005.

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Do we need another river crossing?

Rather than trying to solve the traffic impasse problem with the old "solution" (more roads) we could try a fresh approach, since another road, another bridge, will inevitably become clogged.


What we need is a broader, long-term view, which takes into account this country's carrying capacity.

Since the settlement of greater Melbourne the dominant culture has assumed her resources are as an oyster with pearls aplenty.

We have poured enormous amounts of bitumen onto living, breathing soil, eliminating wetlands, displacing animals and ruining plant communities which had existed for millennia, such that now only a skerrick of the original wildlife and wild vegetation remain. (Warrandyte is one of the few exceptions to this general pattern.)

We also need to ask the su-

DEAR DIARY



premy important question—how much bigger can Melbourne become and still remain livable? I suggest we may have reached maximum capacity as many people are commuting enormous distances by private vehicle and surely Melbourne must stop expanding at some stage?

In the meantime let us lobby for and use more public transport.

For those many people whose livelihood depends on a private vehicle we can leave for work earlier or practice patience as we sit, engine running, in the gridlock!

Joan Macmahon and
 Helen Milovanovic
 Bradleys Lane

Bad neighbours can become good friends

On Sunday, September 11 we celebrated our daughter's 18th birthday with a party at our home. Our house overflowed with her wonderful and talented young friends. A well-known Warrandyte band played and everyone, including myself, sang and danced to the music.

They partied, as teenagers do, with great joy and love for life, and at 11pm my daughter received a phone call. The person identified herself as a resident of Stony Creek Road with young children. She was rude, threatening my child with calling the police and also accusing her of having "drugs" at the party.

If this woman had come to the door instead, she would have met my husband and I, and also my daughter and probably some of her friends and something wonderful would have occurred. She would have understood that the party guests were all fabulous young people enjoying themselves and not "teenagers", members of a dubious group existing on the edge of society and therefore dabbling in drugs and other nasties.

With the guests at my daughter's party, and also guests at parties that my husband and I have held for our older two children, their attitude to alcohol is much more responsible than the attitude of my generation. It is zero alcohol tolerance for P-plate drivers, and they take this seriously. They arrange a lift, have a designated driver, or stay over. Consequently after 18th birthday parties the living room can be filled with caterpillar sleeping bag bodies!

What I want everyone to understand is that you must think the best of our young people. Look them eye to eye with an open heart and mind and they will respond accordingly with a positive attitude and outlook on life. Don't seek to push them down by automatically taking a negative stance.

What you might find within that teenager next to you on the train or in the supermarket queue may well astound you! Finally, for the woman who called that night, I would love to share a cup of tea, and I would love you to meet my daughter because she is fabulous!

Linda Robinson
 Doleen Road

Hawthorn isn't just a footy club!

I am writing about a weed that grows freely around Warrandyte and surrounding areas. I am surprised the environmental watchdogs in the area have not pounced on it.

Its common name is Hawthorn and it grows on roadsides, in hedges around Wonga Park and in Eltham.

With all the fuss we have had in recent years about the Cherry Plums (which are not on the weed register for Australia), Hawthorn is on the weed register for Australia.

It is a pretty shrub, I must admit, and it probably has some sort of heritage connection with the pioneers of the area.

Ann Riley
 (by email)

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“Between 40 percent and 50 percent of all car journeys (depending on the method of measurement) are less than five kilometres.”

Ring road no answer to gridlock

By NICK LOW

Warrandyte, like Melbourne's other outer suburbs, has a problem of increasing traffic. This growth of traffic leads to some congestion at certain times of day. The reason is simply that more people are living and working in the outer suburbs, and there is no safe, reliable and regular alternative to car travel.

Cars create congestion by using up more road space per person than any other form of transport. Building a ring road will not solve the problem of congestion. It will in fact make it worse. There are eight main reasons why the ring road should not be built.

The build up of traffic in Warrandyte is occurring not because large numbers of people are making long distance cross-town trips but because people make short local trips within their own neighbourhood.

Most of the congestion is caused not by trucks but by cars (as is obvious from the picture on this page). Between 40 percent and 50 percent of all car journeys (depending on the method of measurement) are less than five kilometres.

Most congestion and delays occur at peak times as a result of journeys to work.

These journeys, when they are not local trips, are predominantly radial — from outer to inner Melbourne and back. According to the latest available census data, of all work journeys from South Nillumbik, 19 percent are simply within the area (South Nillumbik). About 11 percent have destinations in the suburbs

along the Northern Ring Road. Only about 5 percent have work destinations anywhere along the Scoresby tollway. Of 11,379 journeys just 172 were to Knox, Casey, Dandenong and Frankston. But 33 percent travelled to work in Melbourne's central area, and another 21 percent to inner Melbourne suburbs. Therefore building the ring road will not divert congestion from local roads.

The predominantly radial form of the journey to work fortunately makes it possible to make better use of the radial rail network. Wouldn't it be great to have small rapid shuttle buses, on straightforward routes running frequently, all days and all hours, between Eltham, Warrandyte and Ringwood — and perhaps also a bus connecting to a new light rail line to the city from Doncaster?

Building a ring road across the Green Wedge will damage the precious local eco-systems in this area.

Most Warrandyte residents are well aware of the many endangered species of animals, birds, insects and plants dwelling on Melbourne's fringe. Just one example: recently I heard the rare barking owl (Ninox connivens) giving its characteristic Woop Woop call. There is nothing more damaging to these eco-systems than building a motorway through them.

There is no evidence that ring roads generate economic growth, but they do relocate it.

The ring road, if it is built, will be a toll road and its construction will have two purposes: to make money for the private investors, and to relocate urban development close to the road so that car drivers will use the



Peak hour morning traffic: Gridlocked on Research Road (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

road. The first cannot happen without the second.

It was the declared intention of the Kennett government to create an orbital corridor of industrial growth and housing around the periphery of Melbourne.

Of course the government promised to protect the Green Wedge. But political promises only last as long as the government — often not that long. Once the ring road is built the Wedge will not be protected from development pressures that will in the end destroy it.

Completing the ring road will therefore have the perverse effect of redistributing future urban growth to the periphery.

Such growth cannot take advantage of Melbourne's enormous natural transport advantage: a radial fixed rail network of some 670 kilometres capable of moving very large numbers of people very quickly.

The only viable solution to the congestion problem is to replace short car journeys by collective and active transport: buses, trains (with fully coordinated timetables), cycling and walking.

Money will have to be spent to create pleasant, safe walking and cycle paths throughout our suburbs. Money is needed to provide a first class, integrated public transport system. If the ring road is built it will soak up what remains of the state transport budget after building the pointless and wasteful Scoresby tollway.

Building the ring road will make Melbourne more dependent on private vehicle transport, and therefore upon oil.

The current price of petrol is almost certainly a "spike" following the disaster of Hurricane Katrina. But it is a spike on a rising base. The price will not return to what it was before Katrina. What is happening today is that oil production has reached, or is very close to, its peak. Very few new discoveries of oil anywhere in the world are being made, and they are small.

Even if some small new discoveries are made around Australia, this would have little impact on the world oil price. Meanwhile demand for oil from the turbocharged economies of China and India is rising fast. America and Europe are demanding

more not less oil. Elementary economics tells us that in those circumstances the oil price will rise. There are substitute fuels, but none can compete with oil as an affordable fuel for the world's vast vehicle fleets. Building a ring road prevents adaptation to the new situation.

By making Melbourne more car-dependent, the ring road will increase the load of carbon emissions from the city to the atmosphere.

Carbon dioxide is a known cause of global warming, rising sea temperatures and therefore cyclones (hurricanes) of increased duration and intensity. Currently human activity from burning fossil fuels adds around 6 billion tonnes of carbon into the finely balanced carbon cycle (in which about 150 billion tonnes of carbon is exchanged annually between earth, sea and atmosphere).

In a "business as usual" scenario, within 50 years 6 billion will become 21 billion tonnes. In Australia it has been predicted that if road-building "business as usual" continues there will be an increase of 67 percent in carbon emissions from road transport on the base year of 1990. Not only cyclones, but also severe and prolonged droughts and bushfires result from global warming. As we all know too well, Warrandyte is vulnerable.

The ring road is as irrational as ever, but the pressure to build it, as I predicted 10 years ago, has been greatly increased by the construction of the Mitcham-Frankston tollway (then the Scoresby freeway). Ring road fever feeds on the childish and specious logic of filling a gap on a map. What we need now is an eight point plan to reduce road traffic.

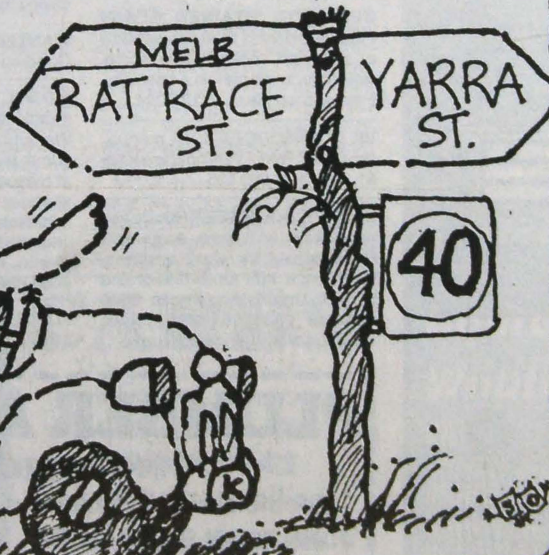
● Nicholas Low is associate professor in environmental planning at the University of Melbourne. He lives in North Warrandyte and is co-author of *The Green City*, published by UNSW Press.

COREY'S COMMUNITY

By SYD & ONA

In praise of "slow"

take a leaf out of Corey's world



Even if some small new discoveries are made around Australia, this would have little impact on the world oil price. Meanwhile demand for oil from the turbocharged economies of China and India is rising fast. America and Europe are demanding

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The greening of Osborne Road

Words and picture by EMMA CLARK

Residents of North Warrandyte should consider themselves lucky to have the Osborne Peninsula Landcare Group looking out for their piece of the Green Wedge.

The objectives of the group include encouraging the planting of indigenous species in residents' own gardens and revegetating "the missing links in the Yarra habitat corridor", according to Ruth Rankin, secretary of the Landcare group and resident of Warrandyte for 28 years.

The association runs a thriving native plant nursery in Osborne Road. Residents are welcome to drop in on a Sunday afternoon and learn about propagation, indigenous flora and potentially rare plants in their own backyard.

Native gardens planted in the area surrounding the nursery provide would-be indigenous plant enthusiasts with inspiration and encouragement.

Non-members interested in restoring their piece of land can pick up a box of plants or grasses for a small fee, or in return for a few hours of work in the nursery.

Other Landcare and Friends groups in the area are encouraged to come along to the nursery to share discoveries and ideas about protecting and revegetating the area.

It is a fantastic educational resource for anyone needing advice about weed control, the correct herbicides to use, or plant identification.

The nursery provides indigenous grasses and plants cultivated from seeds collected in the reserves, water-saving crystals and rabbit guards to protect plants from pests.

The organisation has brought

together an impressive group of people dedicated to the restoration and protection of native plants in the area.

Margaret Burke, founder and coordinator, summarises the group's philosophy simply as "We care about the land, whether it's private, public or state park". The group cares for private, Crown and council land within the area, which stretches from Osborne Road to Hamilton and Koornung roads, and up to Kangaroo Ground Road.

Recent projects by the group include the repairing and revegetation of roadside areas along Koornung Road and through Wombat Gully. Hundreds of native shrubs have been planted. These will promote natural regeneration and sustainability.

Margaret Burke told the *Diary* that the environment is important to many residents of Warrandyte. "Most people care about the environment but may not know how to go about looking after it. Our group makes it easier for locals to learn how to care for their section of land so that we can develop a sustainable indigenous habitat."

Surveys of flora and fauna in the area can lead to the discovery of a rare or endangered plant on a member's property. If this is the case, the group gives advice about setting up a "seed orchard" to protect and maintain the plant. The member becomes what the association calls a "guardian angel", responsible for the cultivation of the rare species.

The public land in the area which the association has cultivated often becomes "an is-



The Landcare nursery at Osborne Road.

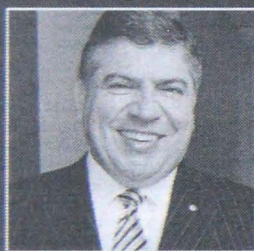
land in a sea of often-degraded land". Private landowners lucky enough to have river frontage are encouraged to become part of the revegetated corridor by removing weeds such as agapanthus, revegetating with native species and monitoring native flora. This in turn will promote native wildlife and protect the precious bushland which makes Warrandyte special.

The group receives support from the Nillumbik shire council in the form of grants and equipment, notably the glass greenhouse used to cultivate seeds at the nursery.

The council also offers training subsidies to members of Landcare groups. Corporate donations also assist the association with funding for tools and resources.

The group publishes a monthly newsletter which is delivered to every resident of Osborne Road, and has information on field days, common weeds to look out for and wildlife information.

● Anyone interested in the group's activities or seeking further information can visit the Osborne Nursery at 37-39 Osborne Road between 2 and 4pm every Sunday.

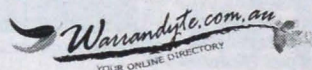


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More cash for Park

By CLIFF GREEN
Warrandyte State Park's operating budget has been boosted by \$19,000 to \$57,500 this financial year. This followed a drastic reduction as a result of the Alpine bushfires of 2002-03, when the budget was cut from \$100,000 annually to \$10,000. Last year the Park received \$38,000. The \$57,500 includes a \$5000 grant to the Friends of the Park.

According to Danielle Green, MP for Yan Yean, this follows "much lobbying on behalf of myself and local community groups". "The devastating Alpine bushfires was one of the worst natural disasters Victoria has experienced," Ms Green told the *Diary*. "The government recognised this by directing as many resources as possible to the recovery effort. Consequently, the Warrandyte State Park budget was tightened. But since then lobby-

ing efforts for increases have been fruitful." The Warrandyte Community Association has welcomed the increase. "Many locals saw a link between the cut in funds and the dramatic increase in weed and pest populations within the Park," Doug Seymour, WCA committee member said. "Maintaining the beauty and integrity of Warrandyte State Park and its flora and fauna is fundamental to the Warrandyte

community." Danielle Green stated that the increased "amount is in addition to funding provided for the nearly-completed new depot building at Pound Bend and for the additional staff member who started last year". WCA "looks forward to reviewing the budget allocation with the Friends of the Park and others before next year's budget cycle," Mr Seymour said.



'Cool burns' planned

Plans to reduce bushfire risks in the Warrandyte State Park should be now complete, according to the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) and Parks Victoria. "Each year DSE and Parks Victoria develop fire operations plans for national parks, state forests, state parks and reserves in consultation with the community, local councils, Melbourne Water, forest managers, CFA and flora and fauna specialists," a spokesperson told the *Diary*. "There will be further consultation with the community and stakeholders before the plan is finalised in time for spring burning, firebreak slashing and track clearing in preparation for the fire season." Key features of each fire operations plan are: fuel-reduction burning; fire access track maintenance; fire-break slashing; and community education.

The plan proposes to slash 9 kilometres of fire breaks and maintain 28 kilometres of fire access tracks in the Warrandyte, St Andrews, Christmas Hills areas. Andy Nixon, Warrandyte State Park ranger-in-charge, said fire breaks were slashed in high-risk areas and along roadsides to provide a buffer in the event of wildfire. "Fire tracks are maintained throughout areas of public land to offer safe access for firefighters, trucks, bulldozers and four-wheel-drive vehicles," he said. Seven fuel-reduction burns are proposed for the Warrandyte, St Andrews and Christmas Hills areas. "Most of these are planned to reduce the risk of fire around houses and built-up areas near the boundary of public land," the spokesperson said. "However, some have an ecological purpose such as weed control. The burns and works will be conducted over a six-month period primarily during the milder weather conditions of

spring and autumn." Mr Nixon said, "Fuel-reduction burning is a major tactic used by fire agencies in Australia and internationally to reduce the risk of wildfire and control the spread of fires when they break out. To most Warrandyte residents, fuel-reduction burning is the most visible aspect of our fire management program and it is certainly where we rely on the understanding and tolerance of the community." Burns are planned for Warrandyte in spring and autumn in State Park locations near Whipstick Gully Road and Harding Road. The full plan, complete with details of each burn and maps, can be viewed on the DSE web site www.dse.vic.gov.au/fire and at the Parks Victoria office in Pound Road, Warrandyte. For information about wildfires, please call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667.

Owner ordered to reinstate landscape

In a notable victory for the environment, a landowner has been ordered to reinstate major landscape features on his property following an application by council to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal. Manningham council sought an enforcement order through VCAT regarding a property at 210-216 Jumping Creek Road, Wonga Park. Council's director of environmental amenity, Mr Paul Molan, said the owner of the land re-

ceived a planning permit for a small, three-metre wide track to access the rear of the property in July, 2003. "The owner then proceeded to import an enormous amount of fill, constructed a six metre wide track in the different location than approved, removed native vegetation, altered the height of the dam spillway on his property and dumped a large stockpile of fill at the rear of the land," Mr Molan told the *Diary*.

"The land abuts an environmentally significant property at 5 Stane Brae Court, which is subject to conservation covenants and contains a waterway that flows into the Warrandyte State Park. The owner sought approval for these works retrospectively, which was refused by council," Mr Molan said. VCAT has ordered that the dam be reinstated, the fill be removed from the rear of the site, an amendment be sought

for the track, incorporating appropriate treatment for the steep batters created and undertake a land management plan for the ongoing management of the land. Mr Molan said the VCAT ruling is a particularly good decision for council. "We firmly opposed the development and were not satisfied with a retrospective approval. Disturbance to the site would have had a significant impact on the natural environment."

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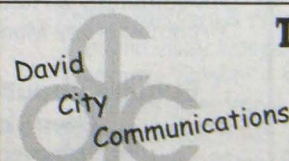
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NEWS & VIEWS FROM NILLUMBIK

Councillor proud of his first year in office

By SAM DAVIES

In its first year of office, Nillumbik council has talked a lot about rubbish, according to deputy mayor Warwick Leeson.

Speaking about his first year as a councillor, Warwick Leeson told the *Diary* that one of his triumphs had been to reinstate curbside hard waste collection, beginning from October.

He said it not only honoured an election pledge but would also discourage bushland dumping.

The rate increase has been another achievement Cr Leeson is proud of, with money now in the coffers to put in to capital expenditure such as road projects, footpaths, and facilities for the young, as well as the Kangaroo Ground viewing platform and the "refresh" of the North Warrandyte gateway.

Cr Leeson said the 6.5 percent rate rise, plus a \$58.50 waste management fee and \$20 municipal charge brought rates up to a sustainable level.

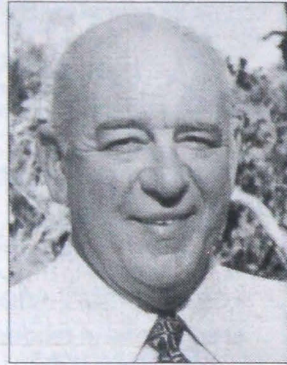
The total amount equates to a 13.5 percent rise, but Cr Leeson said he believed people would not be overly concerned about the increase, "if they know what they're getting for it".

"What we did, is say 'what did the people want, and how much will it cost?' We divided it by the number of properties, and that's how we came up with our rate rise."

"We've been able to honestly show where the money was going. Whether people relish it or not, they can at least understand the breakdown," he said. Cr Leeson said that aside from

regular and hard waste collection, the waste management fee would provide funding to cap the former Plenty tip landfill site, which he suggests could be turned into a parkland area.

The municipal charge would compensate for money that was offered to most other shires through state and federal grants but for which Nillumbik was excluded due to its low



Cr Warwick Leeson

poverty and high education levels.

"We don't qualify for the grants the way poorer communities do. We have been, over a period of time, continually cut back on what we get. We've had no choice. If we are to keep up the service we are expected to do, it has to come from ratepayers," he said.

When Warwick Leeson stood for office last November he promised regular community meetings. Such formal commu-

nity meetings have not yet eventuated, though Cr Leeson said he does talk regularly to community groups and attends civic functions, and is planning his first community forum before Christmas.

"As a councillor, if you want to, and I do, you get out to a significant number of events throughout the shire and ward, and those present never hold back from telling you their thoughts on anything, and you wouldn't want them to," he said.

One subject he may encounter if his community forum goes ahead is that of signage in Warrandyte. He was reluctant to mention the Nillumbik tourist association's enormous sign at the bottom of Research Road, though conceded its erection was bad timing given Warrandyte's well-publicised riverbank signage review.

Once a council permit is granted, the holder has two years to use it before it lapses. In this case Cr Leeson suggested officers may have approved the signage application before this council took office, and reiterated councillors often approve things through delegation.

"There are loads of things councillors don't ever hear about, which is a good thing because there is so much."

Cr Leeson said that during future discussions on "refreshing", the North Warrandyte gateway signage would be scrutinised and he would be meeting with the Warrandyte Community Association and others for input.

Dirt on septics

By RUTH RANKIN

There has been much publicity recently concerning unsatisfactory E coli levels in the Yarra River. Whilst the readings for the Yarra River upstream of Warrandyte are considered to be good, as residents of Warrandyte, we should take some responsibility for high E coli levels downstream.

The Yarra River and the wonderful diversity of flora and fauna which abound in its environs are the very reason many people move to the area. However we all need to take measures to protect the Yarra from pollution.

There are approximately 5680 properties in Nillumbik shire using a septic system and of these about 1000 are in North Warrandyte. Many are failing to deliver a satisfactory performance. This can be attributed to the lack of knowledge of property owners and occupiers regarding maintenance and management practices.

Septic systems in Nillumbik shire installed from 1990 onwards are all-waste septic systems and they retain all effluent on-site. The predominant forms of treatment pre-1990 are split systems in which toilet waste is treated by a septic tank and greywater is combined with stormwater and discharged to the street or rear of the property.

Nillumbik Shire Council has a domestic wastewater management plan (DWMP) which aims to minimise the impact of domestic wastewater on human health and the local environment. During 2004, Nillumbik environmental health officers surveyed about 60 properties in North Warrandyte with regard to their septic systems. Most of these systems were over 25 years old with 50 percent discharging effluent off-site. Samples of water in Stony Creek were also taken for analysis.

This year Nillumbik council has budgeted \$20,000 and has been successful in obtaining \$40,000 funding from the Municipal Association of Victoria to employ a project officer to implement actions in the DWMP. This may include surveys of unsewered areas, water sampling, database development and GIS mapping. There will also be a communication and education strategy developed to keep council and customers informed, and also to improve the knowledge of those people who use septic tanks.

Nillumbik Shire Council has been working with Yarra Valley Water in the development of the sewerage prioritisation program. The information collected through this project will be used to secure greater commitment to domestic wastewater management at the organisational, local, community and political levels.

Most of us are aware of the need to conserve water and it is encouraging to see so many water tanks being utilised. It is equally important to properly manage the wastewater on our properties, with the greatest consideration to the environ-

ment, particularly the local waterways. Here are some simple ways of achieving this:

- Know where your septic tank is located.
- Conduct regular maintenance checks of the tank—or get a licensed plumber to do this for you.
- Have the tank pumped out every three years, this includes grease traps.
- Refrain from rinsing food down the sink—use a drainer to catch particles.
- Use environmentally friendly cleaning products—do not put chemicals or paint down the drains.
- Never put bleach down the toilet—use pure soap to clean the toilet bowl.
- Warning signs for poor maintenance include:
 - Soggy or wet absorption fields. Wastewater may pool on the surface.
 - Smell of sewage.
 - Drains and toilets run slowly, or water backs up in the sink.

(Ruth Rankin is a resident of North Warrandyte and a member of the septic tanks sub-committee of the Nillumbik Environment Advisory Committee.)



Ruth Rankin

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Virtual library moves on

By **STUART TEATHER**

The Warrandyte "virtual" library's new premises are attracting a positive reaction from the community. Users of the library are seeing the new premises as "very favourable", according to local librarian Denise.

"People are coming in and saying 'Oh, it's a real library now!'" Denise told the *Diary*.

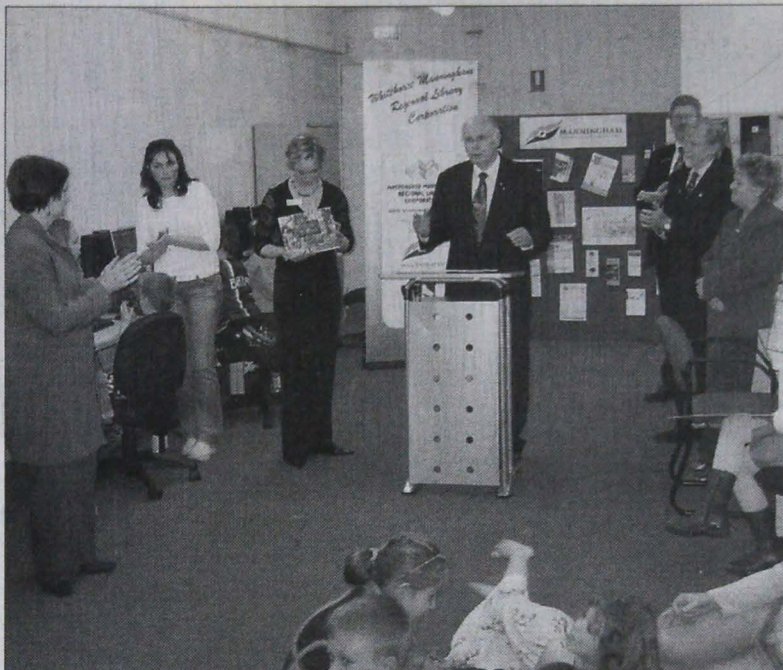
According to Manningham council spokesman Phillip Testrail, the new library is attracting more users than the old location. "The number of loans has increased significantly, which is obviously very positive," he said. "The new library is going very well, we've had a very positive reaction from the community."

The new, higher-tech premises offer wireless internet, email and word processing services, a much larger books section, an area for children, and multimedia services including videos and talking books.

"We've doubled our book stock and upgraded all the technology," Mr Testrail said.

Users can also order books from other libraries, make reservations, consult references and browse the library catalogues at the Warrandyte library.

There are currently no plans to expand



Mayor, Cr Bill Larkin, reopens our virtual library at its new site.

the library beyond the new premises.

Not all local residents are deserting branch libraries at The Pines or Shoppingtown. Rachel Isaacs, a local university student, believes that the new library doesn't offer enough, and she prefers The Pines.

"The only reason I go to libraries is for books, and The Pines has so many more," she said. "Normally I check the library catalogue on the internet from home and I only go to the library to actually borrow the books."

Some residents are still not aware that the Warrandyte library has moved. "I didn't know the library had moved, I thought it was still just computers at the old building," Park Orchards resident Parrish Cooper said.

Manningham mayor, Cr Bill Larkin officially "re-opened" the Warrandyte library last month, in front of a crowd of local community figures, including local school principals, school groups and councillors.

Among other features, "story time" is commencing at the library, possibly on a Friday morning.

The Warrandyte virtual library is a part of the Whitehorse Manningham Regional Library network, and is staffed by personnel from The Pines branch library.

Users are able to access the library's online catalogue at <http://www.wev.vic.gov.au>

The library, at shop 2, 100 Melbourne Hill Road, is open between 2.15pm and 5.15pm Tuesday to Thursday, 9am-12noon Friday and 9am-1pm Saturday.

Sounds of the past

A number of local people gathered at the Warrandyte Museum last month to mark the launch of the Warrandyte Soundscape project.

As previously reported, the six "listening posts" are being installed around Warrandyte, carrying recorded voices and other sounds from our rich historical past.

An initiative of Manningham council, the project is involving the Warrandyte Historical Society, local primary schools, WMI&AA and the business and community associations.

The federal government has provided \$22,000 towards the

cost of the project, which has been matched by council. Warrandyte branch of the Bendigo Bank has donated \$1500 for an explanatory brochure.

"The soundscapes will appeal to a wide age-range and will be of interest to the local community as well as visitors and tourists," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

The listening posts will be sited at the old post office museum, Whipstick Gully, Mechanics Institute Hall, Stonehouse gallery and café, the community centre and Federation playspace.



WHS members Murray Houghton and Richard Morton at the Soundscape launch. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

Bank on track

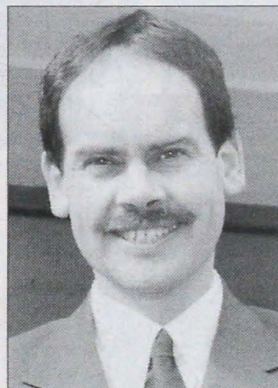
Warrandyte's community bank believes it has begun to fulfill one of its major promises—supporting the local community through sponsorships and donations.

During the past year, the bank has sponsored local schools and kindergartens, sporting organisations, seniors, the historical society, scouts and churches.

"This is what community banking is all about," branch manager Mark Challen told the *Diary*. "As the bank continues to grow, so will the support for the community."

Board chairman John Provan is confident about the bank's future. "Although we made a loss for the year we are now achieving monthly surpluses. We look forward to achieving a profit in the current financial year, in line with our budget projections."

According to local press re-



Mark Challen

ports, the Doncaster East community bank has announced its first annual profit since opening in March 2003, several months before the Warrandyte branch opened.

"There are some fantastic success stories about community banking around," Mr Challen said. "We need your support to ensure Warrandyte is one of the best."

● The Warrandyte community bank has installed a noticeboard which is available to community groups that are bank customers to promote their activities. Certain conditions apply, and anyone interested can inquire at the bank or phone 9844 2233.

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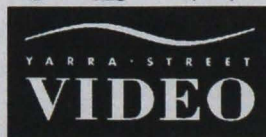
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Cash for green projects

All Manningham landholders within the Green Wedge boundaries with the rural conservation zoning (RCZ) and properties with an environmental significance overlay (ESO) are entitled to apply for the council's local environment assistance fund—the LEAF scheme.

LEAF grants are available to assist landholders in implementing environmental works on their property, such as: fencing out stock from remnant vegetation; re-vegetating with local indigenous plant species; weed and rabbit control; pasture management and erosion control.

The financial assistance offered to residents is on a dollar for dollar basis, up to \$800. For example, if landowners spend \$400 on environmental works, they are eligible for a reimbursement of \$200 from council.

Manningham's LEAF scheme also funds the property management planning course (PMP). This is an eight-week course to assist the landowner develop a management plan for their property.

"Participation in the LEAF program and PMP course assists the residents to discover how to prioritise and implement environmental works on their Green Wedge land," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

LEAF applications are now being accepted for the current round of funding.

Residents interested in participating, or requiring further information, should contact Lyn Meredith, on 9840 9326. An application form, policy information and guidelines will be sent.

Planting for the future



She'll grow with these trees... Warrandyte Primary School students last month joined rangers and Friends of the State Park at a planting day at the Stane Brae section of the park.

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"You'd be classified a weed, wouldn't you Ocker?"

Wedge wisdom

Interested in learning skills that will help you become active in protecting our Green Wedge?

Manningham council is inviting residents to join in a Green Wedge environmental and community development program.

The course provides free training for like-minded people to work together in identifying and acting on issues important to them and their community.

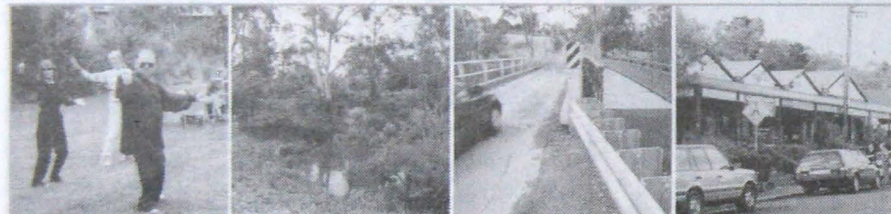
Training sessions will focus on: working with others who share the same concerns; identifying and addressing issues

impacting their local area; developing and implementing community projects; building skills in communication, media relations and group management.

The program will consist of two Saturday seminars, to be held on November 5 and 12. Numbers are limited, so bookings are essential.

To make a booking, or if you would like further information, please phone Bruce Paton on 9840 9173, or email bruce.paton@manningham.vic.gov.au.

SUPPORT LOCAL TRADERS



July 2005



Key Decisions

These are some of the decisions made by Council on **Tuesday 19 July 2005**.

If you would like any extra information visit 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**

Land Use Planning and Environment

Resolved to defer consideration of the application for 320 Hurstbridge-Arthurs Creek Road, Nutfield (change in use from an educational centre to shared housing) pending further clarification and detail of the proposal.

Resolved to advise the Department of Sustainability and Environment that it supports allotments being reserved for public purposes and request that Council become the Committee of Management for the allotments, to improve coordination throughout the St Andrews market site.

Resolved that as a result of the introduction of Melbourne 2030 and the Green Wedge legislation Council will not pursue any action in relation to the Part B Recommendations, not initiate any investigations nor support any amendment requests in relation to these recommendations and amend the Wattle Glen Township Strategy May 2001 accordingly.

Community, Health, Culture, Sport and Leisure

Presented Sporting and Cultural Achievement Grants to: Christine Pfeiffer for her participation in the Victorian Under-18 Womens Soccer Team; Kylie Nicolaci for her participation in the Victorian Under-16 Womens Soccer Team; Jessica Bass for her participation in the Victorian Under-16 Womens Soccer Team; and Luke Stanton for his participation in the Under-16 Boys Victorian State Basketball Team.

Resolved to approach Whittlesea and Hume City Councils seeking their agreement to form a consortium for the purpose of submitting a tender to sponsor an Inclusion Support Agency (ISA) in the Sub Region; and endeavour to identify other potential consortium partners within the Sub Region in the event that either Whittlesea, Hume or both decide not to participate in the new program.

Resolved to note and endorse the progress report for the Diamond Creek Activity Centre – Structure Plan and Leisure Facilities Plan; approve the membership of the reference group; write to all those who nominated for the reference group and in response to the proposals for a multi-purpose indoor recreation facility (sports stadium) endorse and support the preliminary work of the Proposed Diamond Creek Stadium Working Group; request Officers prepare a revised timetable for the Leisure Facilities Plan; and request Officers convene a scoping workshop in early August.

Governance

Resolved to endorse the submission on changes to the proposed Electoral Regulations and to note and welcome the stated intention of the Minister for Local Government.

Resolved to note the proposed Victorian Legislative Council electoral boundaries and forward a written submission to the Electoral Boundaries Commission expressing Nillumbik's concerns.

Resolved to note and endorse the submission on the proposed arrangements for the formation of the Metropolitan Waste Management Group.

Transport and Infrastructure

Adopted the amended Road Management Plan for the purpose of consultation and provide public notice that a consultation period from 30 July to 29 August 2005 inclusive is available to allow comments from the public.

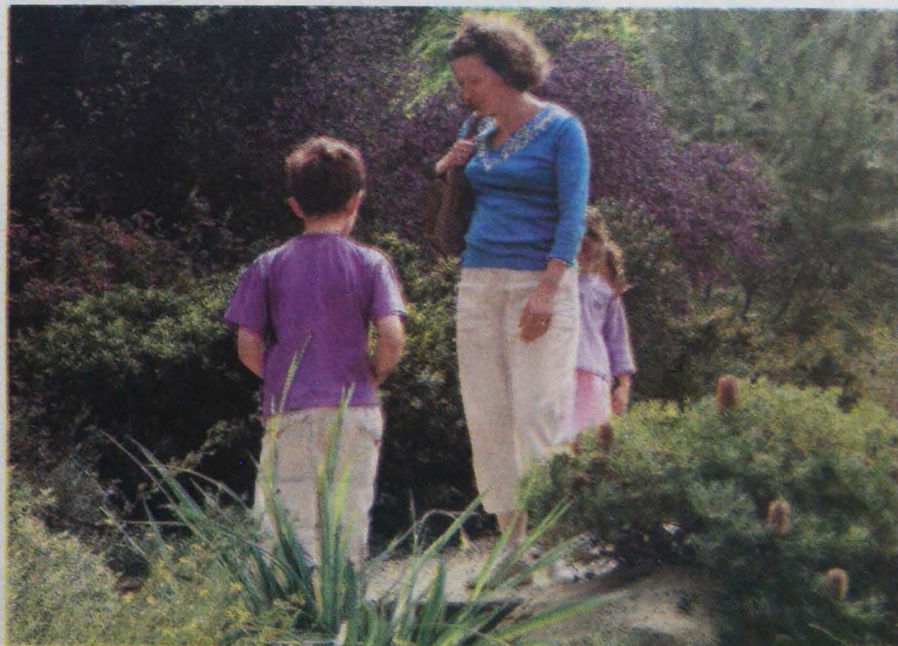
Resolved to issue a notice of intention to declare special charge schemes for Ashley Road, Yarrambat; Eisemans Road, Yarrambat; Cullen Crescent and Seymour Drive, Plenty; and Latrobe Road and North Oatlands Road, Yarrambat.

Resolved to write to the Treasurer and local Members of Parliament thanking them for their support through the Natural Disaster Relief Program; invite community organisations to discuss financial assistance for losses incurred in both the November 2004 and February 2005 floods; use some of the funds to restore Council's cash surplus position to the same level it was prior to the November floods; fund works; and hold the balance of funds in the Plenty Landfill Reserve.



Spirit of spring

Bev Hanson's garden in Webb Street was part of the Open Garden Scheme last month. Stephen Reynolds created this folio of springtime images.



LANDFIELD

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1 8 3 - 1 8 7 YARRA STREET WARRANDYTE

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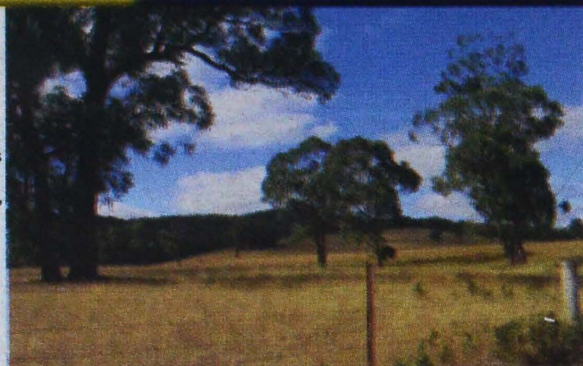
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FOR SALE KANGAROO GROUND

315 Kangaroo Ground Road

"The views are free"
A glorious partly cleared 17.5 acres offering stunning views, cleared home site with driveway and room for a pony or two. Only moments from Warrandyte and Eltham, this is a rare opportunity not to be missed.
Price: \$595k plus buyers
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FOR SALE WARRANDYTE SOUTH

488 Ringwood-Warrandyte Rd

"The charm of yesteryear"
This new 2BR home offers the charm of yesteryear with a sleek modern interior. Features air-conditioning, open plan living spaces, mezzanine master BR with WIR, soaring ceilings, polished timber floors and rear deck with amazing views.
Price: \$320k plus buyers
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FOR SALE KANGAROO GROUND

85 Donaldson Road

"Oakfield Hall"
This magnificent Yarra Valley property offers 12.5 acres of fertile ground with a further 3 acres of landscaped gardens. The grand architect-designed 4 BR plus study home of award winning builders comes complete with a separate historical bungalow, tennis court, swimming pool and more.
Price: \$2 million plus buyers
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FOR SALE WARRANDYTE SOUTH

503 Ringwood-Warrandyte Road

"Two titles... possibilities?"
Offered for sale is a renovated 2 bedroom home on 2 titles. The house block measures 1012m² and the vacant block 595m². Live in, let out or develop the site STCA. The possibilities are yours!
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FOR SALE WARRANDYTE

22 Osborne Road

"An acre of views & Yarra"
A Warrandyte acre with outstanding views is tempting, and made all the more appealing with Yarra River 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. There's also a deck to allow you to soak up the views, carport, and well-worn track down to the banks of the Yarra.
Price: \$525k plus buyers
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FOR SALE WARRANDYTE

42 Oakland Drive

"Grand residence"
With its towered roof and grand entrance foyer with sweeping staircase, this palatial 5 bedroom plus study masterpiece, nestles into a manicured acre setting complete with swimming pool, cabana and floodlit tennis court.
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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.
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FOR SALE WARRANDYTE NORTH

8 Caloola Drive

"It not only looks big"
But with 4BRs (ensuite & WIR to master), large family room, large formal lounge with OFF, and full-sized rumpus, this place is big. Add in a double garage and workshop, an inground solar-heated pool and large timber decks to soak up the views and you have a great family home and one that is ideal for entertaining.
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celebrating 12 months of Landfield in warrandyte

FOR SALE WARRANDYTE

41 Brackenbury Street

"Positioned perfectly"

This beautifully presented home offers 4BRs plus study, master with ensuite, formal lounge with bar, well equipped kitchen, large family room, huge rumpus and a double garage. All this and more located within a stone's throw to schools, shops and village.

Price: \$460k plus buyers
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address withheld

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\$2 million plus buyers
 Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
 Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161



FOR SALE WARRANDYTE

13 Mitchell Avenue

"Walk to Village life"

Being a moment's walk to the river and local cafes are just a few benefits of living here, but if you are in the market for a well maintained brick and cedar 4BR plus study home then we may just have what you are looking for.

Price: \$390k plus buyers
 Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
 Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161



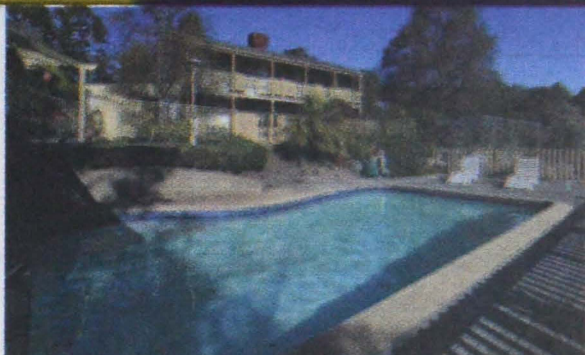
FOR SALE NORTH WARRANDYTE

57 Blooms Road

"Acre with views"

Behind a grand entrance with circular drive, sits this beautiful 5BR solid brick residence featuring formal and informal living areas, heating/cooling, a northerly aspect, full length balcony, inground pool with pavilion, double carport and workshop.

Price: \$595k plus buyers
 Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
 Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161



FOR SALE NORTH WARRANDYTE

106 Bradleys Lane

"A Touch of Olde England by the Yarra"

On 1.5 gently sloping acres on the banks of the river, this very appealing octagonal home is highlighted by 17th Century stained glass doors and windows to give this home a warm and inviting character reminiscent of Olde England.

Price: \$595k plus buyers
 Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
 Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161



FOR SALE WARRANDYTE

1-15 Beauty Gully Road

"Rural Living with City Convenience"

Set on 5 undulating acres, this 4BR home comprises magnificent formal and informal living areas including a drawing room with granite fireplace and wet bar. Boasting 2 ensuites, a family bathroom with large spa and a paved internal courtyard.

\$680k-\$720k buyers
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 Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161



FOR SALE WARRANDYTE

25 Aylesbury Way

"A Wealth of Luxury Living"

At around 65 squares, this magnificent 4BR residence is one of palatial proportions. Commensurate with its size is its wealth of premium features including extensive living areas, spa bath, sauna, wine cellar, workshop/rumpus, 3 car garage, grand portico and more.

Price On Application
 Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
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FOR SALE NORTH WARRANDYTE

9 Hamilton Road

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Keep the views forever with this contemporary residence. It's quiet, convenient, and comfortable with feature brick, cathedral ceilings, timber dado, lounge with OFP, fully equipped kitchen, formal dining, meals, 3 robed BRs, renovated ensuite, retiled bathroom plus hydronic heating, rumpus/games & office underneath, as well as fenced pool, spa, carport, bitumen drive and magnificent environment.

Price: Mid \$500's
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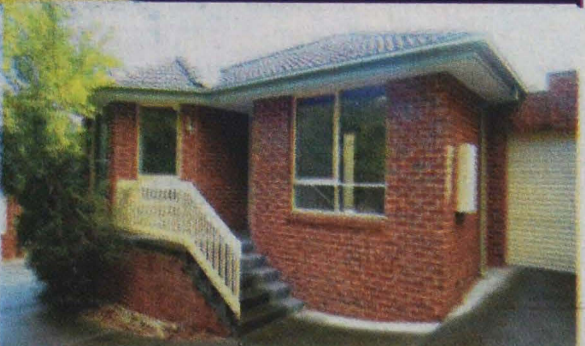
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Crossing the Yarra: a tale of three bridges

By ALICIA TEATHER

THE bridge over the Yarra at Warrandyte is 50 years old this year. This is Warrandyte's third bridge, the second at this site. These bridges have witnessed fire and flood and provided the setting for many local celebrations; connecting "here" and "there", serving as crossing places and tying together a community.

On September 24, 1856, George Shorthouse was contracted to provide a punt to ferry passengers, carts and livestock across the river at Andersons Creek, the place that was to be known as Warrandyte. He located it behind the site of the present post office. People paid three pence for a day pass, which was more than the penny for pigs and less than the whopping nine pence charged horses and bullocks.

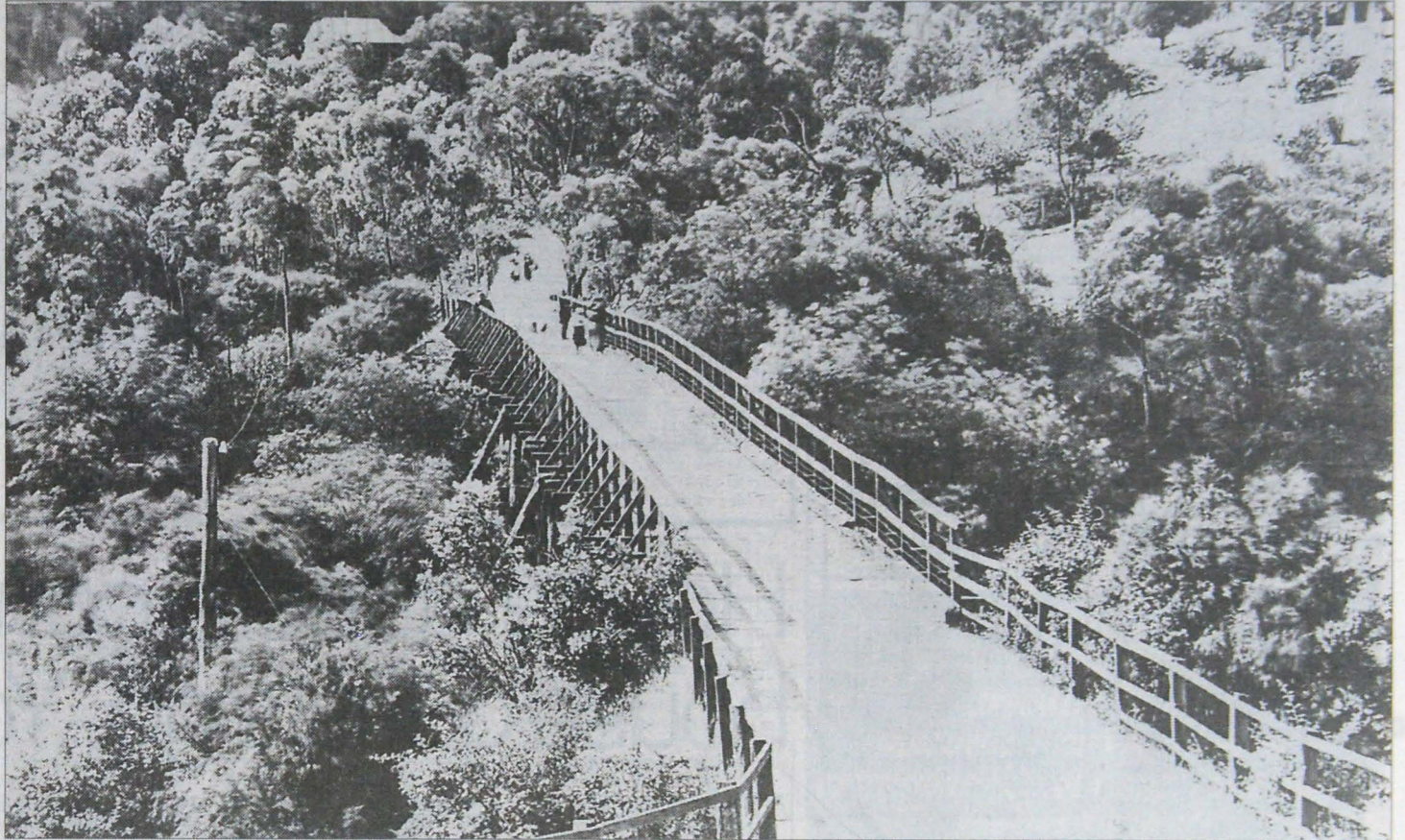
By the late 1850s, mining activity and traffic had increased so much that a permanent structure was needed across the river. A wooden bridge was commissioned in 1860, when William Elliot's tender of 1331 pounds, six shillings and two pence was accepted. The bridge was constructed just downstream of Whipstick Gully and opened to traffic in 1861. However, it was not well built and almost half its original cost was again spent on repairs 12 months later.

This bridge only lasted until 1863. A huge flood caused the Yarra to break its banks and flood the main road. The water reached the middle rung of the bridge's railing and it was largely washed away. With it went the old punt, which had been moored to the bridge. The flood washed the punt miles downstream, where residents of Templestowe claimed it eagerly, setting it up to cross the river and improve their access to Eltham!

Warrandyte had to campaign for another bridge when it became clear that the government did not intend subsidising one. Influential resident Jack Hutchinson JP approached the Eltham Roads Boards about a new bridge in May 1867, but to no avail.

The colonial government passed a law in 1869, making it mandatory for local shire councils to erect bridges in their territory with the help of government subsidies. Following much lobbying from residents, in November 1874, the Governor-in-Council instructed the Eltham Shire to build a bridge at Warrandyte within 12 months, with a 700 pound maximum government subsidy.

By October 7, 1875 the new bridge had been designed and built—adjacent to the site of the present bridge—by C.S. Wingrove, shire clerk, engineer and surveyor to the Eltham council. It cost 1419 pounds, paid for by the maximum government grant, with contributions from Doncaster and Eltham



shires.

The bridge lasted 80 years, and was treasured by Warrandyte residents. With an overall length of 311 feet and a width of 11 feet, it rested on 47 piles of yellow box timber from the forests around Stoney Creek, many of them 14 inches in diameter. A man had been killed during construction.

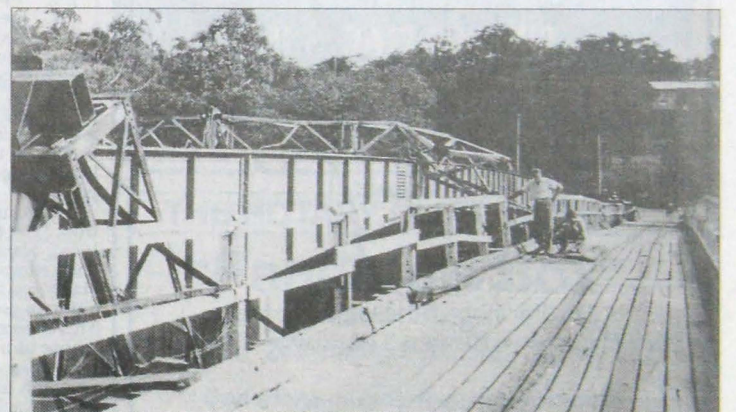
The timber bridge became a meeting place as well as a crossing. Each New Year's Eve the town would gather to celebrate. The music of bagpipes and other instruments filled the street, the singing and dancing lasting well into the night. Auld Lang Syne rang through the hills and exploding firecrackers—sometimes dynamite from the mines—accompanied by cheering and applause, would usher in each New Year. Every face was familiar in those days. According to one resident, if somebody was not at the bridge on New Year's Eve, people would worry about their fate.

Warrandyte Bridge influenced people's lives daily: none more so than one lonely woman who decided to attempt

Above: The old wooden bridge. Right: Remains of the old bridge beside the rising steel structure. (Pictures courtesy Warrandyte Historical Society)

suicide by jumping from it to drown in the Yarra. She misjudged the jump and landed on "the island", the small patch of land in the middle of the river. Extensive injuries did not kill her, however. They rekindled her sense of adventure and helped her to overcome her depression. Apparently she married later and lived a long, happy life.

Wintry mists and fogs, gathering in the river valley and often shrouding the old wooden bridge, inspired ghost stories. In 1886 a "great scare" was reported. Residents living on the south side claimed to see a shadowy figure on several occasions, drifting around the bridge, hovering lazily and slinking away when spotted. However, the author of this report claimed that witnesses of the ghost were not members of the Total Abstinence Society. Thus their reliability was open to question.



Later stories involved white ghostly figures frightening horses as they crossed the bridge after dark. The horses would be suddenly alarmed, causing carriages to wobble precariously near the railings. The figures appeared as dancing and swooping lights, hovering above the frightened animals then flitting away into the nearby hills. Fireflies, hallucinations—whatever they were—horses arrived trembling on the far side of the bridge.

So the old bridge survived for many years. Towards the end of its life it was a patched-up structure, described as a disaster waiting to occur. But the locals were fond of their old bridge. One article described the aging bridge trembling as each vehicle touched it, like "an old man stumbling with a box of eggs". The bridge would shake with each crossing and pedestrians would have to be careful not to lose a boot through a hole in the decking, nor could they lean too heavily on the rickety railing.

The people of Warrandyte were careful with their bridge, travelling slowly, and replacing planks of wood as they rotted. The bridge suffered most at weekends when traffic was thickest, the weight of increased traffic taking its toll upon the bridge. Cars eventually replaced the leisurely plodding of horses.

The old bridge survived fires and floods. Somewhat lower than the present structure, the river rose to lap the deck and even the top of the rail-

ings on several occasions. It could have been destroyed in the Black Friday fires of 1939. In 45°C heat, three churches and 168 houses were engulfed and one man died during the first half-hour. Many people in Warrandyte took refuge in the river, struggling to avoid burning embers and falling trees. The fire sped throughout the town, then into and beyond South Warrandyte where it destroyed the school, the hall and the post office. But the old bridge survived.

By the time it was demolished in 1955, the wooden bridge at Warrandyte was the oldest structure spanning the Yarra. Built by the Country Roads Board, the steel and concrete bridge that has replaced it stands tall and dry, fireproof and strong, high above the river. But to many its character is less endearing. The new bridge is part of the road—bitumen, solid. It has become part of the street furniture of Warrandyte. A given, rather than a privilege.

But the bridge still touches the daily life of the Warrandyte community. We cross it every day: by car, or bus, on bike or on foot—occasionally still on horseback. The festival parade begins here each year. Picnickers and dog-walkers wander beneath it, kayakers and canoeists thread their way between its piers. This community, split in two by different municipalities, parliamentary electorates, even police districts, is held together as one by the Warrandyte Bridge.



Graceful arches: Warrandyte's concrete and steel bridge, built in 1955. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

Thank you to Gina Bevan-Jones and the Warrandyte Historical Society, and to resident Francie Streeter, for help with this article.

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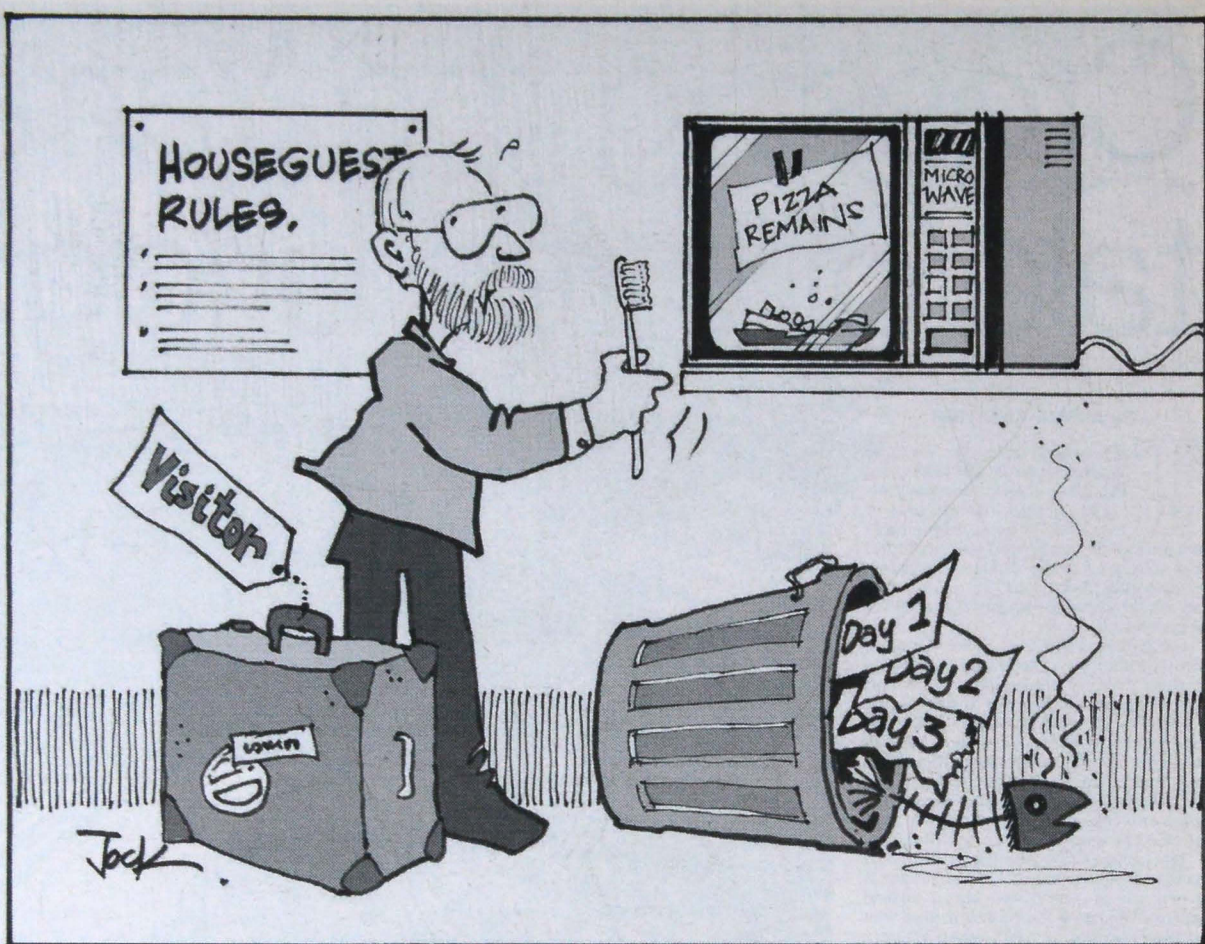
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House guests come and house guests go. You hope.

THIRTY-FIVE years ago, having friends stay over was a doddle. The decision to stay was usually made at around two in the morning and they just dosed down on the couch, on a few pillows scattered on the floor or slept curled up in a leaking beanbag, waking in the morning to look like a refugee from a Yeti's armpit.

The morning was like a scene from "The Revenge of the Zombies". Slack jaws, bleary eyes and crumpled daywear. Bodies staggered to a semi-upright position in no prearranged order. There were no concerns about whose turn it was in the shower and whether fluffy towels had been left for each guest. If any bodily washing occurred, it was only if someone accidentally spilled coffee or some "hair of the dog".

The host and/or hostess did not hover, offering cooked breakfasts and homemade bread and preserves. Usually they surfaced just as the last freeloader crawled out the gate around lunchtime. If anyone desperately needed food before noon, they had to find it, usually by scrounging around under coffee tables for a few leftover crisps or some half-eaten salmonella-topped pizza slices.

Nowadays, things are very different and house guests are more civilised, less frequent and their stay is more ordered. However, it didn't happen overnight. We had to learn the rules of houseguestery the hard way. We have all been both a guest

KIBBLED

"The morning was like a scene from 'The Revenge of the Zombies'. Slack jaws, bleary eyes and crumpled daywear. Bodies staggered to a semi-upright position..."

and host to others and it's only once you are able to see the situation from both sides that you realise the need to tread delicately in what can be a relationships minefield.

Being a house guest is not easy and one is well advised to remember the old saying about house guests; that they are like fresh fish. They are fine for the first few days but rapidly go off after three. Unless both guests and hosts understand the rules

of the game, it can end in tears.

It was long ago when we were young and even poorer and our family had been on an extended driving holiday up and down the East Coast. As we approached Sydney, the engine fulfilled its numerous warnings and died. Fortunately, we had prearranged to stay overnight with some friends who had left Melbourne for the bright lights and white shoes of Sydney. We assumed we would be there for a pleasant day and night, have the car fixed and be on our way.

The visit went well for the first day. We chatted about our lives and then got down to the serious business. We toured his new pyramid, his new and expanded business premises and, generally, spent most of the time admiring how well he was doing.

Having established that I was no possible threat, we should have left and the visit would have fulfilled its purpose for both of us. The problem arose, however, when we discovered that the replacement car part was to take a few days to be delivered and this meant an enforced extension of the stay.

Suffice it to say that we became smelly burley very rapidly. Had we had the money, we would have shifted into a motel. Had the part not taken longer to be delivered than was anticipated we probably would have left on smiling terms. Unfortunately, we were trapped there and, being unwanted, tended to get in the way of early, mid and late weekday tennis, of prearranged shopping

and luncheon trips, of "having to do things" occasions and of being unfashionable. Consequently, we were treated like the mad uncle; kept locked away lest we disgraced ourselves and, more importantly, them. Sporadically, we crept out to see the sunlight and, from the phone box down the street, made importunate phone calls to the car repairers.

Eventually we left and, as we drove down the street, I swear I heard the strains of the Halleluiah Chorus start up from their house.

Since that day we have been conscious of not placing too much pressure on our hosts or our guests. We enjoy having house guests but make sure that we allow them free time to escape from what can be a hot-house situation. The dissolute student experience was tawdry and best passed through as rapidly as possible, but it is just as counter-productive to over-plan visits with something organised for every minute of every day.

Nowadays, as guests, we try to restrict visits to three days and ensure that on one day we arrange a day trip to provide some breathing space. Also, it's fair to say that experience has taught Herself and me how to treat our guests a little better. Nowadays the beanbags are mended and we leave the partly-eaten pizza slices in the microwave oven, ready for the first up to eat a hearty breakfast!

ROGER KIBELL

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Bushland beauty brought back from the brink

I STOOD at the bedroom window looking out over the garden. The early morning sun was sharp and brilliant, illuminating the row of Pomaderris that formed a semi-circle around my small wildflower patch. It was the first year they had flowered and what a fine display the fist-sized, margarine-yellow blooms made. The decision to plant the Pomaderris close together, prune them to keep them low and bushy, had paid off. These compact shrubs provided the perfect backdrop to the assortment of peas, daisies and lilies now ablaze with colour in my spring-time microcosm.

Admiring the Pomaderris through the glass, I had a sudden and vivid flashback to the moment I saw this plant for the first time. It was just over 10 years ago. I had been carrying out a flora survey of the Park with one of the rangers from Warrandyte State Park. This involved many excursions into the bush in the various areas of the Park recording, photographing and collecting specimens. We were both novices in the field of botany and relied heavily on the Melbourne Herbarium for identification.

On this particular day we were deep in the bushland near Blue-tongue Bend—a fairly remote part of Jumping Creek Reserve. Surrounded by dense, but quite low-growing Burgan and swards of skin-lacerating Saw-sedge, we came upon a two metre high spindly shrub that we did not recognise. With its large, shiny, bright green leaves it looked like a ring-in, an exotic—a type of privet perhaps, and quite out of place in the Warrandyte bushland.

Our initial instinct was to pull



out the weedy-looking shrub, but after some consideration decided we should at least get a name for it first—not really thinking it was anything other than introduced. So it was quite a surprise when we heard back from the Herbarium some time later that the plant was not only native, but very rare within the Melbourne area. It was called Smooth Pomaderris or, scientifically, *Pomaderris elliptica* referring to the shape of its leaves—a sort of flattened cir-

cle—like the orbit of the earth around the sun. The species is found predominantly in the south-eastern half of Victoria. Apparently this occurrence in Warrandyte is at the very western edge of its range.

Armed with this knowledge we returned to the solitary shrub to take cuttings for propagation back at the State Park nursery. While there we searched the surrounding bush for more of the rare Pomaderris plants, but couldn't find any others.

The propagation was a success. A dozen or so plants quickly developed roots and were potted on. When they were big enough, seven of the clones were planted back at the site around the sole parent.

NATURE

By PAT COUPAR

They grew well, flowered and set seed. Soon this rarest of Warrandyte plants was being grown by the hundred and new populations of the species were established in several different areas of the Park. As well, the adaptable, well-mannered Pomaderris became a popular choice for those seeking local plants for their Warrandyte gardens.

Several years later Park staff carried out a small, low-level burn around the original Smooth Pomaderris and its now flourishing offspring. This resulted in the germination of new plants from soil-stored seed stimulated by the fire. Another win.

Looking at how well the Pomaderris had grown in my garden, I couldn't help wondering why this plant was so scarce. Why was there only one individual and how did it get there? Finding the plant in the first place was certainly a lucky break and the story of its success is remarkable, but it is by no means unique. The Warrandyte flora survey unearthed—so to speak—a number of other rare plants, so few in number that they too were teetering on the edge of extinction within the local area. The species, which included a lily, a daisy-bush, a pea and even a couple of wattles, were brought back from the brink by propagation and planting back into the State Park. In addition, many of them are now thriving in gardens around Warrandyte, just like the Smooth Pomaderris.

Despite the noise—they lost!

ROTTNEST Island on the last Saturday in September: over 3000 kilometres from Melbourne, about as far from the MCG as you can get without actually leaving the country. It's not far enough.

"Go Eagles!" bellows a skinhead with paunch and stubby to an uninterested passer-by. Almost everyone is wearing blue and gold. We obviously can't escape the damn thing. "Go Eagles!" roars an old codger outside the bakery. "GO EAGLES!" respond all within earshot.

Only yesterday, the little harbour at Thompson Bay was almost deserted. Hundreds of empty buoys rode gently between the reefs on a green and blue sea, patrolled only by a handful of gulls. On the beach, a couple of kids dug holes and built sandcastles while a pair of pied oyster-catchers chased after morsels of food for their squawking chicks. Beyond, the shelly-concrete terrace of the island's only pub, the Quokka Arms, lay basking under the bluest of blue skies. Hardly a soul in sight.

Last night, all that changed. Ferry after ferry arrived, dis-

OUR PLACE

By MARILYN MOORE

gorging thousands of visitors. Little luggage delivery vans buzzed about for ages. The beachside crowd swelled, and the eateries were overrun. By 1am, Rottneest was rocking.

This morning, the harbour teems with small craft obviously undaunted by the four-metre swell underlying the three-metre waves that form a forest of ridges across the Indian Ocean. More boats continue to arrive as the sun rises high into a blue blue sky. By 10am the onboard Esky supplies are starting to hit rock-bottom. The occupants of the boats are also looking a bit rock-bottom, but in exceptionally good spirits.

Shouts of "Carna Eagles" punctuate background conversation as West Coast supporters hail anybody within earshot. "Anybody" seems to include similarly attired fans, the odd red-and-white-capped ring-in, unidentified marine craft, holidaymakers, passing naval

vessels and seagulls.

The noise from the pub is astonishing. It's almost worth hanging about to hear what it will sound like once the match starts.

We decide instead to wander up to Oliver Hill to have a look at the 9.2-inch gun emplacement, restored from WWII. Oliver Hill isn't a particularly big hill and nine-inch guns aren't exactly my idea of a riveting day out, but one's got to pass the time somehow.

The gun emplacement turns out to be unexpectedly interesting, more so than Victoria's smaller fortifications. Our guide, a former military engineer, is not only passionate about the workings of the emplacement but also knowledgeable about Australia's wartime defence strategy. On the rare occasions when he pauses for breath, a TV can be heard somewhere in the background.

"The Rottneest Fortress was made up of the Oliver Hill fort with two 9.2-inch guns..."

"Swans've goaled!" announces a head around the door. But the former military man is on a roll and keeps pointing out places on an old map of the island.

"... Bickley Point fort with two 6-inch guns; permanent Army Barracks at Kingstown (containing living accommodation for four warrant officers or sergeants and 72 rank and file personnel, cottages for commanders, officers mess, cottages for married NCOs and gunners... a three storey fortress and battery command post building at Signal Ridge; Port War Signal Station at Signal Ridge; observation posts and engine rooms..."

"Swans two goals one, Eagles yet to score!" The head's back.

"...six searchlight emplacements, magazine shell stores, powerhouse, directing station and a railway from the jetty..."

And so it went on, this strange juxtaposition of two wars: one in black and white, its remains concealed in the limestone tunnels of a tiny island out in the Indian Ocean; the other in fast-moving technicolour and ringing in our ears.

We arrive back at the Quokka Arms around three-quarter time. The place is packed, with people squashed six-deep into every aisle and doorway. Noise! Fremantle can probably hear it. Must be a tight game. I wonder what the score is?

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Lisa sings for another season



Lisa Upson and Mark Rigoni.

By SAM DAVIES

LOCAL vocalist Lisa Upson released her latest album with guitarist Mark Rigoni at a Richmond club last month.

The duo's album, "Another Season", is a compilation of obscure Latin jazz covers, and is one which Ms Upson has wanted to record for many months.

"We didn't want to do an album of songs people knew," Ms Upson told the *Diary*. "We wanted to do something unusual, different."

Ms Upson's vocals were recorded over one weekend, which she described as a "daunting experience". The recording also features Tony Hicks on woodwind.

"It's scary to stand in front of a microphone and to have it recorded and have to be happy with that. But I'm really pleased with the result. It's not easy music to sing."

The duo and Tony Hicks played at the album launch at Dizzy's jazz club in Richmond to a crowd of 50 people.

Dizzy's barman and jazz connoisseur Madhu Pandji was impressed with the performance. "When you have an acoustic guitar and vocal duo it's hard. But they managed to carry it and work really well with each other. And the saxophonist was great."

The CD is available from Warrandyte Post Office and at live gigs for \$20.

Youthful talent

By SAM DAVIES

THE rising generation of Nillumbik's artistic community will exhibit their work at a gallery in Montsalvat later this month.

The Young Montsalvat Artists exhibition will feature 10 artists who have displayed or worked at the commune in previous years in the fields of painting, music, couture and sculpture.

For 22-year-old Warrandyte painter Nic George, it will be his first major showing.

He said the exhibition would pay homage to the famed Heidelberg school of artists but also would show that their high artistic standards were still present.

"It's the beginning of exciting new artworks and designs and artists working in Australia, and we have this wonderful local history pushing us along. It's the debut of the next generation of artists."

Mr George said the artists knew each other through either school or Montsalvat. "When the idea came up, we banded it around, we thought of who the most significant people were who had a presence within the community," he said.

Other artists to exhibit are Lachlan Rose, August Skipper, Saxon Jørgensen, Raphael Kilpatrick, Anna-Lisa Unkuri, Lydia Wegner, Amy Skipper, Damien Skipper and Kate Connolly.

"All of these artists have studied in the city, but they love being in the Nillumbik area and working out here, and really embracing all that Nillumbik means," Nic George said.

The exhibition runs from October 19 until November 6 in Montsalvat's Long Gallery.

Further enquiries from Montsalvat on 03 9439 7712 or email: arts@montsalvat.com.au



Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS



Waiting for a train that never arrives

In the 1890s residents waited in vain for a railway to come to Warrandyte.

A similar scenario was played out earlier this month at Warrandyte High School when the Year 11 theatre study students performed the Matt Cameron play *Man the Balloon*.

Directed by drama teacher Niki Pidd, the play

depicted a host of small-minded, insecure people waiting in vain for a train to finally stop at their station, delivering the new age guru, Waldo.

Students were involved in all areas of theatre, including set design and construction, costumes, makeup, backstage and performance.

The colour of money

I hear BP has taken a patent on the colour green. What do you think when you think of Green?

I think of the bush— Australian green; the layers and shadows of blue-grey, grey-blue, hints of mist and bushfire smoke, shades upon shades— green bleeding mauve in the day's cooling. Green as not-green.

But even so, there are still some echoes of that English green paddocks shorn of trees rolling in English ways, and moss, softly, velvety yearning to be stroked. Green as grass.

Rainforests too, Shiny monstero tendrilled frog and fern unfolding bright dripping soggy green, an undercurrent of damp twining wetness. Green as earth.

My first party dress, deep emerald green— real velvet. It had a white furry colour, and I loved to stroke my sumptuousness thinking of elves and Queens, and deep mossy pools. Green as mists.

And I have a friend who only wears green. I think of her, in her olive greens tinged with gold. Shirts, silk and moss coloured with scarves, op-shop findings— their greens the perfect match.

She's a gardener, swathed and immersed in it, willing newborn greens— (green as innocent green as young) to poke defiant through stubborn clay, parched dirt. Green as life.

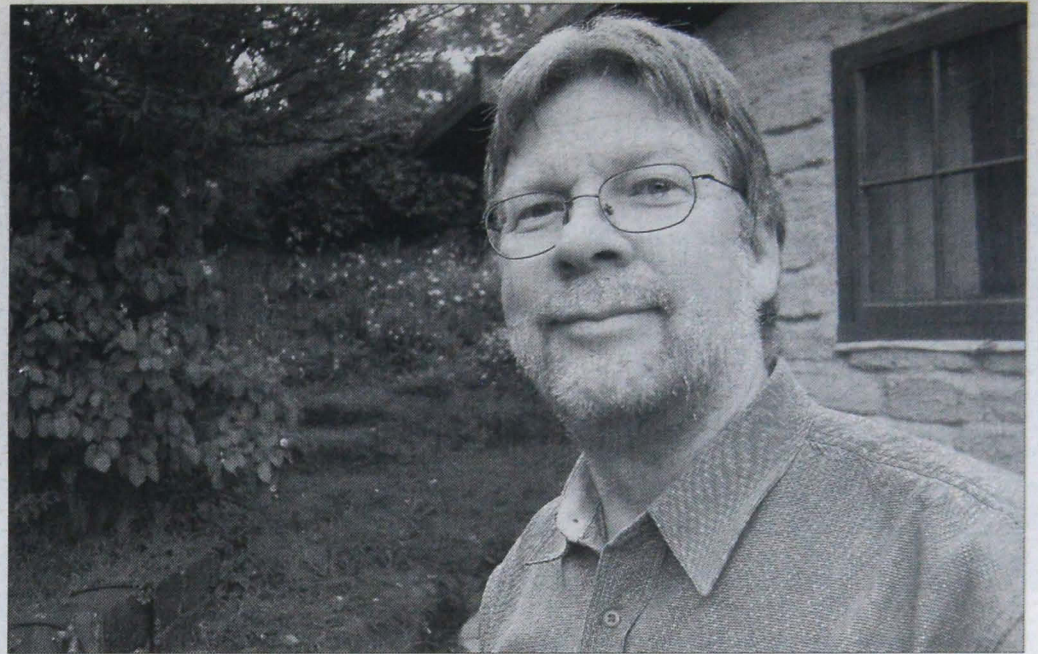
I hear BP has taken a patent on the colour Green. What do you think when you think of Green?

Petrol of course. From BP of course.

KAREN THROSSELL



Recording a lifetime in sound



YOU know how annoying it is trying to get across the bridge or through Warrandyte during peak traffic but can you imagine how the noise affects an expert sound recordist?

"I'll be way out in the bush recording atmosphere and a dog will bark, a 4x4 comes up the track, or a dirt bike, or a plane flies overhead," explained Brian Laurence, 57. "It was going to be just the right moment. Or recording thunderstorms, it's halfway through a clap and a car goes past."

"The traffic is shocking in Warrandyte now. I'm very aware of sound and noise is almost constant. I can't stand in my garden and talk to my wife if she's even five metres away. There are quieter spots away from main streets in the suburbs than there are in Warrandyte now—it's noise pollution."

Brian came to Warrandyte late in 1968, just before that summer's bushfires. "As a country boy I found Warrandyte much more country than the suburbs where I'd been living. I rented a little house and the owner's son was in a band that played in the basement." The band was Skyhooks, the house owner's son was bass player Greg Macainsh. "They later played all night at our wedding, all for nothing," he said.

"When the fire came through Greg and I maybe saved eight to 10 houses around Valias Street. We protected our own, then with wet bags and one knapsack we put out spot fires round the others. I got to know all sorts of people in the next couple of months—I started talking to the neighbours. Bushfires do this, it's an interesting phenomenon, a major traumatic event drawing people together."

Later he joined the drama group and did the very first lighting for Skyhooks in the Mechanics' Hall, "dozens of plays", directed more and he still does sound for the theatre company.

Technological advances, especially from analogue tape to digital recording, have meant Brian's office in South Melbourne is now his studio and eve-

rything is done on a desktop computer. He's travelled there each day for 30 years as "it's invaluable being there, the connection and support, interacting in all sorts of ways and working with a constantly changing and overlapping team".

"I'm interested in the future—I'm a futurist married to the president of the historical society. I watch how the world's developing, young peoples' attitudes—with my work, it's mainly young people who work with me. Barry McKimm's son Erin came for a week's work experience as a sound technician five years ago and he's still there," he said.

Brian has recently worked on a series of tapes for newly-blind people on how to use their ears. "These are mainly 40-50 year-old businessmen who've had strokes and gone blind or near-blind and they're trying to cross roads. We teach them differences in the sounds so they can tell a truck from a bus. People don't use their ears as much as they used to—try listening to changes in footsteps coming towards you in a corridor. Recognising these changes is an interesting aspect."

"We use psycho-acoustic techniques to assist in creating soundtracks. The ear-brain combination plays tricks on us to enable us to hear very quiet sounds and to put up with very loud noises. It tells us directionality."

"If you put on a DVD and turn off the sound you can't understand what's going on. Try turning off the picture and listening and you know what's going on. I've worked on a lot of award-winning projects but sound is an unsung sort of thing. I'd rather be blind than deaf."

Brian's also known for producing and directing sound and light shows on the riverbank for two Warrandyte festivals and he's a member of "half the groups in Warrandyte". He says he's rediscovering Warrandyte by walking through the area in preparation for a three-week artists' walk from Portland to the South Australia border and back early next year.

"I'm up to eight kilometres a day. Walking from Jumping Creek to Blue

VILLAGE PEOPLE

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

Tongue Bend and back—there's almost no-one on it—the whole of Pound Bend, around the parks, through paddocks full of kangaroos, through the mining reserve and up Whipstick Gully and over to the cemetery and back. I have to walk for up to 22 kilometres a day on the artists' walk."

Brian has recorded a sound history of Warrandyte over the years. "I recorded the wetlands for the last festival and down the goldmines, a recording which is still being used at Sovereign Hill. I couldn't do that now because the mines are closed off."

"This political correctness angers me, putting doors on mines and keeping the tunnel exit fenced, it looks horrible. Parks Victoria is running very scared. It irritates me that bureaucracy is so cumbersome and getting worse."

Acknowledging a "questing mind", Brian has a collection of corkscrews dating back to the mid-1800s. "Corkscrews have a fascinating mechanical advantage, a tribute to man's ingenuity. There are dozens of varieties, all patented, from all around the world; lever actions, auger or thread types. If you were told to design five different ways of getting a cork out of a bottle you'd be pushing it but there are 100-150 distinctly different ways and they're still being invented."

"All a corkscrew does is get a cork out—you can't use it to pick your teeth or dig the garden." He's also built up an associated bottle opener collection and maybe 20 old bakelite mantel radios.

The elder of two boys, Brian grew up on a soldier-settlement farm in the Western District, producing mainly sheep, and attended boarding school in Ballarat.

"But I was more interested in doing the public announcement system for school sports, playing movies for the boarders on Saturday night and pro-

ducing plays than going into agriculture," he said, never using the wool-classing skills he'd learned at night school. "As the elder son I'd been expected to take over the farm but when I went into sound my father and mother changed their wills and assigned it to my brother but he became a teacher. They had to revise their wills again and eventually they sold the farm. It's a common problem, a complex issue for farming families."

"I was so interested in sound that a friend who was a local newsreader in Ballarat asked me to come along and watch him read the news." Brian was hooked and started his career as a junior production technician trainee with Channel Seven in Melbourne, working with people like Shirley Bassey and Athol Guy and the variety show Sunnyside Up. "You sort of drifted into the field you liked and I had crappy eyesight so sound was good," he said.

He spent six years at Channel Seven, working on a variety of shows, sports, weekend football and trots before joining Channel Nine to work with Mike Willesee on A Current Affair as a location sound recordist. "The difference was that you only worked on what four million viewers would watch that night. You'd go in your old jeans and end up interviewing the prime minister or dress up in your good clothes and splash through floods out in the country all day."

After a couple of years Brian left for the recording studios. "We had the first four-track recorder which was most exciting. Then we got an eight-track and eventually a 16 as technology improved."

But after 12 years as manager of a production studio he found he was being forced into doing more administration than mixing sound so in 1986 he started his own business, Brian Laurence Sound, with his wife, Jo. It was a turning point in his life. "It worked for me, but it was casting fate to the wind. Because I didn't have my own studio I was free to work on the biggest sound projects in Australia."

"In making myself small with no big overheads I've survived—the film in-

dustry is very bitty and very few of the original people are still working in the industry. I seek out challenges and I never know where the next dollar is coming from," he said.

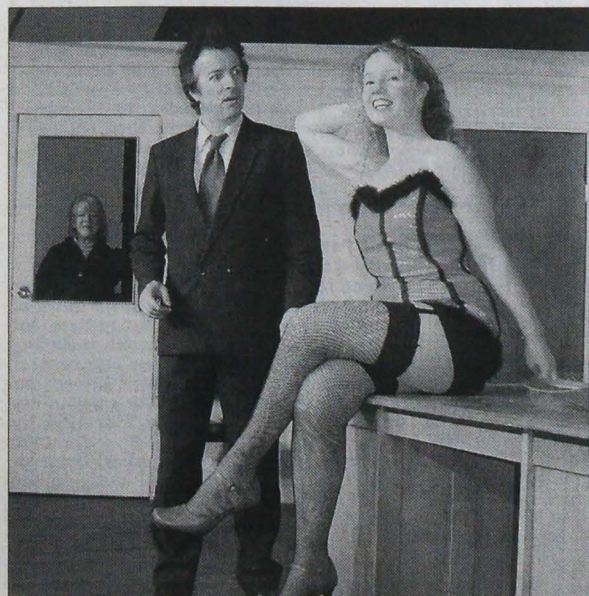
Highlights have been working on three world expos for Australia, in Brisbane, Spain and Japan. "World expos are absolutely the cutting edge of technology. Spain was a \$40 million project and no-one from Australia hardly saw it. It was our chance to get tourist interest in Europe. Japan cost \$20 million. It's very exciting to do but it's not something that's widely appreciated." He's also worked on the AFL hall of fame, theme parks, aquariums and museums, gradually tending towards and carving a niche in soundscapes.

"I've done Seaworld, hippo and lion soundscapes for Werribee and elephant sounds for Melbourne zoo. I'll play with sound as long as my hearing holds out. I've got a list of things to do—I've got literally hundreds of sounds from all around Australia. One day I'll catalogue them all and sell it as a collection."

Perhaps more comfortable recording than talking publicly, Brian said he'd managed to get out of speaking at the weddings of three of his four children, who are two sets of twins. "But the fourth one I had to do. I wrote it all down and kept to the script, reading it word for word. I can't speak off the cuff. It's the same with my own stereo—everyone always had a better stereo than me because I work with them every day," he said.

"I've recorded a thunderclap on the back verandah and you can hear the air sizzle—it's quite mind-boggling and very satisfying. I have a special six-microphone full-surround recording rig and I set up in the little info shelter at Pound Bend and recorded the rain. It has a wooden shingle roof so I didn't get the sound of rain on the roof but I got the sound of the rain falling all around. To a sound person it makes sense but not to anyone else. I played it back through a circle of speakers—there's nothing manufactured about it. It's the most wonderful sound you've ever heard."

Obsessed with money and sex



Picture by Ian Craig

66 **T**HERE'S more to life than money and sex" proclaims the title of Kangaroo

Ground writer John Marshall's latest play, recently performed by the Warrandyte Theatre Company.

But don't be put off by the title, a rather wordy and somewhat enigmatic introduction to a delightfully bizarre entanglement of characters, whose obsessions were clearly either money or sex or both.

"Doors open, windows shut," enthuses the program, "and the extraordinary twists of John's imagination are brought to the stage in an outpouring of farcical events and consequences".

The play was all of that, and more. Almost Milliganesque in style, Marshall's script brought together the unlikely of protagonists. Beginning fairly conventionally with a scheming solicitor and his adoring secretary, the plot became steadily more convoluted with the in-

THEATRE

By MARILYN MOORE

volvement of a strumpet, a lascivious judge, a professional chicken-sexer and an armed madman.

As with most farce, the plot was shaped around a set of coincidences: the actress hired to do the solicitor's dirty work turned out to be the judge's favourite "poodle-pie"; the judge turned out to be the very one who'd sentenced the madman's son and was thus the target of the madman's revenge; somehow those two were both tied up with the chicken-sexer, who happened to fall in love with the actress, his little "chickadee".

A lot of clothes-swapping and hiding in cupboards went on. This sounds rather silly but it was well done and mostly very funny. In the end, just about everybody had a turn of the judge's outfit; I can't for the life

of me recall how the madman came to be wearing it, but they turned out to be unlikely soul mates.

It was sheer craziness and heaps of fun—a completely fresh take on a swag of tried-and-true themes. Director Lynne Counsel treated the script with the respect it deserved, and the cast's serious approach illuminated characters that could easily have disintegrated into amateurish caricatures.

Not that caricaturisation wasn't a vital element of this farce, and the main roles were excellently cast. Partridge the solicitor (Alan Flint) was cool, suave and mercenary; his secretary Madeline (Jan Nance) was voluptuously efficient; the Judge (Jack Stringer) was powerful yet almost slobberingly kinky; Felicity the actress (Debra Silva) was a gorgeous will-o-the-wisp who knew exactly how many beans made three; the madman Grubbe (Ian Milligan) had overtones of

Claude Greengrass (of "Heart-beat" notoriety); and Rodney the chicken-sexer (David Tynan) was a warm-hearted yodel in a checked flannel shirt. Wonderful characters, all the more challenging to portray in such an off-beat context. A couple of cameo appearances towards the end (a woman, played by Leanne Bryant, and God, played by Darren Bowers) were also effectively done.

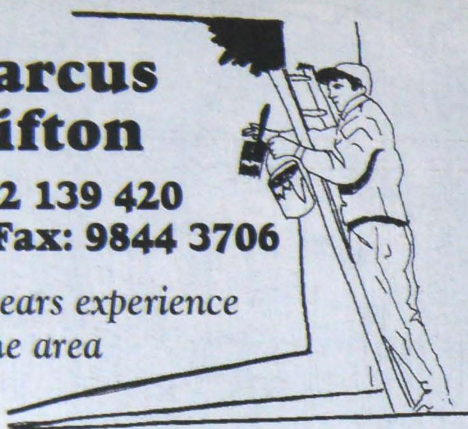
Whilst this play might be a little lightweight for mainstream theatre, it certainly took a serious amount of effort and ability to stage it so well. The experience of director Lynne Counsel and producer Ken Virtue came to the fore; an enormous amount of time and effort must have gone into set design and construction (Lynne Counsel, Bill Mitchell, Ken Virtue).

The last of John Marshall's plays to be performed at the Mechanics Institute, "Restorations" was a dark piece. "There's more to life..." was pure entertainment.

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Bloods Under-18s go for Back-to-Back

WANTED

26 OF THE BEST for our 2006
Under-18 team

To build on the Junior Colts Premiership of 2005, the Warrandyte Senior Football Club is seeking players to join our Under-18s squad for season 2006. This squad promises to be highly competitive and all players are ensured a great season. Warrandyte U18s are actively supported by both the WJFC and WFC as the next step in your sporting life. The respective presidents, Dennis Hoiberg and Phil Treeby, encourage you to be a part of it.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Peter Green senior coach 0437 241 877
Shaun Wilson under-18s coach 0412 736 758
Grant Egan football manager 0417 309 238.

Public art unveiled

A special piece of public art is to be launched at the front of the Warrandyte Community Centre at 3.30pm on Thursday, November 3. The mosaic has been created by students from the arts therapy class — "creative paths to self-esteem" — at the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House. The occasion will also mark the opening of their annual art show. Everyone is invited.



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.

Smart

Manningham council is running a series of information sessions entitled "Living Smart" at the Warrandyte Primary School. Themes will include: drive energy costs down; save water, save money; use less transport—make it go further; waste—reduce, re-use, recycle; bush and fire management; shop to save dollars and the environment. Each session will feature an expert speaker. They will be held on Wednesday nights, commencing November 2 and concluding on December 14. Bookings are essential. Further information from Bruce Paton: 9840 9173 or Jeanette Baker: 9840 9129. Email: bruce.paton@manningham.vic.gov.au.

Life

A series of information sessions about life in Nillumbik in the past will be conducted at the Eltham Living and Learning Centre, 739 Main Road, Eltham from October 4 till December 13. There will be speakers from the various historical societies in the area with Warrandyte Historical Society on Tuesday, November 29. It is possible to enrol for single sessions. For further information and enrolment call 9430 1313.

Workshop

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House is presenting a workshop entitled "I Am Me" on Saturday, November 5 at the Warrandyte Community Centre, 168 Yarra Street, Warrandyte. It is based on "an autobiography of One Of Us". It will be conducted by Celia Cornick who practises homoeopathy in Wonga Park. Cost is \$20 with all proceeds going to the Neighbourhood House. Bookings on 9844 1839.

Seminar

The next Manningham environmental seminar will be held in the function room, Grand Hotel, Warrandyte on Wednesday, November 2 at 7.30pm. Scott Watson will discuss "Indigenous Garden Design". The seminar is free with supper provided. For further information contact Cynthia on 9840 9129.

Heritage

A series of informative heritage walks is being held at the Queenstown Cemetery, Smiths Gully Road, Smiths Gully on Saturday and Sunday, October 29 and 30. The walks will take place between 10am and 12 noon and 2pm and 4pm each day. Stories of the lives, trials and tribulations of the pioneers of the St Andrews district will be presented. Enquiries and bookings to 9710 1615. Bookings are essential as numbers are limited.



How does their garden grow?

Hard at work in Warrandyte's community garden behind the police station in Forbes Street — and loving every minute. Would you like to join them?

Plots could become available quite soon. If you are interested call Julie Cottier on 9873 3969. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

Dance

The next non-profit community dance to be held at the South Warrandyte Hall in Hall Road will be on Saturday, October 29 commencing at 7.30pm. Cost is \$6. For bookings phone Dorothy or John on 9404 3368

Cellars

The winemakers of Nillumbik are opening their cellar doors, many of which are not always open to the public, on Sunday, October 23. There are no tasting fees or entry charges. Wines will be available by the glass or bottle and winemakers will be on hand to provide information. Six wineries in Kangaroo Ground are participating as well as others from surrounding districts. Further information from Nillumbik Tourism Association on 1300 660 072.

Disability

Manningham YMCA Youth Services are presenting a disability dance on Saturday, October 29 at the Bulleen Heights School, 49-60 Pleasant Road, Bulleen. Time is from 7pm to 10pm and cost is \$10. Carers are free. Bookings are essential on 9848 9544.

Arthritis

The Manningham Arthritis Support group is presenting an interactive information session on medicines conducted by educators from the Council of the Ageing National Seniors. The session will focus on getting better results from the medicines you take, how to avoid medicine mix-ups and what you can do to enjoy better health. It will take place in the Group Room, Manningham Community Health Service, corner Doncaster and Blackburn Roads, Doncaster East at 2pm on Wednesday, October 26. Cost is \$1 and afternoon tea provided. For further information call Ruth on 8841 3000.

Auditions

Manningham Arts Centre will be running a theatre skills workshop on Saturday, October 22. This is an intensive one-day workshop conducted by theatre director Lara Macgregor and

ARTYFACTS



Sculptor

Local sculptor Malcolm Laurence will be a participant in the Yering Station Sculpture Exhibition and Awards 2005, which will be held at Yering Station from October 23 to December 4. The official opening and presentations will be on Sunday, October 23 at 3pm in Yering Station's Historic Barn, 38 Melba Highway, Yarra Glen.

Concert

The Eltham Concert Band, under the direction of Warrandyte musician Barry McKimm, is celebrating their 30th anniversary with a cabaret on Saturday, October 15 at 8pm and Sunday, October 16 at 2.30pm. The concerts, featuring another local artist—Jo Pearson—singing classical, romantic and sentimental songs will be held at the Eltham Community and Reception Centre, Pitt Street, Eltham. BYO drinks and food, tea and coffee provided. Tickets are \$18 and \$14 concession. Bookings to Jill on 9439 5391.

Possible

Manningham Gallery together with Villa Maria is presenting an exhibition "Anything's Possible" until October 15. The exhibition showcases the creative ability of older people and people with disabilities. The gallery is open from 11am to 5pm, Tuesdays to Fridays and 2pm to 5pm on Saturdays.

Paintings

An exhibition of pastels and watercolours by Jan Briggs is a reflection of her awareness of the intricacies of nature. It is open at the Stonehouse Gallery, 323 Ringwood Road, Warrandyte during October.

Exhibition

Students from Carey Donvale will express themselves in black and white and shades of grey in the next exhibition at the Manningham Gallery. Students from kindergarten to Year 6 have produced a range of drawings, textiles, graphic works, sculptural pieces and photography. The show will be open from Tuesday, October 18 to Saturday, November 5. The gallery is at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster.

Open

As part of the Nillumbik open studio celebrations, *Diary* artists Syd Tunn and Ona Henderson will be opening their studio, corner Henley and Oxley Roads, Kangaroo Ground (Melway 24:F1), on the weekends of November 12 and 13, 19 and 20, 26 and 27, between 12noon and 5pm. Their studio has been described as "an art lover's adventure in a fascinating environment". Open at other times throughout the year by appointment. Ring 9712 0393.

Tell us

The *Diary* is your newspaper and we love to print news of your group's activities. Jot down all the details, including date, time, venue and contact number and drop it through our letter slot at the community centre, fax it to 9844 4168, by post to PO Box 209, Warrandyte 3113, email thediary@vicnet.net.au. We close copy on the last Friday of each month for publication in the second week of the following month.



Saturday Under 11 premiers. Back row from left, Jack Cousens, Ryan Tester, Damian Arsenis (coach), Jade Wintle, Luke Collins, Jack Power. Front, Sam Holston, Tim Apostolodis, Jacob Ballard.



The premier Under 15B girls team. Back row from left, Brooke Allison, Chloe Simpson, Fiona Tansley, Jenni O'Brien (coach), Ashlea O'Brien. Front, Stephanie Rudderham, Caitlin May, Cassie Wilson.

Four Redback basketball titles

By TONY OLIVER

Four Warrandyte teams are basking in premiership success after the grand finals of the EDJBA Saturday basketball competition last month. But there were plenty of others

ruing narrow defeats in the season decider.

Local rivalry was fiercest in the under 11AR boys as Warrandyte topped Eltham 39-35. The win reversed the regular season and semi-final results when the Wildcats enjoyed bragging rights.

In a tense decider the Redbacks trailed by eight points at half time despite inspired efforts from injured duo Tim Apostolodis and Jack Cousens.

The pair, with Ryan Tester, Luke Collins, Jack Power and Jacob Ballard, began the second half in a frenzy at the defensive end as they heaped pressure on the Eltham ball carriers. The plan worked.

"Eltham began turning the ball over and we finally began to inflict some real pressure where it hurts—on the scoreboard," coach Damian Arsenis told the *Diary*.

"Sam Holston and Jade Wintle took turns to blanket a much taller, intimidating opponent, limiting his effectiveness and impact."

Eltham protected a narrow lead until a hot shooting streak from Ballard (game high 16 points) gave Warrandyte the lead with three minutes to play. Wintle secured victory with two pressure baskets in the final minute.

The Under 15B2 girls coached by Jenni O'Brien also enjoyed the spoils of victory. They beat Marcellin 23-22 in a final few will forget.

The Redbacks trailed by a point at half time as the shots that had fallen all season failed to drop.

"If the girls had hit their shots the game could have been over by half time," O'Brien said.

"With seven minutes left Marcellin opened up a handy lead and looked to have stolen the game. Then the girls lifted.

"A few steals went our way. Then they missed a free throw with seven seconds to go that gave us the ball two points down.

"As the clocked ticked to two seconds it went to Ashlee O'Brien. She put the shot up with less than a second to go and swish, nothing but net, a three pointer to win the game."

The Under 9CB1 boys won their final in slightly easier fashion. They beat Koonung 26-19 in a reversal of the pair's semi-final meeting.

"This was a very exciting win for the boys because it was the first season for many of them," said coach, Sarah Clough.

"We were ahead the whole game. The top scorer was Reece McKenzie. Excellent dribbling skills were shown by Kyle Thomas and Joseph Arnaud while McKenzie displayed great defence in containing the opposition's 'big guy'.

"Dylan Hart, Ben Stuyfbergen, Jacob Benn and Noah Wakefield showed great determination to get the ball the whole game while Callum Shepherd was a motivational leader."

The Under 19B girls were the

fourth premier as they enjoyed a comfortable win.

Malcolm Anderson's Under 15CC boys lost to Blackburn 54-45 despite Tyson Barber heaping in 24 points.

"The final result was in doubt until just before the final siren," Anderson said. "It just wasn't our day, but still a very good season.

"Callum Watts won numerous rebounds, assisted by Julian Gatti. David Brown, Sam Porter, Kristian Etherington and Matt Lane controlled the ball and teamed well."

Blackburn scored the first six points of the game to set the agenda but the Redbacks rallied to level the scores at 20 apiece. But Blackburn peeled off the next eight to take the lead for good.

Andrea Peters' Under 15C3 girls lost a close final at Ivanhoe while Nick Peters Under 17A2 girls lost to Collingwood 43-30. The Under 9B1 girls lost 17-13 while Rebecca Johnston's Under 9B2-2 girls were pipped 5-3.

Also losing a close one, 8-7, were the Under 9DB1 boys while the Under 19B boys lost 52-45.

The Under 15A boys, competing in a tough division, were disappointed to fall one basket short 43-41. The team was coached by club icon Gavin Whitmore.

Steve Killey's Under 11BC1 boys lost to Collingwood 31-18 despite the efforts of Most Determined Player Michael Holloway. Collingwood had won the pair's semi-final clash by 25 points.

Collingwood took control early before the Redbacks steadied.

"Campbell Prior and Matt Ratcliffe then started scoring while Michael Delacy and Caleb Broderick rebounded strongly.

"Matt Killey controlled the ball and made some great passes while Michael Holloway out-rebounded players twice his size. Kyle Robertson made some great offensive moves for us. Jack Linney was unavailable for the game."

Friday night champions

The Redbacks enjoyed Friday night championship success with Ian Wood's Under 16 Metro 1 team posting a grand final victory. The Redbacks beat Eltham 35-28 with Ben Power the game's Most Valuable Player.

Malcolm Anderson's Under 12 Eastern Qualifying boys won their Bronze Medal game against Cranbourne 33-31.

The Under 18-2 boys of Andrew Petalas also won a nailbiter. They capped a good year beating Caulfield 37-34.

Championship teams were presented with awards at presentation night on October 2.

Netball club honours its top players



Warrandyte Netball Club president, Lesley Reid.

By SONIA RAPPELL

Warrandyte Netball Club have finished a stunning winter season, during which they took out five premierships, with a gala presentation night at the Mechanics Institute Hall.

Two awards are given to each team — the Coach award and the Team award.

The Coach award is presented to a girl selected by the team coaches — she may be the most improved, most consistent, or the most outstanding player for the season.

The Team award recipient is selected by the girls in the team — someone who has substantially contributed to the team's progress or well-being during the season.

In some cases joint awards are given if warranted, each receiving an engraved trophy.

The awards are especially valued by the Under 11 players as this age group is not eligible to play in finals under association rules.

The following players were honoured by awards.

U11—Wrens: Keeley Green, Julia Lewis, Gabrielle Ryan; Possums: Holly Jenkins, Tamika Farley-Lehmer; Joys: Claire Garrick, Alexandra Smead; Gliders: Bridie Jones, Nicola Pinolo.

U13—Sparrows: Montana Cox, Sarah Lewis; Wallabies: Hannah Clark, Jessica Dusting, Emily Van Bergen; Swallows: Annushia Andrews, Helena Dwyer, Zanetta Hosking; Gumnuts: Georgette McKeough, Claudia McKeough, Emily Waugh; Kingfishers: Akela Coutts, Nastasya Foster-Zuluaga.

U15—Magpies: Bonnie Jones, Emma Stanley; Rosellas: Georgia Nichol, Fiona Tansley; Kookaburras: Elizabeth Pichut, Megan Seymour, Donna Van Scoy; Wagtails: Chloe Simpson, Bethany Whitcher; Wombats: Camille Savoia, Natalie Smith.

U17—Falcons: Hannah Cox, Julia Knott; Hawks: Cherise Angelotti-Casey, Kristie Turner; Kangas: Jenny Parkes, Madeleine Prior.

New Diary sports editor



Robert White

The *Warrandyte Diary* has a new sports editor. After editing our sports pages for more than 30 years, Lee Tindale is standing back for health reasons.

The new sports editor is Robert White, longtime resident of the Warrandyte area, outstanding sportsman and noted journalist.

Robert played football for Carlton Reserves and coached Warrandyte's senior football team. He is an outstanding cricketer, was president of the Warrandyte Cricket Club for many years and was a front rank player with the Warrandyte Tennis Club.

As a journalist he has worked on metropolitan dailies, was executive editor of a suburban newspaper group and enjoyed a distinguished career as a sports writer, including a period as editor of *Footy Record*.

Robert has been running his own small publishing company for some time now, creating and editing publications for the agricultural and racing industries.

As a co-editor, Lee Tindale will continue contributing to and influencing this newspaper in a multitude of ways.

- CLIFF GREEN

Diary Sport contacts for contributors

Submissions from local sporting groups are welcomed for publication in the *Diary*.

It is preferred that copy is supplied via email or on CD in Word format.

Correspondents are encouraged to provide pictures, preferably in digital format, but photographs are acceptable.

Please ensure a contact telephone number is included with all copy and pictures.

Sports copy deadline for the November issue of the *Diary* is Friday October 28.

Sports copy can be sent direct to the Sports Editor, Robert White at the following addresses:

Email: tophill@optusnet.com.au

Postal: 78 Deep Creek Drive, Doncaster East 3109.

Telephone 9846 5188 Fax 9846 5199.

Warrandyte Cricket Club

Batting woes prove costly

Warrandyte's batting woes, which have cost the club chances of winning the Ringwood District Second Division premiership over the past two seasons, have reappeared for the opening of the 2005-06 season.

Set a modest 133 to win against Croydon Ranges, Warrandyte were dismissed for 118 after collapsing to 6-30.

Only new captain, Adam White with 42 and all rounder, Matthew Sazenis with 35, offered any resistance.

Sazenis was also in outstanding form with the ball, taking 3-21 in what was clearly a player of the match performance for Warrandyte.

The second match of the round, a one-day fixture against St Andrews, was drawn after heavy rain.

Campbell Holland returned the best figures against Croydon Ranges with 4-28 and indicated he will be a valuable asset for Warrandyte again this year.

But White said the bowlers could not be left to do all the good work.

"They put us in a position to win but our batting continues to let us down."

"We should have easily scored the runs required but when you are 6-30, it's an uphill battle," he said.

The club will be looking to the Second XI to provide some performances to put pressure on the struggling First XI batsman and Under 16 player, Tyson Rees, could be one to be promoted.

He played a key role in the Second XI's come-from-behind win over Croydon Ranges.

Chasing a commanding 2-191 Rees scored a patient 28 as his batting partners fell away to leave Warrandyte at 8-126.

But a 72 run partnership between 14-year-old Ayrton Dehmel and veteran captain, Robert White, got Warrandyte home with an over to spare.

Like the First XI which conceded 20 wickets, the Second XI opening bowlers also had troubles controlling the ball in the strong wind and conceded far too many extras.

With only one wicket down at the half way mark of their innings, Croydon Ranges were helped by some wayward bowling to post what in normal circumstances would have been a match-winning score.

The Third XI lost by two runs in their match against Croydon North.

Brendan Baker was the best for Warrandyte with the bat, scoring 44 and a total of 5-126 was a handy figure on a very

slow Stinton's Oval.

But despite some fiery bowling from John Prangley and some probing off-spin from Under 16 player, Chris Barry, Croydon North got the runs in the final over.

The Fourth XI opened the season with a thrilling one run win over East Ringwood.

Batting first, Warrandyte scored only 109 with Rakesh Khatri top scoring with 24 and it looked far from a winning total.

But tidy bowling from Warrandyte restricted their opponents to a point where they needed eight runs off the final over but could only score six runs from captain Graeme Rees's bowling.

Scores from Round 1:
First XI: Warrandyte 9-118 (A. White 42, Sazenis 35) lost to Croydon Ranges 132 (Holland 4-28, Sazenis 3-21).

Second XI: Warrandyte 8-198 (R. White 39 n.o., T. Rees 28, Goddard 26, Dehmel 18 n.o.) d Croydon Ranges 2-191.

Third XI: Warrandyte 5-126 (Baker 44) lost to North Croydon 4-128.

Fourth XI: Warrandyte 109 (Khatri 24) d East Ringwood 108.

The Fifth XI match was abandoned because of the state of the ground.

South Warrandyte Cricket Club

Rain ends hopes of a promising start

South Warrandyte Cricket Club's new season got off to a dream start against Mooroolbark on October 1, with the Hawks bowling out the reigning Chandler Shield premiers for just 138.

South were 10 without loss at stumps in reply but the match ended in a draw as rain ended any hope of a result on the second day.

The first day was also in danger of being called off when Mooroolbark, sent in to bat, protested about the state of the Colman Park ground, complaining about parts of the surface which had not thoroughly dried out after rain.

Given the all-clear by the umpires, South Warrandyte set about implementing their plan to bowl line and length and although the Mooroolbark batsmen produced a couple of useful partnerships, they were never able to break the shackles.

The wickets were shared among Scott Brasher (three) and captain-coach Steve Garrett and his deputy Chad Rogers, with two each.

"We had expected Mooroolbark, as last season's premiers, to be very formidable opponents and to restrict them to 138 was an excellent start to the season," said Garrett.

"I believe we are in for a good season. We have recruited well and there is more depth."

The Second XI's game was delicately poised at the end of the first day, Mooroolbark 1-32 chas-

ing the Hawks' total of 157.

The thirds were comfortable winners in their one-day game, 9-101 to Mooroolbark's 9-72, but the Fourth and Fifth XIs were defeated, also in one-dayers, by North Ringwood.

In the juniors, South Warrandyte batted throughout the afternoon to amass 162 without loss in the Under-12/3 game against Croydon, Joel Holewa hitting 34 and Hamish McWhirter and Jack Hollins 30 apiece.

Details
FIRST XI: South Warrandyte 0-10 v Mooroolbark 138.

SECOND XI: South Warrandyte 157 v Mooroolbark 1-32.

THIRD XI: South Warrandyte 9-101 v Mooroolbark 9-72.

FOURTH XI South Warrandyte 128 v North Ringwood 6-166.

FIFTH XI: South Warrandyte 139 v North Ringwood 6-169.

UNDER-14/3: South Warrandyte 2-70 (Price 19, Manwell 17 n.o.) v Croydon Rangers 16 (Percy 3-1, Matthys 2-2)

UNDER-14/5: South Warrandyte 7-91 (Barut 26, Beasleigh 22) v Wonga Park.

UNDER-12/3: South Warrandyte 0-162 (Holewa 34 n.o., McWhirter 30 n.o., Hollins 30 n.o.) v Croydon.

Juniors win titles

Warrandyte Tennis Club has two new title holders following the 2005 junior championships finalised last month. Joel Greve and Claire Bence won their respective boys and girls championships.

Greve defeated Tristan Valentino in straight sets. This result was repeated in the 15/U section where Joel won 8-4. They combined to win the boys doubles in this section.

Claire Bence defeated Tessa Cudmore in straight sets and together they won the 18/U girls doubles.

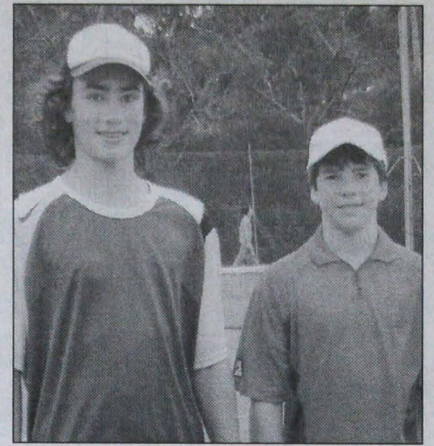
The 12/U boys event was a family affair with Ryan Tester defeating his brother Daniel.

Results:
18/U: Boys singles—Joel Greve d Tristan Valentino 6-4, 6-2. Girls singles—Claire Bence d Tessa Cudmore 6-2, 6-4. Boys doubles—Joel Greve/Tulloch Greve d Alex Beltramin/ Nick Crosbie 7-5, 6-7, 7-3. Girls doubles—Claire Bence/Tessa Cudmore d Elise Northover/Camilla Rogers 6-3, 7-6.

15/U: Boys singles—Joel Greve d Tristan Valentino 8-4. Girls singles—Amie Brockwell d Camilla Rogers 8-6. Boys doubles—Joel Greve/Tristan Valentino d Zac Boyce/Ben Robertson 8-3.

Girls doubles—Elise Northover/Camilla Rogers d Jade Valentino/Stefanie Lambrianidis 8-1. Mixed doubles—Tristan Valentino/Jade Valentino d Daniel Buckley/Larissa Travassaros 9-8.

12/U: Boys singles—Ryan Tester d Daniel Tester 7-6. Girls singles—Elise Northover d Jade Valentino 6-1. Boys doubles—Ryan Tester/Daniel Tester d Lachlan Buckley/Adrian Misfud 6-1. Girls doubles—Elise Northover/Jade Valentino d Jessica Dusting/Emily Waugh 6-2. Mixed doubles—Elise Northover/Daniel Tester d Adrian Misfud/Jade Valentino 6-1.



Joel Greve, left, defeated Tristan Valentino in both the 18 and Under and 15 and Under boys titles and the pair teamed to win the 15 and Under boys doubles.



Claire Bence, left, defeated Tess Cudmore in the 18 and Under girls' title. The pair combined to win the 18 and Under doubles.

Premiership performance

By JUDY GREEN

Only one Warrandyte team - junior Girls 4 - took home a premiership flag at the recently concluded Eastern Region Tennis Saturday competition.

Boys 24 were only defeated in the last set. No senior teams reached the finals.

The Girls 4 team of Elise Northover, Camilla Rogers, Amie Brockwell and Amy Freedman, playing singles and doubles, came from third place on the ladder to win their semi-final and went on to beat the top team in a very tight grand final. Scores were 5 sets 43 games to 3 sets 44 games.

With boys heavily outnumbering girls in the club, this was considered a sterling effort.

"The club at the moment has many more boys than girls," junior convenor Michelle Gilling told the Diary. "We are anxious to find more girl players to redress this imbalance."

"An encouraging sign is the enrolments for the current Supersmashers program for children not yet playing competition where there is a predominance of girls. The club has also



The premier Warrandyte team in the Girls' Singles/Double 4 are from left, Amy Freedman, Elise Northover (capt), Camilla Rogers and Amy Brockwell.

introduced a girls team in the Eastern Region Sunday morning competition," Michelle said.

Three other junior teams played in the finals. Boys singles-doubles 24 comfortably won their semi and just missed out in the grand final losing by one game in the last set. The team consisted of Daniel Misfud, Brayden Misfud, Brynton Ashton, Daniel Ford-Learner and Jakob Reade.

Boys singles doubles 1, Nick Crosbie, Tristan

Valentino, Adam Waugh, Rhys Simpson, Joel Greve and Chris Robinson, finished on top of the ladder but lost their semi-final. They won three of the four singles matches but could not get on top of the opposition in the doubles and finally lost on games.

Boys singles doubles 21, Stuart Langridge, Shae Courtney, Adrian Misfud, Michael Ashfield, Kieran Robertson and James Woodman also went down in a very close semi-final.



SUPERSMASHERS

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United front for Under 18 football

By LEE TINDALE

Warrandyte's senior and junior football clubs have launched a joint campaign to resurrect the game at Under-18 level in this town.

Recruiting has already begun in a concerted bid to have an Under-18s side on the field in 2006 after an on-again, off-again recent history which has seen two short-lived joint ventures with other clubs.

The campaign has intensified on the back of Warrandyte Junior Football Club's Colts premiership in the Yarra league in August.

Colts (Under-17s) are the top junior age group and the absence of an Under-18s side leaves many young players in a football limbo when they have graduated. Some seek to continue their immediate careers elsewhere; others give the game away.

"Both local clubs are committed to making the Under-18s an ongoing part of football in Warrandyte," recently-elected junior club president Dennis J. Hoiberg told the *Diary*. "It is the

missing piece of the jigsaw, the vital link between junior and senior football.

"Both clubs have a vision of kids being able to start their football here as Under-9s and play right through to senior level," he said.

"We believe there is plenty of young football talent in and around Warrandyte that we can tap for the benefit of both clubs."

Hoiberg said it was important to build on the Colts' grand final victory to ensure a transition from juniors to seniors via Under-18s. "We must keep the Colts together and build on that," he said.

"Recruiting for an Under-18 team next season has already started and we'll be approaching schools and other avenues.

"I've had very meaningful discussions with senior club president Phil Treeby and what we envisage heralds a new era of cooperation between the two clubs while remaining separate entities."

Treeby agreed. "Both clubs are reaffirming their commitment in recent times to a single football community in Warrandyte," he said.

The difficulties in finding the numbers for Under-18s sides on an ongoing basis are by no means peculiar to Warrandyte. It is a problem throughout the Eastern Football League and far beyond.

Club officials who have tried and failed point among other things to a number of factors including general apathy, the many other interests available to teenagers these days and the unpopular Saturday morning playing times.

Warrandyte's Under-18s went into recess at the end of season 2000 and were resurrected in tandem with Doncaster East in 2003.

When that partnership dissolved after one season, the Bloods merged with Heathmont. Both combines made the finals, Heathmont-Warrandyte were beaten in the 2004 grand final.



Warrandyte Football Club's Best and Fairest winner, Matt Wood.

Courageous captain wins top award

By LEE TINDALE

Matt Wood, one of the most courageous footballers to pull on a boot for Warrandyte for many a year, won his third club champion award at the Bloods' presentation night last month.

The 2005 captain and 2001 and 2004 best and fairest winner, polled 30 votes, five better than boom recruit Adam Kearney, with rover Aidan Davey a vote away third.

Wood ran second to Tom Naughtin, 47 votes to 35, in the players award decided by his teammates.

An onballer who spends much of his time at the bottom of packs, Wood came to Warrandyte in 2001 at the suggestion of close mate and then Bloods captain Chris Cornell, whom he had played alongside in the Northern Knights in the elite TAC Cup Under-18 competition. He had also played reserves football for Carlton and was an instant stand-out in the red and white, comfortably winning best and fairest in his debut season and repeating the dose as a hot favourite last year.

There is good news and bad on Wood's immediate future here: he will be back in 2006 to be part of the Bloods' centenary year — but will miss the first half the season, returning from overseas for Round 10.

Runner-up Kearney arrived at Warrandyte pre-season from Lalor in the Diamond Valley league and was another to make an immediate impression. A no-nonsense, hard-at-the-ball player, he lent experience to a Warrandyte list light on for seasoned senior players.

So did Clint Wheatley, equal fourth with Naughtin in the best and fairest count, who accompanied Kearney from Lalor.

Rover Davey, a product of the local juniors, put in another stellar season to run third in the count and reaffirm his standing as one of the best products of the local juniors to emerge in recent times.

The reserves best and fairest went to last year's runner-up Tahn Reid (25 votes), ahead of Cal Haskings and Bernard Opteynde.

The voting:

SENIORS:

Best and fairest: Matt Wood 1; Adam Kearney 2, Aidan Davey 3.

Coach's award: Craig Lincoln.

Most improved: John Potter.

Darryl Valentine Memorial Award (most determined): Matt Treeby.

Gary "Madge" Allsop Award (most courageous): Tom Naughtin.

Players' award: Tom Naughtin.

Ron Wilson Medal (goalkicking): Michael Morello.

John McCartin Memorial Shield (most consistent): Rick Templeton.

Best first-year player: Mick Stewart.

RESERVES:

Best and fairest: Tahn Reid 1; Cal Haskings 2; Bernard Opteynde 3.

Coach's award: Rowan Gordon.

Most improved: Leigh Giampietro.

Geoff Darby Memorial Award (most determined): Anthony DeSarro.

CLUB AWARDS:

President's trophy: Brian Williams.

Tracy "Snowy" Prior Clubperson of the Year Award: Noel Taplin.

SENIOR VOTES: Matt Wood 30; Adam Kearney 25; Aidan Davey 24; Tom Naughtin, Clint Wheatley 22; Craig Dick 17; Matt Treeby 16; Rick Templeton 15; John Potter 12; Anthony Richardson 10; James Logan, Michael Morello 9; Ricky Bourke, Sean Donovan, Andrew Gordon 8; Ben Dart, Josh Eyre, Campbell Holland, Michael Stewart 7; Jarrod Boyce 6; Brian Elliott 5; James Riley 4; Cal Haskings, Craig Lincoln, Grant McAdam, James Riddell, Dale Vitoritti 3; Peter Green 2; Liam Mulcahy, James Powell 1.

RESERVES VOTES: Tahn Reid 25; Cal Haskings 20; Bernard Opteynde 16; Leigh Giampietro 15; Rowan Gordon 14; Jarrod Boyce, Brian Elliott 13; Geoff Zach 12; Jason Bowen, Travis Brogan 11; Ricky Bourke, James Riddell 10; Trevor Elliott, Luke Painter 9; Craig Evans, James Riley 8; Simon Cutler, Josh Eyre, Craig Lincoln, James Logan, Michael Taylor 3; Sean Donovan, Brad Giampietro, Mathew Neale, Brendan Smith, Michael Stewart, Brendan Zach 2; Brendan Baker, Jeremy Bean-Hodges, Daniel Burton, Graham Clarke, Joel Pacetti, Luke Ebzery, Dion Mullett Treloar, Dale Vitoritti, Luan Yen.

Juniors celebrate premiership success

By DENNIS J. HOIBERG

Warrandyte Junior Football Club celebrated one of their most successful seasons at two presentation functions last month.

The young Bloods, who sent five of a possible teams into the Yarra Junior Football league grand finals and came home with the major prize — the Colts premiership.

A packed presentation dinner saw Luke Ebzery crowned best and fairest of the all-conquering Colts, ahead of captain Joe O'Mara and Dion Mullet Treloar.

Tim Beasley was named most determined, Josh Cunningham most consistent and Chris MacDougall most improved. The coach's award went to Daniel Large.

The Colts also recognised the milestones of 150 games for the club by Ebzery and Paul Burgoyne, 100 by Tim Hookey, MacDougall, Pat Nichol, Peter Cudmore and Nick Meade and 50 by Beasley and Yaaren Beklash.

At a separate function for the younger age groups, outstanding prospect Ben Power was named Under-15s best and fairest, with Nathan Gordon and Michael Whittle dead-heating for second and Tom Fitzpatrick third.

Most consistent went to Patrick Eddy, most improved to Josh Hale, best team player to David Wood and the coach's award to Luke Miller.

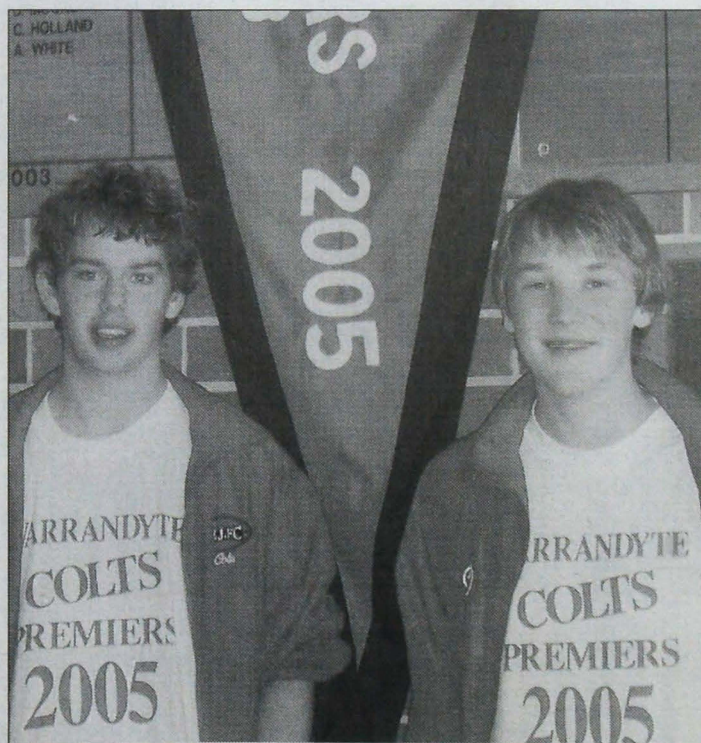
The club also paid tribute to 100-gamers Tyson Barber, Josh Blakey, Fitzpatrick, Gordon, Hale, Luke Miller, Narayan Tobin, Michael Whittle, David Wood and Jack Wright.

Power, Ross Brown, Nick Woodward and Peter Whittingham were acknowledged for their 50 games.

Other trophy winners and milestone achievers:

Under-14s: Best and fairest: Nathan Down 1; Sam Casey and Adam Bird equal 2. Most courageous: Duane Cox. Most improved: Robbie Bowen. Most consistent: Tristan Valentino. Most determined: Mathew Faulkingham. Milestones: Casey, Valentino 100 games; David Beasley, Morrison Birznies, Patrick Pardoe and James Taylor 50 games.

Under-13s: Best and fairest: Tom Appleby 1; Lachlan Chapman 2;



Pat Nichol, right, Warrandyte Junior Football Club's 2006 captain, is congratulated by Dion Mullett Treloar whom he succeeds. Nichol's appointment was announced at the club's recent presentation day.

Jordan Beltramin 3. Best team player: Sam Allardice. Most consistent: Luke Costin. Most improved: Nathan Campbell. Milestones: Anthony Haikal, Patrick Heffernan, Jack Lavery, Jake Miller and Toby Vertseegen 50 games.

Under-12s: Best and fairest: Darcy Jones and Dan Tester equal 1; Johnny Dobbie 2; Sam Tansley 3. Most improved: Stephen Wildsmith. Most determined: Michael Ashfield. Most consistent: Michael McDougall. Coach's award: Jake Fitzgerald. Milestones: Dylan Burns, Alistair Douglas, Heath Fitzpatrick, Taylor Hayton, T.J. Law, Kieran Sproule-Carroll and Nicholas Tookey 50

games.

Under-11s: Best and fairest: Ryan Exon 1; Jacob Ballard 2; Jarrod Buzzini 3. Most improved: Jayden Clay. Most courageous: Sam Holston. Most consistent: Daniel Krajnc. Coach's award: Kyle Roberston. Milestones: Ballard, Kurtis Law, Krajnc, Exon and Lachlan Frowd 50 games.

Under-10s: Best and fairest: Ryan Tester 1; Joe Hardy 2; Daniel Mifsud 3. Most determined: Zach Ballard; Most courageous: Lloyd Grounds. Most improved: Matthew Collins. Leadership award: Rory Chipman. Milestone: Levi Polkinghorne 50 games.



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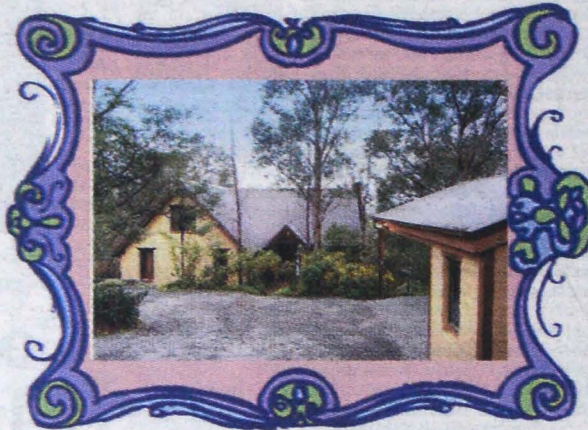
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warrandyte north tender closes 5pm tuesday
1 november unless sold prior
buyer enquiry range \$350k-\$390k

"sit back and relax"
contemporary open plan home flooded with natural
light, 4 bedrooms, 2 with ensuites, kitchen/meals/family,
lounge/dining



warrandyte north tender closes 5pm tuesday
8 november unless sold prior
buyer enquiry range \$530k-\$570k

"the essence of warrandyte"
picturesque Michael Young designed mudbrick home
featuring 4 bedrooms, open plan kitchen/meals/family
with rich jarrah benchtops, separate lounge/dining,
double carport and workshop.



warrandyte north tender closes 5pm tuesday
1 november unless sold prior
buyer enquiry range \$820k-\$900k

"french provincial charm"
a masterpiece! gracing 1.25 acres, this romantic
4 bedroom + study + studio home offers formal and
informal living zones including 5 living areas, alfresco
dining terrace overlooking inground pool, dble carport.



kangaroo ground private sale \$350k

"the promised land"
magnificent lightly treed near 4.5 acre allotment,
situated in the heart of the bend of islands conservation
zone, offering state park and river access



warrandyte north private sale \$560k

"6.5 acres of bliss"
let your imagination run free! beautiful 6.5 acre
allotment, large level home site, ornamental dam, sealed
road access and all services available



warrandyte south private sale
buyer enquiry range \$920k-\$990k

"wide open spaces"
a magnificent 19.5 acre approx allotment of rolling
pastureland, complete with dam and majestic gum trees



vicki gardiner & associates community spotlight!

shining this month on: warrandyte primary school

Warrandyte Primary School invites pre-school children to
join in storytime on Friday 21 October at 2.15pm
Warrandyte Primary School's annual transition program for 2006 preps
will be held on Friday 18 and 25 November, and Friday 2 December

For further information telephone Gill Binger, Principal on 9844 3537

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