



Picture montage by STEPHEN REYNOLDS

Fire season threat

By **STUART TEATHER**

A grassfire in Tills Drive, Warrandyte, last month gave advance warning of the need for everyone to be vigilant and prepared as the bushfire season approaches.

It is believed the fire, on Sunday, October 16, began after a burning pile of rubbish was left unattended in a paddock. Approximately half an acre of grass was burnt.

North Warrandyte CFA captain Paul Buck told the *Diary*: "It is just another reminder that people need to be aware that it doesn't take much to start a fire, particularly as summer approaches." "This year we're predicting higher than average temperatures, but also higher than average rainfall," Captain Buck said.

The National Climate Centre has estimated that there is a 60 to 65 percent

chance that Victoria will have higher than average temperatures between November and January.

Captain Buck believes that residents should always be on the lookout for fire danger.

"People need to remember that every year has the potential to be a bad year. We need to make sure we don't become complacent," he said. "People should start preparing their properties. They should start cleaning up around the house and removing any fuel, such as leaf litter."

"They should decide beforehand whether to stay and defend their houses or to leave. They should remember that leaving late is very dangerous. If the decision is taken to leave, they should plan to leave early, decide where they will go and the route they will take getting there. They should decide what they will take with them and should consider what they will do with pets in the event of fire," Captain

Buck said.

People should ensure that they have adequate supplies of water around their houses, and be wary of relying on their mains water supply during a fire.

Community Fireguard groups can give valuable help during this planning period. Fireguard programs run on a neighbourhood basis, with residents in a street working together to develop strategies to survive bushfires.

"In the lead-up to the summer, we'll be doing a lot of training and ramping up our Community Fireguard groups," Captain Buck said.

North Warrandyte residents can attend fire advice sessions, held at the North Warrandyte Community Centre on a regular basis.

South Warrandyte CFA captain, Peter Plant, said that the CFA encourages the community to get involved "to make Warrandyte a safer place".

"The Community Fireguard groups

run to promote safety and raise community awareness about bushfires," he said. "They are about helping each other out. Looking out for elderly people or those who might not be able to escape a fire. They're about supporting neighbours and other members of your group."

Captain Plant reinforced the need for people to start preparing their properties sooner rather than later.

"People need to start cleaning up their properties now, particularly before Christmas. People tend to delay cleaning up nearer to Christmas and get distracted easily, so we encourage people to take action before the end of November," he said.

The Victorian bushfire information line can be contacted on 1800 240 667.

For anyone looking to become involved with a Fireguard group, or for information on preparing for the fire season, they should contact their closest station to find out more. The North

Warrandyte CFA has an information line for inquiries about Fireguard or advice for preparing homes for the fire season: 9844 0847.

Anyone wanting to join as a CFA volunteer can contact the Volunteer Hotline on 1800 232 636.

● Fire Ready Victoria information sessions will be held this year as follows:

Sunday, November 13, 2pm, North Warrandyte Community Centre

Thursday, November 24, 7pm, Aquarius Court, Donvale

Tuesday, November 29, 7pm, Warrandyte Fire Station, Harris Gully Road

Wednesday, November 30, 7pm, Stintons Reserve, Commercial Road, Park Orchards

Wednesday, January 18, 7.30pm, North Warrandyte Fire Station, Glynn's Road.

CYRIL

By **PAUL WILLIAMS**



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WARRANDYTE

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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.

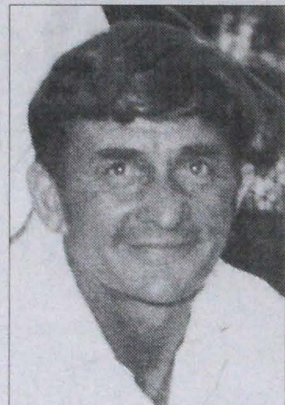
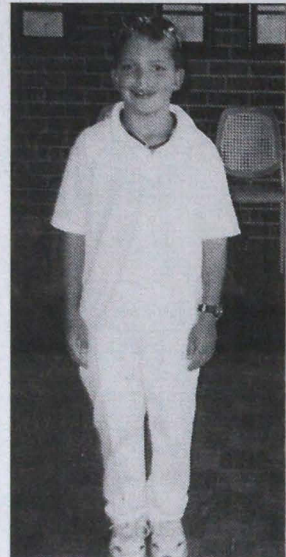
Magic cricket bat or magic young hands that wield it?

We'd like a quid for every time we've mentioned in this column the cricketing deeds of the Chapmans — and we're not through yet. The late Allan Chapman, patriarch of this illustrious family, was arguably the best cricketer Warrandyte has seen, offspring John, Suzanne (Martin), Jenny and Brian have all represented the local club with great distinction and the grandkids are certainly carrying on the tradition. Brian's nine-year-old son Daniel played his first Under-12s game for Croydon (close to home and where his schoolmates play) the other Saturday, opened the batting and compiled a masterly 25 before the compulsory retirement rule for juniors came into play. Recalled at the tail end of Croydon's crumbling innings, he then batted out the morning, adding 28 to his earlier work and completing three hours at the crease. Sports-mad Daniel, who played Under-10 footy for Chirnside Park last season and is also an accomplished basketballer, used the same bat (a Gunn & Moore) Allan and wife Jean had bought for Brian a lot of years ago when he first played Under-12s for Warrandyte. Brian made 32 with it on debut (the retirement rule not then applying), also batting out the morning. The co-incidence is almost spooky!

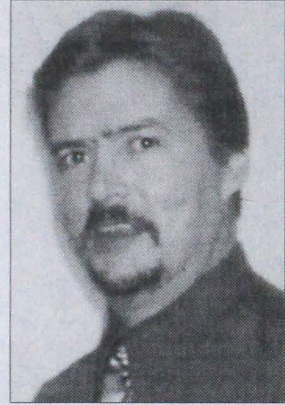
We told you last time of the theft of a potted lavender — an 80th birthday present — from Jean Chapman's front garden and how the mean-spirited culprit had ignored a nearby pot of pansies. Not for long, though. A little more than a week later, they went off as well, but turned up a couple of days later tucked neatly under the mailbox of next-door neighbour Bev Clarkson, who'd been helping Jean search for them. The lavender is still missing, but is it ever too late to return stolen goods?

The Warrandyte Festival home brewing competition has been a big hit since its inception two years ago and next year's event will be bigger, better and boozier — in the sense that ciders and homemade wines are being encouraged. We have no idea how many amateur cider and wine manufacturers lurk among us, but now's their chance to fess up and, indeed, take great public pride in their work. Further inquiries, please,

IN RED & WHITE



Daniel Chapman (left): following in the illustrious footsteps of his late grandfather Allan (above) and father Brian (below).



to organiser Kylie Frowd on 9844 0343 — and any winemakers seeking independent, pre-comp tastings and appraisals of their products (particularly chardonnays) are warmly invited to send samples (and don't be conservative, you hear) to Smokey at the Diary office.

One bloke who does know his wines (particularly reds, and as consumer rather than as critic) is Ross Thomas. Ross has, over many years, developed an uncanny knack of decorking wine bottles. Fastest corkscrew in town, without a doubt, and never been known to spill a drop. But alas, progress has caught up with him and his party trick — earned if his corkscrew will penetrate those new-fangled metal screw tops which, to the horror of wine snobs, are fast replacing the time-honoured cork! Seems Ross will have to undergo total retraining to become multi-skilled.

To describe John "Tiger" Laing, of Fossickers Way, as an avid Richmond fan is to hugely understate his alle-

managers kicking goals on the field or taking breathtaking, match-saving high marks in the backline in grand finals.

Another grab from a book being put together by Noel Taplin and Lee Tindale for release next May to celebrate 100 years of football in this town: "Eric Houghton was playing for Box Hill in the VFA in 1953 but serving a suspension when he arrived as a spectator at Mt Evelyn to find the Bloods seconds short of numbers. He assumed the name of a registered Warrandyte player, borrowed a pair of ill-fitting boots, took them off at quarter-time and started kicking several goals in his bare feet."

After 13 years at the helm, Andersons Creek Primary School principal Des McKenzie is calling it a day at the end of this term. Only the school's third principal since it opened in 1977, Des has certainly provided strong leadership and deserves much credit for the fine reputation Andersons Creek enjoys, not only in the local community but also within the Education Department. Well done, Des — and may you continue to ride our roads on your beloved Harley-Davidson for many years to come.

If you'll pardon a pathetic attempt at a pun, the Friends of Warrandyte State Park nursery has just the shot for you this month. It's the grass trigger-plant (shot, trigger ... get it?), so named for the tuft of grass-like leaves at its base and the unusual trigger mechanism of its small, pale pink flowers designed for pollination by insects. Quite adaptable, can be grown in a rocky situation or as a pot plant and gives best effect when several are planted together. The nursery is at the rangers depot at Pound Bend and the manager will happily provide further info on 0408 317 327.

Smokey Joe

OVER THE HILLS



It's just as well they're legal migrants, or we'd have to put them in detention centres.

Jack.

Childcare rescued!

By SAM DAVIES

An anonymous donation has ensured the short-term future of Warrandyte's occasional childcare centre.

Neighbourhood House manager Karen Throssell said a donor contacted her shortly after the prospect of the childcare centre's closure—due to a funding shortfall—was aired in local press.

"The donor rang and said 'I want to remain anonymous and I don't want to see the childcare centre closed'," Ms Throssell said.

"He said he wanted to help out and was prepared to give us the \$5000 to pay the rent. He'd read the article in the *Diary* and read the petitions around the town. He wouldn't even give me his name to write him a formal letter of thanks. It shows there's a good community spirit in Warrandyte."

But Ms Throssell warns there is still no certainty the service will continue beyond next year.

In a meeting with council held in late October, Ms Throssell pressed that the donation was a "once off", and they still needed an increase in recurrent funding to ensure the service could continue.

The Department of Human Services provides \$7000 annually towards the childcare service, and Manningham council pays \$43,000 to Neighbourhood House, which goes towards salaries and on-costs. Community courses run by Neighbourhood House fund themselves.

Neighbourhood House sublets its space for \$12,000 from the non-profit Community Centre Supporters' Group, which

pays the council \$5000 to manage the centre.

In October, Neighbourhood House said they would consider dropping the popular childcare service, which was running at a loss, to cover a \$5000 shortfall.

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House receives no rental concessions from council.

Last month, Manningham's director of community services Phillip Trestrail told the *Diary* the council provided assistance



Karen Throssell: the service may not continue beyond next year.

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."

Ms Throssell said the arrangement made her feel like "piggy in the middle" in a row between council and the Supporters' Group, and rejected the sugges-

tion that it was the Supporters' Group's responsibility to lower the rent charged to Neighbourhood House.

"I think what the childcare people want to know is, why don't council put money into childcare?" Ms Throssell said.

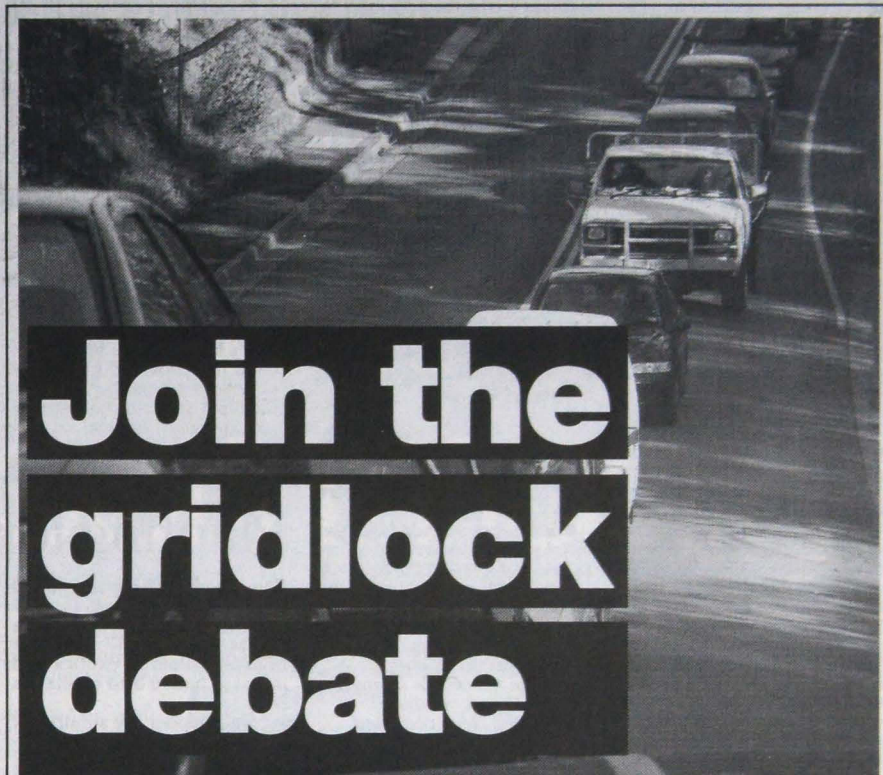
As part of the negotiations, council has requested Neighbourhood House provide a projection for next year, which will not be available until December. It will form part of a report for Mr Trestrail, who will then present it to council in February.

Neighbourhood House has implemented cost-saving measures including using a cheaper cleaner and internet provider, and raising childcare fees to a flat \$5.50 per hour.

The community has rallied behind the childcare service, the only one of its kind in the area, and organised a petition which gained 330 signatures in support, and was sent to Manningham council and state MPs Danielle Green and Phil Honeywood.

Occasional childcare supervisor Gayle Atkinson said the number of signatures was not surprising. "I expected that number because many people use us and it would be a dreadful loss if we were no longer around."

Ms Atkinson said they were awaiting council's response to the petition. She said while the MPs were presumably unable to exert much pressure, it would make them aware of the situation. She said 40 percent of the families using the facility lived in North Warrandyte, which is in Ms Green's electorate.



Join the gridlock debate

Traffic issues in Warrandyte will be aired at a public meeting, called by the Warrandyte Community Association early next month.

WCA has identified traffic as a critical issue for Warrandyte and is holding a public forum to canvass community views.

"We want to know what the local mums and dads and commuters think about it," WCA president Dick Davies told the *Diary*. "We want the community to assist us formulate a policy we can put to local and state governments and VicRoads."

"Destination surveys and studies have not been well communicated to residents, and so far have resulted in very little effective action," he said.

"For example, the Nillumbik Shire Council integrated transport strategy, released in December 2001, correlates morning and afternoon peaks with 'home-based education and chauf-

feuring trips' and recommends 'encouraging higher car occupancy and more multi-purpose trips for car travellers'.

"What does this mean for Warrandyte residents and how does this translate, in practical terms, into action?" Mr Davies said.

WCA points out that Manningham council's urban design report on Yarra Street "contains limited recommendations on traffic".

"We know that VicRoads has been carrying out a survey in Warrandyte to gauge community views, but we don't know where it's at," Mr Davies said.

"Planning experts and local politicians have been invited to the forum and expert appraisals will be given, but the emphasis will be on hearing residents' views."

● The forum will be held at the North Warrandyte Community Centre in Research Road, at 8pm, on Thursday, December 1.

'It's not our fault,' say centre group

By CLIFF GREEN

The Warrandyte Community Centre Supporters' Group is keen to deny that they are somehow responsible for the crisis at the Occasional Childcare Centre.

Manningham council director of community service, Phillip Trestrail, has stated in local press reports that "the rent paid by Warrandyte Neighbourhood House (who run the childcare centre) is determined by the Warrandyte Community Centre Supporters' Group and not by council".

"This is true as fair as it goes," Mr Jock Macneish, president of the supporters group, told the *Diary*. "But it does not tell the whole story."

"The rental rate that the Neighbourhood House pays is exactly the same as that paid by other community groups who are tenants in the building. This is about one-third of the commercial rate for office accommodation in Warrandyte."

"We would be happy to reduce that rate even further if we

could find a way to reduce our fixed costs. One such cost is the \$5000 we pay to Manningham council each year under the lease agreement."

The supporters group was formed as the result of a public meeting in Warrandyte in November 2000, called as part of a community campaign to resist an alleged move by Manningham council to privatise the Warrandyte Community Centre.

In October that year, Manningham council sacked the centre's management committee, thus removing community control. They resolved to secure valuations of the Yarra Street frontages to ascertain their potential for commercial rental, and to call for interest from "not-for-profit" organisations to manage the centre.

Council's ultimate aim, as expressed in an earlier resolution, was to "maximise the centre's earnings from rental of prime spaces at market rates" and to make the centre "self-funding".

The *Warrandyte Diary*, which rents an office on the Yarra

Street frontage, believed it would have to leave the centre, as did other community groups.

A petition was circulated, receiving overwhelming support. This newspaper published many letters protesting council's decision and supporting the community campaign.

Three groups responded to council's call for "expressions of interest": Manningham Recreation Association Inc, YMCA and the supporters group. The YMCA bid was withdrawn and the recreation association's application was believed to be incomplete. Council and the supporters group signed an ongoing lease. The Warrandyte Community Centre Supporters' Group has continued to manage the centre since then.

"What we're trying to do is run an operation as close as possible to going broke, without actually going broke," Mr Macneish said. "If there is anyone out there in the community who can help us run it more cheaply, we would love to here from you."

COREY'S COMMUNITY

By SYD & ONA

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"There is no opinion so absurd that some philosopher will not express it."

— Cicero

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Community houses object to report

Donvale Living and Learning Centre and Park Orchards Community House have considered the article in the October edition of the *Warrandyte Diary* and would make the following comments:

1. It is implied in the cartoon and the reference to rental payments by community houses that the two named community houses receive preferential treatment. It should be pointed out that each community house in the municipality has individual arrangements with council that have been in place for some considerable time. What has not been pointed out in the article is that some community house facilities are not adequate and they pay off-site rental to allow their programs to run and meet community demand. Community houses also contribute to extensions to their own houses, with funds from their income, grants from funding bodies and Manningham council assistance and support. Each house has its own financial burdens and as independent/autonomous businesses respond to its needs.

2. All tenants who sign a new lease with Manningham City Council are now contracted as per their policy of a percentage return on property and pay rent according to the formula. Community houses that are provided with new facilities also are required to pay rental as per the council policy for any leases negotiated.

3. Both houses presented, and

Signs of the times at bridge

It seems that recent attempts to reduce the number of signs in Warrandyte have had little effect. In some locations the number and size of signs has increased, impacting significantly on the visual attractiveness of our natural environment. A plethora of signs at the intersection of Kangaroo Ground and Research roads serves to illustrate this point, with each new sign striving to compete with existing community, traffic and public transport signs.

Rob Berry, Hamilton Road

single out for inclusion in the article by direct naming in the cartoon, consider an implied reference to a contribution by those houses to the demise of Warrandyte Neighbourhood House has been made. Any direct reference to our houses should have been preceded by an offer to comment on the information being presented to the public.

4. Donvale Living and Learning Centre and Park Orchards Community House would like a comment from the *Warrandyte Diary* in the next edition that strongly indicates that these two houses do not have any role to play in the closure of the Warrandyte Occasional Child Care Centre nor in any financial matters of Warrandyte Neighbourhood House.

Jenny Fuge
Centre Co-ordinator,
Donvale Living & Learning
Centre

● It was not intended that the article and cartoon referred to should suggest that the Donvale Living and Learning Centre and the Park Orchards Community House had any role to play in the threatened closure of the Warrandyte Occasional Childcare Centre nor in any financial matter of the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House. The *Diary* knows this was not the case. If such meanings were in any way construed from the article and cartoon, the *Warrandyte Diary* apologises.



Thanks for the concert band

To the Shire President and Councillors
Shire of Nillumbik

We would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for the Eltham Concert Band, arranged by the musical director, Barry McKimm (pictured above). We are now in our 80s and the band has provided high quality live entertainment that would otherwise be totally inaccessible to us. We believe it enriches the local community—and most certainly enriches our lives. With congratulations on your support for this terrific project.

S. & N. Moody, Bradleys Lane

Planting for the birds

They need not become extinct! By planting one half to two-thirds of our garden with native plants, we can still have our brightly coloured exotics and increase native bird habitat as well.

If we consider the suburbs of Melbourne, or even the combined suburban areas of the whole of Australia, there must be over a million acres that is potentially habitat for native birds; and some are among the most brightly coloured and beautiful in the world.

Feeding stations may create an industry that is economical, but it also creates an environmental weed industry that costs the taxpayers of this country millions of dollars a year to control, just to fight a losing battle that can never be won.

I think the suburban garden is

DEAR DIARY

full of potential, especially if you want to see Australian birds in your own backyard—and front yard, for that matter.

Of course in a Green Wedge area such as this, I would like to see people plant only indigenous plants; but social conditioning is such that we all want to do what everyone else does, and in an area as beautiful as this, getting people to plant indigenous is a rather tall order, I fear.

But anything is possible, and so one lives in hope and considers the options.

Ron Bence
Hawkes Road

Happy birthday: Audrey Cahn hits the ton!

I take this opportunity to mention long-term former resident Audrey Cahn, who had her 100th birthday in October. A good number of Warrandyte residents who knew her in past years will recall the quaint home where she lived and entertained—"White Cottage" in Osborne Road.

Born on October 17, 1905, Audrey lived her early years on Professors Row at Melbourne University where her father, William Osborne, was professor of physiology and histology and after whom Osborne Road is named.

In those early years the dear professor was enchanted with Warrandyte, bought river-frontage land and built a holiday house he named "Lowestoft", so beginning Audrey's long association with the district, especially in the arts: painting, pottery and writing. The family lived at "Lowestoft" from 1912 for a few years until new accommodation was ready for them at the university.

Audrey tells stories of those early years when travelling to Warrandyte was not such a simple journey. At best, the steam train was taken to Heidelberg, and from there by horse-drawn coach to complete the journey. At worst you might have been pillion passenger on the dear

professor's motorbike, a journey that could take many hours, with stops to repair punctured tyres.

Those who visited Audrey would not fail to remember the painting by Clara Southern that was proudly hung on her wall, "Girl with Chook", and seen about the district on billboard promotions erected by Nillumbik council. The girl is Audrey.

As a young woman, Audrey married and raised twin daughters, Judy and Jill, who attended the Koornong school. She served in the army catering corps during the war, divorced, published a book and got on with living for the next 60 or more years at "White Cottage". She was a member of the potters' group that began at Potters Cottage and showed style and flair with her paintings.

Today, and for the last few years, Audrey has been living with her daughter Judy in Murrumbateman in NSW. She confirms that, yes, she received the telegram from the Queen and one from the Prime Minister too. On a closing note, I can say Audrey avidly reads every issue of the *Warrandyte Diary*—she surely is its oldest reader!

Dieter Retz
Menzies Road

Councillor left him breathless

What a star! What a performer! I was amazed at the tenacity and vigour of our Mullum Mullum Ward councillor at the community forum last month.

She stood firm in holding the official council line against the community. Despite repeated explanations that the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House was seeking fairness, not favours, our councillor steadfastly maintained a strategic blindness to the issue involved. It's the sort of denial that takes your breath away.

So maybe wasting our breath is what has been going on for all these years. Perhaps the community has just been talking to the wrong person. As someone once said, "If things don't improve soon, we may have to ask you to stop helping".

Warrandyte Resident
(name and address supplied)

Responsibility for election comment in this issue is accepted by Cliff Green, 23 Webb Street, Warrandyte.

My family knows what to do.



It's in our plan.

Bushfire is part of the Victorian environment. You can survive a bushfire but you must prepare. Making a plan is vital.

Prepare your property now because during a large fire there may not be enough fire trucks and firefighters to defend every home.

On days of high fire risk your local CFA crews will be on full alert but can't give warnings to every home. Plan to either stay and defend your home or leave early.

For more information on how to prepare the best possible bushfire plan call 1800 240 667, or visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au



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MANNINGHAM COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Pictures by
STEPHEN REYNOLDS



Facing the community

By SAM DAVIES

A small gathering of 30 residents quizzed Manningham council hopefuls at a forum at the Warrandyte Community Centre late last month.

The forum, organised by the Warrandyte Community Association and moderated by WCA chairman Dick Davies, gave prospective candidates in the Mullum Mullum ward a chance to outline their policies.

One of the four candidates declined to show, and another was 20 minutes late.

Standing for re-election were Cr Patricia Young, joined by candidates Ron Kitchingman and Raymond Hoser. Graham Margetts could not attend and has not contacted the *Diary* regarding his policy views.

Two candidates will be elected, following Cr Gerry Dale's announcement that he would not contest his seat.

Candidates were given three minutes to make an opening statement before questions were fielded from the floor.

Commencing the opening addresses, Warrandyte resident Cr Young referred to her experience with council, which dates back to when she was 29, and her last eight as a councillor.

She has been on a number of council committees including age and disabilities, marketing and statutory planning.

Cr Young promised to minimise rate rises without compromising future growth and to campaign for the protection of Warrandyte's environment and history.

East Doncaster resident Ron Kitchingman said his community involvement in Manningham included being chairman of the Manningham Recreation Association which creates sporting and recreation facilities, and being on the boards of the Manningham-Whitehorse library; the Pines community centre advisory board and the Manningham Centre nursing home and aged hostel.

Mr Kitchingman said his immediate task would be improving and adding facilities for the aged communities and continuing his support for sporting facilities.

Mr Hoser, a Park Orchards resident and ardent critic of Cr Young, said he was inspired to stand for election after hearing of Warrandyte's Occasional Childcare Centre's funding crisis. He said it was "common knowledge" that Manningham was not fiscally well run. "I want to be an honest broker so that

everyone is given a fair go, so that public safety, aged care and the environment are looked after.

"I think really the council needs a bit of a shake-up," he said.

When public questions opened, candidates were asked what their undertakings would be to ensure against inappropriate planning decisions.

Manningham council has receiving sustained criticism this year after they declared they were powerless to stop the development of two units near Warrandyte's post office.

Cr Young said guidelines now controlled against such developments. "In my opinion it is a disaster, and as councillors we had nothing to go on as we had no controls in place," she said.

Mr Kitchingman said the main problem was that the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal overruled too

ELECTION COUNTDOWN

November 8-10: Ballot packs mailed to electors

November 25: Voting closes at 6pm

November 27: Results should be known

many council decisions, and that council was often ill-prepared to match the legal firepower of developers at hearings.

"If I become aware of any of these applications, we can make the community aware and get some assistance for the community," he said.

Mr Hoser said VCAT should not be considered the last "point-of-call", suggesting matters could be taken further to the Supreme Court, High Court or Court of Appeal.

The community also sought assurances on preservation of the Green Wedge and the maintenance of the urban growth boundary.

Cr Young said she was committed to the preservation of the Green Wedge through support and education, and that council had "locked in" to a Green Wedge strategy that entailed spending money on rejuvenating the environment and eradication of pests. She said the Manningham side of the urban growth boundary would not be changing.

The view was shared by Mr

Kitchingman, who said if elected he would not change current policy but would "keep our eye" on the state government.

Mr Hoser expressed similar sentiments, though suggested he would fight the state government more than other councillors over any conflicts on the Green Wedge or growth boundary that may arise.

On aged care issues, Mr Kitchingman said it was his "immediate task" to look at more and improved facilities for Manningham, though he did not elaborate on what he intended for Warrandyte.

Cr Young said while she understood the need for a retirement village, the problem was land. She suggested if the cemetery trust's VCAT appeal for more land did not succeed, that site may suit a nursing home.

Mr Hoser said he had only limited knowledge of aged care issues, though he did have neighbours who were aged.

Cr Young was able to confirm council's support of the future of the Warrandyte Urban Design Framework project to beautify the township. Council has allocated \$75,000 to begin revising signage and the UDF, which will be matched in subsequent budgets.

She said \$135,000 was being spent on revitalising the Warrandyte river reserve, which had already started with replanting and the installation of steps down to the river. She also announced Warrandyte will host a pre-Commonwealth Games canoe race.

The childcare issue was a contentious subject at the forum, with Gayle Atkinson asking each candidate if they would commit to funding the childcare centre if elected.

Candidate Ray Hoser said he was concerned council could not spare \$5000 for the service. "I believe that childcare is something that should be funded, bearing in mind it already is through rates," he said.

Cr Patricia Young said she would not guarantee giving direct funding to the childcare service if re-elected, because she had already tried, unsuccessfully, to get more funding for the service.

Ron Kitchingman said he would not commit to assuring funding for the childcare centre but would "be prepared to look at the situation".

● Councillors' statements are published on this page.

PATRICIA YOUNG



To all the ratepayers and residents of Park Orchards, Doncaster East, Donvale, Warrandyte and Wonga Park. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent your needs at Manningham council over the past eight years.

A number of major capital works projects have been completed in the ward over this time. These included Andersons Creek basketball stadium; skate park at Warrandyte Recreation Reserve; upgrade of Wonga Park; cricket pavilion; new integrated child care facility at Wonga Park; Colman Park cricket club upgrade; funds towards Mechanics Hall refurbishment; Warrandyte e-library; Federation playspace at Warrandyte; Wonga Park BMX dirt track.

I also helped frame the Green Wedge

and heritage strategies, now approved by state government.

I opposed many inappropriate requests for planning permits within the ward. I had the \$50 charge for a burning-off permit dropped.

Since the year 2000, \$26.93 million has been spent in Mullum Mullum Ward on capital works and refurbishment.

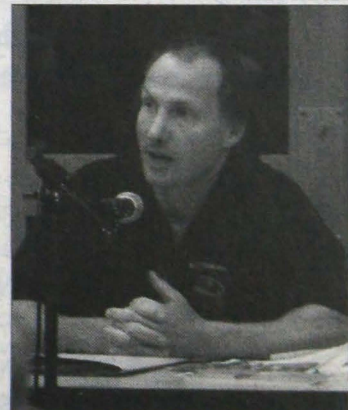
Another \$5.29 million is in the budget for capital works in the ward for 2005-06.

Some of the major planning I have been involved with—where residents should see some results over coming years—are the River Reserve management plan; Warrandyte urban design; Park Orchards BMX/Manningham slipping track clubrooms; removal of unnecessary signage; Park Orchards shopping centre upgrade; improved parking in Park Orchards tennis precinct and much more.

If elected again, I will continue fighting against inappropriate development, for more funding in the years to come for upgrading and safety features on our roads, upgrading of underground drainage in Donvale and Doncaster East, more support for our neighbourhood houses in Park Orchards, Warrandyte and Wonga Park.

I will continue to look for a suitable location for retirement units in Warrandyte for residents who want to "downsize" and not leave the area. I will look at providing more recreation amenities for our youth. I will make sure council reserves are better managed, with particular regard to the eradication of weeds and removal of fallen dead material.

RAYMOND HOSER



I have lived in Manningham for 16 years. I am married with two daughters, a Great Dane and 50 snakes (three of them pregnant).

Professionally, I'm a zoologist and wildlife demonstrator. I have authored several best-selling books (including "Victoria Police Corruption") and own a company with diverse interests and several staff.

A vote for me is a vote for accountability in council. The culture will not be that of dictating to ratepayers, but one of listening to them.

I will abolish ratepayer-funded overseas travel, reduce council's promotional advertising, ratepayer-funded booze-ups and silver service dinners and other non-essential services and use these savings to properly fund aged-care, public safety, the environment and childcare, all of which remain underfunded.

Rates will be cut, if possible. I guarantee to protect the environment and the Green Wedge, including removing restrictions on the removal of feral weeds. We need someone with my integrity and track record to oversee council's operations.

In terms of Warrandyte, I make the following commitments:

● Immediately increase funding to the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House and the associated child care centre. The money council is holding at present is trivial compared to the vast amounts wasted elsewhere.

● Bring a library, a real library with books (yes, real books!) to Warrandyte. Warrandyte's children and elderly are being unfairly deprived by the present lack of facilities.

● Stop the relentless, extortionate rate rises being imposed against home owners, who do not ask for their money to be spent on a steady stream of glossy leaflets extolling the virtues of council and the like.

● Services to all Manningham ratepayers, in particular those of our area—Mullum Mullum—can be greatly improved and on substantially lower rates than are currently being extracted from property owners.

RON KITCHINGMAN

I certainly see the need to encourage the building of a retirement village within the Warrandyte township. I believe that residents who choose to move to a retirement village prefer to remain within their local area so as to maintain contact with existing friends and the services they have been used to—doctors, chemists, etc.

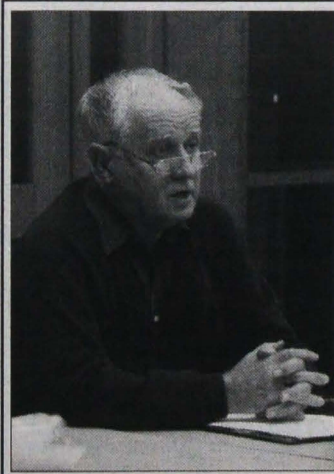
Some of the other tasks that I would seek to achieve would include the continuation of the improvement of traffic and parking conditions within the township. I will consult with the residents, traders and local police in an effort to alleviate problems.

I am concerned with aspects of dense development which have caused concern in other parts of Manningham. I assure you that I will be vigilant in ensuring that no changes are made to the current protection that Warrandyte has.


In the same manner, I will ensure that the current policy with regard to the Green Wedge is adhered to.

Aged services must be maintained and made available to local residents. Many of these services can be provided to the resident in their home. I would ensure that services that are made available are extensively advertised so local residents are aware of the services to which they are entitled.

And, of course, I will seek maximum funding for the maintenance and improvement of government roads.



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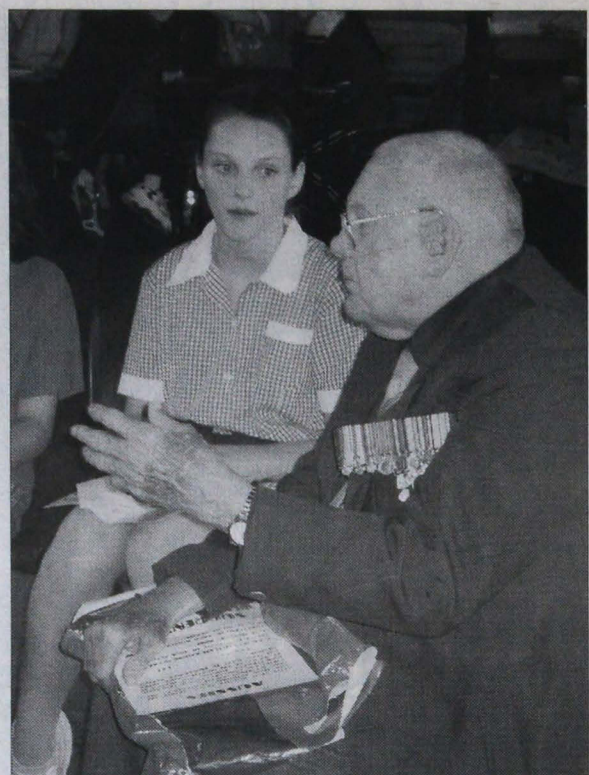
SHOP LOCALLY

"What did you do in the war, Mr Burles?"

The kids at Warrandyte Primary School gained some idea of the horrors of war when Murray Burles, federal president of the Rats of Tobruk Association, spoke to them last month. The presentation was part of the school's celebration of Democracy Week.

"The aim of the day was to enable students to have a better understanding of Australia's involvement in World War 2 and appreciate the sacrifices made," principal Gill Binger told the *Diary*.

Year 6 students will attend a special ceremony at the Shrine of Remembrance next month to dedicate a tree and a plaque to commemorate the Rats of Tobruk.



School captain Emily listens entranced as Murray Burles tells of his wartime experiences.



Keeping the oldies' beer cold...

Warrandyte Senior Citizens' Club received cold comfort from the local branch of the Bendigo Community Bank last month, when manager Mark Challen presented them with a new refrigerator. Pictured at left is Mark, accepting thanks from club president Margaret Golding. Margaret Perrow appears to be quite chuffed as well. Mr Challen told members that the bank was pleased to be able to help groups like the Warrandyte seniors.

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ginkgo **NOVEMBER LIVE MUSIC GUIDE**

FRID 11TH LA KASBAH

Oud player/Singer Brahim Benhim is considered to be Melbourne's foremost traditional Moroccan musician and heads this sensational groove band 'La Kasbah.'

8pm. Cover charge \$15/\$12

SUN 13TH NOUGAT

Melbourne based duo Nougat combine the talents of guitarist and composer Tania Ravbar Costantino and Master Mandolinist Ruth Roshan to capture a rare beauty and versatility of mandolin and guitar instrumental music, incorporating 'World' and 'Classical' elements with colourful inspirations from the South Americas.

7pm. Cover Charge \$12/\$10.

FRID 18TH SUNGA

Three Samoan women explore the musical essence of Polynesia, bringing together their unique instrumentation, soaring vocals and funky clap dances to create a truly unforgettable experience.

8pm. Cover Charge \$15/\$12

Triskel are three of Melbourne's local and renowned 'Irish Session' Musicians, performing potent, lively tunes from the Irish, Breton and Scottish tradition.

7pm. Cover Charge \$12/\$10

SUN 20TH TRISKEL

FRID 25TH SAFARA

Gambian Master Drummer 'King Marong' and band 'Safara' perform wonderfully electric Senegambian ceremonial songs and dances, incorporating traditional West African instrumentation and fabulous traditional costumes.

8pm. Cover Charge \$15/\$12

SUN 27TH 'LOCAL BEATS' NIGHT W/ DJs 'BELICIOUS' & 'ROOTSIFY'

7PM. Cover Charge \$6

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How green is their vineyard

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

A Wonga Park family is re-siting the location of their new house to protect a 250 year-old messmate tree—possibly the biggest in Manningham—after they attended a property management planning course run by Manningham council.

"There's a huge messmate right in the middle of the five acres where we were going to build our new house," said Phil Kelly, 35, who attended the course with his wife Jenny. "The bulldozer couldn't push it over in 1935 when they were clearing the property. But we need to be conscious of changing conditions for the tree and how water will get to it so we'll move where we put the house."

Phil said the management course is for people who have land in Green Wedge areas or on the skirts of them. "It's an opportunity to learn the best ways of managing our land, remnant bush and waterways; to manage what we have. The issues are more than weeds and erosion. It's how to regenerate and revegetate the existing bush and create biodiversity."

He said landowners of 13 local properties attended the eight-week course, hosted by Lyn Meredith, Cathy Willis and Glen Jameson. "It was tremendous, inspiring. All the guest speakers were so passionate. I was quietly concerned about how things were going but now I'm telling everyone else. It's a case of all jumping into it and spreading the word."

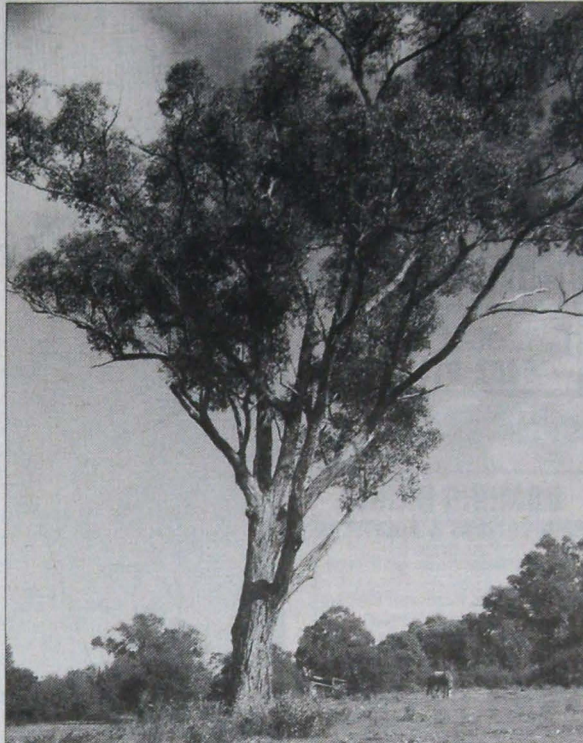
"Lyn and Glen came out and walked the property and identified what species we had. Together we marked all the indigenous species and weeds and made a plan for eradication. It's

not a case of pulling things out or spraying but an overall management strategy. We'll do it again in a couple of years, a refresher. We don't want to lose touch and we'd like an audit on our progress. Lyn and Glen are addictive and passionate—they're living what they're preaching.

"It was insightful to me having grown up on the land where I saw bush as just an area that wasn't a paddock. It's sustainable living, like retrofitting an existing house. You do what you can with what you've got. For example, taking water off the roofs, harvesting resources, minimising wastage, insulation, heating and cooling. We're about to build a house and we'll incorporate all these ideas to minimise energy requirements—maximising winter sun and eliminating summer sun using the principles of thermal mass—dense, rammed earth internal walls for winter sun which heats the walls which then release the heat to keep the house warm."

Phil said there was an awful lot of weeds everywhere on their 10 acres, but by fencing off the bush, its original form and nature will return. "All the individual flora and fauna; the sugar gliders will come back, all the birds, echidnas and kangaroos if you've got the space. We'll get rid of predators like foxes, and the rabbits, who eat all the leafy things. We've got really excited with what we have."

The property is adjacent to Kellybrook Winery and the Kellys and their two sons are part of the cider and wine-making family. "We've got 10 acres with a big dam, two acres of vines, about the same in bush and about five acres of grazing,



The Kellys' ancient messmate.

with one or two horses. The grassy valley bush ranges from quite good quality to fairly low grade where it's been partly grazed. We'll fence it off and regenerate.

"We're nurturing areas we would normally let go. Better bushland, spread seed, increase bush areas and we'll be dropping grazing to virtually nothing once my old horse moves on. Our neighbour is revegetating her paddocks, turning it back into bush. She's striking plants from seed and that will help us."

Phil described his property management plan as comprehensive and all-encompassing, with timelines and measurable outcomes and the Kellys presented their plan to the class as did all others on the course. "We're collapsing rabbit burrows and continuing the Pindone programme which we've done for years. We've got one fox who finds life's good when we net the vines and he gets under the netting and catches the Indian mynahs."

The Manningham program may also be contributing to the way Kellybrook is managed, Phil having studied wine science which included viticulture. "We're winding off our watering regime to purely on-requirement rather than 14 or 10 day sprays. We use dam water, probably at the end of November and generally early Feb-

ruary when the veraison kicks in, when the grapes start to turn colour," he said.

"We never turn the soil over and we have no erosion issues. We'd ideally go organic—the cabernet grapes could cope but the soft-skin varieties would suffer—and we're using integrated pest management, using beneficial bugs to munch on the baddies. We don't have a problem with spray drift as we spray when there's a light crosswind blowing into the vineyard. We can't live in a perfect world but we can live in peaceful co-existence."

Phil said the property management course cost only \$60 because it was heavily subsidised by Manningham. "People should do the course, the more the better; I'd recommend it to anyone. It's very important and those guys are tremendously positive. So many people have the time and money to make a difference to the whole area. If the guy next door doesn't give a damn and keeps growing weeds it's so much harder. You can't work in isolation."

"We're much more aware. We would have had an exotic garden and we'll now have an indigenous, low-water one. It's a big swing for us. Living on the land there's a certain benefit from the space but this has brought a joy and connection and a reason to be there. We're custodians after all."

Green Wedge skills

Residents interested in protecting the Green Wedge are invited to attend a free training seminar in November, as part of Manningham council's environment and community development program.

The course has been developed by Dr Anthony Hooper, who has extensive experience in assisting communities to address local issues such as vegetation loss, protecting waterways and raising community awareness about conservation and land management issues.

"This course is for people who are keen to develop their expertise in addressing important conservation issues including community capacity building, identifying and addressing issues of concern in local areas, developing action plans and community projects, and building skills in communication, media relations, facilitation and group management," Dr Hooper told the *Diary*.

"These sessions also provide an excellent chance to meet like-minded people in the community and build a network to deal effectively with local issues."

The seminar will be held on Saturday, November 12, between 10am and 4pm at the Andersons Creek Primary School.

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be provided. Free child care will be available.

For bookings or further information, phone Bruce Paton on 9840 9173, or email bruce.paton@manningham.vic.gov.au.

School kids read their way to glory

The boys and girls of Warrandyte are upholding the reputation set by their parents as Australia's most avid readers of books. (In 1997, the Weekend Australian reported that Warrandyte had the greatest number of potential book buyers per capita in the country.)

Almost 1000 books have been read by Warrandyte school children as part of the Premier's Reading Challenge

according to Danielle Green, MP for Yan Yean.

Last month, Ms Green presented children at Warrandyte Primary School, Anderson's Creek Primary School and Warrandyte High School with individual certificates signed by the premier, Steve Bracks, and applauded their outstanding efforts.

"For the children of Warrandyte to have read nearly 1000 books as part of the Premier's

Garden waste reduction

Manningham council is assisting residents within fire-prone areas to engage in fuel reduction by offering a free disposal service each Sunday for a period of six weeks prior to the fire danger period.

Residents living within Warrandyte, Warrandyte South, Wonga Park, Park Orchards and Donvale areas are eligible for free vouchers to dispose of green or dry clean wood and branches to a maximum of 100mm diameter.

"Only clean green wastes will be accepted. Residents should check the requirements of the Manningham planning scheme if they are unaware of the provisions relating to tree-pruning," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

"Contaminated and mixed loads of waste will not be accepted at the site."

The green waste can be disposed of at the waste mulching service at Tikalara Waste Service Centre, corner of Blackburn and Websters Roads, with entry via the Websters Road entrance. (Melway Ref 34 D2).

This free service will only operate between 9am and 3pm, Sunday, November 6 until December 11, inclusive.

To obtain a voucher, please contact council on 9840 9333 or your local CFA fire brigade.

Reading Challenge is a truly outstanding effort," she said.

"When I visited all three schools to promote the challenge and donated a book to the school libraries, I hoped at least a few students would take part.

"My hopes were exceeded dramatically, with 78 local children successfully completing the challenge and no doubt many more who gave it a shot or read the books but didn't

get their entries completed.

"Although this year's reading challenge was open for children in Years 3 to 9, I think there are also likely to be many younger children who joined in with older siblings and got into the spirit of the challenge.

"I have written to the premier and asked him to next year include children in Prep and Years 1 and 2, which he has agreed is a good idea."



Autism

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Please call Karen on 0438 22 3335 or email kbautpar@aol.com for further information.

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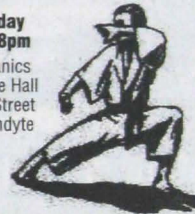
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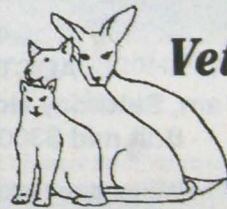
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LIVING SMART... LIVING HEALTHY

Manningham residents and groups are invited to attend a FREE educational seminar, in a series being run by Council, called Living Smart...Living Healthy: Sustainable Living at Home Made Easy.

The sessions will feature expert speakers, who will equip residents with the knowledge and know-how to live sustainably by making positive changes to their budget, family, health and the environment.

When: Wednesday Nov 9th, 16th, 23rd & 30th and Dec 7th & 14th.

Time: 7pm until 9pm

Where: Warrandyte Primary School

FREE childcare and supper will be provided and attendees will enter into a draw to win:

- Free accommodation at Aquila Mount Abrupt Eco Lodges.
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For more information contact Bruce Paton, on ph. 9840 9173 or email: bruce.paton@manningham.vic.gov.au

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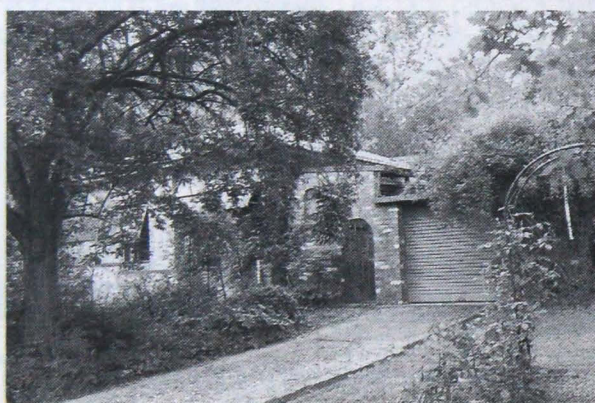


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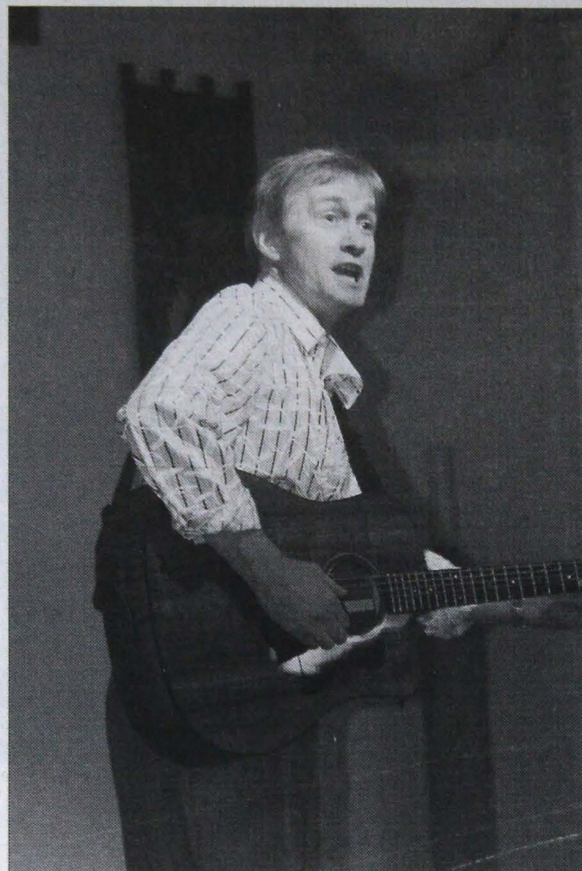
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A rooster in your peace garden: Alan Cornell at the Uniting Church concert. (Picture by Alan King)

**Building
a wall for
peace**

Early last month, a number of locals contributed their talents to a concert at the Deep Creek Uniting Church in support of the Warrandyte Uniting Church's Peace Wall project.

The concert showcased a wide variety of vocal, dance and musical acts.

A church spokesperson told the *Diary*, "The creation of a mosaic peace wall, to be made from handmade tiles that incorporate messages of peace, is the first stage of the church's vision to create an area for reflection and peace around the church that will be open and welcoming to any community members.

Proceeds from the concert will bring the Peace Wall project closer to fruition.

● A fund-raising event for the peace wall and garden will be held at the Warrandyte Uniting Church on Saturday, November 19 at 8pm. Guest speaker will be Bev Hanson who will speak on designing a native garden. Supper included.

**Play finds
laughs in
'accident'**

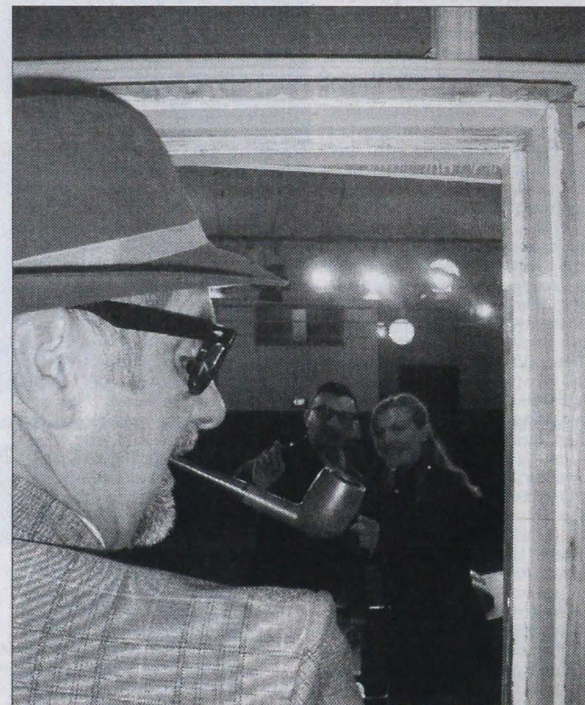
The Warrandyte Theatre Company is presenting Dario Fo's comedy *Accidental Death of an Anarchist* for six nights, later this month and early in December.

Written in 1970, the play is based on true events that occurred just one year earlier, when a young anarchist was arrested for a Milan bank bombing. After four days of interrogation, he "fell" out of a fourth floor window.

"The play reveals the hypocrisy and ineptitude of the police, as they struggle to assemble—and re-assemble—a plausible chain of events," director Matt Moran told the *Diary*.

Accidental Death of an Anarchist will be performed at the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute Hall on November 24, 25, 26 and December 1, 2 and 3.

Tickets are \$15 and \$10, and can be booked at the Old Bakery Bookshop in Yarra Street, by phoning 9844 1744, or purchased at the door.



Adrian Rice, Graham Whiteside and Simone Keifer rehearsing *The Accidental Death of an Anarchist*. (Picture by Ian Craig)

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Carolyn Noel (far left) and Chris Beyni ARBIAS co-ordinator (second from right) with some of the "Creative path to self esteem" artists.

Finding paths to self esteem through art

Warrandyte's Community Centre has a new attraction—a three metre high mosaic beside the front door. Entitled "Running upside down" the mural was designed and created by artists from the "Creative paths to self esteem" program.

This innovative program teaches a variety of art techniques to people with acquired brain injury and has been running at Warrandyte's Neighbourhood House for three years.

Carolyn Noel, the program's facilitator, believes it produces positive results for the participants. "We are trying to give them something that is purposeful and meaningful to do and through that to raise their self-esteem," she told the *Diary*.

Funding for the mosaic came from a Manningham council community development grant.

Members of the "Creative paths to self esteem" group also have other art works on sale inside the community centre. Carolyn Noel sees this display as a significant event for her group of artists. "One of the most important things for me is that people with any kind of mental illness or problem should be seen as a normal, useful member of the community.

That's why it is important for me to get their work into a public forum, so that people can see that they are still working hard, trying hard and fitting in and doing purposeful, meaningful things," she told the *Diary*. The art show continues until November 11.

Words and pictures by SANDY BURGOYNE



Jock Macneish accepts the "Running upside down" mosaic on behalf of the Warrandyte Community Centre.



Cr Pat Young congratulates one of the artists.

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John & Lillian,
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Dear Russell, Vicki and staff,
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We've sold a number of properties across Melbourne and found many agents promised the world and failed to deliver..

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Jeff & Lisa, Warrandyte North

Dear Vicki and Russell,
I couldn't be happier with the price you achieved for my home and to think you found a buyer in less than two weeks. The whole process was hassle free, from the home stylist and photographer to the inspections. We've loved the years we spent in our Warrandyte home and know that you've found a family who will enjoy it as much as we have. We wouldn't hesitate to recommend you to other Warrandyte families.

Pam, Warrandyte



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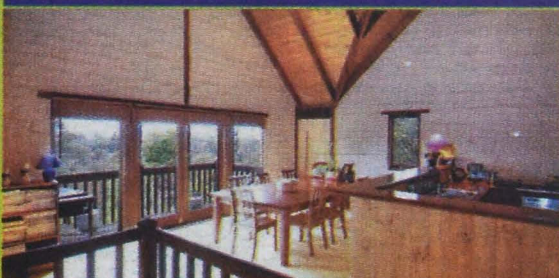
North facing 4BR family home, elevated to capture beautiful bush views. Fml lounge/dining, kitchen/meals, sep family living area. Dbl garage.



warrandyte north private sale buyer enquiry range \$460k-\$510k

"show me the muddy"

3BR + study (suit 4th BR) mudbrick family home on approx 1/2 acre, features cathedral ceilings, open plan kitchen/lounge/dining, separate upstairs family living area opening to balcony.



warrandyte north tender closes 5pm tuesday 8 november unless sold prior buyer enquiry range \$480k-\$530k

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Picturesque Michael Young mudbrick home featuring 4 bedrooms, open plan kitchen/meals/family with rich jarrah benchtops, separate lounge/dining. Double carport & workshop.



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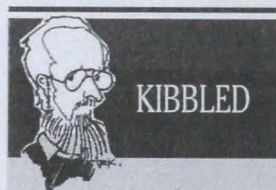
TOKYO, Paris, London and Warrandyte. These are the places that automatically spring to mind when you mention the word "traffic". Tokyo has 23 million inhabitants and they all seem to be in their cars and on the street at any given time. This is despite the fact that you cannot buy a car in Tokyo unless you can present countless documents proving that you have off-road parking for your vehicle at home.

As a result of the bulk of traffic needing to use the roads, Tokyo is a spaghetti pasta dish of fly-overs, underpasses, tunnels, dual highways, one-way streets and congested boulevards.

There is one central thoroughfare that, by virtue of its position, would be naturally congested but driving frustration is made even worse by the fact that they are building the duplicate of this main road directly underground. When it's finished it will halve the traffic congestion—but not yet! At the moment, for several kilometres, half of the road is cordoned off whilst building is under way.

"Reasonable," I hear you say but I have forgotten to mention that the drilling and building has been going on for 20 years with an anticipated 10 to go. It's like imagining St Kilda Road being in permanent "Grand Prix around Albert Park Lake" congestion for 30 years.

Narita Airport is well out of Tokyo. To get there, it's best to take the 40-minute shuttle bus



"Driving frustration is made even worse by the fact that they are building the duplicate of this main road directly underground."

ride from the bus depot, situated at the Tokyo end of the expressway. That's a doddle but to get to the bus depot by car is more problematic.

We did the normal subtraction sums about time. Plane leaves at 9pm. Need to get to airport at 6.30. Get to the bus depot at 5.45, so when should we leave for the depot?

In Melbourne, the equivalent distance would be from Warrandyte to Shoppingtown. Twenty minutes, half an hour? "I left it a bit late yesterday

and got caught in the before peak-hour traffic. Better leave at 3pm so we avoid the worst of it." Herself and I shared raised eyebrows.

I watched the GPS as we drove through Tokyo.

"What are those red flashing lines along the streets on the screen?"

"Shows streets that are very busy."

As we sat opposite the Emperor's Palace, in what I imagined was a traffic jam, the GPS showed all the surrounding streets as flashingly chockers. What I thought to be the equivalent of the peak hour Monash car park, was registering our road on the GPS as an unvehicled country lane.

I looked across the 100 metre wide moat to the enormous bluestone block wall that encircles the emperor's gardens. Here, in the middle of Tokyo, where a square metre of land costs the GNP of Australia, is an area the size of Melbourne's CBD with nary a flashing red line in sight. "Now that's a Green Wedge", I thought to myself as we finally turned into an only slightly less frenetic side street.

"Well, 55 minutes. Not bad, eh! Yesterday, pre-peak hour, it took me an hour and a half. You can see why we don't even consider it in peak hour."

As we sat in the peace of the shuttle bus, I thought back to our stay in Paris and my short experience of Parisian driving.

We had picked up the hire car at the Louvre. We thought we were clever hiring it from a de-

pot that was nice and central, however, we hadn't computed into the equation—an unknown car, manual gears, different side of the road, one-way streets, inadequate hire cars maps that don't show one-way streets, inability to drive up the exhaust pipe of the car in front, our unwillingness to drive in lanes half the width of our car and the fact that the French don't believe in confusing drivers by painting lane indicators on the roads, especially around multi-lane roundabouts like Concorde and the Arc de Triomphe.

After half an hour's driving, I heard what I didn't want to hear.

"Unless you can cross these three lanes of traffic in the next 50 metres, we'll have to turn right and we'll be back at the Louvre."

Instantly, I became Parisian. I turned on the indicator as a minor concession to tradition, held my hand on the horn, threw my left hand in the air in a Gallic sort of way, shrugged visibly and regularly and barged.

I was rather pleased that I was treated like a native. I was thrown insults, kisses and blaring horns. On that occasion, it only took us an hour to escape central Paris.

Back in Melbourne, we drove home along eerily empty streets. The following day, I began complaining when I was held up for two minutes at a bridge.

Inevitably, traffic angst is relative.

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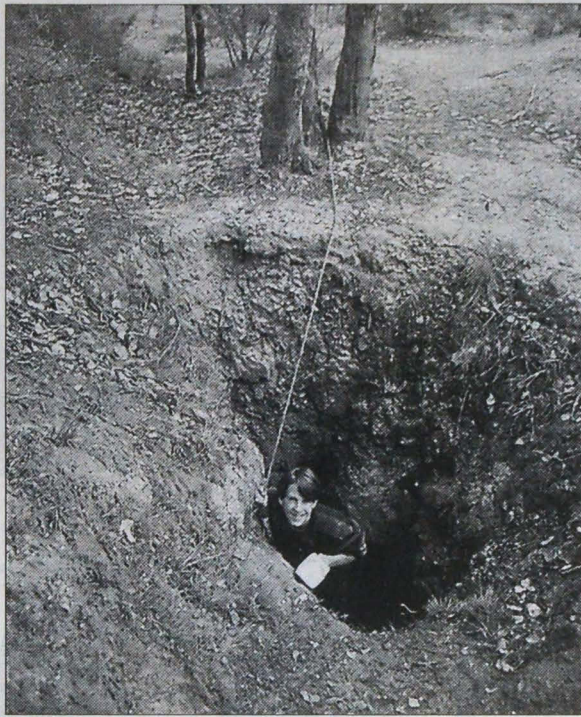
MOUNTED on my wall is a copy of an old black and white photograph taken around the turn of the century at Anderson's Creek. The photograph is of six men and a dog. One of the men is mounted on horseback and is dressed formally in a suit, the others are wearing work clothes. Behind them is a mountainous jumble of rocks and rubble. The men are gold miners.

Examining their weather-worn faces I often wonder about the lives of these miners and their families. Was it all worth the effort? Where did they go when the gold ran out? I become immersed in my imagination. It's always the same. When I visit museums and browse old photographs, something happens to my sense of time. It's unsettling—a reminder of my own mortality, I suppose, like looking at grave-stones.

While natural history is my passion, I also have a fascination with human history. When living in Ringwood I would frequently take the 10 minute drive down the road to Warrandyte. I became familiar with the historic sites like the Pound Bend Tunnel and the mines of Fourth Hill and Whipstick Gully. Sometimes I followed the self-guided walk at Black Flat past the old boiler, the remains of the puddling machine and the collapsed Calcedonian mine.

When I moved to Warrandyte in the mid-1980s, the gold history took on a new meaning. Now these relics were where I lived and I was showing them to others as if somehow they were my own.

Geraghty's mine on Fourth Hill was always a favourite. So accessible. You could walk



nearly 100 metres into the hillside along the tunnel carved through solid rock. A good torch was essential as once the circle of light at the entrance receded and finally disappeared it was pitch dark inside the tunnel. The further in you went, the quicker the heart pounded. We took a visiting professor from England down there—the tunnel turned him into a child again, such was his excitement. Geraghty's was like that.

Exploring these places was a great adventure for our kids and their friends. And it was on

one such occasion that our son Ross—a teenager at the time—made a remarkable discovery. Wandering through the bush at Black Flat he found a hole in the ground and went to investigate. A few days later, armed with a rope and a torch, he showed me what he had found.

Hidden away in Burgan shrubland, the "hole" was not visible from the track. Ross had told me to wear old clothes and it was soon apparent why. We tied the rope securely around the base of a eucalypt tree and holding onto it for guidance, squeezed past a large overhang-

NATURE

By PAT COUPAR

ing rock and lowered ourselves into the hole. Only a few metres below we dropped down onto the powdery dirt floor of a narrow passage which we followed for a short distance.

Whatever I had expected it was not this. The passage opened up into a large room with row upon row of perfectly preserved T-shaped pit props made from the local timber. Incredibly the room was intact, the only thing was, it was tilted on a 45 degree angle. Shining the torch around the walls and roof revealed a stratified pattern of ochre sandstone through which ran thin rivers of quartz—the gold-bearing rock.

Before leaving, I stood immobile for a moment's reflection. The air was cold inside the room. The silence and stillness profound. Emerging again above ground, dirty and disheveled, I knew that what I had experienced down there was something special. Something I would not forget.

That was 1993. Today a solid metal grille covers the hole on Black Flat and others like it on Fourth Hill. The great Geraghty's tunnel is now enshrined behind a solid metal gate, likewise the shorter more modest Victory mine at Whipstick Gully.

Sadly, teenagers today must find adventure elsewhere, following other "safer" pursuits or remain indoors in front of a computer screen playing with virtual reality. The era of exploration and discovery in the hills of Warrandyte is gone. The age of risk assessment, health and safety, litigation and paranoia is here.

How do your weeds grow?

TURN your back for five minutes and hasn't the grass grown? I swear it was knee-high to a grasshopper only two weeks ago. Now it's bellybutton-high to a Tyrannosaurus Rex. (I know T. Rex doesn't have a belly button, but what else can you call that spot in the middle of his tummy?) Goodness knows what's hiding out there.

School biology lessons gave the distinct impression that the miracle of photosynthesis was a slowly delicate process. Hours of sunlight and copious quantities of water and nutrients seemed to be required to produce each new leaf.

We observed sprouting seeds unerringly send their tiny roots downwards. Incipient shoots knew instinctively whether to wend their way monocotyledonous or dicotyledonous, clockwise or anticlockwise, in the manner inherited from millennia of antecedents. All this happened almost imperceptibly until time-lapse film techniques brought the wonder of it up to speed.

Even at nature's own pace, the wonder of it has inspired countless sonnets and poems over

OUR PLACE

By MARILYN MOORE

the centuries. The symmetry of nature is a remarkably beautiful thing. Every school kid, of my era anyhow, would have recited (to within an inch of its life) Blake's immortal lines: "Tyger! Tyger! Burning bright/ In the forests of the night./ What immortal hand or eye/Dare frame thy fearful symmetry?"

But it is asymmetry that fascinates even more. From Jonson and Shakespeare ("... So doth the woodbine the sweet honeysuckle gently entwine ...") to the ditties of Flanders & Swan ("... Said the right-handed Honeysuckle/ To the left-handed Bindweed:/ 'Oh let us get married/ If our parents don't mind, we'd/ Be loving and inseparable./ Inextricably entwined ...'"), people have written reams over the fact that some vines always coil clockwise while others invariably coil anticlockwise.

I blame Martin Gardner for my obsession with the whys and

wherefores of the natural world. I first read one of his books when I was still at high school ("The Ambidextrous Universe: Left, Right and the Fall of Parity") and it was something of a revelation. There was a whole world out there, in fact there had been for centuries, of people who saw things, knew things and understood things vastly more interesting than anything we ever learned about in school. How come Ben Jonson, three and a half centuries earlier, not only knew stuff that our teachers didn't but could write eloquent poetry about it?

Having said all that, the jungle at our place doesn't seem to fit into this elegaic picture. The seemingly overnight invasion of pesky weeds is more like a time-lapse horror video on fast forward than an exhibition of the delicate budding of nature. And it certainly hasn't inspired any poetic thoughts beyond a few non-rhyming and unprintable adjectives.

How can one wax lyrical over massive uprisings of pittosporum, cotoneaster, sallow wattle, agapanthus, ivy (I don't stop to look at which way

the blessed thing coils up the tree trunks!), blackberries and those awful pink lilies that are almost impossible to dig out? Not to mention the ubiquitous onion weed and oxalis that arrived out of nowhere a few years ago and now think they own the place.

The tenacity of these invaders never ceases to amaze me. It's not as if we've got any soil to speak of. A few weeks ago I transplanted 15 Prostanthera seedlings from where they'd sprouted in my mother's driveway to the sheltered groves of our hillside. For even the tiniest little plants that needed a hole in the ground only a few inches deep, a crow-bar was required to make any headway beyond the top centimetre or two. I crushed the extracted rock with the head of the crow-bar before packing it back around the poor little plants in their new holes, and found myself apologizing to them. Apologising, and pointing out the inspirational manner in which some nearby blackberries were dealing with the conditions.

Resilience is clearly the name of the game up here. Nothing ambidextrous about that!

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Along my meandering trail

As I wander
the winding roads of Warrandyte,
there's a certain path I follow—
a meandering trail
where I escape the traffic noise and
daily busyness
and sink into the serenity of the
bush.

And as I turn
a particular bend,
I hear her friendly greeting
as she dances
down the stony driveway
to meet me.

I remember the first time I heard
her,
but couldn't see
her black shape . . .
'the ferocious monster'
lurking somewhere
behind the bushes.

Then finally she emerged
from a row of bottlebrush,
even then,
our first meeting,
the wagging tail belied
the 'menacing' bark.

I came to know her as 'Molly'
who, on all but the coldest winter
mornings,
(where I suspect she remains curled
in some cosy spot)
greet me with that welcome
and loving persona,
and we share a cuddle at the
bottom of her master's driveway
in the middle of my meandering
trail.

Her muzzle is flecked with grey
and
she half hobbles,
half bounces ahead
of me —
joyous in leading the way.

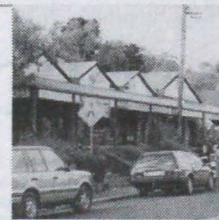
When she has come far enough
I say 'Go back now Molly; home you go.'
But it's always a little further on before she is waylaid
by some tantalising smell, and it's in this moment
I take my leave and move speedily ahead,
silently wishing her a safe journey home.

And hoping
that Molly
will be there waiting for me
the next time
I pass this way,
along my meandering trail.

CORINNE FENTON



MOLLY CUDDLE...



September 2005

Key Decisions

*These are some of the
decisions made by
Council on Tuesday
20 September 2005.*

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

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

Environment (natural, built and cultural)

Issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit at 5 Dering Street, Diamond Creek, for the development of the land for a second dwelling; and at 170 Skyline Road, Christmas Hills, for buildings and works for the purpose of a maintenance facility associated with the Henley Golf Course; both applications are subject to conditions.

Advise the Tribunal that if a review had not been sought it would have issued a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit to the land at 320 Hurstbridge-Arthurs Creek Road, Nutfield for a change of use from an education centre to shared housing subject to conditions.

Seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare a planning scheme amendment to rezone the CFA Reserve at 834 Hurstbridge-Arthurs Creek Road from Rural Conservation Zone Schedule 3 to Public Use Zone Schedule 7; and upon receipt of authorisation, prepare the planning scheme amendment and place it on public exhibition.

Adopted Amendment C30, Rezoning at 51 Railway Parade, Eltham and referred the Amendment to the Minister for Planning for approval.

Seek Ministerial authorisation to prepare Amendment C25 to the Nillumbik Planning Scheme; dealing with a number of minor matters but principally removing compulsory land acquisition overlay, from land now owned by Parks Vic and on receipt of authorisation, prepare and place the Amendment on public exhibition.

Delegate authority to the CEO to sign and affix Council's Common Seal to the Best Practice Kerbside Recycling Program formal instrument of agreement between Council and EcoRecycle Victoria.

Entered into a contract for a kerbside hard waste collection service.

Health and wellbeing

Presented Sporting and Cultural Achievement Grants to Rochelle Hammond, for her participation in the Victorian under 14 Girls Hockey team; and Brigitte Detoma, Carli Norma, Johanna Young and Alex Smith for their participation in the School Sport Victoria 2005 Girls Volleyball Team.

Community Assets

Adopted the Anti-Graffiti Policy, the Amended Road Management Plan and the BMX Jump and Mountain Bike Track Policy.

Declared a Special Charge for the purpose of constructing Ashley and Eisemens Roads, Yarrambat.

Entered into a Licence Agreement with the Minister for Education enabling Council to occupy the former Diamond Valley Secondary College site at Greys Harps Road, Hurstbridge for a rental of \$1.00 for 12 months; and to affix Council's common seal to the Licence Agreement.

Governance and community engagement

Approved the Community Grants 2005-2006 and resolved to review community grants programs by February 2006.

Dick isn't just beetling along!

A RARE Queensland rainforest beetle, of which only four specimens have been found, has been named after Warrandyte entomologist Dick Davies as part of a national award for leadership in business innovation. Dick, 59, won the Eureka Award from the Australian Museum in Sydney, an honour which doesn't carry a cash prize but there's now a beetle, a golden leaf insect, called *macrolema dickdaviesi*.

In 1994 the Australian Mineral Industries Research Association, an organisation for the mining and associated industries in research and development, was a non-profit, industry-based, national research broker. Dick built AMIRA from a national organisation into an international one, using the best researchers from Australia and around the world. The organisation now has worldwide clients with 60 company members and about \$45 million invested in 60 research projects.

"AMIRA was an Australian body but I made it an international organisation and brought lots of international money into Australia," Dick said. "I'm an internationalist rather than a small town thinker."

Dick came to Warrandyte in 1976, working for ICI in Croydon at a research centre where he was "very pleased to work with John Landy," who is Victoria's current governor. "I was an entomologist, developing ways of killing insect pests." He'd met his wife Jan, a geneticist with the National Institute of Clinical Studies and their boys Sam and Tom went to Warrandyte primary and then Eltham College.

He was a candidate for the ALP in Warrandyte but he wasn't involved in party politics. "Warrandyte was a strong branch in those days. I gave the education minister Norman Lacy a run for his money." He said he wasn't big on the factional side of politics, more a consensus person. He was also a member of the Warrandyte Environment League, a board member of the community co-op and a founding president of the advisory committee.

"The Environment League came and went, the advisory committee came and went and the community association will hopefully achieve a few things before it's replaced. It's all run on goodwill, to preserve what we like, it wouldn't be much of a place if all the trees were cut down," he said.

"The issues with WEL were much the same as they are now—developing the Green Wedge, environmental issues, over-development, roads and traffic. The issues don't change. As Cliff Green said, 'the community went to sleep for a while' before the community association was formed, I think because

VILLAGE PEOPLE

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

people had other interests and wanted to do other things. I've tried to retain the character of the place and we all have to play a part in doing that."

Dick's also remembered for organising an activity group for children in the 1980s. "My wife was very involved with the Warrandyte festival and one of the rangers suggested a night bush walk. There were all these kids running around, too noisy, and I said 'we'd better do something to look after all these little buggers.' So we formed the Little Buggas Club—we had to spell it with an 'a'. They collected insects, panned for gold and looked for aboriginal artifacts. There are plenty of people in the Warrandyte community with expertise in various interests," he said.

Dick grew up in Cardiff in South Wales and came to Australia in his mid-20s, having been on short trips to Saudi Arabia and South Africa as a biologist with the Anti-Locust Research Centre, developing techniques with the CSIRO to control locust plagues. He's been back to Britain often, once for several years managing various global organisations in the worldwide development of new chemicals for insects and fungicidal control, particularly insects that were resistant to new products. There three weeks ago, he caught up with his first boss who is 84 and "I still have two sisters and a great tribe there".

The Davies returned to Warrandyte in 1986, where Dick worked with ICI at Ascot Vale as manager of a biological laboratory in synthetic chemicals and biotechnology. He then spent three years in Canberra heading the Grains Research and Development Corporation, a statutory authority carrying out research into the grain industry. "I was particularly pleased with the grain organisation as a lot of things are still in place now, 12 years later. I work in a collaborative way—in the research projects with grasshoppers I was working with the UK, the United Nations and all that, and with various companies, agricultural departments and the wheat board. Linking technical people and commercial interests for the common good.

"In technical parlance I'm a resource investigator. I pull people together to make a group to do something, making the links. I've always thought it something everybody could do, but Louise Joy said it was something only I did."

He's set up his own company, CEO



Partnerships, as a consultant assisting people set up public and private partnerships and private funding for public sector research. He's also started Executive Renaissance, for those not formerly students of history and with no time now for study or a PhD, introducing industry executives to renaissance history.

"I was always into that era and in school 100 years ago I was quite good at art so I did my O levels a couple of years early and I had to study the theory topic 'Italian Renaissance' which was hard to do by myself," he said.

"I ran a pilot recently on Machiavelli, a talk over dinner. How do these issues relate to common business practice at the moment? We have guests like a former prime minister, a South African soldier, any senior executives or CEOs that we think would be interested. We invited various people for a dinner and formal lecture, a review of the person and Machiavellian times.

"To me, anything in Florence is special. In Australian art, Fred Williams' Pilbara series, when it's not replaced with other rubbish when I send people in to see it, it's a particularly important series of paintings. I read a lot

of biographies—you always learn when people write about their lives or others write about them. I don't read much fiction."

Coming to Australia and deciding to stay and not go back to the UK was a turning point in Dick's life. "Now, it's do we do the sea change or not? But John Chapman's completing extensive renovations so we must be staying—if we can pay for it. Warrandyte does provide a nice community—everyone contributes, it all adds up and makes a community. People like Barry McKimm; he's just amazing with kids and music, just walking around and doing a huge amount, not looking for recognition. That's the name of the game."

He's learning Italian at the moment. "My mother was the only one who used to call me Richard. But it's better as Ricardo, in Italian. Dick doesn't flow. I'd like to revise my French and learn Welsh properly but I was never particularly good at languages. You attempt things and then move on.

"Setting up a new organisation is hard but fun, you have to do something, work out a way. I'm not into climbing Everest just because it's there, although we've been close to it.

Jan and I have just done a 12-day walk of Mt Blanc and we've done quite a few walks all over the world and in Australia. I climbed 1000m in the thin air in the Himalayas and got pretty sick with diarrhoea—those times are hard but you forget it the next day, it's done and you go on.

"I look forward. I'm a development person and I develop new products and organisations. I look back in history and see what I can learn from it. There's got to be a better way of doing things.

"Jan had a fruit fly named after her a long time ago and now I've got a beetle. Sam says 'what weird parents, with insects named after them.' But it's taken 30 years for me to catch up with my wife."

(Macrolema dickdaviesi is a rare species of leaf beetle [Family: Chrysomelidae] known only from four specimens, all collected in North Queensland rainforest in the 1950s and 1970s. It belongs to a recently discovered group of beetles that has a classic Gondwanan distribution with its nearest relatives outside Australia in New Guinea, New Caledonia, Chile and Argentina.)



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

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



"One, two, three ... One, two, three ..." Children's dance and drama class, run by Yvonne Reid and Jo Laurence.

50 years of fun and drama

The Warrandyte Arts Association is 50 years old this month. Founding member LEXIE BLAKE remembers those good old days...



"... and as for you, my fine feathered friend ..." Brendan Cassidy, Irving Reid, and Graeme Cust in *Three Angels*.



"Unhand me, you villain!" ... Gus McLaren and Enid Bird in *The Man Who Came to Dinner*. (Pictures courtesy Warrandyte Historical Society)

It was quite a big leap in time for me from the Gold Rush town of Bendigo to the original gold-discovery place, Warrandyte. I was born in Bendigo and after many of life's little adventures, including short sojourns in Sydney and Melbourne's Albert Park, found myself in Warrandyte in 1948.

My childhood home was located opposite the picturesque Lake Weeroona in Bendigo. In Warrandyte the Yarra River was a stone's throw from my door—and I have always loved being near water. I fell in love with the big old house, with its majestic oak tree, that we found in Warrandyte—a rare find for sale just after World War 2—and my husband, John Emery, my little son Christopher, and later in 1951 our "miracle" daughter Rohanne (born in our home with only me in attendance) and I settled down to family life at "Warranoak".

It was, in the beginning, quite a pioneer existence. No water, sewerage, electricity or gas in our area—with corrugated iron rainwater tanks, candles, kerosene lamps, fuel stove and the ubiquitous bush toilet under the gum trees. Later, of course, all the amenities came to make life more comfortable—although it was a little lonely for me in the daytime with only "Nan" Crawshaw living nearby. She became a second mother to me and "Nanna" to the children.

Indeed, it was Nan who encouraged me to visit the CWA after the then president, Joan Golding, called one afternoon when we were enjoying a "cuppa" on the back verandah. Joan was seeking new CWA members and suggested that I join, offering to drive me to the meetings. I was reluctant to leave Rohanne even for a few hours once a month, but Nan insisted that she would baby-sit and that I was to get to know other people in the district.

Surprisingly, I found many friends among the members, particularly those who were interested in drama and music, in which I had been trained

before my marriage. Soon we had the nucleus of a drama group, and put on many plays and concerts in the old hall, much to the delight of our audiences. This was, of course, before "The Box" mesmerised the populace, and in those days we made our own entertainment.

Our CWA drama group became quite professional over the next few years and in 1955 we scored much success when we won three awards, including mine for best actress, with our entry in the Upper Yarra Valley group CWA drama festival. This really inspired us to seek wider opportunities, and on November 22, 1955, a public meeting was held in the Mechanics Institute, attended by Colin Badger of the Council of Adult Education—and the Warrandyte Arts Association was born, its president being Vern Davidson; secretary, Joan Golding and publicity officers, John and Lexie Emery.

Eventually we had a very active drama group, art group under the direction of talented artist and author, Harry Hudson; music group, which included the Warrandyte Singers and many talented musicians giving regular recitals in the hall and music nights in members' homes. There was also a pottery group with Reg Preston, Phyll Dunne and Gus McLaren; films and photography with Alan Aldous and Ted Domeyer and the children's creative dancing and junior art and drama groups with Yvonne Mitchell and Sonja Stewart.

So much water under the Warrandyte Bridge, so many talented and wonderful people no longer with us!

I am a widow for the second time. My first husband, John Emery, died suddenly in 1960 and I will always be grateful to the many members and friends who supported me in those dark days. I am not altogether sure, though, that they all approved of my re-marriage in 1962 to the then rather brash young Ian Blake who made me laugh at play rehearsals and who spent the rest of his life devoted to me and the children (our son Gordon was born in 1963). Ian

finally succumbed to cancer in the year 2000.

Now, to my utter astonishment, I am an Old Timer, and having made my final leap to the City 20 years ago, I can see the silhouettes of the high-rise CBD buildings from my front garden—and the nearest water is Merri Creek with the wider waters of Port Phillip a short car trip or tram ride away.

Sometimes, while walking our little dog Lucy in nearby Batman Park, among the tall old trees and well-kept lawns and gardens, I think of those busy years in Warrandyte when we were all madly being "actively creative" with our many plays, art shows and musicales and our Christmas festivals on the banks of Andersons Creek.

We always tried to foster the interest of the younger generation in the arts—indeed it was with the young people in mind that the association was formed 50 years ago. Our village was so far, it seemed, from the metropolis with only a most inadequate bus service. There were no mobile phones, computers, television antennae or modern mansions crowding the hills with their tennis courts and swimming pools—so the WAA brought us much to look forward to.

It also meant many hours of hard work and devotion by some very talented people who are no longer here and it is to them that this memoir is dedicated.

Today there is a fresh current of water flowing steadily beneath the Warrandyte Bridge, mingling in its shade with the old memories—and maybe leaving behind some new ones as it continues on its merry way to the wider world.

Written in memory of John Emery, Ian Blake, Harold Baigent, Enid and Malcolm Bird, Joan and Lionel Coudden, Regina ("Nan") Crawshaw, Tony Doogood, Ron Golding, Harry Hudson, Veranne Irving, Alan Tisdall, Jeannie White and the many others who made it all possible.

Games delay festival

The community is reminded that next year's Warrandyte Festival will be held a little later than usual due to the Commonwealth Games. It will take place on the weekend of April 8 and 9. Some new events are being considered for the 2006 festival, including a possible mountain bike tour and a mini film festival.



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.



Picture by Stephen Reynolds

Festival fundraiser

The Warrandyte Festival Committee is presenting the local band Orangotango (pictured above) live at the Warrandyte RSL on Friday, November 18 at 8pm. In a night of swing music from around the world, Orangotango will accompany Warran-

dyte's Heather Jameson on a musical journey of old favourites and new surprises. A light show by Hugh McSpedden will also feature. Cost is \$10 and funds are to help with next year's festival. For information and bookings phone 9844 4431.

AGM

The annual general meeting of the Warrandyte and District Preschool will be held at the Taroona Avenue kindergarten on Monday, November 21 at 7pm. Business includes election of office bearers and handover of duties.

Market

Wonga Park Primary School is holding a Twilight Market on Friday, November 11 from 6.30pm to 9.30pm at the school in Dudley Road, Wonga Park. There will be a variety of stalls including many featuring Christmas gifts and such activities for the children as mini golf, clown heads, lucky dips, sweets and drinks. Food for dinner will be available. Support for the sausage sizzle also means support for the Wonga Park Cricket Club.

Gardening

Bev Hanson will be speaking on "Designing a Natural Garden" at the Warrandyte Uniting Church in Taroona Avenue on Saturday, November 19 at 8pm. Supper is included. The \$10 admission will go towards the proposed community peace wall and garden at the church.

Combining

Warrandyte Lions and Rotary clubs are combining their resources to send a shipment of medical equipment to Somalia in Africa. Walking frames, commodes, sterile dressings and blood monitors are among the items that will be distributed over there by local clubs to bypass the usual delays.

Nillumbik

As part of the Tales of Old Nillumbik series being held at Living and Learning Nillumbik, 739 Main Road, Eltham, a session conducted by the Warrandyte Historical Society will take place on Tuesday, November 29 from 1pm to 2.30pm. You can learn about the early settlement of North Warrandyte, mining, farming and orcharding activities, the early artists in the area and the famous Koorong School. Places are limited. Bookings on 9430 1313. The session costs \$5.

Sages

Ginkgo Organic Foodstore is presenting a radical sages workshop by visiting speaker Robert Rabbitt. It will take place at Ginkgo on Thursday, November 24 from 6.30pm to 9.30pm. The cost of \$30 includes a vegetarian organic dinner. Café and bar facilities are available. Robert's work with groups involves a weaving of silence, lecture, dialogue, drumming and application exercises. Bookings are essential. Call 9844 3282.

Seminars

Manningham council is currently running a series of free seminars entitled Living Smart Living Healthy. You are invited

to attend Warrandyte Primary School on Wednesday, November 16 for the first session, Transport—Saving Money and the Environment. It will run from 7pm to 9pm. For more information or to book a place phone Bruce Paton on 9840 9173 or email bruce.paton@manningham.vic.gov.au. Follow up sessions include Waste and Recycling (Wednesday, November 23), Smart Shopping (Wednesday, November 30), Bush and Fire Management (Wednesday, December 7) and an environmental Christmas party on Wednesday, December 14. Free childcare and catering will be provided at all sessions.

Rescue

An Orphan Rescue Charity festival, hosted by past Warrandyte resident, Jo Pearson will take place at the Mia Mia Gallery, Templestowe, on Sunday, November 20. Car access is from Fitzsimmons Lane or walking access from Porter Street. The festival is to support the Global Mission to Rescue Persecuted Falun Gong Practitioners. It will run from 10am to 7pm. There will be a variety of activities including performances by dancers and musicians from African, Maori, Aboriginal, Ukrainian, Celtic, Italian and Chinese cultures.

Awards

Nominations for the 2006 Menzies Community Australia Day Awards close on Friday, December 2. If you know of someone you believe should be considered for an award please contact Kevin Andrews electorate office on 9848 9900 for the nomination booklet. The purpose of the awards is to recognise the valuable contribution that many people make to their local community. Awards will be presented on Australia Day, January 26, at the Manningham council function centre.

Environment

The next Manningham environment seminar will be addressed by Paul Barnard on the topic of Wildfire Behaviour and Community Safety. It will take place on Wednesday, December 7 at 7.30pm in the function room at the Grand Hotel, 120 Yarra Street, Warrandyte. The seminar is free with no booking required.

Theatre

Performances of the Warrandyte Theatre Group's next production, Accidental Death of an

ARTYFACTS

Images

Artstreams Gallery at 63 Yarra Street, Warrandyte is presenting a series of performances in sound and light with local artists Peter Mumme and Hugh McSpedden. The program shows images created by Hugh, combined with new music and sounds collected and composed by Peter. A special feature piece is created and set in Warrandyte. You can see the show at 8pm on Friday, December 2 and 6pm and 8pm on Saturday and Sunday, December 3 and 4. Bookings on 9844 0248

Stonehouse

The Stonehouse artists have combined to present an exhibition during November—Deck the Halls—with unique Christmas decorations on show. The gallery is at 323 Ringwood-Warrandyte Road, Warrandyte.

Open

Nillumbik's Artists Open Studios 2005 will take place on November 19, 20, 26 and 27. Thirty artists working in 20

Anarchist, directed by Matt Moran, will be held on November 24, 25 and 26 and December 1, 2 and 3. For bookings call 9844 1744.

Galpu

A program of playing and making didgeridoos and traditional songs and dances of the Galpu clan, plus a women's weaving workshop, will be held at Montsalvat, 7 Hillcrest Avenue, Eltham on Saturday and Sunday, November 12 and 13, culminating in a concert at 6pm on Sunday. Call 9439 7712 for bookings and further details.

Eltham

The Rotary Eltham Town festival will take place on Saturday, November 19 and Sunday, November 20 at the Alistair Knox Park, corner Main and Bridge roads in Eltham. It is being held with the Eltham craft market and includes a sports expo to celebrate the forthcoming Commonwealth Games.

studios cover many disciplines including painting, drawing, sculpture, print-making, ceramics, textiles, stained glass and photography. For more information and a free colour booklet call 1300 660 072 or email www.nillumbik.tourism.com. Several Warrandyte artists will have their studios open as will *Diary* artists Syd Tunn and Ona Henderson of Kangaroo Ground.

Threads

Graduates from Box Hill Institute of Tafe studio stitch textiles course are celebrating their graduation at the current exhibition at the Manningham Gallery. Hanging by Threads can be viewed at the gallery, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster, until Saturday, November 25. It is open Tuesday to Friday, from 11am to 5pm and on Saturday between 2 and 5pm.

Together

Local metal sculptor, Malcom Laurence, and printmaker/painter, Anita Laurence, will be in a joint exhibition of their work at The Muse Gallery at the Milawa cheese factory, Milawa. The exhibition will open on Saturday, November 12 at 2pm.

Melodrama

Eltham Little Theatre is currently presenting a music hall melodrama—The Gypsy's Revenge—by Michael Lambe on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays until December 3. For bookings call 9437 1574.

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 or by post to PO Box 209, Warrandyte 3113. We close copy on the last Friday of each month for publication in the second week of the following month.

Newsletters

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

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Warrandyte pharmacy

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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.



Rachael Lynch ... Australia's junior hockey goalkeeper.

Hockey champ plans for future Rachael keeps an eye on Olympics

By EMMA CLARK

Outstanding Warrandyte hockey goalkeeper, Rachael Lynch, has recently returned from the Junior World Cup in Chile, as a member of the Under 21 Australian women's team.

Rachael, 19, of Weerona Way, has played hockey since 1998 and at an international level since 2003. She aims to play for Australia at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing.

"I believe it is an achievable goal but firstly I must gain selection in the senior squad, the Hockeyroos. Hopefully by 2008 the current Australian goalkeeper Rachel Imison will have retired.

"I have always dreamed of playing hockey in the Olympics, but as I've got older I have realised that just having the dream won't make it happen. There's a huge amount of hard work and dedication required as well as experience and a good attitude."

Rachael has always been a keen and accomplished athlete, playing state softball at

Warrandyte Primary and excelling at every sport she has put her hand to.

However, since 2000 she has put all her focus into hockey. She trains up to nine times per week on field and at the state netball and hockey centre.

Rachael describes her experience in Chile as 'amazing'.

"Chile was a beautiful country and the people were all so lovely. All the countries (teams) stayed in the same hotel which was great because it meant we could get to know different people from all over the world.

"I made friends with girls from Germany, the USA and Chile, all of whom I'm still in contact with. Along with great friendships, it will also give me a contact if I would like to study and play hockey in those countries."

The Junior World Cup is held every four years, with 16 countries competing. The Jillaroo's preparation started almost two months before the September tournament.

"From the end of July till September 10 we travelled

and trained as a team, going from China to Perth to New Zealand then on to Chile for the main tournament".

The team finished fourth in the final tournament, with Korea in first place, followed by Germany and the Netherlands in second and third place.

"Many people had high expectations of us, as we did of ourselves, so we were quite disappointed with our final result. We had two very close games in our semi and grand finals against Germany and the Netherlands but unfortunately we lost both by one goal."

Rachael has lived in Warrandyte all her life, attending Warrandyte Primary School and then Eltham College. Like many local success stories, she still has a firm attachment to the town.

"Although it's not very convenient when it comes to travel time, I still love it." Rachael will undoubtedly have many friends from Warrandyte cheering her on during the selection for the 2008 Olympic team.

Bowlers welcome at Donvale

Warrandyte lawn bowlers are swelling the ranks of the Donvale Bowls Club located on the corner of Springvale and Reynolds roads Donvale.

Local enthusiasts Stan Craker and Robyn Upfield have been particularly active in recruiting new members to the club.

Warrandyte bowlers chosen to skip teams in pennant this year include John Stammers, Garry Upfield, John Pepper, Val Spargo and Margaret Pepper.

A number of other new bowlers from Warrandyte are progressing well under the tuition of the club's coaches.

Warrandyte High School regularly sends student groups to the club for familiarisation sessions. Many of the students have shown a natural aptitude for the sport.

If you would like to try lawn bowls but have not played before why not try the Wednesday Twilight Social Bowls starting at 6pm. This is followed by a barbecue tea and the bar is open.

Loan bowls are available and just wear flat shoes. For those who work during the week social games are played on Sunday afternoons.

Donvale is the only bowls club in the district that offers year round bowling, utilising a grass green and an artificial green.

For further information call 9844 2434.

Under 16 Redbacks' premiership team takes on new challenges

By TONY OLIVER

The core of Ian Wood's Under 16 Junior Championship Basketball team are looking forward to future challenges following a successful year in 2005.

The highlight of their year was lifting the Premiers Cup for the Metro 2 Grand Final after defeating Eltham by 35-28.

This was the culmination of a 12 month campaign that started with grading in late 2004.

They lost their opening grading game in October of that year, but did not record a loss until April of 2005.

The Redback boys finished second on the ladder in the home and away season, and were relatively easy winners in the first semi final against minor premiers Eltham by 46-32 to book their place in the grand final.

The two teams met again at Dandenong with Warrandyte taking a seven point lead going into the break, after Tom Fitzpatrick, Ian McLeod and Ben Power scored the last points of the half.

The game appeared to be all going the Redbacks' way when Josh Blakey scored the opening basket for Warrandyte.

Eltham lifted their intensity with tight man-on-man marking and forced Warrandyte into error and turnovers.

With just over five minutes to go, the game was tied up at 25 all after



Warrandyte Under 16 Boys Metro 2 premiers from left, Jessie Radisich, David Wood, Josh Blakey, Thomas Fitzpatrick (capt), Ian McLeod, Gavin Yates, Peter Whittingham and Ben Power (MVP)

Warrandyte had been unable to score for nearly 15 minutes.

The dead lock was broken in the final three minutes with a good base line play from Josh Blakey allowed Ian McLeod to score. Ben Power followed up on this with two points, and Warrandyte were able to close out the game.

Ben Power was named most valuable player, with 13 points. Other top scorers were Ian McLeod (10) and the

captain Tom Fitzpatrick (6).

The 2006 season is starting to come together and the team will move up to Under 18. Attendance at the tryouts so far has been good and there is the possibility of new players to strengthen the line up.

Their target will be Metro 2 in 2006 and if that is achieved this will put them in line for a realistic shot for Victorian Championship (VC) grade in 2007. VC represents the top level

of Junior basketball in the State, and the boys could be the first Warrandyte team to achieve this honour.

Players come into the team in the various competitions depending on age and dates but most are playing in the current domestic (Saturday) season. They recorded a thrilling 45 all draw against the leading Eltham side in A grade on the last Saturday of October.



A group of girls taking part in the NetSkills program operated by Warrandyte Netball Club.

Netball skills on show

Warrandyte Netball Club is staging a series of clinics for children aged 5-9 years.

The NetSkills program is being held at the Taroona Ave, Warrandyte, netball courts every Friday between 4.15 and 5pm.

The program is designed to teach the basic skills of netball which will enable the children to play in a Saturday team at the Templestowe Leisure Centre.

The clinics have been conducted for the club for the past two years by Samantha Hassall who is now assisted by Peta Walker.

Warrandyte has been able to field a new Under 11 team each year by drawing on the NetSkills clinic children.

Samantha has been impressed with the way the children have adapted to netball.

"They are improving at a great speed and they really have bright futures as netballers," she said.

NetSkills Clinic numbers are limited and there are still a few vacancies available. There is a moderate cost involved.

More information is available from Peta Walker on 9844 4898.

● Warrandyte Netball Club's annual meeting will be held on Wednesday November 23 at the Warrandyte Community Centre, starting at 7.30pm.

Committee nominations can be lodged with club secretary, Vicki Hassall on 9844 1351.

South Warrandyte Cricket Club

Hawks set groundwork for successful season

With solid early season numbers across all age groups, a sense of optimism surrounds the South Warrandyte Cricket Club for season 2005/06.

The juniors having entered three sides for the season have been fortunate enough to have two of their sides promoted to higher grades after early season success in grading games.

This leaves sides in the 12/2, 14/2 and 14/5's. Adding to the delight of the club is the Milo Have-A-Go program, which has grown from 20 participants last season to nearly 50 this year.

On the senior front, numbers have been very strong to date. On-field performances have varied although all teams have posted early season wins.

The Fifth XI currently sit in fifth position on the ladder; the Fourth XI is sixth and the Third XI is in second place. The Chandler 2 team is

currently in 10th place.

The First XI have started the season with a win, a draw and a loss leaving it currently sitting in eighth position.

Round 1 against Mooroolbark ended in a draw after rain intervened and left South at 4-50 in reply to Mooroolbark's 138.

Round 2 saw win number one for the year against Warranwood. After posting a target of 197 the Hawks managed to take early wickets and dismissed Warranwood for 113.

The standout for the game was young captain-coach Steve Garrett taking an impressive 6-21 off 26 overs after making what turned out to be a crucial 75 with the bat.

Confidence was high for the Round 3 clash with Wantirna South. After winning the toss and electing to bowl, Wantirna South reached the tea break at 2-83. Following the break, tight

bowling from Jeremy Neagle and Scott Brasher and some excellent catching had the Hawks right back in the game and Wantirna South closed their innings at 8-197.

The chase failed to gain momentum and if not for exceptional innings of 67 from Michael Vozzo the team total of 106 would have looked all the more dismal.

ROUND 1:
First XI: South Warrandyte 4-50 drew Mooroolbark 138 (Scott Brasher 3-20)

ROUND 2:
First XI: South Warrandyte 197 (Steve Garrett 75) & 0-22 d Warranwood 113 (Garrett 6-21, Rodgers 2-23)

ROUND 3:
First XI: South Warrandyte 106 (Vozzo 67) lost to Wantirna South 8/197 (Brasher 3-48, J. Neagle 3-32)



Scott Brasher



Steve Garrett

Warrandyte Cricket Club

Hat-trick of crucial games



Warrandyte Cricket Club is fast-tracking its younger players. Under 16 player, Tyson Rees, left, has already played in the senior team this season while Under 16 team mates, Ayrton Dehmel, second from left, and Chris Barry, right, are regular Second XI players. Ryan Hoiberg, second from right, has made his debut in the Second XI in his first season of senior cricket.

The three remaining games before the Christmas break loom as critical for Warrandyte in their bid for a third successive Ringwood District Cricket Association Second Division finals campaign.

After the first five rounds, Warrandyte languishes in the bottom half of the ladder with only one win from four completed games.

The only success came in Round 3 when a brilliant individual performance by opening bowler, Steve Warr, who took 6-34, enabled Warrandyte to upset Norwood who were at one stage 4-148 chasing a modest 168.

The remaining three losses have come in one-day games in which the batting line-up has failed badly.

Captain Adam White said he was looking forward to playing the longer version of the game over the next six weeks and believed his team would respond with much better performances.

"We are a much better two-day side. We have proved that in the past and I would be very disappointed if we don't string together three successive wins in the lead up to Christmas," he said.

"But our batsmen must show more application. We cannot continually rely on our bowlers to set up wins or

get us out of trouble."

Warrandyte has had some batting cheer in the Second XI where Matt Gamble scored a dashing 115 against Norwood while Mark Centofanti's unbeaten 96 steered the team to a nail-biting last over win against Montrose.

The First XI has often struggled against a big-hitting Montrose in one day games in the past. Their aggressive batting line up again took heavy toll on a persistent Warrandyte attack but eight massive sixes from rampaging batsmen enabled Montrose to post a healthy 7-181.

Dean Gidley, promoted to the First XI after the last minute withdrawal of Gerald Walshe due to injury, was the pick of the Warrandyte bowlers, taking 2-11 off his allotted eight overs.

Warrandyte were in immediate trouble and victory was out of sight early as the top order crumbled to 4-29.

A ninth wicket partnership of 53 between Gidley and Adam Beardall added respectability to the total but it is clear that more commitment is needed when players walk out to bat.

The Second XI completed its third win of the season, defeating Montrose with two balls to spare.

Set a challenging score of 173, the

young Warrandyte side was in trouble at 6-78 but Chris Barry with 37 celebrated his 15th birthday in style and shared a 90 run partnership with Mark Centofanti that took Warrandyte to within six runs of victory.

Centofanti finished four runs short of a maiden career century but did have the pleasure of scoring the winning runs in a memorable come-from-behind win.

The development of young players continues at Warrandyte and rising medium-pace bowler, Chris Douglas, continues to impress. He took 5-16 for the Third XI against Kilsyth and with 13 wickets to his name already this season is pressing for promotion.

The club has already promoted Under 16 player, Tyson Rees to the First XI as it fast-tracks some of its promising juniors.

ROUND 3:
First XI: Warrandyte 168 (Brent 43, Goddard 36) and 0-36 d Norwood 159 (Warr 6-34).

Second XI: Warrandyte 236 (Gamble 115, Gidley 37) d Norwood 170 (R. White 3-34).

Third XI: Warrandyte 9-176 (Croft 40, Creber 34, Baker 26) d Mooroolbark 52 (Douglas 4-27, L. Beggs 3/4) and 7-65 (Prangley 3-21).

Fourth XI: Warrandyte 306 (K. Miller 74, V. Pettigrove 65, Taylor 38) d Mooroolbark 115.

Fifth XI: Warrandyte 222 (Salton 66, Zach 38) d North Croydon 127 (D. Barry 3-18) and 68 (P. Beggs 4-30).

ROUND 4:
First XI: Warrandyte 90 (Howarth 25) lost to Bayswater Park 7-137 (Szenis 3-18).

Second XI: Warrandyte 7-110 (Hoiberg 28, Centofanti 24) lost to Bayswater Park 7-150 (R. White 4-22).

Third XI: Warrandyte 94 (B. Pettigrove 21) lost to Chirnside Park 106.

Fourth XI: Warrandyte 4-198 (T. Hookey 53, Khatry 47 n.o., Wright 33 n.o.) d Croydon Ranges 120 (E. Blyth-Elvin 3-24).

Fifth XI: Warrandyte 89 (T. Walshe 27) lost to Olinda 90 (D. Barry 5-10).

ROUND 5:
First XI: Warrandyte 8-135 (Beardall 21 n.o.) lost to Montrose 7-181.

Second XI: Warrandyte 7-178 (Centofanti 96 n.o., C. Barry 37) d Montrose 8-173 (R. White 3-32).

Third XI: Warrandyte 124 d Kilsyth 105 (C. Douglas 5-13).

Fourth XI: Warrandyte 67 lost to Knox City 157.

Fifth XI: Warrandyte 125 lost to Kilsyth 200.



Our future tennis champs: This squad of boys and girls recently completed six weeks of intensive professional coaching as part of Warrandyte Tennis Club's Supersmashers program.

Smashing finale to program

By JUDY GREEN

Jason Stoltenberg, one of Australia's former top international players, is returning to the Warrandyte Tennis Club's courts later this month.

Jason was well known locally when, as one of a number of champion junior players at the Australian Institute of Sport, including Todd Woodbridge, Richard Fromberg and Johan Anderson. He competed in the finals of the Satellite tournaments during the 1980s.

In a special exhibition match to mark the completion of the club's Supersmashers program, Jason will

combine with a highly-ranked junior to play the club's present coach Aaron Nolan partnered by past coach Fabio Forlano.

The Supersmashers program, described by junior convenor Michelle Gilling, as "an enormous success," has provided 50 children aged between 6 and 12 years, not yet playing competition, with an invaluable introduction to the game.

The program's coaching team has been headed by Aaron Nolan with assistance from Paul Gilling and assistant coach Jess Delaney.

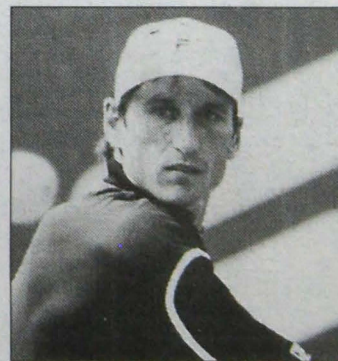
Past junior players Will Rogers, Linda Stanzel, Joel Drew, Rod

McCutcheon and Daniel Wiltshire and present top players Alex Beltramin, Nick Crosbie and Chris Robinson have contributed to the success of Supersmashers.

The exhibition match will be played at the club's courts in Taroona Avenue, on Sunday, November 13, commencing at 11am.

● Last month, the *Diary* reported that no senior Warrandyte Tennis Club team reached the finals of the Eastern Region Tennis competition. This was incorrect.

The Mixed 5 team played in the semi-final, which they lost by a margin of two games.



Back in Warrandyte: Former international star Jason Stoltenberg.

Talented triathlete

Damon Moloney, son of Warrandyte residents, Peter and Elizabeth Moloney, recorded an outstanding performance in the World Triathlon Championships held recently in Hawaii.

Damon finished 21st in a field of 274 competitors in the 30-35 years age group.

Athletes from 35 countries took part and 2000 competed in the overall event.

Damon's parents and girlfriend, Alexandra, were among the support group.

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"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.

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"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.

Price: \$520k plus
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FOR SALE

WARRANDYTE

"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.
Price: \$1.4million plus buyers
Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
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FOR SALE

WARRANDYTE

"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: \$455,000
Anthony Hansen 0417 850 950
Dominic Cruz 0409 410 161



FOR SALE

WARRANDYTE

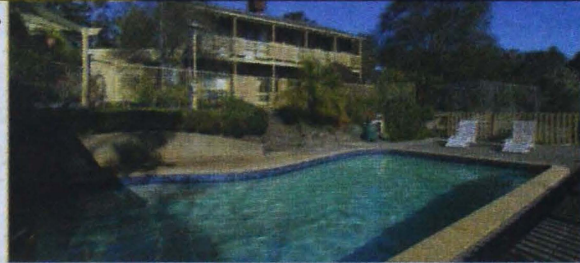
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At around 65 sq, this magnificent 4BR residence is one of palatial proportions. Commensurate with its size is its wealth of features including extensive living areas, spa bath, sauna, wine cellar, workshop/rumpus, 3 car garage, grand portico and more.
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Behind a grand entrance with circular drive, sits this beautiful 5BR solid brick residence featuring formal and informal living areas, heating/cooling, northerly aspect, full length balcony, IG pool with pavilion, double carport and workshop.
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