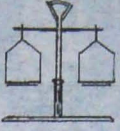


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DIARY

No. 382, December 2005

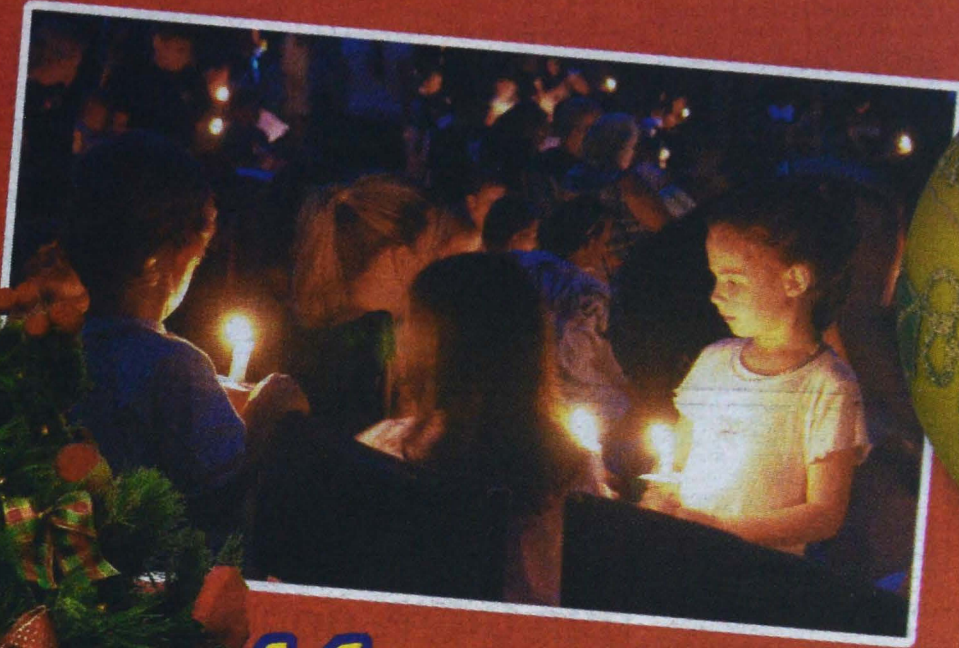
peter gardiner U.L.B.

FAMILY LAWYER
&
GENERAL PRACTITIONER

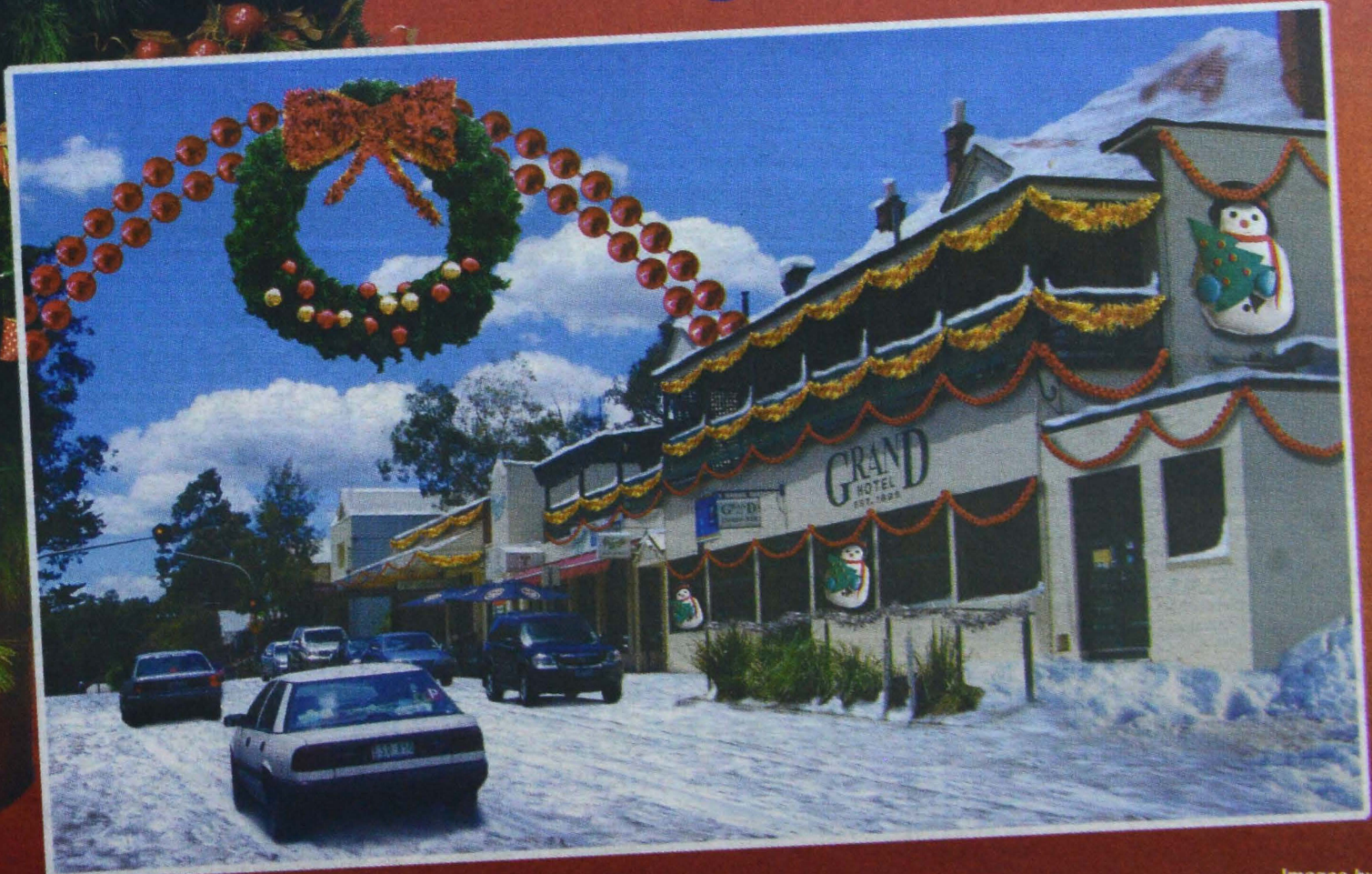
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Merry Christmas, Warrandyte



Images by
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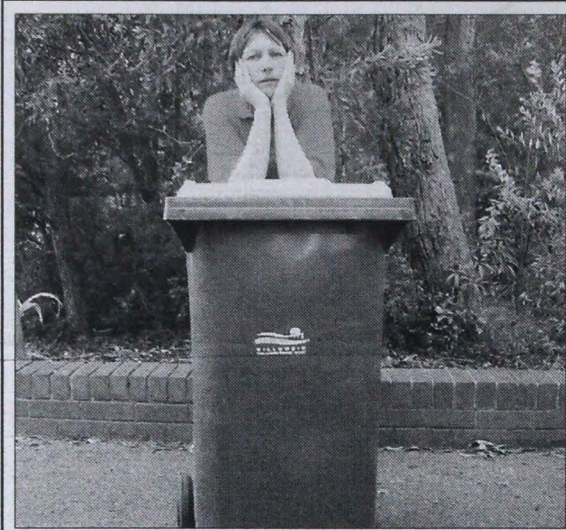
Silly old Santa, upstaged at his own birthday bash

 Santa came early this time around for an unidentified lucky local who collected a cool \$150 from the ATM at IGA without requiring a card. The recipient was merely next in line to a fellow (not unknown to readers of this column) who retrieved his card after completing his transaction but absent-mindedly neglected to collect his cash. The money was gone, of course, by the time the penny dropped and he returned to the scene of his stupidity. The reluctant philanthropist is a mate of ours, so we shan't be naming him. No way!

 Speaking of Lex McDonald, his 50th birthday barbie on November 27 was always going to be a speckie and best-on-ground betting was brisk indeed. Lex himself was a heavily-backed outright favourite, his great mate Neil Dusting well supported in the quinella and Brian Dunn well specked as the third leg of the trifecta. And the winner was ... none of the above! No, a rank outsider — a near neighbour of the McDonalds, a shadowy figure, a man who likes a drink but rarely takes it to the extremity of extremes — bolted in. He shall be nameless here to protect his amateur status, but let us refer to him as Our Hero (or OH for short).

 OH arrived at the barbie with his drinking boots on and led a crack field a merry dance. But was he a stayer in the true Makybe Diva tradition? Not quite. Inevitably OH shortened stride and decided to follow the lovely wife home, a trip that could be counted in terms of mere metres. But halfway to his destination the stamina gave out altogether and he took a nap on the nature strip, where he was found by his daughter returning from a date with the new boyfriend. Concerned for his well-being, they were applying gentle wakey-wakey treatment when OH sprang to his feet and decked the boyfriend! Talk about a lucky punch. And talk about lucky to escape a night in the slammer because the new boyfriend just happens to be a young copper! A very compassionate young copper, though, he reckoned he was better off out of this particular domestic situation, saw OH to the door and scarpered. Refused admission to his own home, OH somehow found his

IN RED & WHITE




Julie Roy: a little down in the dumps right now.


Bin there, done that


Five editions back we offered you the career opportunity of a lifetime, a directorship — executive status and the accompanying prestige — of this town's major annual event, the Warrandyte Festival. We admitted the pay was lousy to the point of non-existence, but what about the perks? What about the beautiful red T-shirt the committee tosses in for being Warrandyte Festival Director of Garbage? Maybe the "garbage" part of the job description was a bit of a turn-off because Julie Roy, the incumbent DOG (her acronym, not ours), has hardly been trampled in the rush of responses. Not an application. Not a Mintie wrapper. Julie won't be officiating next year because she'd already booked and fully arranged an overseas trip with partner Ken Allardice when the festival was rescheduled from its traditional March timing to April 7-9 to accommodate a happening of lesser stature called the Commonwealth Games. It's not as if the job involves wallowing in yuk for the duration of our event. Far from it. "Most of the groundwork is done," says Julie, "and it's largely a matter of putting out wheeled bins at Stiggants Reserve on the Friday, Saturday and Sunday, then picking them up and lining them up in Stiggant Street for the council trucks — which are too big for the reserve gates — to empty." Neither does the task require superhuman physical strength. Julie's a book-keeper whose duties stop well short of tossing sumo wrestlers over her shoulder and holding Herford bulls out to wee. "It would be a doddle for a couple of able-bodied men, preferably with a standard car and trailer," she tells us. "Ken and I ran it easily this year with the help of two great young blokes from Whitefriars College, Leon Kidd and Anthony Owen." Julie will be back on deck for festival 2007 — so come on, people, give her a break and do your village a considerable service at the same time. Give her a call on 9844 2880 or 0418 576640.

way back to the barbie, but they saw him coming and told him quite plainly that the party was over. We're not sure what happened to OH after that — but


you can bet he'll never forget Lex McDonald's 50th birthday bash. Neither his missus nor his mates will allow that to happen.

 A 50th birthday which attracted far less fanfare was that of Jenny Chapman, of that famous cricketer family, who racked up the half-century on December 8. Jen's a bit coy about her age and we wonder why because, thanks no doubt to her healthy outdoor lifestyle as a professional gardener, she doesn't look a minute older than 49.

 A self-proclaimed local philosopher once opined that if you sat long enough outside the *Diary* office the whole of the outer eastern suburbs would pass you by. One passer-by we could have done without was the bloke who approached on the Yarra side of the street from the direction of the pub the other day, deposited his slab of VB on the bus stop seat and piddled there and then under the trees. He at least had the decency to turn his back.

 And we are indebted to the Herald Sun TV Guide for pointing us in the direction of Johnny Howard's latest nickname: "Bonsai" (as in Little Bush).

 The Christmas spirit has certainly pervaded the Friends of Warrandyte State Park nursery, which by way of a bonus is giving away sturdy young eucalypts. A variety is at your disposal, including some for dry areas like our signature tree — the hardy red box — and others which prefer deeper soils. The nursery is at the rangers depot at Pound Bend and its manager will happily field inquiries on 0408 317327.

 It must be that time of the year again because the siren call of the Bellarine Peninsula grows stronger apace. Time to say thanks for reading us again in 2005 — and we know you have because the amount of hate mail and death threats tells us so. Seriously, though, may your Christmas be both joyous and safe and your new year so good you'll have to periodically pinch yourself just to make sure all those wonderful things are really happening to you. Bye now.

Smokey Joe

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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.

OVER THE HILLS

By **JOCK MACNEISH**



'Old hand' councillors win Mullum Mullum

By SAM DAVIES

Patricia Young has been returned and Ron Kitchingman elected in the Manningham council elections for Mullum Mullum ward.

Cr Young received 7403 votes on first preference, enough to get her clear over the quota of 5956. Her preferences were then distributed to Mr Kitchingman who received a total of 6038 votes.

Only four candidates stood for the two seats. Raymond Hoser ended with 5655 votes, and Graham Margetts bowed out first on 2531.

Cr Young slammed the preferential voting method modelled on the state and federal system. The preferential system gives the preference votes of the first candidate past the quota a value of just under 0.2. Cr Young said the system meant she couldn't guarantee her number two, Mr Kitchingman, would "get over the line".

"It works well in state and federal elections because you only have one person elected."

She pointed to Ruffey ward where Bob Beynon won a majority of first preference votes though fell short of the quota and then missed out on preferences and was not re-elected.

Five of Manningham's eight councillors were voted out.

In Mullum Mullum, Cr Young and Mr Kitchingman exchanged preferences then marked Mr Margetts third and Mr Hoser last. Mr Hoser and Mr Margetts exchanged preferences and gave Mr Kitchingman third and Cr Young last.

Following announcement of the results, the Diary interviewed the successful candidates.

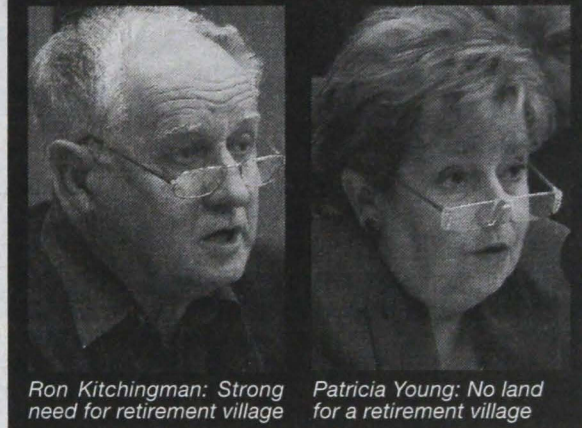
Cr Young thanked the community "for their faith", and vowed to work hard in the next three years for Mullum Mullum and Manningham residents.

She said the campaign was easier this year with effectively only two opponents, as opposed to her previous three elections where she has stood against five or six.

"I hope the community felt I'd done enough to feel I could support them again. And that if I supported Ron, my choice was one that could support everybody," she said.

Mr Kitchingman said he felt excellent about the result, and was very content and happy. He had run unsuccessfully for office in the previous Manningham election, but has been a councillor and mayor on the former Doncaster and Temple-

And the winners are...



Ron Kitchingman: Strong need for retirement village

Patricia Young: No land for a retirement village

stowe council.

This time, he wasn't taking any chances. "I worked my butt off to get in. I delivered brochures to about 85 percent of residents in the ward. The vast majority I hand-delivered in the East Doncaster area," he said.

"I've been working with the community in many ways over

many years, so I see this as an ongoing opportunity to help."

Cr Young and Cr Kitchingman will share duties in the ward which has 23,000 people, more than any other in the Manningham municipality.

Cr Young said she would not just represent Warrandyte and Wonga Park, and neither would

Mr Kitchingman only represent suburbs around East Doncaster, though she said Cr Kitchingman was not yet fully across Warrandyte's issues.

But Cr Kitchingman has been learning the issues and said he had spoken with some Warrandyte residents about their concerns after he appeared uncertain on prominent issues during a candidate's forum held in Warrandyte in late October.

"Look, that night was very interesting for me. I have made a point of speaking to residents since then, so I have picked up what I believe the needs are out there," he said.

He said traffic flow along Yarra Street was of concern, as well as finding suitable areas for horse riding.

But the strongest need was to build a retirement village, he said. "People in retirement villages are keen to live in the local area so they can maintain local friendships which is very important and use the local centres they have been used to using."

"Land is the major problem, and I haven't had time to investigate or overcome that, but if the land and zoning are there, I'm sure a developer could be

encouraged to do something," he said.

Cr Young said there was no land in Warrandyte for a retirement village. "I've asked everybody for the last eight years. The land that is empty is either Melbourne Water or Parks Victoria land and not Manningham's. With the Green Wedge strategy of no more subdivisions, we could probably get a planning permit changed, but you'd probably end up in Wonga Park."

"There are a lot of retirement villages around. You can't always live next door to where you used to live," she said.

Cr Young also reiterated her support for Warrandyte's occasional childcare centre: "I won't let it go because we need them desperately."

She said the Neighbourhood House deficit was now down to about \$1000 and would probably be positive the next year. She also dismissed a \$5000 anonymous donation which secured the short-term future of the centre last month, saying it "was a bit silly".

"I appreciate the anonymous person who gave the \$5000, but that doesn't help the Neighbourhood House with their finances," she said.

Creature from the Stiggants frog pond

We knew something potentially sinister was afoot when several people reported mysterious yellow marks on the grass between the two pavilions on the riverbank at Stiggants Reserve.

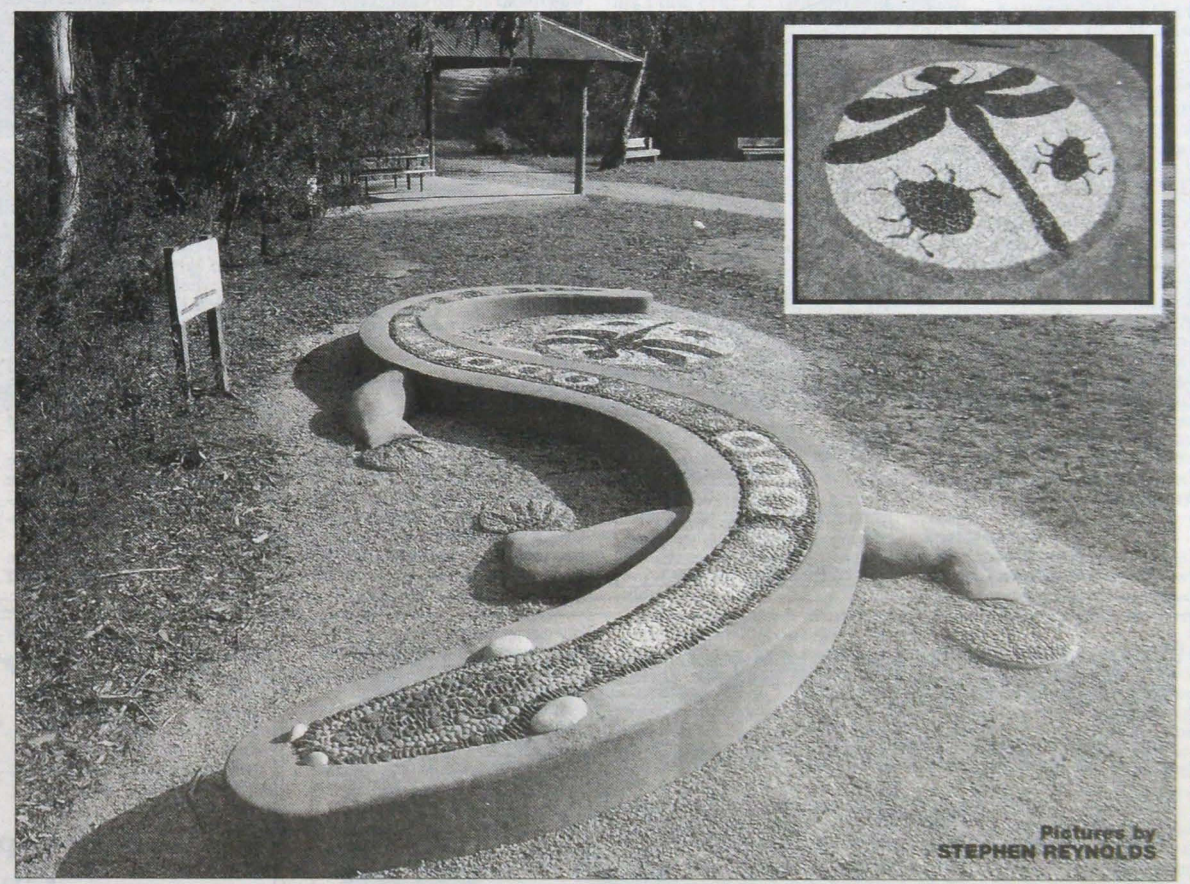
Then a few days later the giant concrete lizard (pictured) appeared. Or was it a goanna or a crocodile? It was certainly big and obviously permanent. Next we observed some workmen laying polished stones along its length. Now the creature seemed to be nurturing a giant dragonfly (inset). Or was it a mosquito?

Response from locals has been mixed: "It's an eyesore!" ... "I rather like it." ... "Another example of Manningham council deciding what's best for Warrandyte." Then we remembered a vague reference in council's management plan for the riverbank to a "sculptural play installation". This must be it! The kids certainly enjoyed running along it during the December market.

Repeated calls to council by a *Diary* reporter failed to elicit any meaningful answers to the questions: What's it for? Who designed it? How much did it cost? But as one local said, "At least it's not a traffic hazard, unlike the giant apple peel at the Fitzsimons Lane roundabout!"

—CLIFF GREEN

● Letter—Page 4



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GRIDLOCK-ON-YARRA

Congestion at bridge But it's all just spin

Judging from the huge turnout at the recent forum on our region's traffic issues, the Warrandyte Community Association are to be congratulated on their initiative.

Accommodating the wide divergence of views with a comprehensive solution, I fear, is not possible.

Although data to support traffic flow was not available, there is fear of too much through traffic using Nillumbik as a short cut. Congestion at the bridge during normal peak traffic and if any emergency occurred, was constantly raised.

To my view, the premise from which we start to judge this issue should be to recognise that we moved to this beautiful place to escape the suburban congestion, so we cannot consider a solution that will turn what we have and cherish into what we left behind.

We must preserve the essential character of Warrandyte, otherwise we become part of the urban sprawl.

Consider the issues.

1 *Through traffic:* As much as we like to blame council when things are not to our liking, this issue is outside the councils' ability to resolve. We can encourage both councils to petition and coordinate with VicRoads (the responsible authority) to ensure sufficient planning of arterial byways to avoid the Warrandyte bridge

DEAR DIARY

area. We cannot be expected to be the "lungs of Melbourne" with a strong conservation ethos (as endorsed by Melbourne 2030) but be allowed by government to deteriorate into another suburban raceway.

2 *Peak congestion:* Let's face it, at peak times, which last half an hour or so, we are held up between three to five minutes. Given the congestion in the suburbs, we can hardly expect VicRoads to give priority to additional bridges or similar (nor would we want them).

3 *Bushfire emergencies:* This issue, to me, is the hot one (pardon the pun). The police, CFA and SES have determined a response plan for such an eventuality. It is therefore appropriate for us to provide input to the Warrandyte Community Association so that they may examine the response plan and contribute to any review deemed appropriate.

As one speaker on the night remarked, "Sure, we are only worried about our patch, but if we don't, nobody else will".

WCA—may the power be with you!

Bob Stubbings
Bradley Lane

I would like to thank the WCA for the transport meeting, held earlier this month in quasi corporate style in our impressive new community centre. It has stimulated the following quasi corporate observations:

Garbage in garbage out: Our elected representatives, transport planners and road builders could offer no useful information about the origins and destination of the traffic causing bridge congestion. All we heard were vague notions of patterns and trends, useless unprocessed data, with the gentleman from VicRoads asking us to believe that the biggest road project in local history (Eastlink), terminating in Ringwood will decrease traffic through Warrandyte by 10 to 20 percent!

Keep the community nervous: We note yet again that the best way to control the people is first to frighten them with talk about bushfires, then offer them a simplistic solution—perhaps a second bridge or even a six-lane freeway? This is called the hysteria effect and in some quarters (Washington, Westminster, Kirribilli, Warrandyte?) is deemed world's best practice in community management.

Pass the buck: The oldest game in the book. While one level of government spends \$50 million per month (and that's just the tunnel) the other is overwhelmed by the prospect

of half a million on a footbridge linking the end of Bradleys Lane with the West End shopping centre. (A resident suggesting that the footbridge would encourage some of us to walk to school or the shops).

I believe in participatory decision making and am accustomed to being treated like a mushroom (kept in the dark and fed bullshit). If it's all true: "We have no plans...the models indicate a downturn...current roads will be adequate into the foreseeable future...traffic surveys are too expensive, complex and quite rare these days" then the whole lot of them ought to be sacked immediately.

But it is not true. It's all just spin, and the spin will keep turning in the hope that one day this kind of meeting will cease to exist, or better still beg the government to build the missing link.

I hope that the WCA will keep the butcher's paper, marked up for posterity. Let our grandchildren be the judge—we cared, we called decision-makers to account, we even had some kind of a vision for sustainable local development. And most of all I hope they see we kept this enchanted world intact, theirs for their grandchildren to know and love in their turn.

Jeremy Loftus-Hills
Kangaroo Ground Road

Church centenary

The Anglican Church (under the name of the Church of England) held what may have well been the first service in the area, two months after gold was found at Andersons Creek. Other services were held in the open air, or at the Church of England school, for some time until the erection of a small church—St Peter's, Andersons Creek—in 1870.

However, some time after the area of Andersons Creek was defined as Warrandyte, a new church building was constructed, re-named St Stephens, Warrandyte, and was opened by Archbishop Lowther Clarke on September 16, 1906.

While this original building was destroyed in the 1939 fires, a new building was constructed and thus, during this coming year, St Stephen's, Warrandyte, will have the joy of celebrating the centenary of St Stephen's, Warrandyte.

Gerry Gason
Vicar, St Stephen's
Anglican Church

Tribute to a teacher

Picture this. It's 1973 and I am 10 years old. I look up and see my Grade 4 teacher arriving at school. I recognise him by his leather jacket and noise of his Harley Davidson. All the kids run toward him to say, "Good morning, Mr McKenzie!"

Fast forward to 2005. The jacket may be newer, and the Harley updated, but still I see the kids run toward him to say, "Good morning!" Nothing has changed.

Des, you were an amazing teacher and a wonderful principal. I feel privileged to know you and to have both my children attend your school. I, for one, will miss you around the place. Good luck and best wishes with all your endeavours in the future. You are a hard act to follow.

Paula Sheldrick
(by e-mail)

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

Cartoon worry

I wish to state my very strong objection to a cartoon by "Jock" on page 3 of the October edition of the *Warrandyte Diary*.

This cartoon did not in any way illustrate the context of the associated editorial. It was utterly misleading and could lead to misunderstandings and community division. It completely missed the point.

Furthermore, in my opinion the "artist" committed the very offence for which he labelled the Park Orchards and Donvale community houses. That of discrimination.

With respect, I believe that your publication of such a misleading graphic was irresponsible.

Geoff Hipwell
Park Orchards

Thanks

Many thanks to whoever forwarded my letter to Lexie Blake. It is many years since we have been in touch and I was delighted to read her article about the early days of WAA. It brought back memories of so many good times. We were all

very young and enthusiastic in those days.

Warrandyte was still country and we had no power or water, let alone such luxuries as a library or infant welfare centre, kindergarten, etc., so we had to start all these things and we all got to know each other very well in the process.

Many thanks for the chance to catch up with old friends.

Joan Golding
(by e-mail)

Horse rugs

Summer will soon be here, and I expect to see horses wearing blankets right through summer, as I did last summer, and the summer before that.

Someone suggested to me that the horse blanket may actually keep them cool and protect them from the heat. If that is the case, they must be magic blankets that keep the horse warm in the winter and cool in the summer.

Perhaps some reader more knowledgeable than I can write to the *Diary* and explain the reason for horse blankets in summer.

Ron Bence
Hawkes Road

Concrete lizard

What were they thinking? Manninham council has recently spent what I imagine is a significant amount of money on installing what could only be described as an eyesore on the river walk at Warrandyte. A concrete lizard with mosaic inlay—but what is it for?

It can't be for sitting on, the uneven surface would make it uncomfortable. It can't be intended for a children's play

area, there are no interacting parts. It's certainly not a work of art; it's one of the most hideous monstrosities I've ever seen. The only use for it I can imagine, is to offend the local community and be utilised as a platform for graffiti artists and vandals. Keep the cash for environmental management, not tack!

Rachel Smith
(by e-mail)

Rescuing a dog

Thank you to a thoughtful resident! We wish we knew who you are.

On the morning of November 9, at approximately 8am, while driving your child to the high school, you found our dog Jedi dashing around on the main road (with obvious lack of road sense!). You kindly stopped and coaxed him to safe shelter at the Supersoil shop where Mark kept him safe and well for the day.

Our family was thrilled and hugely relieved to hear from

Mark at about 5pm that afternoon, after he'd spotted our notice at IGA.

We are immensely grateful to you and trust you may head this and know just how enormously happy you made this Warrandyte family by your kind and thoughtful deed. Another reason for our delight in living in such a wonderful community!

With sincere gratitude.

Sandi, Alan and Jesse
Givens-Lamb (by e-mail)

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to all our customers.
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support over the
past year.



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WCA TRAFFIC FORUM

Locals have their say

By SAM DAVIES

Unlike the traffic on Warrandyte bridge on a weekday morning, there was no impediment to the flow of ideas and comments raised at a Warrandyte Community Association forum addressing traffic issues.

Whether it was being at school on time, or fleeing a bushfire, more than 90 Warrandyte residents attended the balmy early December meeting at the North Warrandyte Community Centre and expressed their views.

About two-thirds of those attending were from North Warrandyte.

The purpose was to identify community issues and concerns relating to traffic in and around Warrandyte, provide current information on the issues, and to gain community views on the need for the association to formulate a traffic policy.

Representatives from state and local government and VicRoads also attended, shedding light on some of the restraints and alternatives for tackling traffic concerns. Manningham councillors Pat Young and Ron Kitchingman sent their apologies.

In her apology, Cr Young wrote, "I think Warrandyte's traffic problems are very small compared to the overall problem of cars in any municipality.

"Most residents would have very little knowledge of how VicRoads and the government traffic authorities control what is done and spent on roads...I feel it is council's work to formulate a traffic strategy for the Warrandyte precinct, not a community group who have no funding to pay for a draft traffic management plan," Cr Young said.

But during the first 15 minutes of the forum, during which residents discussed among themselves their greatest traffic worries, more than a dozen separate issues were identified.

Facilitator Bruce Turner summarised concerns under the five topics of traffic volume, emergency access, safety, public transport and maintenance of Warrandyte's local character.

Traffic volume encompassed views that included too much traffic, a lack of alternate routes for through traffic, poor road maintenance and choke points.

Key to this point was whether congestion, especially at the intersection of Kangaroo Ground and Research-Warrandyte roads were caused by through traffic taking short cuts, or by local school traffic.

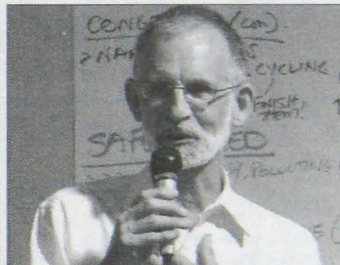
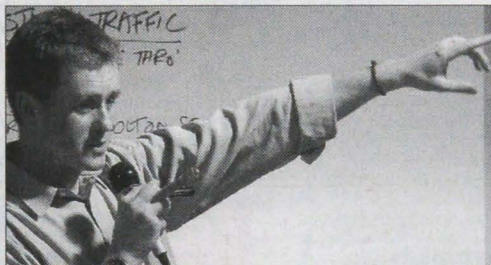
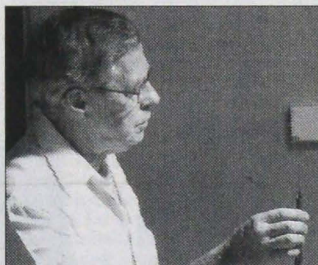
Anecdotally, it appears the problem could be due to the latter, as congestion is eased during school holiday periods.

However, one resident said travel between Ringwood and Tullamarine was 45 minutes faster going through Warrandyte.

With the extension of the Eastern Freeway due for completion in 2008 and the growth of suburbs in the north-east, many fear through traffic will be increased.



Picture by STEPHEN REYNOLDS



vicRoads' Bill Hronopoulos said while there was "no doubt" Warrandyte acted as a link between other hubs, models had revealed demand was not as high as people presumed, even suggesting traffic volume along Ringwood-Warrandyte Road may be reduced up to 20 percent when the freeway opens.

He said bridge congestion was only a problem some of the time.

An idea that Bolton Street in Eltham could be upgraded to encourage traffic along Fitzsimmons Lane was quashed by Nillumbik council's manager of infrastructure, Tom Young, who said that if the street was upgraded, then Eltham's main road would be downgraded.

Some residents called for the councils and VicRoads to conduct an origin destination survey, describing it "an essential exercise".

"We need to know how much of the traffic has no business in Warrandyte. We really do need this information. We don't even know what the problem is," one resident said.

Chris Sfetkidis, Manningham's client services engineer, said while council had conducted surveys of traffic volume, origin-destination surveys were expensive and were VicRoads', not council's, responsibility.

VicRoads was not very supportive of this idea. Mr Hronopoulos said such studies were not simple to undertake and had to be well thought-

out—specifically as regards the sample area—to get optimum results.

"It's no use doing a study now if in five years time another study is needed. The timing has to be right," Mr Hronopoulos said.

Regarding access during an emergency, key concerns were access for emergency service vehicles and the potential for gridlock.

Ash Wednesday fires were alluded to, with one resident recounting, "There was a whiff of smoke, and everyone panicked and blocked everybody off at the intersection".

"All manners went out the window, there was absolute bedlam," the resident said.

Particularly impassioned on

the topic was Trevor Pinder, who presented an idea to remove pedestrian access on the bridge for a third, southbound lane, which could alleviate traffic and be utilised by emergency services. He proposed an "ornate footbridge" on either side.

Some residents said an extra lane would encourage more traffic, which could mean more cars for emergency services to control.

On traffic safety, issues raised included a lack of pedestrian crossings and bike paths and general pedestrian safety.

North Warrandyte resident Jozika Kutin said there were advantages in leaving the bridge "bottleneck", in that it keeps the traffic slower and therefore safer, and discourages people from taking that route.

The speed of traffic on Research-Warrandyte Road and the absence of any marked crossing, especially opposite the North Warrandyte Community Centre, caused anxiety for some parents.

"With the winding and curving in the road, there is just not the time for kids to get back to safety once they have started to cross if a car comes," said North Warrandyte resident Andrea Waugh.

Of all the issues raised, an improved public transport service seemed the beacon of hope to alleviate traffic as compared to installing or overhauling road infrastructure.

There was general consensus the current bus system is too infrequent, inadequate and not user-friendly to cater for demand, especially for school children.

MP for Yan Yean Danielle Green said the bus service will be re-tendered next year, which should improve efficiency and service.

She also said councils were investigating a range of initiatives, including Travel-Smart, which aims to get more people using the public transport available, and a "walking bus" program whereby parents walk children to school in a large group.

The final topic of discussion was "maintenance of local character", which reinforced residents' views that they did not want Warrandyte to be seen as a major thoroughfare, or have to suffer significant infrastructure change to accommodate the traffic burden.

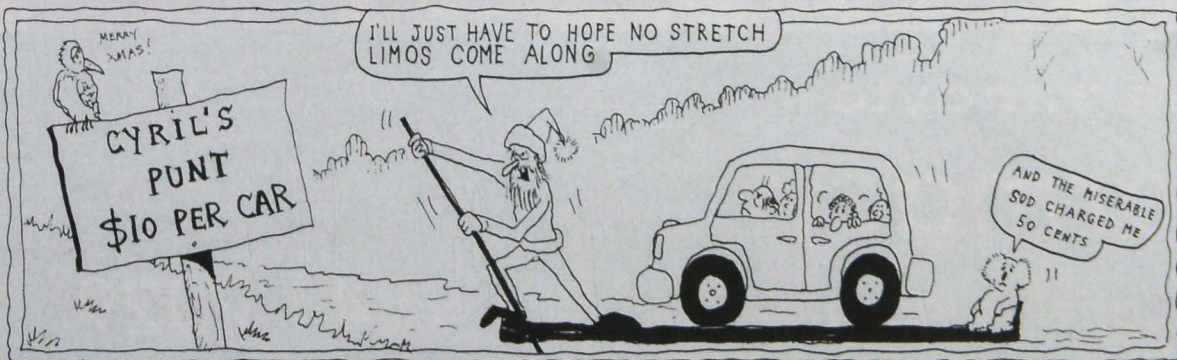
Since the forum, resident Theo Buskes has offered to investigate further quality of life issues, and will set up a transport subgroup to represent the Warrandyte community.

Former Nillumbik councillor Bob Stubbings will set up a WCA sub-committee to address emergency services aspects of the traffic problems.

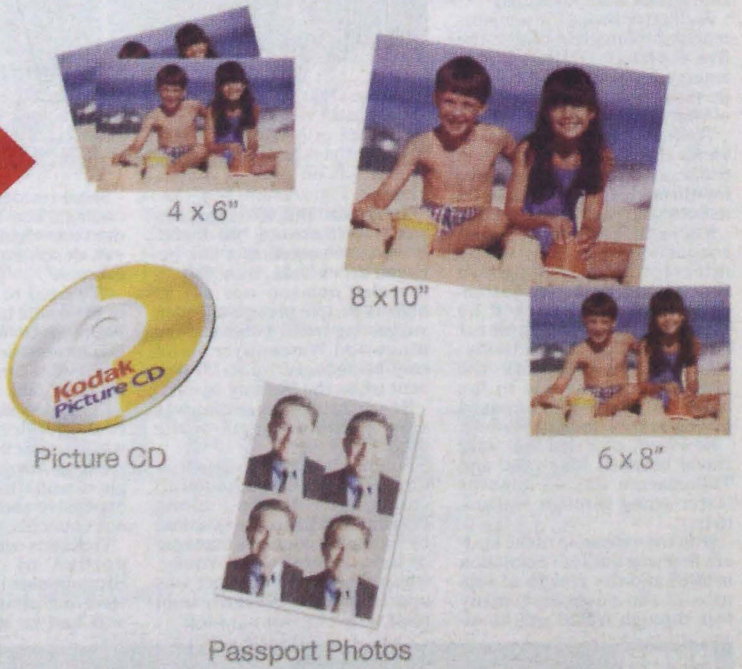
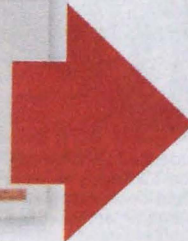
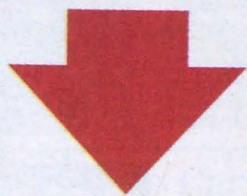
WCA president Dick Davies described the forum an overwhelming success, and said it demonstrated that Warrandyte's traffic issues warranted further attention.

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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Fire emergency plans

People will be directed to relief centres

By CLIFF GREEN

Plans are in place in an effort to avoid the chaos that ensued during the last bushfire emergency in Warrandyte in February 1991.

North Warrandyte residents, anxious to return home to check the safety of family and pets, and the condition of their property, were stopped at the bridge by police.

Many took matters into their own hands, abandoned their cars, walked across the bridge, even waded through the river, possibly endangering their lives.

"We have looked at the coroner's findings following the 1991 fire," Warrandyte police sergeant Keith Walker told the *Diary*. "We've also considered recommendations made by the local committee that reviewed the fire and its impact on the community."

"One of the biggest issues raised, certainly by locals, was the fact that they couldn't get back over the bridge to defend their homes or simply return to their homes for whatever reason," Sgt Walker said.

During a future fire situation, or any other major emergency, people who want to cross the bridge towards the fire front, or maybe escape from areas close to the fire, will be sent to an emergency relief centre.

"These centres would be located at Domeney Reserve and St Anne's primary school in Park Orchards, Whitefriars College in Donvale and Ted Ajani Reserve in Lower Templestowe," Sgt Walker said.

Red Cross will register everyone arriving at these centres. There will be a police presence at the relief centre, and they will be in contact with police at the municipal emergency control centre. People will be kept informed as to the progress of the emergency and when it is safe to go home.

"That information would come to the police from the CFA," Sgt Walker said. "So it's with their expert knowledge that we would be sending people back to defend their homes against ember attack."

"The firefront would have passed at that stage, so they're not being sent into a raging inferno. If they cross the river when they've been told not to,

they can create a hazard, not only to themselves, but also for emergency services. There'll be smoke around and they could easily collide with one of those big fire trucks coming down from any of the roads.

"Of course we don't want people going back to their homes if they are not adequately prepared and equipped. They should heed the warnings from the CFA—if you're going to go, go early. If you're going to stay—or return when the firefront has passed—have all the equipment."

If residents are properly prepared, they might be able to return within an hour. "I can't see that it would be several hours, which is what happened in February, 1991," Sgt Walker said. "The police will be very keen to get people back to their homes as soon as it's safe."

It may be possible for people waiting at an emergency relief centre to pass on information of a situation at their home that might be concerning them, the presence of pets, for example.

"That information could be channelled back to an emergency services worker who may be able to go and check on the situation," Sgt Walker said.

Outside traffic wishing to come through Warrandyte during an emergency would be dealt with at traffic diversion points.

"Initially, these would be established close to the centre of Warrandyte, at Jumping Creek Road, Warrandyte-Ringwood Road, the bridge, Harris Gully Road, Tindals Road and Pound Road.

"I would hope that, manpower permitting, we would be able to stretch those traffic diversion points further out, even as far as Fitzsimons Lane, so we are not going to have what happened in 1991, with traffic completely stopped, cars parked everywhere, making it hard for cars to get through, let alone fire trucks.

"We're not calling them 'road blocks', because we're not just stopping people and saying, 'This is where you'll stay.' We're giving them the option of being diverted to a relief centre, where they'll receive accurate information about the fire situation and be told when it is safe to go home," Sgt Walker said.



Images by STEPHEN REYNOLDS

Don't let Warrandyte burn this summer!

Gridlock fire fears

By CLIFF GREEN

Country Fire Authority officers are concerned that Warrandyte's peak period traffic gridlock could hinder access by emergency vehicles during a bushfire.

"People choosing to flee from the threat of approaching fire could also cause gridlock and traffic jams," Jeff Adair, manager community safety, CFA Yarra Area, told the *Diary*.

CFA has additional concerns that people will lose their lives as a result of a rapidly escalating fire situation.

"A last minute change of mind, fuelled by panic and lack of information could lead to tragedy," Mr Adair said.

"Warrandyte's road network is surrounded by forest and other vegetation. This combination, plus bad fire weather conditions, is likely to result in extreme fire behaviour leading to residents with no well-prepared fire plan making decisions which could cost their lives."

Many local residents do prepare and plan. "However, CFA

recognises there are large numbers of people who are either unaware of their risks, don't care or will 'wait and see' before making a decision," Mr Adair said.

Local topography, vegetation, housing density, poor roads and unreliable water supply are all factors that will contribute to deadly fire behaviour.

"A rapid-onset fire will cause confusion, create panic and people will be looking for information regarding the location, direction of travel, speed and ferocity of an approaching firefront. This information will probably be obtained from the Victorian bushfire information line, ABC 774 or from radio scanners.

"People may use this information to make decisions about whether they are able to stay and defend or hope to leave ahead of the fire. This is too late. These decisions must be made before the onset of the fire season."

Warrandyte's last major fire was in February, 1991. Since

then many new residents have settled here unaware of the very real fire risks. Some longer-term residents will have dropped their guard and left vital prevention and preparation work until the last minute. Others may feel comfortable that they will be able to get out.

"For those living in parts of North Warrandyte and other high fire risk areas, who intend to wait and see, they may very well find themselves trapped and having to fend for their lives from inside a car being engulfed by fire," Mr Adair said.

This summer is already proving to be wetter and hotter than previous years. Growth is luxuriant with grasslands providing fuel for a hot, fast-travelling fire. Predictions are that we face a hot, dry summer.

"Warrandyte and its surrounding forests are dry and hungry at the best of times. As we move into the height of summer all we need is one bad day with extreme weather conditions and a rapidly escalating fire. We could then witness ex-

tensive house and property loss; even loss of life.

"Loss of life will be more likely if people are caught in fire gridlock," Mr Adair said. "But this scenario is avoidable."

CFA is committed to helping people plan and prepare. "We have a number of staff available to work with individuals and families who don't know where to start planning. We will also assist those who have existing plans but would like to review and update them. CFA volunteer brigades are also a valuable source of local knowledge and expertise."

Further information can be obtained from:

- Warrandyte CFA—9844 3375.
- North Warrandyte CFA—9844 3283.
- South Warrandyte CFA—9844 2861.
- Wonga Park CFA—9722 1463
- CFA regional office—9735 0511.
- Victorian bushfire information line—1800 240 667.

Ho Ho time again



Santa will be visiting kids in Warrandyte, South Warrandyte, North Warrandyte, Park Orchards, Warranwood and parts of Donvale and North Ringwood by fire truck, courtesy of your local CFA brigade, between 9am and 1pm on Sunday, December 18.

Proper equipment will be vital

Mops, buckets, torches, blankets and towels are some of the common household items used to defend homes during bushfire, but to be fully prepared other equipment may be necessary.

"If you have decided to stay and defend your home you must have personal protective clothing, hoses, an independent water supply and a way to access it, such as a firefighting pump," Warrandyte CFA captain Shane Murphy told the *Diary*.

Protective clothing should include a long-sleeved shirt, trousers, solid footwear, sturdy gloves and protective glasses for everyone prepared to defend.

"Firefighters wear protective clothing to survive and so should you. Everyone should wear clothing that protects from radiant heat, even if they are not actively fighting the fire," Mr Murphy said.

Blankets and towels can be used to seal any gaps under doors and around windows to prevent embers from entering the home and starting a fire. "Embers can also enter gaps in the roof. Have a ladder and a torch on hand to check for fires in the roof space."

The most effective way to extinguish fires is with water. Hoses will need to reach all areas of the property. "Don't be caught short. Metal hose fittings are preferable to plastic ones as they don't melt."

Don't depend on mains water during a bushfire. "A rainwater tank is ideal but other options to store water include swimming pools, accessible dams or even rubbish bins and wheelbarrows placed around the house."

You may also need a petrol, diesel or electric pump to deliver your water reserves. "If you choose an electric pump you will need a generator



as mains power often fails during a bushfire.

People in areas of high fire risk should prepare a bushfire survival plan; "how you will prepare for fire and how you will respond in times of emergency."

"You will have to decide if you are going to leave early, before a fire threatens and road travel becomes hazardous, or stay and defend your home," Mr Murphy said. "Having the right equipment is critical if you want to defend your home."

"When the risk of bushfire is high, CFA will be on full alert, but it isn't possible to give personal warnings to every home. Listen to your local ABC radio. Keep in contact with your neighbours. And watch for smoke. Staying informed could save your life!"

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

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WHS teachers Claire Bloom (centre) and Judy Steel (right) are presented with first prize, an IBM data processor.

Warrandyte High top of computer class

Warrandyte High School celebrated a trifecta of prestigious IT awards last month.

Teachers Judy Steele and Claire Bloom won an IBM data processor, first prize in the Schools Library Association web quest award.

"This was based around the students planning, developing and marketing their own restaurant," a school spokesperson told the *Diary*.

Year 11 multimedia student Chris McLean was judged top student in the

education department's digital design awards, receiving a prize of \$750, presented by minister Jacinta Allen at the Victorian IT teachers conference.

Chris designed an interactive story-book.

Classmate Shaun Johnstone secured a place at the National Computer Summer School in Sydney.

"Shaun is developing a web portal and a topic specific search engine, tailored to the needs of an Australian charity," the spokesperson said.

Zoe wins memorial award

Singer Zoe Thomas (pictured below) has won the 2005 Christie Lawrence and Luke Mayall Memorial Fund Award.

The \$3000 award—established to mark the memory of two young local people who died in a freak road accident—is made each year to support the careers of young people in the performing arts and hospitality industries.

Zoe treated the crowd of 40 well-wishers to "a brilliant performance" of *And All That Jazz* from the musical *Chicago*. "The acoustics of the atrium at the Warrandyte Community Centre never sounded so good," a spokesperson told the *Diary*.

Previous winners Trumble Dewe, Melissa Chubb and Kelly Wooster attended the award ceremony and spoke fondly of the encouragement they had been given by the fund.

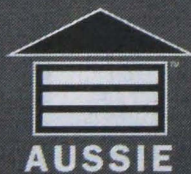


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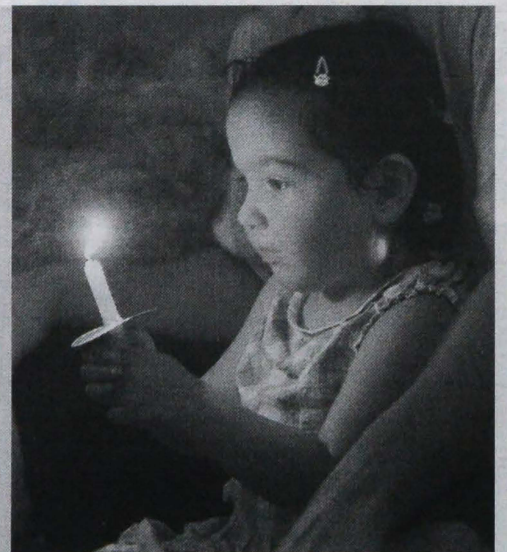
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O'Mara rools. Okay?

By EMMA CLARK

Well-known local residents Kevin and Alison O'Mara have been chosen King and Queen of the 2006 Warrandyte Festival.

Kevin, musician and music teacher, was a member of the Paradiddle folk band for many years and founder and leader of the Warrandyte Primary School's bush band. More recently, he was named YMCA's Victorian Father of the Year for 2005.

The theme of next year's festival is "Sounds of Warrandyte", no doubt reflecting the bush environment and our vivid musical culture.

"It is appropriate that such a well-known local musical personality should be chosen to rule over next year's festivities," a festival spokesperson told the *Diary*. "Kevin's guitar-playing and his singing voice are truly among the 'sounds of Warrandyte'."

Next year's festival will be held on April 8 and 9 instead of its usual time in March. This change is due to the early school holidays as a result of the Commonwealth



Warrandyte's royal family: Alison and Kevin O'Mara.

Games in Melbourne.

In an effort to cut down the number of people arriving at

the festival by car, and to help alleviate parking problems, the committee is estab-

lishing secure bicycle storage facilities close to the festival site.

Final cemetery go-ahead

By SAM DAVIES

Three years of debate concerning Warrandyte's cemetery extension is finally over, with the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal approving the extension in mid-November.

VCAT recommended the expansion be approved with 27 conditions, and Manningham council issued a permit to the cemetery trust the following day.

Trust chairman John Chapman said this decision ensured there were places for people in Warrandyte who died during the next 12 years to be buried—if they or their families so wished.

"We felt it was the right thing for the community," he said.

But re-elected Manningham councillor Patricia Young said the decision was "sad", and suggested the land would have been

"a perfect spot" for retirement units.

The land, purchased from the Catholic Church, is about 5000 square metres, and will accommodate nearly 1000 graves which could take up to 1500 people with re-openings. Only plaques will mark the grave sites.

Other restrictions include not using rock-breaking equipment, which will limit the depth of about half of the graves and restrict the capacity for taking re-openings.

The trust must also erect a visual barrier and maintain a 15-metre distance between graves and the residence at 22 Brackenbury Street, which abuts the new site.

The visual barrier includes landscaping and a two-metre high slatted fence.

No headstones, buildings, or toilets can be installed, and the trust will only be allowed two Saturday burials and none on

Sunday, which are uncommon anyway.

Mr Chapman said it could be 12 months before the extension was ready for burials, which could mean a hiatus on new burials for a few months. "But hopefully not," he added.

"We haven't actually paid for it yet. That is in the hands of the consultants. Then the landscape designer will have to prepare final design plans which will be approved, and then we'll start preparing the land," Mr Chapman said.

Debate on the proposed cemetery extension began three years ago, and at times attracted strong opposition from local resident groups.

Mr Chapman said the process had been taxing.

"But we persevered because we believed it was the right thing to do," he said.

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- Make sure under the home is clear of combustible material;
- Move firewood away from the walls of your home;
- Cover vents and crevices with fine wire to prevent sparks and embers entering;
- Gutters should be cleaned;
- Ensure access to adequate static water supplies;
- Check and have your firefighting equipment serviced;
- Most importantly—make sure you have a practical bushfire plan in place. Decide whether you will stay and protect or leave early. Consider who will be home and when. More than one plan may be needed to cover different scenarios.



Community bank invests in kinder kid's future business

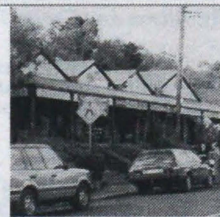


Business banking: Warrandyte Community Bank donated \$300 to the Taroona Avenue kinder so they could set up a toy shop. Alec and Jasmine showed manager Mark Challen how it all works. (Picture by Judy Green)

APRIL 7-9



THE SOUNDS OF WARRANDYTE



Key Decisions

October 2005

These are some of the decisions made by Council on Tuesday 18 October 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)

Issued a permit at 55 Eltham Yarra Glen Road and 35 New Road Kangaroo Ground for the purpose of use of the land for group accommodation subject to conditions.

Issued a Notice of Refusal to Grant a Permit at 95 Pitt Street, Eltham for the development of two double storey dwellings.

Submitted a proposal to the Registrar of Geographic Names, to rename the southern section off Shaftesbury Avenue, St Andrews as Proctor Street; and advised the submitters, affected property owners and relevant authorities, including street directory publishers, of the outcome.

Given notice of its intention to declare Special Charges for the construction of the Latrobe Road and North Oatlands Road, Yarrambat, Special Charge Scheme and Cullen Crescent and Seymour Drive Special Charge Scheme.

Noted the introduction of interim arrangements for municipal waste management in metropolitan Melbourne.

Advised the Department of Sustainability and Environment of its general support for the preparation of the draft Practice Note on Sustainable Rural Residential Use and Development; strongly advocated to the Department of Sustainability and Environment that the Practice Note be modified to take into account some concerns particularly that it also apply to issuing permits; and brief and seek the support of local members of parliament for their position on this matter.

Advised residents in the Ironbark Road and Pioneers Road area that Council will not consider any rezoning of land within this locality for residential purposes as such rezoning would be contrary to Melbourne 2030 and the Nillumbik Planning Scheme Municipal Strategic Statement; that Council considers that there are no grounds for any compensation arising from the past or current zoning of

the land, the payment by residents for water supply to the Plenty-Yarrambat Waterworks Trust not the rating history of the land by the former Shire of Diamond Valley; and advise the Minister and Shadow Ministers for Local Government, Planning and Environment, the Member for Yan Yean, Yarra Valley Water and the City of Banyule of Council's consideration and determination of this matter.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Endorsed the agreements reached between Council's officers and the Management Committee of Hohnes Road Playhouse to implement an Interim Action Plan and new Funding and Service Agreement.

Supported the submission of an application to the Sport and Recreation Victoria Community Facilities Funding Program 2006-07 in relation to the proposed developments referred to in this report by Eltham Basketball Club at the Eltham High School. Agreed to make a forward commitment of \$50,000 from the 2006-07 budget to support the Eltham Basketball Club proposal should the grant application be successful and requested officers provide a further report to the November Ordinary meeting regarding Sport and Recreation Victoria Minor Facilities and Planning Applications.

GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Amended parts of the Meeting Procedure Local Law No 6. Amendments are to come into effect on 27 October 2005. Public notice of these amendments will be made to the Government Gazette and a copy of the amended local law will be available for inspection at the Shire Offices and sent to the Minister for Local Government. Finally, a further report to the November Council meeting will outline proposals to pursue other means of engaging faith communities in Nillumbik.

Adopted the Nillumbik Shire Council 2004-2005 Annual Report.

Deferred adoption of the proposed Special Rates and Charges Policy and Procedure 2005, pending further consideration of the matters.



Andersons Creek kids, and their principal Des Mckenzie, present writing and drawing materials to Rotary Club members.

Kids collect a uteload of smiles

The Rotary Club of Warrandyte is helping children in Zimbabwe through a project entitled "Draw a Child's Smile".

"Unlike children in Australian schools and kindergartens, Zimbabwe children lack the very basics—like pencils, cray-

ons and chalk—to draw and learn to write," a club spokesperson told the *Diary*.

Rotary appealed to Andersons Creek Primary School principal Des Mckenzie for help, and he approached every school in Eastern Region.

"The response was amazing. To date, one overloaded utility, a car load and several large boxes have been delivered," the spokesperson said.

"Just imagine the smiles that the pencils, crayons and chalk will bring to the faces of young

children in Zimbabwe. With your assistance, these needy children can have fun drawing and developing their creativity, as well as learning to write."

If you can help, please call on Margory Lapworth on 9844 4495.

Groups win council funding

A number of local organisations received funding under Manningham council's community grants program for 2005-06.

Successful applicants include Warrandyte Uniting Church, who received \$3500 towards their peace wall, Warrandyte High School, who were awarded \$2500 for social citizenship training, and the Lions Club of Warrandyte who received \$2400 to promote tennis for people with disabilities.

Wyena Adult Riding Club were granted \$2000 for mobile show jumps, Park Orchards Community House received \$1500, marking their 20th anniversary, as did the Warrandyte Senior Citizens Club, to help fund their concert party. The Pottery Expo at Warrandyte was granted \$1000.

Council awarded a total of \$92,000 to 38 community organisations across the municipality.

"Manningham recognises the value and good work of not-for-profit groups and the community grants program is one way council helps these groups develop projects that benefit different sectors of the community," a spokesperson told the *Diary*.

Pets fear fireworks

The decision to again include fireworks at the carols concert at Stiggants this month, the probability that local New Year celebrations will include fireworks and the possibility that they will be a feature of the Warrandyte Festival next April has alarmed some local residents, fearful for the welfare of their pets.

Manningham council has responded to this concern, calling on all residents to take special care of their pets on these occasions.

"Celebrations and fireworks displays can disturb some domestic pets and council is asking owners to secure their pets and ensure that their animals are safe during these events," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

Dogs, especially, have extremely sensitive hearing and the noise from fireworks and thunderstorms causes them to panic and become distressed.

"Many dogs do abnormal things when stressed, like jumping over fences, chewing through or digging under fences," the spokesperson said. "This can create a very unsafe situation for everyone, causing traffic hazards and sometimes fear-aggression in dogs."

"If you are aware or may be concerned that fireworks and thunderstorms affect your dog, ensure that your animal is secured in a safe location, preferably in the house or garage or have someone stay with your animal."

In previous years, council officers have reported a heavy increase in the number of calls from residents reporting missing pets frightened by fireworks displays. So it is important to check that your dog is wearing a collar and tag, with relevant details attached.

Should you lose a pet as a result of fireworks or thunderstorms, check with your neighbours and then the Manningham Pound on 9840 9333.

"Remember too that dogs distressed by fire-



Fireworks at the 2004 carols concert. Will your pets be safe?

works or thunderstorms that escape their premises can travel large distances and neighbouring council pounds and animal shelters should also be checked," the spokesperson said.

"A permit is required for the use of fireworks in Victoria and those undertaking a display are reminded to be considerate of the effect on nearby animals." Permits to use fireworks can be obtained from the Victorian Workcover Authority (9565 9444).

Any illegally discharging of fireworks should be reported to Workcover Authority 1800 136 089 or Manningham council. On-the-spot fines of \$200 can be issued.

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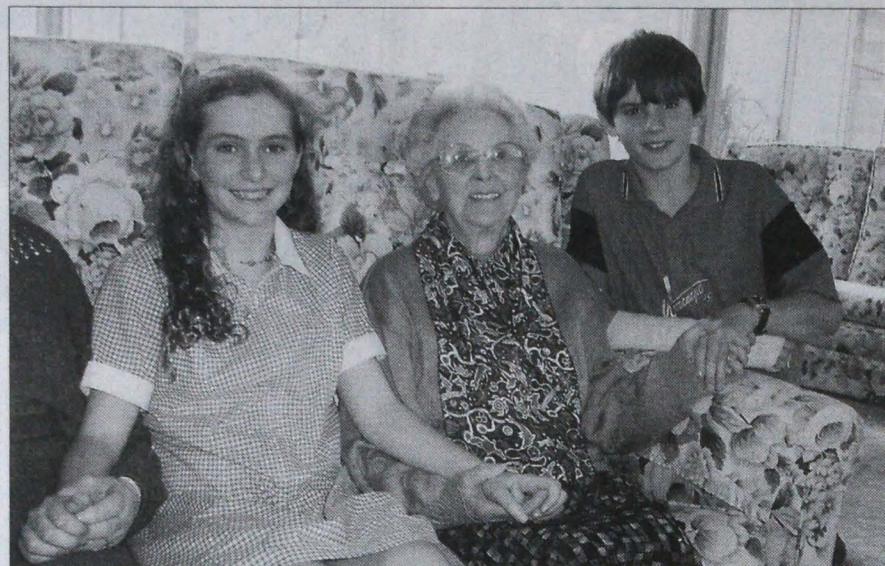
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Kids honour the heroes



Billy and Breda enjoyed spending time with this elderly resident.

Senior students from Warrandyte Primary School marked Remembrance Day last month with a visit to the elderly residents of Amaroo Gardens.

The kids sang Australian songs, performed traditional bush dancing and then joined residents in the Pride of Erin. Mark Johnson played the Last

Post for the traditional two minutes silence and the students served lunch and helped many of the oldies to their tables.

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Kate tells a great story



Kate Burns, Year 12 student at Warrandyte High, has been awarded second place in a Future Leaders writing competition. She is shown accepting her award from Nobel Prize winner, Jose Ramos-Horta, East Timor's foreign minister. Future Leaders is a national initiative that seeks to involve, inform and inspire young people. The writers' prize rewards talented young writers and encourages expressive and creative writing about issues in Australian society.

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Pools: keep safe this summer

With a long summer ahead, residents are urged to play it safe near water.

"Water holds a fascination for children and they are especially at risk of drowning," a Manningham council spokesperson told the *Diary*. "If you are a pool owner, don't run the risk, install fencing that conforms to building regulations around your home pool or spa."

Residents are urged to familiarise children with water by having swimming lessons and keeping them under constant supervision.

"Be vigilant, even during bath time," the spokesperson said.

"Building regulations require all pools to be provided with a suitable barrier to restrict children under the age of five years from gaining access to the section of the allotment or building containing a swimming pool or spa."

Residents whose pool do not comply may receive an on-the-spot fine of \$200. The state government has increased maximum fines to \$5000.

"Council strongly recommends anyone who has not complied with these requirements to contact council for assistance and also to request an information kit by phoning 9840 9333, or speak to a private building surveyor," the spokesperson said.

DIARY VOLUNTEERS

Remembering our priceless people

Each month the *Warrandyte Diary* appears as if by magic.

Each month we cover the local news and sport, take up the community's issues, help you laugh a little. Our pictures have been a window on your local world. We touched on some of the personalities and characters in this town—and remembered those who have left us.

Especially magical is the fact that the entire publication is written, illustrated, photographed, designed and delivered by volunteers, local people who donate their time and their skills to produce this newspaper, especially for this community.

Time now to pay tribute to these hardworking stalwarts.

This year, news stories were written by Sam Davies, David Wyman, Cliff Green, Sandy Burgoyne, Emma Clark, Meaghan O'Connor, Erin Carter and Stuart Teather.

Columnists included Smokey Joe, Roger Kibell, Pat Coupar, Marilyn Moore and Judy Green.

Features were contributed by Glen Jameson, Prudence Truby King, Don Charlwood and Alicia Teather. We published poetry by Karen Throssell and Corinne Fenton.

Sports stories were written by Lee Tindale, Robert White, Clinton Grybas, Judy Green, Tony Oliver, Dennis J. Hoiberg, Sonia Rappel and Gilchrist Clendinnen.

Occasional contributors included Ruth Rankin, Bob Millington, Doreen Burge, Ann

Lee, Jeff Adair, Anthony Hestall, Danielle Green, Phil Honeywood, Elizabeth Horner, Meredith Lenne and Lexie Blake.

Our pages were illustrated with photographs by Stephen Reynolds, Sandy Burgoyne, Jan Tindale, Emma Clark, Judy Green, Ian Craig, Tony Pimlott and John Jeffrey. Black and white art has always been a feature of the *Diary*, and this year our artists included Jock Macneish, Paul Williams, Melanie Coupar, Ona Henderson, Syd Tunn and Wayne Rankin.

The paper was edited and designed by Cliff Green, Lee Tindale and Robert White. Sandy Burgoyne maintained our index and edited our website, sending our newspaper around the world. Rachel Schroeder set the type, designed the ads and supervised production, assisted by Mark Schroeder. Streamline Press printed our paper and John Ingram delivered press material.

Rae Danks charmed our advertisers, kept our accounts and managed our office and John Roberts looked after our corporate responsibilities. Don Humphreys kept our office spic and span and Peter Norman and Joyce Norman (assisted by Betty Oke and Neal Tessier) took our newspaper out to our many, much appreciated distribution points.

Last, but certainly not least, we remember the folk who

CLYDE & OCKER



"Do you get extra money being online, Ock?"
"No, Clyde, that's why I'm walking!"

make it all financially possible—our esteemed advertisers.

And finally, heartfelt thanks to our many loyal and enthusiastic readers, with a special mention for those who have contributed to our Dear Diary page.

We're taking a break over Christmas and the New Year, but we'll be back, bright-eyed and bushy-tailed on Wednesday, February 8, 2006. We close copy on Friday, January 27. In the meantime, here's wishing everyone a joyous Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

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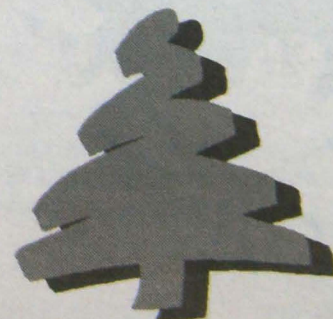
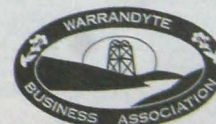
Under the gum trees, beside the Yarra on Stiggants Reserve, Yarra Street. First Saturday of each month — except January, 9am-1pm.

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

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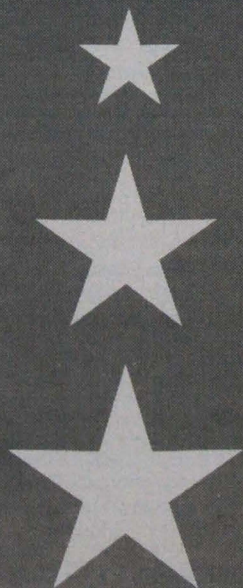
Warrandyte shops
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and a safe and prosperous New Year*



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Price: \$1.4million plus buyers



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KANGAROO GROUND

"Oakfield Hall"

This magnificent Yarra Valley property offers 12.5 acres of fertile ground with a further 3 acres of landscaped gardens. The grand architect-designed 4 BR plus study home comes complete with a sep. historical bungalow, tennis court, swimming pool and more.

Price: \$1.9 million plus buyers



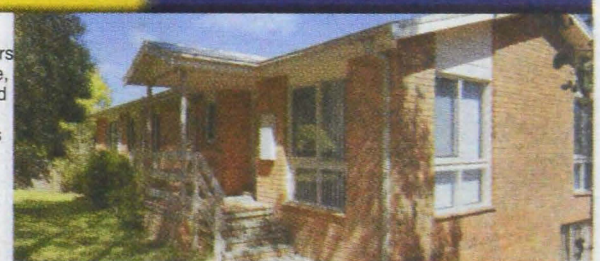
FOR SALE

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



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"Perfect view, perfect home"

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.

Price: \$595,000 plus buyers



FOR SALE

WARRANDYTE SOUTH

"The charm of yesteryear"

This new 2BR home offers the charm of yesteryear with a sleek modern interior. Features air-conditioning, open plan living spaces, mezzanine master BR with WIR, soaring ceilings, polished timber floors and rear deck with amazing views.

Price: \$320,000 plus buyers



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"Sirocco apartments"

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Price: from \$269,950



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WARRANDYTE

"City Skyline Views"

Set on over 2.5 acres with stunning views, this captivating mudbrick home offers peace & tranquillity with exposed brick and warm timber ceilings providing richness in character. 4BRs, 3 sep living zones, 2 bath-rooms, double carport & workshop. Truly a Warrandyte home!

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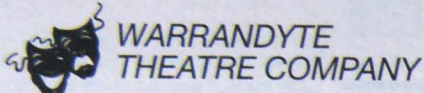


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wishes to mention and thank all local traders who contributed to our recent raffle:

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- Riveresque
- Earth Harmony
- Body Sculpt
- Country in the City Furniture & Homewares
- Warrandyte Pharmacy
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- Stonehouse Potters

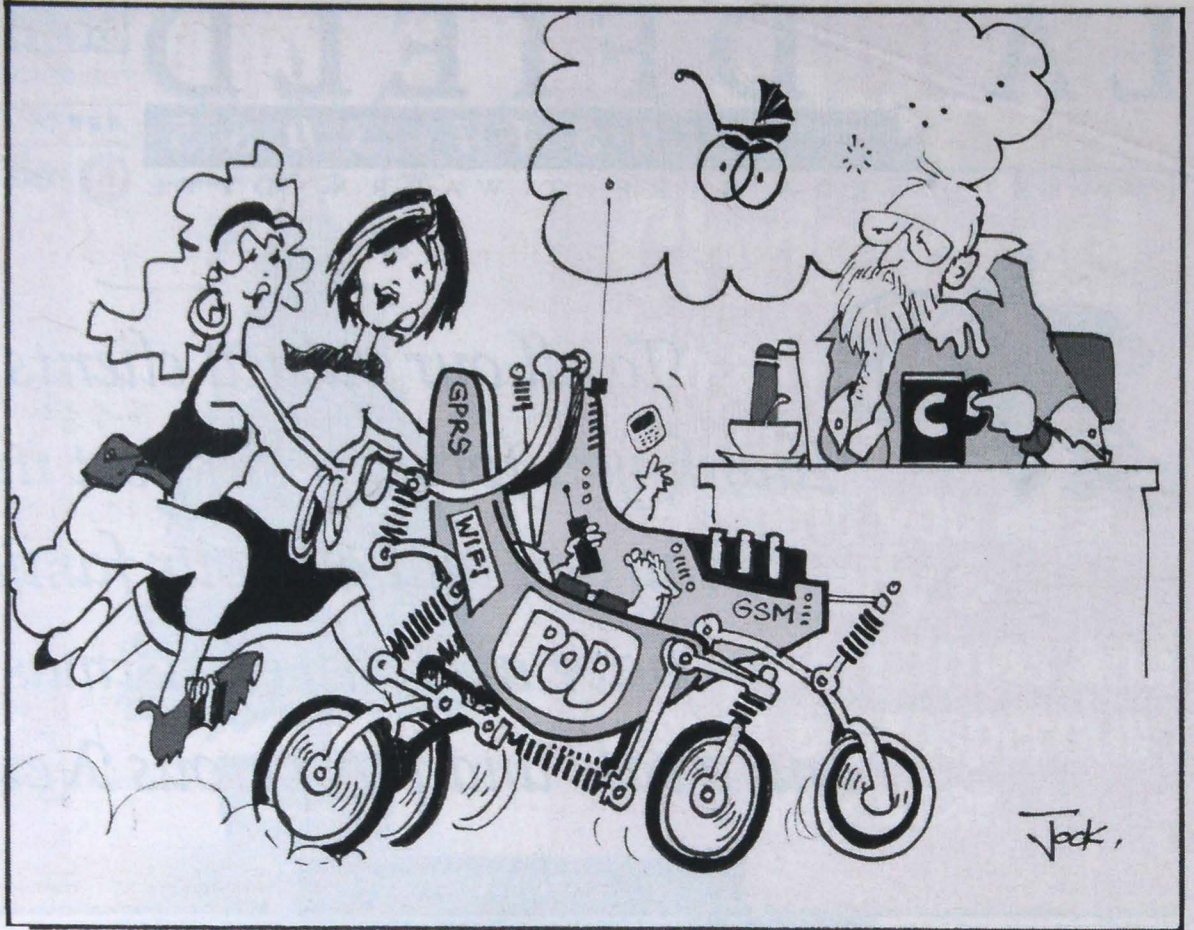
And the following for publicity:

- Vicki Gardiner & Associates
- Eastern FM, Brian Amos
- Warrandyte Diary
- Manningham Leader
- Plenty Valley FM, Maree and Kevin

Especially Vicki Gardiner & Associates for the generous support in providing our billboard and poster.

Many thanks & Merry Christmas!

EDITORIAL AND AD COPY CLOSSES ON THE LAST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH



Grandfathers should be seen and not heard...

I'm in shock! For those who know me, this won't come as much of a surprise. There are lots of things about life that faze me. I suppose I must be congenitally naïve or as Herself states quite frequently, I "must go around with my eyes and ears closed".

Take, for example, my dismay that carbon paper isn't used much these days. I went to buy a receipt book and when I got home, thought I'd been duded as there were no carbon paper sheets inside the back cover. I ranted and raved and fumed about the fact that it would take me time and expense to hop in the car, drive all the way back to the shop just to remedy some inefficiency at the receipt book manufacturers.

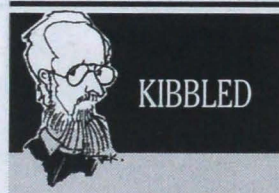
Just as I was about to begin my Moral Outrage Crusade, Herself rugby-tackled me and quietly drew my attention to the fact that the pages were magic. Evidently, there is such a thing as pressure sensitive paper. You just place the cardboard under the second sheet and write. Hey presto, a duplicate is produced without the need for carbon paper.

"Why didn't I know this?" I cried in desperation. "Why are these things kept secret?"

By this time, Herself was gnawing the edge of the table; a desperate need to alleviate a mineral deficiency, I assume.

So, I think, it was with unnecessary fear and trepidation that Herself raised the issue of baby gear.

"Now, when we go looking for



"Evidently, there is such a thing as pressure sensitive paper. You just place the cardboard under the second sheet and write. Hey presto, a duplicate is produced."

equipment for our grandchildren, you won't put on one of your normal, embarrassing dumb acts will you? I've had just about enough of you arguing with sales staff about what is and isn't appropriate."

"When have I ever been difficult when we've gone shopping together?"

Herself breathed a very deep sigh and walked to the car.

I knew we were in the wrong

type of shop when I saw the display of baby gear, all sporting galactic price tags. My apprehension didn't get any better when I spied shelves stuffed with "essential" baby goods.

"Where are the baby bassinets?" I whispered.

"You can't have those now. They're not safe."

What do you mean? That's what you use to transport them in the car."

"For heaven's sake. Where have you been for the past few decades? You have to have professionally installed restrainers and the pushers often have capsules that can be docked with the car seat. Now, remember what you promised. Don't be difficult. Just leave it to me and whatever you do, don't argue!"

As the barely-pubescent shopgirl approached, I sidled off to examine the merchandise.

I decided to start at the back of the shop, in what I thought was the safe section. There, at least were the traditionally reliable cots.

"May I help you, sir?"

"Just looking, thanks. Just buying some gear for the grandchild. Fortunately, we still have the old cast iron cot our kids used so we won't need a new one."

"Unless the bars are too far apart."

"Pardon!"

"You can't possibly use a cot where the bars are further apart than a woman's fist. You don't want to run the risk of a baby being able to push its head through the bars, do we? And they can't have any knobs

that baby can catch his clothes on either."

Just as I was about to reassure the salesperson that I was not a serial child murderer and that we had managed to raise two children quite safely, Herself caught my attention by the elbow and directed me towards the "safety equipment" section.

"What sort of rip-off joint is this," I asked, in what I thought was a positive tone.

"I knew you'd be like this. Why don't you go and sit in the car whilst I do the rest?"

Instead, I sat and had a coffee and observed the new parents. Where were the strollers? They all seemed to be driving two metre long three-wheelers, the sort that, when folded, would require a Toorak Tank to fit them. I suddenly panicked. What if Herself buys one of those! It'll never fit into our ordinary car's boot, and it won't be able to go in the back seat, as that will be full of spaceship capsules. I ran.

"Don't buy anything until we talk about it!" I gasped.

"I thought I asked you..."

"We'll need to buy a Centurion Tank if you get sucked in by all the trendy hype!"

"I'm not a complete fool, Roger! I know all about boots and backseats. If you just kept up with things instead of living in a dream world..."

I looked at the pile on the counter and my mind drifted back to an era of long hair, flares, bouncinettes and blissful ignorance.

ROGER KIBELL

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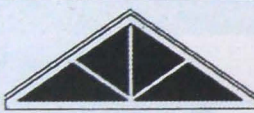
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A whale of a time with the denizens of the deep

NATURE

By PAT COUPAR

I HAD thought about this day for a long time. With the alarm set for 5.45am, I was awake at five—such was my anticipation.

The drive up the coast from Mallacoota took about an hour and the forest looked magnificent, with a flush of pinky-bronze new growth on all the young eucalypts. I hadn't been down here at quite this time of year before. Never seen the creamy-yellow massed flowering of the Black Wattles or the vivid crimson blooms of the bottlebrush that clustered together in damp depressions. Most spectacular were the spikes of pink-flowered trigger plants as thick as a shag-pile carpet in open places beside the highway.

We arrived at the Eden wharf as passengers were boarding the large catamaran. We joined the queue. For some, like myself, this trip was the first chance to see whales in the wild. After a preliminary introduction and compulsory explanation of safety regulations, we headed out into Twofold Bay desperately hoping that we would encounter some of these sea-living mammals. For it is late in the season and many of the Humpbacks have already headed south across Bass Strait to their summer feeding grounds in Antarctica.

We had only been going about 15 minutes when the cry went out "whales—'bout 500 metres ahead". As we cruised nearer we could see much splashing. There are strict limits on how close to the whales boats are allowed to go, but whales are curious creatures and often approach the boat—as we soon



discovered.

There were two of them. Massive. Majestically rising to the surface in a graceful arching roll. One was putting on a show, repeatedly raising the rear of its glistening leathery body and powerfully slapping its tail fluke back onto the water with a gigantic splash. We watched this display for about 10 minutes, united in silent admiration and awe. Suddenly the whale disappeared and emerged again on the other side of the boat. That's how close it was! Before leaving, the whale performed one more remarkable act, rearing vertically out of the ocean, exposing for one brief moment its rippled, white, barnacle-encrusted belly in a breathtaking display.

Further on we came upon another animal. This one was on its back lazily smacking the water with its long flexible pec-

toral fins—the longest of any whale species in comparison to body length. Then, rolling over, it rejoined the pod and with a groaning "whoosh" sent up a plume of vapour that lingered in the air like fine mist long after the whale had submerged.

There were quiet times in between the intensity of the sightings. Resting my back against the rail as the boat rose and fell on a gentle swell, I watched the coastline pass by. Long stretches of rugged terracotta red cliffs capped with forests of endless green. A wilderness unsullied by roads or buildings. Its very inaccessibility its greatest protection.

Experiencing such moments connects me with the universe and puts my life back in perspective, filling me with an overwhelming feeling of peace. That is why I return to these places again and again.

My reverie was broken as the shout "whales" went out again. We all rushed to the front of the boat, cameras raised. This time it was a mother and calf, but although they came close to the boat they had no time for play. The Southern Ocean called.

On the way back to the house I thought about the whales and how close they had come to extinction. Between 1900 and 1965 around 200,000 Humpbacks were slaughtered in the southern hemisphere.

What atrocious acts of terror our species had inflicted on these gentle creatures. Somehow the species survived and each year numbers are rising steadily.

Over a leisurely lunch I turned the pages of the morning paper, quickly putting it down unread. On this uplifting day I could not, would not, read about any more terrorism, tyranny and death.

Family fun on Christmas Day

MY favourite comment on Christmas Day is Leunig's "celebration of family". I don't know why it's so funny, because it's an outrageous exaggeration. But, like Kath and Kim, I guess there are elements of truth. Christmas has become a dreaded day for many people, an unholy crisis of planning, shopping, preparation, cooking and entertaining. A fair bit of stress arises from the degree of expectation focussed on them, an expectation enhanced by what is perhaps the biggest brainwashing exercise the world has ever seen. (Some people would call it "marketing", but I prefer the more straightforward term.) No other occasion demands such intensive effort by one person, or such an influx of "traditional" necessities.

We bailed out years ago. Bone-weary by early December, I found myself unable to cope with breakfast, visitors, two dinners and a whole lot of rushing around on the one day. So we trimmed things to a more manageable and enjoyable format.

OUR PLACE

By MARILYN MOORE

Now our Christmas day begins with a simple late-morning breakfast of strawberries and champagne with the neighbours (Okay, there's usually a platter or two of something nice to go with it). Why don't we do this sort of thing more often? It's a wonderful way to catch up.

After that there's just one more meal to go. I don't know who invented the concept of eating Christmas dinner in the middle of the day. Mid to late afternoon is much more sensible, after everybody has opened their presents, played a new CD or two, had a leisurely shower (or a swim if it's hot), gone to church maybe, and had a bit of a potter and a nice chat with the relatives. People who need to drive long distances can arrive at their pleasure, and by four o'clock everybody's pretty much out of the pool and

clamouring for that dinner. A dinner, by the way, that's ready when the cook (whose precision timing may be somewhat on the wane after breakfast) is ready, and not a moment before. No rush, no bother.

A Christmas tree and a lovely collection of cards is all we need for decoration—we don't even have any Christmas lights on the house this year, as a naughty cocky came and chewed them all up last year (12V obviously wasn't enough).

Hopefully none of us will look as bad as Leunig's mob. There's Uncle Alan, an ageing, complex character wearing a new blue shirt and his best thongs. He chats affably, but as nobody listens there's a deep sadness inside him that not even a big helping of pudding will alleviate. Auntie Ruth totes a cheap ditzzy handbag and she's done something rather extraordinary with her hair but forgotten to attend to the flourishing growth on her chin. She's sad because her neatly-ironed frock is a bit below par. Champagne will probably make her even more miserable. Uncle Jim has done

his best with the Christmas garb but nothing can hide that leer. After some alcohol, he's to be avoided as much as possible. And nobody will get any sensible conversation out of cousin Fiona, who's managed to separate herself from the festivities mentally if not physically. Plenty of make-up and face furniture but otherwise overly casual, she won't last the day if she smokes any more of that stuff. Grandpa is Uncle Jim in 30 years time. He's right into it, walking frame, slippers and all, but the leer has more dribble than bite. Give him a good helping of everything that's going, in case it's his last.

And Mum. Well, Mum's struggled out of her baggy daks and put on something a bit special with matching shoes. The day hasn't gone all that well. She's about to strangle somebody—only the gritted teeth are preventing an embarrassing implosion.

They must be doing something wrong. Christmas was never meant to be like that! I hope yours is the relaxedly festive sort.

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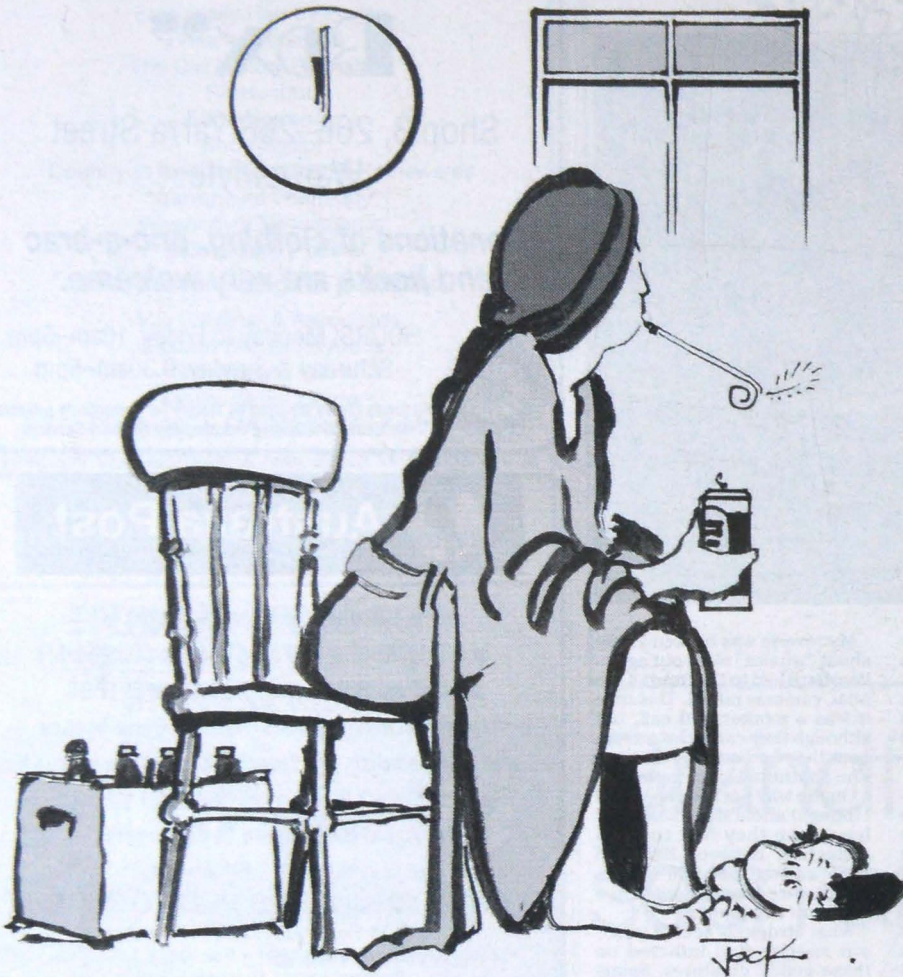
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special tonight
light but sustaining
her favourite things.
Special tonight
Her favourite things.

Help with the hair
the make-up and gown,
having some role
feeling her thrill.
And when she leaves—
a "break a leg" rose.
Having some role
Feeling her thrill

I won't be home mum
we've still much to do
pizzas backstage.
Be home around ten.

Eating alone and
feeling abandoned
I remembered a time
when I did the leaving
I remembered a time
when I did the leaving
I remembered a time
when I too...

I can still see their faces—
silently wistful
in their "have a good time..."
On the verandah
they sat there
On the verandah
watching us go.

I thought they'd be pleased
us distant siblings
usually so separate
in so many ways,

A family outing
Bonding and happy
us three together
enjoying our freedom
happy new year
enjoying our freedom
happy new year

"They seemed really sad?"
I said as we left
young and carefree
headed excited
to some awful pub
kissing in midnight
with some sleazy stranger

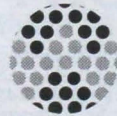
My brother he knew
"They thought we'd be home—
bought in all this booze,
some sparklers, a cake
staying up specially..."

Happy New Year

KAREN THROSSELL

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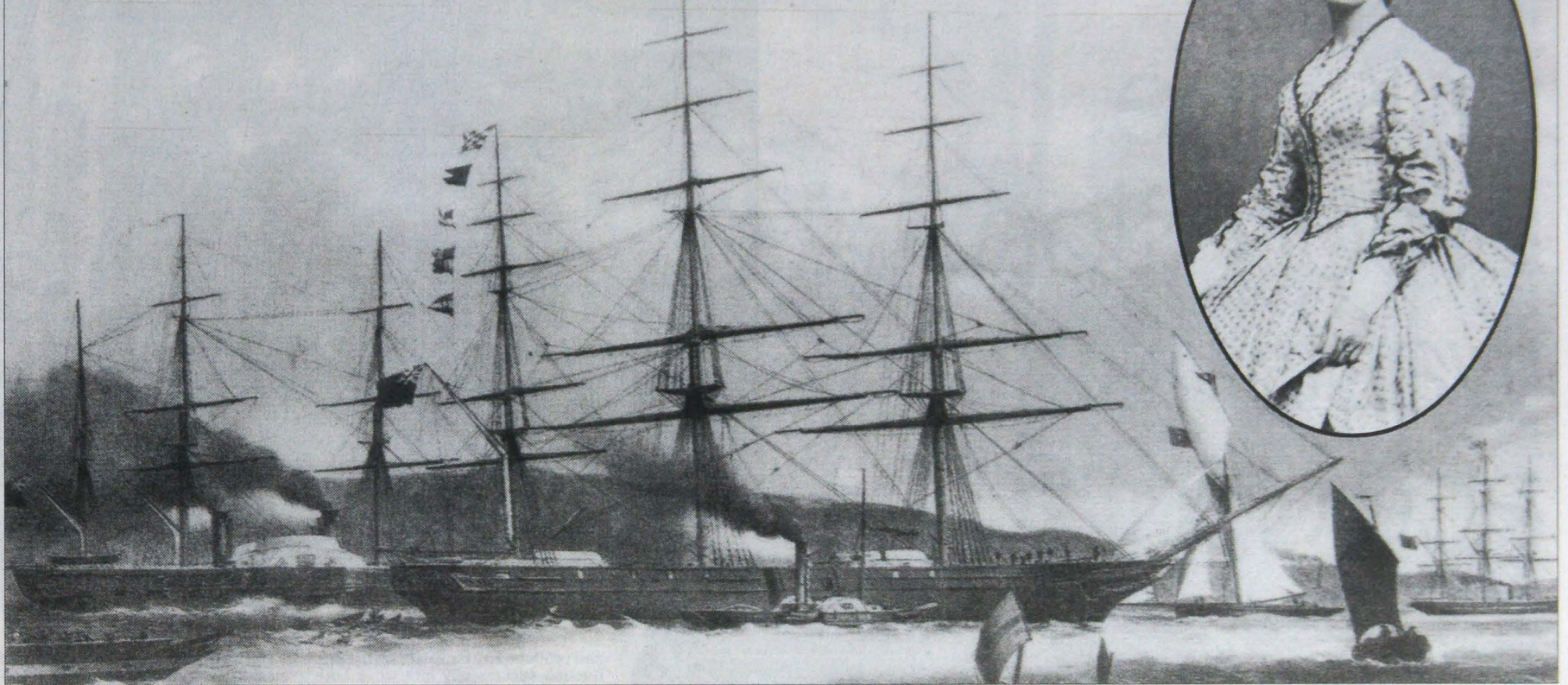
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Christmas landfall



Emigrant clipper Schomberg leaving Liverpool. Inset: Emily Lewis

By DON CHARLWOOD

BOXING Day 1855, Boxing Day 2005. A hundred and fifty years. I find I am the only one left in our family who can remember our grandmother's story of shipwreck on that far-off day. I daresay this is remarkable in itself—a living memory spanning so long a period—but I wish I were doing something to mark the day. A family gathering, perhaps, near the shipwreck site; a passing on to yet another generation of "Bully" Forbes' loss of the *Schomberg*, of how some of their ancestors were among those who came over the ship's side to the rescue steamers, leaving their possessions behind.

As I remember my grandmother it seemed in some way out of character that she was wrecked at a remote place on the Victorian coast. I always had the feeling that she had never really left London—this, I suppose, because I felt she had recreated London in Melbourne. After marrying she lived in one of those small, gracious, semi-detached houses on the north side of Victoria Parade between Smith Street and Gore Street. Sadly, all barring one of them were demolished in 1975. By their closeness to one another they suggested that some of the 19th century immigrants were reluctant to move far apart in the intimidating vastness of the new land.

When my younger brothers and I went by cable tram to number 207, we were eager to reach for the brass bellpull at the front door. It was "not done" to tug at it and set the bell jangling. Usually one of our maiden aunts would open the door to us. They were the carers of their aged mother. We stepped from Melbourne into London. Inside were large mantle mirrors and ancient clocks and hanging lustres that refracted light, and mahogany dining chairs and a cedar table and shelves upon shelves of books. But these came from my grandfather's family; he had died years before we were born. Our grandmother had come to Australia at 17 as Emily Lewis, eldest of seven children travelling with their mother, Mary Lewis. They were to rejoin husband and father Robert Lewis in Melbourne. They joined him empty-handed.

I suppose I was about 14 when I first became aware of "Bully" Forbes and the *Schomberg*. Despite the wreck our grandmother was inclined to utter his name in an indulgent way, as if still slightly in awe of his persona. I took "Bully" to mean "fine fellow", but later I came to realise he was a bully indeed to his crew. Our grandmother said, "When the poor *Schomberg* struck the reef, 'Bully' Forbes was in the cabin with the ship's doctor and two ladies, playing cards." I knew from the way she said "ladies" that they weren't ladies at all.

Understandably our grandmother's memories of just where the wreck occurred were uncertain. She was never further away from Melbourne than Dromana in all her married life. The only geographical clue I picked up from her was, "We were near Cape Otway". The result of this was that, when I was 18 and had been offered a fill-in job at Nareen in the Western District—this during the Depression of the 1930s—I chose to hitch-hike there via Cape Otway.

It was in the August or September of 1934 that I set out. I did not tell my grandmother I was going to see where her ship struck. She was then 96 and in the last months of her life. Nor did I tell the head keeper of the Cape Otway lighthouse when I telephoned him before setting out from Apollo Bay. He accepted my proposed visit sar-

donically, "I might find your hat some day." That was all.

Once I left the Ocean Road I began to understand what he meant, for I soon had to slide into valleys of mud and labour up and out of them. After miles of this the forest gave way to scrub and a corduroy track, the logs laid in mud, then to more open country with gentler hills. Three or four miles from the end I topped a grassy ridge and saw the lighthouse on the brink of the sea. The sight of it at once lifted my spirits. Here was a sign showing generations of ships' masters and countless immigrants the safe way to their new land.

Standing with the keeper that evening, clinging to the rail on the lighthouse balcony, I shouted above the wind and waves, "Where is the reef the *Schomberg* struck?" "The *Schomberg* Reef? It's nearly 40 miles nor' west of here," he shouted back. "Near Peterborough." There was no way I could get to Peterborough. I had been offered a lift next day from Apollo Bay to Warrnambool. So ended my quixotic quest. But that journey wedded me to the Otway coast for life.

About 40 years later my wife and I began taking summer holidays at Peterborough. Time and again I gazed out at the *Schomberg* Reef as if it might yield old secrets. It is topped by a low rock stack. A spit of shallow water almost links the reef to the wide, sandy beach of Newfield Bay about 300 metres off. On that reef, on Boxing Day 1855, the *Schomberg* was transfixed. Her main mast as high as today's twin spires on Melbourne's St Patrick's Cathedral. The incongruity of the scene, the humiliation! However could Forbes have let it happen? I was led to delving into his life; his sea life, anyway.

He was born in Aberdeen in 1821; his outstanding nautical successes coincided with the gold rush to Victoria. Until his era most sailing ships plodded for months along the old convict transport route to Australia's eastern colonies, re-victualling at Cape Town, or sometimes Rio de Janeiro. But when the would-be gold miners came they demanded something faster, much faster.

In Liverpool the examiner of masters and mates, John Towson, had been pointing out to shipping companies since 1847 that the shortest distance between two points on the earth's surface is by a curved line joining them—as can be seen by stretching a length of string on a globe. But a "great circle", as this is called, could not be used in its entirety on the long easterly crossing of the Southern Ocean, for it led far into the areas of ice. There had to be a compromise—a composite great circle. He proposed that masters go no further south than 55 degrees—and that rarely. They should by-pass Cape Town, going 700 nautical miles below it. Likewise they should be far south of Cape Leeuwin. Then they should haul up to pass through Bass Strait. This called for bigger and faster ships that would need no re-victualling. Years later, after Forbes' death in 1874, Towson wrote: "Without the aid of such practical seamen as Godfrey, Boyce, but most especially Forbes, my labours would have resulted in mere dry theories."

As it was, Towson's theories revolutionised ocean navigation. Forbes was foremost among masters who took their terrified immigrants into realms previously known only to explorers and whalers. He was just over 30 when he made his first startling passage to Melbourne in the Canadian-built *Marco Polo*. He arrived in 68 days. The *Argus* hailed his triumph: "This ship has made the quickest passage that any sailing ship has ever made to this port." There was no mention that she was grossly overloaded, that the cost

was 53 deaths, mostly infants. The Victorian government soon began to put limits on loadings.

No telegraph to England yet existed. In Liverpool the Black Ball Line knew nothing of the *Marco Polo*'s astonishing passage, they were next to see her when she berthed in the Mersey only 68 days out of Melbourne. At first sight they thought she had put back through trouble on the outward journey. But here was Forbes bearing a 340 ounce gold nugget for Queen Victoria.

Though his second voyage in the *Marco Polo* was not so fast, he was back in the Mersey inside six months, this time with gold dust valued at 280,000 pounds. He was rewarded with the command of the *Lightning* and was sent to Boston to pick her up from the builders. On her journey across the Atlantic to Liverpool she was acclaimed "the fastest ship in the world" having covered 436 miles in 24 hours.

The *Lightning*'s first run to Melbourne was in 77 days. A young emigrant named John Fenwick kept a diary of this voyage that gives some idea of travelling far south with Forbes. He records a fellow saying, only half-amusedly: "We ought to petition the Captain to keep up less sail, for he sees very little difference between frightening a man out of his wits and killing him outright."

Soon after this Fenwick gives a chilling account of coming at night onto Kerguelin Island, nearly 50 degrees south, its peaks covered with snow: "...the Boatswain ran to the Captain, 'Land on the lee bow, sir!' 'All right,' said the Captain, 'Hard up the helm.' Again more orders, and I, seeing the sailors alone and bulwarks on both sides crowded with people looking, but doing no good, I gave my feeble help to the ropes. Still the 'Land ahead!' shouting from the fore-castle. 'Land on the port bow!' ... The crisis appeared inevitable. 'Breakers on the lee bow!' shouted the Mate. The sailors I was pulling with said, 'It's all up now, by God.' A great many (emigrants) were on the fore-castle with their lifebelts on—all waited for the shock—there was land on three sides of us and no room to turn, the wind blowing right aft..."

Somehow "Bully" Forbes got them out of it. He declared afterwards, "It was ridiculous of people to be frightened. 'I just came to the place I steered for, and if I had missed it, you would have said I did not know my business.'" He was again to reach Melbourne in 77 days. His return to Liverpool in just under 63 days was a passage never to be bettered by sail.

The Black Ball Line now appointed Forbes captain of *Schomberg*. She was built in Aberdeen, his own city, as Britain's reply to the North American softwood clippers. Until now they had set all the records. She was 210 feet long, 2600 tons and carried 16,000 square yards of sail.

The Liverpool Daily Post carried an exultant, overweening advertisement:

*The Splendid New Clipper Ship SCHOMBERG
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Celebrated for his wonderful passages in the MARCO POLO and LIGHTNING ... it is expected she will prove herself the fastest ship in the world.*

Her 320 passengers were well below her capacity. One wonders if rumours were getting back to England that Forbes was riding too high. She was also carrying 2000 tons of railway lines, urgently needed to link Geelong to Melbourne. On October 6, 1855, she was "hailed through the pier heads amidst cheers of a patriotic crowd, with the boast 'Sixty days to Melbourne' flying from her signal halliards."

The equatorial doldrums were to put an end to

any hope of 70 days, let alone 60. According to a shipboard diary kept by a passenger Thomas Angove, the captain of another becalmed ship came over for dinner with Forbes. The meal over, the *Schomberg*'s German band provided music for the first class passengers.

Eventually Forbes made landfall on the Australian coast at Cape Bridgewater, about 12 miles west-southwest of Portland. By then he had been at sea 80 days. This had been his landfall in the *Lightning*, after which he had stood well out to sea. But this was Christmas Day, "a time of festivity at sea as well as on shore, and when the captain cannot always rely on the sobriety of his men," as was said at enquiries which were yet to come.

But it was not only the men. On Boxing Day their captain was seldom seen on deck, they waited for orders that never came. The officers' words to him were met with rebukes. One passenger said in evidence, "About three quarters of an hour before the vessel struck, Miss Hart was taken into the Captain's cabin by the doctor. ... I saw the Captain come out about half an hour before the vessel struck, look about him and go in again." Among the passengers Fanny Hart is listed as an 18-year-old English girl.

By then the *Schomberg* was in such a position that even "Bully" could not have saved her. She fired off distress signals. By great good fortune they were seen by two passing coastal steamers. Once daylight came the two risked coming alongside her and taking off passengers and mail. There was no hope of getting personal cabin trunks up from the hold. As my grandmother used to tell her granddaughters, she put on three of her voluminous London dresses before she went over the side. It must have been at the last moment that she picked up a large fruit dish, presumably Black Ball Line property and took it with her—a dish we have today.

As for the *Schomberg*'s crew, they were at once cast on hard times, their wages having ceased. Ashore, on the wide estuary of Curdie's River, only one hut was in sight. The officers remained as long as possible with the ship; the men, headed by the German band, walked the 30 miles to Warrnambool.

Boats were overturned and one man was drowned in attempts to retrieve passengers' luggage over the next couple of days. Though some luggage was retrieved, on the third day a gale blew up and the "noblest ship that ever floated upon the waters" was torn apart. By then Captain Forbes had sailed up to Melbourne with the Water Police—surely the most humiliating journey of his life.

Soon the contents of the *Schomberg*'s hold were spread for miles along the beach of Newfield Bay. Some were auctioned, "wreckers" got away with much, the rest was sold for 65 pounds. It was reported that Aborigines were seen wearing London finery, though scarcely in the ways that fashion houses would have decreed.

Had such a disaster happened in Britain, "Bully" Forbes' life would have ended in ignominy, but Victoria so far lacked a marine court of enquiry. He was exonerated because the reef he had struck appeared on no charts. He was never again entrusted with a first class command, but his grave bears the proud words: "The late commander of the celebrated clipper ship *Marco Polo*." Off the Victorian coast the *Schomberg* Reef tells another story: Christmas festivities afloat once cost the life of a ship.

So it was that Emily Lewis, who was to become my grandmother, began life in Australia.

This fine production wasn't an accident

THE Accidental Death of an Anarchist by Dario Fo deservedly played to packed houses in its recent Warrandyte Theatre Company season at the Mechanics Institute.

It's worth knowing something about the background of this play. Fo is a popular and controversial playwright, and, according to a biography published in Les Prix Nobel 1997, nothing short of a genius. His wickedly subversive plays have used humour to expose rampant corruption and hypocrisy for over 50 years.

Derived from a long tradition of Commedia dell'Arte and country story-telling, the plays are designed to travel and are often adapted to highlight local issues. The more politically damaging of them have always gone down extremely well with audiences and extremely badly with authority. Over the years Fo and his wife-collaborator Franca Rame have been repeatedly sued, mobbed, banned, arrested and vilified around the world, at the same time reaping widespread acclaim and numerous prestigious awards. The Catholic Church and governments across Europe and America have gone to drastic lengths to prevent many of the works being staged, and performances have been sabotaged, cancelled,

stoned, even bombed. Death threats have been made against Fo, and Rame's kidnap, rape and torture by fascists in 1974 brought outcries of indignation throughout Italy.

However popular support for Fo and Rame never waned, and performances continued to packed houses in workers' halls, town squares, football stadiums, even bocce rinks. Finally, in 1997, Dario Fo received the Nobel Prize for Literature, for "emulating the jesters of the Middle Ages in scourging authority and upholding the dignity of the downtrodden".

One of his most enduring works, Accidental Death of an Anarchist, was written in 1971 following the terrorist bombing of a bank in Milan. Fascists of the Italian Social Movement denounced the "red terror" and authorities rounded up every socialist, communist and anarchist they could lay their hands on. One such activist, a well-known pacifist called Pinelli, mysteriously "fell" to his death out of a fourth-floor window.

Fo's brilliant play on the incident, based on the (probably true) premise that the Milan massacre had been organised by organs of the state to escalate public hatred of socialism, caused him to be arrested and imprisoned. Only in 1986, after intervention by

THEATRE
By MARILYN MOORE

President Reagan, were Fo and Rame finally granted a six-day visa to stage the play in New York.

I therefore approached the WTC's recent performance of Accidental Death of an Anarchist with no small degree of wonder. How would such a difficult Italian play stand up in Melbourne's cosy suburbia of 2005? Could it still be powerfully controversial?

Well, no. And one wouldn't expect so. Although dramatic, the storyline now appears more farcical than radical. In any case, imbued with years of very pointy comedy from the likes of The Chaser and Rod Quantock, we are such a pack of old cynics when it comes to politics and spin. So thankfully there were no riots, no hand grenades and no arrests in Yarra Street. There was plenty of laughter and applause however.

That doesn't mean this play is no longer relevant. For a start, Australia's proposed sedition laws bring this sort of theatre into very sharp focus. Directed by Matt Moran (hard to believe this was his first attempt at directing)

and produced by Gail Macrae, the production successfully interwove both profound and comic elements. I particularly enjoyed the slightly subversive commentary that ran in tandem with the performance on an adjacent screen, although it erred on the side of political correctness. Not quite a Fo concept! An opportunity went begging there for some incisive political satire, but perhaps that would have been too much of an ask for a volunteer theatre group with a six-week rehearsal schedule. It was quite engrossing as it was, with a smattering of topical references.

The main character, a madman (perhaps Fo himself) pretends to the police, in the persons of Inspector Pissani and his superintendent, that he is a magistrate charged with reviewing the circumstances of Pinelli's death. Adrian Rice's performance in this difficult role was outstanding. His ability to keep the audience in the palm of his hand throughout the play was pivotal to its success. He was excellently supported by Graham Whiteside (the inadequate Inspector Pissani), Matt Moran (the fiery but equally inadequate Superintendent) and Caroline O'Meara (idealistic journalist Feletti) along with David Tynan (the hapless Inspector Bertozzo) and Simone Kiefer (playing various slow-thinking constables).

The madman has all the trappings of insanity, including medical certification and obsessive rather than conventional behaviour, but his unerring logic runs rings around the police and exposes ludicrous inconsistencies throughout the various versions of their report on Pinelli's death. The police were concerned only with self-preservation, but the madman saw a bigger picture and lulled them into making damning admissions during yet another rewrite of the report. Who knows where this would have led had not fierce young journalist Feletti interrupted their progress with some astute questions of her own?

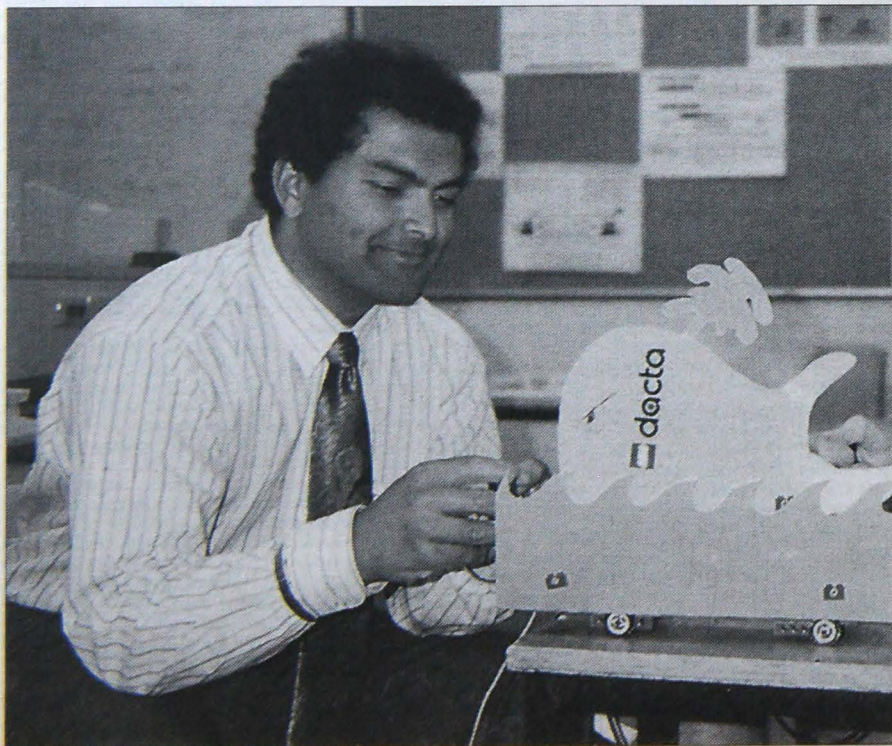
An intriguing stage design, in which the bizarre seemed progressively more normal, added a strong perspective to the production. All the world's a stage, even the Milan police headquarters, and people can get away with pretending to be anybody they like. Or can they? Almost nothing and nobody in this powerful drama were as they first seemed.

Accidental Death of an Anarchist probably stretched the WTC cast and production team beyond anything previously attempted, but the result was anything but amateurish. It was a benchmark performance, well worth seeing.



Adrian Rice as *The Maniac* with Graham Whiteside and Simone Kiefer rehearsing Dario Fo's *Accidental Death of an Anarchist*. (Picture by Ian Craig)

In memory of a dedicated teacher



WARRANDYTE High school and the wider community have been deeply saddened by the sudden passing last month of Jean-Pierre (JP) Lajoie, a teacher at the school since 1987. During his 18 years at Warrandyte he taught or was responsible for several thousand students.

Born in August 1958 he came to Australia as a teenager from Mauritius. As a valued member of Warrandyte High School, Jean-Pierre was a science and maths teacher who gave a great deal to his students and to the school. He was a very friendly man, a common memory for staff reflecting on his passing.

His contribution to the many programs at the school included science coordinator and student leadership coordinator.

For a time he also ran the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. He invigorated the students' representative council. His involvement in the school's musical productions saw him take on many roles including stage manager, sound and lighting. He was a delegate on

school council, he was also a year level coordinator and organised the Big Day Out activities day for Year 8 to increase engagement in the school.

In his science teaching capacity he introduced a technology unit on robotics which was very popular with students. He was committed to the development of his own leadership skills and attended professional development in areas such as mediation so he could work better with students, especially those experiencing difficulties.

As one who enjoyed the outdoors JP led many ski days, coached sporting teams, especially the cricket team and was involved in the introduction of the fun run at Westerfold Park, now an annual event.

Jean-Pierre's main contact with students outside the classroom centred around his involvement in the school's camps programs, especially the traditional annual Year 11 trip to Kakadu. At the time of his death, Jean-Pierre was coordinating the 2006 trip to Kakadu on which he was also going to

be leader.

On a personal level JP enjoyed playing the drums, bushwalking, hiking, vegetarian cooking, snow skiing, music and his beloved cricket.

He was a former president of the Wycliff Cricket Club based in Camberwell, as well as treasurer and junior coordinator and coach. He played a major part in the rejuvenation of the club through its junior program. He will be remembered as a batsman with flair, a bowler with finesse and guile and a sportsman whose competitiveness and fair play were unquestioned. He played 97 games for the club, making 2013 runs at 22.9 and taking 66 wickets at 18.4.

His funeral at St Patrick's Cathedral last month was attended by a large number of past and present students and most of the staff. The school was effectively closed. Many of his sporting club friends and colleagues also paid their respects.

We are all deeply saddened that he is no longer with us. Jean-Pierre is survived by his wife Jane and children Jacques and Caudie.

'Making them buy stuff they didn't want to buy'

AUCTIONEER Andrew Wilson is lying on the couch at home, exhausted. "I've been at Mernda market all day, selling crap from nine to 11, then geese, ducks, chooks and peacocks, lambs from one to two and cattle from two to four," he said.

"On Monday I'm at Mernda, Tuesday I go to Echuca, on Wednesday I sell horses there from 9.30 to 6pm—on average 250 lots—and on Thursday I come back and do bookwork and sell real estate. I've also got 100 portable toilets and coolrooms for hire. Then I'm auctioneer at Warragul, Shepparton, Pakenham or Dublin in South Australia on Saturdays—my ute's done 46,000km in 10 months. I'll probably go to an early grave but in 10 years time the four kids will be out of our hands and we'll go around Australia."

Andrew, 45, and his wife Christine came to Warrandyte, still close to the city, and to nine acres for horses, in 1977.

"John Spencer and Glenn Martin were the only other estate agents here when Peter MacDougall rang and said come and work for me. I did my real estate licence at night four times a week at RMIT. It was very hard, a three and a half year part-time course in 12 months. Leanne Dean at the office used to type my assignments and fix my spelling.

"On Friday afternoons we'd divert the phones and Kevin Boucher and I would take the canoes down to the river, have a paddle, come back and shower at the office before going home.

"I told everyone I was working. Warrandyte was just dead midweek then and we'd practise going up the driveways so that when clients came we could drive them there and they'd think it was easy. It wasn't until they moved in that they'd swear about the hills. Now clients find houses on the internet and you meet them at the property."

After Andrew bought the business from MacDougall the estate agency grew from two signboards to 200 in 12 months, with seven staff. "I was auctioneer of the year for the Professionals but I was sick of being nice to people any more, I hated it, so 18 months ago it was time to leave. I had a lot of fun, with good staff.

"Leanne's been the backbone of the whole thing, we've been through births, deaths, marriages, divorces and splitting up and getting back together with her. Nothing was a worry to her, Leanne could fix it, she's inspirational.

"Barry Plant was also very good at what he did. He'd go into The Age every Friday night to proofread the ads or he'd tell me, "fix the colours on that board". I could call him in the middle of the night and he'd fix deals.

"I prided myself on getting the most money that I could have got from the

VILLAGE PEOPLE

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

buyer on the day. Lots of agents say "what's another grand, there's not much in it for me" but I'll try and make \$261,000, not \$260,000 on a sale.

"Real estate was good to me in Warrandyte but Christine is the one who's put up with me at the end of the day. She's copped it on the home front, when I'm up at midnight doing deals. All the children got fed and if anything went wrong she'd be down to help at the office. Warrandyte's got good schools and I live on a beautiful road, one of the best. The kids love it and I think it gives them spunk."

Andrew grew up with four siblings in a 100 square, three-storey Victorian house in one and a half acres of award-winning garden in Mont Albert.

"We kept the horses in the back yard. Mum was a psychiatrist and dad a metallurgist for the government—I never went to where he worked in my life. My parents worked hard to keep us at private schools and we had no holidays, ate sausages and wore T-shirts and hand-me-downs.

"Mum took in Chinese boarders to help pay the bills—it was a beautiful house but hard to upkeep." His mother's brother Robin Gray was for seven years the Liberal premier of Tasmania. Andrew went to North Eastern pony club and hacked the horses around the roads. "We used to tether the horses along Koonung Creek in Box Hill North where the freeway is now. I remember once when the creek flooded and we went down and found the horses swimming round and round on the ends of their tethers.

"When I was 17 I went for a job interview at Pizza Hut in Surrey Hills. I rode there, tied my horse up in the playground, got the job and rode home. We didn't ride bikes or drive cars—and we did all our courting on horses."

He toyed with becoming a teacher before completing a diploma in catering and hotel management. "But I quickly realised that everyone was eating and playing while I was working"—so he began his selling career in secondhand furniture in Richmond before joining Elders as a stock agent at Newmarket and Dandenong saleyards.

"Robbing the rich and the poor was fun but it was pathetic money and I left Elders to run a secondhand shop in Box Hill. When I left, we owed \$10,000 in rent so I disappeared overseas for 12 months. The day I got back the agent saw me in the street and made me work as a salesman for him until I'd paid the money back. I sold four properties for him on the first day, \$65,000 little units opposite the hospital."



Andrew Wilson (Picture by Jan Tindale)

Now, training racehorses is his hobby. "I've got six horses in work and I do it for pleasure and relaxing. Every year the whole family goes to Adelaide for the jumping races—we won a big race there last year, the Yallumba Stakes—and three mornings a week I'm up at 4.30am to go to the track.

"At night I'm feeding and rugging the horses and every Christmas I ride for three weeks on the lead pony, working horses at the track while the staff's on holiday."

He's a bit of an antique buff. "Eccentric", Chris calls from where she's folding washing. "I like turkeys and peacocks," he said. "I like looking at them and I've got statues in the garden. Chris says it's heaven when I go away, they can eat Chinese.

"Once we had a water mains problem at home and she said she was taking the kids to a motel until it was fixed. 'Forget it,' I said, 'I'm not working all day while you're in some motel. But I left a day early so I could have a shower.

"I was working at Weston Heath and working through the girls when I met Christine. It was love at the first sight of her: she's only human and thought the same about me. She's the woman of my dreams. She runs the riding school, Tandivale, then there's the kids with school, basketball, netball and pony club."

Former knacker owner and founding director of the Bendigo Bank in Warrandyte, Andrew's also known for his community involvement in schools and the Blue Light disco, which he started about 10 years ago with police sergeant Keith Walker.

"I've met some nice people, like

Keith, you couldn't meet a better bloke. One day he and I were out fishing and talking about doing something for the kids, and we came up with the idea of running a disco.

"Peter MacDougall was like that too—he taught me to put something back in. He was a generous guy, a good mentor who taught me good principles in life. He wouldn't tell anyone but he would help kids who'd lost their parents, put them through school."

Andrew helped raise \$10,000 for cancer with Crop-a-Cop, having his head shaved with Keith Walker and school principal Des Mackenzie, and he's keen to see a local hall built to replace the White House where youngsters used to meet. "Every time I see Pat Young I harass her about it," he said.

Always overweight, four years ago Andrew shed 66kg after he saw his kids getting teased at school about their father's size. "I didn't want them to start behind the eight-ball. I'm self-motivated and lost the weight by eating only fish and chicken. I rarely drink and I'm fitter now although I smoke a lot."

He doesn't like waste, of anything, food or petrol. He loves winning a race, seeing his children achieve, "not fighting", working or playing hard. When he was 14, instead of going to school, he sneaked off to Croydon market. "I used to watch Bill Duff, the auctioneer, and I told him, 'one day I'm going to do that, I'm going to be the best auctioneer.' Bill told me I could start the following week so I went home and told my mother I'd got a job. 'Let's go and see him,' she said. When we arrived at his place Mum asked me to go outside so she could discuss my pay and

conditions. Bill came out later and said he'd had a change of heart and that I could work for him after I'd finished school. On the way home I said to Mum, "he wasn't very nice, was he?" I was completely hoodwinked.

"Years later I saw Bill at Dandenong. 'You got the job finally,' he said."

Andrew's auctioned for trivia nights, schools and other fundraisers. "I love robbing people, dragging bids out of them, making them buy stuff they didn't want to buy.

"A few years ago Christine tried to buy a vasectomy at a trivia night where I was auctioning and I tried hard not to let her get the winning bid. She paid \$200 for it and we didn't use it. A year later the police had to bring me back from the hospital after our daughter Sam was born, to run the auction at the same night."

He had to ask Chris what he found difficult to do in life. "She says, teach my son to drive. I can't sit still and I don't condone dickheads.

"I've done most of the things I wanted to do, I've had a go but I'd like to travel more overseas, go to Africa. I look forwards, you can't look back and change things. In 10 years' time I'll have rebuilt the Mernda saleyards at Whittlesea and someone else'll buy it.

"It's funny, but to unwind I go down to Spencer Street station where I've got five portable toilets that need emptying. It's late, you're not allowed in through Telstra Dome until after midnight. It's my thinking time. I tell you, don't eat corn because it doesn't digest. I was shocked, when I first pumped the toilets out. I can't understand why the sheilas won't talk to me when I drive the toilet pump truck."



Carols in the valley

Once again, Warrandyte's very own Carols by Candlelight will take place at Stiggants Reserve on Saturday, December 17, commencing at 8pm.

Operatic tenor Raymond Khong will be performing once more, accompanied by his wife, May Gavin. Carol singing will be led by the Bellbird Singers with the Eltham Concert Band, conducted by Barry McKimm.

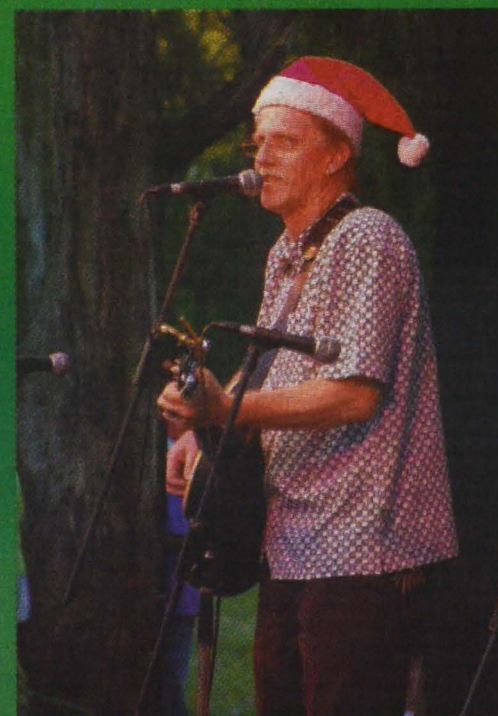
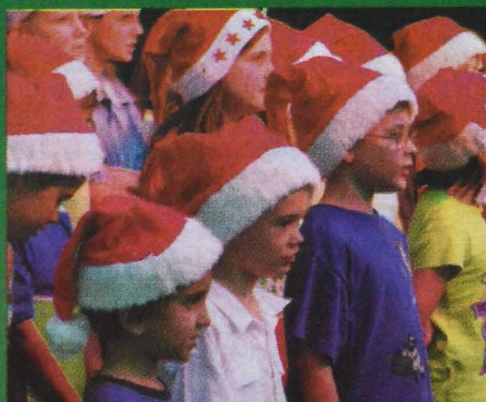
Choirs from Warrandyte and Andersons Creek primary schools will open the program and well-known local, Kevin O'Mara, will be featured.

Picnic on the grass will set the scene from 6pm, when an animal farm will cater for the younger kids. Food and drinks will be available and local youth bands, Ella & the Dynamic Groove and the Teskey Brothers will be performing from 7pm.

Candles will be available for purchase, and donations will go to the annual Christmas Bowl Appeal. The program is presented by the combined churches of Warrandyte and Park Orchards and further information is available from the Community Church on 9844 4148.



Pictures by **STEPHEN REYNOLDS**



1956

When Santa came to Warrandyte

Last month we marked the 50th birthday of the Warrandyte Arts Association. Founding member, the late HARRY HUDSON, remembered their great Warrandyte Christmas Festival...

DO you remember the Warrandyte Christmas Festival in 1956? That was the year the Warrandyte Arts Association came into being, with the drama group's successful performance of *The Best Days of Our Lives*.

Later, other groups were formed, eventually fusing into a complete unit for special occasions.

Apart from drama there were art shows—both local and imported from the National Gallery—musical concerts, films, and whatever. The WAA was discovering talent everywhere and the future for young people looked bright.

Even a Saturday morning science group was formed by the late Frank Rowan (radio's "The Oracle").

The special occasion came at the end of 1956, conjured up by a thought from Alan Aldous; namely a Christmas festival, to be held in the evening at the Recreation Reserve, the valley forming a natural amphitheatre with the stage down by Andersons Creek.

The enthusiasm by all the groups was tremendous, with those wonderful people "the handymen" building the huge stage and the other pieces of equipment needed for the undertaking.

One highlight was a tableau representing the birth of the Christ child, with the mother a drover's wife. It took place under a tree near the stage, accompanied by W.G. James'

Australian carol, "Three Drovers".

A huge vinyl screen was spread across the back of the stage and slides made from paintings I had prepared were projected on it. Against this background the players worked. Not an easy task, because on stage the projected images could not be seen, but were only visible to the audience on the slopes in front.

One such piece was the reciting, by Santa Claus, of "The Night Before Christmas". Unfortunately Santa couldn't see which slide was appearing, so the whole thing got a little out of phase.

The projectionist, by the way, had no idea of what was happening, being eaten alive by mosquitoes somewhere down in Andersons Creek. All the poor fellow could do was work from direction relayed to him by radio from the director.

I will never forget the scene as I arrived in the half-light before sunset, with Christmas carols drifting across the valley and crowds of people arriving and settling on the slopes with cushions and rugs. The publicity for these festivals was amazing. Probably not since the days of gold had Warrandyte put itself on the map so successfully. Women's Weekly had an illustrated double-spread of the players and others concerned in the production, while the daily newspaper told the story in detail.

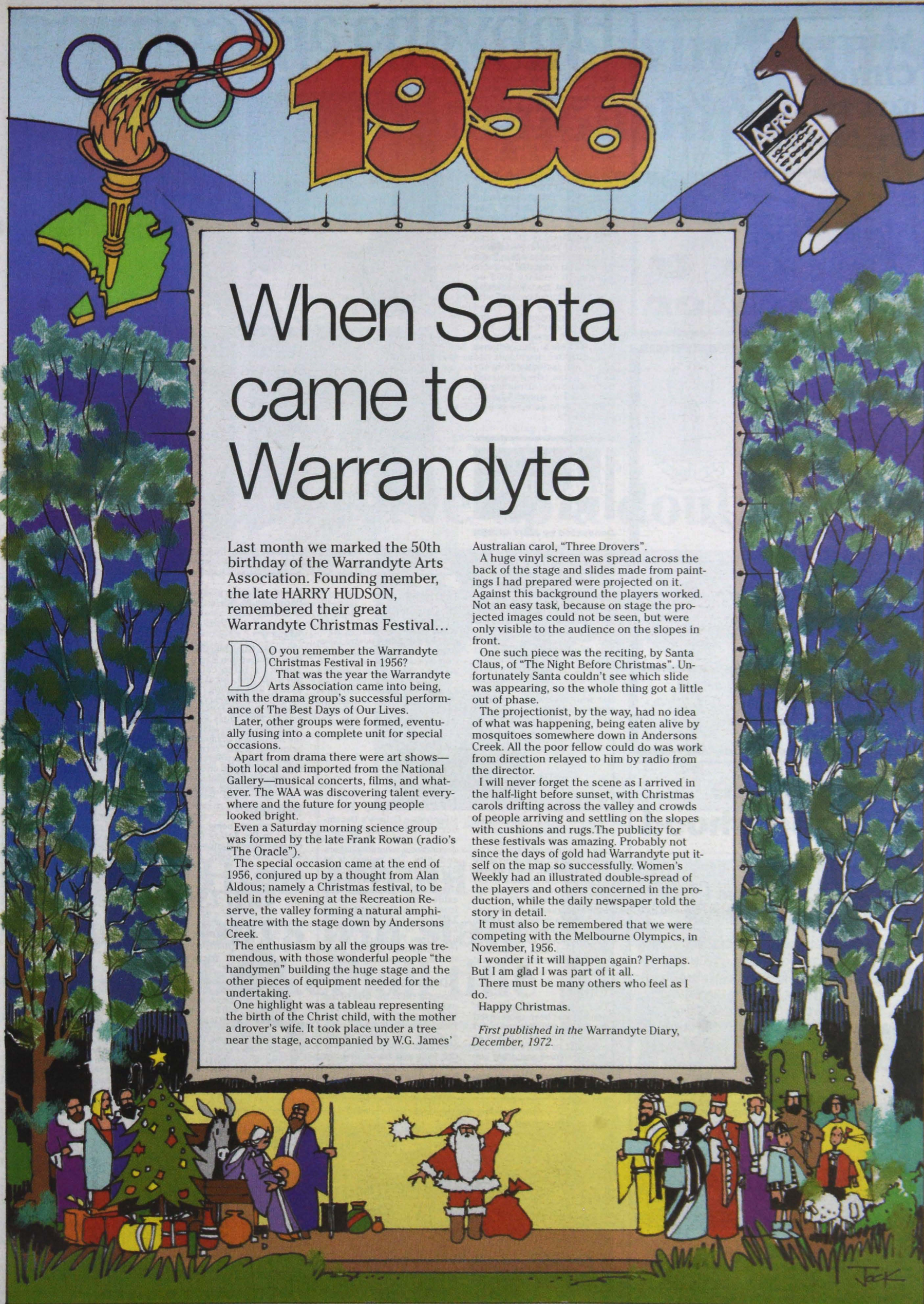
It must also be remembered that we were competing with the Melbourne Olympics, in November, 1956.

I wonder if it will happen again? Perhaps. But I am glad I was part of it all.

There must be many others who feel as I do.

Happy Christmas.

First published in the Warrandyte Diary, December, 1972.




Marcus Clifton
0412 139 420
Fax: 9844 3706
 20 years experience in the area



Painter & Decorator

Seasons Greetings



from all the team at Warrandyte Pharmacy

Warrandyte pharmacy



5 Goldfields Plaza Shopping Centre, Warrandyte Rd, Warrandyte. Ph: 9844 2029

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House

CLASSES FOR TERM 1 2006
 TERM STARTS 31st Jan • ENDS 13th April
 ENROLMENTS from 23rd JAN

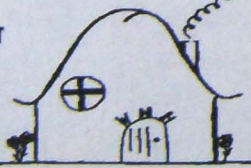
Busy Needles (weekly craft group) • Children's Drawing
 Children's Dancing • Yoga • Tai Chi
 Strong Women Stay Young • Monday Walking Group
 Pilates • Monthly Discussion and Lunch Group
 French Club • Book Club • Creative Writing
 Mosaics • Dolls with a Difference • Card Making
 Tibetan Meditation • Jewellery Making (Adults)

NEW THIS TERM:

- Bollywood Workout
- Contemporary Dance for Adults
- Wu Tao
- Daytime Pilates
- Daytime Yoga
- Machine Embroidery (workshop)
- Love Your Body (workshop)
- Soap Making
- Introduction to Natural Therapies

FOR ENQUIRIES & ENROLMENT
 RING 9844 1839

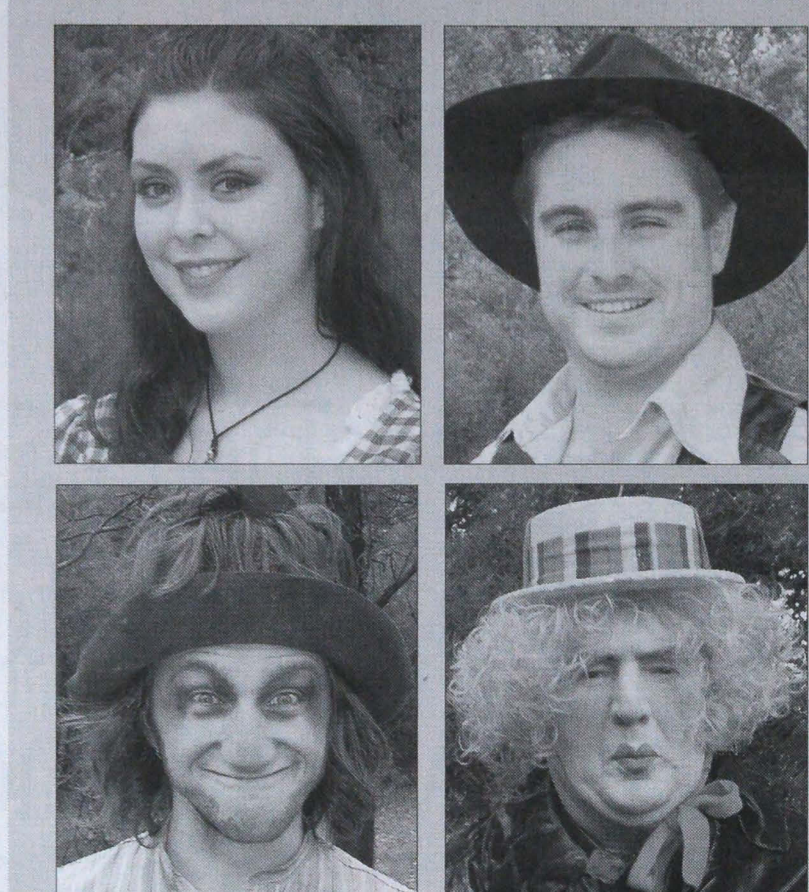
Warrandyte Neighbourhood House gratefully acknowledges funding from the following organisations: Manningham City Council, Department of Human Services and Doncare.



Website: www.warrandyteneighbourhoodhouse.org.au

Hobyahs are coming!

Are you old enough to remember The Hobyahs, those scary little men who scurried their terrifying way through the Second Grade Reader? Well, they're coming to Warrandyte! The Diamond Valley Singers, in association with the Children's Theatre of Victoria, are staging The Hobyahs, a musical play for children (and those who can remember), at the Warrandyte High School Theatre in Alexander Avenue, Warrandyte. They are presenting no fewer than 11 performances. In December 2005 on Monday 26 at 2pm; Tuesday 27 at 2pm; Wednesday 28 at 2pm; Thursday 29 at 2 and 7.30pm and Friday 30 at 2 and 7.30pm. In January 2006 on Tuesday 3 at 2pm; Wednesday 4 at 2pm; Thursday 5 at 2 and 7.30pm; Friday 6 at 2 and 7.30pm; Saturday 7 at 2 and 7.30pm; Sunday 8 at 2pm. Tickets are \$18; groups of five or more, \$15 each. The company is offering free downloads and lots of fun, including Hobyahs board game, do-it-yourself wanted posters, streaming audio of all the songs online at www.hobyahs.com. Enquiries to 9435 6639.



The Hobyahs: coming to Warrandyte in a musical play written by John Counsel and Greg Simmons.

OUT OF THE BOX



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.

Art
 The 22nd annual Rotary Art Show will be held in conjunction with the Warrandyte Festival on April 7 to 9, 2006. Expressions of interest from local artists who may wish to exhibit their work should be addressed to Jan on 9874 3143.

Follies
 The Festival Follies are always a feature event of the Warrandyte Festival. In 2006, the Warrandyte Theatre Company will be celebrating the Commonwealth Games—and sending them up rotten! The company is auditioning for actors, singers, dancers and backstage crew at the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute Hall on Sunday, January 29 at 2pm and

Tuesday, January 31 at 8pm. Enquiries to Adrian Rice on 9844 1528.

Story
 The annual Alan Marshall short story competition is now open. There are three categories: open section, local writers' award and young writers' award (15 to 19 years). Entries close at 4pm on Friday, February 24, 2006. Entry forms and guidelines are available from the Eltham and Diamond Valley branches of the Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service or by contacting Sharon on 9433 3161 or downloading material from www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au.

Holidays
 Manningham YMCA Youth Services are running a summer holiday program in January for young Health Care cardholders between the ages of 12 and 18 years. Activities costing \$15 per person per day include indoor rock climbing, IMAZ, Werribee Zoo safari, Laser Wars, bowling, Luna Park, Hedge End Maze and Riverslide Skate Park. Bookings are essential and close on December 19. Phone Manningham YMCA Youth Services on 9848 9544 or email mys@ymca.org.au to secure a place.

Volunteers
 Volunteers are needed to spend a couple of hours each week visiting an older person or person with a disability in the local community. If you can help please call Do Care on 9762 5211.

Rotary
 Volunteers are being sought to assist in the Rotary Op shop. Please contact Marjory on 9844 4495 if you can help.

ARTYFACTS



Artlinks
 Artlinks is an established project of Manningham Community Health Service, providing senior members of the community the opportunity to get together, foster friendships and participate in art and craft projects. An exhibition of their work will be held in the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute on Saturday, December 17 and Sunday, December 18 from 12pm to 5pm. Both individual and combined works will be on display and for sale.


Decorations
 Stonehouse Gallery's December exhibition includes a wide variety of Christmas decorations, wrapping papers and gifts. The gallery is at 323 Warrandyte-Ringwood Road, Warrandyte. In January they will be showcasing exhibitions of student work from Chisholm Institute of TAFE (Jan 1 to 14) and Box Hill Institute of TAFE (Jan 15 to 31). From February 1 to 14 the exhibition will be from Holmesglen Institute of TAFE.

Ona
 Diary cartoonist Ona Henderson has just been short-listed for the \$50,000 Cromwell's Art prize for 2005 and chosen as a finalist to tour Paris, London, New York and other galleries overseas. Her selected painting is part of her new renaissance series.


Showing
 Showing Off is the title of the exhibition open at the Manningham Gallery until December 17. Works by the students and tutors of the Manningham Arts Centre over the year will be on display. The gallery is at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster. For enquiries phone 9840 9333.

Christmas church services

Celebrate Christ's birthday at your local church.

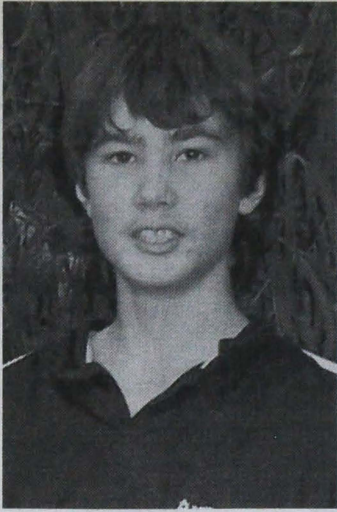


Local Christmas church services for 2005 will be as follows:
Anglican (9844 3473), Christmas Eve—11.30pm, Christmas Day—8am and 9.30am, Boxing Day—Festival of St Stephen, 9am. **Uniting** (9844 3476), Christmas Eve—7.30pm and 11.30pm, Christmas Day—9am. **Community Church** (9844 4148), Christmas Eve—7pm, Christmas Day—10am. **Catholic** (9876 1509), Christmas Eve—Outdoor Family Mass, 7pm (Park Orchards), Mass—10.30pm (Warrandyte), Christmas Day—10am (Park Orchards). Anyone requiring transport or more information should contact the church of their choice.



WARRANDYTE COMMUNITY CENTRE
 Phone 9844 4503 and find out what's going on.

Rod, Michelle win tennis club championships



Tulloch Greve

Junior is named top club person

For the first time, a junior player has been honoured as WTC Clubperson of the Year.

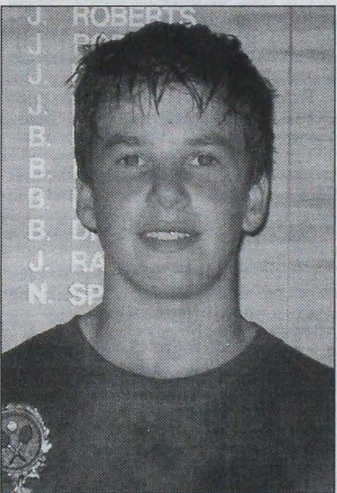
It was announced at the club's annual Christmas dinner last month that this award had gone to Tulloch Greve, 17.

The coveted trophy has been awarded annually to an outstanding club member for the past 20 years.

As well as representing the club in junior competition, Tulloch plays senior tennis on Tuesday nights.

Announcing the award, club president Neil Dusting said: "It is great for we older members to see young people standing up in our club, helping out and always contributing when there are jobs to be done."

"Tully's enthusiastic attitude and great sportsmanship set a good example for other young club members."



Tristan Valentino

Tristan completes a big year

By JUDY GREEN

Tristan Valentino is Warrandyte Tennis Club's most improved junior for 2005.

Tristan, 14, was runner-up in the 15 and under and 18 and under junior club championships.

He has been playing competition at the club since he was eight years old. Tristan received the award at the club's junior presentation night last month.

An award for the most dedicated junior went to Chris Robinson. Sportsmanship awards were received by Lee Pieper, Zac Boyce, Tulloch Greve and Robbie Underwood. Amie Brockwell, Daniel Ford-Learner, Adrian Misfud and Jade Valentino received encouragement awards.

Presentations were made to all players who were successful in various areas of the junior club as well as trophies to the boys and girls who commenced competition over the last 12 months.

Recognition awards were also made to those leaving junior ranks.

Rod McCutcheon is Warrandyte Tennis Club's 2005 men's singles champion.

He defeated Trent Valentino in straight sets in the finals of the club championships held in November.

Last year's ladies club champion, Michelle Gilling retained her singles title, defeating Jenny McDonnell also in straight sets.

Rod started his tennis as a junior and progressed through senior pennant teams on his way to the club championship win.

A tall player with a big serve and penetrating forehand, Rod produced some of his best tennis to defeat a determined and consistent opponent.

Trent was particularly strong from the back of the court with heavy top-spin forehands but in the end it was Rod's power game that proved decisive.

Michelle's experience and all-court game proved too strong for Jenny who fought for every point.

In the Men's Doubles, veterans Lee Dehmel and Robert White took almost two hours to defeat Paul

Gilling and Neil Sproat in two tight sets.

Gilling and Sproat had a service break in the second set to lead 5-3 and the chance to take the match into a third set but lost four games in a row to lose the match.

Michelle teamed with Jannifer McDonnell for an exciting three sets win over Anita Middleton and Pauline Doherty.

Michelle and Jannifer got away to a brilliant start to take the first set 6-1 but Anita and Pauline were just as dominant in the second set, winning 6-2.

The third set was tight to the finish with Michelle and Jenny scoring a thrilling tie-break win.

Championship details as follows: Men's singles: Rod McCutcheon d Trent Valentino 6-4, 6-4.

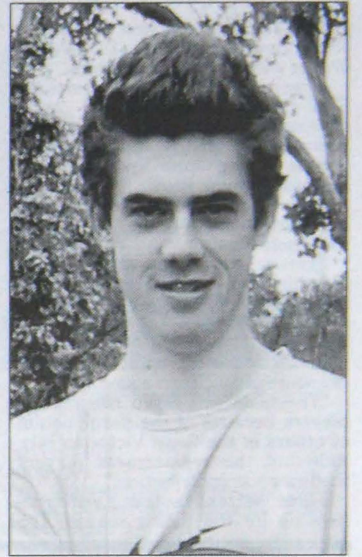
Men's doubles: Lee Dehmel/Robert White d Paul Gilling/Neil Sproat 7-6, 7-5.

Ladies singles: Michelle Gilling d Jenny McDonnell 6-2, 6-0.

Ladies doubles: Michelle Gilling/Jannifer Crosbie d Anita Middleton/Pauline Doherty 6-1, 2-6, 7-6.



Michelle Gilling



Rod McCutcheon

Stars serve up a doubles act

It was tennis at the double last month when Warrandyte played host to leading international and local players.

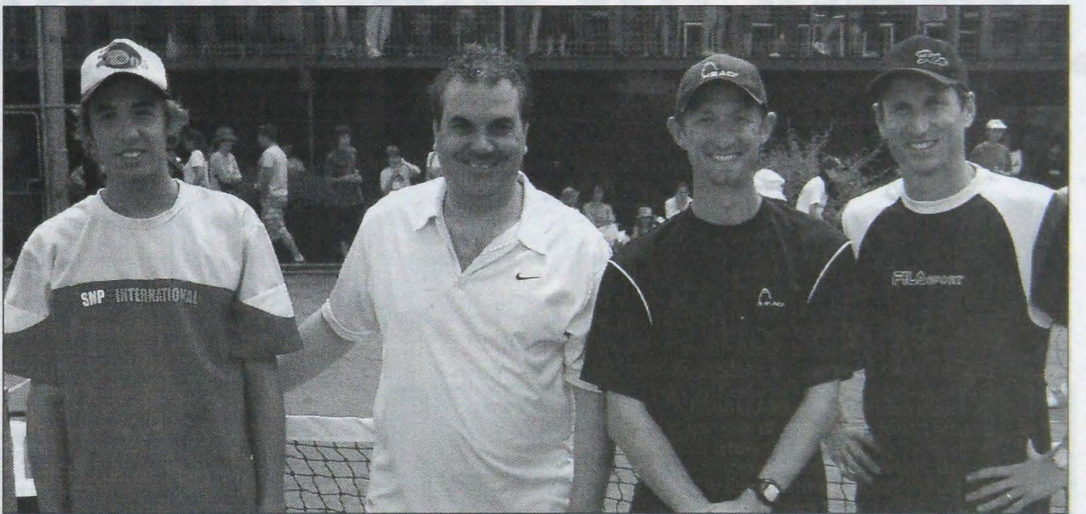
In an exhibition match marking the finale of the Supersmashers program, former international player Jason Stoltenberg teamed with one of Australia's top juniors, Steven Donald, to defeat club coach Aaron Nolan and former coach Fabio Forlano 6-3.

At the peak of his career, Jason Stoltenberg reached a world ranking of 19 in singles and 23 in doubles.

He coached Leyton Hewitt to victory at Wimbledon in 2002 and has now been appointed Tennis Australia's high-performance academy head coach.

Steven Donald, who comes from North Ringwood, is rapidly climbing the rankings ladder.

He has represented Australia in junior Davis Cup and is currently third in Australian junior tennis rankings.



From left, Steven Donald, Fabio Forlano, Aaron Nolan and Jason Stoltenberg at Warrandyte Tennis Club last month.

- Judy Green

High school boys win state basketball title

Warrandyte High School's Year 8 boys basketball team has won the state championships.

The school has a proud sporting tradition in girl's football, girl's cricket, girl's basketball and hockey however this is the first time it has won a state championship with a boys' team.

Around 320 secondary schools participated in the competition and the team had to win 15 consecutive games.

In spite of being too small, Warrandyte won the first game with a transition three pointer from Rae Walker to put the team one point up with seven seconds to go.

Daniel Hughes played fantastic defence to stop Brighton Secondary from scoring inside the key in the last two seconds of the game. Julian Philipou was outstanding, scoring the bulk of the team's points in this game.

In game two, Warrandyte played Belmont Secondary College and controlled the tempo winning by eight points.

In the third game Warrandyte played Echuca High School. An excellent contribution from the bench gave the starting group a valuable rest to be ready for the final.

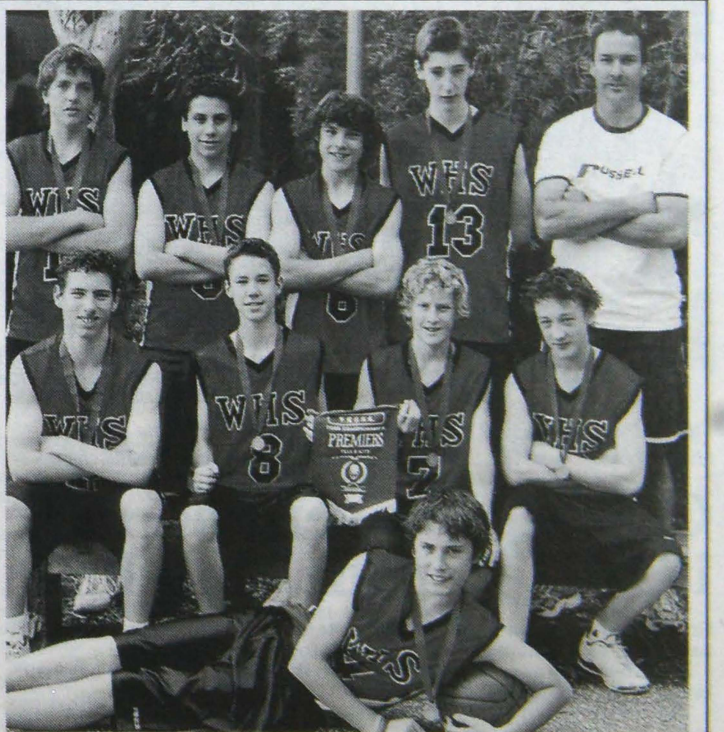
In the final Warrandyte played St Helena Secondary College and Ryan Holloway dominated the first half scoring 12 points in transition.

Excellent execution of offensive structures saw Rae Walker open from the perimeter to shoot a number of three pointers.

The difference in the final was Warrandyte scored everywhere and their defence was outstanding.

The final score was Warrandyte High School 40 points defeated St Helena 20 points in a 30 minute game.

The Warrandyte team was: Rae Walker (captain), Julian Philippou,



The successful Warrandyte High School Year 8 premiers basketball team.

Daniel Hughes, Ryan Holloway, Shaun Turner, Julian Gath, Nick Deghani, Lewis Plunkett, Justin Neville. Special thanks to David Wood (scorer and assistant coach).

- Steve Moresi, coach

Falcons win netball title

Warrandyte Falcons have won the Doncaster and District Netball Association Under 17 Spring premiership.

The Falcons, coached by Teresa Knott, have now won the DDNA 2005 Winter and Spring competitions.

Players in the Falcons team include Erin Carroll, Hannah Cox, Amie Dusting, Ellie Freemantle, Stephanie Freemantle, Mandy Gammilonghi, Sophie Groth, Julia Knott, Lauren Reid and Simone Reid.

The Falcons team comfortably defeated Koonung Flames 49 to 30 in the Grand Final.

Teresa Knott congratulated her team that had finished top of the ladder.

"Each of the girls was asked to step up an extra five per cent for the game which they did and neared their target score of 50," Teresa said.

"The team was down two regular players because of the participation of others in the Great Victorian Bike Ride but the replacement players made a great contribution."

Three Warrandyte teams were runners up for the Spring season. The

Under 15/1 Magpies lost by one goal to long time rivals DYC Jaguars; Under 15/3 Kookaburras lost to Burners Firestorm 18-24 and Open A/B Woodies went down to DYC Plumes 31-50.

The previous week, 10 teams out of the 16 fielded from Warrandyte Netball Club reached the Spring season knockout semi finals played (under 11 teams are not eligible to play in finals.)

Teams reaching the Spring finals were: Under 13/1 Sparrows, Under 13/2 Wallabies, Under 13/4 Gumnuts, Under 15/1 Magpies, Under 15/2 Bellbirds, Under 15/3 Kookaburras, Under 17/1 Falcons, Open A/B Woodies, Open A/B Eagles and Open C Hawks.

Teams now have a break over the Christmas period, with games starting for the Winter 2006 season on March 4.

Enquiries for the 2006 season to president, Lesley Reid, 9844 2068.

For netball enthusiasts, the DDNA has now established a website on line at www.geocities.com/doncasternetball.



The successful Warrandyte Under 17 Falcons team with coach, Teresa Knott.

Redback's boys set their sights on top competition

Ari's US basketball 'dream' trip

Warrandyte's under 12 boys basketball team are well placed to grade highly in the 2006 season.

With two teams representing the association, the first team, led by Under 12 Boys' head coach Damian Arsenis, is aiming high and hope to secure an opportunity to 'have a crack' at the highest level - the Victorian Championship division that is widely referred to as "VC".

Despite the loss of three talented squad members to Blackburn in the

off-season, the depth of talent in the age group has seen the youngsters continue their push up through the ranks.

With the phase 1 of official grading now under way, the team encountered Bendigo Brave's at Sunshine in the first round. Despite a slow start against their taller opponents, Warrandyte composed themselves and began finding the bottom of the net, going into half time with a slender lead.

Following the break, Warrandyte upped the defensive intensity the Brave's guards were unable to cope and were forced into numerous turnovers by the back court trio of Tim Apostolides, Matt Killey and Zac Ratcliffe.

Stepping up to assist were Michael Holloway and Campbell Prior, and with Reece McKenzie (top scorer) and Michael DeLacy. Warrandyte were able to carve out a matching winning 17-point lead to run out eventual nine point winners.

Greg Pearson has accepted the responsibility of guiding the under 12 second team who are all in their first season of Friday night basketball.

After easily winning their two practice games, they thrashed Sherbrooke in the first round of grading to

win 54 - 8 in an all-round team effort at Park Orchards.

● The Under 16's boys, coached by Ian Wood also had a good opening grading game defeating a determined Collingwood by 58-38.

Warrandyte were without Ben Power while Ian McLeod and Tom Fitzpatrick are also carrying injuries.

Matters were not helped when Anthony Spinoza also twisted his ankle but hopefully will be right for next week.

● Warrandyte's Under 14 girls had a good 55-18 win over Whittlesea.

The team is coming together well under new coach, Justin Nelson, and are looking forward to a rewarding season.

"This is looking like a good strong team" said top scorer Sophie Richardson.

Local basketball identity, Ari Pianta, is off in January on a trip of his life with a month's tour of the west coast of America.

Ari has been selected as a member of a 13 member team to tour from Vancouver down the east coast to Los Angeles taking in Seattle.

The tour, arranged by Scott Ryan, occurs every two years. The players have to demonstrate high basketball skills but also have a positive attitude to the sport.

The team will play a minimum of 13 games, but probably more depending on how they go in a number of tournaments they have entered.

The lads will be staying with host families while in America which will heighten their enjoyment.

"It's a trip of a life time," said Ari. "I can't wait."

Ari will be back just in time to take part in the Eltham Dandenong Basketball tournament starting on Australia Day.



The Redback's Under 12 team from left, Kyle Thomas, Dane Stewart, Mitchell Dymmock, Oscar Pearson, Nathan DeLacy and Zac Plischka.

Grading is over and now it's time for the real thing

Grading has been completed for the Eastern District Junior Basketball Association (Saturday) and competition proper is under way.

Initial results are encouraging with both the A Grade Under 18 boys and Under 16 boys recording good wins.

The Under 18 boys defeated Ivanhoe 44-26 while the Under 16s had a good win against Koonung by 56-37.

The Under 14 Redbacks took on Banyule winning 52 - 48 in a high scoring game.

Banyule scored first but Warrandyte took a five point lead into the break and had the game in hand with a nine point lead with just over five minutes to go.

Zac Ballard's goal inside the last minute sealed the result for Warrandyte.

The Under 16 girls had a good win over a Bulleen side by 38-20, while the Under 18's went down to Balwyn by 25-22 in a close game.



Newly appointed Warrandyte Tennis Club Life Member, Barbara McBain with current president, Neil Dusting, left, and past presidents, Mark Bence, right, and Greg Lawrence.

Barb gets 'life' at tennis club

Barbara McBain received Warrandyte Tennis Club's foremost honour when she was presented with life membership at the mid-week ladies Christmas dinner earlier this month.

Barbara has played mid-week ladies and Saturday tennis at the club for more than 25 years. She has served on both the mid-week ladies and general committees across many of these years.

Barbara has served the club in numerous roles, includ-

ing mid-week ladies president and as a member of the junior committee.

Warrandyte Tennis Club president Neil Dusting told the *Diary*: "Four presidents and four secretaries were lucky enough to have Barb help them out on the general committee."

"She has always been an active member, contributing to the development of our club and helping to establish the magnificent facility we have today."

Warrandyte Cricket Club

Batsmen hold key for finals

Warrandyte's batting line up will need to shrug off the fragility that has dogged it all season if it is to win the crucial match against Bayswater Park this Saturday.

It is a critical match in Warrandyte's season as a win sets up a definite finals challenge while a loss threatens the possibility of relegation.

Bayswater Park has set a challenging target of 227 but Warrandyte has the knowledge that while it fails consistently to chase small targets, the team has an outstanding record of overcoming larger totals.

"The players know how important this game is for the club and there is a real positive attitude," said captain Adam White.

"We all know we haven't performed well this season but a win will put us a game out of the top four and we will have the momentum leading into the second half of the season."

Warrandyte has two wins this season from six completed games. The second win was a heart-stopping win over Chirnside Park which had been dismissed for 98 following a brilliant bowling spell from Campbell Holland which returned 6-42.

Warrandyte was a comfortable 3-72

in reply when it lost four wickets in one controversial over to slump to 7-72. But Dave Mooney and Matt Chapman attacked the bowling and took Warrandyte to a comfortable win.

The innings was highlighted by six lbw decisions, three of which were made in the one over.

White said that Holland's bowling was some of the best and fastest he had seen from the powerful speedster.

"If Campbell can keep up that standard of bowling, we will be a real force after the Christmas break. He is a real key to our success."

Left arm off spinner, Matthew Sazenis, who was named captain of the Ringwood District Cricket Association's Under 21 team, continues to take wickets and White has also shown his all round ability with a four wicket haul against St Andrews and a further three wickets against Bayswater Park.

Another plus for the side has been the return of veteran medium paced bowler, Gerald Walshe who has missed two games with a knee injury.

The Second XI, which boasts five players 17 years or younger contin-

ues to shine and is well placed to defeat unbeaten Bayswater Park. Batting first, Warrandyte has put together a commanding total of 253 with Mark Centofanti (52) and Steve Goddard (47) being the top scorers but four other players scored 20 or more in a all-round team performance.

Scores:
Round 6:
First XI: Warrandyte 71 lost to St Andrews 196 (A. White 4-17) & 6-61 (Howarth 5-27).

Seconds: Warrandyte 7-207 (Jarvis 59, Graf 57) d St Andrews 132 (Lincoln 4-32, Morgan 3-19).

Thirds: Warrandyte 9-140 (Wellesley 32, Revel 30, Creber 30) d South Warrandyte 114 (Prangley 3-31).

Fourths: Warrandyte 6-220 (G. Rees 67, Maltman 60) d Wantirna 156 (W. Standing 3-18).

Fifths: Warrandyte 201 (K. Miller 71, L. Dehmel 57) & 0-72 d North Ringwood 103 (K. Miller 7-36).

Round 7:
Firsts: Warrandyte 9 dec 144 (Chapman 37, Mooney 27 n.o.) d Chirnside Park 98 (Holland 6-42, Sazenis 3-33) & 3-171.

Seconds: Warrandyte 8-177 (T. Rees 55) lost to Chirnside Park 201



Warrandyte coach, Lindsay Clay, and key fast bowler, Campbell Holland, discuss tactics before training last week.

(Howarth 4-62, R. White 2-10, A. Dehmel 2-60).

Thirds: Warrandyte 152 lost to Croydon Ranges 7-179 (T. Hookey 2-10, Wright 2-55).

Fourths: Warrandyte 181 (Croft 48, B. Zach 34) & 6-228 (B. Zach 89, J Sherriff 60 n.o.) d Bayswater Park 228 (E. Blyth-Levin 2-29, W. Standing 2-55).

Fifth XI: Warrandyte 72 (T. Greve 39 n.o.) & 6-108 (T. Greve 58, D. Barry 25 n.o.) lost to South Croydon 266

(Carver 5-46).

Round 7:
Firsts: Warrandyte v Bayswater Park 227 (A. White 3-35, Sazenis 3-56, Holland 3-65).

Seconds: Warrandyte 253 (Centofanti 52, Goddard 47, Hoiberg 27, R. White 25, A. Dehmel 23 n.o., Morgan 21).

Thirds: Warrandyte 68 v Chirnside Park 9-72 (Prangley 4-32, Fay 3-23).

Fifths: Warrandyte 1-39 v Olinda 220 (K. Miller 3-61, Hatch 2-39, P. Beggs 2-22).

Juniors name coaches for 2006

Football

By PAUL VAN DER ZANT

Planning for the 2006 season is already under way for Warrandyte Junior Football Club.

After a rigorous selection process, the majority of coaches have already been appointed for next season.

These coaches are: Under 9s, David McMennemin, Under 10s Peter Stafford, Under 11s Shane Newman, Under 12s Lance Nilsson, Under 13s Steve Blakey, Under 14s Chris Appleby and Under 15s.

Andrew Gordon.

"We are in the final stages of signing a Colts' Coach," said club secretary, Phil Ashfield. "This selection process reinforced the number of excellent people within the club and we feel sure our players are in great hands next year."

One of the priorities for the junior club in 2006 will be the development of player skills.

"We have already planned a football camp on 24-26 February. This will be conducted by Scott Chapman, a local parent who has extensive

experience in such camps" said football operations leader Chris Appleby.

"Parents will soon be receiving information about this camp and is an excellent opportunity for our players and parents to get away and learn some more football skills."

The club has also appointed Carlton 1989 premierships player and local parent, Warren McKenzie as the skills development coordinator.

At the recent Football Operations meeting, the committee, coaches and their staff worked through their strategies for 2006 and committed themselves to ensure they provided a safe, nurturing and positive playing atmosphere for all of the players.

"The committee has endorsed the 2006 theme for the Juniors as being 'It's all about the kids' and under this banner we are planning to put in a raft of activities that will make our club one of the premier clubs in the area.

"We will be investing in training and playing equipment, coaching support and facilities for the benefit of our players," said Phil Ashfield.

One of the outcomes of this meeting was an agreement to aim to have two Colts squads for 2006.

"We estimate that we could have around 30-35 players in the Colts squad. Rather than turn players away, which we had to do in 2005, and potentially losing these players to the local football community, we would prefer to put in a bit of effort and try to get these two squads up.

"The added advantage of this is that this will provide an expanded feeder group for the future Under 18s. Players in the Under 16-17 age groups who are keen to join the club to contact me on 0409 542 112" said Phil Ashfield.

Registration day for the Warrandyte Junior Football Club is planned for Sunday February 12.

For more information about the day, and also about the ongoing activities of the club, visit our website www.warrandytefc.org or contact secretary, Phil Ashfield on 0409 542 112.



Junior Coaches for 2006 - Standing from left, Lance Nilsson (Under 12s), David McMennemin (Under 9s), Warren MacKenzie (Skills Development), Chris Appleby (under 14s), Shane Newman (Under 11s), Peter Stafford (Under 10s), Steve Ballard (Football Operations), Shaun Wilson (Coach Mentor). Front, Steve Blakey (under 13s) and Pat Nichol (Club Captain)

Positive signs as Bloods' training starts

By LEE TINDALE

Fourth Division? Bring it on! If Warrandyte Football Club's despised maiden voyage to the pits of the EFL competition was expected to dampen spirits, there has been no sign at all of that in the early pre-season.

Quite the contrary, in fact. An estimated 40 players turned out for the first run on November 28.

In keeping with the club's avowed youth development policy, they included some 10 members of Warrandyte Junior Football Club's 2006 premier Under-17 Colts side.

Also in line with policy, the Bloods have already recruited well to strengthen the "spine" with experienced key position players.

"We have four solid new recruits," WFC president Phil Treeby told the Diary.

"They are all capable of filling key positions, which is exactly what we went looking for.

"One has come to us by way of Norwood and Yarra Junction, another from Pantan Hill."

Lack of strength and experi-

ence in key positions was a major contributing factor to Warrandyte's dismal results — albeit with a very young list — this year, the club winning just two of their 18 senior games to take the dreaded drop to Division 4 for the first time.

"Our first training runs for 2007 have been very good," said Treeby.

"Under coach Peter Green there is a real air of excitement around the club — a strong, youthful approach to football."

The Bloods will have six runs under their belts by the time they recess for Christmas-New Year.

The final hit-out will be a light run followed by a joint barbecue with the junior club and Warrandyte Cricket Club at the recreation reserve on Thursday, December 15.

WFC are still seeking a senior coach for a resurrected Under-18 side — the crucial link between junior and senior football — for the new season.

"Mark Watson, the father of former Colt Chris, has put up his hand for the assistant coaching job and we are following up on the senior position," Treeby said.

Stronger links forged between two local clubs

Links between the Warrandyte Junior and Senior Football Clubs continue to build with the first ever joint committee meeting.

"At this meeting, we started the ongoing conversation about how the two clubs can work together for the betterment of the football community," said senior president Phil Treeby. "It was an extremely positive meeting, characterised by open and frank discussions about the past but with an absolute focus on the future."

Junior secretary, Phil Ashfield pointed to many ways where the clubs could work together in areas such as joint purchasing of supplies, cross sponsorship, exchange of coaches, joint training and sharing the cost of training and playing expenses.

"The primary focus of the night was on creating an environment where players, parents and supporters can be proud to come to the club and that most importantly, players can transition from takers, to juniors, the Under 18s and then the seniors. This career path has been a long held ambition of both the slubs", said Ashfield.

A particular focus of the night was player retention. Both clubs committed themselves to ensuring the Under 18s was created, competitive and sustainable.

Senior coach, Peter Green called on the two clubs to work together to make sure the players understood the potential that exists within the Warrandyte football community.

"Players need to under-

stand the enormous opportunities that exist between the two clubs.

"While we are disappointed in being in Division 4 in 2006, the positives are that many of these Under 18s players, if they are good enough, will experience senior football in 2006."

Both committees noted that while there were not enough numbers transitioning from the Warrandyte Junior Club alone to make up an Under 18's side there were other clubs around the region that may have more players than they could offer a regular game.

Warrandyte has extended a welcome to boys that find themselves in this position and will be very pleased to include them in the squad rather than see them lost to football.



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All food collected will be delivered to the Warrandyte Food Bank for distribution to Warrandyte families. When you pop into IGA this Christmas Eve, pick up an extra item or two for the Warrandyte Food Bank — your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated! Last year your generosity resulted in more than 14 trolleys FULL of groceries!



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buyer enquiry range \$300k-\$340k

"two for the price of one!"
Tranquil 4BR home + HUGE separate studio set on more than 1/3 acre. Formal dining, sep lounge/family, main BR opens to terrace garden. Studio ideal as home/office or teenager accommodation.



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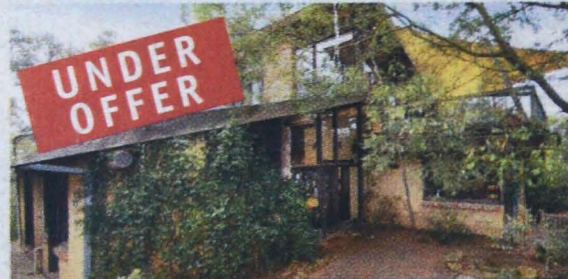
warrandyte north private sale
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There's nothing left to do but move straight in! Newly renovated 4BR family home on near 1/4 acre. 3 living areas, HUGE parents' suite with lounge and spa ensuite.



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"once in a lifetime combination: location & river views"
Rare opportunity to secure newly renovated 4BR plus study home with uninterrupted river views! Walk to shops, schools, transport and of course... the river's at the bottom of your garden!



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

"an alistar Knox original"
Timeless Alistair Knox designed & constructed 4BR mudbrick family home on near 1 acre. Versatile open floorplan, kitchen/lounge/dining, mezzanine rumpus, elevated deck for entertaining. Sep. family room. Dble carport.



warrandyte north private sale
buyer enquiry range \$480k-\$530k

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



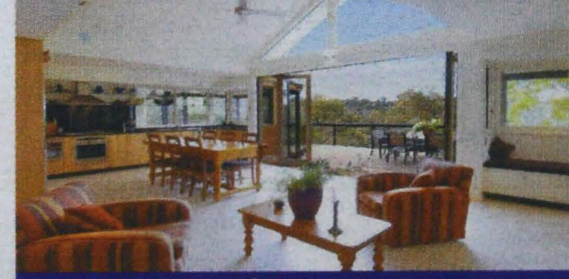
warrandyte north private sale
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"let the good times roll"
Newly renovated 4BR home set on 1700m2 of landscaped gardens. Formal lounge/dining, kitchen/meals/family. IG pool & large areas for outdoor entertaining. Four car accommodation.



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"the best years of your life"
Architect designed 4BR + study (suit 5th BR) home, north facing and constructed from reclaimed Hawthorn bricks. Set on more than 1.33 acres with views to Kangaroo Ground. Formal lounge/dining, kitchen/meals/family. Four car accommodation.



warrandyte north private sale
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"a life of luxury"
Your own private oasis on 8+ acres. Newly renovated 5BR residence. Main house: 4BR, vast living areas, formal lounge/dining, kitchen/meals/family, outdoor entertaining area overlooking IG pool. PLUS sep 1BR mudbrick cottage, 8 car accommodation

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