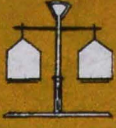


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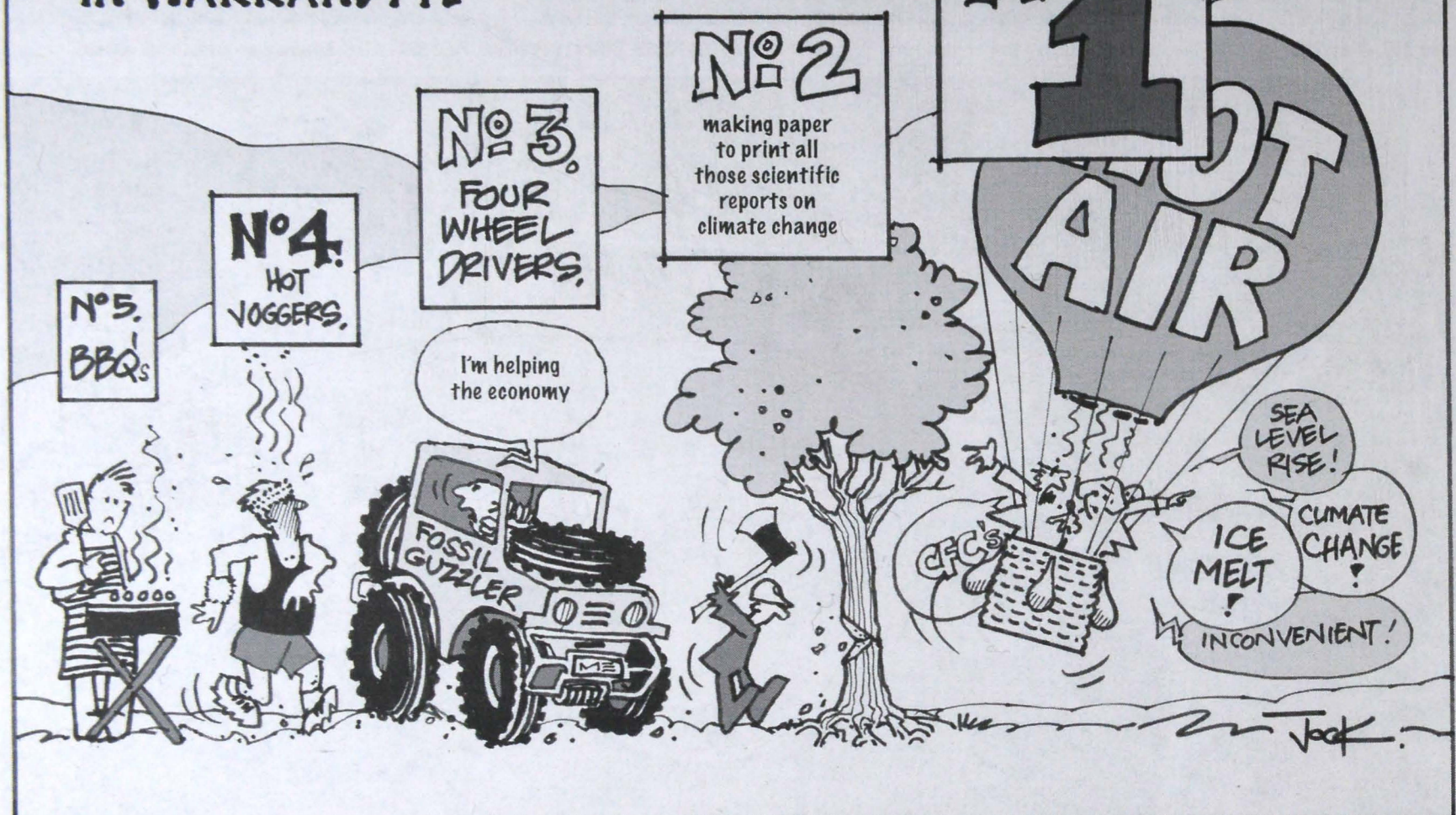
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OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH

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**NEXT ISSUE**

Next issue of the *Diary* will be published on Wednesday, June 6. Advertising and editorial copy closes Friday, May 25.

**OUR NEWSPAPER**

The *Warrandyte Diary* was established in 1970 as a small local newsletter. Although it has developed over the years, it has retained its strong community character, being produced by volunteers with only one aim: to serve its community. Financed solely through advertising, it guards its not-for-profit, non-commercial status and its independent voice. The *Diary* carries a strong editorial bias towards the people, environment and character of the place it serves. Its monthly circulation is 4000 copies and it is available in Warrandyte, North Warrandyte, South Warrandyte, Park Orchards, Wonga Park, Waranwood, North Ringwood, Kangaroo Ground and Research.


**A SPECIAL PLACE**

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



**THE NIGHT THE STAR WAS THROWN**

It has long been thought that "Warrandyte" could be translated as "that which is thrown". The Wurundjeri dreamtime story told how Bunjil, the great eagle, the all-powerful, ever-watchful creator of the world, had once gazed down upon his people from the star Altair and seen their wrongdoing. Awaiting their return, with a mighty crash of thunder, he hurled down a star to destroy them. Where the star struck created the gorge we see today. Bunjil's people always remembered the spot. They called it *Warrandyte*, the place where Bunjil had hurled down the star to punish his people.



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# We're out of bus plan

## Warrandyte's transport woes ignored

By EMMA CLARK

A Manningham councillor's proposal to develop community bus services in the municipality has ignored Warrandyte, Park Orchards and Wonga Park, areas notoriously ill-served by public transport.

The plan was raised by Cr Geoff Gough and according to Manningham mayor Ron Kitchingman, will aim to "connect the Manningham community to facilities such as activity centres, sport and recreational facilities and to services within the municipality."

"The service would be provided to improve access particularly for the aged, youths and families and would also provide tourism opportunities."

The council is "yet to consider the opportunity" but has prepared a "preliminary route plan to illustrate the types of facilities, services and tourist destinations which could be accessed if such an initiative were to proceed."

If council is supportive of the initiative, then a feasibility study into the service will consider alternative route options, statutory requirements, operational and maintenance responsibilities and linkages to the wider public transport system.

However local residents have pointed out that there is a clear need for improved public transport services in Warrandyte.

Buses from Warrandyte to the city do not run throughout the middle of the day during the week. On weekends, they run only every hour and finish at 5.30pm, making it extremely difficult for anyone who does not drive to get around safely.

Taxi fares can be as high as \$70, making a night out a costly exercise.

Nightrider buses, which depart from the CBD every hour after midnight on Saturday and Sunday mornings, only go as far as Ringwood and Eltham stations, making it virtually impossible for anyone to catch public transport from Warrandyte to and from the city on a weekend night.

A community bus service connecting the Warrandyte township to the Pines Shopping Centre, where buses run



There is no direct bus from Warrandyte to the city for most of the day. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

more frequently throughout weekdays and on weekends, would benefit the Warrandyte community immensely. Presently, there is only four hour parking at the Pines, which restricts travel options and makes it extremely difficult to spend any reasonable length of time away.

Council has indicated the importance of community action in improving services. Cr Kitchingman told the *Diary* that "it needs to be understood that public transport is a state, not local government responsibility. The 2006-2010 council plan identifies the importance of advocacy on behalf of the community and the integration of the existing transport network."

Community advocacy has already been taking place through the Warrandyte Community Association. President Dick Davies is disappointed that Warrandyte has been overlooked

in the proposed plan.

"We have been campaigning for improved services for a long time. Warrandyte has once again been ignored, when this service would be extremely beneficial to this community. It would make Warrandyte more accessible to visitors and make it safer for people to get around."

"A council commitment to a bus service would be great, as long as the Park Orchards, Wonga Park and Warrandyte areas, which make up almost two-thirds of Manningham, are not left out," Mr Davies said.

An initial report in the Manningham Leader, outlining the plan, aroused considerable interest. Residents of Doncaster and Templestowe expressed support, but unsurprisingly, Warrandyte residents have shown disappointment at being overlooked. Matt Passas wrote: "My only concern is that

Warrandyte is left out of the proposed route. We have a lot of kids and families who would benefit from having this bus service connecting us to the rest of Manningham. It seems that Warrandyte is always the last to receive any benefits."

As the *Diary* has been reporting recently, the community is embracing action on climate change. An integral part of creating a sustainable lifestyle is to reduce the use of cars. A poor public transport system makes this extremely difficult.

Manningham has established a Strategic Transport Advisory Committee, which is working to "deliver improved transport services and infrastructure for the Manningham community".

The committee is in the process of considering transport needs both within and beyond Manningham, identification of gaps and solutions which

will guide the council's initiatives. A community bus service integrating Warrandyte, Park Orchards and Wonga Park would significantly fill the gaps in public transport in the area and improve tourism.

Further development of the initiative will be subject to consultation and discussions with bus service providers and representatives of the Department of Infrastructure.

● Bendigo Bank is currently undertaking a feasibility study into the possibility of funding a community bus for local groups to use. "We have put out a questionnaire to local sporting clubs, schools, churches and community groups to ascertain the need for a bus, and to what extent it would be used," Sarah Wrigley from the Warrandyte community branch of the Bendigo Bank told the *Diary*.

# New boundaries will dilute our representation

By EMMA CLARK

A review of electoral representation in Manningham could result in diluted representation for non-urban sections of the municipality and increase the already overlarge size of Mullum Mullum ward, which includes Warrandyte, Park Orchards and Wonga Park.

Currently, the City of Manningham has eight councillors in four two-councillor wards. The Victorian Electoral Commission is looking at issues such as the appropriate number of councillors for the municipality, how many wards there should

be, the number of councillors per ward and the ward boundaries.

The VEC has called for submissions from residents and the council. Manningham council, the Warrandyte Community Association and several residents have contributed submissions to the review.

Manningham council originally proposed a structure based on nine councillors elected from three three-member wards. Its submission stated that "an odd number of councillors would help prevent future incidences of tied votes".

The council also indicated that the increased size of the wards would "accommodate the predicted growth in voter numbers" and would make councillors more accessible to constituents.

WCA suggested that the current eight councillor, four ward structure should be retained. They argued that this structure "maintains the community of interest which unites Warrandyte, Warrandyte South, Park Orchards and Wonga Park. These areas are geographically, environmentally and culturally distinct from other parts of the

City. WCA does not wish to see a dilution of this community of interest."

WCA also suggested that Mullum Mullum ward, which includes Warrandyte, Warrandyte South, Park Orchards and parts of Donvale and East Doncaster, is too large and some urban areas should be transferred to Koornung ward.

After considering the submissions, the VEC preferred option is the "nine councillor, three ward structure" proposed by Manningham.

This would increase the Mullum Mullum ward to include the

area bound by Blackburn Road, Tunstall Road, and Koonung Creek and, according to the WCA, "dilute the community of interest".

Mullum Mullum ward is already one of the biggest in the metropolitan area and contains significant environmental and community areas.

Val Polley of WCA told the *Diary* that the association does not support the nine councillors, three ward structure.

"If it isn't broken, then why fix it?" she said. "There has been no public outcry for change and no reason to change the current

structure. We want to maintain the original model, as the community is protected, well represented and not diluted in any form."

After considering another round of responses and submissions, the VEC will lodge their suggestions with the Minister of Local Government.

● The public is invited to respond to the submissions and proposed options. Copies of the preliminary report and submissions are available at the Manningham council offices or at [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au).

**IMPORTANT**

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# Fence those kids in!

To Cr Warwick Leeson, Eltham Shire Council

On Tuesday, April 24, a child aged about two and-a-half climbed through the post and wire boundary fence of the North Warrandyte Community Centre in Research Road. She was heading for that busy road but was intercepted by a parent (myself) who needed to step onto Research Road in order to stop the child in her tracks. This incident was witnessed by several parents and drivers on Research Road.

This is the second incident of a child getting through this fence and at risk of being hit by cars on Research Road. To date, Nillumbik Shire Council has not acted.

The current fence is an inadequate barrier between the North Warrandyte Community Centre grounds and busy Research Road. It consists of posts and three or four strands of fencing wire.

On behalf of the Yarra Warra Pre-school Committee (of which I am a member) we request that council, without delay, install—at a minimum, and as a temporary measure—the orange plastic emergency/construction mesh fencing along the entire length of this fence. Or alternatively, use suitable ringlock/mesh fencing.

If the council is unable to institute an immediate safety barrier to protect the lives of children visiting the centre, we feel it is our duty to provide a safe barrier and install a temporary measure ourselves.

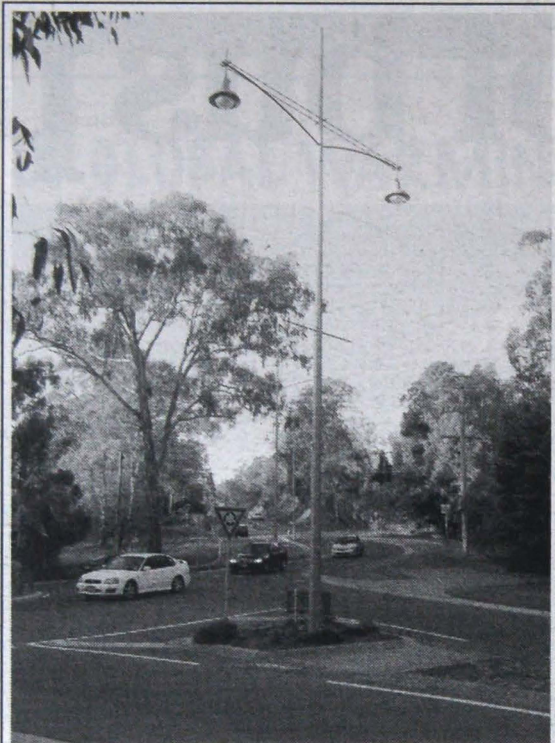
It is my understanding that the inadequacy of this fence has been an issue since the new centre was constructed. The council must act immediately, before there is a fatality. This close shave was too close.

Jozica Kutin  
Bradleys Lane

## Hello...

My husband and I have a soft spot for Warrandyte, having lived and loved both the village and your local rag for 10 years. However, we are now living and enjoying a contrasting lifestyle on the Gold Coast at Burleigh Heads in Queensland. Great to read news about the Warrandyte Festival.

Donna Cavanagh  
(by email)



The Yarra Street banners were missing from this year's festival. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

## Banner ban slam

The insidious effect of the Howard government's selling off of our cultural heritage is nowhere more clear than in the fate of our precious festival banners this year.

It appears that the Singapore government's almighty Temasek Holdings has a controlling stake in the various companies that now control more than \$22 billion worth of Australian assets. The bare fact is that we can be told what to do by a government that hangs people.

"E-motive" response? I should hope so! Are we just going to let this continue? If "e" stands for "email" and "motive" is about purposive action—let's get moving!

Yvonne Lynton Reid  
Banning Road

## Young could be denied a vote

I wonder how many young people in Warrandyte are aware that recent changes to electoral laws mean that they could lose their right to vote.

In April, the Australian government changed the electoral act. Now, once an election is called, those eligible to vote for the first time will only have a matter of hours to enrol before the rolls are closed.

Previously, the law allowed between two and three weeks for young people to claim this basic democratic right. It is hard to see what good effect the new provisions are intended to have. They would seem to be

a very effective way of reducing the voice of young voters participating in the democratic process.

The most important thing now is for those turning 18 this year (and by my estimate there are about 150 of them in the Warrandyte/North Warrandyte area) to take steps to enrol right now.

Teachers, youth workers and other relevant professions in our community will also have a useful role to play in getting this message to Warrandyte's future voters.

David Ellis  
Greens federal election candidate

## Our butcher's gone

This letter is to express my extreme concern regarding the imminent closure of Aron's butcher's shop. I understand that this closure is due to lack of support from the Warrandyte community and the escalation of rental costs.

Really, what is Warrandyte, once a community village, coming to? We are going to end up being purely for tourists, with gift shops, restaurants, beauty shops and so on predominating, rather than a place for residents like myself, who came here for the country atmosphere, which also happened to be located near work opportunities.

In Aron's shop, the customer was given individual attention, advice and friendship from a young family man who chose our village as the ideal place to work and raise a family.

Unfortunately, very few Warrandyte residents took the trouble to compare prices and quality of stock. If they

had bothered they would have found Aron's prices very competitive, often less expensive than other outlets, and of excellent quality.

Those of us who value quality will now be forced to shop outside the area, to the further detriment of the village in which we live. It is not the first small business to founder and I doubt that it will be the last.

My condolences to Aron and his family, I wish them all the best.

Beth Gallagher  
(by email)

## Shame...

As a local in the community I was really upset to find out the other day that our local butcher Aron is leaving!

He has not seen any of our community spirit or support.

What has happened to support of local businesses? It's a real shame.

Kate Holzer  
Warrandyte

## Horse death shocks

The agonising death of that poor horse in Warrandyte (and subsequent putting-down of a second horse) reported on Channel 10 News early this month left me feeling very sick indeed.

Whoever is responsible for this hideous act of cruelty deserves a prison sentence—fines are useless.

Many horses are neglected, often out of sight. Even those in public view are left in dirty agistment paddocks, without shade or shelter, in unpleasant weather conditions, bored, with nothing to look forward to, not even a feed. Rugs are left off when they should be on and on when they should be left off. We must all be aware of what is going on around us, as was the young girl who reported this shocking case.

Government must give rangers and RSPCA inspectors the powers to act appropriately. Rangers must get tough. Courts must dish out some prison sentences.

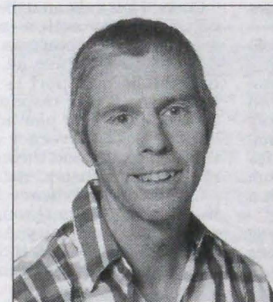
Jo Gilligan  
Everard Drive

## Kind words appreciated

We (the family of recently deceased Warrandyte High School teacher Rob Graham) have been truly humbled by the overwhelming strength and support expressed to our family, by so many staff, students, former students and parents who knew Rob. Through difficult circumstances, we've been reminded of the value of friends and community.

We are proud of Elissa, Yasmin, Adam and Martyn, friends Keith Bowen and Chris Danes and students Adam Daniel and Madeleine Prior who spoke and played music in celebrating Rob's contribution and enrichment of the lives of so many others, including our own.

We were touched by the wonderful students—wearing their riding jerseys—who formed a guard of honour for Rob. And thank you to those who donated



Rob Graham

so generously to the Austin Spinal Research Unit.

Thank you to so many people for their cards, meals, gifts, flowers, emails and visits. The words in so many of the cards demonstrated the genuine nature of Rob's teaching commitment

and it is with gratitude that we acknowledge your appreciation of his commitment.

I miss my soulmate every day. However I am reminded to continue reaching out to all those people who have offered to be there for us in the weeks and months ahead. I hope to return to Warrandyte High School when I am ready and will visit throughout this term to keep in touch with you all.

"A good man is a gift to all who know him. He is dependable like the sunrise because his goodness springs from inner strength.

"A good man spreads happiness wherever he goes, and leaves everyone he meets feeling better than they did before."

Thank you.

Julie Vomero  
(by email)

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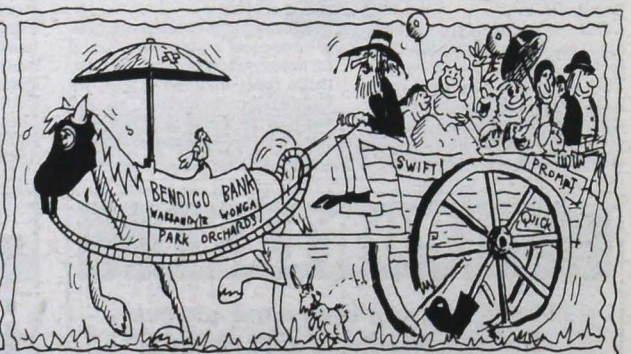
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## CYRIL

THE BENDIGO BANK COMMUNITY BUS IS UP AND RUNNING—ON RECYCLED, NATURAL GAS!



By PAUL WILLIAMS



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# Happy birthday, FOWSP

The Friends of Warrandyte State Park marked their silver anniversary in April. Founding member VAL POLLEY tracks the story of this landmark local conservation group...

**D**ID you know the Friends of Warrandyte State Park (FOWSP) turned 25 in April? This iconic group has now been part of the Warrandyte landscape for 25 years—a major achievement and one worthy of celebration by the entire community.

How and why did it come about? The original proposal for a state park in Warrandyte was really quite modest and the initial declaration incorporated only Pound Bend, Jumping Creek and Black Flat public reserves. However gradually the northern river frontage, balance of Jumping Creek, the Common, Timber Reserve and Fourth Hill were soon included and by 1981 the park began to take shape.

With the proposed addition of the Koorngong and eastern section of Pound Bend however, it became obvious there was a great deal of work to be done in the various new areas, many of which were crisscrossed by unwanted tracks, were weed infested and contained areas where rubbish dumping had taken place over decades.

As a result the Warrandyte Environment League (WEL), ranger Kris Reinertsen and some local residents, inspired by the efforts of the Friends groups in the Organ Pipes and Wilsons Promontory National Parks, decided to start a similar "hands on" group for the Warrandyte State Park.

So on April 6, 1982 together with many other locals, I found myself in the old Getson community building on the corner of Yarra Street and Mitchell Avenue waiting to see just what a Friends group would look like, what it would do and what my part would be.

Firstly Geoff Durham from the Victorian National Parks Association told us about Friends groups and how they assisted management by working in their parks. Then together with members of the Organ Pipes Friends Group, he showed slides of what had been achieved in the Organ Pipes national park. This park protects the geologically significant basalt columns known as the Organ Pipes on the Jackson Creek. With the help of its Friends group, the park's barren, overgrazed slopes and acres of thistles had been transformed with the reintroduction of original vegetation communities. Weed eradication, seed collection, propagation and planting-out had been major collaborative efforts between the staff and the Friends group resulting in dramatic improvements. Those present at the Warrandyte meeting were suitably impressed.

Kris Reinertsen then outlined his plans for the Warrandyte State Park and the meeting agreed to form a new group, the Friends of Warrandyte State Park. It appointed two coordinators for the new group and the very first FOWSP working bee was planned for Fourth Hill later that same month.

Things were much more gung ho in those early days and lots of tasks were undertaken then that are now not permissible for volunteers and I suspect the first working bee, designed to remove pine trees that had seeded out into the bush from the primary school pine plantation, was probably one of those. It was strenuous work. There were people with chain saws cutting down pine trees (some quite large). These were then pulled to collection points, loaded onto trailers and taken to unwanted tracks where, laid across the bare soil, they prevented access and erosion, trapped sediment and encouraged regrowth. At the end of the day there were many tired Friends and a tremendous sense of achievement and pride. But FOWSP was on its way!

At first arrangements were quite informal. Times and dates of the next working bee were usually set at a working bee. But this could mean if a date was missed then it became a

hassle to find out when and where the next one would be. Despite some major efforts in clearing litter and weed removal, numbers at working bees steadily declined until a crisis point was reached.

Then—dramatically—all Friends received a phone call from Mike Duff inviting them to an emergency meeting at his home in Castle Road. A small but dedicated group turned up (including me) and heard the news that the Friends group was in danger of collapse. The meeting decided that FOWSP must keep going. A timetable of working bees was set so people could plan ahead, the meetings were advertised in the *Diary* and other newspapers and once again FOWSP began to prosper. With not many other Friends groups in Melbourne at that time, FOWSP attracted people from far afield. They came from places like South Yarra and Oakleigh and relished the opportunity to come to Warrandyte and work in areas not previously well known or accessible.

This was a time when the planned work could be hard but varied and also introduced Friends to a variety of areas across the Park. Fourteen truckloads of rubbish were taken out of the Common on one Sunday. One

could still find the group. Each week, at the completion of the tasks, Friends shared a volunteer-baked fruit cake and freshly brewed billy tea (with the billy whirled over his head by Glen in time-honoured fashion). Talks and walks often completed the day. My task was the new monthly newsletter for the communication of reports, information, times and dates. This was when the Greenwood Orchid logo and letterhead was devised. No computer then, everything was typed on my trusty portable, then cut, pasted and photocopied.

Yearly weed-pulls became a calendar fixture as did seed collection and potting up at Pound Bend. Planting sessions and construction work still played a major role in the program with steps and tracks built on Fourth Hill. The AGM Christmas gatherings were held on the riverbank at Stane Brae each December in a beautiful, if little known, area of the park. Glen's truck provided the basis for a number of innovative floats at Festival time and who can forget the exquisite animal masks made by one of Glen's friends. The only sour note I recall was caused by removal of cherry plum trees (seen as introduced weeds) along Everard Drive, causing

established under the auspices of the Victorian National Parks Association with general overall coordination by Geoff Durham. FOWSP was amongst the largest of these and regarded as an excellent model of volunteer participation. Biennial conferences were held where Friends groups could meet and exchange ideas and suggestions and created many opportunities for exchange visits. Good relationships with staff were fostered and Friends groups flourished overall. FOWSP itself encouraged the formation of particular Friends groups for specific areas and saw the establishment of groups such as Friends of Stony Creek, Friends of The Chase, Friends of Professors Hill and so forth.

The early 1990s saw another change in coordinators for FOWSP with Pat and Mike Coupar. These long-term members, newsletter contributors and workers took over the role together, with a broad based, committed committee. During their term of more than a decade, FOWSP has continued to strengthen, grow and prosper with enormous benefits to both the park and the wider area. The emphasis has again focused on nursery and revegetation work. The

impact of its activities in Warrandyte State Park over the years has been immeasurable. For a start there have been innumerable working bees covering an enormous range of activities ranging from construction to clearing, weed and rubbish removal, preparation and planting out, exclusion fencing, fauna counts and so forth.

Then there is the political lobbying where FOWSP has petitioned governments and councils over issues such as the inclusion of Mt Lofty into the park, retention of the depot, the need for community education officers, river management and a plethora of other issues.

FOWSP has been extremely successful in obtaining additional funding for the Park through grants for a wide variety of projects, including the nursery, polyhouses, rabbit exclusion fencing, nest boxes, the market trailer and many more.

Over the years FOWSP has played an educative, informative role through publications, information sessions and training days. In particular it has produced a wide range of publications starting with *Indigidytes*, progressing to the wonderful (now out of print) *Discover Warrandyte*, then the magnificent *Flora of Warrandyte* (10 years in the making) and recently the suite of impressive, informative, colour leaflets on Warrandyte Wattles, Wildflowers, Fungi, Eucalypts, Mosses and Liverworts.

FOWSP has been instrumental too in encouraging other Friends groups to be formed for areas outside the park. It has provided individuals with friendship and support, with knowledge and skills that have enabled many to move into employment and other areas of endeavour. It is impossible to name or give credit in this report to the many, many Friends who have built, dug, planted, watered, photographed, written, baked or provided many other skills in so many ways to the benefit of FOWSP and the park. They will know who they are and take pride in their achievements.

However it is with the development of the nursery and its work in seed collection, propagation, planting out and plant sales where I believe FOWSP's influence can be said to have spread far beyond the confines of the park itself. Twenty five years ago it was difficult to find any information on indigenous plants let alone buy them. Now, through its efforts, FOWSP has ensured the park has plants aplenty to revegetate areas with specialised, appropriate species. In addition it has enabled local councils, Melbourne Water and other authorities to obtain the indigenous plants necessary for their revegetation work to proceed. And perhaps most importantly of all, it has enabled park neighbours and local residents to purchase indigenous plants for their properties, thus strengthening the bushland cover so important to the integrity of Warrandyte and which in turn supports the wide range of bird and animal life we all love and enjoy.

So what of the future and the next 25 years for FOWSP? There have been many challenges over recent years but now the impact of the latest severe drought is being felt with gloomy forecasts of climate change and other detrimental outcomes. Dealing with new environmental problems will no doubt present new challenges for all environment groups. There has been the formation of other specialised groups such as the Osborne Peninsula Landcare Group with Margaret Burke at the helm, the Anderson Creek Catchment Group and the Warrandyte Climate Action Group. But the Warrandyte State Park will continue to provide the major focus for FOWSP, especially the preservation and protection of its fauna and flora while working alongside the staff and the local community to ensure the very best outcomes.

So heartiest congratulations FOWSP and all Friends, both past and present, for all the hard work, assistance, pleasure, support, fun, joy and achievement in reaching your 25th anniversary! May the next 25 years be as beneficial and fruitful for the park, individual Friends and our Warrandyte community.

● *The Friends of Warrandyte State Park are seeking photos, documents, anecdotes, memorabilia and films about their early years. They can be sent to PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113. Phone 9844 2551.*



session was spent stabilising a steep, cleared area known as The Wall with mats and brush. Rubbish and rubble were cleared from Geraghty's Mine on Fourth Hill, followed by clearing out the air shaft from the top of Fourth Hill. This entailed lowering volunteers down the shaft on ropes.

A report in the *Diary* noted that in its first three years FOWSP estimated it had planted more than 1000 trees, controlled significant erosion, removed tonnes of rubbish, built and restored tracks, and removed weeds and exotic plants. All this was achieved with a monthly four-hour Sunday working bee and a hardy core of about 15 to 25 members.

Then local resident ranger Glen Jameson assumed coordination of the group, ably assisted by Peter Van Dijk. Under their capable leadership FOWSP grew in numbers and enlarged its scope. Each year a program was set in conjunction with park staff, incorporating work in different areas of the park with a mixture of weed management, planting, propagation and building tasks to suit everyone's taste. Glen's green truck would be strategically placed with directional notices so if people arrived late they

a storm of protest from other local residents who admired their spring-time blossom.

When Glen took off on a Round Australia trip with his family, it was Margaret Burke and husband Ian who stepped up to coordinate the group, together with a dedicated and enthusiastic committee. Margaret's people skills and educative, collaborative approach combined with Ian's philosophical newsletter editorials and apt quotations saw the group swell to unprecedented membership numbers and support. The focus of work changed too, becoming more centred on Thursday meetings with an emphasis on nursery work, education, building the small, pavilion-like Folly and establishing Frogland. In the latter 1980s FOWSP settled into a pattern of propagation: weed work, planting days, attending the monthly market and festival, information and social evenings and visits to and from other Friends groups. The Folly provided a home and many satisfying and successful gatherings were held there.

By the late 1980s Friends groups for parks and public land were springing up all over Victoria. These were

Thursday program has continued to flourish as a result of very hard work and a dedicated nursery manager (and despite the drought). Plants are grown to revegetate where needed and rare species are planted back in the bush to prevent extinction. Once again there is a range of activities in various areas of the park, as well as Sunday walks and there is participation by Friends from other suburbs too. FOWSP remains a presence at markets and festivals with an excellent purpose-built trailer. It publishes books, brochures, postcards and planting guides to educate and inform and enjoys a reputation for expertise, enthusiasm and significant and meaningful work. A quick scan of newsletters over recent years reveals just how diverse the tasks and achievements have been. To attend a Thursday nursery session and see the amount of work (1000 small plants have been known to be potted up in one session!) while enjoying the camaraderie, exchange of news and ideas and a morning coffee break is a great pleasure.

Indeed trying to encapsulate 25 years of achievements of FOWSP in a few sentences is hugely difficult. The

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Wednesday	9am-4pm
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# Watching the neighbourhood

There is a renewed call for a Neighbourhood Watch area to be established in part of Warrandyte. A public meeting is being held this month to gauge local response.

According to Sgt Pete Henry, NHW coordinator, "Neighbourhood Watch is a community-based crime prevention program. It is aimed at reducing the incidence of preventable crime and working towards a safer community."

"In response to local concerns about crime, a new Neighbourhood Watch Area is being considered for part of Warrandyte."

Sgt Henry concedes that although "Warrandyte is not a high crime area, incidents of crime can be reduced".

"The Pound Road Fireguard group is prepared to provide the committee to get the new area started," he said. "However, more volunteers are required to ensure its success."

Initially the area to be covered would centre on Pound Road, bounded by the river to the north, Warrandyte Road to the

south, Taroona Avenue to the east and Campbell Court, Pound Road and Naughton Avenue to the west.

"Once established, the area can then be expanded," Sgt Henry said.

A Neighbourhood Watch area consists of between 400 and 800 homes. Each area is divided into 20 to 30 zones, each of 20 to 30 homes. One volunteer zone representative is required for each zone.

"Each area meets on a regular basis and produces a newsletter, usually monthly," Sgt Henry said.

A committee is required to run the area, with police assistance, and to produce and distribute the newsletter.

"The main purpose of the newsletter is to educate and inform residents on local crime and crime prevention," Sgt Henry said.

● A public meeting will be held to gauge public response on Tuesday, May 15 at 7.30pm at the Warrandyte CFA station, Harris Gully Road, Warrandyte.



Warrandyte Diary,  
December 1984

## Well done Jock, thanks Phil

Diary cartoonist Jock MacNeish is the winner of a Neighbourhood Watch competition which appeared in the magazine 'Police Life'.

Jock's contribution was selected from a total of 52 entries judged by 'Age' cartoonist Ron Tandberg. His prize of \$100 was presented by the Chief Police Commissioner, Mick Miller, at the opening night of the 1984 Victoria Police Art Exhibition. Jock says his inspiration to enter the competition came from local policeman Phil Manning. Jock's cartoon is above and his tribute to Phil at the right.



I WOULD LIKE TO THANK PHIL MANNING FOR REMINDING ME HOW MUCH PEOPLE LIKE CARTOONS. HE DIDN'T KNOW THAT I WAS A CARTOONIST. HE DIDN'T EVEN KNOW MY NAME WAS JOCK. I WAS JUST ANOTHER LOCAL IN THE STATION AT WARRANDYTE WHEN HE SHOWED ME THE JUNE/JULY 84 ISSUE OF 'POLICE LIFE'. IT WAS HIS ENTHUSIASM AND HIS OBVIOUS DELIGHT IN THE CARTOONS THAT MADE ME DECIDE TO ENTER THE CARTOON COMPETITION. THANKS PHIL  
JOCK

Warrandyte has never had a Neighbourhood Watch group, but in 1984 Diary artist Jock Macneish won a Neighbourhood Watch cartoon competition. Jock said, "The \$100 prize almost covered what I'd paid in parking fines."

## Pouch pups' poop

Manningham council has introduced several strategies aimed at eliminating both cigarette litter and dog "poo".

"Council is working hard to change residents' behaviour with regard to litter," mayor Cr Ron Kitchingman told the *Diary*. "We want to reinforce the importance of disposing of litter responsibly."

Furthering these aims, council is providing registered dog owners with "poop pouches" and on National Butt Litter Action Day, residents were given personal ashtrays.

"The 'poop pouches' are provided free to residents, and when attached to the lead are a discreet way of carrying a plastic bag, setting a good example to other dog owners," Cr Kitchingman said.

"The personal ashtrays are tangible reminders to smokers to consider the environment when discarding their litter."

Free "poop pouches", plus a brochure containing helpful suggestions on waste disposal, can be picked up from the council offices, at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster, or by phoning 9840 9333.

## Full of garbage

Have you noticed Manningham's brand-new garbage trucks on our roads on pick-up days?

The trucks are part of the five-year garden, recycled and landfill waste contract recently concluded with CityWide Service Solutions. CityWide has been managing waste in Manningham since 1999.

The six new IVECO ten tonne garbage trucks went on the road last month. New recycling and garden waste trucks will follow over the coming months. "The new vehicles provide significant environmental and occupational health and safety advantages over the previous vehicles," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

"In terms of the environment, the new trucks run on biodiesel fuel, one of a range of initiatives incorporated into the contract."

"The new-look waste trucks have been fitted with auto-lock brakes that activate when the reaching arms are in operation. The trucks will no longer be at risk of rolling when the arms are extended," the spokesperson said.

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## 2007-2008 Annual Community Grants Program

The community is encouraged to apply for the next round of Nillumbik Shire Council's Annual Community Grants Program. These grants are for community-based projects being undertaken between August 2007 and June 2008.

Grants applications closes at 5pm on Friday 29 June 2007.

### Community Development Grants:

To assist with the development of new, innovative programs, opportunities and services by local community groups and organisations within the Shire.

### Community Cultural Development Grants:

To encourage individuals, community groups and organisations in the Shire to develop arts and cultural activities that benefit the community.

### Community Youth Support Grants:

To assist local community groups to develop new after hours programs, events and opportunities for young people to strengthen community access and increase youth participation.

Each of the three community grant streams offers the opportunity to receive a maximum \$2,000 per grant from the total \$10,000 allocated to each grant pool.

### Community information Session:

**Date:** Friday 1 June  
**Time:** 6.30pm-7.30pm  
**Venue:** Eltham Library, Panther Place

Guidelines and application forms for all grants are available from Council's website [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au) or call 9433 3111.

## Workshop a vision for the future of Nillumbik's Green Wedge

Nillumbik Shire Council is preparing a 25-year plan for the Shire's rural and environmental areas.

The plan will identify the values and features of the Green Wedge areas that are most important to people and will develop a range of actions to conserve those features.

We want to hear about what you like about the Green Wedge and want to talk to you about your vision for its future. What will the landscape look like? How will people live? What activities should be encouraged? What do you see as the role of the Green Wedge?

### Join us at one of the following workshops:

#### Workshop 1

**Date:** Thursday 14 June  
**Time:** 1pm-4pm  
**Venue:** Edendale Farm Community Environment Centre, Gastons Road, Eltham

#### Workshop 2

**Date:** Thursday 14 June  
**Time:** 6.30pm-9.30pm  
**Venue:** Hurstbridge Hall, 975 Heidelberg-Kinglake Road, Hurstbridge

**To book:** call Megan Frye on 9433 3210, or email, [Megan.Frye@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Megan.Frye@nillumbik.vic.gov.au)

More information, a discussion paper and details on how to get involved in the Green Wedge Management Plan can be found at [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au) > News .

## Water Action Plan - have your say!

Nillumbik Shire Council invites you to comment on the Draft Nillumbik Sustainable Water Management Plan. The Plan aims to provide strategic direction for improved water management throughout the Nillumbik community and Council.

### The Plan will improve Nillumbik's sustainable water management practices through:

- education and behaviour change programs within Council and the community
- phased retrofits of Council buildings with water efficient devices
- staged implementation of water efficient practices in open space management
- the strategic development and implementation of guidelines and strategies that support water conservation and water quality improvement.

Copies of the Draft Plan are available from [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au) , or by contacting Donna Stoddart on 9433 3216 or [Donna.Stoddart@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Donna.Stoddart@nillumbik.vic.gov.au) .

Written comments will be accepted until 15 June 2007 and should be directed to [Donna.Stoddart@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Donna.Stoddart@nillumbik.vic.gov.au) or:

**Donna Stoddart**  
Senior Environmental Planner  
Nillumbik Shire Council  
PO Box 476  
GREENSBOROUGH VIC 3088

# Osborne Road

## Residents challenge council on cost hike

# face-off

By EMMA CLARK

Osborne Road residents are furious over unforeseen increases in the cost of roadworks completed two years ago.

The process has taken four years and has been fraught with poor communication and surprise invoices from Nillumbik council.

Residents were informed in late 2003 that the council would be sealing the road during March 2004. The residents paid the required amount in full by the requested deadline and the works were begun.

In March 2006, residents received a bill requesting payment for "extra costs involved with the works", which was a 15 per cent increase on the total cost quoted, with 30 days to make the payment. This additional cost came one year after the final seal had been completed, two years after the residents had made what they believed was their full payment for the scheme and 20 months after expected completion.

Furious residents wrote letters to Nillumbik mayor Warwick Leeson and Yan Yean MP Danielle Green. Cr Leeson informed residents that the issue would be resolved and a meeting would be organised shortly.

The meeting was organised six months later than originally planned and was held last month at the Warrandyte Community Centre. Conal Creedon, council's general manager infrastructure services, was present at the meeting, as was Cr Leeson.

Angry residents questioned the cost increase and council's poor communication.

Mr Creedon responded to residents' concerns by explaining the delay on the final cost. "In this case there were a number of other such projects being finalised and all were reconciled together. This is common



Nillumbik manager Conal Creedon (left) and Cr Warwick Leeson explains the situation to Osborne Road residents (inset). (Pictures by Jeremy Loftus-Hills)

practice for council. After the schemes are completed we advise residents of additional costs if the reconciliation is higher than originally considered."

The council was unable to provide an explanation to residents at the meeting of specifically what the additional costs included.

The council later told the *Diary* that "the period of time between the start of discussions about sealing the road in 2001 and completion of roadworks has seen the cost of materials

increase, contributing to the additional cost. There were also additional works required during construction. Any increases due to inflation are included where they contribute to final actual costs."

Cr Leeson said that council was "learning from this process. We agree that we haven't got it 100 per cent right yet and are still learning."

Residents were not impressed with this explanation. "Why do we have to pay for you to learn? We are not happy with the lack of consultation and not happy

with the lack of preparedness at this meeting," said Sandra Woodman.

Mr Creedon told the meeting that council was not willing to negotiate on the payment, but would negotiate on the time frame it was due. When the *Diary* contacted Nillumbik council a spokesperson said that, "the method and timeframe for payment of final costs has not been finalised".

Residents were unimpressed with the increased costs and indicated that they would take the matter further.

# CAN plans WHS forum

Most locals would admit that the threat posed by global warming is scientific reality. But few know what are the most effective steps they can take to help reduce greenhouse emissions.

The recently formed group, Warrandyte CAN (Climate Action Now), has organised a public forum to assist locals address changes in lifestyle to help tackle this urgent situation.

A number of top-flight experts have agreed to address a community information night, to be held in the theatre at Warrandyte High School, Alexander Road, on Thursday, May 24 commencing at 7.30pm.

Speakers will include:

- Willem Biesheuvel, environmental product manager, Origin Energy;
- Michael Walstab, general manager,

Quantum (manufacturer of solar heat pump systems);

- Jonathan Upson, wind project development manager, Wind Farm Developments (NZ);

- Clare Penrose, senior policy analyst, National Emissions Trading Taskforce.

"Warrandyte CAN hopes that by bringing expert speakers into the community, greater clarity and focus can be provided, which will in turn inspire households and businesses to take action," CAN spokesman Wayne Rankin told the *Diary*.

"A lot of information is emerging—in the newspapers and on TV—but it's all a bit overwhelming. Plus there are numerous products like Green Power electricity, GreenFleet to reduce the impact of your car, Bendigo Bank's Generation

Green carbon offsets and even investment choices to consider.

"Some of the terminology is even more confusing. What is it to be 'carbon neutral' or 'carbon trading'? How do we evaluate the respective arguments for 60 per cent versus 80 per cent cuts in emissions by 2050?"

"How do we make sense of the claims and counter claims for wind, solar, geothermal, landfill and biomass? How about the planned 'clean coal' argument? What about nuclear?" Mr Rankin said.

This is the first of a series of information forums Warrandyte CAN is planning. Everyone is welcome, entry is free and no RSVP is required.

- Further information from Wayne Rankin on 9844 1959.

## State cash for parks

A major injection of cash to help combat the weed invasion in state and national parks was promised in the state government's budget, announced earlier this month.

This is one of several funding initiatives for parks contained in the budget.

Victorian National Parks Association director, Charlie Sherwin, said the provision of \$4 million to deal with emerging weed invasions across the state, is "a move in the right direction".

"The VNPA has long been advocating that weed invasions in our parks and reserves should be tackled before they become a problem," Mr Sherwin told the *Diary*.

"It is clearly the most cost-effective way to deal with the problem, and the best way to give protection to our great national parks, which are vital to tourism."

VNPA is also pleased to see that the government will fund positions for 15 extra park rangers.

"Most particularly, we look forward to a thorough look at the needs of our parks and reserves in the government's White Paper inquiry into biodiversity across Victoria," he said.

## HPV vaccinations

Manningham council is conducting a Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination program in high schools across the municipality.


The initial target group in the school-based program is 12 and 13 year-old girls, with catch-up groups of 13 to 18 year-old girls in a largely school-based program.

Vaccination of women up to and including 26 years of age will follow in a community-based program, conducted largely through general medical practitioners.

"Early detection is the best protection from cervical cancer," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

HPV is a sexually transmitted infection, mostly affecting women 20 to 24 years of age. "In 98 per cent of cases, HPV clears by itself, but in rare cases, if the virus persists and is left undetected, it can lead to cervical cancer. This usually takes about 10 years," the spokesperson said.

The vaccine GARDASIL, administered over a series of injections, has been approved for use in Australia and prevents infection from HPV strains 16 and 18 if individuals are vaccinated before they are infected.



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# Links with tennis past

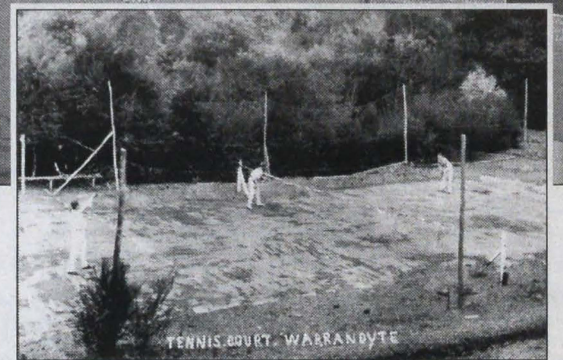


Two special visitors at Warrandyte Tennis club's centenary dinner last month were Val Leu (pictured right) and Lyn Larkin.

Val is the daughter of Charlie Sanford, one of the club's earliest players. Val's niece Lyn is his granddaughter.

Charlie Sanford is pictured on the left of the photo of the club's original court, taken about 1910.

This historic photo has



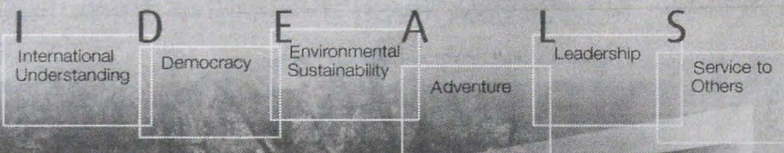
Warrandyte Tennis Club's first court, near the river, about 1910. (Picture courtesy Warrandyte Historical Society/Warrandyte Tennis Club)

been featured in a special exhibition comprising 29 vinyl panels assembled for the Australian Tennis Museum in Sydney.

The exhibition, entitled "Between the Lines: Tennis on Australian Courts", is now being shown around the country.

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# Greens' challenge

Warrandyte resident David Ellis has been selected as a Greens party candidate in the federal election to be held later this year.

Mr Ellis will contest the local seat of Menzies, which includes Warrandyte, Park Orchards, Templestowe and parts of Doncaster and Bulleen.

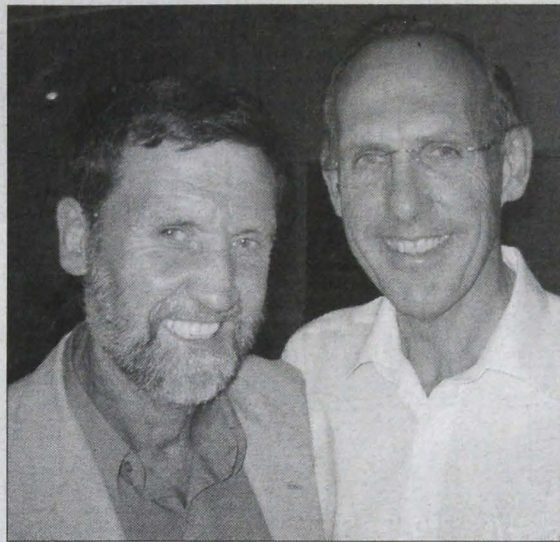
The seat is currently held by Liberal minister for immigration, Kevin Andrews.

Mr Ellis, who runs dog boarding kennels in Warrandyte, polled 26 per cent of the vote when he stood for Warrandyte in the recent state election. This was the Greens' highest percentage increase in the state.

Mr Ellis believes his solid result on that occasion was "not altogether surprising".

"I think the major parties have underestimated the strength of concern in the electorate about the environment in general and global warming, in particular," he told the *Diary*.

"Local people I speak with are seriously worried. Their concern may begin when they learn they can't water their gardens. But it doesn't end there. The overheating of our planet has the gravest



Greens candidate David Ellis with leader Bob Brown.

implications for our economy and global security.

"These are challenges we can meet, but not by living in denial and repeating the mistakes of the past. This is a time for all parties to show what strategies they have to follow to do things

differently and better—and now," Mr Ellis said.

Warrandyte Greens will be hosting a series of open meetings on global warming and strategies for change.

● For further information, please call 9844 5135.

## New Greens branch

The Greens are establishing a branch of the party in North Warrandyte. They are holding an inaugural meeting of the new branch on Thursday, May 17 at 80 Kangaroo Ground Road, Warrandyte from 7.30pm.

"This is an exciting move for the Greens, a move that is likely to see Greens elected to Nillumbik council in November 2008," Karin Geradts told the *Diary*.

"North Warrandyte residents have long been Nillumbik's greenest and most environmentally aware, polling 28 per cent for the Greens at last year's state election."

Guest speaker at the inaugural meeting will be recently elected state Greens MP, Greg Barber, who will talk about the positive impact the three Green MPs are already having on state parliament, as well as the importance of Greens in local government.

● For further information call Karin Geradts on 0401 902 802, email kgeradts@optusnet.com.au.

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# Now it's Yarra Warra's turn

Words and picture by **EMMA CLARK**

Kinder kids at Yarra Warra Pre-School have organised an art show to raise money for a Bulleen kindergarten that was destroyed in an arson attack over the Easter weekend.

The four-year-old kinder group has painted pictures and is selling them to parents for a donation.

The Yarra Warra committee will match the funds raised by the project to donate to the Vista Valley Kindergarten.

The kinder, in Vista Street, Bulleen, was damaged when fire broke out, destroying most of the external building and the majority of the outdoor play equipment.

Yarra Warra was completely destroyed in October 2002, along with the rest of the North Warrandyte Community Centre, in an arson attack.

Nillumbik council rebuilt the centre in 2004 and the Warrandyte community generously assisted the



Yarra Warra kinder kids and their arson-busting art show.

kinder through this difficult time.

Fiona Carnell of the kinder committee said, "We have been there so

we know how awful it is. We have risen from the ashes, and are helping the other kinder do the same."

Vicki Gardiner and Associates kindly donated "sold" signs to display at the art show when a painting is purchased.

# Nathan honoured in VCE art show

Words and picture by **JOANNE GREEN**

Nathan Alexander, a former Warrandyte High School student, has been recognised for his talent in the field of multimedia as part of the VCE Season of Excellence. Nathan, who is in his first year at university was one of 20 VCE students whose work was chosen for the "Top Screen" section of the Season of Excellence.

The Season of Excellence celebrates the talent of students in visual arts, music and drama. It is divided into sections: Top Screen, Top Arts, Top Acts and Top Class.

Top Screen displays the best short films and interactive multimedia works submitted by year 12s in the previous year. Of the hundreds of works submitted for the VCE Season of Excellence, Nathan's was chosen by a board of judges as one of the best. Nathan's work was one of only six works chosen for the multimedia section of Top Screen.

Nathan discovered that his interactive storybook, "Basil's Adventure", created as part of his VET multimedia assessment, was chosen in early January. "It's a pretty big achievement, I'm very happy" he told the *Diary*.

Nathan's work has been on display at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image at Federation Square since March, and will remain there for three months. It is located in the Memory Grid section, where it can be viewed free of cost.

Basil's Adventure is about "a little boy who gets lost in the forest," Nathan said. "And he finds friends along the way."



Nathan Alexander

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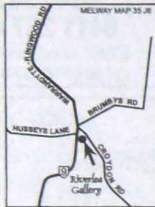
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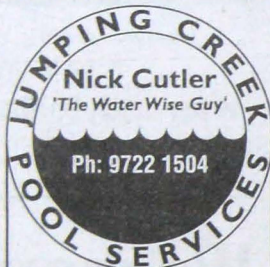
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*Denise is throwing down the chalk*

Denise Farran, much-loved teacher at Warrandyte Primary School for more than 26 years, is retiring.

Initially the school's art specialist, later a favourite grade teacher, Denise has educated, influenced and entered the hearts of many generations of Warrandyte children.

To mark Denise's wonderful contribution, the school is organising two retirement functions.

The first is a Kid's Party, to be held in the multi-purpose room at the school on Thursday, June 21, from 3.30pm. Current and past students are invited.

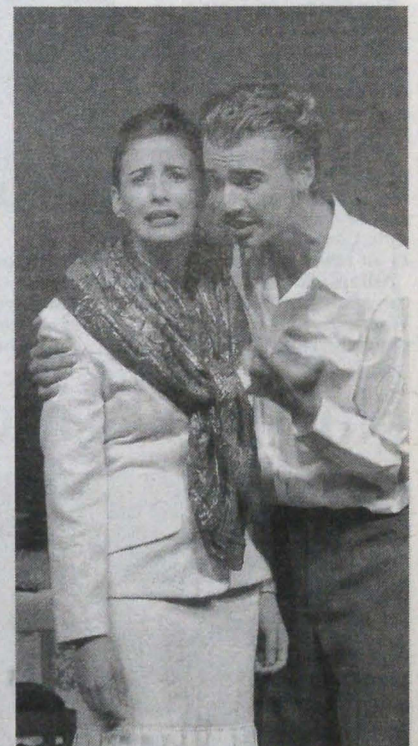
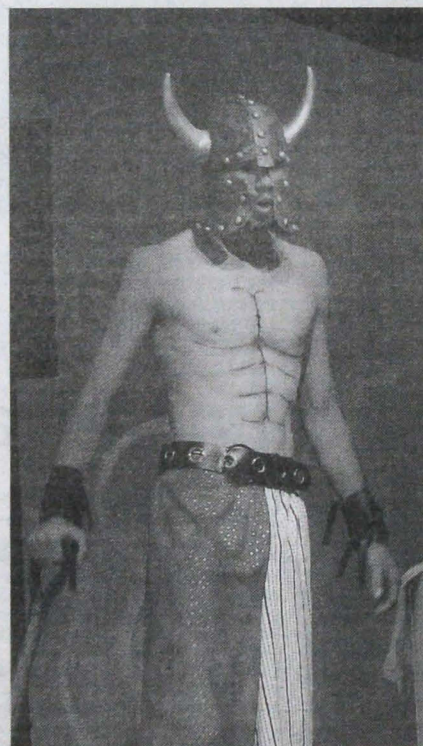
That evening, current and past parents, former students (over 18 years), teachers and community members are invited to Denise's Big Party at the Retreat Restaurant in Warrandyte, from 7.30pm, on Thursday, June 21. Cost \$20, tickets must be booked and paid for in advance. Call Doreen Hennessy on 9844 3537 by Friday, May 25.

Who loves Denise the most?  
Top (from left): Georgina, Victoria, Eliza, Catherine and Leah. Centre: Jake, Andrea, Oscar and Erin. Bottom: Paige and Josie. Answer—everyone loves Denise!

**WHS play touches a nerve**



Striking images from “The Fire Raisers”, produced and performed by Year 11 students at Warrandyte High School. (Pictures by Stephen Reynolds)



The students of Year 11 Theatre Studies at Warrandyte High School recently staged “The Fire Raisers”, a play written in the 1950s in response to events in Europe during World War 2, but still relevant today.

The spread of fires, referred to in the play, is symbolic of the spread of Nazism in Germany.

The author, Max Frisch, experienced these horrors first hand and this obviously had

a powerful effect on him. The play raises the issue that people in uniform, who lead others in war or violence, sometimes go unpunished because they committed their crimes as part of their job.

The Year 11 Theatre Studies class took on a challenge, designing and rehearsing this play. As well as performing all the roles, they were responsible for such backstage areas as set design and construction, makeup,

sound and costume design, stage management, promotions and dramaturgy. They were all required to research the historical background and the playwright in developing their interpretation.

● The school's annual musical production this year is “Billy”, based on the movie “Billy Liar”. It will be performed in the WHS theatre, commencing September 7.



# Anzac Day in Warrandyte 2007



Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS

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# Does an archaic desk indicate a busy mind?

**F**INALLY, I think I feel vindicated. For years I have been intimidated by work-mates who have clean desks. You know the sort of thing I'm talking about. You leave your workspace at the end of the day with your desk looking decidedly post-Tsunami. Next to your desk, is an Antarctic wasteland. A desk blown clean by a daily Mistral. All that's left of human (sic) habitation at knock-off time is a retracted ballpoint pen, carefully aligned parallel with the top of the desk.

You look back at your desk and wonder what isn't essential. What could possibly be filed away without the aching knowledge that it will be needed it in the next day or so? If it's needed, why does it have to go?

Looking at your desk and comparing it, yet again, with Mr Sheen's, you realise the impossibility of the task and give up. To get it anywhere near the standards of those who adopt the "clean desk" policy, I'd need to start packing up at lunchtime and it would take me until morning tea the following day before I would have all that I need for an effective day's work. This would leave me a full two to three hours of profitable work time.

Which leads me to my vindication. I was listening on the radio to an American Prof of Business Management, I think, who has written a book about me. Well, not just about me but about "us"



kibbled

**"Looking at your desk and comparing it, yet again, with Mr Sheen's, you realise the impossibility of the task and give up."**

and "them"; about the myth of the efficient clean-desker. He maintains that the time they devote to house cleaning is wasted and that for all their elaborate filing system, they can't always remember where, in the great matrix of their system, they have disposed of individual files. For them the system is more important than what the system should serve.

There were several "Yeahs!" and "Come ons!" as I strode

around the kitchen. Not only was the Prof vindicating "us" but he was lifting an enormous load of guilt and angst from my shoulders.

I got a little bit nervous when he started to make a distinction between inefficient slob and messy workers. Obviously he was talking about someone else, certainly not me. Although my desk is "lived in", I can put my hand on anything I need. I know how far down a pile I need to rummage and in which pile the required document will be.

As I walked from my desk the following day, I looked over at Mr Analy Retentive and inwardly scoffed. I was up-to-date with my work, was on top of my committee work and was not suffering stress from the paperwork I had to deal with. Mr Marvel, even though a bit shabby around the edges, left the office knowing that I was the epitome of the saying, "If you want a job done, give it to a busy man," or in my case, "a man with a busy desk."

Herself and I are silly people who have been owner-builders on more than one occasion. We had been thinking about selling and our last venture was completed only three years ago, so we had to get a man in to inspect it before we could get O-B insurance for the next four years. It was just a simple matter of ringing and organising a time for the inspection, which was to happen in three days' time.

"He'll be there between 8.30 and 10am. Oh, and make sure

you have the stamped plans."

Obviously, all that sort of paperwork was not still on my desk but I knew where to look. I went straight to the suspension file cabinet. It looked unfamiliar. Not only were the files thin, they were in alphabetical order, something I remember doing a year or so ago, in a patch where mess was swept away in a frenzy of tidiness. Now, the file I wanted was nowhere to be seen and I couldn't think where it might be. Rummaging in all the obvious places proved useless.

At this stage, I took the coward's way out and rang the council. "It'll cost you \$180 and will take at least a week. Better keep looking!"

"It can't be me. I don't lose things like that," I said as I rang the head "chippy" who worked on the job. "Sorry mate, they'd be chucked out, even if I had them in the first place."

I was distractedly putting away a cheque book in a concertina file the next morning when my attention was drawn to a bulging section. Amongst the useless papers were the council-stamped house plans. My joy was tempered by the blow to my organisational incompetence.

That night, Herself enquired about the papers.

"What papers?" I asked. "Oh, you mean the plans! Not a problem. I can put my fingers on anything I want. You want proof? Just look at my desk!"

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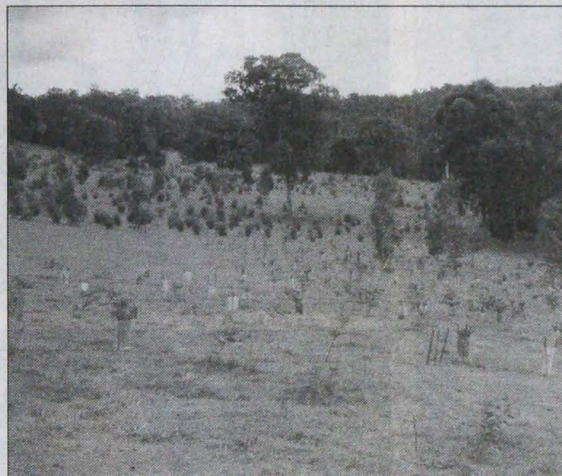
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# Stane Brae: nature reserve to be cherished forever

I WOULD like to take you on a journey to what I consider to be the physical and emotional heart of Warrandyte State Park. To Stane Brae—a 36 hectare strip of mostly river frontage sandwiched between the reserves of Jumping Creek and Yarra Brae.

In 1986 a large block of private land adjacent to the State Park came up for sale. Pressure was put on the state government to purchase the land, known as Stane Brae, and add it to the State Park. But the government only agreed to provide half the money. Despite much publicity and fund-raising efforts by conservation groups, the necessary funds could not be raised and the campaign to "Save Stane Brae" failed and pristine bush became prime real estate.



Our journey begins at the Sandy Bay car park in Jumping Creek Reserve, from where we head upstream along the Blue-tongue Bend walking track. At the division of the track we take the right hand fork that leads away from the river and through a gloomy understorey before emerging onto a broad "Management Vehicle Only" track.

Here we turn left and walk uphill for about 100 metres before veering off to the right and proceeding through an open gate. The vegetation is typical of this part of the State Park with an overstorey of mostly healthy Red Box eucalypts and mostly dead stringybarks. The understorey is dominated by dense Burgan.

As we climb steadily onto the ridge the landscape becomes more open. You will notice some old black mesh rabbit guards just to the right of the track. Nestled amongst these plantings is a small wooden post bearing a metal plaque. This is a memorial to Dorothy McClen-

nan. Dorothy was a dedicated conservationist who, with many others, battled to save this area of bushland. She died tragically young in May 1990—aged 40.

We continue our journey, pausing to admire a mob of Eastern Grey Kangaroos as they bounce across the track in front of us. The land here was cleared decades ago and used for grazing, but in recent years revegetation plantings have been carried out by Friends of Warrandyte State Park and other volunteer groups as well as school children and scouts. Despite long-term drought conditions, most of the plants look vibrant. Outgrowing their protective guards, hundreds of eucalypt seedlings have become saplings and are well on their way to reforming the overstorey.

A wire fence on our right marks the boundary of the private property—the block that could have been State Park.

If only. We spend a moment absorbing the vista of distant hills. Wind whips at our hair and we feel its chill on our skin. It's always windy here, it adds to the wildness of the place.

Ahead is a large corrugated iron barn and behind that a brick building, its concrete water tank weathered by time and the elements. This is the old dairy. Once a house stood here. It was used by the head ranger of the State Park at the time. Sadly it was demolished in 1995 along with several other houses around Warrandyte that were owned by the Department of Environment and used by rangers.

I point out an old Yellow Box tree—a magnificent specimen with swirls of rough bark spiralling up the trunk. Leaving the buildings and the lone eucalypt behind, we continue on down the earthen track to the river—to a point always referred to as Stane Brae beach.

## nature

By PAT COUPAR

You may be surprised to see a solid wooden seat here, beautifully crafted from recycled timber. The bench seat was made by Friends of Warrandyte State Park member Ken MacMahon in memory of ranger Matt LeDuc. Matt was head ranger at the State Park from 1992 to 1995 and lived in the house on the hill before it was pulled down.

As a member of the Friends group I worked closely with Matt on the flora management team, an initiative that he introduced. But my most enduring memories of him are of the time we spent with him and his family one Easter at Mutiwintji (Mootwingee) National Park in New South Wales where Matt was senior ranger. Matt LeDuc died in 2003—a life cut cruelly short by cancer.

Remembering this dedicated, enigmatic man brought a smile to my face and a lump to my throat. Sitting on his memorial seat, looking directly across the gently flowing river to clean, cream-trunked Manna Gums and the rugged cliffs of the gorge beyond, I thought the spirits of the dead do not die with them, but live on in the uncluttered minds of those that knew them.

It is hard to tear ourselves away from this peaceful sanctuary, but we must go. We have seen no one. Few people come here. There are no signs, nor should there be. In more ways than one, finding Stane Brae—Warrandyte's heartland—should be a journey of self-discovery.

# Puncturing our best plans

“YOU'RE leaving when?”  
“6.30am.”  
“It does not take three hours to get to the airport! Isn't your flight at 9.30?”

“Yeah, but we need to get there by 8.30. That gives us only 15 minutes to park the car and another 15 to check in. Check-in closes at 9.”

“Alright, it still won't take you two hours to get to the airport from here. At that hour of the morning, you'll be there in half an hour.”

“What if there's a hold-up on the Ring Road? Last time there was an accident, my Mum missed her plane.”

“Look, you need an hour at the most!”

“But the traffic will be much worse if we don't leave until 7.30. We'll strike peak hour as well as the airport traffic.”

“It still won't take you two hours.”

“What if we get a puncture?”

Sigh. “You will not get a flat tyre between here and Tullamarine!”

## our place

By MARILYN MOORE

Well, we did get a puncture, didn't we? I'll swear I didn't do it on purpose, but I must've driven over a stick in the dark somewhere near Research roundabout. The “pop” that ensued sounded as though I'd driven over a milk carton.

“Wouldn't it be funny if we had a flat tyre?” we joked.

A rhythmic ker-thunk ker-thunk ker-thunk from a rear wheel was vaguely disconcerting, but as the steering seemed okay we drove cautiously on, waiting for the unwanted rubbish to drop off the wheel. About a hundred metres down the road we stopped for petrol and a quick kick of the tyres.

It took only one glance at the ker-thunking tyre to identify the culprit. Poking out of the wall of the tyre was a stick the diameter of my thumb and about twice as long. By the time I'd filled the tank the rim was nearly touch-

ing the ground. This car wasn't going anywhere.

I used to be pretty good at changing a wheel, though never as speedy as some blokes I knew who could crank a jack handle so fast that their hands were a blur. Today, though, in a newish car, I was a bit apprehensive. The jack was sure to be firmly (irretrievably, even) ensconced in its mounting, and my well-meaning mechanic had probably used a whizzer to make sure that no wheel nut ever came undone.

I handed our daughter a mobile phone along with the RACV's roadside assist number. You might wonder why this was necessary, but when is a service station not a service station? At 6.30am when there's only one young chap on the till, that's when.

I don't know about you, but I hate messing around under cars when I'm decked out in my highest heels and glitziest jewellery. However we made a start just in case the RACV's estimate of 90 minutes turned out to be well-founded. It surely couldn't be that hard, and the procedure

was one I'd learnt well: crawl under car and locate jack points. (Tick.) Empty boot. (This took some time.) Overcome spare tyre locking mechanism. (Tick.) Extricate jack (jack's crankshaft jammed as predicted) and position. Jam large object under front wheel. (Nothing obvious until recently collected sandstone boulder discovered amongst boot contents. Being a geologist has its uses.) Loosen wheelnuts. Ahhhh, there's the rub. We couldn't have done that in a month of Sundays. Fortunately a second chap arrived for work at the servo, and we soon had an assistant with muscles that could provide the necessary torque. I think we made this young bloke's day—he hadn't helped too many damsels in distress before. I hope he wasn't too stiff in the shoulders afterwards.

We were very grateful, but we'd learned a lesson. I'm a bit prone to heading bush on isolated tracks out of mobile phone range.

And that 9.30am. flight? Having left at 6.30 “just in case”, of course we were on it.

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The Fund awards \$3000 to an applicant showing particular promise or talent. In 2007 the Award will be made to a young person looking for a career in the Performing Arts.

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Phone Greg Lawrence on 9844 2498 or Phyl Swindley on 9879 9843 for application forms.

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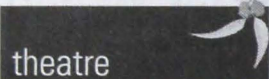
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# Fooling about at Forensic Follies



theatre

By JEREMY LOFTUS-HILLS

**T**HE Forensic Follies kicked off with a startling scene. There'd been a murder in the Warrandyte Bakery Bookshop. For the next two hours, an intrepid pair of detectives led a quirky team of forensic investigators in a hunt for a mysterious, whistling, serial killer. They took the audience on a roller coaster ride—up blind alleys, down perverted subplots and around comic corners.

Jan Nance played leading female detective Flytrap. Extended cigarette holder in hand, leopard skin jacket ensconced, she spoke with an East European accent as she portrayed this enigmatic character with gusto and verve.

She played opposite Nick Anning's Cashstrapped, well intentioned but inept detective. His dim-witted antics should allow an audience to get ahead of the plot—a favourite hobby amongst whodunnit fans.

The detective scenes, with their humour, parody and parochialism contrasted in style with the forensic scenes. These featured David Tynan (Kuriakin), and young actors Simone Keiffer (Teagan) and Rowan Dawson (Palmer). These scenes enjoyed plenty of stage time but did frustratingly little to progress the plot. Instead they were used to satirise lifestyle.

But at least Flytrap seemed up to the task of unravelling the mystery, provided Cashstrapped did the legwork. Then Noelene Cooper (Miss Sharple and Clair Voyant) made her noisy entrance: the boisterous busy-body likely to unmask the culprit.

As murders multiplied and sketches diversified the audience faced a quandary: was there anyone in this story they could rely upon for clues about whodunnit?

The audience had been put off the scent by a series of unrelated sketches, starting with Meercat City. Set in a commercial office, it featured mindless chatter and, inexplicably, six murders in as many minutes. The action took place behind shoulder-high black flats between the actors and audience. Enter Rowan Ellery (The Shark)—a tall, muscular, ambiguous character who embodied the hidden threat of... Or did he?

In Duelling Posts we laughed at our community's tendency to navel gaze with Howard Geldard and Darren Bowers. We experienced a Guantanamo-style trial and even went to hell (for an episode of "This is Your Life"). By the time Jan Nance closed the first half with the nostalgic "I've Got You Under My Skin", the whistling Warrandyte murderer was but a distant memory.

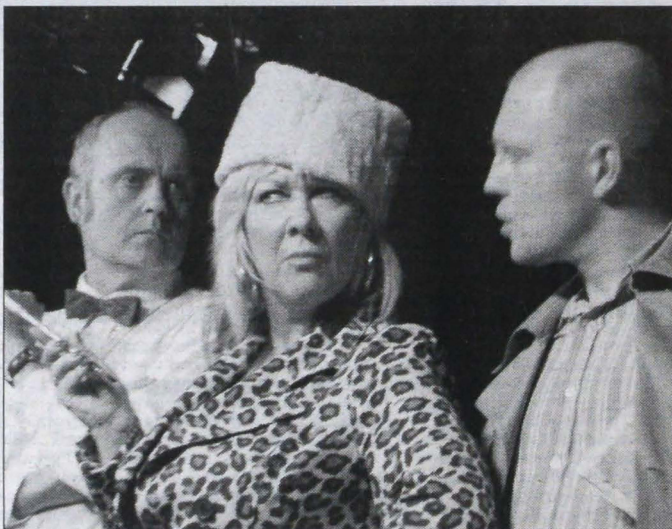
There was a greater commitment in the second half to the Forensic Follies theme. It began in blackout, with the whole cast dancing to the persistent beat of Michael Jackson's "Thriller". Then back to the plot with a stand-out tap routine featuring Deborah Silva, June Buck and Joy Flanagan

(under UV light, choreographed by Miss Renee).

Second half sketches were more obviously relevant to the theme, with a dramatic build to the final scene. The climax began with a phoney murder investigation and then a sing-along with Alan Cornell and Kevin O'Mara. The mandatory gathering of likely suspects, and Jack Stringer's Aufwiedershen, set a jolly mood, encouraging the audience to forgive loose ends. As it turned out the murderer was chosen at random in the penultimate scene—a different one each night!

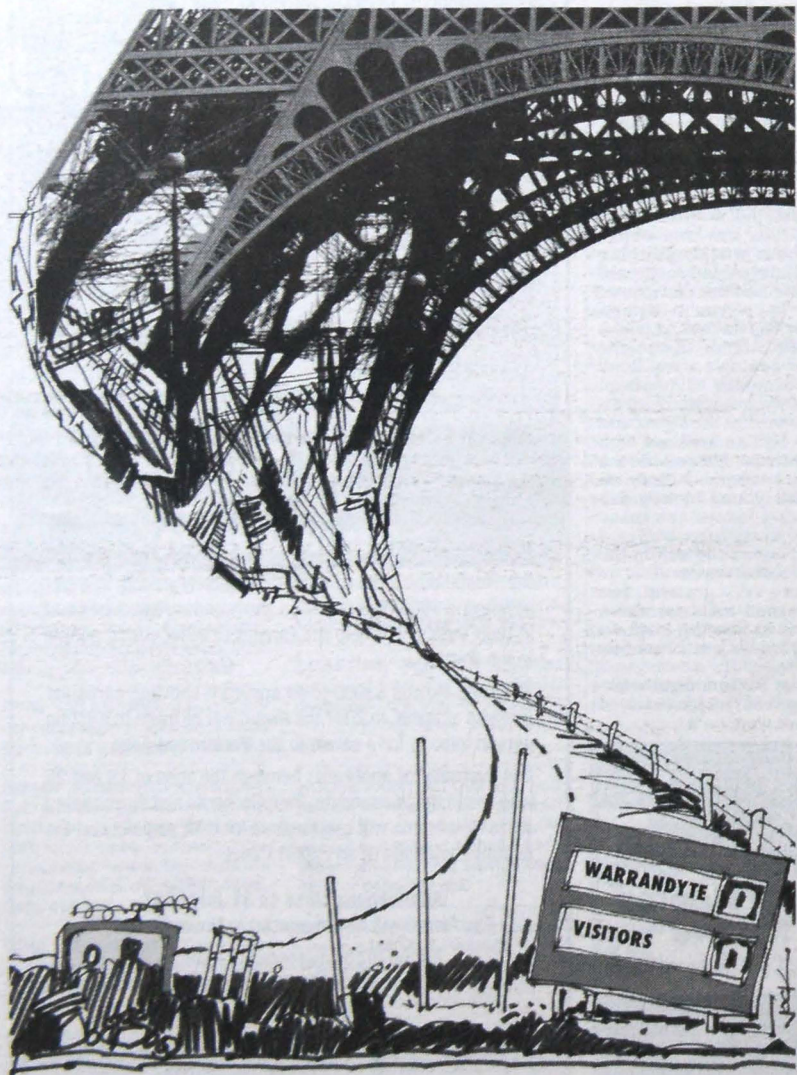
The change to thematic comedy—where a continuing story or puzzle unites the traditionally diverse elements of the follies—is problematic. In taking up this challenge the Warrandyte Theatre Company shows its willingness to experiment with different forms of comedy. Adding this layer of complexity may be asking too much of a small volunteer band of time-poor, amateur writers, actors, musicians and crew.

Darren Bowers and Bill Connolly take the directing baton from Adrian Rice for next year's show. Adrian, with others, has made a major contribution to the follies over the years, and will continue as coordinator. The new directing team can move forward, confident that the 2007 follies maintained the quality, intimacy and enthusiasm of the past. It's for them to consider if they should refine the production of thematic comedy, or revert to the more fluid, often anarchic vaudeville style of old.



Pictures by JEREMY LOFTUS-HILLS

## Two day's flight and two year's pay



Two day's flight and two year's pay  
it'll take to see her now.  
So far, so far,  
the dance, the bond  
stretching...  
stretched to snapping point.

You always knew  
that the process of her being  
was ever one of going.  
All our lives a dance  
of bonding, separation;  
a courtly minuet  
—together then apart  
held by a band which stretches,  
sometimes snaps.

*And it's all as it should be.  
We come prepared.*

And you always think you know them  
in the time that they were yours,  
even telling yourself  
that the 'teenage' abyss  
is a short term test or a 'trial',  
that once passed, they return.  
And sometimes they do, and you might  
know them then  
and again you might not.

And amidst the swirl  
of youthful lust  
and maybe love,  
the great world waits  
and the bond it stretches,  
the dance it slows,  
and you truly lose them for a while.

*And it's all as it should be.  
We come prepared.*

But not for this great distance,  
these foreign shores.  
Not another vast abyss.  
That's for all those other mothers.  
We were not prepared  
for this.

Two day's flight and two year's pay  
it'll take to see her now.  
So far, so far,  
the dance, the bond, is stretching  
stretched, to snapping point.

And how will you be, my dear one?  
Will you forever be  
"Australian in Paris—  
alone and lonely",  
always "the other".  
"Almost French",  
only almost happy?

Or will you succumb  
to its enchantment,  
swathing yourself  
in your Paris cloak,  
just like you used to sleep,  
burrowing so completely  
none of you showed.

And will you see us as merely  
the philistine outpost:  
cricket and football, reality TV  
and barbed wire fences  
in harsh red deserts?

You will have Cuisine, Culture,  
"Civilisation".  
You'll have revolutionary roots  
still showing, and  
a country which honours  
philosophers, poets...

And my love, my love,  
though the distance will strain it  
of course it won't break.  
You'll pull me towards you.  
I'll save for two years and fly for two days.

And the dance will continue.

**KAREN THROSSELL**



# Hugh the polka dot man

**I**F you spot a little orange-hued van tootling around Warrandyte, chances are that its driver is Hugh McSpedden, light-man.

"People in Warrandyte know me for my little Noddy car," Hugh said. "I was frustrated by Kombis, two of which I lost to fire. This is a Nissan S-cargot which I bought when Mum died and left me a bit of money."

Aged 62, Hugh came to Warrandyte in 1974. "Born and raised in the country, I needed to be in the city so here's halfway I guess."

He's the middle one of three children, with a brother who's a writer in Sydney and a sister, Ayesha, who's a painter in the Dandenongs. Ayesha was named after one of his maternal grandmother's 16 siblings who were all named starting with the letter A. One of his grandmother's brothers, a jam and railway king, was the richest man in Australia when he died in the 1960s and another brother had the largest collection of Rolls Royces in the country. Hugh himself has no children. "No, I refuse," he said.

Born in Korumburra, "it's the Aboriginal word for blowfly," on the day World War 2 ended, Hugh said he missed a lot of school and grades. "I had lots of childhood illnesses and my mother did at the same time, she nearly died. We moved about a lot and came to the big city in my early teens—my father was a Church of England minister who spent 30 years as chaplain at Pentridge prison.

"I was bullied at school and the

## village people

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

therapy for deafness and learning difficulties in those days was corporal punishment. I left school at 14 and spent three years in the public service, then in a space of about two years I had 27 jobs. I went a little crazy, seeing life as a projection, all in two dimensions.

"I started working for a jeweller on Masonic regalia but I couldn't stand the smell of the ether which was being used for cleaning the gold lettering on a leather bag one day and left the room, so I was fired on the spot. I couldn't hold a job.

"The disaster continued until I got help in my late teens. I saw a psychiatrist who eventually said he was experimenting with a new drug which makes you see everything in rainbow colours. He was certainly right—it was scary and I don't think I'd do it again—but a few sessions of LSD turned me round."

Home movies, then experiments with film and light followed when Hugh was 21. "It was pretty wonderful. It slowly dawned on me that what really gave me a buzz was the actual projection. I eventually discovered what I wanted to do. At the time it was silent movies but I met some musos who were interested in projecting themselves as they played and suddenly I knew where I was going. I hate to think what I would be doing now

Hugh McSpedden

otherwise—I was going nowhere, I had no direction."

Totally obsessed and fascinated by projection, Hugh captures things on film and transfers them to the screen. "I project images onto beaches, buildings, bodies, you name it. The projection completely takes over the thing that it's being projected onto. Being viewed from an angle accentuates the 3D effect of the given surface. It's just magical, beyond words."

Hugh restored and modified a 1919 cinema carbon arc projector. "The housing and leads were covered in asbestos and all the terminals were bare and it actually took me a few weeks to overcome the techno fear and turn it on. So, what to project?"

"Any glass or film or plastic that I put into it lasted about two seconds then shattered or exploded or dissolved producing voluminous clouds of toxic smoke. After cooking some clock mechanisms I had a brainwave and sussed out perforated metals seeking the smallest pattern I could find, which just happened to be tiny dots. Serendipitous. So I have a reputation for polka-dotting buildings, streets, beaches, fog, weather balloons, and landscapes."

A highlight of Hugh's career was working as artist-in-light for a contemporary opera in Hobart, where he was given free rein. "I've worked at most of Australia's major arts festivals and with artists such as John Mayall and the Bluesbreakers, Tangerine Dream and the Monkees but my work with IHOS Opera

has been far and away my most challenging and satisfying. They have a reputation for ground-breaking works which more often than not are performed in monstrous sheds on the wharves, which apart from being cavernous, are impervious to fire and also water which has at times literally lapped at the audience's feet."

Five times Hugh's covered the Royal Exhibition Building in imagery using what was then the world's brightest slide projector. He created son et lumiere on the Warrandyte riverbank with Glen Jameson and was commissioned to cover three sides of the Melbourne Town Hall with images.

"I've gone full circle, starting in home movies then to creating imagery on a slide projector. Now projection has gone digital and instead of 20 or even 45 projectors, now I use no more than two because of the technology. Capturing images in the camera are wonders I never dreamed of, for example rainbow colour fluids and spinning fire. Sometimes I'm the only person who saw them as they were done in my lounge room," he said.

He's also interested in wood, with a collection of foundry patterns dotting his timber house and garden. "I was doing a bit of exploring at Fisherman's Bend, fossicking around on abandoned factory sites and I found some cute pieces of wood, then more, gigantic rounded square shapes 7 feet in diameter rotting on an otherwise vacant block. I dragged them home on a trailer and eventually found out what they were. In the foundry, when they need to do a casting they first make a model or master pattern out of timber. You pack sand around it, which hardens, then withdraw the pattern, pour hot metal in and break off the sand. You usually make a copy in bronze for future use.

"I was offered a few thousand of them in Ballarat. I was told there were five and a half semi-trailer loads of them, all huon pine. I took the train up to have a look, was picked up at the station and taken to a huge warehouse. As we drove around the back of the building we were confronted by an enormous mountain of ashes. Communication breakdown; all the patterns gone.

"Some sculptors, like Robert Klippel, have used them. I find it incredibly sad that such beautiful industrial sculptures are just burned. There should be a monument to them. I mainly convert them into functional art—display cabinets, tables, lamps, clocks and a few follies and I plan to sell them at St Andrews market."

He loves ambient music, carnival music and nocturnes by Grieg. Another favourite is Brian Eno, an English electronic composer and solo performer of modern ambient music. "I live for music, I'm a frustrated musician. I also have difficulty reading, which is another infernal internal frustration. I just go to sleep—I couldn't read in the middle of the day. I would like to jump out of an

aeroplane but I'm too scared. Maybe I'll go ballooning.

"I'd like to meet a few people but I don't know who they are yet. I've places to go, I went overseas in 1980 but I was very tired and didn't relax and didn't do a lot of stuff. Father died aged 62 during a heart operation in 1968 and I had the same heart valve replacement in 1984. For all my life until then I was tired.

"Mum was a bit freaked out about the operation but I felt really good about it. The trouble was I had a collapsed lung during the operation and I had to go back into surgery. I was alarmed then—I remember saying 'oh no' very vividly in my semi-conscious state—it was a near-death experience. I remember floating around in a tunnel and feeling very comfortable.

"The most fun I ever had was with my 1939 Ford Blitz army truck. I bought it for \$5000, it looked like it was going to last a long time. It went and kept going. With a group of mainly jeweller friends, it ran in the Fitzroy fringe parade for 10 years. With a crew of 10 or so we took the roof off and did sculptural things and made mayhem using foundry patterns, using pyrotechnics and dirigibles.

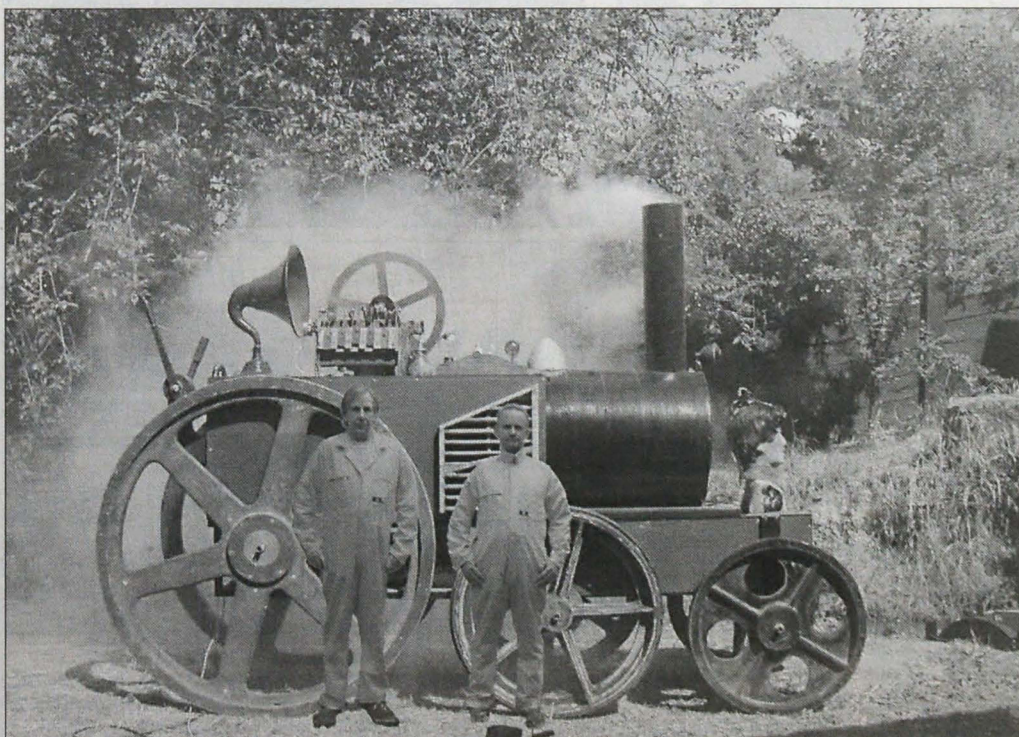
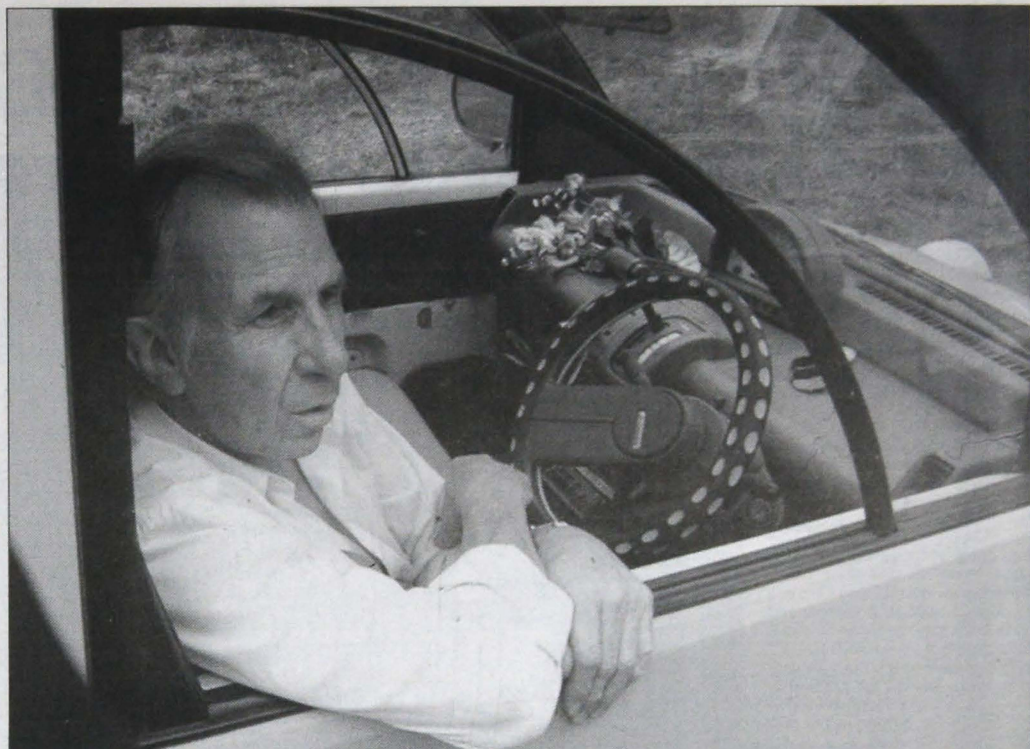
"I live to project. I've gone back to small indoor things and I'm getting heavily in to capturing special images and enhancing musical performance through the use of live and pre-recorded video. I've got a few projects on the go, if not with light then wood. I do freebies for the love of it. I'm not making a living but I do a good impression though.

The Warrandyte Wonders at this year's festival saw a performance by Hugh's musical friends "with Warrandyte connections" and the Melbourne Ukulele Collective, using some of his fluid images onto a backdrop.

Hugh said he finds it hard socialising because of a hearing problem "which so far technology has not addressed. It's the bane of my existence—I took years to realise it. I watch people's lips but some feel I'm avoiding eye contact and they assume I'm shy. I'm not shy, a little reserved perhaps, and I don't relate to people, I'm not the life of the party. But I'm happy—I won't be at the party.

"Music, light and dance give me joy. I get angry at war; the stupidity of war. There's another Anzac Day gone but we're still fighting wars. It's totally wasteful, beyond me. Like global warming, it's a people thing. Fifty years ago people were saying let's do something and now it's inescapable. Almost too late. The next generation's going to cop it all. That and the end of oil; there are so many nasties on the horizon.

"While everything seems hopeless in one respect, I feel in a deeper sense that this is just the beginning. The son of a clergyman, I would appear not to have much religion now. I don't believe in heaven and hell but I don't believe in death; the soul lives on. We're all going to heaven—in a sense."

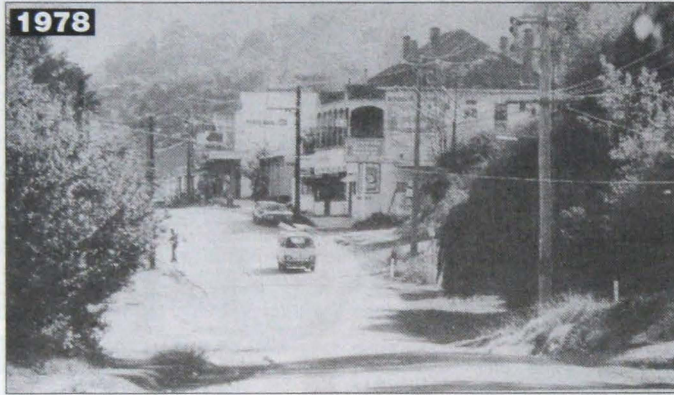


Hugh (left) and Glen Jameson and their fabulous fire-breathing festival machine.

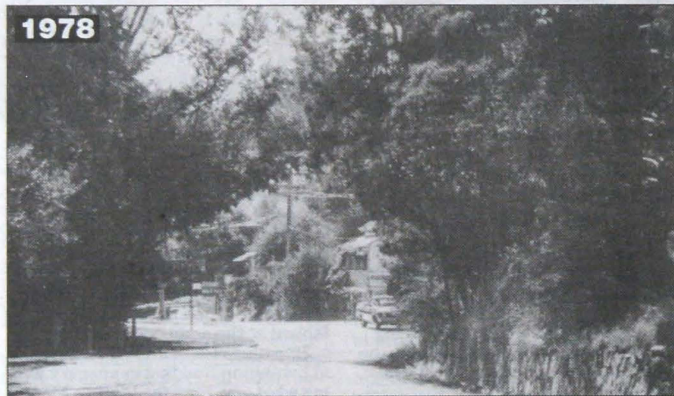
# THEN & NOW

Take a look back at our township in 1978. Has it changed very much, or have our community campaigns managed to keep the place much as it was 29 years ago? VAL POLLEY discovered an old planning report, prepared for Doncaster and Templestowe council by well-known planning firm Loader and Bayly, showing various aspects of Warrandyte township, as they appeared then. To compare then and now, AUSTIN POLLEY went forth and photographed the same locations from the same positions.

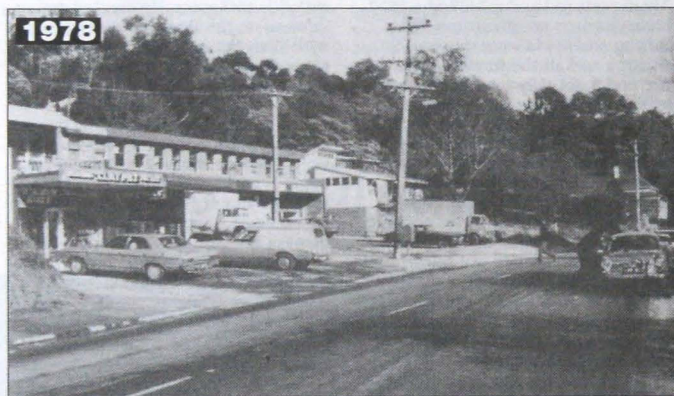
Yarra Street—the character of what was then a rural township's shopping centre. Viewed from west of the Grand Hotel.



Yarra Street—gaucheness of newer developments hidden in the distant view. Looking east towards the bridge roundabout.



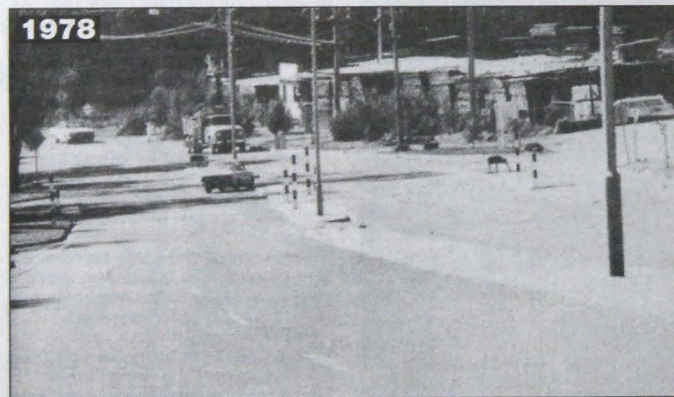
Yarra Street—the woes of suburbia. Bridge shops at the eastern end, looking west.



Yarra Street—more a rural highway than a main street. Looking west from Forbes Street.



West End—all the trappings of urban road design. The west end of town from the Taroona Avenue corner.



**Val Polley comments:** All the developments over the past 30 years do not appear in these photographs, so a somewhat distorted overall picture emerges.

However, the comparisons show these particu-

lar views have remained remarkably similar and developments appear to have had limited impact when seen from these perspectives.

Roads have become more hard-edged, but power poles appear to be located as before (most

appear to be the same power poles!) Vegetation has grown significantly and signage on the whole is not overly intrusive.

There is a reliance on vegetation to soften and hide the shop developments at both the eastern

and western ends of the township.

On a direct comparison of these images, perhaps Warrandyte can be pleased that its township appears so little altered by 30 years of change.

# Arts Association meets

artyfacts

Following a successful 50th anniversary year, The Warrandyte Mechanics Institute and Arts Association is holding their annual general meeting at the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute Hall, corner of Yarra Street and Mitchell Avenue on Monday, June 4 commencing at 8.15pm. Everyone is welcome. The association is an umbrella arts group embracing drama, craft, painting, music and pottery groups. New members are always most welcome. For further information call 9844 3206.



Can you find Warrandyte's Neighbourhood House? Driving past the Community Centre you can't miss one of several new signs, designed and painted for WNH by Carolyn Noel's art therapy group at Port Phillip Prison. Pictured holding the banner are several kids from the WNH drawing class.

## out of the box

By JUDY GREEN

Drop your news in the letterbox in the front door of our office at the Community Centre, email it to warrandytediary@aapt.net.au, fax it to 9844 4168, or post it to PO Box 209, Warrandyte 3113 by the last Friday in the month.

## Prayer

Warrandyte churches are combining for a service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. It will be held at Warrandyte Catholic Church in Cemetery Road, Warrandyte on Sunday, May 27 at 7pm.

## Singers

The Warrandyte "55 Plus" Variety Group is seeking male and female singers. The group, part of the Warrandyte Senior Citizens, is preparing for their annual concert and cabaret, to be staged in November. They

rehearse on Monday afternoons from 1pm at the Senior Citizens' Centre in Taroona Avenue. As well as chorus singing and group items, they perform tap dancing, comedy acts and so on. "You don't need to be an expert, just to have a sense of humour

and be willing to give it a go," a spokesperson told the *Diary*. Enquiries to Bella on 9879 3356 or Alan on 9870 0379.

## Environment

The next Manningham City

Council Environment Seminar will be on Wednesday June 6 at the South Warrandyte hall, 66-68 Hall Road, South Warrandyte. The topic will be "Victoria's Dry Country". This free session will be conducted by Murray Bouchier. No bookings are required.

## Jazz

A jazz improvisation workshop for over 25s will be held at the Victorian Jazz Archive, "Koomba Park", 15 Mountain Highway, Wantirna (Melway 63C8). The workshop is open to musicians of all ages (providing they're over 25) who are proficient in their instrument and able to play scales and arpeggios. It will commence on Saturday, July 7, running for 12 weeks, through until Saturday, September 22. All music will be provided—just bring yourself and your instrument. For further information and application forms call co-ordinator Marina Pollard on 9781 4972.

## Drummers

Drumming classes are held at Allwood Neighbourhood House in Hurstbridge at 1.45pm on Mondays and 7.30pm on Thursdays during term times. Beginners are welcome. One free adult "Come'n Try Hand Drumming" class is offered to all new students. Djembe drums

## CLYDE & OCKER



"You'd be terrific in the '55 Plus' variety group, Ock. If you had the legs!"

are supplied. For information and bookings call Annie on 9718 1002.

## Trivia

The Migrant Information Centre is holding a trivia night at the Lower Box Hill Town Hall, 1022 Whitehorse Road, Box Hill on Saturday, May 12, commencing at 7pm. The function is to raise money for the centre's Settlement Support Fund, used to provide emergency relief to newly arrived refugees and migrants in crisis. There will be tables of 10, and the cost is \$10 per person. Tea and coffee provided, bring your own food and drink. Bookings and enquiries at 9285 4888.

## Gaayip

To mark the 40th anniversary of the referendum that granted citizenship to Australia's indigenous people, Manningham council is celebrating Reconciliation Week with a program of events. They include: Gaayip, from Wednesday, May 23 to Saturday, June 9, an exhibition of contemporary indigenous artists; a Reconciliation Forum on Saturday, June 2; and Gaayip Jazz, a multicultural jazz concert on Sunday, June 3 (see below). All these events will be held in the Manningham Gallery at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster. Phone 9840 9367 for further information.

## Open

*Diary* cartoonists Syd Tunn and Ona Henderson will be opening their Creek House Studios on the weekend of May 12 and 13 from 12 noon to 5pm each day. The studios are on the corner of Henley and Oxley Roads, Bend of Islands. All are welcome for a drink and browse.

## Horses

"The Horse in Art" is an exhibition recognising the innate beauty of horses and their relationship to man. Currently open at Artstreams Gallery, 63 Yarra Street, Warrandyte, it will continue until, Sunday, May 20. The works represent a variety of media and styles.

## Grumpy

Manningham Gallery is showing the works of Christopher Shelton at a solo exhibition entitled "Growing Grumpy Gracefully", currently running and open until Tuesday, May 19. Shelton is currently arts co-ordinator at Doncaster Secondary College. His vivid paintings range from abstract to realism.

## Jazz

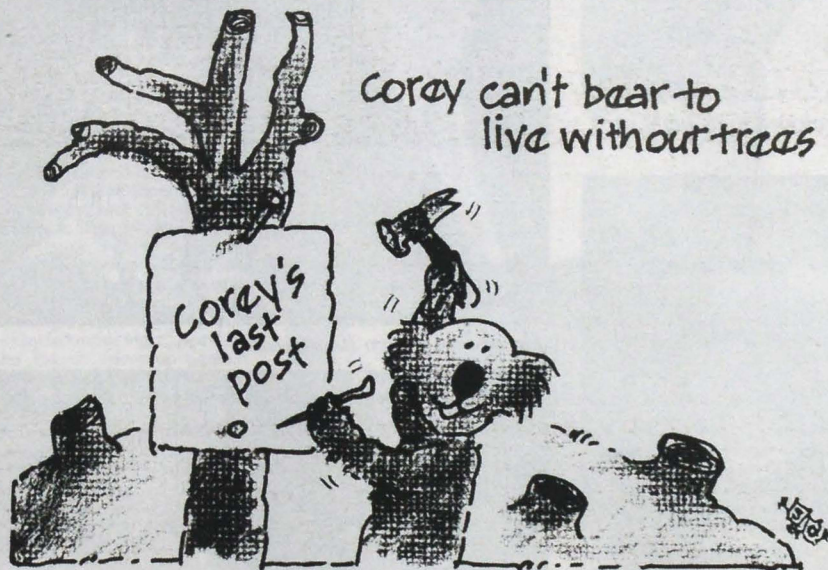
In recognition of National Reconciliation Week, Manningham council is hosting three of Melbourne's world class jazz performers at a multicultural concert on Sunday, June 3. The three part series of concerts "Flavours of Jazz" will be held surrounded by artworks exhibited as part of the Gaayip exhibition which will run from May 23 to June 9. The concert features Liz Cavanagh, a Torres Strait Islander, with Evripides Evripidou from Cyprus and legend of Australian jazz, Bob Sedergreen. The accompanying exhibition includes the works of 20 indigenous artists.

## Stonehouse

The June exhibition at Stonehouse Gallery, 103 Yarra Street, Warrandyte will feature silk, thread and colourful textile pictures by Michele Mischkulnig. The gallery is open daily from 10am to 5pm.

## COREY'S COMMUNITY

By SYD & ONA



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# Mother's Day

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COMPLIMENTARY GLASS OF SPARKLING WINE FOR MUM

# WARRANDYTE TENNIS CLUB CENTENARY

## History in the making

# Dinner celebrates 100 years



Three wise men ... from left, Bruce Little, Jim McHugh and Keith Wilson.

As the night wore on, the serves got faster, the backhands had a little more top spin and the smashes became more powerful.

But isn't that the way of events that celebrate our past.

Such was the case last month when Warrandyte Tennis Club celebrated the highlight of its 100th season

with a centenary dinner dance, attended by almost 300 people.

It was the third in a series of events to highlight the history of a tennis club that is understood to be one of the oldest in Victoria.

Earlier this year the club re-launched its history book, "Rallies By The River" at a special function at the tennis club and in March a tree planting ceremony was held to mark the exact date on which the club was formed 100 years ago.

Last month's dinner dance brought together many generations of members and administrators and also reunited friends and team partners.

The night was compared by Melbourne radio personality and former player, Peter

Stubbs and the keynote speaker for the night was former president, Keith Wilson, who spoke of the important community role the club had played over the years.

Special medallions were also presented to former administrators while the club's Life Members were also acknowledged.

The development of the club in recent years has been spectacular and it now ranks as the sixth largest tennis club in the state.

Further celebratory events will be held later in the year.

In October a family fun day will be held. It will include a variety of events including a mixed doubles tournament to celebrate the fact that the very first court opened with a mixed doubles event.



Melanie Lawrence, left, with Trevor and Barbara McBain at the tennis club centenary dinner.



Steve and Nanda Waterham enjoyed their night at the centenary dinner.



James and Robyn Bonthorne.



Pam Booth, left, and Joan Bradbury.



Melissa Kerkhof, left, with Melanie Rankin.



Roland and Cheryl Batchelor.



Zoe and Emily White, left, with Linda Stanzel.



Claudette and Alan Fahy with Brian Cleaves.

# Venom's Under 18s in heart-stopping draw

Warrandyte Venom's Under 18 team scored a heart stopping draw against long time rivals, Diamond Valley in Metro 3 junior representative basketball.

Both sides have developed a strong rivalry recently with the honours going with Diamond Valley with a mixture of skill and positive play.

Warrandyte were weakened with the absence of Josh Blakey through injury and as expected there was little between both sides with the skill level high.

Peter Whittingham scored from the top of the key to give the Venom a six point lead as half time approached and this was extended eight points at the break.

Diamond Valley attacked after half time and they soon wiped out that lead. Both teams used patterned offence and benefited from turn overs and fast breaks.

In the dramatic final seconds with the score locked together, first Warrandyte and then Diamond Valley searched for a final point to break the deadlock.

The buzzer sounded with Warrandyte's David Wood in possession but he could not put up the shot before the siren, leaving the sides locked at 39 all.

Tom Fitzpartick top scored for

Warrandyte with 10 points, aided by David Wood with nine points and Peter Whittingham with five points.

In the late game Bruce Davis's Under 14 East girls recorded their first win of the season with a 22-20 win over Mornington.

The Venom took some time to settle down and trailed at the break. However they put together some good offence in the first part of the second half to establish what would be a winning lead.

Mornington came back in the dying seconds which was a credit as they had been reduced to four players on court through fouls.

Jessey Telford with seven points and Tayla Flynn and Paris Webb with four points each were the main contributors but all players recorded scores in what appears to be an even side.

In the opening game, Greg Pearson's team were able to put together two wins in succession with a strong 43-23 win over Doncaster in the Under 12 Metro 2 boys competition. The scores were close at the break with only a five point lead to the Venom. The second half belonged to Warrandyte when the Venom put on 10 unanswered points to put the game beyond doubt.

"They are developing well with

their obvious strength being defence", said Pearson after the game. "Two wins now after dropping the first two is a good start to the season"

Chris Bollands used his height well in the key leading the scoring with 18. Nicolas Parker with nine points, David Spinoza with eight points and Oscar Pearson with six points were good contributors on the score board.

Ryan Holloway's Under 14 East unfortunately are still searching for their first win of the season after going down to Sandringham in the East competition by 43-24.

Warrandyte were right in the game at the break only trailing by 15-14 with bright play, but Sandringham put on a full court press which the Venom were not able to counter effectively enough.

Key Venom ball carrier Campbell Prior was double teamed shutting down his effectiveness.

Jack Linney with eight points and Campbell Prior and Jeremy Doyle with four points each were the main contributors on the scoreboard.

In an away game, Warrandyte Venom's Metro 1 girls side continued to show good form defeating Bulleen at Bulleen by 49-31.

Bulleen controlled most of the



Under 18s coach, Ian Wood, outlines tactics during a time out in the drawn match against Diamond Valley.

first half with Warrandyte's shooting letting them down. Bulleen held the slimmest lead at the break, 17-16.

The second half opened with an even contest by both sides and with 10 minutes to go, Warrandyte fired up with strong supporter encourage-

ment. Several turnovers turned the final minutes into a very secure win. Typical of the performance was a turn over by Warrandyte's Meg Dargen, with the pass allowing Amber Saunders to convert the three point shot.

# Magnificent 7 for Big V Venom team

Warrandyte's Big V Venom team is off to a brilliant start in their debut season with seven wins from seven games. But club officials say that despite starting the season in fine form, the competition will just get harder now for Warrandyte's Division 1 Women's side

The first significant hurdle was passed recently when the girls won both games in a testing double header weekend against Melbourne University and Hawthorn Magic and then followed up with a strong win at Craigieburn.

On Saturday night, April 21, the Venom came up against Melbourne University Angels and won 77-61.

Full court pressure exposed some technical issues with the Venom with one back court violation and some turnovers keeping Melbourne in the game.

As always the experienced players Kate Cohen and Jo Metcalf provided the steady influence, with the outside shooting of Michelle Ackland providing critical relief at key points.

Michelle is impressing with a season average 42 per cent success from outside the three point line.

The successful weekend was completed with a strong 61-49 win over finals contender Hawthorn Magic at Hawthorn's home court in Balwyn.

The Venom fielded a strong opening five but were held for most of the first quarter with a narrow 15-13 lead at quarter time.

Hawthorn were effectively shut out of the game when the Venom performed strongly with a 23-10 second quarter.

Kate Cohen led the scoring with 16 points with Jo Metcalf with 11.

Mandy Gammilonghi again took her opportunities with 10 points and four rebounds.

Head coach Justin Nelson was positive about the results so far.

"Jo Metcalf and Kate Cohen



Michelle Ackland with assistant head coach David Reinecke. Michelle is turning into something of a three point specialist averaging 42 per cent success rate with her three point attempts.

bring a level of experience that is perfect for the development of the younger members of the squad," he said.

The next challenge was against Craigieburn at Craigieburn in the match of the round.

And what a match it was. The Venom had to fight all the way with little between the teams.

Craigieburn, in front of a vocal home crowd, went into the final period with a three point lead.

Warrandyte stepped up the pressure when it counted in an outstanding defensive effort restricting Craigieburn to four points while putting on 19 to run out winners 74-62.

Warrandyte delivered much from their best, including 20 points from Jo Metcalf and Kate Cohen and 19 from guard Maree Vincent, returning after injury

"The girls did a great job to get an important win in what was a real pressure cooker at times," said Nelson.

"Craigieburn pushed us all the way, but down the stretch we had good leadership from Kate Cohen and Jo Metcalf, plus some quality defensive pressure from Maree Vincent, Chelsea Ransom and Liz Benbow.

"To have notched up seven wins from as many starts in the Big V is an achievement that we are all very proud of, but we're looking no further ahead than our next game and hope to see as many people as possible come out to support us," Nelson said.

"Our next two games are against top-four teams in Werribee and Warnambool, and both are at home. We will be going into both matches with a full-strength line-up and expect tough opposition."



Time out in the Under 15 girls game with coach Nicole Howard fine tuning the effort.

# Redback girls take control in key grading games

The strength of Warrandyte Redbacks' girls' sides was on display with easy wins to the Under 17 and Under 15 A grade sides in the eastern Districts grading games..

In a one sided contest the Under 17's, coached by Jenni O'Brien had an easy 40-8 win over nearby Nunawading Vikings side.

Warrandyte opened strongly and were never troubled, with an even score card being one aspect of a strong side.

Melissa Zuccolo (nine points) and Kirra Solty (eight points) were dominant in the key with Ashlee O'Brien pulling in a number of rebounds.

The mid court players Natalie Medcalf, Phillipa Birch and Fiona Rennie gave the visitors no respite with the guards Cassie Wilson and Kaitlin Little controlling the play.

"The team is probably stronger than the one that were runners up in the A Grade grand final last season", said Jenni. "The girls are enjoying themselves at the moment and the lack of strong opposition was probably the cause for some indifferent performances under the basket. Next week will be a stronger test when the Redbacks play the top Eltham side".

The following game at Warrandyte Community Sport Centre featured the Under 15

girls, who accounted for Collingwood 47-16.

Collingwood matched the Redbacks in the first half of the opening stanza but by half time the outcome was not in question with the Redbacks in front by 25-13.

Warrandyte's centres Ashlee Brobbell and Victoria Bacolas were able to control the key. Courtney Petalas led the scoring with 21 points, her speed continually causing the opposition problems.

Sophie Richardson contributed 21 points. Other scorers were Nicolette Prior (seven points), Amber Saunders (four points) and Aly Birch (two points).

The boys teams were having a harder time of it, with Ryan Holloway's Under 13 boys going down in a heart stopping game against Eltham by 35-34.

The scores were locked at the break at 15-all and neither side were able to establish anything like a match winning lead. It took a free throw from the line in the dying seconds to give Eltham the narrowest of wins.

Liam Roodhouse was Warrandyte's best on the scoreboard with 16 points, supported by Jack Power with eight points and Jack Cousens with seven points.

Malcolm Anderson's team put up a credible performance but were outclassed by a stronger Eltham side

by 45-21.

Tom Appleby top scored for the Redbacks with six points and he was supported by Luke Spinoza with four points.

Much more encouraging were Warrandyte's Under 19 boys going down in a nail biter to Balwyn.

Balwyn were comfortably in control with a 17-6 lead at the break but the change came when Redback's Josh Collins arrived and made an immediate impact on the game with strong offense and defence.

Balwyn reacted to the injection of Josh Collins by double teaming him. The scores were locked mid way through the half and the Redbacks held a narrow two point lead going into the final seconds.

Warrandyte lost Luke Dimmock through fouls after a strong performance, but the game was decided by the strategy of the final minutes.

The margin was back to one point to Balwyn when they were successful with both shots from the free throw line.

Dramatically with 3.6 seconds to go and a restart on the half way line, Josh Collins was fouled going to the basket. Unfortunately he was unable to convert to give Balwyn the win.

Collins top scored with an impressive 13 points, with five points to Jace Ranson and four points to Matt Belgavini.



Carly Sayer is one of Warrandyte Netball Club's umpires this season.

## Netballers blow the whistle

Umpires play an invaluable role in the functioning of local sport, which is well recognised by the Warrandyte Netball Club and the Doncaster and District Netball Association.

The club must supply umpires to enable its teams to take part in the DDNA competition and encourages players and other interested people to train as umpires. This involves undertaking the DDNA umpire training course and going onto umpire games held on Saturdays at the Templestowe Leisure Centre complex.

According to Terry Pieper, a 'B' badged umpire and trainer and tester for the DDNA, there are three steps in the training program which is conducted locally:

- Firstly trainees have six weeks of umpiring two games a match day, accompanied by a trainer. This year Warrandyte trainees have included Kelsie Nabben, Jess Dusting and Ally van Summeran.

- Secondly, the umpires are on court unaccompanied, for a season or two, in which techniques such as court positioning are practiced. From this point, the umpires are paid.

- Thirdly, after reaching a satisfactory standard including decision making ability, the umpires may attain a 'C' badge, with Australian accreditation.

Warrandyte umpires for 2007 include Nat Dusting (trainer), Sam Hassall, Carly Sayer, Julia Knott, Rosemary Azzopardi, and Kristie Turner.

Kristie Turner is now Warrandyte's umpire organiser for the senior games held on Saturday afternoons at Templestowe. This involves organising a roster of umpires, payment, and umpiring some games herself.

Kristie has taken over the role this year, having umpired for Warrandyte for four years. Kristie completed her schooling at Warrandyte High and is now a first year university student.

Kristie is pictured, as is Carly Sayer, who is also a first year university student and an experienced umpire, who umpires for Warrandyte on a weekly basis.

Club enquiries may be directed to Peta Walker on 9844 4898.



Warrandyte's umpires' organiser, Kristie Turner.

## Sports shorts

### Cricket club annual meeting

Warrandyte Cricket Club will hold its annual meeting on May 23 at the clubrooms, starting at 8pm.

The meeting will elect the new president and senior executive for the 2007-08 season.

Club president, Greg Creber urged all members and players to attend to help get the club off to a sound start.

### Football leadership group named

Warrandyte Football Club has announced the appointment of its leadership group for 2007.

Following the growing trend in the AFL, co-captains of the seniors are Matt Wood and Tom Naughtin, supported by vice captain Ben Reid.

The leadership group consists of Josh Eyre, Matt Treeby, Lee

Evans and Dion Mullet-Treleor.

The Reserves will be led by Jarrod Boyce, with Cal Haskings and Nick Drake as vice captains. These three players are all likely to spend time in the seniors, and will therefore rotate their duties as required.

### Community Card launched

Warrandyte Football Club is launching a discount card available to local residents. For \$20, it provides direct discounts, offers and benefits at many of Warrandyte's shops, restaurants and businesses.

On joining purchasers will receive the discount card with a business listing of participating businesses and their offers.

As new businesses join the venture we will update all participants and offers on; [www.warrandytefc.com/communitycard.html](http://www.warrandytefc.com/communitycard.html)

Cards can be purchased from Club Warrandyte or Warrandyte FC rooms. Alternatively cheques can be made to Warrandyte Football Club and mailed to PO Box 151, Warrandyte 3113.

# Junior footballers are back on the park

By ZAC BOYCE & TYSON BARBER

Warrandyte's junior footballers are back on the park after a delay to the season caused by hard and dry playing surfaces hard hit by the drought. "The registration numbers have really picked up after a slow start as I think many parents were waiting to see if there indeed would be a season" said secretary, Phil Ashfield.

"But now things are all set and we hopefully have a successful and enjoyable season ahead".

The football community numbers are strong with good turn outs in all age groups.

A positive sign for the future of the juniors is that there are very good numbers participating in Auskick and at the other end of the spectrum, an enormous vote of confidence has been given to football in the community as there are enough numbers in the Under 16/17s to have two squads - only the second time in the clubs history.

"What is particularly pleasing about these numbers is that this should assist in setting up the Under 18s and the seniors for years in the future," said Ashfield.

**UNDER 9:** Paul Reardon's coaching career kicked off with the Under 9s game against Banyule.

"While at times it looked like a bit of a rabble, they were really a well oiled machine" said Paul.

"For the first time in the red and white jumper they did really well."

"Daniel Abbott, Joel Bumpstead, Jordan Harris, Hayden Lennon, Karl Papez, Dion Stroot and Fergus Ward are already stand outs but I reckon all of the boys will be stars by the end of the season."

**UNDER 10:**

The Under 10s had a tough first up game against St Damians Green and came away with 1-7-13 to 10-9-69 loss.

Coach David McMennemin was more than happy with their first outing.

"We have been a little down on numbers but these boys all have big hearts and played really very well."

"They are now playing for competition points and this will take a little getting used to. We could do with a few more players so if anyone would like to have a game with us, they are more than welcome."

Players of note in this first round were Josiah Bektash, Connor Joy, Jack Poole and Lachlan Wintle.

**UNDER 11:** Ivanhoe was the first opponent for Peter Stafford's Under 11s with the result being a win by five points, 5-4-34 to 4-5-29.

Peter developed this squad last year and while they are in top Gold Division, they are expecting to be fully competitive.

"This year will really challenge these players but I am convinced that they are good enough to do well. We will continue to give each player the opportunity to maximise their game time as well as their skills."

Peter couldn't name a stand out player in the game but has predicted big seasons from Ben Arnold, Nathan DeLacy, William Kerr Christian Petracca and Astan Ure

**UNDER 12:** Shane Newman's Under 12s matched up traditional rivals St Mary's and inaccurate kicking resulted in a loss by 15 points, 1-9-15 to 4-6-30.

Shane has continued his own coaching development in the off season and his team should benefit from

extra drills and playing tactics.

Shane is keen to build on last season's achievements and is looking forward to watching the development of Zac Ballard, Tyson Clancy, Daniel Ford, Darcy Lang, Kyle Newman and Ryan Tester this year.

**UNDER 13:** Lance Nilsson has continued coaching the Under 13s with this team showing the benefit of the consistency in coaching style and philosophy. A tough first up match against Amberwell I saw the result go 7-3-45 to 1-8-14 in Warrandyte's favour.

"This was a tough game first up but I am happy with the teams efforts. They were a bit rusty due to a lack of match practice but they will only get better," said Nilsson.

Players to look for this season include Jarrod Buzzini, Sam Holston, James Munks, Lauchlan Frowd and Andrew Woodward.

**UNDER 14:** The Under 14s took on St Damians and suffered a big loss 3-5-23 to 17-15-117.

Coach Steve Blakey, while happy with the effort can see areas of improvement.

"What I like about these boys is their willingness to keep trying and their 'never say die' attitude."

"They are small in size these boys but big in hearts and they will have a real impact this season."

"Players like Sam Beasley, Mitchell Gaffney, Taylor Hayton, Darcy Jones and Sam Tansley will be great to watch this season as they start to learn new skills," Blakey said.

**UNDER 15:** The Junior Football Club welcomed new Under 15 coach Scott Chapman to their ranks on Sunday and his team's first up effort against Ashburton unfortunately saw a loss

19-10-124 to 2-8-20.

"Its great to be coaching in this club as I believe very much in its philosophy and approach to junior football," Chapman said.

"These boys were coached by Chris Appleby last year so I am lucky to have picked up some well trained and skilled players."

"While I am particularly pleased with the whole squad, Jack Beriman, Thomas Campbell, Ethan Hale-Vaughan, Jake McKee and Sam Turner has caught my eye already"

**COLTS:** Neighbours Park Orchards was the first up challenge for new coach James Bowen and his Colts squad.

Park Orchards proved too strong on the day with a 34 point victory over this newly constructed squad.

"I am really looking forward to this year as I think my assistant coach Rick Curtis and I can do great things with this squad. Some of our players are small in stature but Rick and I are impressed with their attitude to training," said Bowen.

Already Caleb Atkinson, Jedd Dyer, Nick Moore, Lewis Bulman and Grant Westgrath have stood out for their attitude to training this season.

The other Colts squad played Hawthorne Citizen and unfortunately came away with a 57 point loss (18-13-121 - 6-8-44).

This result was disappointing but coach Jason Bowen saw many positives and believes this squad will evolve during the year.

"Players such as Josh Blakey, Keith Dimech, Luke Miller, Andrew Oxley and Tristan Valentino are young people who we believe will have a big year," said Bowen.

For more information about the club, contact secretary Phil Ashfield on 0409 542 112.

## Netball club to field 16 teams in new season

By SONIA RAPPELL

Warrandyte Netball Club will field 16 teams in the Doncaster and District Netball Association 2007 Winter Season.

Warrandyte continues to be one of the strongest clubs in the district and teams are from across all age groups, and comprise four Under 11 teams, three Under 13 teams,

four Under 15 teams, three Under 17 teams, and two Open age teams.

Newly elected president, Sonya Febbo is determined to keep Warrandyte at the forefront of local netball.

Sonya grew up in a Manningham family which included five daughters, most of whom were involved in netball in some way.

Elder sister Tina worked towards the establishment of the DDNA, while Bec is well known locally having coached with Warrandyte in the past and now coaching a state league side.

Sonya coaches the Warrandyte Under 11/4 Joeys in which daughter Victoria plays, with elder daughter Sara a member of the

Under 13/1 team.

A former club player in the Doncaster area, Sonya played in centre court positions.

Since becoming president, Sonya's duties have taken her to the Templestowe courts on Saturdays from start at 9am through to the last game in mid-afternoon.

With the support of her committee, she has been overseeing the club getting up and running for training and competition in the new season, and the organisation of ongoing club responsibilities such as providing weekly umpires.

Achievements already include co-ordinating a clinic for coaching skills, and with external sponsorship from the Bendigo Bank, fitting out new coach's bags for all teams.

Sonya said she was setting her sights high.

She wants to establish clubrooms in Warrandyte; make sure all players and coaches have the best possible skills; and provide a friendly club environment.

New player queries may be directed to Peta Walker on 9844 4898.



Newly elected Warrandyte Netball Club president, Sonya Febbo with her daughters, Sara, 11, and Victoria, 7.

# Bloods suffer early setback in Third Division

# Tough initiation for Warrandyte

By SHAUN KELLY & RIC GORDON

In the first game of the season, Warrandyte Football Club had things set up for what looked to be a perfect re-introduction to EFL Division Three football.

The sun shone in a blue sky after overnight rain, Warrandyte Reserve looked in tip-top condition, the Bloods were showing off their new recruits and their 2006 Premiership Flag waved proudly atop the Warrandyte Social Club.

But someone forgot to give a copy of the script to the Boronia Football Club, who promptly took the focus away from the home side with a whirlwind first quarter, taking the wind out of the Bloods' sails and setting up a 49 point victory.

The big step-up to Third Division after winning last year's Fourth Division premiership became even clearer for the Bloods when they were well beaten by Nunawading in their second match for the season.

It was a Round 3 game but Warrandyte had the bye in Round 1.

With a side weakened by injury and suspension, and suffering from a distinct lack of confidence, Warrandyte failed to adapt to the small Nunawading ground.

They were also taking on a side that already had two wins on the board and were chock full of confidence and sitting equal first on the ladder.

The wind was blowing to the clubhouse end which meant that on this ground, a decent kick from the centre circle could be slotted through the big sticks.

Missing in action were Benny Reid (two weeks suspension from an errant elbow in the Grand Final), Todd Holman (shin), Luke Naughtin (knee ligament tear), Matt Treeby (knee), Andrew Brown (hamstring), Bernie Optyende (broken finger) and Ash Grybas (hip).

The Bloods kicked with the aid of the four goal breeze in the first quarter, but could not withstand the opening pressure from a very well-drilled side and were lucky to recover in the second half of the quarter to close the gap to two goals.

Lee Evans was lively up forward and Tommy Naughtin very dangerous around the packs. Keiran Pigeon grasped his opportunity as an on-baller in the seniors with enthusiasm, new recruit Paul Bellafiore showed his class on the half back line, and Dion Mullett-Treloar was sensational on the wing.

Warrandyte's defence was seriously undermined and when the pressure was applied just did not have the height to compete.

Nathan Rose battled manfully at full back, assisted at times by playing coach Peter Green, and Tom Roberts assisted in the aerial duels, but too many times the delivery to the Nunawading forwards was too good and they were able to take easy marks out on a lead.

The game was won in the second quarter, when the Lions kicked away with the breeze, snapping four unanswered goals midway through the term to make it eight goals to three



Lee Evans was dominant both at stoppages and in marking contests around the ground when he was moved onto the ball.

for the quarter.

The Bloods rallied in the third quarter when Lee Evans was thrown into the ruck, with Michael Morello snapping a goal over his shoulder in the square, and Luke Dunn displaying the sort of high marking skills that warranted his promotion from the Under 18s.

Glen Carle showed that he had not lost form during his two year break overseas, and Chris Watson (Under 18s) and Jarrod Boyce both combined well to provide youthful pace and pressure around the packs.

Green was happy at three quarter time with the improved attack on the ball and the commitment of the players to play on, back each other up and apply pressure to opponents.

In the final quarter the teams just played out time, with Warrandyte just hoping for the siren to end a match where an underdone side were outclassed and outplayed.

Nunawading	4.5	12.9	16.12
21.20-146			
Warrandyte	2.5	5.8	8.10
10.15-75			

Goals: M. Morello 3, L. Evans 2, G. Carle, M. Wood, T. Naughtin, B. Zach, L. Dunn  
Best: R. Pidgeon, L. Evans, T. Roberts, D. Mullett Treloar, T. Naughtin

● After the excitement of unfurling the premiership flag, Warrandyte were brought back to earth when Boronia opened the scoring with a text-book crumbing goal inside the first 90 seconds of the game.

The Bloods hit back through midfielder Matt Treeby gaining a free kick on the half-back flank and a string of 25 metre penalties after an altercation with Boronia's Matt Buzinkas saw Treeby then kick truly from 15 metres.

This seemed to kick-start the Hawks into action as they piled on the next five goals to take a stranglehold on the contest, despite handy Warrandyte on-baller Jarrod Boyce kicking the Bloods' second for the quarter.

As a result, the game went somewhat into its shell in the second quarter. Boronia couldn't buy a goal early, and while the Bloods gained a lot of the ball, they couldn't convert it into scores until the 11-minute mark of the quarter, when co-captain Matt Wood capitalised on some good forward pressure by the Bloods to take the ball off a pack and kick the first goal of the quarter.

Boronia soon replied through a long running goal but when Eyre goaled soon after, the Bloods entered the long break just 21 points adrift, and confident that the party may not be spoiled just yet.

Best: D. Large, L. Brewis, P. Nichol, L. Dunn, M. Dunn, B. Everard

● Due to injury, illness, first team selection and various other reasons, Warrandyte battled to get our 18 players on the park against Waverley Blues. "Fortunately we had three Under 17 players who helped us out," said Vitoritti.

Jason Khouri looked dangerous in the forward line and the midfield players provided plenty of run.

During the second, third and fourth quarters the Bloods had laps-

# Reserves struggle to compete

By RICK CURTIS

Warrandyte Reserves started out full of optimism and enthusiasm after an extended and interrupted pre season preparation, with new coach Ash Grybas in the driving seat and his right hand man Mark Watson riding shotgun the boys felt confident.

They were competitive until half time in the first game of the season against Boronia, but unfortunately the opposition kicked away in the second half.

The Bloods were lucky the Hawks didn't kick straight, or the margin would have been much greater.

Some new faces were welcomed and other old faces returned after being missing in action.

Brad Wilton, a tall, rangy half back from Ringwood North provided experience across the back line. Under 18 debutants Rick Curtis, Chris Watson and Steven Lockie provided some youthful energy and Warrandyte cricketer Ben Taylor was outstanding in his first game of football for the Bloods.

Glen Carle set up a best on ground performance after two years in London that had him promptly promoted to the firsts for the following week's game. James Bowen (younger brother of Jason) last played football some years ago in the juniors, and immediately became an impressive mobile target at centre half forward.

With a distinct lack of height at the club, Brendan Counsel performed extremely well and provided a glimmer of hope in the ruck, battling against formidable opponents all day.

Bruno Elliott and Sean Donovan were very effective as ruck rovers, and Under 18s coach and triple premiership player Dale Vitoritti created time and space on the ball.

Another veteran, Travis Brogan, zoned off his man in the back pocket, and rebounded many forward thrusts.

Ricky Bourke's pace and silky skills were once again on display at half back, and Ryan Parker did well on the wing.

The reliable Cal Haskings was very solid once again, but sustained an ankle injury late in the game.

Warrandyte	2.1	2.6	5.7	5.7-37
Boronia	4.2	4.5	8.12	13.14-92

Goals: J. Bowen 2, G. Carle, B. Elliott, B. Taylor  
Best: G. Carle, B. Counsel, S. Donovan, J. Bowen, B. Taylor, C. Haskings

## ROUND 3

The second game against Nunawading was a welcome back to Chris Chapman who returned from the West Indies where he was a statistician for the World Cup.

His welcome back game saw him play a best on ground performance showing great run and determination.

Steve Lockie put in another great performance in the forward line and Ricky Bourke was elusive as usual around the ground.

It was a very tough game against last year's Reserves Premiers. Warrandyte didn't start until the last quarter, but a well drilled opposition had all the answers.

Warrandyte tried hard but were under manned and undersized.

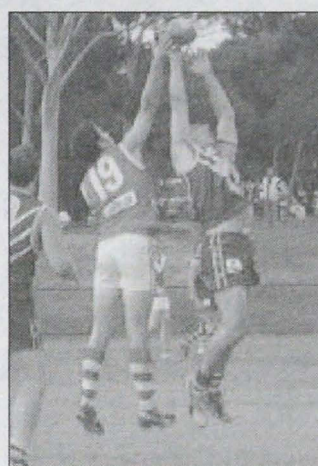
Coach Ash Grybas was disappointed after the game, but pointed to the large number of injuries and players unavailable that had decimated the ranks of his team.

"But we can't use that as an excuse. We have to work harder at training, have a much greater commitment, and go harder at the contest in the game.

"The last quarter today showed that we can play, but what happened in the first three quarters?" he said.

Nunawading	6.5	8.8	12.13	18.17-125
Warrandyte	0.0	0.1	0.3	5.7-37

Goals: S. Lockie 2, R. Bourke, P. Hernandez, L. Ebzery  
Best: R. Bourke, L. Ebzery, B. Counsel, C. Holland



Nick Drake spoils the mark of his Nunawading opponent.

The signs were positive for Warrandyte to start the third quarter.

Boronia ruckman Scott McKenzie had not re-appeared after limping off towards the end of the second quarter and centre half-forward Lee Evans was presenting well in a forward line that wasn't really functioning in the first half.

But with Brad Mills starting to really assert his dominance in the ruck, Evans showing that his timing was a touch out by constantly leading himself underneath the ball, and with full-back Craig McKenzie shadowing 2006 Division Four leading goalkicker Michael Morello, it was the Hawks that started the better.

When John Raiti opened his account for the day soon after to stretch the Boronia lead to 37 points as the quarter entered the time-on period, even the most ardent Warrandyte fans began to realise that their fairytale start wasn't going to eventuate.

Their spirits rose slightly when Jarrod Boyce snapped his second goal of the quarter to cut the margin to 31 points in the shadows of the three-quarter time siren, but sank again when Rattray goaled from point-blank range after outmarking Bloods full back Ash Grybas to give the Hawks a 37 point buffer at the final change.

It was the final quarter, though, that typified Boronia's day. After Warrandyte coach Peter Green goaled inside the opening minute, the Hawks increased their attack on the football, pressuring the Bloods into turnovers and using their increased fitness to propel the ball forward and take out a convincing 49 point win.

Warrandyte	2.3	4.9	5.12
8.12-60			
Boronia	7.1	8.6	12.7
17.7-109			

Goals: M. Treeby 2, M. Wood 2, J. Boyce 2, P. Green, J. Eyre  
Best: M. Wood, T. Roberts, J. Eyre, T. Naughtin, J. Boyce, M. Treeby, T. Holman

es (again due to fitness) and this allowed Waverley to get on top.

Brayden Pettigrove was given a job on one of their better players and did a great job of taking him out of the game and still winning the ball himself.

Pat Nichol also played very well and led the way with his attack to the ball. Other good players were Daniel Large, Matt Dunn, Jason Khouri and Brendan Coutat in his first game for the club.

Warrandyte 6.6-42 lost to Waverley Blues 17.14-116

# An unsettled start for Under 18s

After an unsettled preseason, Warrandyte managed to have 22 players available for the first game against Boronia.

The Bloods attacked the ball with aggression and with the backline on top and the midfield working hard, only some wayward goal kicking resulted in the team failing to capitalise on its dominance. As the game progressed, Warrandyte's endeavour remained but the lack of fitness and time together allowed Boronia to run out easy winners.

"We managed plenty of good pas-

sages of play throughout the game and with some hard work on the training track, some better results should be achieved in the coming weeks," said coach, Dale Vitoritti.

Luke Brewer did well at full back, a position unfamiliar to him and Daniel Large, despite being ill, managed to control the half back area. Other strong contributors were Luke Dunn, Tim Beasley and Ben Everard.

Warrandyte 4-10.34 lost to Boronia 12.14.86

Goals: L. Dunn 2, M. Canham, M. Dunn

# LANDFIELD



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## Lions Club of Warrandyte Inc.

*“Lions & Community Working Together”*

Meets 2nd and 4th Thursdays at Kellybrook Winery Restaurant



The **Lions Club of Warrandyte** has drawn its success from the members it has recruited over the years and the close friendships that have been formed between those members, some enduring for whole families for over twenty and thirty years. Those friendships have been cemented by a common wish to serve the community at the same time offering each a chance to share fel-

lowship and good fun while doing a worthwhile job. A new generation of men and women is sought to carry on meeting the future needs of our community. Be our guest at one of our bi-monthly meetings – ring our membership chairman, **David Dobbs, on 9872 5822** during business hours and discuss with him what is in it for you and your community.

### WARRANDYTE NORTH

#### Pure Tranquility

Beyond the striking architecture of this unique 5-level home, lies a setting of pure tranquility. With 100 sq metres of decking perched amid the gum trees, you'll be living with the birds on this serene 1-acre estate. Crafted from spotted gum hardwood, with two separate living quarters, each with separate kitchen, bedrooms, bathroom and living, here's the solution for independent teens or a B&B business (stca).

**Price: \$680,000 plus**



#### Artist wanted for final brushstrokes

A spectacular portrait of eco contemporary design, all this new home needs is someone to add the final touches. The backdrop for this spacious and sophisticated 4-bedroom is an acre of bushland beauty, with smart glass windows to take in the easterly sun and a stunning full verandah to highlight the views. Tradies and artists will love the twin double garage, and basement studios for tinkering. Choose your floor coverings and the work of art is ready for living.

**Price: \$820,000 plus**



### WARRANDYTE NORTH

### WARRANDYTE

#### Birdlife Sanctuary

With a rear verandah perched amid the gum trees, this split-level brick home delivers all the magic of a wilderness location. With a modernised kitchen, spacious lounge room, and three robed bedrooms off a dramatic sunlit hallway, comfort and tranquility is assured. A paved undercover entertainment zone completes your hideaway. Grab a bottle of your favourite wine and simply unwind.

**Price: \$430,000 plus**



#### Moving On Up

Step up to a new living standard with this superb tri-level home set in a prestigious street close to shops, school and the river. Level one offers a rumpus room, study and internal access from the double garage. Level two delivers a lounge, kitchen and family room with verandah access. And level three offers privacy for a master with spa ensuite, two robed BRs, laundry and bathroom with garden views. And what kids could resist an inground pool with a rock waterfall?

**Price: \$580,000 plus**



### WARRANDYTE

#### Your Dream Resort Lifestyle

Your dream resort lifestyle awaits you on this spectacular 6-acre property, which promises carefree days of riding, tennis and swimming. Positioned on a quiet no through road, with a horse ménage, tennis court, slate-decked pool, and designer 50-square home, your luxury hideaway still has you in easy reach of Eastland Shopping Centre, the city and the airport.

Ideal for horse enthusiasts, the property features 4 paddocks, a second private driveway, water, shelter, shedding, and Warrandyte State Park riding trails right outside your gates.

Contemporary architecture with towering ceilings and breathtaking open plan living zones offers sophisticated living, with enough room to accommodate guests in style.

Work from your two-storey business centre, with its own kitchenette, gas log fire and meeting room. Entertain from your gourmet kitchen with stainless steel Miele appliances and granite benches.

Relax on the large merbu decks overlooking the pool and tennis court. Unwind in your private upstairs parents' retreat with its spa ensuite and balcony overlooking the pool. And let family and friends enjoy your luxury bushland retreat.

With Warrandyte's thriving food, riding and artisan culture as your backdrop, your dream lifestyle can finally become a reality.

This wonderful home is in excellent condition, so just move in and enjoy!

**Price: \$1.5 million plus**



### WARRANDYTE