

GOLDFIELDS
PLAZA



WARRANDYTE diary



No 401, September 2007 For the community, by the community

Advertising: 9844 3819 Office: 9844 0555 Fax: 9844 4168 Email: warrandytediary@aapt.net.au

Senior units closer



Chicken-hatching time at Warrandyte kinder. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

Housing co-op seeks community support

By SANDY BURGOYNE

Further developments in the Warrandyte Community Retirement Housing Co-operative's plans for a cluster of cottages in Harris Gully Road were unveiled when the co-op held its first public meeting late last month.

It was a welcome opportunity for local residents to hear what had been happening in this latest attempt to bring housing for retirees to Warrandyte.

As reported in last month's issue of the *Diary* a sub-committee of the Warrandyte Community Association was given the task of exploring possible initiatives for retirement housing in the district. The group was offered a block of land for purchase and that called for some fast decision-making.

"We were a sub-committee of the Warrandyte Community Association, but as soon as finance became involved we had to quickly evolve into something else, so we evolved into the Warrandyte Community Retirement Housing Co-operative Ltd," Val Polley told the *Diary*.

The co-op is a non-profit body with honorary directors. Ms Polley, along with five others, is a director of the new organisation.

During the public meeting the co-op's directors described what was happening with the proposed development at 26 Harris Gully Road. Doug Seymour, a co-op director, explained the type of development the committee thought would be appropriate for the site.

"The committee, of course, had to evaluate what its options were in buying the property.

"Our preference is to proceed to build, we hope, five units on this property for perhaps the older retiree. We are looking at a two bedroom type of unit perhaps with a single garage, with a bit of a workshop at the back... We think from the survey that there are a lot of people in Warrandyte who would be interested in retirement in cluster units near the town," he said.

Ms Polley told the meeting that the proposal was at an early stage of bringing retirement housing to Warrandyte.

"What we want to do is very much a Warrandyte solution," she said. "We are looking tonight for expressions of interest in joining the co-operative." The share price is expected to be \$100

and members will have the right to attend meetings of the co-operative, to vote for the board, or to be voted onto the board.

"It gives you an active role," Simon Kearney, a co-op director, told the meeting. "One of the bits of feedback we'd really like to get is what would be the minimum age for this project," he added.

People who own neighbouring blocks attended the meeting and expressed concern that the access to their properties, and that now owned by the co-op, relies on a small bridge and a walkway.

"We are 100 per cent supportive of aged services and social housing, but whether it's the right place in terms of access over a tiny little bridge, up a walkway, with a school, we are very concerned about that.

"Also we have got four people living on a walkway and all of a sudden you are going to have 10 houses on a walkway, so that is just going to get harder and harder. That was our concern, so we will work with (the co-op) in trying to get solutions to all of that," Scott Chapman told the *Diary* on behalf of the neighbours.

The project is still in the planning stages and many processes need to be gone through before any building commences.

"We would have to seek a rezoning to enable the development to proceed, but that is within the jurisdiction of the council," Doug Seymour said.

The committee is also investigating provision of services, such as podiatry, doctors and nursing to residents of the proposed development.

The WCRHC has a board of capable people working to bring retirement housing to Warrandyte. However, an appeal was made at the meeting for more helpers to step forward, so that the load of planning and running the organisation could be shared.

"If anyone here has some particular skills or some time that they would offer to help with this project we would be delighted. It is time consuming and the worst thing that happens is to be burnt out," Ms Polley told the meeting.

She added that the co-operative will shortly convene a meeting with new members to carry the project to the next stage.

• Further information from Doug Seymour (9844 2740), Sarah Wrigley (9844 2678) or David Ellis (9844 3292).

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"Experience is the name everyone gives to their mistakes"
— Oscar Wilde

WARRANDYTE diary

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PUBLISHER: Warrandyte Diary Pty Ltd, (ACN 006 886 826 ABN 74 422 669 097) as trustee for the Warrandyte Arts and Education Trust.
POSTAL ADDRESS: P.O. Box 209, Warrandyte 3113.
ADVERTISING & ACCOUNTS: Rae Danks, 9844 3819 or 0414 745 212.
CIRCULATION: Peter Norman, 9844 3268.
FAX: Editorial and Advertising, 9844 4168.
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INTERNET ADDRESS: http://www.vicnet.net.au/~warrandy/
PRODUCTION: Rachel Schroeder, 9725 6699.
PRINTING: Streamline Press Pty Ltd, 155 Johnston Street, Fitzroy.
Published on or about the second Wednesday of each month (except January).

ADVERTISING RATES

\$5.80 a column centimetre. \$730 full page colour, \$600 full page b&w. \$400 half page. \$220 quarter page. \$72 front page "ears". Preferred positions: page one 100%, page two 30%, page three 20%, other nominated pages 10%. Mini-ads: \$5 for four lines, then \$1 each additional line. Mini-ads pre-paid unless by prior arrangement. All rates plus 10% GST.

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NEXT ISSUE

Next issue of the Diary will be published on Wednesday, October 10. Advertising and editorial copy closes Friday, September 28.

OUR NEWSPAPER

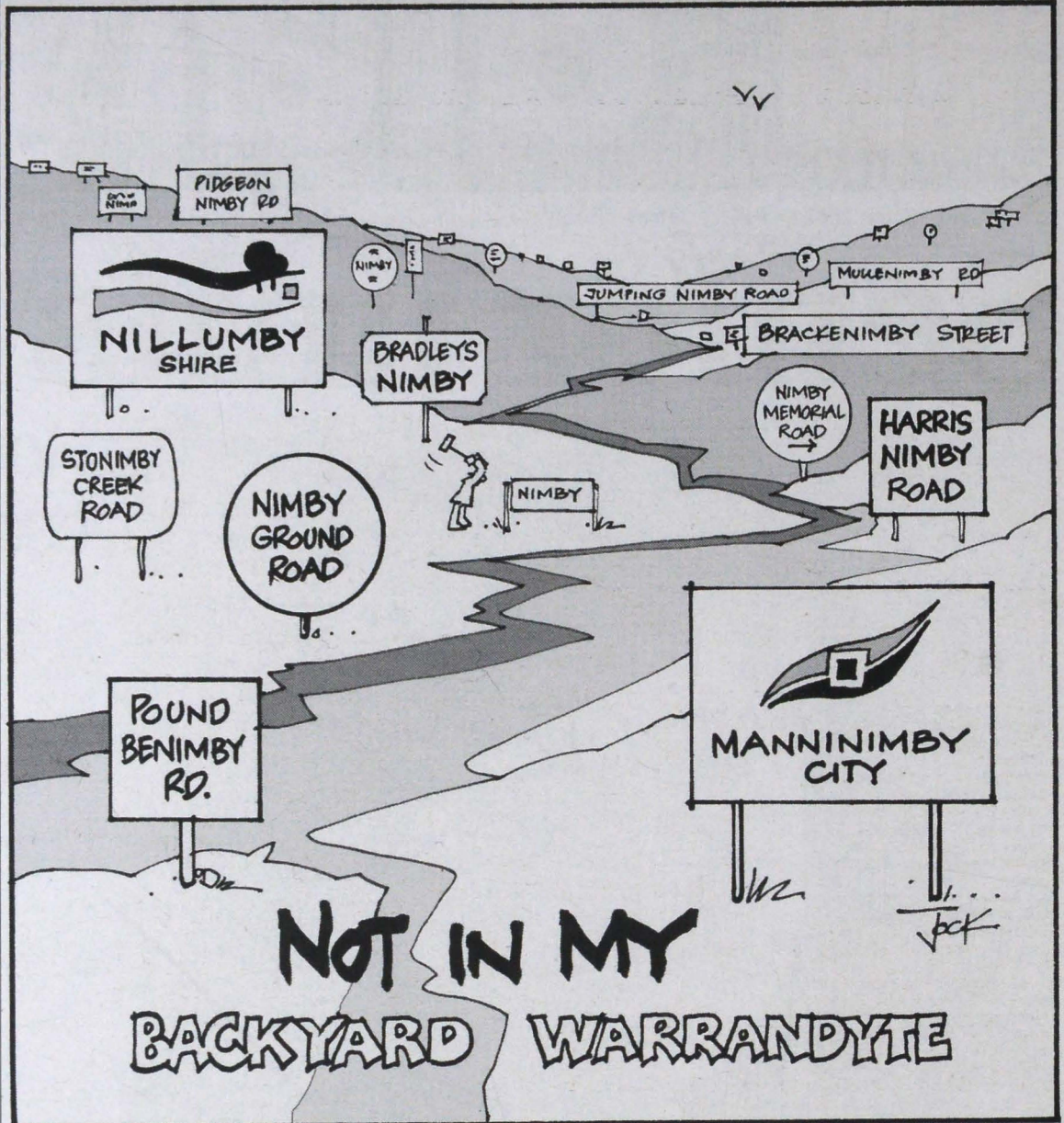
The Warrandyte Diary was established in 1970 as a small local newsletter. Although it has developed over the years, it has retained its strong community character, being produced by volunteers with only one aim: to serve its community. Financed solely through advertising, it guards its not-for-profit,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

A SPECIAL PLACE

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

OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



Cinnamon acts up, Jasper sprays, Narelle pots, Neville disassembles

“My God! What’s that?” Not an unreasonable question when you come home to find your husband suspending cardboard boxes from the exposed beams with 5 gauge fishing line.

“My installation!” answered Neville with the broad grin of triumph. “You pot! I install! I knew you’d be pleased!”

It was true Narelle had been encouraging Neville to unplug his creative outlet ever since she joined Marj Beecham’s pottery classes behind the Mechanics Institute Hall. Evidently his interminable restoration of a Datsun Fairlady did not qualify. The growing plantation of ceramic sunflowers by the front steps bore testament to Narelle’s own artistic growth, despite Gran’s usual negativity. “If it’s sunflowers you’re after just plant the bastards!”

“I was standing in the check-out queue at Bunnings,” continued Neville, “and as I looked at this pile of empty boxes in front of me one word kept repeating in my brain.

living with The Trots

“Tool?” tried his wife. “Guggenheim!” pronounced Nev with the blissful content of a cat in kitty litter.

“Oh my God! What is that?” said Cinnamon making a dramatic entrance from the hallway. Everything Cinnamon did these days was dramatic, ever since winning the role of the dancing teacher in the new High School production of *Billy*. All those years at Bhava interpreting endless species of flora and fauna had finally paid off. There was more than a touch of Lyn Colenso in her characterisation.

“My installation!” explained Neville patiently. “You perform! I install! It’s a metaphor for the insidious compartmentalisation of a post-industrial world.”

“My God!” interrupted Jasper slamming the door and dropping his skateboard in the hallway with a clatter. “What’s that?”

“My installation!” persevered Neville. “You spray paint, I install!”

“Let’s not go there,”



brassiere needed a couple of last minute enhancements.

“I’m supposed to be old, Mum. Thirty something!”

But they got there and returned later that night singing the praises of their talented daughter.

“Cept when you muffed your lines in that scene with Billy,” goaded Jasper.

Cinnamon reddened. “It wasn’t my fault! I hadn’t actually seen him in those tights before!”

“Gran! What are you still doing up?” asked Narelle as Neville’s mum entered the kitchen.

“The Wilsons came over from next door. Apparently they’re moving.”

“My God!” exclaimed Neville. “Where have they gone?”

“Templestowe.”

“I mean my installation! Half of the boxes are missing!”

“Oh them? I said they could have them for packing crockery.”

“Oh no,” groaned Neville collapsing onto the nearest bentwood like an inflatable doll with a puncture. “You’ve broken my art!”

“Really? I didn’t think you even liked the Wilsons!”

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Is it a bridge too far?

Federal support for crossing

By EMMA CLARK

Plans for a footbridge across the Yarra have received verbal support from the local federal MP.

The *Diary* reported last month that the Lions Club of Warrandyte was investigating the possibility of constructing a bridge spanning the river from the car park at the end of Taroona Avenue-Everard Drive, near Pound Bend, to the reserve at Bradley's Lane.

The plan has been met with a mixed response from the community.

Members of the Lions Club special projects committee recently discussed the project with Kevin Andrews, federal member for Menzies and minister for immigration and citizenship.

Mr Andrews met with Ian Abell, John Boyle and Lauri Hilakari at the proposed site along the Yarra to explain their ideas.

"I understand the club has been evaluating worthwhile projects around Warrandyte," Mr Andrews told the *Diary*. They believe a foot and cycle bridge across the river from the end of Bradley's Lane to the car park at the end of Taroona Avenue could provide easy access for local residents.

Lions' special projects committee has had discussions with local councils and MPs and Parks Victoria representatives and to date has gained verbal support for the project.

Mr Andrews said he appreciated the great contribution the Lions Club of Warrandyte had made during the club's 30 year history of working in the area and that he would investigate any opportunities which may be available to assist the club in its endeavour to build the bridge.

Last month's *Diary* reported that the Warrandyte CFA supported the idea of a footbridge across the river as it would make it easier for residents to cross the river quickly in the case of bush-fire. Shane Murphy, captain of the Warrandyte CFA, told the *Diary* that the CFA does not support evacuation by foot. "Being out in the open is the least safe place to be in case of a fire. It is much more dangerous than being in a house. Residents should decide early if they are staying and protecting their property, or evacuating early and leaving the area. A footbridge should not be a backup plan for evacuation in case of fire."

By CLIFF GREEN

The suggestion, advanced by the Lions Club, that a footbridge could be built connecting North Warrandyte with the south side of the Yarra has aroused mixed reactions from some residents of Bradley's Lane.

Jill McKimm wrote: "...no one we have spoken to in our street has heard or been consulted about any of this... How about more buses to traffic school kids and other locals over the bridge to where they need to go?"

"Since Bradley's Lane has been sealed, the speed of traffic has

risen, markedly," write Elaine and Greg Provan. "There is no structured path either side of the lane... Increasing the road and pedestrian traffic along the lane would magnify the already dangerous situation."

L. Carroll and D. Coffin ask: "Why should the overall traffic problems of Kangaroo Ground Road, Yarra Street and Research Road rest on the residents of Bradley's Lane? Are people suggesting that parents will allow their children to ride bikes down Research Road to Bradley's Lane and then do one of

the most dangerous right-hand turns into Bradley's Lane?"

"The main issue for me is the need for a publicly-stated planning process that includes consultation with the residents who will be most affected by any such development," Barry McKimm states. "And this to be followed by a feasibility plan that addressed just who this is for; why; cost; and so on."

However, five residents of Bradley's Lane have written a letter in favour of the bridge: "A footbridge will provide excellent walking and cycling opportuni-

ties for residents on both sides of the river. No doubt walking and cycling to all three of Warrandyte schools will become real possibilities for children in North Warrandyte."

Sandra Quick of Weerona Way also commends the Lions Club "for their initiative". However, she believes Bradley's Lane would be the wrong location, and suggests "a footbridge at the end of The Boulevard, connecting to the end of Pound Road, would better service the North Warrandyte residents..."

● Letters: Page 4.



Crossing place? Local federal MP Kevin Andrews (right) inspects a possible site for a proposed footbridge across the Yarra with Lions Club members (from left) John Boyle, Ian Abell and Lauri Hilakari.

New riverbank path to halt erosion

Words and pictures by SANDY BURGoyNE

Melbourne Water is taking remedial action to stabilise one of the most-used stretches of riverbank in Warrandyte.

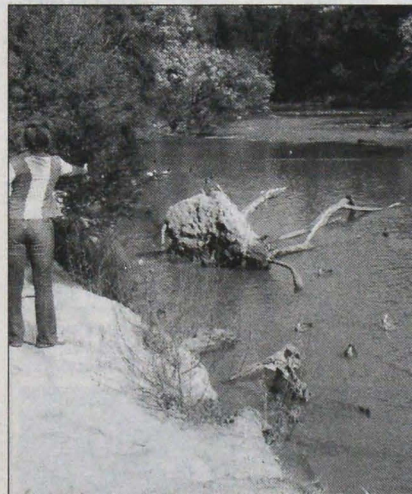
The section, of about 50 metres, is behind the Bakery and close to the Federation playground. The riverbank here has been almost "loved to bits" as visitors and locals alike tramp over the section, gather to feed the ducks and allow their dogs to launch themselves into the Yarra. The result is a bank denuded of grass and shrubs with a serious erosion problem.

Melbourne Water and Manningham council have been planning a solution for this section of riverbank for some time. Melbourne Water project manager, David Howard, told the *Diary* that the works would involve the construction of rock terraces, landscaped areas, steps, an access ramp and new public seating.

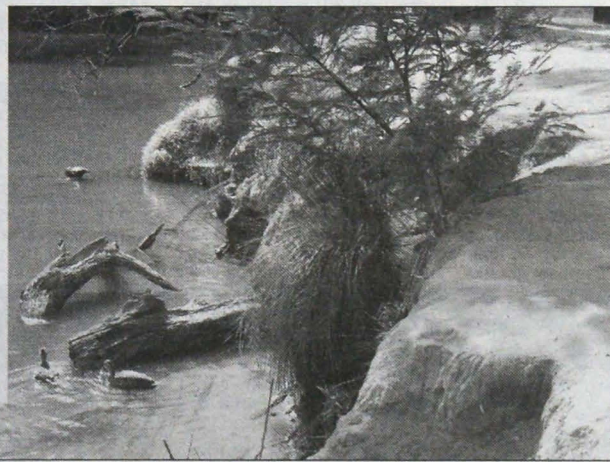
"The works we will be undertaking will help reduce erosion and protect and improve water quality in that stretch of the river," he said.

The lower river path will be closed for two weeks early in September between the Webb Street and Lions car parks to allow the works to proceed. Notices were placed on the riverbank path in mid-August to inform residents of the planned changes. The notices included detailed drawings of the works to be undertaken. During construction walkers will still be able to use the higher path from the Webb Street car park, along the boardwalk, behind the Bakery and on to the Federation playground.

Once Melbourne Water has completed the major work of realigning the bank, building the rock terraces and installing seats, Manningham council will reinstate the footpath and commence a landscaping project.



This eroded stretch of riverbank is the site of new remedial works.



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dear diary

Letters to the Diary on local topics are welcome. All letters — including emails — must include the writer's full name, address and phone number, even if not intended for publication.

Don't spoil our Park

Cycling, in all its many forms, is great exercise for the body and mind. Off-road biking is an especially desirable alternative to endless hours goggling at electronic gizmos.

The only trouble is that some riders are using parts of Warrandyte State Park as their course. I am sure they just have not thought about the unfortunate "side effects" of erosion, destruction of valuable plants and eviction of animals from their homes.

The Park is too valuable to spoil; but off-road cycling is to be encouraged. Any ideas?

Gray Arden Warrandyte

Iraq lecture impressed

I have just returned from the magnificent talk given in Warrandyte by Matt Howard about the Iraq invasion. He is an ex-US serviceman who has served in Iraq and is now campaigning vigorously against the war.

A big thanks to David Ellis and the Greens for bringing him to the Community Centre so that we could hear his astounding demand for peace and demilitarisation.

Stephen Clendinnen by email

Rally around Andrew

I am excited at the prospect of a Warrandytian—Andrew Campbell of Brackenbury Street—standing as the Labor Party candidate for Menzies.

He is a very enthusiastic and hard-working young man and deserves our support. So all you Labor supporters, get on the phone to Andrew (9844 4564) and let him know your concerns, offers of assistance or just good wishes.

Jean Chapman Taroona Avenue

Bridge over troubled water

I refer to the article in the August Diary about "the footbridge plan".

This plan is a bit of a surprise to me and to neighbours I have spoken to. The first response is, "What about the traffic in Bradleys Lane?" As it is now, it is at times intimidating, with some residents speeding recklessly up the lane, not to mention summer time, when there are lots of visitors to Normans Reserve.

If Normans Reserve becomes a drop-off location for school kids, the pressure of unpredictable traffic will increase. Personally, I doubt if many parents will opt for this, and more to the point, it will have little or no effect on the general traffic congestion at the road bridge crossing.

I recall the WCA meeting regarding traffic congestion. Two possible approaches came out of that discussion. Firstly to calm the traffic in order to discourage through traffic, and secondly, to increase and improve public transport services; none of which is likely to happen. An idea that has occurred to me is to put on local community shuttles to transport people (and students) wherever they want to go in the local area, as is done in Festival time.

A great number of questions arise from the Diary article. The main issue for me is the need for a publicly-stated planning process that includes consultation with the residents, who will be the most affected by any such development, and this to be followed by a feasibility plan that addresses just who this is for; why; cost; and so on.

As it appears "the footbridge plan", which seems to be well developed, is all too sudden and totally unexpected to be sprung on an uninformed neighbourhood.

Barry McKimm Warrandyte

We weren't consulted

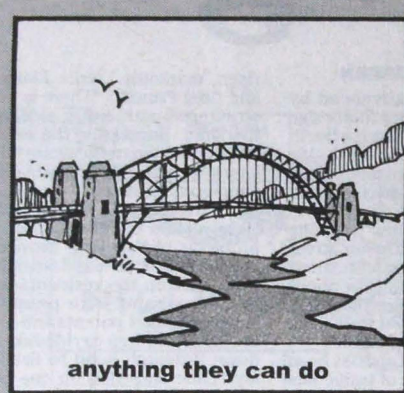
Thank you Emma Clark and Warrandyte Diary for alerting and informing we Bradleys Lane residents of Warrandyte Lions Club's idea of fixing up the Warrandyte Bridge congestion by diverting traffic into residential Bradleys Lane!

We live in Bradleys Lane—have for 27 years—no-one we have spoken to in our street has heard or been consulted about any of this.

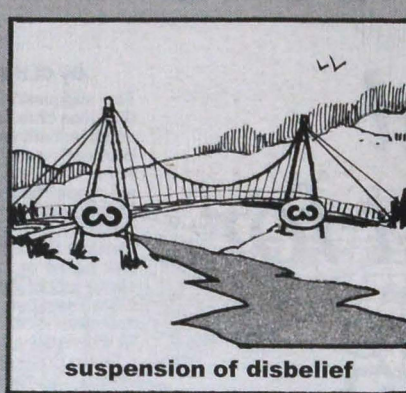
Consultation? What's that? How about more buses to traffic school kids and other locals over the bridge to where they need to go? Really do something constructive about the traffic problem—and dare I say it—greenhouse emissions.

Jill McKimm Bradleys Lane

L. Carroll & D. Coffin Bradleys Lane



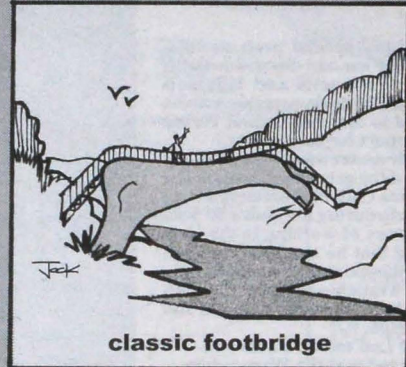
anything they can do



suspension of disbelief



towering achievement



classic footbridge

WARRANDYTE'S NEW BRIDGE - SUGGESTIONS TO MAKE YOU CROSS.

Traffic problems for the Lane

Why is the Warrandyte Lions Club investigating a plan for a footbridge at the end of Bradleys Lane? The article in the Diary stated: "The Lions Club has consulted with Manningham, Nillumbik, Warrandyte CFA and Bicycle Victoria"; but not the residents. Federal approaches are also being made.

Why would Bradleys Lane be able "to free up some of the traffic problems on Research Road and Yarra Street"? Why should the overall problems of Kangaroo Ground Road, Yarra Street and Research Road rest on the residents of Bradleys Lane?

Are people suggesting that parents will allow their children to ride bikes down Research Road to Bradleys Lane and then do one of the most dangerous right-hand turns in the area into Bradleys Lane. I doubt this very much. What may happen is that parents will then drive down Bradleys Lane to drop off children, which will impact greatly on the residents; and will not alleviate traffic problems.

There are a number of other issues that need to be considered, including impact on the Yarra and surrounding bush environment.

Boulevard could be a better site

I note with interest Emma Clark's article regarding a footbridge across the Yarra to North Warrandyte and commend the Lions Club on their initiative.

However, a footbridge at Bradleys Lane will save time and effort for about six people, as the majority of North Warrandytes would have to virtually come past the existing Kangaroo Ground Road bridge to get to Bradleys Lane.

Surely a footbridge at the end of The Boulevard, connecting to the end of Pound Road, would better service the North Warrandyte residents with the furthest distance to travel into Warrandyte township.

As to the fire issue, I would not see it as prudent to use any footbridge in the event of a local fire.

The CFA have stated on numerous occasions that it is much safer to remain at home rather than take the dangerous option of taking to the roads, let alone on foot!

However, I do look forward to the prospect of getting my bike out of the shed.

Sandra Quick Weerona Way

Magnifying a dangerous situation

We write in response to the suggestion of a footbridge at the end of Bradleys Lane.

Public transport in Warrandyte needs to be improved to reduce the congestion at the bridge. If there were more school buses, or families considered "car pooling" and maybe traffic lights at the bridge roundabout there may be better flow at busy times.

These could be cheaper options than a bridge above flood level.

Since Bradleys Lane has been sealed, the speed of traffic has risen markedly, the 50kph is ignored by many motorists. During the summer there is a major increase in traffic of tourists to Normans Reserve, for swimming and picnics and no restrictions on beverage parties. Only on Total Fire Ban days are the public restricted from access to the reserve, since the Parks do not close the gates.

There is no structured path either side of the Lane, with a couple of dangerous sections along the way. Increasing the road and pedestrian traffic along the Lane would magnify the already dangerous situation.

Elaine & Greig Provan Bradleys Lane

Five vote in favour of the bridge

As residents of Bradleys Lane we were excited to read about the Lions' plans to make a footbridge a reality.

A footbridge will provide excellent walking and cycling opportunities for residents on both sides of the river.

No doubt walking and cycling to all three of Warrandyte's schools will become real possibilities for children in North Warrandyte.

The footbridge could also serve as impetus to connect the Main Yarra Bicycle Trail to the Warrandyte township instead of ending at Beasleys' Nursery (Deep Creek).

As residents, we anticipate that the increase in foot traffic will also draw attention to the years of neglect by council and Parks Victoria of the nature reserves in Bradleys Lane where the riverside has been infested by a great variety and quantity of weeds.

An increase in walkers to the area will also render the Normans Reserve swimming area a less secluded destination and hence reduce littering and damage.

Upgrading paths from Norman's Reserve northwards would allow greater walking access for the rest of North Warrandyte.

We may even experience less car traffic in Bradleys Lane as people choose to walk or cycle to the reserve and its surrounds.

Jozica Kutin, Meindert Withoff, Heather & Justin Callahan, Helen Milanovic Bradleys Lane

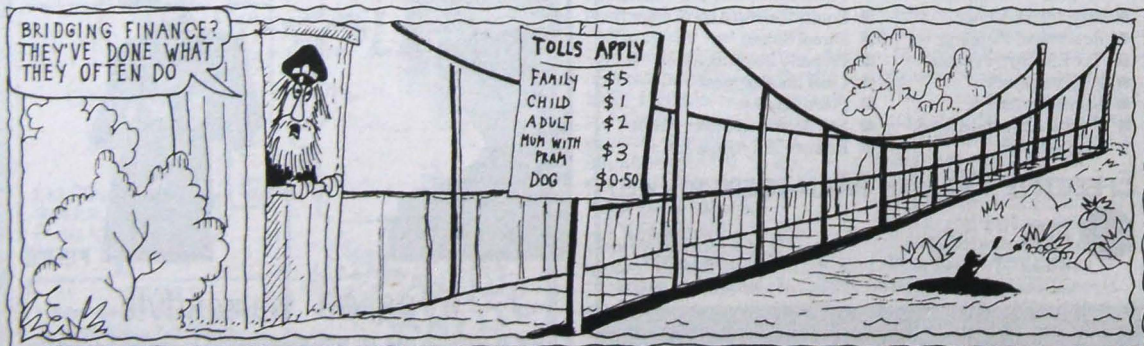
CLYDE & OCKER



"What are they going to do about bridging finance, Ock?"

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



New Email Address

Diary email address is now warrandytediary@aapt.net.au

Sports email address unchanged tophill@optusnet.com.au



Lipstick dreaming: (from left) Michelle Mitchell, Jan Nance, Lisa Upson and Becca Posterino are starring in the Warrandyte Theatre Company comedy, Lipstick Dreams. (Picture by David Tynan)

WTC's hair raising comedy

An Australian comedy entitled Lipstick Dreams is the Warrandyte Theatre Company's next production.

Directed by Bill Connolly, the play is set in a hair-dressing salon in a small country town.

Jo, the owner, is losing clients to a rival salon run by gay men and is in trouble with the bank. She decides to enter her salon in a karaoke competition being staged at the local Chinese restaurant. Things invariably go wrong.

Written by Helen O'Connor and Simon Hopkinson, the play is described as "hysterically funny with good music and drama".

• Lipstick Dreams will play at the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute Hall on October 4, 5, 6; 11, 12 and 13. Bookings can be made at the Old Bakery Bookshop, 9844 1744.

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'With lots of plum trees'

I suppose the presence of plum trees in Warrandyte has to be a perennial matter. Because it's only an aesthetic issue there will always be different opinions. But some will prefer to stretch the facts and predict doom and disaster.

Joan MacMahon for example appeals to the lovers of wildlife in her letter (*Diary*, August) in her rightful criticism of our loss of native vegetation and the impact this has on our wild life.

But in doing so she suggests that the plum trees contribute significantly to the threat to wildlife.

Arguments of this kind are frankly wild, for at least along the roadside through Warrandyte the replacement of plum trees by gum trees would have absolutely no impact on animal life except rob the possums and cockatoos of a mini pig-out once a year.

But now I've started another issue. After all, the plums are not a natural diet of our native birds and animals, and may be bad for them. But that would surely be a fabrication for I must say the possums in my part of Warrandyte seem very healthy as they bounce across my roof each night and I've not been targeted by any high-flying cockatoos with diarrhoea.

dear diary

I am often told that the plum trees are so successful because they have been introduced without their natural pests and diseases. This worry always amuses me because there is no evidence I can find that plum trees have any pests or diseases that impact on plum tree distribution "at home".

Although some examples can be found where the distribution of a plant is extensively affected by a pest, they are few in number.

Dutch elm disease is a classic example: the sort of thing biocontrol researchers and the rest of us would like to see happen to blackberry, gorse, periwinkle and sowsob. But such an impact is rare, and why we still have blackberry, gorse and the rest.

Fortunately, (not unfortunately), we live in a real world in which we are the main environmental hazard, as Joan rightly suggests.

But we must keep some sense of perspective and that includes our heritage, the links to our past. And by that I don't mean ugly ruins left after fires.

Our pioneering forerunners brought with them many reminders of home (yes, some were mistakes), which helped to make a damned hard life somewhat bearable.

This is especially true here in Warrandyte. The scattered European trees are part of that heritage, a reminder of those times, whilst the plum trees are also a reminder of the extensive orchard industry that thrived here.

The European trees even show us why the European artists who settled early in Australia could not get the landscape right: they could not paint a gum tree.

The European trees really are more relevant to us than most seem to realise.

For my part I value the memories of walking the roadside of Warrandyte each spring with my wife and two boys collecting plums, carefully keeping each kind separate.

My wife bottled them and we had pies and crumbles all year through. Even today I enjoy a plum crumble now and again, even though I now collect the plums alone and cook them myself.

Ron Garrett
Warrandyte

Jean Chapman
Taroona Avenue

Keep the exotics

This will be my last word on the subject of cherry plum trees. If the people of Warrandyte are silly enough to let these trees be removed then so be it. I would suggest that the reason the cherry plums are here is people, so perhaps it's people we should be chasing out.

I have a more constructive idea. How about some more seats around the village? I am constantly being told that walking is good for me but I can't walk far at a time and there must be others in the same situation who would benefit from more seats.

Along the riverbank in the Everard drive car park area, up Taroona Avenue would make me happy for starters. I'm sure others could come up with suggestions for seats within their vicinity. As the days are getting hotter it would be pleasant if some of these seats were placed in the cool shade of some cherry plum trees.



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Centre direction crisis solved

A management crisis at the Warrandyte Community Centre has been averted with the election of David Dyason as president of the centre's committee of management.

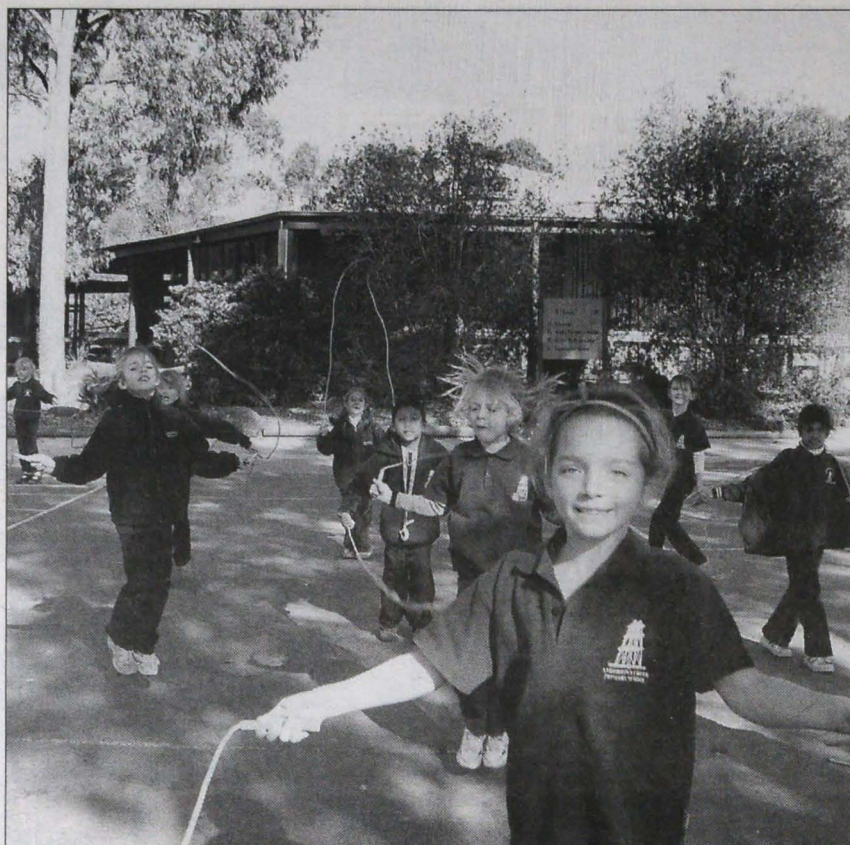
He replaces longtime president Jock Macneish, whose work commitments have made it impossible for him to continue in the position.

The management of the centre was a key issue at the annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Community Association held recently.

"David has excellent support from a wide cross-section of the Warrandyte community," Mr Macneish told the *Diary*. "His nomination was enthusiastically put forward by local police sergeant Keith Walker and was supported by a unanimous vote from the committee."

"David is a long-term resident of Warrandyte and brings a fresh and inclusive approach to the management of the centre," Mr Macneish said.

Mr Dyason has been an active member of the Warrandyte Community Association committee for some time. "I would like every Warrandyte resident to have a reason to visit the centre and have a reason to use the centre at least once a year," he said.



"Three, four, knock at the door!" Year 1 kids at Andersons Creek are skipping to stay fit.

Skipping their way to tip-top health

The kids at Andersons Creek Primary School have gone crazy with skipping! The playground is a mass of twirling, twisting, colourful ropes and jumping, dancing feet.

"To promote fitness, each child received an engraved skipping rope at the beginning of the term," Year 1 teacher Rosette Orchard told the *Diary*.

On Tuesday, September 18 a "skipathon" will be held. "The entire school will be involved in a variety of skipping activities," Ms Orchard said. "Short rope skills, long rope skills, extended skipping, double-dutch and more."

The school is planning the day as a fund-raiser for their proposed fitness track around the oval.

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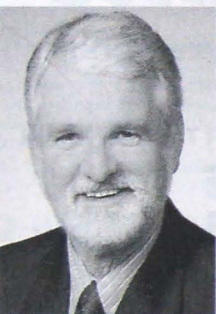
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Damage in State Park causes concern

Words and pictures by **EMMA CLARK**

Careless and destructive behaviour is leading to serious damage to the Warrandyte State Park.

Two recent incidents at Fourth Hill and The Common in South Warrandyte have destroyed vegetation and damaged native foliage.

Mountain bike riders have severely damaged the State Park on Fourth Hill, near Whipstick Gully Road. Riders have created a mountain bike course through the park, destroying vegetation and disturbing wildlife.

Mike Coupar, committee member of Friends of the Warrandyte State Park, wrote in the Friends of the State Park newsletter recently that the riders had "removed vegetation, laid logs for jumps and ramps, excavated soil and rock and erected long lengths of tape to mark the course".

Mr Coupar also reported that there was rubbish strewn through the park where the bike track was constructed.

"What is needed to prevent these acts of vandalism is more funding and more rangers," said Mr Coupar.

Conrad Annal is ranger in charge at the Warrandyte State Park. He told the *Diary* that "it is definitely illegal to ride bikes off the management tracks. The riders are welcome to ride along the management tracks and roads through the park, but

riding through the vegetation is destructive.

"This is clearly indicated on signs in the area. We have tried to prevent further damage to the park by indicating on signs that it is illegal to ride off the tracks, and have dismantled and closed off the track the riders created."

Another incidence of damage to the State Park has been reported at The Common in South Warrandyte. Horse riders have been riding along walking tracks, damaging the trackside vegetation, and moving logs across the track to use as jumps.

Joan McMahon, committee member of Friends of Warrandyte State Park, told the *Diary* that "some of the walking tracks are only a metre wide. They have been churned up by the horses and the vegetation has been wrecked. There is also another track through the park made by a motorbike. There seem to be large parts of the community who have no respect for the native land. It is horrific."

Conrad Annal informed the *Diary* that "horses are allowed through The Common along certain designated tracks. These are indicated by signs along the tracks. We have counteracted the horse damage by erecting further signage indicating which tracks horse riders can use."

There is a brochure published by Parks Victoria about



Top: Mountain bike riders have created paths on steep areas of Fourth Hill. Above: Horse riders are not permitted on this track through The Common. They must keep to designated bridle trails.

horse riding in the national and state parks, including Warrandyte State Park. The brochure is available at the ranger's office at the Pound Bend Reserve, and on the Parks Victoria website at www.parkweb.vic.gov.au.

Roundabout remedy at intersection

A notorious intersection in Park Orchards, feared by many local drivers, is to be rebuilt as a roundabout by Manningham council.

Construction of the roundabout at the intersection of Knees, Stintons and Falconer roads will be finished later this year at a cost of \$1million.

A Manningham council spokesperson told the *Diary* that "the works are essential to increase the safety of thousands of commuters, local motorists and pedestrians who use the intersection every day."

"Recent years have seen a significant rise in traffic numbers, essentially from those motorists commuting between East Doncaster and South Warrandyte, as well as between North Ringwood and Warrandyte."

"A roundabout will force drivers to slow down as they approach and pass through the intersection and significantly reduce the risk of crashes at all times of the day and night," he said.

The roundabout is due to be completed by December 2007.



Keeping his eye on you: Magpie in Browns Gully, Warrandyte. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

Magpie alert!

Local residents are being warned to watch out for attacking magpies during the spring season.

A Manningham council spokesperson told the *Diary*: "The area is home to an enormous array of native birds who share the urban and bush environments and already there are reports of magpies swooping and attacking residents."

"During the breeding season, magpies and other swooping birds instinctively protect their territory. The aim is to threaten or bluff potential intruders."

"We are warning residents that during the nesting season—between August and October each year—walkers,

joggers and cyclists need to take a few extra precautions," the spokesperson said.

Ways to minimise attacks include avoiding the swoop area. Cyclists should wear helmets and walkers should wear hats. If possible, people should move about in groups.

Be confident, as swooping birds usually only attack people facing away from them.

Trick them by wearing a hat with eyes painted on the back or by wearing sunglasses backwards.

"Swooping birds can cause injuries during an attack," the spokesperson said. "People have been known to fall from bicycles and a bird swooping can be a very frightening experience for children."

Expo advice

By **KARLY HICKMAN**

Warrandyte's residents will have an opportunity to learn about ways to make their homes more environmentally sustainable at Warrandyte CAN's upcoming expo.

Local group, Warrandyte CAN (Climate Action Now), is involved in the planning stages of the Warrandyte Sustainability Expo, scheduled for late October. The day long event will showcase the many ways people can make their homes more energy efficient.

The expo will exhibit environmentally sustainable options residents may wish to adopt such as solar panels, green energy, insulation, double glazing, water tanks and drought proof landscaping.

CAN's Wayne Rankin hopes people will come away from the expo "understanding all the things you can do yourself to make your house more environmentally sustainable".

To be held at the Warrandyte Community Centre, the Warrandyte Sustainability Expo will be on Saturday, October 27 from 10am till 5pm. The free event will give residents the chance to view a range of sustainability ideas, not just within the home but for gardens and cars as well, with grey water systems and electric automobile conversions on display.

"With so many sustainability options out there, Warrandyte CAN is hoping to bring many to the one place," Mr Rankin told the *Diary*. This will enable residents to assess which sustainability alternatives best suit their lifestyle and will give them an idea of the costs associated in their implementation.

CAN has full access to the Community Centre and plans on having a number of guest speakers conducting talks throughout the day on various environmental and sustainability issues. Both Manningham and Nillumbik councils will be involved at the expo, showing their support for CAN's cause.

Warrandyte CAN, developed earlier this year, has already conducted a number of public forums raising some key points on climate change and its consequences. The group was present at the sustainable energy stand at the Warrandyte Festival in March, generating much local interest.

With close on 200 local residents already signed up to CAN, the expo will help to broaden the awareness of the group's initiative and put what is seen as a global phenomena into a local context. Mr Rankin said that the expo will highlight the group's objective to "help raise issues of sustainability within the community".

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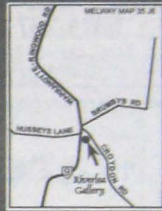
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Ex-marine Matt Howard (left) with Greens' David Ellis.

US vet shocks locals

Former US marine, Iraq veteran Matt Howard addressed a public meeting in Warrandyte last month.

The meeting was organised by David Ellis, Greens candidate in the forthcoming federal election. Mr Ellis has declared that the Iraq war will be significant focus of his campaign.

"This is a major federal issue," he told the *Diary*. "It is clear the people of Warrandyte are thinking well beyond local concerns. The Iraq war goes directly to questions of honesty and competence in our government representatives."

Matt Howard served with the

1st Tank Battalion, US Marine Corps during the 2003 invasion of Iraq. He returned for a second tour of duty a year later. He spoke to the Warrandyte gathering of about 50 people, recalling disturbing experiences in Iraq and the growing disillusion of himself and other troops.

He was questioned closely by the audience on the likely outcome of an immediate withdrawal.

"The Iraqis are educated and resourceful people, very capable of rebuilding their country," he said. "The coalition troops are the source of the problem, not the solution."

Bank seeks new helpers

The Warrandyte Community Bank branch of the Bendigo Bank is seeking new board members and new sub-committee people.

"We are looking for talent to help us in three areas," board member Sarah Wrigley told the *Diary*. "Marketing and business development, human resources, and governance."

"These roles exist at both board and sub-committee level," she said. "They are voluntary roles, but they can be very rewarding, knowing that your efforts benefit the community as a whole."

Anyone interested can contact Mark Challen at the bank—144 Yarra Street—or call Sarah Wrigley on 9844 2678.

Tank costs down

The installation of rainwater tanks in Manningham has become twice as attractive, with the council halving application fees.

Council has also installed 22 large water tanks, with a capacity to store 500,000 litres at its Blackburn Road depot to harvest rainwater collected from roofs covering the depot's workshop and truck bays.

"Since the onset of the drought, council has been undertaking a wide range of initiatives to help reduce its own water consumption, Mayor Cr Ron Kitchingman, told the *Diary*.

"We are also encouraging residents to install tanks to collect water for use in the garden or for domestic use. Using tank water to top up swimming pools and spas, wash clothes and flush toilets will help save our precious drinking water."

"Under the new initiative, council has halved the planning application fees for any rainwater tank project that would

require a planning permit," he said.

For rainwater tank installations with a project cost less than \$10,000 the fee has been reduced from \$90 to \$45 and for larger projects the fee has been reduced from \$220 to \$110.

Currently, domestic rainwater tanks with a capacity up to 4,500 litres are exempt from the need for planning permits in most areas.

Further information can be obtained by calling council on 9840 9333.

● Last issue the *Diary* reported that the Warrandyte Community Garden has installed a rainwater tank, taking runoff from the roof of the new police station next door.

Among other local organisations taking the water shortage seriously is the Warrandyte Tennis Club. The club has installed tanks at their Tarroona Avenue complex to assist court watering, necessary to maintain the *en tous cas* courts.



A rainwater tank is delivered to Jeff Adair's Webb Street house.

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Spring in Warrandyte

Spring is the best time to explore the Warrandyte bush, as it blossoms into its captivating best, revealing the many local indigenous species as they begin to flower. However, weeds and rabbits threaten the native landscape and Council is keen to help if either are a problem on your property.

Our Environmental Officers can visually identify weeds and tell you how to get rid of them. We can also provide advice on how to deal with rabbits in your area. Call Council on 9840 9333 for assistance.

Spring Outdoors festival

The Spring Outdoors festival is on again, with Manningham, Nillumbik and Banyule hosting a wide range of events and activities between now and 28 October, including walks, seminars and displays.

Brochures are available at Council Offices, and at www.manningham.vic.gov.au. Call Nigel Philpot on 9840 9173 to find out more.

Fauna Course

Native Fauna Surveying: Trapping and Identification, a course run by Council and the Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE (NMIT), provides an understanding of native fauna and habitat requirements. It teaches practical skills in fauna trapping and identification techniques.

Coming Up...

Sunday Walk
 Currawong Bush Park
 7 October 2007
 3km and 2 hours

Environment Seminar
 Native Freshwater Fish of the Yarra
 7.30 pm, 3 October 2007
 South Warrandyte Hall

Sustainable Cities Forum
 Water Recycling and Reuse
 6.15 pm, 27 September 2007
 Council Civic Offices

To find out more or to book for any of these events, call Kay Toussaint on 9840 9348, or email eepadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au.



Free trees for Osborne residents

Residents of the Osborne Peninsula in North Warrandyte were recipients of an unusual letter box drop on National Tree Planting Day recently when trees, grasses and shrubs were delivered to their homes.

The Osborne Landcare group, which annually grows about 20,000 local plants in its nursery, made available two plants, along with guards and stakes, to each of the 70 households on the river-skirted peninsula.

Group spokeswoman Ruth Rankin told the *Diary*, "We're planting all the time and National Tree Day gave us the opportunity to touch base with people in the neighbourhood who aren't so active in the group."

Last year, an estimated 300,000 volunteers planted 1.6 million trees as part of National Tree Day. This year, 70 volunteers from North Warrandyte were encouraged to join the diggers.

Osborne Road residents Jacqui McLaren (left) and Ann Penrose took part in the tree delivery to the 70 Osborne Peninsula households on National Tree Day. (Picture by Margaret Bourke)

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Paddle-oh! Melbourne Canoe Club conducted trials on the Yarra River at Warrandyte recently. Stephen Reynolds captured some special moments.

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Changing places



Top: Glennis Pitches donned CFA uniform to swap roles for a day with Chief Officer Rees. Above: Students heard the word on wildfire fighting. (Pictures by Stephen Reynolds)

Glennis Pitches, Warrandyte High School principal and Russell Rees, CFA chief officer, changed places recently when Mr Rees took part in the "Principal for a Day" program.

"This program is designed to give community and business leaders an opportunity to experience a day in the life of a state school," Ms Pitches said.

"Russell spent the day talking to students about the CFA, volunteering, leadership and career opportunities."

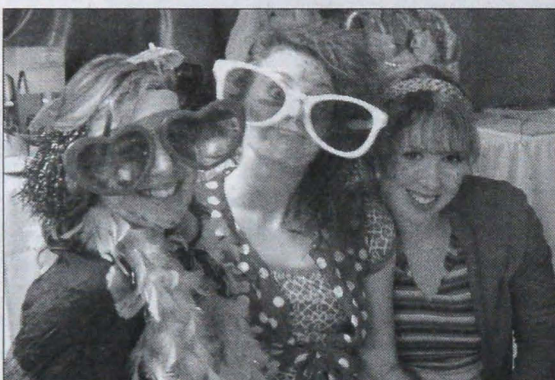
The school has had a long involvement with CFA with some students choosing to do an elective on the CFA in Years 9 and 10.

"We were also very fortunate to have a visit by a crew from the Warrandyte CFA," Ms Pitches said.



The circus is in town at Warrandyte Primary School... The kids have been busy rehearsing their acts to be presented at Karralyka Theatre on Thursday 13 and Friday 14 September. They can juggle scarves, balance plates, spin the diabolo and throw the devil sticks. Pictured: Oliver, Jessica, Alyssa and Aiden are ready for Cirque de Warrandyte!

Optical illusions at WHS trivia night



They achieved more than a trivial result when Warrandyte High School staged their famous trivia night recently.

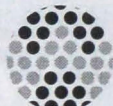
In excess of \$6300 was raised, with around 200 trivia buffs enjoying a fun-filled and entertaining evening featuring tricky questions, wacky games, a silent auction and many prizes and bargains donated by local businesses.

The theme on the night was "a kaleidoscope of colour", featuring contestants in costume, colour coordinated tables and madcap hairstyles. The night was organised by the Parents' Support Group. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

WARRANDYTE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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Warrandyte Community Association Inc.
C/- P.O. Box 75, Warrandyte 3113

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New Membership _____ Renewal _____ (tick one)

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Full Names:

.....

.....

of (full address):

Telephone: (home) (bus) (mob)

As a resident of Warrandyte, I desire to become a member of the Warrandyte Community Association Inc. In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to be bound by the rules of the association for the time being in force and that I am over the age of 16 years. I understand that I need to be a Financial Member of the Association to be entitled to vote.

.....

Signature of Applicant/s Date

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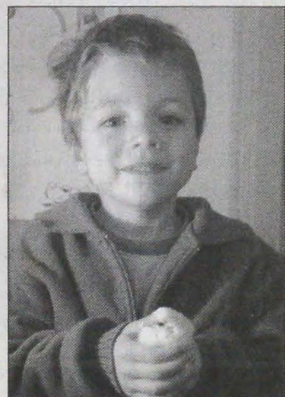
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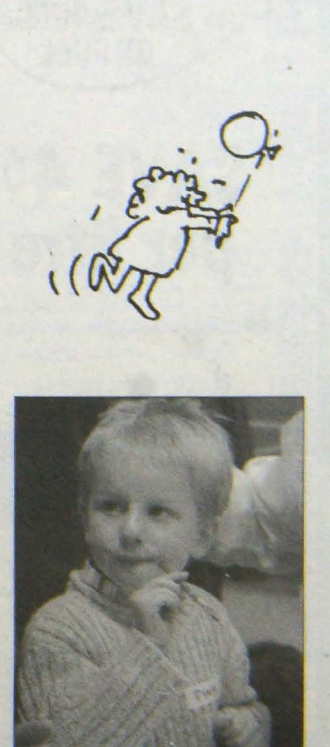
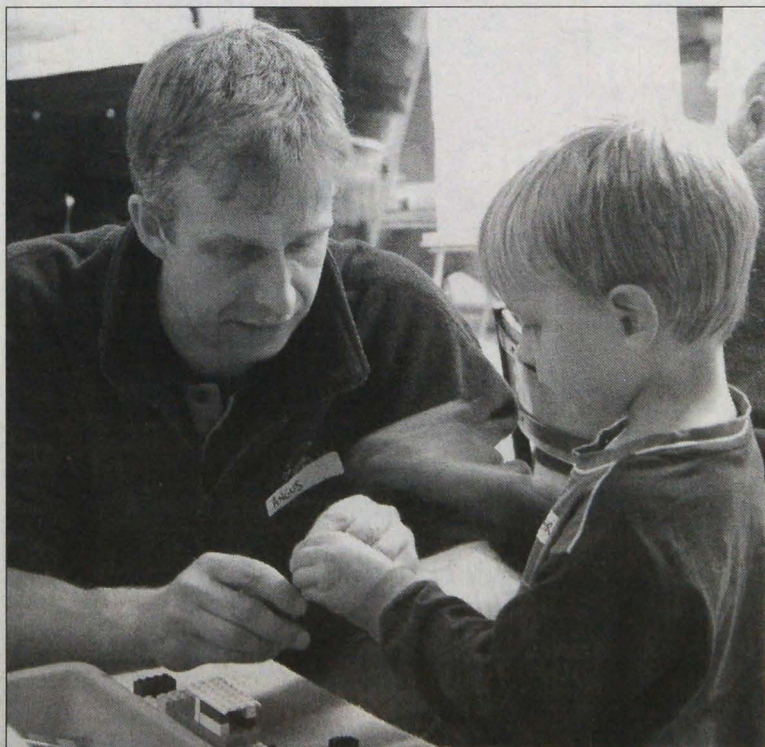
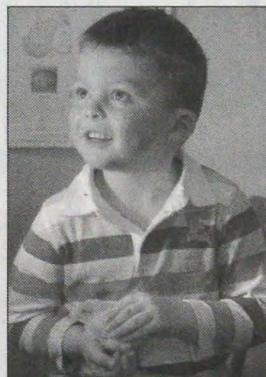
Postal:

Send this form (with \$10) to the Warrandyte Community Association, PO Box 75, Warrandyte 3113

Spring has sprung!



The little kids at Warrandyte kinder in Tarooma Avenue are celebrating the arrival of spring with the hatching of a batch of chickens. Their dads went along one evening earlier this month to check out the kinder and admire the newcomers. STEPHEN REYNOLDS joined them and took these pictures for the *Diary*.





Warrandyte Sustainability Expo



Saturday October 27

10am - 5pm

Warrandyte Community Centre



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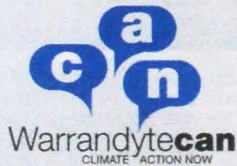
Things like: **Solar Electricity**, Solar Hot Water, **Insulation**, Double Glazing, **Water Tanks & Systems**, Grey Water Treatment, **Carbon Audits**, Sustainable Gardens and lots, lots more!

Expo participants are selected for their relevance to carbon emission reduction and their products and services are not endorsed by WarrandyteCAN

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warrandyte north private sale
 suit \$440k plus buyers

At the end of a long work day, imagine relaxing on the balcony as you enjoy panoramic bush views. This 3BR home on 1.6 acres features open plan kitchen/meals/living. Ducted heating/vacuum. Spa bath. Double carport, double garage & workshop plus bus stop at front gate!



warrandyte north tender
 closes 5pm tues 2 october unless sold prior
 suit \$480k plus buyers

This totally renovated open plan 3BR home is a contemporary tribute to 70s chic. Set on over 1/2 an acre of mature gardens, offering the best of indoor/outdoor living. Enjoy strolling to the Yarra, fondue by the fire, bbqs with friends & State Park views.



warrandyte north auction
 11am saturday 6 october unless sold prior
 suit \$500k plus buyers

With the Yarra & State Park at the bottom of the garden, this updated 4BR+studio home is both elegant and charming. Originally part of the historic Kooromong School, features formal lounge, kitchen/meals & adjacent living area. Verandah for entertaining. Artist's studio & double garage.



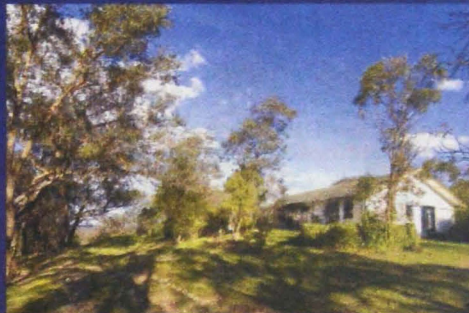
warrandyte north tender
 closes 5pm tues 18 september unless sold prior
 buyer enquiry range \$500k - \$550k

Situated on 2/3 acre appx of mature gardens with stunning views of the Dandenongs, this 4BR family home offers a flexible floor plan & scope to add your own personal touch. Formal lounge, sunroom, sep rumpus. Triple carport & under house storage.



warrandyte auction
 2pm saturday 22 september unless sold prior
 suit \$490k plus buyers

Situated only a short stroll from the Yarra & Warrandyte village this home is contemporary & stylish. Features open plan kitchen with SS appliances. Family living & dining. 4 dble BRs. Home office with external access. Private courtyard & more.



warrandyte north auction
 2pm saturday 6 october unless sold prior
 suit \$550k plus buyers

In its glory days this 4BR family home featured a large sunny lounge, spacious kitchen/meals area & separate studio. While in need of TLC, its structure reveals fantastic potential to build your dream home (stca). 3.3 acres appx with city views & mountain vistas.



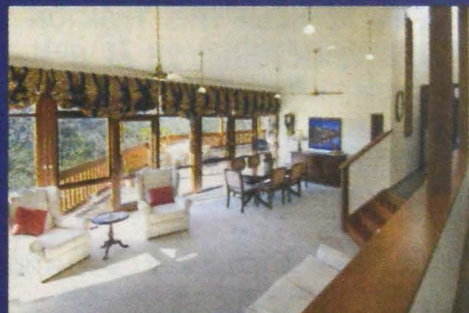
warrandyte north auction
 11am saturday 22 september unless sold prior
 suit \$550k plus buyers

Architect designed 6BR home embracing the essence of Warrandyte. Tri-level open plan incl. large formal lounge/dining with adjacent balcony. Kitchen/meals. Study & adjacent family room. Multi-level deck. 1.4 acres appx. Walk to Yarra River.



warrandyte north private sale
 suit \$700k plus buyers

With the resort style living this 4BR home affords you'll never need to go on holiday again! Situated on 1.1 acres, this spacious home features formal lounge/dining, kitchen/meals with stunning views, downstairs rumpus (suit home theatre). Elevated deck overlooks IG pool with waterslide. Double garage.



warrandyte north tender
 closes 5pm wed 26 september unless sold prior
 suit \$700k plus buyers

Relax by the pool in this stunning 4 dble BR family home. Features formal lounge/dining. Open plan kitchen & meals. Sep rumpus. Indoor workshop suit home office. Huge deck overlooks solar heated IG pool. Double carport & ample parking.



warrandyte north tender closes 5pm tues
 2 october unless sold prior
 suit \$700k plus buyers

Stunning fully renovated 5 double BR family home with 4 living areas set on 1 acre. Gorgeous open plan kitchen/meals & family living. Formal lounge/dining with ofp. Open plan study. Large rumpus opening to a paved terrace for entertaining. Parents' retreat with wine cellar. Secluded deck with spa. Triple auto garage & ample additional parking.



warrandyte north private sale \$795k

5BRs, 4 living areas—this home is big! Situated on 1.25 acre approx of landscaped gardens. Features formal lounge/dining with ofp. Spacious kitchen/meals. Huge rumpus plus a separate parents' retreat. Large terrace for entertaining with IG pool, spa, gazebo & sauna. Double carport & ample additional parking.

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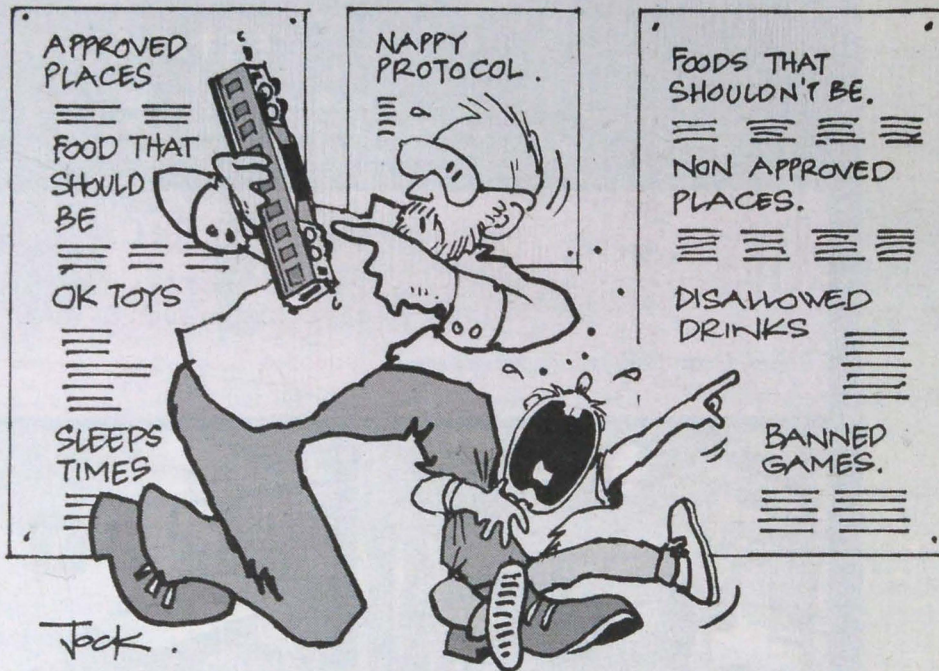
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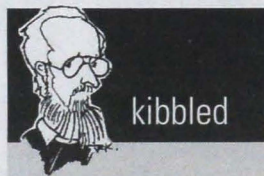
At least you can give them back: allegedly

IT was with anticipated delight that we agreed to look after our grandson for two days running. His mum had some work for the two days and her normal sitter was unavailable.

We don't get to see Little Boy Wonder on a regular basis as there is a two-hour car drive separating our two families. We do have communication over the phone but by necessity of age, his contributions are garbled Dalek and ours consist of repetitive high pitched upward inflections about games and "good boys" and of the need to eat food. So it was with joy but also a little apprehension that saw us setting out at 6am that Tuesday morning.

Mum doesn't need to leave for work until 8.30 so after our arrival we had half-an-hour for a briefing. I'd forgotten all of the organising that is required with a young person. Apart from foods that should be, those that shouldn't be and those that will be eaten there were the issues of sleeps time (oddy always a plural), drinks, places in the house he was not to go, games to be used and then packed up; and there was the one that I dreaded, NAPPIES.

My last memories of nappies were of the towelling variety, the sort of nappy that had to be used, scraped, soaked, washed, dried, folded and wrestled onto the infant with the threat of prosecutable impalement with a safety pin hovering over one's head. I was pleased to see that



kibbled

"We were to resist Little Boy Wonder's orphan-like pleas to be allowed access to the 'colds' (aka icy poles)..."

the only towelling nappy in sight was one used to dry wet toys from outside.

We were left with the warning that we were to resist Little Boy Wonder's orphan-like pleas to be allowed access to the "colds" (aka "icy poles") hidden in the freezer section of the fridge. Mum's car had just backed past the letter box when my finger was grabbed and I was led into the kitchen.

"Cold!" he pleaded.
"Not now. Mummy said you weren't to have one today."
"Cold!" A little more insis-

tent.
"No. I told you what Mummy said."

"COLD!!!" accompanied by an attempt to drag over a chair to the fridge, in an effort worthy of some of the better prison escape stories.

"Divert him!" Herself reminded me as I grappled with a squirming, and by now, crying grandson.

"How about we play with your train set? Wouldn't that be fun?"

"Cold. Wan cold."
I looked at my watch. It was 8.42am; only nine more hours to go, for that day!

Breakfast was more challenging than I would have hoped. Foolishly I expected LBW to sit at his table and eat in a relatively civilised fashion. Instead it was breakfast a-go-go, that is, we give him a handful of nourishing bits of dried food and he goes wherever he wants to eat it. Whereas I was concerned about his mother coming home to a malnourished child, Herself reminded me that Boy Wonder was a food terrorist and was still complaining about having to eat "this spew" well into his late adolescence. It was merely an hereditary thing about food.

The nearby park was a god-send. Fortunately, it was a sunny day and he was able to let off steam on the climbing frame and the spring-loaded, rocker/see-saw thing. This took up a satisfactory hour but I knew that the lining had turned dark brown when I noticed LBW

clutching the back of his strides and walking as if he'd been on a day-long horse ride.

Disposable nappies are wonderful. I'm not sure about their ecological correctness but I didn't care!

After lunch (*sic*), the idea of "divert" sprang to mind, so we all piled into the car and set off for a bigger park! It is a wonderful park but we hadn't banked on sharing it with the local primary school. They have restricted playing grounds so use the adjacent park at lunchtimes, on a roster basis. We won the Prep-Grade One day.

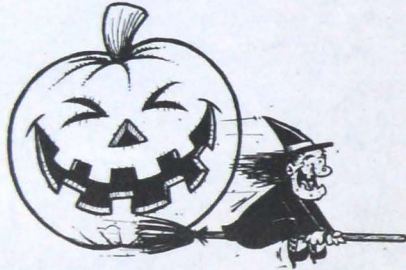
First children are accustomed to being the centre of the universe so it was fascinating to watch how socialisation occurs. Usually LBW has the climbing-frame-with-slide to himself. This time there were other heavenly bodies claiming the frame. It only took one push from LBW to affect an alteration in the galaxy. Instantly, LBW met his first shirtfront and it only took a nano second for him to understand the rules of the game. Had it been Pa telling him to wait until it was his turn, nothing would have altered, but amongst his peer royalty, he just knew what to do.

The afternoon sleeps time was a blessed relief and it only took us another diversionary trip to the local park before Mum returned.

Day Two. It's amazing how many different parks there are in that area!

ROGER KIBELL

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Remembering better times on a hill of hard knocks

AND so I returned to the Hill with 30-year old memories playing through my mind like an old film. Parking at the end of Tunnel Street, I entered the Warrandyte State Park reserve known as Fourth Hill, part of a parcel of crown land that was added to the Park in 1981. I have walked the broad management vehicle tracks and narrow bush trails countless times, though I sometimes get disorientated by the twisting network or tracks.



Mountain bike damage on Fourth Hill.

From the car park—an informal, unformed side track—I followed the Bridle Trail that leads to the highest point of the Hill. About halfway along I was horrified to see a fresh new mountain bike track, complete with jumps and tapes, carved through the orchid-rich hillside dissecting the vehicle track that I was on. Vegetation had been cut and uprooted to make way for the track which traversed one of the steepest sections of the hill. This illegal use of our State Park began a few years ago with an intricate circuit of muddy tracks constructed across some of the best wildflower areas of the reserve. The scars are still there, still being used. And now there is one more.

Simmering with anger, I continued on. Just below the summit is an interpretive sign illustrating the old fire tower and reservoir that occupied the site in the 1960s and 70s. Climbing the tower above the reservoir and looking across to densely wooded hills was amongst my earliest and most unforgettable memories of Warrandyte.

After the tower was taken down and the reservoir filled in, the summit was revegetated. I remember planting trees,

shrubs and grasses into small wire rabbit exclusion coops on a Friends of Warrandyte State Park working bee activity. The wire cages were replaced by a fence, but this is gone too now as the bush has taken over the once bare summit.

The bush has changed since I first came here. Over the years it has suffered from weeds, rabbits and more recently severe drought. I wish I could paint a better picture, but I can't—at least not on this part of the Hill. The forest is littered with skeletons of dead trees—wattles, eucalypts and Cherry Ballarts in particular. There is so much dead timber, standing, lean-

ing, lodged in trees and on the ground. While some is good habitat for fauna, too much is not good for the health of the bush.

Then there is the curse of the Hill—the Shiny or Long-leaved Cassinia (*Cassinia longifolia*). This quick-growing, large shrub has multiple brittle woody trunks that have the unfortunate habit of splitting and splaying large branches sideways, eventually the shrub dies and the mass of woody material collapses to the ground smothering the delicate grasses and wildflowers. Take a walk along Johnson's Track and you will see what I mean.

nature

By PAT COUPAR

The changes that have taken place on Fourth Hill seem to have escalated in the last few years. I feel immensely sad. Despite the best efforts of Friends groups and ridiculously limited State Park funds, we are losing the battle to preserve the rich diversity of flora and fauna for which the Hill was once famous.

When I carried out a flora survey with Park ranger, David Van Bockel in the 1990s, 115 species of the plants we recorded for Fourth Hill were classified by botanical experts as either vulnerable or endangered in the district. This included 37 orchids, six ferns and six wattles. I wonder how many of those are still there now or will still be found in 10 years time.

Walking up the management track beside Wildcat Gully from the Gold Memorial car park, I could not see a single living tree fern. According to long-time residents and visitors to the area, this deep shady gully was once full of ferns. Admittedly poachers helped themselves to a substantial number in the 1960s and 70s, but it seems that the drought has polished off the rest.

It is July now and still too early for the wattles and wildflowers to be blooming, but they will come and for a while the Hill will assume the appearance, superficially at least, of its former glory. Only I won't be here to see it, for I am off for a month on the trip of a lifetime to East Africa.

Warrandyte Community Market

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

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KNOWLEDGE management, according to wordsmith Don Watson, involves harvesting, capturing and sharing skills and experience in order to increase productivity and innovation ("Weasel Words" 2004). In other words, if you stuff something up, make sure everybody knows how the stuff-up occurred so that it doesn't happen again.

The Syracuse University School of Management goes to unbelievably convoluted lengths to explain it: "Our ignorance exceeds our knowledge where issues of motivation and commitment of knowledge workers are concerning in the context of knowledge management systems (KMS) implementation".

What a load of old piffle! Unfortunately many companies have divested themselves of employees older than about 40 (thus ridding themselves of any potentially useful knowledge) and hired instead some bright young things with diplomas in knowledge management. Knowledge itself is no longer deemed valuable; corporate images can be built on the successful manipulation of mere empty words slotted into a bit

our place

By MARILYN MOORE

of impressive graphic design. Engaging shareholders is the number one priority. Service provision disappeared with all the old fogies.

Thus it came to pass recently that when an unfortunate young chap ran off the road in thick fog one Friday night and took out our power pole, there proved to be no way of communicating this simple fact to a certain telecommunications company. It shouldn't have been difficult. The police understood the situation immediately. So did the ambulance service, the electricity service providers, the car salvage company, the water supply company, the insurers, the neighbours and Uncle Tom Cobbley and all.

But not Telstra. Any functioning human beings in that place are heavily guarded by an impenetrable blockade of revolutionary profit-enhancing paradigms. On the night in question, between our house and our neighbour's, a broken power pole lay on the roof of a

small car, buried in a gully under broken bushes. Electricity and phone lines were all over the place, broken, dangling from distant poles, snaking across the road, draped through the bushes.

Our house was the last to retain a phone connection. But could we report this situation? No. As our phone was clearly operational, the customer service parrot at Telstra could not find a way to tick the boxes in an on-line spread sheet riddled with superior cost-cutting implementation modalities. Privacy laws prevented her from discussing faults to any other person's service.

"They have to report the fault themselves," she declared. "If we send a serviceman to your house madam and he doesn't find a fault with your service you will forfeit \$175. Do you understand?" Look lady, I'm not the one with the intellectual disability here. What part of "phones lines broken and lying on the road" don't you understand?

"If the serviceman finds that the fault is inside your dwelling, he is authorised to give you a quote for the repair."

This non-dialogue went on ad nauseum until she grudgingly

agreed to send somebody. But despite something like 27 phone calls made by various neighbours over the next two days, it transpired on Monday that nobody at Telstra had any record of the broken lines. Weekend staff are instructed to ignore calls that are not immediately life-threatening.

So the process began all over again. "Don't touch the lines, madam, they're live." Of course we've touched them, we've draped them over a stepladder so we can use our driveway.

When a line inspector eventually called past, he was horrified. "I could see broken lines from way up the road!" he exclaimed. "This report only mentions a droopy line on private property. That's not our concern." As it was an emergency, he promised to have a repair vehicle out within several days.

Somebody at Telstra should grab a copy of "Weasel Words" and look up Knowledge Entities. "Any knowledge entity is incomplete if it does not cultivate a dialogue between the members of the community of practice to advance the defining and refining of a socially constructed process."

Maybe that's the only sort of language they understand



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He was a true gentleman

By HELEN MOPPERT

WARRANDYTE lost "a true gentleman" when Graham Reid of Mitchell Avenue passed away on June 29. A wide circle of friends and family—young and old, local and from far afield—gathered at St Gerard's in Warrandyte to farewell this generous and well-loved man, known in his family as "king of the kids".

Graham Rawnsley Reid was born in Sydney in 1933 and spent the first three years of his life with his unwed mother, Jesse Potter, before joining 14 others at Burwood Boys Home near Sydney. Graham remembered his years at Burwood as happy ones, probably because he was "lovingly spoilt as the youngest". At 14 he was adopted by a maternal aunt and uncle. He lived with them for a couple of years, but when they moved to the Blue Mountains, Graham stayed in Sydney.

He began a cadetship with Crown Crystal in Moore Park—manufacturers of medical research equipment—learning the specialised craft of glassblowing. Thus began a life-long career, culminating in classified work with the Defence Standard Laboratories. He retired in 1987.

Graham met Barbara Swinson at a dance in Newcastle in 1959. The attraction was immediate. Graham had developed a love of motorcycles and Barbara remembers a terrifying ride down the Spit on the back of his Norton Commando 750. They married that same year. Theirs was a marriage of true love and friendship and Graham was very much the involved partner and father. For years he did the weekly Vic Market shopping and Barbara observed that when she did accompany him, he was an obvious favourite with the stallholders.

For a while they lived on Lake Macquarie where Graham developed his love of boats. Later, in 1979, Graham launched *Seaweed IV*, a 40ft ketch that was built over seven years at their Webb Street, Warrandyte home. Barbara recalls how the children and any visiting friends would spend hours tying the 43,000 ties that formed the ferro cement hull. The children remember the races—and with mixed feelings—their voyages across Bass Strait as well as the 1988 Tall Ships voyage from Hobart to Sydney.

Their eldest son Mark was born shortly before they left Lake Macquarie for Holland where Graham took a position

as a student master glassblower with the University of Leiden for two years. The little family was made very welcome. Barbara remembers their joy at living on the canal in Warmond in their tiny little house and how they adventured through northern Europe in a Transit van whenever an opportunity arose.

They returned to Australia in 1963, making Melbourne their home, living first in North Essendon but soon deciding that Warrandyte was where they would settle. They bought a block of land near the top of Webb Street. The lower room of this house was a hive of activity throughout their family life: the slot cars, bicycles, motorbikes and then the seven-year task of building *Seaweed IV*. The atmosphere created in this room by Graham's enthusiastic skill and willingness to fix anything mechanical for any neighbourhood child, as well as the welcome Graham and Barbara offered, are warmly remembered by so many of those—then—Warrandyte kids. Graham had retained his love of motorbikes. He acquired his 1000cc BMW K1 just as his son Leo felt he should retire his own motorbike! They later shifted to Mitchell Avenue.

When Anne Marie—their

youngest—turned 21, Graham and Barbara retired and embarked on several adventures. Though officially retired, Graham worked part-time at several jobs, including the science department at Melbourne University. They spent months sailing *Seaweed IV* along the eastern seaboard.

While travelling, they learned of VISE, a voluntary organisation to help teach outback children, and soon they were journeying from one station property to another, right across the top of Australia. Barbara tutored the homestead kids, while Graham used his many skills around the property. Graham's love and talent for photography flourished on these adventures. Among the many wonderful images that adorn their house is one he held in high esteem. It's a small photo of Graham smiling a little tentatively into the camera alongside one of his heroes—Mick Doohan—to whom he boldly introduced himself at the 2005 Motorcycle Grand Prix and insisted their photo be taken. Like Mick, Graham was a risk taker—considered and always practical—but keen to embrace an adventure and to live life.

In 2001 Graham was diagnosed with a melanoma that recurred a



year later and ultimately spread. But he was healthy and active until only a short while before he died; gently and without pain.

Graham Reid is survived by his wife Barbara, children Mark, Leo and Anne Marie (Annie) and grandchildren Marek, Cole, Loren, Dylan and Ella.

Remembering Iris



ON July 25 our daughter, Iris Grace Elizabeth Hay, died suddenly and unexpectedly while having her afternoon nap. She was four weeks away from turning three. Iris was a Warrandyte girl through and through. She enthusiastically attended the Warrandyte Childcare and Preschool each Thursday and Music Together and Playgroup at Warrandyte Uniting Church.

Iris walked along the riverbank most days with either or both her parents, her baby brother Hugo, big sister Eliza, and two dogs, Jack and Ruby.

Iris was well known by our fellow river walkers because of her collection of brightly coloured hats, her interest in talking to anyone and everyone, and because of the way she made full use of every part of the walk by the river.

She jumped off every stone, climbed on the lizard, balanced on logs, swam in the river in summer and made mud pies beside the river in winter. Iris took great delight in the treasures hidden in the Warrandyte bush: a cocky's feather on the ground, a pile of wombat poo, a tiny nest, a mushroom pushing its way through the leaves.

We have many unanswered questions about the afternoon she died, but there is no question that Iris lived a great life. She was and is deeply loved by all who knew her and was sure of the love that surrounded her. Iris also loved us very well and generously.

We have cried and continue to cry many tears into the river. We have kicked the earth and we have shouted, "Why?" We have also been warmly and respectfully embraced and held by the Warrandyte community. We have shared tears and kind words with strangers, we have been fed and cared for in practical ways and have been humbled by the kindness and generosity offered us. Certainly there is no more beautiful environment and no better community than Warrandyte in which the deep and profound wound of losing lovely Iris can begin to heal.

RACHEL WATTS
and ROBERT HAY

"...She was well known by our fellow river walkers because of her collection of brightly coloured hats..."

Washing away

The gentle unfurling of the sighing sea,
long cool fingers stroke my brow.

They obliterate, swamp all else
slow, tireless—washing all away.

That vast blue engulfs, obliterates
swamps all else.

Red cliffs brood, as winter mists
hover like a question.

Putting it all into perspective—
washing away.

Even the musty shut up house smell
and the new brood of spiders

which greet us from corners
make me smile the washing away

as do old tasks—armloads of firewood
breathing chill air.

Two hours away and it's another world
as if we've travelled two days, two weeks.

Here time, light are transformed—
mornings are longer, evenings linger

breathing is lighter, laughter is louder.
Washing away.

KAREN THROSSELL



Fourteen thousand miles from his Frankston home, Don Charlwood met Nell East on the day he arrived at air observers' school in Edmonton in 1941. Married after a wartime absence, they came back to Australia where they rejoined civilian life, raising four children in Templestowe before moving to Warrandyte. Newly 92, Don's writing his 14th book with the help of Nell, 88, and as grandparents of four, their life together is a story of communication, integrity and tolerance—and coincidence.



One evening in Edmonton

NELL'S father was a Canadian mining man who came to Australia with seven of his 14 siblings after his brother found gold in WA in 1878. "My father and his brothers made lots of money running the goldmine and set everyone up," Nell said. "Strangely enough, years later my aunt saw an article by a police constable who'd found 'East Bros. Expedition' carved in rock out in the country, 100 years after my father made a camel expedition through the desert.

"It was near Mt Magnet in WA so six of us hired a guide and we found the spot, dated 1905, but there was no gold."

Her father met Nell's mother, a Perth nurse. "Father went back to Canada and she didn't hear from him for about a year later until he wrote back asking her if she would marry him if he came back to Australia. My father's family came from poverty and he was homesteading in a log cabin while my mother's family was well-to-do. It was in northwest Alberta, a long way from Edmonton, and she joined him there."

Nell's mother almost lost a mother while delivering a baby and being pregnant herself she decided to go nursing 'properly'. "When I was five and my brother nine my mother said to my father, 'I'm going to go away nursing, you look after the children,' so she sent to Australia for her certificates and got a job in northwest Canada, very remote. Father wasn't much of a housekeeper or cook and I did a lot of crying. But my mother hadn't told them she was a married woman so she was fired and couldn't work for another 20 years. Women were subjugated in those days. It was against the law for married women to work.

"So it was mother's fault that I met Don. I was 23 and school teaching, when she saw there were Australian servicemen in town and said, 'I think I'd like to meet some of them'. She'd lived all that time in Canada and felt quite cut off and homesick. We girls said yes please, as in those days we didn't talk to strange men on the street. She rang the air force station and asked the orderly that she would like two of the Australians to come over for dinner. One of the men was from Melbourne. The war changed my whole life, meeting Don that night."

"As soon as I saw Nell I knew I wanted to marry her," Don said. "I thought life would be an adventure with her." And after 63 years of marriage, Nell said they've always done well together. "I help with his writing. I'd never met an author before. When he said he wanted to be an author it was a bit scary. My mother had a lot of books—she had a whole bookshelf of books sent over to Canada."

"The books were a solace to Nell's mother on the prairies," Don said. He joined the Royal Australian Air Force aged 25 in 1940, where "as a bookish type" he wanted to be a navigator, not a pilot. "We had no inkling of an attack by Japan, we thought we were going to Germany. While training in Somers I met Max Bryant, who was 20, like a younger brother to me. He had failed his pilot's course and was dejected but he became a navigator. They wanted three volunteers for Canada and he and I looked at each other and stepped forward. Navigators flew in pairs and we had a double bunk so as I was the ancient one I got the lower bunk. On arrival in Canada we settled in and that same day the call came through from the orderly sergeant saying 'hey Aussie, I've got a call for you, a Mrs East wants two of you guys to come over for supper'. So we went to Nell's place.

village people
By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

"I knew before I walked through the door that Nell's mother was Australian. When I saw Nell's face looking curiously down at us I knew I wanted to marry her," he said.

"My father was a clerk and my mother a Frankston girl—the population was 2000. When I was 13 I was full of gloom as I had to write a history of the town. My mother gave me a list of people to interview and they were so unwilling to talk—no-one was interested in their past at that stage. I wrote more and more and was published in the local paper and won the only prize I gained at school as a writer—John Masefield's Gallipoli, rather ironically. Later I walked three times in the hot sun to Keith Murdoch's place to get a job. I saw the chief of staff with his feet on the desk and I could see the soles of his feet more clearly than his face. I was offered the job of messenger boy but I took a job at 15 shillings a week for the local estate agent who ran the fruit and vegetable market. We were four boys and we all went into the services eventually.

"My mother realised I'd worked hard so I went to Nareen for a holiday and stayed seven years as a farmhand. I took a lot of notes there that I used later for Blackwood's Magazine, which started publishing in 1817 and published Henry Lawson and Miles Franklin. Nell believed in me, in my writing, which is half the battle."

"It was the beginning of his writing career," Nell said. "I had grown up on a farm as my father decided it was the best place to raise children. He'd be there to put in the wheat and then disappear. Fortunately he was a travelling man, the boss, a very, very strong man. He was a very ambitious man for his children. He decided my brother would be a doctor and he became a heart surgeon and he said I should be a doctor too. But I didn't want to; I wanted to be a dietician, and he wouldn't allow me to go to university. So I did my teacher training and taught for eight years."

On active service Don flew over the Ruhr and Berlin and down into Italy, in Lancasters. "An Australian ground engineer on our camp said quite casually that 'only two out of 20 men were left from the course ahead of you'. In the end only five out of 25 of us were left. Max was one who didn't come back." Charlwood's crew became the first to survive a 30 operation tour in seven months.

At Pennsylvania railway station on the way to Tennessee for further training on Liberators Don fell and slipped a disc while carrying a trunk of presents and books to bring home. He completed training in much pain, didn't admit to it and was sent to California to take delivery of the aircraft.

"He came up to Edmonton via Vancouver and surprised me. I said 'you haven't changed a bit' and we had to decide within 48 hours whether we would marry," said Nell said. "I can't claim to have been faithful," Don remembered. Nell gave up her job, put her father's house on the market and they went to Victoria BC to be married. "We couldn't buy a bridesmaid's dress so we both wore white wedding gowns—Don had two brides. My brother told my father 'she's going to marry

him anyway so accept it' and we honeymooned with my brother on Vancouver Island because Don had to have injections for his pain every day."

Don was called back to California but he wasn't fit to travel and he was told to report to hospital. "I was there for six months and the laminectomy was a success. I spent a long time in rehab—D Day had occurred. It was wonderful that men fit to travel were flown in their field dressings to hospital nearest their homes. The spirit of the place was remarkable."

The newlyweds sailed for Sydney aboard a Swedish freighter. "Don was a flight lieutenant and it was unheard of for someone of such a lowly level to travel with his wife," Nell said. "Sydney was a most magnificent sight anyway but the whole Pacific fleet was on rec leave, huge warships in the harbour. We had to anchor as we couldn't berth and my mother's only remaining relatives, one sister and two brothers, were there to meet me." Pay was very poor and accommodation was extremely hard to find. "We finally got two rooms in Essendon, sharing the kitchen with the landlady and we had to go through her bedroom to the toilet.

"I went to the education department and showed them my qualifications but I was newly married and didn't want to go to the country. Don's mother was well connected and I got a job establishing the YWCA's first library," she said. The Charlwoods had three daughters and a son who arrived 'the day after I turned 47', said Don. Two years later he had a heart attack.

Nell's mother didn't come back to Australia for many years. One of 15 children, only three of her siblings were still living when she returned. "Nell's mother came for her first visit for the first baby and she said 'Don't let Nell's father go to the goldfields'," Don said. "That ferocious father-in-law of mine was like an approaching front; it was imperative to hold him back. He was a most formidable man who never changed and moreover he was a pacifist. Nell's father lived with us for 19 years, arguing about war."

"Then Nell's aunt left her some money and we bought a little Renault and discovered Templestowe. It was all orchard country." They bought an acre of lemon orchard there. "Nell's dad said 'draw me a plan and I'll build a house for you'. It was a matter of obedience with her father and Nell working like a man building the house. We were in the Templestowe house for 47 years but it was 20 years before it was looking reasonable." Nell's father and his brother had built their parents a house when they were 14 and 16 respectively. "The house they built had 13 steps in the staircase, one for each of them still living at home," she said. Nell taught after the children were born, then lectured on children's literature.

When Nell's father was 90 he bought an old car to go to the opal fields. He hadn't driven a car in 30 years so Nell showed him how to put it into gear, just first, he didn't want to know about the other gears. "We didn't hear from him then we got a call from the postmaster at Eulo on the NSW-Queensland border," she said. "We said 'stay put and we'll send you some money'. We didn't hear from him for weeks then the Keilor garage man rang saying my father was there and wasn't sure that he should be driving across Melbourne. He didn't know where he'd been and couldn't tell us."

As a newcomer to Australia after the war, Nell

had joined The Canadian Women's Club. "It was most important to me. They were terrific women, who through the war were far from their own homes. They comforted us girls and drew us into their family life. Changing country was a big ordeal—I learned so much about life. Making up my mind to leave my country was very hard and I'm very glad I did. I have a role now—to put all my husband's writing on computer. I thoroughly enjoy helping him with his writing, it's part of my life."

It took six years for Don to write about the men he'd known and lost. "I spent most of my life with ex-air crew in air traffic control for the Civil Aviation Authority. I changed jobs to lecturing and it wasn't until 1956 that I got my first book published. I received a wonderful reception for the first one, my favourite, 'No Moon Tonight,' a kind of lament for the men. A WA professor classified it as an elegy: it was looking back on the past with sorrow." Continuously in print for 51 years, the book has been a great source of income.

Don's favourite authors include Hemingway, Woolf and Olive Schreiner. "I studied their style a lot. I like 'All Quiet on the Western Front,' which is written in the present tense plural—I thought it would be impossible for a whole book."

"I wrote on the wreck of the Loch Ard, set in the southwest coast of Victoria, and publisher Angus and Robertson tried to sell it in Sydney. In a fit of pique I bought them all up and we went selling books ourselves. When Nell retired we did it for 10 years and we publish our own books now. I'm on my 14th book as well as lots of short stories. I can't provide enough words for Nell, she's a tremendously hard worker for me, and when she was at Citizens Advice in Warrandyte. She was one of the earliest librarians appointed to schools."

Don gave his last talk a couple of months ago and finds it increasingly hard to walk, although he still has a driver's licence. "I love other people. I love to yarn. I don't like aggression of any sort but I want to know why a person's like that. We've discharged a fair bit of responsibilities in the past and I don't think I had any enemies."

"A willingness to communicate with others is important. As an old man it doesn't matter much if you talk to young women—it's more acceptable when you're no longer a threat." Nell's not religious, but Don finds it hard to describe his spirituality. "I don't despair about the world. I think there's hope that man will find a way. Imagine Beethoven and Mozart at war with Shakespeare and some of the English painters. How absurd. We went over from Australia, and apart from what we've done to the Aborigines, it doesn't matter whether we come from NSW or WA or whatever. As a friend said, in the RAAF we all got on together, wherever we came from."

Nell values integrity. "Being tolerant is the hardest thing to maintain in a relationship. And coincidence?"

"My mother rang the camp to get any two fellows and one of them was Don. Wouldn't you know it but our families knew each other here in Australia. Years later Don's father was sitting with us and he got up and found a little waltz dance card in an old box. Both our grandfathers' names were on it—in a big city like Melbourne. Don's father remembered my grandfather."

Don considered their 63 years together. "There was tremendous natural support in the way we came together and how it's worked out for us. We almost caught a wave somewhere."

Help to plan our next festival

The annual general meeting of Warrandyte Festival Inc will be held on Wednesday, September 26 at 8pm in the Evelyn room at the Warrandyte Community Centre. If you are interested or have ideas you would like to suggest for the next festival you would be most welcome. Inquiries to Mary Ann Gibson on 0400 984 433.



Festival time: Your help is needed to run this great event.

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.

Kinder

The annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Pre-school will be held on Monday, October 29 at the pre-school in Taroona Avenue. The meeting will commence at 7pm. Business will include the election of office bearers.

Directory

The Warrandyte Cricket Club directory is delivered annually to every home in Warrandyte. If you are not already on the directory and would like your business to be included for 2008, please contact Briony Bottarelli on 9844 3924.

House

The Warrandyte Neighbourhood House is holding its annual general meeting on Wednesday,

October 3 at 7.30pm. The House is situated in Room 6 upstairs at the Warrandyte Community Centre, 168 Yarra Street, Warrandyte. Light refreshments will be available. All are welcome to attend.

Calendar

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House is publishing a 2008 calendar featuring water-saving suggestions to be transformed into Jock cartoons. Any bright ideas? Call Jan Tindale on 9844 3719.

Surf

Wonga Park Community Cottage, in conjunction with Surf's Up, are hitching a ride with Manningham YMCA Youth Services to Phillip Island on Tuesday, October 2. If you are aged between 12 and 18 years with basic swimming ability you are eligible to attend. Cost is \$23 incorporating a two hour lesson with Island Surf School and including wetsuit hire. Bus departs from the Wonga Park Community Cottage, Old Yarra Road, Wonga Park at 9.30am and will return at 5.30. Places are limited. To book call 9722 1944.

Equinox

A Spring Equinox Festival is being held at Edendale Farm in Eltham on Saturday, September 22 at 12.10pm. This is a community festival with a focus on creation, celebration, sustainability and storytelling. Cost is \$15 for the festival only, \$30 for festival and feast or \$20 for feast only at 6pm. Ring Vicky on 0417 985 713 to book.

Do Care

Volunteers are being sought by Do Care. Please call 9762 5211 for further information if you think you may be able to help with older or disabled people in your community.

Mudbrick

Panton Hill Pre-School are holding their annual mudbrick house tour on Sunday, October 28 from 9am to 4pm. Tickets, available from the pre-school, are \$15 (\$10 concession), children free. You can call 1300 660

Riverlea

During September there will be an exhibition and sale of recent paintings by Richard Scales at the Riverlea Gallery, 485 Warrandyte-Ringwood Road, Warrandyte South. The paintings reflect the changing landscape over the years in the areas of Warrandyte, Watson's Creek, Kangaroo Ground and Christmas Hills. The gallery is open Thursday to Sunday from 12pm to 5pm.

Aurora

Performer and singer, Aurora Kurth, who grew up in Warrandyte, will be performing at Artstreams Gallery, 63 Yarra Street, Warrandyte on Friday, September 28 at 7.30pm. Supper will be provided. For information and bookings call Peter Dougherty on 9844 0248. Aurora's recent performance "Take the L out of Lover" was a sell-out at the Malthouse Cabaret Festival in July.

Alfresco

Alfresco is the title of Stonehouse Gallery's exhibition during September. It features a number of potters and artists showing indoor and outdoor entertaining works, including ceramic tile tables, wall hangings, garden sculpture,

072 for further information. All proceeds go towards maintaining the kinder.

Golf

Billanook College are holding a charity golf day at the Heritage

artyfacts

leadlight, candle sticks, mono prints and colourful tableware. The gallery is at 103 Yarra Street, Warrandyte and is open daily from 10am to 5pm.

Master

An exhibition of contemporary art entitled "Masterworks in the Vineyard" will be held at Swipers Gully Vineyard and Restaurant, 25 Eltham-Yarra Glen Road, Kangaroo Ground between October 13 and 26. There will be a gala opening night on Friday, October 12 commencing at 7.30pm. The exhibition will be open Monday to Friday between 8.45am and 11.30am and on Saturday and Sunday between 12noon and 4pm. Further information on 9437 1421.

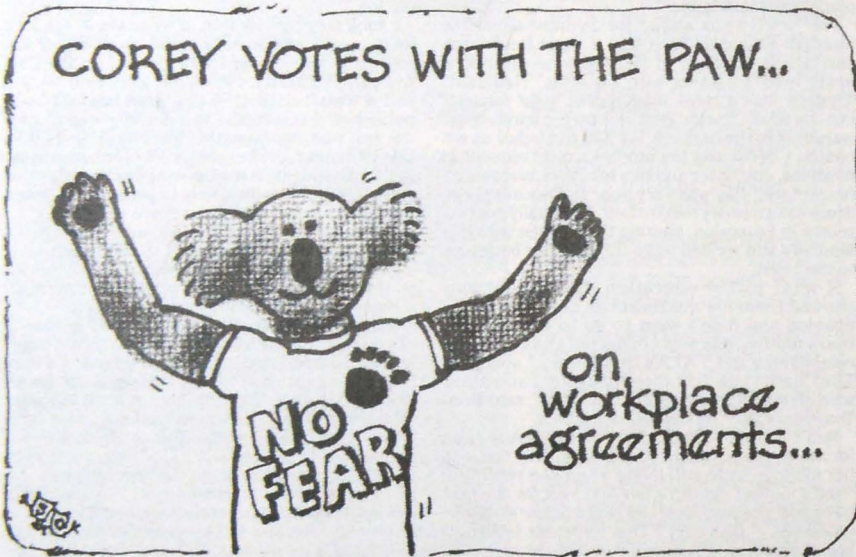
Manningham

An exclusive touring exhibition from the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, will arrive at the Manningham Gallery on September 5 for a three and a half week stay. It is a showcase of contemporary Japanese ceramics from 35 different artists. The gallery is at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster.

Golf Club on Friday, October 5. Profits will go towards the rebuilding of an orphanage in Thailand. Opportunities are available for businesses or organisations to sponsor a hole. For further information call Margie Lanyon on 9724 1109.

COREY'S COMMUNITY

By SYD & ONA



The musical "Billy" is currently wowing audiences at the Warrandyte High School Theatre in Alexander Road. The season continues on Wednesday 12, Thursday 13, Friday 14 and Saturday 15 September. To book call 9844 2749. A detailed review and full picture coverage will be featured in our next issue.

Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS

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S I N G A P O R E , T H A I & E U R O P E A N C U I S I N E



Madison Denholm in action for Australia at the World BMX Championships. Pictures: Gavin Andrew.

Madison takes on the world's best



Madison Denholm in now ranked sixth in the world following the recent World BMX Championships in Canada.

Local BMX racer, Madison Denholm is now ranked sixth in the world after competing for Australia in the World BMX Championship held recently in Vancouver, Canada.

More than 2000 riders from around the world attended the four day championships.

Madison trained for five months for the event and said that representing Australia was a dream come true.

He said that the competition was tough as he had to compete in a series of three qualifying races.

But Madison scored maximum points in the lead up races to qualify for the quarter finals.

He finished second in the quarter final but then had to compete against the top 32 racers in the world.

He won his way through to the semi final and with one of the best races of his career, he earned his place in the final eight competitors to fight out the championship race.

More than a 1000 people lined the track for the final but Madison was caught in a pack of riders and wasn't able to find the space to generate the power needed to win the race.

He finished sixth and is now looking forward to the 2008 championships in Beijing.

Madison thanked his supporters, members of the Park Orchards BMX club and his coach.



The successful Warrandyte Netball Club's Under 17/1 Eagles.

Premiership success for netball girls

Warrandyte Netball Club's Under 17/1 Eagles defeated arch rivals DYC Lions to win the Doncaster and District Netball Association's Winter Season 2007 premiership.

After losing the first semi-final to DYC, Warrandyte Eagles fought courageously to win the Grand Final by the narrowest of margins with the final score being 30-29. Throughout the winter season, Warrandyte Eagles and DYC each had a win over each other and DYC finished above Warrandyte on the ladder on percentage only.

It was not until the Grand Final that Warrandyte secured the hard fought supremacy over the competition.

The Eagles team comprises Brittany Duncan, Jess Lindner, Georgia Nichol, Jenny Parkes, Simone Reid, Emma Rhode, Emma Stanley, Amy Taip, Georgia Walker and Cass Wilson.

Excited and proud coach Peta Walker said: 'They did so well, so well! Every player was 100 per cent committed and every one gave everything they had to the game.'

'We played a very talented opposition, but we played as a team and not individuals and won the game. I could not have asked any more.'

Other Grand Final matches played at Templestowe Leisure Centre on Saturday 11 August 2007:

Warrandyte Open A Falcons went down 32-41. Led by Tania Puglia, players were Rachel Crawley, Amie and Nat Dusting, Ellie and Stephanie Fremantle, Bonnie Jones, Julia Knott, Tania Puglia and Kate Sundberg.

Warrandyte Open C Hawks were defeated 24-27 in a close game. Coached by Lyn



Warrandyte Netball Club's Open Falcons were runners-up.



Warrandyte Netball Club's Open Hawks also finished runners-up.

Dyason, the team was Cherise Angelotti-Casey, Erika Dyason, Amelia Fraser-McKelvie, Jacinta Kemm, Alice Saunders, Kristie Turner, Jennifer Barrett, and Carly Sayer.

WARRANDYTE FOOTBALL CLUB Coaching positions

Warrandyte Football Club is looking for applications for the following positions in Season 2008: Senior Coach, Senior Assistant Coaches, Reserves Coach and Football Manager. Suitably qualified and interested candidates to contact the club at warrandyte@efl.org.au



The successful Girls 6 team from left, Ashley Hope, Fiona Pearson, Ariel Paterson, Lisa Rennie, Kate Gorrie, Olivia Allardice.



The successful Boys 19 team from left, Bryton Ashton, James Battista, Texas Connolly, Taylor Battista, Kieran Sproule- Carrol

Three flags for tennis juniors

Five Warrandyte teams competed in the recent grand finals of the Eastern Region Tennis junior competition.

Three were successful on the day: Boys 9 and 19 and Girls 6.

The Boys 9 team, which included Dane Wilshire, James Taylor, Dylan Burns, Alex Jurkenas, Toby Versteegen and Matthew Sheers, played against Chirnside Park who had finished top of the ladder. They won the flag 6 sets 43 games to 2 sets 32 games.

Boys 19 who finished the home and away matches well ahead of any other team continued their good form to defeat third placed Park Orchards. Final scores were 6 sets 44 games to 2 sets 27 games.

The team included Bryton Ashton, James Battista, Texas

Connolly, Taylor Battista and Kieran Sproule-Carrol.

The girls playing in Section 6, Ashley Hope, Fiona Pearson, Ariel Paterson, Lisa Rennie, Kate Gorrie and Olivia Allardice fought hard all season to achieve first position on the ladder.

After a very close match, they finally defeated Heathmont by just five games. Scores were 4 sets 39 games to 4 sets 34 games.

The Boys 8 team, Brayden Mifsud, Daniel Mifsud, Daniel Ford-Learner, Nick Ford-Learner and Mark Ford-Learner who finished in top position lost to the second team, North Ringwood.

Boys 16, Andrew Matocek, Declan Turner, Roy Ashton, Braden Pynt and Mitchell Gaffney were also runners-up to North Ringwood.

● The final event celebrating the centenary of Warrandyte Tennis Club will be a Family Fun Day on Sunday October 21 at the Taroon Avenue courts.

The main feature of the day will be an open mixed doubles tournament echoing the mixed doubles event played to celebrate the opening of the first court 100 years ago.

This will start at 11am.

Other activities will include novelty events, a speed serving competition, jumping castle for the younger children, a birthday cake and a mass photo of all past and present members in attendance.

Events are open to anyone who wishes to participate.



The winning Section 9 team from left, Dane Wilshire, James Taylor, Dylan Burns, Alex Jurkenas, Toby Versteegen and Matthew Sheers.

Football club Best and Fairest

The club's annual Best and Fairest vote count and presentation night is on Friday October 5 at the clubrooms.

Tickets are \$30 which includes a meal, with drinks at bar prices. Please book with James Logan on 0414 337 418.

Committee Positions Vacant

Vacancies on football club executive

There will be an election for a number of executive and committee positions at the annual meeting of the club.

All interested supporters and players are urged to consider standing for a position and making a contribution to the future of the football club.

Details of the AGM will be published shortly.



The successful B2 mid-week ladies team from left, Nicole Hogan, Trish Alger, Maaike Naude, Petra Young and Karen Green.

Pennant win for mid-week ladies

Warrandyte Tennis Club's Section B2 mid-week ladies team, playing on Tuesdays, brought home the winning pennant last month.

The team consisting of Karen Green, Maaike Naude, Nicole Hogan, Petra Young and Trish Alger finished first on the ladder at the end of the home and away season.

They went on to defeat Serpell (5 sets 44 games to one set 31) games in the grand final.

After successive wins in B grade they have now been promoted to Section A8.



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Warrandyte has 38 teams on court

Redbacks in command of finals series

By TONY OLIVER

It was the first week of the finals in the EDJBA (Saturday) basketball competition and an amazing 38 Warrandyte Redback sides were on the court.

Both senior sides advanced, with Nick Peters' Under 19 girls pulling off a 31-28 win over Ivanhoe in a late overtime game.

The Redback girls always appeared to be in control with some strong court running by Krystina Witt and Chelsea Crisp.

Jess Solty and Kara Hibbert controlled the key in offence and defence. The highlight of the second half was two stunning three point shots from Andrea Peters.

Ivanhoe were able to pressure the ball carrier a number of times and forced the game into overtime with the scores locked up at 28-all at the end of regulation time.

A three minute extra time period was called and the initial momentum was with Ivanhoe but the Redback defence was strong, not allowing any good shots, nor conceding any free throw shots.

Following the initial sustained pressure it was Ivanhoe who needed to respond. The speed of the Redback offence caught the Ivanhoe girls short,



Under 19 boys are through to the Grand Final. Back from left: Jake Ratcliffe, Shane Holloway and Matt Belgiovane. Front: Josh Collins and Jason Turner.

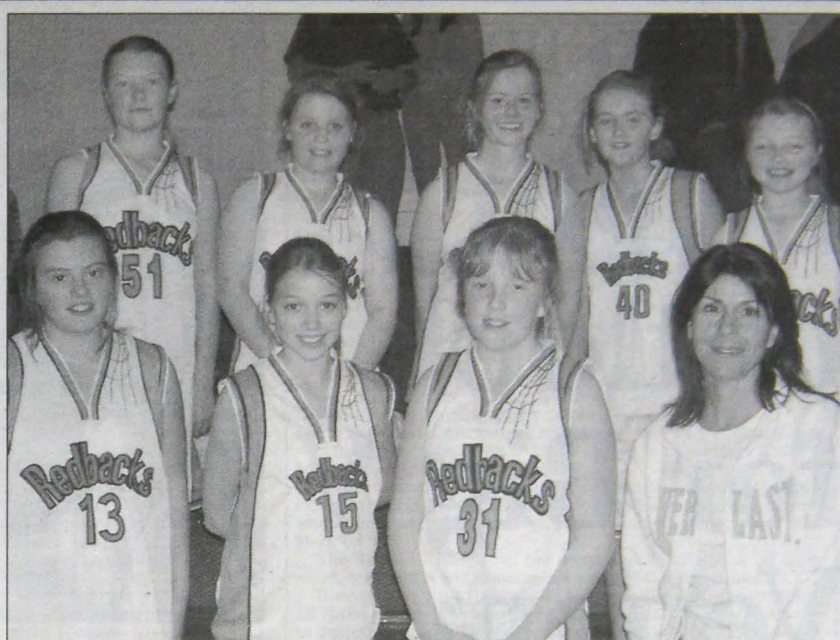
and successful trips to the free throw line from Amy Caudry, Andrea Peters and Kara Hibbert sealed the win and a week's break.

The Under 19 boys accounted for Banksia 42-19 to keep their finals campaign alive. The sides had met two weeks

earlier for a 36-all draw and another close game was expected.

Both sides only had five players and the referees allowed the game to flow.

The Redbacks held a 17-10 lead at the break but the second half was a disappointment



Warrandyte's Under 13 Redback team, back row from left: Isabella Dahl-Cope, Stephanie Box, Ashleigh Turner, Bronte Campbell, Lillie Powell. Front: Rosie Berryman, Kellie Maddock, Jessica Rossi and coach Jacqui Rossi.

when Tim Colville for Banksia was forced the leave the court with a twisted ankle. The Redback then used their spare man to run out easy winners.

With Casey Taylor and Jasmine Haikel unavailable, Kelli Taylor's Under 13 girls were always going to struggle against Eltham, going down 42-30.

The Redback girls tried the whole game and the positive was that Warrandyte easily won the second half. They can look forward to better things when they take on Bulleen in the preliminary final.

Ian Wood's Under 11 boys booked a place in the AR Grand Final with a typical hard fought win over Eltham by 34-24. Two late goals to Warrandyte's Chris Bolland provided a margin that was

greater than what it had been for most of the game.

Chris top scored with 18 points with contributions from Nathan Delacy (6), David Spinoza and Dane Steward (4) and Zeph Hilton (2).

Warrandyte will earn the week off. Most of the side also play representative basketball on Friday night and also have a week's rest. Ian Wood will need to keep active and is looking to provide a practice game in the coming week.

Jenni O'Brien's Under 17 A girls went down to Balwyn but earn a second chance against Eltham. However, the Under 15 (1) defeated Eltham in a very convincing win by 50-37.

Warrandyte had an interrupted start with coach Nicole Howard coming from work commitments and no warm up ball. As the team arrived, Lisa

Saunders stepped up to the mark and filled the gap as coach.

The game was never Eltham's and the Warrandyte girls did themselves proud with some great passing play by the ball carriers. A well rotated bench saw every player step up to the mark and Warrandyte led at half time by 10 points.

The game was never in doubt with Eltham in foul trouble early and one of their very tall defenders left the court early in the second half.

In something of a unique situation, all of Warrandyte's top girls sides from Under 9 to Under 19 are in either the preliminary or grand final.

While not quite as good, the same story is repeated on the boys side with all but one side in preliminary or grand finals.

Successful season for junior footballers

Warrandyte Junior Football Club has completed another successful season according to president, Steve Blakey.

He said 210 Warrandyte boys enjoyed another great season of football.

"It's interesting to note that the Warrandyte Redbacks basketballers recently announced a similar number of junior boys playing for them.

"I know many of these are one and same but a significant number of local juniors only play one sport per season so it's fantastic to see so many local players being involved in sport and having a great time," Blakey said.

"Success in sport is not just measured by how many flags a team or clubs win in a season or over a given period.

"It's about keeping the kids engaged and continuing their development as individuals.

"Every time our young charges take to their chosen sport they do so for their enjoyment of participation, being with their mates, achieving personal milestones and developing their skills."

In a review of the season, Blakey said football got away to an interrupted pre-season due to the condition of the grounds.

WJFC fielded nine teams, one more than normal but with the encouragement of the Colts (U16 and U17) many new faces arrived at the club and this made it possible to have two Colts teams.

The Bowen family pitched in to run two of these teams, Jason coached Colts 1 and his brother James coaching the Colts 2 side in which his

younger brother Robbie played.

"If this wasn't enough Bowens, there's more, Mum Kaylene took over as team manager of the Colts 2 side," Blakey said.

TACKERS - Coach: Paul Reardon

A list of 27 players participated in a modified rules format to encourage participation. There was no scoreboard or final ladder but there was a drive to participate to their very best every week.

The team had an enjoyable season experiencing hot, dry days to wet, muddy grounds

UNDER 10 - Coaches: James Yoffa and Dave McMennemin
The team had a difficult year with uncertain numbers, however this was overcome with the help of the tackers who regularly loaned players to ensure both teams got a game of football every weekend.

Although they achieved one win there were many spirited performances along the way. Their teamwork, skills and confidence developed well throughout the year, so look out in 2008 the boys will be on a rampage.

UNDER 11 - Coach: Peter Stafford

This group of boys are still in the finals and face Ivanhoe and hope to perform at their best.

The team finished third with 11 wins and only two losses in the Premier division of Gold. A dedicated bunch of boys who only want to have fun.

UNDER 12 - Coach: Shane Newman (Inter league Coach with the VJFL)

The team finished with just

three wins but had no wins after the first 10 rounds.

But the boys retained their motivation and completed the run home with three wins.

The team showed they were prepared to fight out the season to the very end.

UNDER 13 - Coach: Lance Nilsson

A finalist in 2007 after finishing the season fourth with eight wins and five losses but with a staggering percentage of 167, they had some special wins.

They played a very strong and physically bigger side in the finals and went down in a thriller to Ivanhoe.

Lance managed to rotate all of his players on a regular basis to develop each and every player to their maximum.

UNDER 14 - Coach: Steve Blakey

This is another group that did not fair well on the ladder, but still achieved massive gains in experience, personal development and a special moment of player self analysis.

The boys' confidence had been smashed and something was needed to change their mindset. They got together and made a commitment for a greater effort by all and they also set small achievable goals.

Although no wins came their way, it was a testament to their loyalty and team spirit that every available player turned up to training after a 22 goal loss and then every player attended the last game.

UNDER 15 - Coach: Scott Chapman

This was another team that experienced the depths of

despair with no wins from 12 games.

But the team continued to do their best and they won the last game of the season and in many ways it was a grand finale to the season.

COLTS 2 - Coach: James Bowen

James had the task of having to establish a team with 11 new players. New to the coaching game, he just took it in his stride, developing drills that required all the boys to use each other's name and to trust each other.

To make even more difficult for James a lot of training was carried out with the Colts 1 team and this meant twice as many names to remember.

The boys slowly settled and continued to build and had two good wins in the run home.

Early in the season the boys were offered the chance to play with the Colts 1 team (mainly top age) by training well or showing the level of commitment required for this age group. This proved a good training ground for several players who took their football to the next level when they returned to the Colts 2 Team.

COLTS - Coach: Jason Bowen

The grading committee had placed the team in Division 2 but this proved to be too big a stretch for them.

The boys were then relegated to Division 3, and although some were disappointed with this, some wins soon came their way. They did not have enough wins in a shortened season to get them into the finals.



Warrandyte Football Club coach, Peter Green, has resigned from his position.

Work duties force coach to stand down

Following a disappointing season on the field, it was an emotional Peter Green who tendered his resignation as senior coach of the Warrandyte Football Club before the last game of the season.

He cited increased work commitments over the past year which had severely restricted the time he had available to work with the young players in the team.

"I just can't continue to do everything that needs to be done for training and game day, as well as doing the right thing by my employer," he said.

"Although we weren't successful this season, I'm confident that the club has the players to do well in the future, and I wish them all the best for 2008."

Green was the architect of Warrandyte's 2006 campaign which saw them win the Eastern Football League Division 4 premiership.

He has played a key role in fostering and developing young players at the club in recent years. While a number of potential candidates have been approached and shown interest, the Warrandyte Football Club is looking for applications for the following positions in Season 2008: Senior Coach, Senior Assistant Coaches, Reserves Coach and Football Manager.

Club President, Phil Treeby, has called for suitably qualified and interested candidates to contact the club at warrandyte@efl.org.au

Runners-up in debut season Bright outlook for Big V Venom

By TONY OLIVER

The Division 1 Warrandyte Venom women lost game two of the finals series at Warrnambool and brought the curtain down on a remarkable debut season.

The Venom girls knew they would need to deliver a 100 per cent effort after losing the first game at home in front of a packed stadium.

The scores were locked at 16-all at the first break with Warrandyte doing slightly the better. However, Warrnambool were more accurate under the basket while the Venom found the wrong edge of the ring at critical times.

The second quarter kept the hope alive with a three point swish from Michelle Ackland to open the playing period. Warrnambool however were soon back in the game, taking the honours for the period by six points.

Warrnambool extended their lead at the opening of the third quarter with eight unanswered points, going on to claim the Division 1 title for the third year in a row with a 79-52 final score.

Maree Vincent and Jo Metcalfe, both coming back from injury, were top contributors with 13 and 11 points respectively for the Venom.

Eleanor Stevens was a strong contributor producing perhaps her best game. Kate

Cohen played a full game apart for a one minute break when injured.

She continued to dictate the play at the top of the key. Her defence was impeccable forcing a number of charge calls on the Warrnambool offence.

After the game head coach Justin Nelson congratulated Warrnambool on their win, which recognised their performance as the dominant team for the competition.

"The Warrandyte effort was outstanding. In our first season to put together in nine months a team which made the Grand Final, defeating every team bar one at some stage during the season.

"From day one we wanted to earn people's respect and I am satisfied that we have done this through plenty of hard work, a strong commitment to each other and a desire to promote Warrandyte basketball far and wide."

Both Warrandyte and Warrnambool dominated the official statistics for the season, with Louise McLean (Warrnambool) picking up four awards. The Venom's Jo Metcalfe won two awards (field goal percentage, 47.8 per cent) and three point percentage (35.4 per cent) while Maree Vincent was tops at the free throw line at 81.1 per cent.

The outlook is bright for Warrandyte with a number of



The Big V Venom team gets together after completing a successful season. Back row from left: Bernie Curtain, Nicole Howard, Kelly Pollard, Liz Benbow, Eleanor Stevens, Lauren Sabidussi, Chelsea Ransom, Nicolette Prior, Jo Metcalfe, Michele Ackland, Jodi Kennedy, Justin Nelson and Maree Vincent. Front: Kate Cohen, Mandy Gammilonghi, Melissa Zuccolo and Nicole Dadswell.

the younger players performing well and putting pressure on the more credentialed players.

Nelson said after the game that Warrandyte was a very unique pocket of the world.

"I'm happy that everyone has a basketball club they can truly call their own. Whether it be supporting or playing for Redbacks or Venom, or even locally at Park Orchards Steelers, the game is alive and well in the region and we have successfully brought everyone together to share and enjoy it.

"The committee has been extraordinary in their support and that goes a long way to putting together a harmonious team.

"Right from the start with the work that Bruce Davis and Ian Dadswell did to get our Big V program up and running, everyone has always seen the big picture and strived to achieve great things for the club," Nelson said.

"To all the sponsors and volunteers, I can't thank you enough for believing in us and supporting us.

"It's easy to jump on the bandwagon once the concept has wheels and is moving forward, but to help build it is something that I hope all of you take great pride in.

"To all of our supporters, I



Intensity of a time out. Coaches Nicole Howard and Justin Nelson in earnest discussion with the Big V Venom team during the final against Warrnambool.

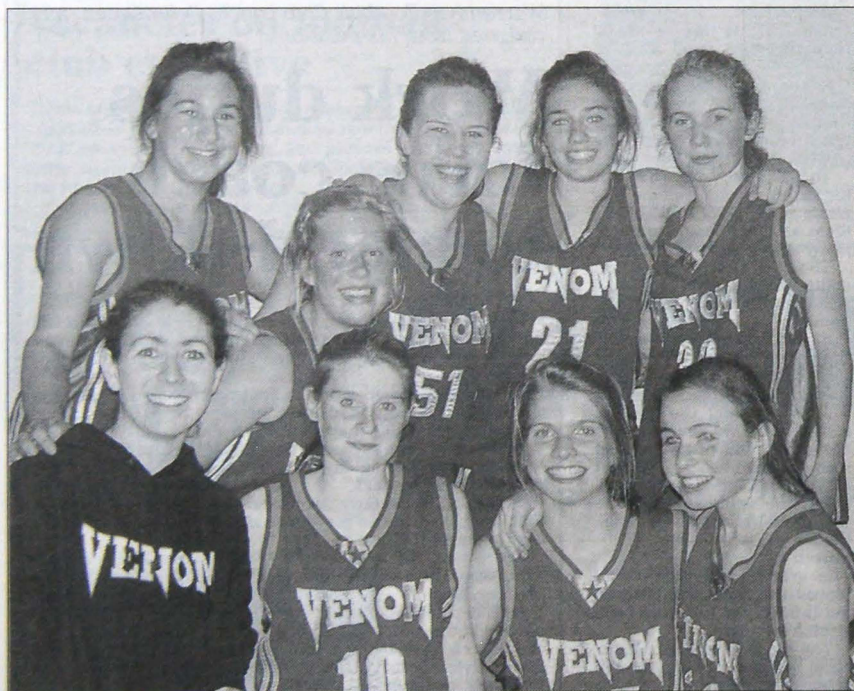
know the team is so pleased to see you at the games and cheering loudly. Many clubs out there hardly manage to

attract a handful of people to games.

"Our unity as a club has ensured that we have big

crowds at every game, and all of you have helped us to achieve our goals this season," he said.

Title hopes still alive for seven Venom teams



Venom's Under 16 Metro 3 girls were winners over Kilsyth. Back row from left: Alexandra Gammilonghi, Nicolette Prior, Alysha Buzzini, Brittany McGinley, Illana Calgaro. Front: coach, Nicole Howard, Courtney Anderson, Rebecca Heddles, Katie

The second week of the 2006/07 Championship basketball season was completed with three Venom sides advancing directly to the Grand final with four teams in the preliminary finals.

Four of the games were at the nearby Eltham courts, with Aaron Murphy's Under 14 Metro 4 boys pulling off an amazing win defeating Keilor by 41-40.

Warrandyte held the slimmest of margins at the half time break in a game that was close at all stages.

The second half was no different but Warrandyte were into foul trouble racking up an astounding 18 fouls in the second half. With four key players on the bench leaving only five on the court, the Venom had to endure a continual stream of Keilor players at the free throw line.

After the game, coach Aaron Murphy's only words were "incredibly lucky".

Leading scorers for the Venom were 18 points to Jack Power, 10 points to Liam Roadhouse and five points to Jarrod Buzzini.

The dream is over for the Under 16 Metro 1 girls, going down to Sunbury by 36-32 after a stunning season for mostly a bottom-aged side.

The game was close but Sunbury were always able to do a bit more at critical times,

with a slight height advantage.

Courtney Petalas with nine points and Caitlin Hallett with eight were the Venom's main contributors.

However the strength of the Venom at this age group was underlined when Nicole Howard's girls accounted for Kilsyth by 35-30 to move into the preliminary final.

Warrandyte were in control until a late surge from Kilsyth threatened to send the game into overtime.

In the final minutes Warrandyte were steadier and some undisciplined play from their opponents gave the Venom the win.

"A good win under pressure" was Howard's comment. Rebecca Heddles with 12 points and Brittany McGinley with 11 points were the Venom's top contributors on the score line.

Bruce Davis's Eastern U16 girls advanced directly to the Grand Final with a strong 29-22 win over Waverley. They must now be favourites - a fantastic performance from a team with little recent Friday Night competition experience.

David Reincke's Under 18 girls have a second chance despite losing to Bulleen by 41-38.

The game should have been Warrandyte's who had a lead 22-13 at the break. Bulleen came out more determined at

the start of the second half and the Venom, minor premiers in Metro 1, were never able to recover their momentum.

Lauren Sabidussi with 11 points, sister Carla with seven and Melissa Zuccolo also with seven points were the main contributors.

Sadly Jim Kafkalakis's Under 12 Metro 1 girls do not get a second chance, losing 32-27 to Nunawading.

Warrandyte had a good lead at the break 17-12, but could not withstand the finish of Nunawading in the final minutes.

Megan Keppel with 10 points was Warrandyte's top scorer.

On a better note, Emma Collins's Under 12 Eastern Girls are through to the Grand Final with a 35-27 win over Melbourne.

Damian Arsenis's Under 12 Metro 1 boys earned a week off as well and another grand final appearance with a 25-22 win over Dandenong.

Steve Killey's Under 14 Eastern boys long season came to an end going down to cross-town rivals Doncaster by 36-30.

Jodi Kennedy's Under 20 girls (Metro 1) bounced back from last week's loss to account for Camberwell 30-26 to advance to the preliminary final.

Young players hold the key to cricket success

After one of the most successful years in Warrandyte Cricket Club's recent history, the aim is to go even better this season as it eyes promotion to the Ringwood District Cricket Association's Chandler Shield.

Last season Warrandyte had its first four teams all make the finals, before its second and fourth elevens won the club's first senior premierships in a decade.

The first eleven narrowly missed the grand final after being knocked out in the Preliminary Final by Bayswater Park.

Warrandyte attacks the new season with a similar exciting squad and will be led by captain, Adam White.

Senior players Gerald Walshe, Dave Mooney and Matthew Sazenis return, while a rich group of talented young players are expected to improve even further this season.

"It's been well known we have invested a lot in our younger players over the past few years and last year we just started to see some of those players bloom into regular first eleven players," White explained.

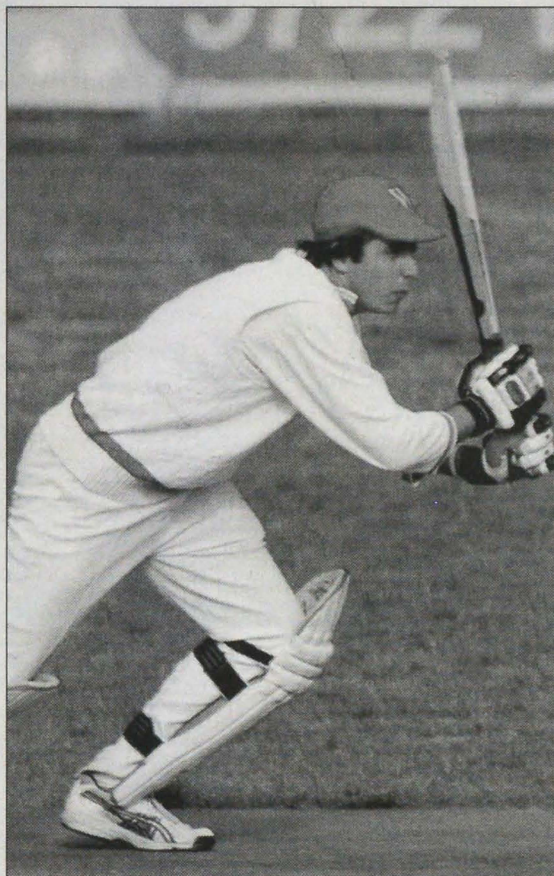
"There are several down at the club who are all under the age of 22 who have tasted first eleven cricket over the past two years, so it's now up to them to become regular senior contributors," White added.

The expectation of success this season has been reflected in Warrandyte's first month of pre-season training with strong numbers and a high level of enthusiasm.

"The last couple of years we have seen significant changes to the place, as we tried to restructure our First Eleven squad," White said.

White has been impressed with what he has seen with only a few weeks before the start of the new season on October 6.

"I think the players know we



All-rounder, Matt Sazenis, will again be critical for Warrandyte this season. Picture: Daniel Wellesley.

have got a lot of depth in our senior squad this year, which means they will really have to earn their spot in the team this year.

"I can't remember us having so many players capable of playing first eleven cricket since I started playing here in the late 1990s," White said.

The only loss to

Warrandyte's playing stocks is Chris Barry, who has been recruited by district club Melbourne.

The 16-year-old was one of Warrandyte's most influential players last season, scoring more than 350 runs, while also winning the First Eleven bowling average in a stellar season.

"While it's disappointing to lose someone who was so good for us last year, we also have to be proud to have a young player who was so keenly sought after by a number of district clubs," White said.

While Barry is a big loss, the club has welcomed back Justin Cleaves to fill Barry's all-rounder position.

Cleaves who was a decorated junior player at Warrandyte, has played the past two seasons at Northcote at District level.

"We are delighted to have Justin back to the club this year.

"We believe the experience he gained over the past couple of years will be a big benefit and we know his best cricket is still ahead of him," White claimed.

Cleaves may not be the only new recruit to the club, with Warrandyte still talking to a couple of other possible recruits.

A number of other former Warrandyte players have also committed to the club this year including Steve Warr, Tyson Brent and Brad Valentine - all of whom have first eleven experience.

In other news around the club during the off-season, Greg Creber was once again elected president unopposed for the new year, while Cameron Day has taken over the role as captain of the Second Eleven.

After winning the premiership last year as captain of the Second Eleven, Jason Graf was to continue in the job, but he will miss the entire season after requiring a knee reconstruction following a skiing accident.

Warrandyte expects to field five senior teams again this season.

Warrandyte has started training outdoors every Tuesday and Thursday from 5pm at the Warrandyte Reserve and have two practice matches later this month.

Bloods finish last but miss relegation

Warrandyte Football Club finished at the bottom of the Eastern Football League Division 3 ladder, winning only two games for the season.

While it is normal for the team finishing last to drop to a lower division, the Eastern Football League has determined that Warrandyte will not be relegated for season 2008.

Boronia and Doncaster East will go up to Division 2 and Mitcham will come down to make 10 teams in Division 3, thereby eliminating the bye from the draw.

Heathmont and Whitehorse Pioneers will be promoted from Division 4 and South Belgrave will most likely move from the Mountain Districts League to fill the vacant spot in that division.

The final two rounds of the season were tough for all three sides, with not a win coming from any of the six games.

Boronia was the strongest club in the division, competing in all three grand finals, but Doncaster East was their opposition in both the Seniors and the Reserves, and were always going to be hard to beat as they prepared for their finals campaign.

The last game of the season was against Mooroolbark, who finished the season strongly, and had convincing wins against the three Warrandyte sides.

SENIOR RESULTS:

Round 18				
Mooroolbark	4.3	4.6	10.10	17.15-117
Warrandyte	1.2	3.4	4.4	5.5-35
Goals:	M. Morello 2, L. Evans 2, C. Chapman			
Best:	N. Rose, D. Mullett Treloar, T. Naughtin, G. Carle, E. Jones, R. Bourke			

Round 17				
Doncaster East	5.7	8.11	12.14	21.19-145
Warrandyte	2.1	4.2	6.5	8.5-53
Goals:	M. Morello 2, L. Evans 2, G. Carle, B. Elliott, M. Wood, L. Dunn			
Best:	B. Taylor, N. Rose, G. Carle, L. Evans, T. Naughtin, L. Ebzery			

RESERVES

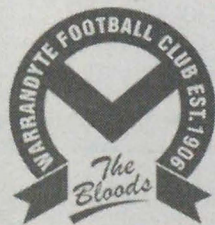
Round 18				
Mooroolbark	2.0	6.2	11.4	16.4-100
Warrandyte	2.1	3.1	6.3	11.10-76
Goals:	J. Prangley 2, J. Bowen 2, B. Opteynde 2, J. Logan, J. Boyce, S. Lockie, B. Counsel			
Best:	B. Opteynde, J. Boyce, L. Giampietro, R. Parker, A. Desarro, P. Burgoyne			

Round 17				
Warrandyte	0.2	1.2	1.5	3.5-23
Doncaster East	0.8	5.12	8.14	11.17-83
Goals:	J. Logan 2, T. Brogan			
Best:	C. Chapman, J. Boyce, D. Hudson-Norris, R. Parker, B. Wilton, T. Brogan			

UNDER 18

Round 18				
Warrandyte	2.2	3.7	5.11	10.13-73
Mooroolbark	5.4	7.7	9.12	14.14-98

Round 17				
Warrandyte	4.2	4.4	8.6	13.8-86
Doncaster East	2.1	5.5	10.8	14.11-95
Goals:	R. Brown 4, T. Fitzgerald 2, P. Nichol 2, T. Maddocks 2, J. Johnson, J. Khouri, B. Goutet			
Best:	T. Beasley, D. Large, T. Fitzgerald, R. Brown, P. Nichol, J. Bentley			



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WARRANDYTE NORTH

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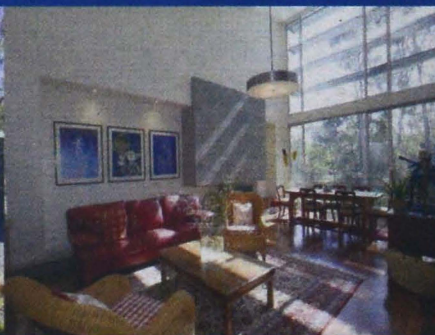
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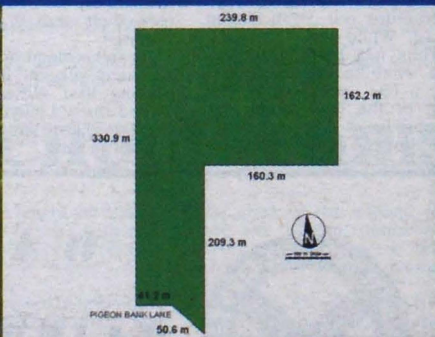
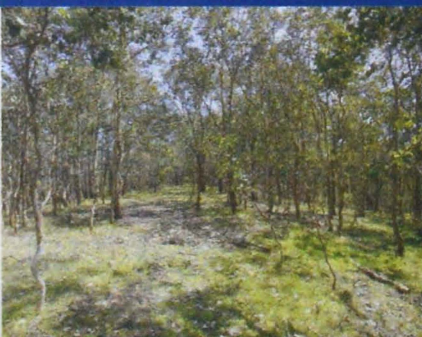
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