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PLAZA



WARRANDYTE diary

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No 402, October 2007 For the community, by the community

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Yarra River threat

Flows may be well down this summer

By SANDY BURGOYNE

The Yarra River is likely to experience a severe reduction in water flows this summer.

Rainfall in the river's catchment is well down on average, but that is only part of the story.

Melbourne gets almost 70 per cent of its drinking water from the Yarra catchment. This includes water pumped direct from the river at Yering near Coldstream.

Some organisations, such as golf clubs, also have permission to take water from the Yarra. That means a lot of water has disappeared from the river before it gets near Warrandyte or the lower reaches.

"Many people had legal entitlements to the water, but the river itself didn't. It got what was left over," Warrandyte resident and Yarra Riverkeeper Ian Penrose told the *Diary*.

However, the Yarra flows had a modicum of protection for many years.

"It's based on setting a certain minimum level of flow, for example there's a certain requirement that the government cannot pump out of the river when the flow at Warrandyte goes below 245 million litres a day.

"They don't have to maintain that level they just have to stop pumping when it gets down to that level," Mr Penrose said.

The Victorian government recently commissioned a study of the ecology of the Yarra River. The report, entitled *Determination of the Minimum Environmental Water Requirement for the Yarra River*, was released in September 2005.

This considered the health of the river and the effect of flows on flora, fauna and wetlands. The report concluded with recommendations that the Yarra be given new environmental flows of 17 billion litres.

This represents about two per cent of the river's yearly flow.

"For the first time the Yarra itself was going to get a legal entitlement to the water," said Ian Penrose.

However, the situation changed early this year.

"These (flows) were deferred in January 2007 with the announcement of drought contingency measures to boost Melbourne's water supply by 40 billion litres through 2007 and 2008, after the driest year on record in 2006," Ben Pratt, Melbourne Water's external affairs manager, told the *Diary*.

"If Melbourne was required to move to Stage 4 restrictions, environmental flows in the Yarra and Thomson rivers would be reduced by 10 billion litres each. That plan noted that these were emergency actions that will cease when supplies allow the move back to Stage 3 restrictions," he said.

The Yarra Riverkeepers are concerned this policy will put increased stress on the Yarra's ecology.

"The drought is obviously a natural process and the river would normally go down to very low flows at times. But what is happening now with our water extraction and our government policy is that the low flow period is just extended for long periods.

"Nature can survive for short, sharp, really dry periods and in fact this is often very healthy, because they give a trigger for a lot of environmental processes. But when it is extended it is really quite a different thing," Ian Penrose said.

Low flow rates could compromise the Yarra's health in many different ways.

These include: native fish species, such as the Australian Grayling, forced to forego breeding, the decline of semi-aquatic plants on the banks with terrestrial species taking over; the death of mature trees, such as manna gums; and less food for native river mammals, such as platypus and the rikali (water-rat).

Algal blooms are also a possibility, but not likely in the Yarra.

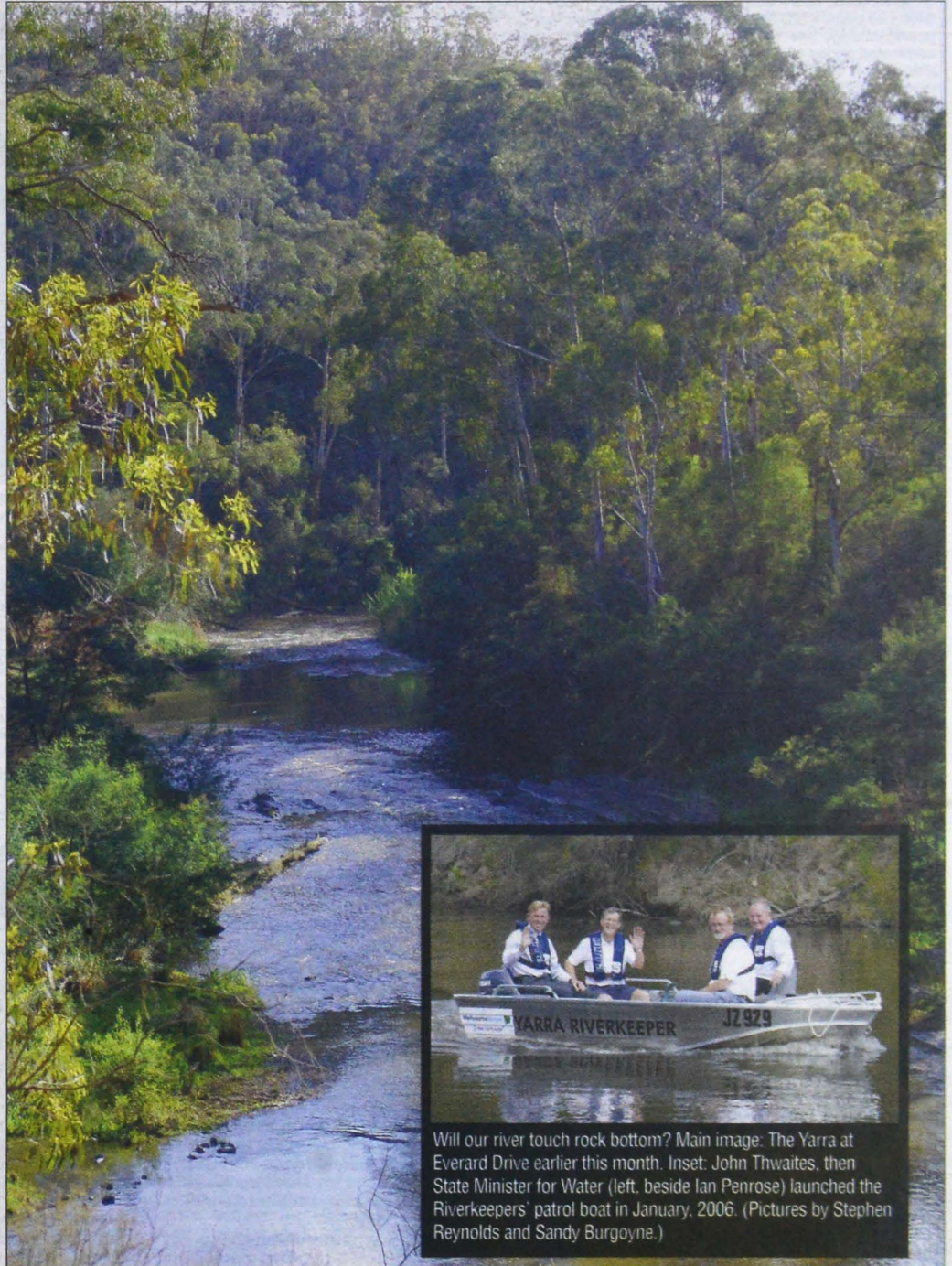
Ian Penrose believes that Warrandyte residents can make a difference to the water flows available to the river, the most obvious being through reduction of household water use.

"In Warrandyte we've very lucky to have a beautiful river here. (We need) to be more informed about the issues that affect river health, like water pollution and water extraction.

"We, as citizens in a democracy, have a responsibility to talk to government in influencing their decisions about water policy.

"It is the government's actions on rivers and water supply which is by far the dominant impact. It is not going to be by our households turning off the taps," he said.

● The Yarra Riverkeepers are organising a "Yarra Yabber" tour of the river this month and can be contacted on 0448 927 720 or through their website: <http://www.yarrariver.org.au>. See page 15 for further information.



Will our river touch rock bottom? Main image: The Yarra at Everard Drive earlier this month. Inset: John Thwaites, then State Minister for Water (left, beside Ian Penrose) launched the Riverkeepers' patrol boat in January, 2006. (Pictures by Stephen Reynolds and Sandy Burgoyne.)

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WARRANDYTE diary

EDITOR: Cliff Green

SPORTS EDITOR: Robert White, 9846 5188

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DIARY OFFICE: 168 -178 Yarra Street, Warrandyte, 9844 0555

INTERNET EDITOR: Sandy Burgoyne, 9844 2680

EMAIL ADDRESS: warrandytediary@aapt.net.au

EMAIL SPORT: tophill@optusnet.com.au

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NEXT ISSUE

Next issue of the *Diary* will be published on Wednesday, November 14. Advertising and editorial copy closes Friday, November 2.

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.



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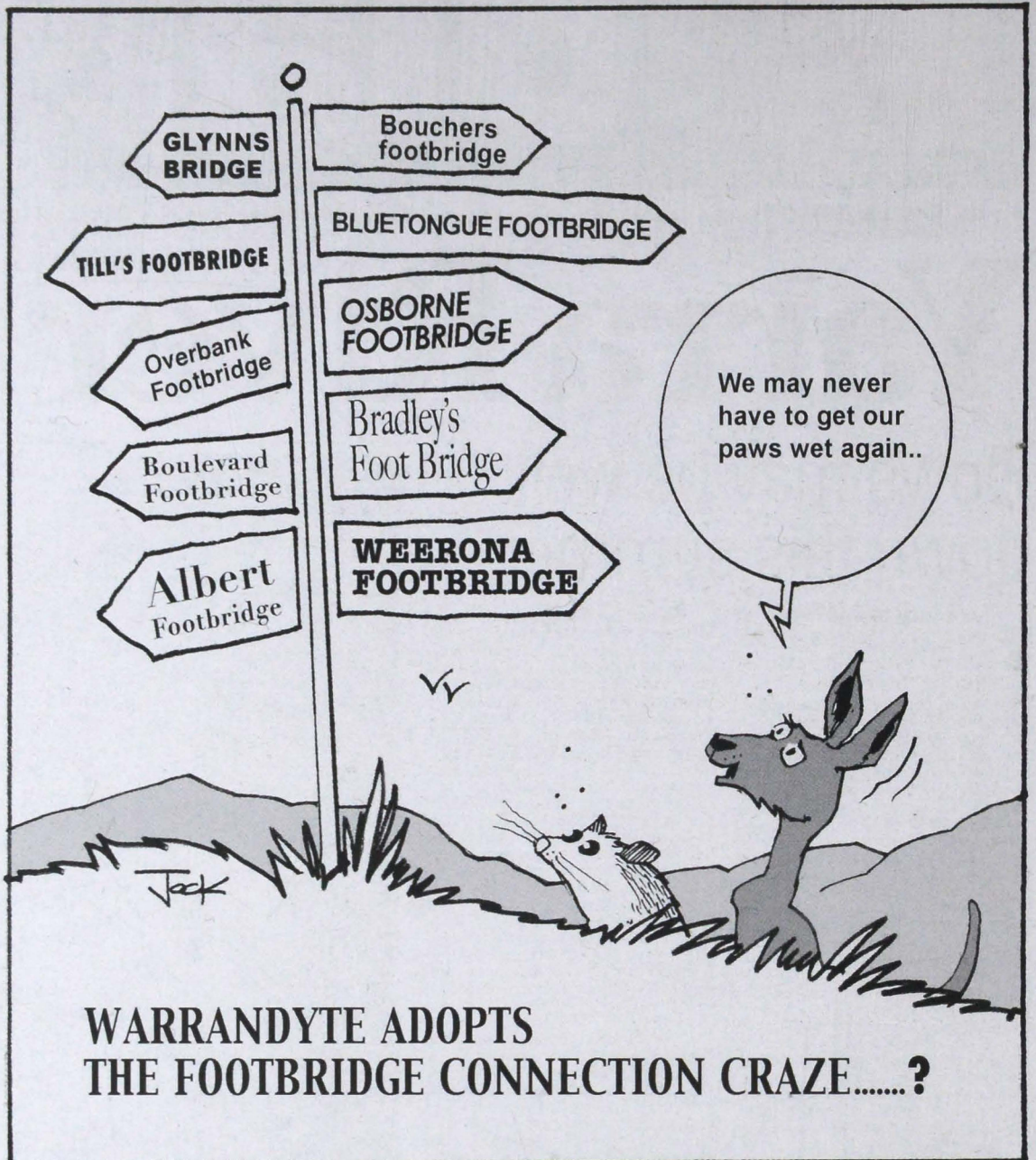
AT THE BRIDGE

FOLK ART

WARRANDYTE WARRANDYTE

OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



WARRANDYTE ADOPTS THE FOOTBRIDGE CONNECTION CRAZE.....?

Gran faces retirement. Or not...

It's a Godsend Nev! Gran would be amongst people her own age!

Neville knew his mother wasn't easy to live with and left for the Retirement Housing Co-operative meeting with an open mind, but a heavy heart.

Leaving Narelle to happily contemplate the Saturday afternoon ahead, the sun shining brightly, time to herself, and not a worry in the world. She would make something special for Neville's tea, his favourite, shepherd's pie!

"Mum!!!!" A whine entered the room, followed closely by Cinnamon.

"What's the problem?" sighed Narelle, a small cloud passing briefly across her personal sun.

"My tights! There's a hole in them and Stevie will be here in half an hour!"

"So? Wear something else!"

"Are you serious? Everything else makes my bum look enormous!"

"For the love of Mike!" interjected Gran, who was just nodding off in the Jason Lazy Boy. "Fetch my thimble and mushroom!" And in two shakes of a lamb's tail those darned tights were as good as bought ones.

living with The Trotts

"Lot of fuss about nothing!" muttered the old woman. But soon enough her eyes were closed again, her mouth hung open like a dishwasher door and Narelle was fluffing away with the potato masher.

"Mum!!!!" Narelle closed the oven door with resignation and turned to confront the storm brewing on Jasper's dismal countenance.

"What's the problem?" "My bike! The tyre's flat!" "You'll have to wait till your father gets home."

"But we're all meeting at the skate bowl to do ol-lies!"

"Oh my giddy aunt!" cursed Gran. "Fetch me the repair kit and a bucket of water!" And before you could say "Jack Robinson!" Jasper was pumped and ready to go.

"Lot of fuss about nothing!" mumbled Gran. But with both children gone, peace returned to Dingley Dell, Narelle returned to the Good Weekend and Gran returned to the land of nod.

"Mum!!!!" "What in tarnation?" said Gran with a start.

"The pie!" moaned Narelle



turning her attention to a dinner that was no longer a shepherd's delight. "Scrape the top off. We'll cover the mince in breadcrumbs and melted cheese and Bob's your uncle!"

Half an hour later the Land Cruiser revved up their precipitous driveway and Neville entered the house.

"Something smells good," he said bravely. "Better than whatever next door's dog is demolishing at the back door!"

"What's all this about?" said Gran picking up the notes and drawings her son had dropped on the table.

"Mum!" started Neville

"Nothing's decided! It's just that they're building new retirement cottages down in Harris Gully Road and we just thought you might enjoy having your own home...with people of your own age..." Neville's voice trailed off as a look of confusion passed across his mother's rumpled face.

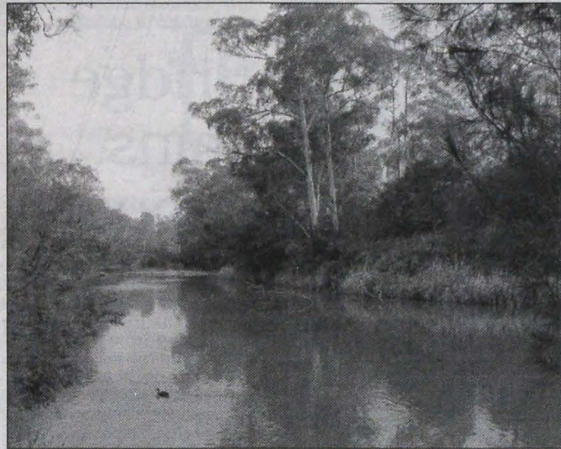
"But I've already got a home!"

"Yes Mum!" said Narelle taking the papers from her unsteady hands and dropping them in the pedal bin. "You have!"

"Lot of fuss about nothing!" muttered Gran.

ALAN CORNELL

Lions' second thoughts on bridge



Possible site of the proposed Warrandyte footbridge. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

By EMMA CLARK

The Lions Club has expressed some hesitation in continuing with plans for a footbridge across the Yarra, connecting Norman Reserve in North Warrandyte with Taroona Reserve in Warrandyte, following an apparent lack of support from some residents of Bradleys Lane.

John Boyle, member of the Warrandyte Lions and part of the original group behind the bridge plan, told the *Diary*, "We have had a lot of support from the councils, but there doesn't seem to be any point in continuing with the plans with so many people not wanting the bridge to go ahead."

"The last thing the Lions Club want is to antagonise members of the community. The people we thought would most benefit from the bridge

and had most to gain are not enthusiastic about the project."

The last issue of the *Diary* featured a number of letters from residents of Bradleys Lane and nearby streets. Jill McKimm expressed concern over a lack of consultation with residents.

"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... How about more buses to traffic school kids and other locals over the bridge to where they need to go?" she wrote.

Elaine and Greg Provan also expressed concern over increased traffic congestion along Bradleys Lane. "Public transport in Warrandyte needs to be improved to reduce the congestion at the bridge," they wrote.

North Warrandyte has been poorly serviced by public trans-

port for a long time, despite calls to council and government for improvements.

The Lions Club of Warrandyte is intending to partially fund the building of a bridge. The project has support from both councils, North Warrandyte CFA and Bicycle Victoria. Lions president Ian Shugg said, "The bridge would have lots of advantages for the community."

The Lions Club contributes substantially to the local community, including providing tennis courts, an opportunity shop, and support for local charities, young people and the arts.

Mr Boyle said, "We are interested in projects that benefit the community. We thought a footbridge for people in Bradleys Lane to access the main part of Warrandyte and for schoolchildren to walk or ride to school instead of being shuttled to

and fro by their parents would be good.

"But if people are not supportive of the project, then we will not go ahead with it."

Five residents of Bradleys Lane wrote to the *Diary* in favour of a bridge. "We were excited to read about the Lions' plan to make a footbridge a reality...we may even experience less car traffic in Bradleys Lane as people choose to walk or cycle to the area," they wrote.

The Lions still believe there is a lot of community support for a bridge. President Ian Shugg told the *Diary*: "If this support could be publicly expressed and if other community groups were prepared to join us, we would be reluctant to allow this project to die."

● LETTER: page 4

Warburton loves their bridge

By EMMA CLARK

A timber suspension bridge across the Yarra River in Warburton was the inspiration for the Lions' footbridge proposal.

The Warburton bridge was built in 2000 by Army Reserve engineers, funded by the Warburton Advancement League. It is a steel and timber swing suspension bridge with a 34 metre span, with nine metre high towers at each end and a one metre wide timber walkway, six metres above the river bed.

Warburton is served by five bridges: two road bridges and three footbridges. The shops and businesses are located on one side of the river, with much of the residential area on the opposite side. Thus the bridges are critical to the daily workings of the town.

The "suspension bridge" as it is known locally, completes a walking track circuit that extends the full length of the town, on both sides of the river.

Warrandyte resident Don Hughes is a lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserve and was involved in the design and build-

ing of the Warburton bridge. He told the *Diary* that there "was a big bureaucratic process with many different groups and authorities to approach."

"However, the bridge brought together a community that was quite divided by the river. Both sides of the river were quite separate, but the bridge united them by allowing easier access. It also created a project for both sides to work on together."

Jesse James is the president of the Warburton Advancement League. He has lived in the town since 1951 and has been president for 12 years, including when the bridge was built.

The advancement league is responsible for the maintenance of the six kilometres of walking tracks along both sides of the river. On the north side, a landslide made the track a dead end. A member of the league suggested a footbridge could be built to connect the paths at the far end of the township.

Mr James said that at first he considered it a "pie in the sky idea, but then we thought that by connecting the river there,



This suspension bridge at Warburton inspired the Lion's footbridge proposal. (Pictures by Judy Green)

the walking tracks would make a circuit."

The league contacted the army and "asked if they would be interested in building a bridge if we supplied the material," Mr James said. "The army had done those sorts of projects before and were very happy to have a look at it."

"We had to go through all sorts of different departments: Melbourne Water, Yarra Valley Water, the Department of Natural Resources and so forth. It was quite a long drawn-out process to get the okay, but we managed to get it."

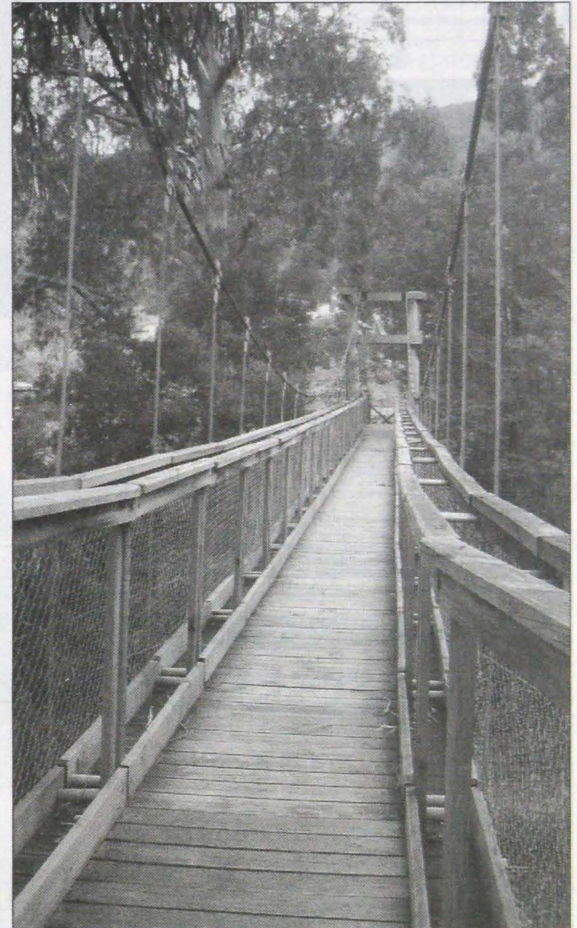
Work began early in 1988. "We ran into a lot of problems, such as having to change the foundations to meet Melbourne Water flood level requirements and having to import the steel

cables from Korea." Another setback occurred when "the trouble in East Timor flared up and they called in a lot of Army Reserves, and more than half the people we had working on the bridge went to East Timor."

Two and a half years from its conception, the bridge was opened in March 2000.

Mr James told the *Diary* that the bridge has "been a tremendous benefit to the community and also to the people who visit, because it makes the tracks along the river into a circuit."

The bridge has also been of great benefit to the people working at nearby businesses—and to their customers—as it makes it easier to cross the river, instead of having to walk long distances to the next bridge.



Warrandyte CAN planning their 'can-do' expo

by JOANNE GREEN

A free sustainability expo, organised by Warrandyte's Climate Action Now group, will be held on Saturday, October 27, between 10am and 4pm at the Warrandyte Community Centre.

The expo will provide Warrandyte residents and businesses with the opportunity to consult a range of exhibitors on ways to make energy use in their homes and businesses more environmentally sustainable.

Visitors to the expo will be able to learn about a range of sustainability options for their homes, from double-glazing and insulation to water tanks and solar panels.

Information will be provided through displays and short presentations by exhibitors.

Exhibitors will include Solar Quip, who sell grid-connected solar panels, Quantum energy will display solar heat pumps, and Energy Matters will

also provide information on solar energy.

EcoMaster will assess how to make homes environmentally sustainable. Their home assessment will be available for booking on the day at a \$30 discount.

A range of carbon reducing products will be on display. Village Green Environmental Solutions will attend to provide solutions on how to make businesses more environmentally

friendly. More exhibitions are set to be added as the date for the expo comes closer.

An educational trailer entitled Energy Explorer will be a feature. This mobile showroom will provide practical information for all ages on solar, wind turbine and hydro electricity.

Manningham and Nillumbik councils will attend the expo, presenting Warrandyte residents with an update on their emission reduction

programs. A sausage sizzle and a coffee stall manned by Zoloto's café will be available on the day. Many of the options on display will be offering discounts.


Warrandyte CAN president Wayne Rankin told the *Diary*: "Our aim with the expo is to give families and businesses in Warrandyte every opportunity to learn about and examine a raft of solutions to carbon emission reduction, and to have them act now."



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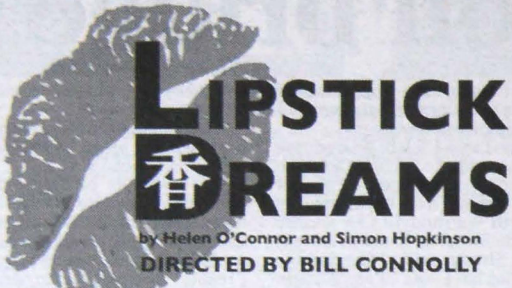
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Goodbye Bonnie

In the early hours of Saturday, September 15, my dear friend Bonnie Peake passed away at the age of 92.

Bonnie was well known in the area as she had lived in Warrandyte for most of her life. I was her next-door neighbour for 30 years and we had many memorable times together.

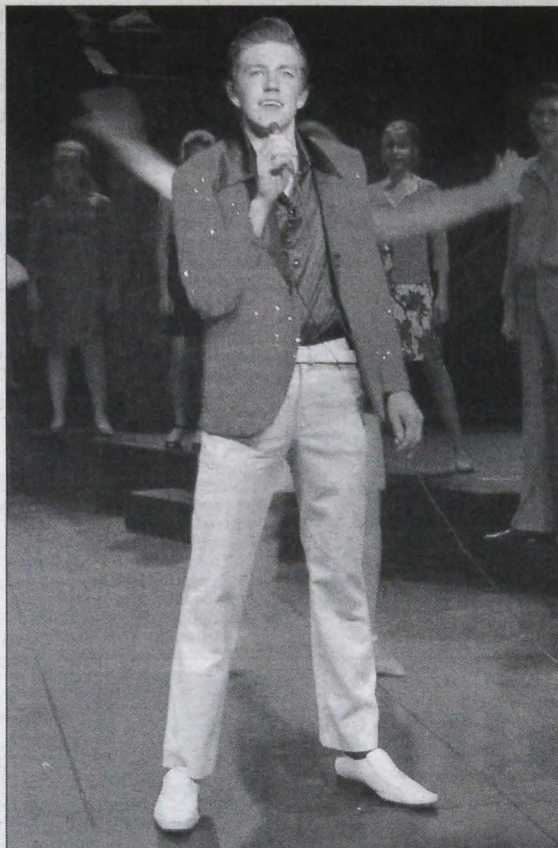
She was a member and office bearer of the Womens Hospital Auxiliary for 60 years, raising money for equipment by baking cakes, knitting, sewing and running raffles. She was also a life member of the Senior Citizens Club and worked tirelessly to get the club up and running in the early days.

Bonnie will be sadly missed by all her friends. My daughter Carol and myself will remember and miss Bonnie always.

Margaret Golding
Harris Gully Road



Bonnie Peake



Billy was a big hit!

I would like to congratulate Warrandyte High School on their production of "Billy" which I attended on opening night. All of the cast members should be commended for their performances, particularly Glen Adams, who had an enormous task in the lead role. The audience all had a very entertaining and enjoyable evening. I look forward to attending Warrandyte High School's next production.

Ryan Smith
MP for Warrandyte

See review and more pics, page 18.

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.

Bridge gains support

I am writing in response to the recent furor in the *Diary* over the footbridge plans. This seems to be the classic NIMBY syndrome: Not In My Backyard!

Surely any benefits from a footbridge outweigh negatives. The bridge would provide motivation to get people outside and walking through our beautiful town, instead of congesting the roads and impacting further on greenhouse emissions. North Warrandyte has always had terrible public transport and this is an opportunity for people to be proactive about the issue, rather than simply complaining.

I applaud the efforts of the Lions Club in taking the initiative in a project that will have such benefit for residents. This will have most benefit for children and parents, especially considering declining activity rates in young people.

As often happens, only people who do not support the project have spoken up. This project most benefits the people in North Warrandyte and the environment. It will take cars off the road and provide more opportunity for kids and adults to enjoy the outdoors. If Warrandyte prides itself on the natural environment, then why is this idea being howled down?

Jenny Clark
North Warrandyte

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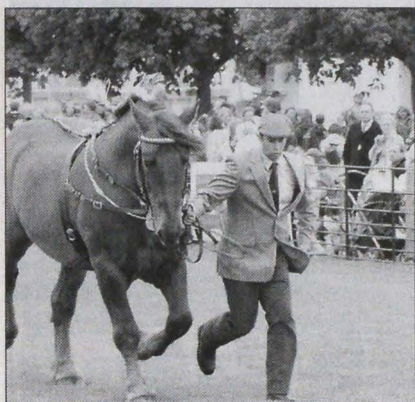
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The view from afar



How does Warrandyte compare with other places? How does it look from the other side of the world? VAL POLLEY explores some connections .

THE old adage says travel broadens the mind and certainly it's always fascinating to travel and view Warrandyte from afar. Travel can provide a different perspective and so we—husband Austin and I—found ourselves comparing places with Warrandyte throughout a recent European trip. The following somewhat random thoughts arose out of our travels.



Suffolk Punch at Suffolk show.

This northern summer was probably not the best time to visit friends and relatives in England where it's been the wettest summer on record. It was such a novelty (at first) to have a whole day of rain, and heavy rain at that. To open the door of our little rented cottage and see water cascading down the narrow road was somewhat disconcerting as one stepped down into the cottage and I had visions of flooded lower rooms but fortunately that didn't happen.

We saw the local open garden scheme weekend washed out, the fields flooding and crops drowning. Grey skies and rain such as we have not experienced in Warrandyte for years. We love our festival in Warrandyte and luckily there were some bright days so visiting the County Show and watching a local Morris Dancing Festival was both possible and enjoyable.

However it is fair to say we probably saw more rain in our six weeks in northern Europe than in the last three years in Warrandyte. The contrast coming home was very marked. To leave a lush, green and verdant England with its heavily leafed broadleaved woodlands and brimming wetlands to return to the deceptively green but underlyingly dry, stressed bushland of Warrandyte was to realise just how damaging the last few years of drought have been.



Morris dancers.

Our trip actually started in sunny warm weather when I visited the Chelsea Flower Show. So it made perfect sense to attend lectures on sustainable gardens and new trends. It soon became clear though that the British idea of dry weather and ours in Warrandyte hardly coincide. While garden designs made some concession to water collection, major innovation in grey water recycling or water conservation measures was less apparent.

The speaker on new garden trends spoke on more familiar themes to gardeners here. He promoted using local species in natural plantings, which for UK gardeners would be a major switch away from their herbaceous borders and bright annuals. He also advocated growing hard and tough, pointing out that without excessive watering plants grow hardier and do not require staking. But when he spoke of removing lawns he lost his British audience entirely as they were concerned they would also lose birds and wildlife. No doubt the wet summer has removed the immediate impetus for water conservation there, unlike here where the drought is provid-

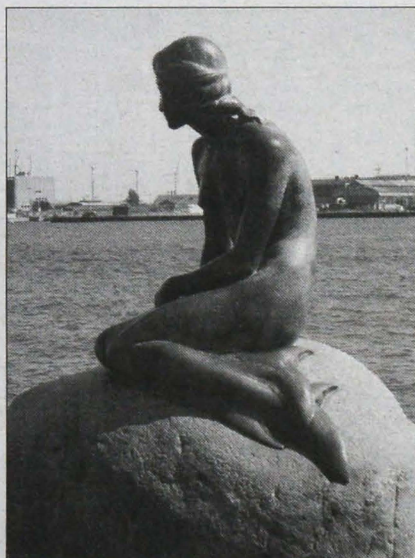


View, Flatford, Suffolk.

ing ongoing motivation for water conservation measures.

However there was little doubt climate change was at the forefront of many people's thoughts in many of the countries we visited. Groups such as Warrandyte's CAN (Climate Action Now) are popping up all over the UK, disseminating information and exploring ways of empowering people to make change happen.

But whereas we are still having the debate about wind energy in Australia with resistance to wind farms, we saw a thriving wind energy sector in Spain and Scandinavia with wind farms spread across the landscape. We walked part of the Way of St James in northern Spain where according to our leader, Galicia's wind energy sector produces 20 per cent of its energy needs. Denmark too aims for 20 per cent and there were wind farms of various sizes everywhere we went. There is a pride in the sector here and it has spawned a world-wide export industry. Most visitors to Copenhagen take a photo of the famous statue of the Little Mermaid who sits on a rock on the edge of the harbour. I wonder do they all notice the wind turbines on the other side of the water?



Little mermaid statue, Copenhagen.

There's been a lot of discussion in Warrandyte about reducing dependency on cars, particularly for shorter trips. Watching cyclists in Denmark was a joy because it's not all lycra and speed but sedate cycling in normal clothes (but rarely helmets) along clearly defined and respected bike lanes. Cyclists enjoy rights to road space, and there are bike racks in every public place and storage places in buildings. It was most impressive.

I was also impressed in Florence (bursting with tourists) to see its well patronised small

Pictures by **AUSTIN POLLEY** and **STEPHEN REYNOLDS**



Bikes, Copenhagen.

electric eco-buses negotiating hectic city streets. An experience repeated in a number of small Italian towns. Our Italian train was on time, clean and efficient and very well supported by locals and tourists alike. We were fascinated by double-decker trains and wonder why they cannot be introduced in Victoria to relieve some of the overcrowding on the rail system?

Melbourne is not alone either in debates on housing affordability and encroachment into green zones. In England there were strong calls for the green belts around the cities and towns

to be used to provide more housing sites to alleviate pressure on the housing market and the ever-rising house prices. Local authorities argue that if regional housing targets set by central government are to be met, the green belts that have been the mainstay of environmental protection for 50 years could be severely impacted. UK green belts are used to buffer urban areas from farmland and it is wonderful that there is such a clear delineation between urban areas and countryside rather than endless ribbon development and conurbations. However it appears speculators have bought large areas of green belt land in the expectation that planning will be relaxed on rural protection rules to answer the increasing pressure to absorb some of this land for urban development.

There are counter arguments. One says there is still enough land, including brownfield sites to cater for demand and relaxing planning controls would only unleash a wave of unsustainable development. Another says new homes on green belt land would simply perpetuate problems already created, especially increased dependency on cars. There have been calls to stop immigration to limit demand and, somewhat radically, to ban owning second homes. The debate was still raging when we left and seemed far from resolution.

While northern Europe for us was wettest, southern Europe was hot and dry. Warrandyte may be one of the worst places for bushfires in the world but the French Riviera also ranks up there. Their forests do not seem to have the same capacity for regeneration as the Australian bush and there was plenty of evidence of past fires in the hills, but we were lucky not to experience any (that was the fate of visitors to Greece).

What we did see though was evidence of preparations by the *Sapeurs-Pompiers* (local firefighters). This was very marked with robust all-terrain fire trucks capable of climbing the steep gorge slopes readied at the stations and well turned-out and prepared firefighters on hand. There was a palpable sense of nervousness on hot, windy days, as there is here in similar conditions, but fortunately summer appears to have passed without problems for that particular area.

Speed and road signage have been a somewhat contentious issue for Warrandyte in recent years. We were impressed in Denmark where the speed limit in smaller towns and villages is 50kph. Approach too quickly and a sign flashes giving your speed and telling you to slow down. It was a bit disconcerting at first (we felt sure they were speed cameras) but we came to appreciate them. There is no excuse for speeding if you have been told you are going too fast. Evidently there will be some illuminated speed signs on the main Warrandyte-Heidelberg Road near the High School to warn drivers when the 40kph limit applies. Perhaps others at each end of the 50kph through the township would also be beneficial; it can be all too easy (particularly for visitors) to miss the advisory signs.

While it's great travelling it's great to be back. Back to debates on community buses, bike tracks and footbridge connections, speed restrictions and road signage, water conservation. Green Wedge development and bushfire preparation. Isn't it interesting that in so many ways the view from afar is very similar to the view right here?



Home again: Gridlock-on-Yarra.

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'Week of Arts' at Andersons Creek



The arts took centre stage at Andersons Creek Primary School last month as the kids celebrated their very own "A Week of the Arts".

"Throughout term 3, students rehearsed their performances—including drama (pictured), singing, dancing and gymnastics," Grade 2 teacher Michelle Gamble said.

"They also created a variety of visual arts pieces for display around the school."

Finally the long-awaited opening ceremony

arrived, with performances by students and staff and a guest appearance by Dancing With the Stars performer, John-Paul. This was followed by exhibitions of artwork around the school and several concert performances.

"The week was a great success," Ms Gamble said. "Each concert had an audience full of parents, family and friends. All the students showed great enthusiasm for the arts."

Winning isn't everything at Warrandyte Primary School

The kids at Warrandyte Primary School are good sports—on and off the playing field.

A recent Being a Good Sport day at the Veneto Club in Bulleen emphasised this for a group of Year 5 students.

"The aim of the day was to build such good character traits as freedom, punctuality, gentleness, diligence, wisdom and gratefulness," principal Gillian Binger told the *Diary*.

The students took part in a variety of sporting activities including football, soccer, cricket,

basketball and bocce.

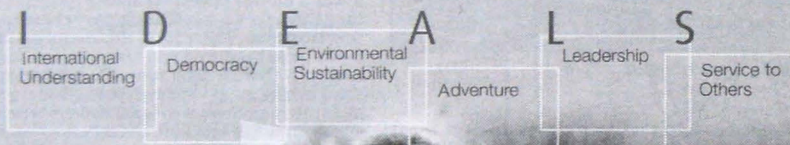
"Working in a team, encouraging others to do their best, demonstrating fairness and respect were all aspects on the day," Ms Binger said.

The program was supported by Manningham council.

Good sports: proudly displaying their certificates are—girls (L to R) Ellen, Zerah, Anneke, Paige and Georgia; boys (L to R) Sid, Sean, Kieran, Tim and Alex.



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Yarra Street inferno

Words and picture by SANDY BURGOYNE

Two alert, early morning commuters saved a shop in the post office block from total destruction by fire late last month. Both noticed that the usually brightly lit Carrington's Reproduction Furniture and Giftware shop was in darkness as they drove past and stopped to investigate.

When they saw that the curtains in the front window were melting they rang 000. Six CFA trucks turned out, two each from Warrandyte, North Warrandyte and South Warrandyte brigades.

"One of the fire guys said that had it been another hour we mightn't have had a shop there at all, or the other shops beside it," Julie MacKechnie, the furniture shop proprietor, told the *Diary*.

The fire apparently started in a hot water service, which was in an alcove under the stairs at the back of the shop. The early alert from the commuters plus the prompt response of local firefighters saved the building from substantial damage. However, some stock was destroyed.

Fire destroyed stock at Carrington's Reproduction Furniture.



"I might have lost about 20 per cent, but every piece has got smoke damage, so every piece has to be cleaned.

All items had to be removed from the shop so that repairs could go ahead. When the *Diary* went to print Ms MacKechnie was arranging premises in Warrandyte where she can carry on her business for the next couple of months.

"I had all my Christmas stock coming in.

"If I can get (temporary premises) at least the customers will know I am still trading," she said.

Amazingly Ms MacKechnie sold a large cabinet the day after the fire.

"(The client) had been in on the weekend and rang me...and I said 'I'm sorry but we had a fire'. The cabinet she was interested in was still alright and she said 'we'll take it'."

Ms MacKechnie has received many offers of help and for temporary storage of her remaining stock from clients and local business owners.

"There has been at least a half a dozen customers come in and say I'll give you a hand.

"The response of people around has been unbelievable," she told the *Diary*.

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Community needs more firefighters

Bushfires raging in NSW as the *Diary* goes to press underline the reality that the fire season is opening earlier and earlier each year.

In an effort to maintain a full force of firefighters to stand ready to deal with this menace, the South Warrandyte CFA brigade is making an urgent call for volunteers.

"Each year seems to be hotter than the last and the fire seasons are longer and more severe," the brigade's Tom Goldstraw told the *Diary*. "However, something that is not changing is the need for volunteer firefighters—and these are becoming increasingly difficult to find.

"In today's economic climate, it seems that residents of areas such as Warrandyte are 'money rich and time poor'. This results in donations being up each year, but unfortunately money alone doesn't

extinguish fire.

"At the end of the day, CFA relies on volunteers getting on the truck and going to a fire or incident. This cannot be sustained without new members."

Brigade captain Peter Plant said, "Our annual appeal is supported tremendously by our residents, for which we truly are grateful. But we need all our community to play their part in protecting our townships, farmland and bush from fire."

CFA offers two main roles for volunteers: active firefighting and such non-operational support roles as community education.

"The South Warrandyte CFA brigade is located in Brumbys Lane and is now actively recruiting," Mr Goldstraw said. "We need people over the age of 18 to help provide this invaluable community service."

● Call Tom Goldstraw on 0427 688 852.



Standing ready: South Warrandyte CFA firefighters need new members.

A prickly situation

Pictures by JAN TINDALE



This drought is getting me down. I'd give anything for a nice long drink.



This Brown's Gully garden is as dry as chips. I'm sure there's a pub round here somewhere.



Ah, at long last. And with a nice, cool beer garden and all.



I'm out of here. I'll head back to the river. Always sure of a drink there. Last time I looked...

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The South Warrandyte CFA volunteers provide community education and emergency service support to Croydon Hills, Warranwood, South Warrandyte, Park Orchards, North Ringwood and Donvale 24 hours a day, 7 days a week 365 days per year and we are looking for members of our community to put something back by becoming a volunteer fire fighter or support personnel.

For further information on how to become actively involved in your community please contact Tom Goldstraw on 0427 688 852.



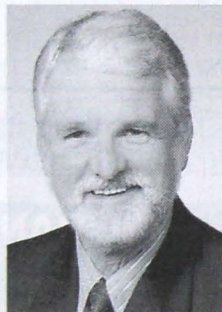
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Over the boardwalk

Above: Forced to detour because of stabilising work along the river walk between the Webb Street and Lions car parks, many local residents are discovering the pleasure of using the recently-constructed boardwalk. Left: Meanwhile, work on the new riverbank path and stone wall continues apace.

(Pictures by Stephen Reynolds and Sandy Burgoyne)

Bank gives cash



All cashed up: Lucky local groups show off their Bendigo Bank sponsorships.

The Warrandyte Community Bank branch of the Bendigo Bank continues to live up to its name, contributing \$35,000 to local community funds.

At a special function last month, 30 local sports clubs, schools and other groups received financial support for a variety of special projects.

These included \$1500 each to Warrandyte Primary School for electronic whiteboards and Warrandyte High School for woodworking equipment.

A Wonga Park group—Blackwood 8—received \$1500 for a cocktail party to raise funds for cancer research.

Warrandyte Netball Club was given \$1100 to purchase training equipment, Yarra Warra Preschool has \$1000 to spend on developing a website and

the local Uniting Church also received \$1000 to establish a garden adjacent to their Peace Wall.

Local bank board chairman, John Provan, told the *Diary*: "This brings our total community contribution to almost \$100,000 over four years. That's a great return to our area, helping local groups and events to prosper."

"These sponsorships are all thanks to the ongoing support of the local community. With the growth of lending and deposits at the branch, and the increasing number of customers supporting the branch, higher levels of sponsorship funding are expected in future years," he said.

According to Mr Provan, the bank is assisting the establish-

ment of retirement housing in Warrandyte by way of sponsorship and financial assistance.

"Retirement housing is a big issue in Warrandyte and one which we fully support," he said. "We have pledged to assist the community, and this is one area where there is an ideal match."

Board member Sarah Wrigley said the committee was planning next year's round of sponsorship funding.

"Clubs and organisations will receive information by April, applications will close at the end of May and we hope to announce the grants in July, 2008," she said.

● Further information from Sarah Wrigley (9844 2678) or Mark Challen (9844 2233).

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Retiree housing project rolls on

By SANDY BURGOYNE

Since the public meeting in August, the Warrandyte Community Retirement Housing Co-operative has continued its work to bring retiree housing to the district.

To date, the organisation's board has received expressions of interest from approximately 50 households in their effort to build a cluster of units on land in Harris Gully Road. However, a great deal more work remains for the co-op.

"At the moment we are not able to open up the membership of the co-operative to a wider membership because we are still working on the rules and eligibility criteria," board member Val Polley told the *Diary*.

Part of this preparation includes formulation of a prospectus, which will be submitted to the Australian Securities and Investment Commission for its approval. This process is not expected to be ratified until the end of the year, or possibly early in 2008. However, the co-op is still able to accept expressions of interest in the housing project.

"If people are interested we would love them to register with us. Then we'll keep them in touch with the progress on the project as we proceed," Ms Polley said.

Meanwhile the co-op board continues to work on many other necessary tasks.

"A survey of the block has been commissioned and undertaken.

"We've been drawing up briefs for the planning process, for designers and architects. So basically the board's been going ahead with concept plans for the site.

"We have been looking for support and assistance from local organisations and councils. We've got Bendigo Bank and Manningham City Council and the Warrandyte Lions all promising financial support, which is fantastic for us at this very critical period of this development," Ms Polley said.

"Since ... those units were built in Everard Drive, I think this is the nearest we've got to another lot (of retiree housing) which is really nice," she added.

● Enquiries about the housing project should be directed to co-op board members Val Polley, 9833 3086 or Sarah Wrigley on 9844 2678.

Open day at new police station

They're watching more of you!

Neighbourhood Watch in Warrandyte is being extended. The crime prevention program arrived in June this year, serving 350 homes west of the Recreation Reserve. The service will now include 300 families living south of the Heidelberg-Warrandyte Road between Melbourne Hill Road and Harris Gully Road. Newsletters containing Neighbourhood Watch information have been distributed to all residents in the area.

● For further information, please call area manager Phil Clark on 9844 3091.

Everyone in Warrandyte is invited to celebrate the completion of our new police station at an open day and barbecue next month.

The station was officially opened by Chief Commissioner Christine Nixon in July. "Now it is your turn to visit this lovely new building, see the children's mural and enjoy the ambience," Marjorie Lapworth of the Police and Community Consultative Committee told the *Diary*.

Everyone is also invited to visit the rejuvenated Community Garden adjacent to the police station.

"We now have our brand-new 10,000 litre water tank and associated plumbing installed, donated by Cr Patricia Young and local businesses," Ms Lapworth said.

The tank is collecting rainwater off the police station roof next door. "Hopefully all plot-holders will be inspired to get their summer crops planted, with lots of fresh vegetables and summer flowers sprouting."

The PCCC, Warrandyte Neighbourhood Watch and Doncaster SES are joining forces as part of a state-wide initiative to combat the theft of registration plates.

The project is called "Operation Safe Plate", when motorists will be provided with a set of one-way security screws, making the theft of number plates more difficult and acting as a deterrent.

Victoria Police will be conducting Operation Safe Plate as part of the open day program.

"This initiative is a perfect example of the police and the community working together to combat crime," Sgt Keith Walker told the *Diary*. "Theft of number plates is on the rise. By taking these extra precautions, the community can feel confident they are using effective measures to prevent crime."

● The open day will be held at the Warrandyte Police Station in Police Street on Saturday, November 17, between 10am and 2pm. Tea, coffee and a barbecue lunch will be provided.



Warrandyte's new police station: come and explore.

Honouring local citizens

By EMMA CLARK

Wanted: upstanding members of society who have made a valuable contribution to the local community.

If you think you know someone who fits this description, nominate them for the 2008 Menzies Community Australia Day awards. Kevin Andrews, federal member for Menzies, recently called for nominations for the awards, which "recognise the valuable contribution that many people make to our

local Menzies community and to celebrate our national identity". Nominations close on Friday, November 9.

The awards ceremony is held on Australia Day and has grown in popularity, with about 800 people gathering each year to honour award recipients and celebrate Australia Day. The awards will be presented at Manningham City Council's function centre in Doncaster. As part of the ceremony, each award recipient will be presented with a special certificate to acknowledge his or her local contribution. Last year's recipients included Margaret Mangan and Trudy Reum from Information Warrandyte and Ron and Helen Cuthbert from the Warrandyte Lions Club.

To nominate someone, contact Kevin Andrews' electorate office on 9848 9900 and ask for the 2008 nomination booklet which contains further details about the awards and includes a nomination form.

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The Personal Assistant uses their own car to transport their senior Clients to and from medical appointments, shopping trips, hair-dressing appointments and so on. They assist with house-hold chores, read to their Clients, explain instructions to them and make their appointments for them; in fact, it is pretty much up to the Client as to the service they want on any one visit. Sometimes the Client may wish to send the Personal Assistant out to perform messages, preferring to stay in on the day, perhaps next to the fire or out of the heat.

The Personal Assistants also organize for minor maintenance to be done, and wherever possible try to be at their Clients' home at the time of service to ensure all goes smoothly and safely.

Locals of Warrandyte and the surrounding areas will know of the vast difference between living in such a beautiful bush environment, and the alternative of city dwelling.

Unfortunately until now, services such as those being offered by **VOGUE SENIOR CARERS** have not been available to outer-city areas.

Even with the most positive intentions, family can only provide so much assistance, particularly during the week; most of the time they have busy city careers and their own family commitments that need to be met. Hence when seniors have begun to find it difficult to perform everyday tasks, often the only solution has been to move into a retirement village or nursing home and out of the Warrandyte area. This is where **VOGUE SENIOR CARERS** comes in; enabling our seniors to remain self-sufficient and content in their own homes.

It should be noted that **VOGUE SENIOR CARERS** is not a nursing service, but rather a provider of Personal Assistants and Companions to the seniors of our society who just need a little help to remain happy and independent in their own homes.

Does this sound like you or someone you know? If so, please contact **VOGUE SENIOR CARERS** on 03 9607 8372 for a **FREE, NO-COMMITMENT** based interview with one of their staff. You can find out further information via their website www.elderlyeliteservices.com.au.

Please also note that **VOGUE SENIOR CARERS** are also looking for further dedicated and motivated carers. If you are interested in becoming a Personal Assistant please call on 9607 8372.

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● ELECTION NEWS

Labor candidate on the environment

ALP candidate for Menzies, Andrew Campbell has released an Environment Pledge, setting out his plans to deal with environmental issues at the forthcoming federal election.

"This electorate is way ahead of the Howard Government on climate change issues," Mr Campbell told the *Diary*. "People are very conscious of their environmental footprint, and want to do more."

"I believe there is a lot we can do at the local level. I want the Menzies electorate to be at the forefront of climate change action."

"In the next three years, the Menzies electorate can expect my full commitment to the promotion of the following:

Promoting Solar Power/Water Tanks/Solar Hot Water for Houses and Businesses: A Rudd Labor government will help us to undertake action in our homes up to \$1000 rebate through its solar hot water rebate program. Further, Labor's Green loans will provide low-interest loans of up to \$10,000 for the replacement of greenhouse-intensive systems, ensuring that climate-friendly hot water through solar hot water systems are affordable.

Climate Change Targets: I will strongly support all efforts to effectively tackle climate change. A Rudd Labor government would have a target to reduce emissions by 60 per cent on 2000 levels by 2050, based on what CSIRO tells us is needed to avoid dangerous climate change.

Green skills: As a tradesperson myself, I am aware of the



ALP candidate Andrew Campbell launched his federal election campaign at the Upper Retreat Restaurant in Doncaster recently. Guest speaker was the shadow finance minister, Lindsay Tanner, shown above (right) with Mr Campbell.

great need for specific trade training for solar energy installations and other efficiency measures. Labor's proposed \$2.5 billion for trade training centres will support vocational education, trades training and on-the-job training opportunities for a million students in Years 9 to 12 in all of Australia's 2650 secondary schools. Including Green Skills on the curriculum will provide us with the specialised trades people that a growing environment-friendly industry requires.

No nuclear in Menzies: I want to make sure that Menzies remains nuclear-free. Labor is opposed to nuclear reactors, enrichment and waste dumps in Australia. Mr Howard has refused to rule out a nuclear reactor in Menzies.

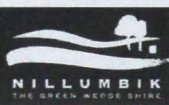
An improved river system:

Many homes in Menzies are still using old septic tank systems. Leaching of effluent from these affects water quality for us all. Labor policy is for a \$250 million partnership to fix leaky pipes and up to \$500 rebates for householders to install rainwater tanks and third grey water pipes."

Mr Campbell praised Manningham council for its promotion of water management and sustainability schemes.

"Our electorate is in the best position to move forward on climate change. Federal Labor has a comprehensive plan to tackle the climate crisis through a clean energy revolution and an achievable renewable energy target."

● Further information from Andrew Campbell on 419 872 387.



Improvements to St Andrews Hall and Reserve

Nillumbik Shire Council invites you to comment on the proposed improvements for the St Andrews Hall and Reserve.

Improvements to the Hall include renovation of the kitchen, construction of a deck over the existing water tank, better disability access, landscaping works, heating and cooling, as well as an upgrade to the existing toilet block.

Come and see the plans and speak to Council officers at the St Andrews Hall and Reserve on Tuesday 16 October between 10am and 12noon and Thursday 18 October between 7pm and 9pm.

Council officers will also be at the St Andrews Community Market on Saturday 13 October and Saturday 20 October.

Copies of the draft concept plan are available from www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au or by contacting Donna Stoddart on 9433 3216.

Written comments will be accepted until Friday 26 October 2007 and should be directed to Donna Stoddart, Senior Environmental Planner, Nillumbik Shire Council, PO Box 476, Greensborough VIC 3088 or emailed to Donna.Stoddart@nillumbik.vic.gov.au.

Nillumbik Pet Expo 2007

Nillumbik Shire Council is holding its 12th annual Pet Expo in October at Marngrook Oval, Diamond Creek.

Come and participate in lure coursing, obedience classes or competitions. See Jack Russell Terrier racing, snakes, lizards, rabbits, rats, dogs, even a crocodile, and many more animals.

You can get advice from local vets and training instructors, you can even get your pet microchipped. Why not enter your pet in a free competition, heats include longest whiskers, largest pet, smallest pet and more!

Venue: Marngrook Oval, Diamond Creek
When: Sunday 28 October
Time: 10am-4pm
More information: Vin Molony, Senior Municipal Laws Officer, on 9433 3306

www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au
9433 3111

Candidates to debate Iraq

A forum to debate the issue of the war in Iraq with local election candidates will be held in the district later this month.

Kevin Andrews, local federal MP and minister for immigration will attend, along with the ALP's Andrew Campbell and David Ellis from the Greens.

Warrandyte resident Kristen Chisholm is joining with other local members of the group Unity for Peace to organise and promote the forum.

Calling the war "a terrible and

tragic mistake", Ms Chisholm expressed her concern that Australia and its US ally, having started the war, "did not appear to have a strategy either to end it or to make Iraq safe for Iraqis and for the rest of the world."

"There is also now the prospect of the war expanding into Iran," Ms Chisholm told the *Diary*. "This is a prospect that terrifies me, and others, I am sure."

The forum will be chaired by Mr Waheed Aly, spokesman for

the Islamic Council of Victoria and well-known lawyer, academic and commentator.

"We are not looking for confrontation," Ms Chisholm said. "But we are looking for a solution."

The forum will be held at the Bulleen/Templestowe Senior Citizens Hall, corner of Manningham Road and Balmoral Avenue on Friday, October 26, commencing at 7pm.

● For further information call 9844 1673.

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All proceeds go to helping our community's needy and disadvantaged.

One spring weekend in Warrandyte



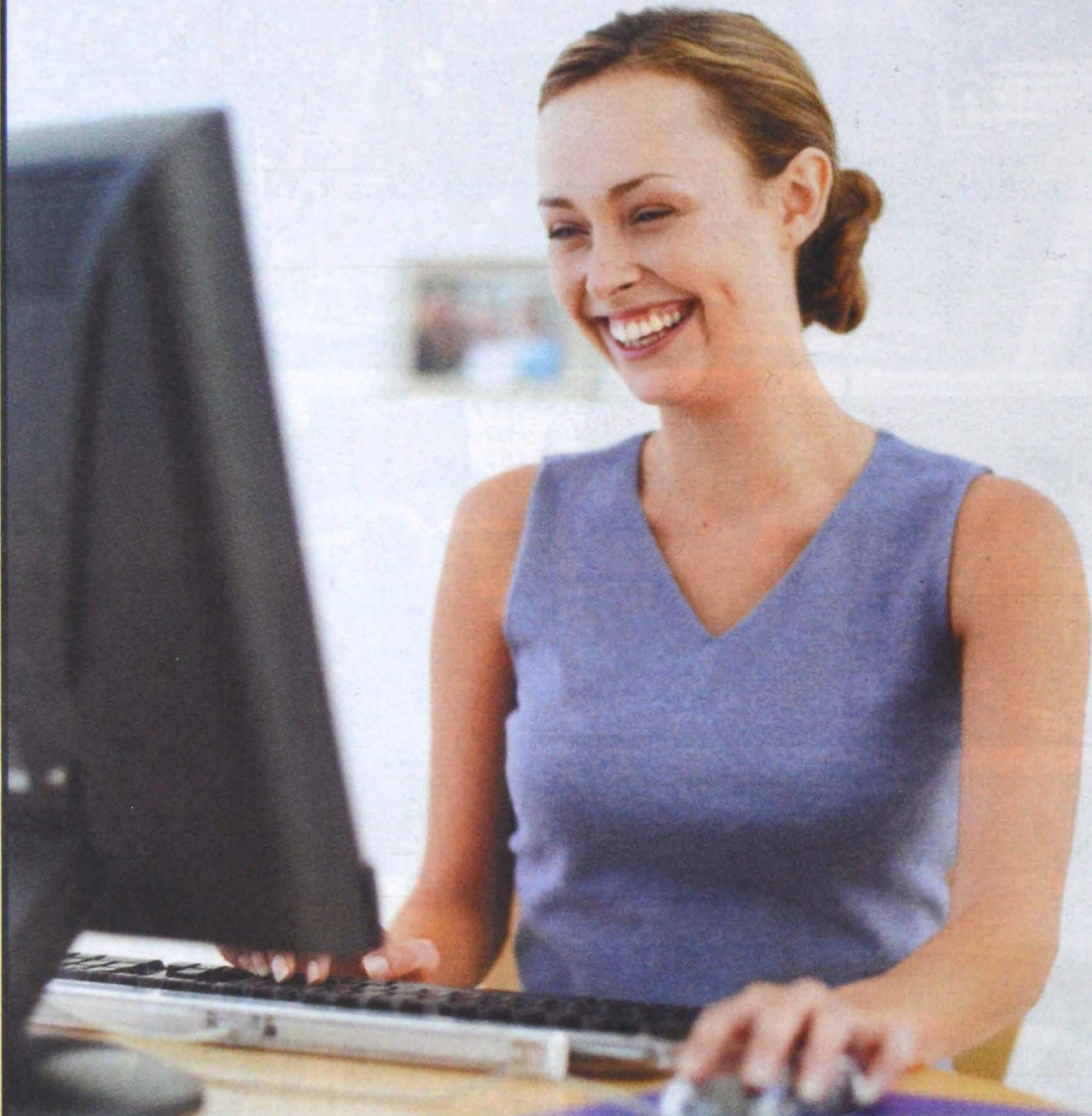
Pictures by **STEPHEN REYNOLDS**



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WARRANDYTE

Designed to Impress

This brand new architect-designed home within tranquil surrounds is guaranteed to impress at all levels. Features open living area, kitchen with marble bench top, s/s appliances and glass splash back. This home is infused with light from full length windows which perfectly complement the polished floor boards. Add to this 4 BRs, 2 bathrooms, evap cooling, ducted heating, remote double garage with internal access—all on a large approx 1,300sqm.

Price: \$640,000–\$680,000



WARRANDYTE NORTH



TEMPLESTOWE

The Good Life

The good life of today is about less stress, which is exactly what you'll enjoy on this 1-acre retreat. With its outdoor spa, airy living zones with French doors, and a lush clearing for camping adventures at home, this corner block is made for leisure. With four huge bedrooms, two living areas, plus a stunning designer bathroom with slumped glass and a double shower. Room for boats, caravans and pets.

Price: \$829,000



WARRANDYTE NORTH

Walk right in, sit right down!

It's the kind of home that welcomes you from the moment you step inside—a charming and sunny setting with Austrian lace blinds, 10 ft ceilings and art deco accents that make you feel like settling in for a cup of coffee. The two-storey 4-bedroom is tucked away in a private estate of upmarket homes, with its own playground at the end of the street. Bringing the outdoors in is a stunning high-pitched pergola with café blinds for year-round enjoyment.



WARRANDYTE NORTH

Artist Wanted for Final Brushstrokes

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

SOLD



WARRANDYTE

Down by the Riverside

Immerse yourself in the Warrandyte lifestyle with this character-filled brick home that backs onto the Yarra. Set on a flat acre with views of stunning native gardens from every room, the 3BR and study offers the rustic ambience of an open log fire, combustion heater, slate floors and two tranquil outdoor sitting areas. With walking tracks, guest koalas and swimming holes on your doorstep, it's easy to see why the owner has spent 34 years enjoying this bushland retreat.

SOLD



WARRANDYTE

Your country dream at "Alwillen"

Enjoy the tranquillity and privacy from this renovated 1940s solid double-brick home set on almost half an acre of Edna Walling-inspired English gardens. Period features blend with modern comforts across this two-storey home with breathtaking views over the river valley. Double frontage, a separate home office/studio, other external buildings and potential subdivision open up a world of possibilities. Just minutes from Pound Bend Reserve, the river, shops and schools.

SOLD



Moving On Up

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

SOLD



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Warrandyte Sustainability Expo



Saturday October 27



10am - 4pm Warrandyte Community Centre

Talk to the experts, attend Info Sessions, find out about products and services that will help you lower your carbon emissions & save money.

Things like: **Solar Electricity, Solar Hot Water, Insulation, Draft Proofing, Water Tanks & Systems, Grey Water Treatment, Carbon Audits, Lighting, Ventilation, Shades and lots, lots more!**

Expo participants and their products and services are not necessarily endorsed by WarrandyteCAN

See The Energy Explorer a mobile hands-on energy education centre featuring:
 *Solar Electric Panels (Photo Voltaics)
 *Solar Hot Water *Wind Turbine *Hydro Power system
 *Hydrogen Energy System *Energy Efficient Technologies
 *Sustainable Building Design...& more.

The trailer is set up outdoors, making use of the available sun and wind. Operated by an education specialist, the Energy Explorer is equipped with many interactive workstations.

www.zeroemissionnetwork.org.au/host-wcan



For further information:
 Wayne Rankin : 9844 1959

WarrandyteCAN make a Difference!

Manningham City Council Local Environment Update

www.manningham.vic.gov.au



Rabbit control

Rabbits are now busy breeding like rabbits! So its time to seek out where they are living (especially gullies) and discuss your observations with your neighbours.

The time is right for destruction of warrens and harbour to make safe breeding more difficult for rabbits.

For assistance with rabbit control, call Brad Tadday, Pest Plant and Animal Control Officer, on 9840 9132.

ClimateWise Now! workshops

Learn how to significantly reduce your carbon emissions at Council's upcoming 'Get ClimateWise Now!' series, by being part of a Carbon Rationing Action Group (CRAG).

Commencing on Thursday 18 October, eight themed workshops will cover topics such as solar energy, domestic wind energy, electric transportation, green building & retrofits, greens financing, food miles and serious recycling, with discounts and exciting offers for carbon rationing participants.

Rationing Carbon & Green Financing workshop: 6.45pm - 9.00pm, Thursday 18 October

Location: Council Chambers, 699 Doncaster Rd, Doncaster.

Cost: Free

Enquiries: Kay Toussaint 9840 9348

Sustainable fundraising

Through Council's Climate 2020 Forums local clubs, schools, community groups can raise money while helping the environment.

By attending the three forums you can receive up to \$600 worth of compact fluoro lights to use as fundraising products for your group, and help create a climate wise and energy smart municipality.

Application Forms are available upon registering for all three forums or from www.manningham.vic.gov.au.

Dates: 6.45pm - 9.00pm, 24 October, 28 November, 12 December

Location: Council Chambers, 699 Doncaster Rd, Doncaster

Cost: Free

Enquiries: Kay Toussaint 9840 9348

FOWSP 25th anniversary

As a supporter of the Friends of Warrandyte State Park (FOWSP), Manningham City Council would like to congratulate the group on 25 years of volunteering.

FOWSP is a volunteer organisation that helps to maintain and rehabilitate native bushland in the Warrandyte State Park. Its membership of about 320 households has, over the last 25 years, made a significant contribution to helping Parks Victoria care for ecosystems within the Park.

Coming Up...

Sunday Walk

Yarra Brae to Jumping Creek
 28 October 2007
 8km and 4 and a half hours

Environment Seminar

Micro Bats
 7.30 pm, 7 November 2007
 South Warrandyte Hall

Sustainable Cities Forum

Re-imagining the Australian Suburb
 6.15 pm, 25 October 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.

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PROUD MAJOR SPONSOR OF THE WARRANDYTE FOOTBALL CLUB

Up a lovely river by coach

Yarra Riverkeepers have arranged a bus and talk journey beside the Yarra River between Warrandyte and Christmas Hills on Sunday, October 14 from 9am to 4.30pm. Knowledge of the Yarra's formation, river flows, wildlife and urban impacts will be discussed by a group of experts in these fields including Ian Penrose from Yarra Riverkeepers and Dave van Bockel from Parks Victoria. Areas to be visited include the Yering Pumps, the new Henley golf links and the Warrandyte State Park. The tour will leave from Warrandyte with a BYO picnic at Jumping Creek Reserve. Tickets to cover bus costs are \$15 for members and \$20 for others. For information ring Ian on 0448 927 720. To book ring Maria on 9853 9141. Passenger numbers are limited.

Landcare

The annual general meeting of the Andersons Creek Catchment Area Landcare Group will be on Tuesday, October 30 from 7.30pm to 9.30pm at the Warrandyte Senior Citizens Centre in Taroona Avenue. Guest speaker Murray "The Bird Man" will be talking about the local bird life.

Relay

A human rights torch relay, protesting human rights abuses in China, will pass through Warrandyte on Friday, November 23 arriving here about 4.30pm. The relay will especially highlight abuses against the outlawed Falun Gong. The organisers are planning various local activities, possibly including singers,

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.

speakers and a candle-lit vigil by the river. For further information, please call Janine Rankin on 0423 302 607.

Wines

Eltham College of Education are conducting a short course "From the Vine to the Cellar Door" to be held at the Eltham Hospitality and Viticulture Training Centre, 25 Eltham-Yarra Glen Road, Kangaroo Ground commencing on Friday, October 26 for 5 weeks. Participants can learn about different grape varieties, what happens in the vineyard, how different wines are made and the effect of region, climate and other factors on the taste and aroma. To book call Janette Wallace on 9437 1421.

Spring

Manningham council have arranged a number of activities to celebrate spring outdoors in the municipality, including seminars and guided walks. Copies of their brochure are available from the council's civic offices at 699 Doncaster Road during business hours or download



Warrandyte Neighbourhood House volunteers and staff spent a week last month assisting at a Forest Hill opportunity shop, known as the Lions' Den. Half the takings were donated to WNH—\$750. Denise Farran and op shop manager Mary are shown appraising stock. (Picture by Jan Tindale)

through www.manningham.vic.gov.au

Garden

Bev Hanson's garden in Webb Street will be open to the public on Saturday, October 20, between 10am and 12noon as part of Manningham council's Spring Festival. "Visitors who cherish bush settings are in for a real treat," mayor Ron Kitchingman told the *Diary*. "Bev is a professional garden designer who has

nurtured the Australian bush on her 10 acre property, which adjoins Warrandyte State Park."

Workshop

Manningham residents can create their own limestone sculptures at an upcoming workshop being offered at the Manningham Arts Centre, 177 Foote Street, Templestowe. Rhonda Symons will conduct this course on Saturday, October 20 from 10am to 4pm. Cost is \$70 including all tools and equipment including a quarter block of limestone. Limestone is a very soft, powdery stone and is perfect for garden sculptures.

Climate

Two new programs—Climate 2020 Vision Forums and Get Climatewise Now!—are being launched by Manningham council. Community groups taking part in Climate 2020 will have the opportunity to undertake some sustainable fundraising while helping to generate action towards a climate wise and carbon neutral municipality. Get Climatewise Now! Workshops will teach residents how to significantly reduce their carbon emissions. The programs will run through October, November and December. Further details from 9840 9348.

Dinosaur

Dorothy the Dinosaur is expected to grace Manningham council's Spring Festival at Ruffey Park Lake on Sunday, November 18, commencing at

12midday. Along with a number of her friends, she will lead the kids through such toe-tapping numbers as Hot Potato, Romp Bomp A-stomp and Fruit Salad.

Visit

All citizens of Victoria and visitors to the state are invited to visit Government House, Melbourne on Australia Day, Saturday, January 26, 2008. Visitors will be able to view the state apartments, the private apartments and the Governor's study. Many of these rooms are not normally open to the public. Visitors will be able to picnic in the grounds, refreshments will be available to purchase, there will be children's entertainment in the grounds and musical performance in the grounds and inside the house. Admission is free. Do not hesitate to call Alex Hodgson on 9655 4211 or email chris.cregan@govhouse.vic.gov.au for further information.

Antiques

Residents can bring their antiques to be valued at an Antique Fundraising Fair to be held at the Manningham Gallery, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster between 10.30am and 3.30pm on Sunday, November 11. The entry fee will be based on \$5 per item, or \$30 for up to seven items.

Volunteers

Anyone wishing to volunteer with Do Care to help with older or disabled people in the community please ring 9762 5211 for further information.

artyfacts

Studio

Diary artists Ona Henderson and Syd Tunn will be holding Open Studio weekends on November 10,11,17,18,24,25 and December 1 and 2. The studio, at the corner of Oxley and Henley Roads, Bend of Islands will be open from 12 to 5pm on these days. Studio visits can also be made by appointment by ringing 9712 0393.

Stonehouse

"Indigene", currently showing at the Stonehouse Gallery, features Sandra Dare's pastel portraits of people from different cultures. The medium allows Sandra to produce tangible qualities of her subjects with a serenity provided by the play of light and shade. This exhibition is complemented by claywork by Margaret Perry and Jan O'Neill. The show opened on October 7, and will close on November 4. The gallery is at 103 Yarra Street, Warrandyte.

Palette

As part of Mental Health Week, the Mixed Palette Artists group is currently holding their biennale exhibition "Shades of Our Soul" at the Manningham Gallery, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster. The exhibition closes on October 20. The Mixed Palette group consists of 11 experienced local artists who hope to promote painting as an outlet for difficult emotions that mere words seem incapable of expressing. The gallery is open from Tuesday to Friday, 11am to 5pm and Saturdays from 2pm to 5pm.

COREY'S COMMUNITY

By SYD & ONA

HAIRY BUSH POET



CLYDE & OCKER



"You standing in the federal election, Ock?"
"Not unless it rains!"

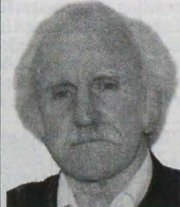
Now is the time to get rid of the current member for Menzies —Kevin Andrews the Minister for Mistakes!



Judith Pleasance:
"I've seen kids who are being exploited by Work Choices. They have to take the wages and hours they can get, and no penalty rates. Our children deserve better than this."

MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

(mistake)



Peter Dougherty:
"I cannot come to terms with a Minister for Immigration whose treatment of Dr Haneef and so-called solutions to asylum seeker issues display a total disregard for human dignity and basic human rights."

MINISTER FOR IMMIGRATION

(mistake)



Karen Throssell:
"For me he'll always be the Minister who imposed his personal religious beliefs on the country. When his 1996 Euthanasia Bill overturned the NT Bill on the Rights of the Terminally Ill, he set a precedent for trampling States' Rights, as well as preventing thousands of people from being able to choose to die with dignity."

MINISTER FOR THE AGED

(mistake)



VOTE

1

ANDREW CAMPBELL

Authorised by Jean Chapman
13 Taroona Avenue, Warrandyte

It is time to get rid of the Minister for Mistakes. We now have a great local candidate who knows and cares about Warrandyte and our issues, and is a member of a party that is able to deliver.

We will be supporting the ALP's Andrew Campbell in Menzies as the only way to rid us of the Minister for Mistakes and to ensure we have a humane and democratic government once again.

Warrandyte Community Market

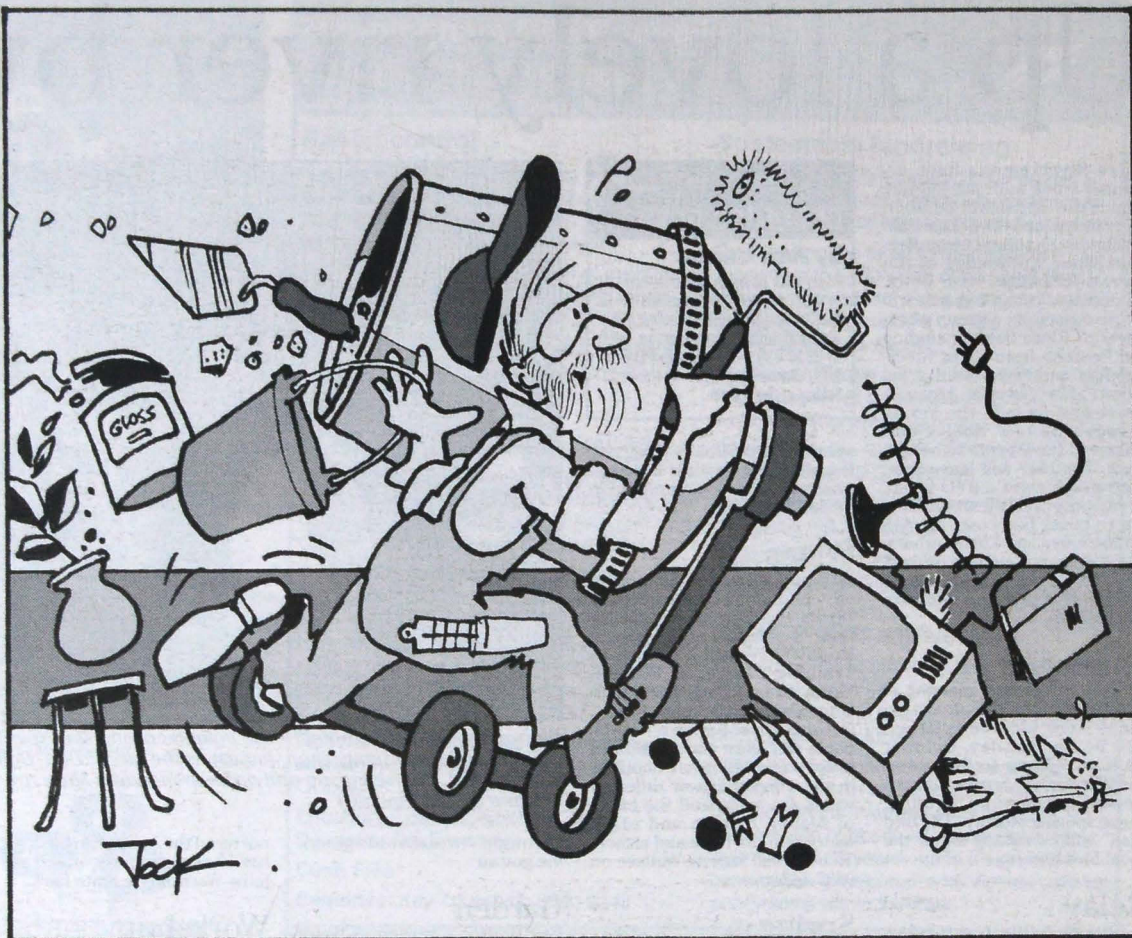
Under the gum trees, beside the Yarra on Stiggants Reserve, Yarra Street, Warrandyte First Saturday of each month - except January, 9am-1pm.

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

Ample parking. Light refreshments available.

Bring along your family and friends.

Enquiries: 9844 4495



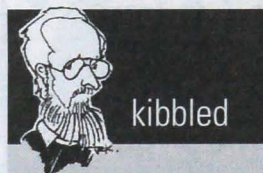
Never do today what you can put off 'til tomorrow

HERSELF thinks the inside paint in our house needs "freshening up" and that it's a job I should enjoy doing.

Years ago I wouldn't have thought twice about starting the job straight away. Now however, I take a bit of time before starting as I have to consider the "what ifs" and "should I..." and "do I really know how to..." issues that mark me as a man who is starting to lose his concrete mixer daring, which is a pity because one of the greatest aspects of our vital adulthood is the willingness to give it a go.

Herself and I married in the late 1960s and for our first year of marriage, we moved to Shepparton to work. Now you all know that the Goulburn Valley is the centre for stone fruits. Peaches and apricots were in plentiful supply and when at dinner time our landlord dropped in with a box of peaches, it took no more than a nano second for Mother Earth, aka Herself, to decide that such bounty had to be bottled straight away. Fortunately she had bought some Fowlers preserving bottles at the Olde Goodes shop the day before so all the planets were in alignment. Nowadays, even Herself would wait until dawn before starting the bottling process but then we were young and indomitable.

At 10 o'clock we had some



"Now however, I take a bit of time before starting as I have to consider the 'what ifs' and 'should I'..."

vague thoughts that perhaps we could have allocated more time for the process. By 12 we began to get anxious about the pile of fruit still to be bottled. By two o'clock we decided to forego the last pile of cut fruit and headed for bed. At six we were up and ready for another day of possibilities. We looked at the bottles of fruit and felt nothing but joy. The possibility that we had been a little foolhardy didn't cross our minds.

Nor did any qualm surface in my mind when I decided to lay

Castlemaine slate on the slab in our family room. I had no experience with either slate or concrete and my apprenticeship was non-existent. What was so difficult? Many of my friends were much more adventurous, building their own houses from self-made mud bricks and telephone poles. All I wanted to do was lay a floor covering.

In those days you could buy the pieces of slate at any garden supply place and the helpful man assured me that I needed random pieces as that would give the desired natural look. Today I would ask about weight and thickness and would want to know whether I could carry the pieces on my own and how I might cut the stuff, but none of those questions were asked. I also should have asked more about the issue of adhesion of cement to floor and cement to slate, but I didn't.

It was interesting manoeuvring the cement mixer past the front door, down the passage and into the family room. I'm not quite sure why I thought the mixer should be inside but I did. It would have been far easier and more efficient to keep the thing outside but hey, I was on a roll!

There were the shades of our bottling experience. By the time I started thinking that carpet had a definite appeal, it was too late. Unless we could be happy with a three centimetre ridge running across the floor in a

decidedly random fashion, I just had to keep going. I can see why people start with a narrow path down to the clotheslines. If it goes wonky there, all you need to do is build up the soil around the edges and plant ground-cover to hide the imperfections. It was the 1970s, but even for us, thyme plots in the family room weren't on the agenda. I did finish the flooring and it looked okay. Admittedly I had forgotten about the cupboard doors and had to take them off and cut off several centimetres before they would open. The floor did drum a bit and was terribly hard on the feet. Also, if you weren't eternally vigilant you could trip on some of the slightly thicker slabs.

Now it's time to regain our past. Just writing this has re-kindled my fire. I was going to approach the painting job in a reasoned and time-consuming way but dammit, life's too short. I just picked up the Bunning's catalogue and noticed that they have a spray painting kit for sale. It says that it's suitable for the experienced professional but, hey, I know how to use a kitchen cleaner trigger spray and it can't be more difficult than that, can it?

You know you're on the slippery slope when you start to think twice about wheeling the cement mixer into the living room.

ROGER KIBELL

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"It's the only newspaper published in Warrandyte, Clyde!"

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All funds raised are used by Rotary for community projects including Warrandyte Housing and Support Services.

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Our intrepid columnist was abroad in darkest Africa

I HAVE just spent a month in East Africa and it would be impossible for me not to write about the experience. Such a bombardment of the senses cannot, realistically, be condensed into one short column. Instead I will describe some of the highlights, lowlights and strangelights of the people, places and of course the animals.

We began our travels with two weeks in Uganda—a verdant country, intensely cultivated on the plains and steep hillsides. Precious islands of tropical rainforest, woodland and savannah grassland have been preserved as national parks and serve as fragile sanctuaries for some very rare birds and animals.

The extreme poverty of the proud people is confronting. Most villages have no electricity, no running water and no sanitation. Average life expectancy is around 45 years, consequently there is an over abundance of children and few old people.

Tourism in Uganda is only just recovering from the Idi Amin era and while it is now considered relatively safe, visitors are still somewhat reluctant to come to Uganda. Consequently we had many places practically to ourselves.

Uganda is dominated by a string of massive lakes and rivers—most notably the Nile. At the Murchison Falls the mighty Victoria Nile thunders through a narrow chasm, exploding with awesome force, plummeting some 300 metres to continue its journey as a broad placid river to where it meets its counterpart—the Albert Nile.

All the expected African animals can be found in Uganda's national parks including lion, elephant, giraffe, hippos, leopard and various antelope, but it is the primates that are the real drawcard of this country's



national parks.

We had three separate encounters with chimpanzees in the wild. One was a day spent in the company of two dedicated rangers who were involved in the very slow process of habituating a group of chimpanzees for future tourism. On another occasion we came very close to a group of previously habituated chimps on the ground, following a young male as he made his way through the forest looking for food.

Without doubt the pinnacle of our trip was the gorillas. Permits are in such demand that we had obtained ours nine months earlier. For our visit we had chosen to stay at the Travelers Rest Hotel in Kisoro where gorilla guru Diane Fossey spent much of her time when not up the mountain.

The night before the trek I lay

in bed and worried—would we get there in time (it was nearly two hours drive to the park headquarters and the roads are atrocious)? What would the weather be like (notoriously unpredictable, it often rained and the forests are frequently doused in low cloud)? How far would we have to walk (it can take a whole day to find the gorillas)? Would we cope with the very strenuous terrain (said to be physically demanding)? Would we even get to see the gorillas at all? I tossed and turned with anticipation.

It was perfect. Leaving Kisoro in pitch dark we arrived at the park in brilliant sunshine. There were seven of us, plus one guide, one armed guard and several porters. It was not easy. The narrow winding track down to the rainforest was steep, very steep and muddy—one awk-

nature

By PAT COUPAR

ward slip and an ankle could be seriously compromised.

Finally, reaching the bottom of the valley (some 500 metres below) we crossed a gurgling crystal stream and immediately entered the Bwindi impenetrable rainforest. It is not a misnomer. Ahead, our guide began cutting a path through the tangled jungle. We followed, slipping and sliding on bums, grabbing what vegetation we could for support.

Word came back from an advance tracker on a walkie-talkie, that the gorillas were not far away. Shortly after, the guy in front of me turned around with a huge grin on his face and pointed a short distance away to a round, jet-black bundle. My heartbeat accelerated. As we advanced I saw the family in a small clearing they had made. There were about five of them including the massive alpha male silverback. We watched in silence as they lazed around—some on their backs—leisurely picking leaves, gently grooming each other, rolling over, playing with their toes. Others arrived, including a youngster, swinging playfully in the branches of a tree.

I kept telling myself: this is real, I am actually here, less than five metres from these magnificent, but oh, so endangered placid primates. We had one hour with them and those 60 minutes will be etched in my memory for as long as my memory remains.

After Uganda we travelled to Tanzania for a completely different African experience, but alas I have completely run out of space to tell you about it!

It really is a long way down

SOME people thrive on fear. They wouldn't call it "fear" of course, they'd call it an "adrenaline rush" or a "massive buzz".

Other people quail at the prospect. They probably wouldn't call it "fear" either—they'd call it "common sense" or a very sensible "self-preservation instinct".

I'm in the belt and braces basket myself. Erring on the side of caution is a way of life around here. Why would anybody want to leap off a parapet, tethered at the ankle by a piece of elastic? Why would an otherwise rational person free-climb a near-featureless rock wall hundreds of metres above certain death? What sort of logic would drive a person to jump out of an aeroplane at 10,000 feet, anchored in the belief that some complex arrangement of string and fabric will prevent a messy impact?

Our beloved daughter has decided that parachute jumping is a challenge that just has to be faced. At least I won't be there to embarrass her by panicking on the spot. Watching kids,

our place

By MARILYN MOORE

anybody's kids, standing on the edge of even a moderate drop makes me go quite green around the gills.

Some parents have no such qualms. A few years ago near Katoomba I watched a large Indian family, enjoying a Sunday walk in their best saris and jewel-encrusted thongs, rush like lemmings to be first down a narrow flight of ladders that spanned the intimidating height of the cliffs.

The smallest children, five or six years old, realising that they weren't in the race, passed their waiting moments turning somersaults around the handrail. The drop below couldn't have been more than about 2000 feet. Enveloped in a cloud of joyous chattering and shrieking, the family straggled down the cliff face. What were the parents thinking?

Before this colourful tribe ar-

rived, I'd been hovering around the top ladder, vaguely wondering if I was brave enough to tackle it. Obviously this descent wasn't as bad as I'd been picturing. Perhaps the ladders dropped into a series of gullies and ledges. I peered cautiously over the edge. Nup. It was even worse than I'd feared, the sort of sheer drop that makes your legs wobble. I quickly decided that there are some things that you just don't have to do in this life.

The really stupid and annoying part of all this is that I'd been down that ladder several times, long ago, before the advent of children. I'd even enjoyed it. Maybe it's having kids that's the problem—too many years of saying "O! Get away from that edge! You don't know what's underneath the overhang."

It doesn't get any better, either. I've just spent another weekend in the Blue Mountains, this time at Jenolan Caves. Oldest in the world by far, the caves are spectacular on an international scale, undoubtedly one of Australia's great iconic treasures. Everybody should go

there. But not when they have a one-year-old baby. The caves are very safe and the ladders and stairs all well-maintained and secure, but there are some long, long drops into bottomless blackness. The stairs are sometimes steep—one needs to hang on with both hands—and the walkways very narrow. So why would you carry a wriggling baby down there, when by necessity the baby is held too near (if not actually over) the rail?

Although I admired the fearlessness of the young parents—and there really was nothing to worry about if they kept a firm grip—I was not the only one going green on this occasion. Each time the little girl toddled stumbly towards a sparsely wired guardrail, momentarily out of her parents' reach, we other three mothers in the group instinctively assumed the burden of fear on behalf of the real parents. While they were entranced by the cave decorations, the rest of us were seriously distracted by the baby.

Once a mother, always a mother, by the looks of it.

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Billy shows off high school top talent

THE Warrandyte High School musical Billy built on a tradition that began 25 years ago with HMS Pinafore. Last year it was rock and roll and prohibition, 1980s style, in Footloose. This year a more complex production integrated post-war English music hall, with boy's own fantasy, in the 1974 West End hit Billy.

Billy Fisher lives with mother, father and failing grandmother in the mythical Yorkshire town of Stradhoughton. Family conflict, the pending death of his grandmother and the drudgery of his working life make withdrawal into fantasy a seductive option for Billy. A self-confessed liar he is nevertheless a likeable character with a rich inner life where, apparently, everything is possible and nothing is of consequence.

The show opened with scenes of his dysfunctional family at breakfast. Billy, half asleep in his upstairs bedroom, wafled in and out of a dream. His father (Julian Byrne) is critical of his son's unrealistic approach to life. His mother (Georgia Vague) is impatient with his apparent laziness.

His grandmother (Laura Wynne) avoids the rows, and is the one member of the family who is content. Her demented perspective provided a rich vein of comedy, as did the inept strategies of Billy's parents as they tried to manage Billy's behaviour. While some of the early lines were lost to erratic accents, most of the exchanges featured clear and well-timed comedic delivery.

The witty, occasionally intense dialogue was intercut with figments of Billy's fantasies. With the help of an extensive cast, an overworked fog machine, dance, music, and a resourceful effects department, the audience journeyed with Billy through a diverse dream world he called Ambrosia. Plac-

theatre

By JEREMY LOFTUS-HILLS

es within Ambrosia were labelled with graphic titles hung stage right.

Glen Adams played Billy on opening night. He managed the cockney accent, copious dialogue, song and dance with enthusiasm and skill. Tentative at first he (and the cast) lifted to full voice half way through Act I with the cheerful ensemble "Happy to be Ourselves". The cast obviously enjoyed this routine and identified with the lyric. Thereafter Act I songs had more punch and certainty.

Shortly afterwards in "Lies", Billy is upfront about his deceptive nature in his best duet with Barbara, girlfriend number one (played by Amy Burns). Two scenes later the mood builds to a happy crescendo with another ensemble "Aren't You Billy Fisher?" an all-cast number with rhythmic tap dance and full chorus refrain that closed the first act.

If Act I was about Billy's inner world, Act II was about his outer life—at home, at work and in love. The transition between acts was achieved via a tender moment in the park with girlfriend number two, Liz (played by Shaan Noble).

Their romantic duet "My Heart is Ready When You Are" was telling in many ways. Potentially a show stopper, it offered to change the mood from comic to romantic. But while its comedic content survived, Glen and Shaan were unable to exploit its deeper emotional layers. In the same way some of the potential at the start of Act II was lost to underperformances in songs of nostalgic and romantic mood—"Billy", "Remembering" and

"Any Minute Now".

The players were back on song by mid-Act II. Billy once again enjoyed hearty laughs as he exposed human foibles with mockery, double entendres and vaudeville asides. Then at the Roxy Ballroom the mood changed again—from romance and nostalgia to rockabilly and fun, as competing loyalties were thrashed out in a full-blown cat fight. This was tangibly the stuff of teenage legend, and the cast's engagement added impact to these penultimate scenes.

The original libretto offered three resolutions to Billy's plight, two of which close the Warrandyte production. Ending number one (scene 6) featured Billy the dreamer and Liz, his true love, in duet with the improbable "I can make a difference". Ending number two (scene 8) was grounded in Billy's outer world. He missed the train that was to take him and his beloved to a better life. He stood bereft on the platform and sang the sorrowful "I missed the rainbow".

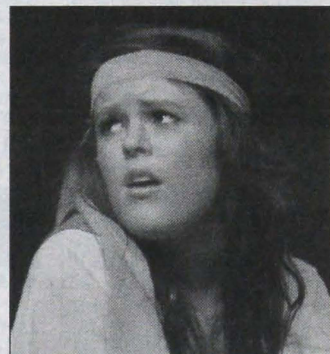
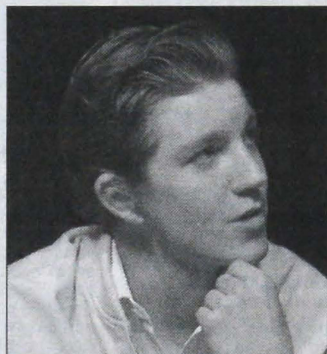
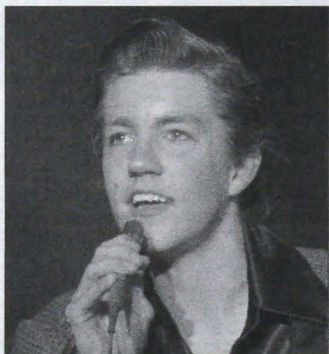
Overall the production values were high. The sure hand of ex-principal Michael Blake oversaw the smooth execution of hundreds of lighting, dance, song, sound and action cues. The 11-piece band was professionally orchestrated.

The set was well built and scene changes were seamless. The lighting and sound design complemented and reinforced dramatic development. The use of follow spots was innovative, but their blinding intensity may have inhibited a more vital connection between audience and actor.

A difficult, diverse and entertaining production held over six nights, Warrandyte's Billy was particularly effective when themes and moods matched the experience and values of the young performers.



Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS



Standing on the rim



I was standing on the rim of one of the world's most beautiful harbours... people smiling children laughing lovers holding hands—or taking photos of one another with their Nokias.

Painted wooden ferries hurried through waves of sea and sunshine. Sleek, expensive vessels too slid like rockets through diamonds and the air smelled of cappuccinos, foccacias and happiness.

On top of the quay a smorgasbord of entertainers showed their talents—a didgeridoo player, a contortionist and a young girl dressed in medieval garb with two studs in her nose...singing opera.

And amidst all of this happiness was the donkey. Not a real donkey but a bedraggled, dressed-up bag-of-bones donkey with his head hanging low.

I walked on at first something about the scene told me not to pause. As I continued on my way I heard his footsteps behind me, clip-clop, clip-clop... felt his pain.

I reached into my pocket and pulled out a coin turned and began walking back. But as I came close, he straightened up, moved swiftly then dragged his money-tin to the pillar and tore off his cosume.

He didn't really fit the image of the down-trodden, out of luck performer. His Nike sneakers and Dior sunglasses belied that. I passed a donkey today and I gave my money to the opera singer.

CORINNE FENTON

No one can hijack Jill's conscience



Jill Jameson

FROM working in the haematology research unit of St Vincent's Hospital when she was only 16 to teaching about death and dying, managing community development and organising emergency relief programs in Asia—it's peace activist Jill Jameson.

After growing up in suburban Melbourne, Jill, 69, worked in Sudan which has the world's now highest death rate in refugee camps, was hijacked in Sri Lanka en route to an emergency response assessment and she now works for peace with local communities, mainly in Asia.

"At St Vincent's I worked with people who had terminal illnesses like leukaemia and other blood disorders," Jill said. "It was extraordinary that I could work in that area after leaving Tintern at 16. These people often had a tranquility about them when they didn't have long to live and it had a profound influence on the rest of my life." Jill went on to India where she learned meditation and eventually became a Buddhist, whose teaching she said acknowledges suffering and the way out of suffering with non-violent ways.

"My father had been very much involved with community groups, especially the scouting movement. He was a big influence on me and my work and he stressed that service was very important. He was on an international committee and in the 1940s and 50s friends from the committee in Asia would come and stay and I've been going to India and Asia ever since."

At the moment Jill trains activists in Cambodia, Vietnam, Philippines



village people
By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

and on the Thai-Burmese border who help strengthen civil society on return to their local communities. "These trainees document abuses for international advocacy; human rights and environmental abuses caused by such devastation as the big dams which are supported by large multi-nationals, then the money goes to the military to buy further arms and abuse people. Concerns over human rights violations and earth rights and degradation go together," she said.

Her focus is on Burma, through the Buddhist and Australia-Burma network. "Hope seems possible now with the incredible technology we have, unlike during the 1988 uprising. These extraordinary images of monks, facing the soldiers' brutality while chanting loving kindness. There are such consequences for the Burmese people." She's particularly involved in training for women, workshoping facilitation skills, training self-help groups to write short proposals for funding and giving them the organisational capacity to run meetings and source funding for small groups.

"It's such a joy working with women at village level, sharing their stories, seeing their inner courage and resourcefulness. I've learned so much from them and I feel like a channel sharing their stories. These are some

of the poorest women in the world and it's a privilege—their resilience, turning great suffering into joy. Women's status in some of these countries is much lower and we support them to be empowered. They are women, disabled and refugees—triple areas of disadvantage.

"It's about conflict transformation—how to work with conflict rather than with violence, especially with organisations. Mediate and work through the differences and come to an agreement. Through Buddhism I realise that whatever happens I can make the best of it. As in being hijacked—I had to make the most of it, there was nothing I could do."

Sometimes Jill organises despair and empowerment workshops and transforms these feelings into possibilities. "It's about being what is, rather than wishing otherwise. Taking responsibility—having the ability to respond spontaneously and appropriately and move forward rather than clogged up with what might be."

She said she responds to tricky situations with a very deep breath, "and a belief that when my number's up, that's it," she said. "I've had such a full life and I have extraordinary gratitude for the opportunities I've had."

Jill's also working within the Warrandyte community, where she's lived for the past four years. "We're making a Manningham-Nillumbik green map, a tool charting all the eco-cultural assets of our community. People, plants and profits—a resource for the community and the future. It's for policy making, drawing on the skills at grass roots

level, and it feels really timely with climate change and the potential catastrophe ahead of fire, water and food. It's creative activation to maximise well-being and support," she said.

A neighbourhood house project, the green map records different environmental groups and businesses that support the environment. "It's charting the skills and resources in the community so people feel there's a voice, sharing our stories and learning from each other," she said. She's also involved with the Osborne Peninsula Landcare group, Warrandyte Climate Action Now and the Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture which brings together work with refugees in many countries.

"It's wonderful in Warrandyte, it's a very strong community. I love the bush and my daily walk by the river—the beauty of the bush, the inspiration of the changing seasons. The propagation of seeds and planting, to see the transformation taking place." Jill also has a passion for painting and colour. "I started painting the desert in Central Australia a few years ago to resolve my Australian sense of identity—my Australianness was rather hazy." She's studying oil painting at Montsalvat and has exhibited in group exhibitions.

She developed a love for the bush after being out with her father in different activities. She and her husband Graeme later farmed land adjoining the scout camp at Gilwell Park in Gembrook. "As a girl guide myself I had come to Warrandyte and there's an old picture of us which reminded me of boiling the billy down by the river. My connection with

Warrandyte went back to then."

She admires her American Zen teacher and founder of Buddhist Peace Fellowship Aitken Roshi as well as democratically elected Burmese leader Aung San Sun Ky, "seeing her practise what she's talking. Also Uncle Max, the Aboriginal elder, who respects all living beings. He talks about the bush, the use of plants, and we had a corroboree where all the participants took on the parts of the east wind, air, water, fire and earth. We need to develop a road map of how can we work better to look after the land from what they know after thousands of years respecting the land."

Jill studied sociology, completing a masters degree studying depressive illness in women and has taught in various universities including death and dying for people with terminal illnesses to biophysics students. Her three daughters are involved in community health and she has a stepson and daughter and nine grandchildren. One daughter works on HIV Aids for the United Nations in Kuala Lumpur.

"There's untold suffering caused by war, and greed takes over so often with politicians and multi-nationals. We need to reach out for transformation, reconciliation, forgiveness and well-being for all people," she said. "I have deep concern for the future for my grandchildren and others, deep pain that it could be too late and that drives the action now. If I had a magic wand I would wish for our politicians to wake up to the impact of climate change and take the necessary steps to a sustainable future."



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Redbacks' Under 12 are premiers again. Back row from left: Damian Arsenis (coach), Conor Gardiner, Zeph Hilton, Conor Lucas, Nathan DeLacy. Front: Dane Stewart, James Appleby, Zac Ratcliffe and Zac Plischka.



The Under 16 Girls were premiers in a heart stopper. Back row from left: Bruce Davis (coach), Justine Molony, Myka Johnston, Chelsea Witnish, Parris Webb, Carly Bensch, Michael Flynn (team manager). Front: Cassandra Doyle, Tayla Flynn, Jessey Telford and Eleanor Cousens.



Under 16 Boys premiers. Back row from left: Sam Holston, Luke Collins, Michael DeLacy, Liam Roadhouse Jack Power, Aaron Murphy coach. Front: Tim Apostolidis, Jarrod Buzzini, Daniel Kranuc and Jack Cousens.

Back-to-back for Venom's Metro boys

Warrandyte Venom's growth and depth continued to increase in 2007.

History repeated itself as the Metro 1 boys did it again by downing Dandenong by just two points to make it back-to-back wins for coach Damian Arsenis.

The boys went in to the game with a plan to ensure Dandenong would not be able to capitalise on their structured offence and to stem their dribble penetration.

Playing outstanding man-to-man defence, the boys managed to restrict Dandenong's scoring whilst capitalising on their own chances.

The teams traded baskets to begin the game and it looked set to be a close one. When Dane Stewart entered the game he immediately had an impact, scoring consecutive baskets to spark the Venom. Warrandyte rode this burst through to the main break and clearly had control of the game.

The Venom continued their outstanding teamwork and defence in the second half. When Zac Ratcliffe connected on two consecutive mid-range jump shots, the Venom had opened an 8-point lead with just over three minutes left in the game.

However Dandenong showed why they were a grand finalist and made a late run at stealing the premiership. The Venom dropped their guard and allowed the Rangers to close within two-points with just over 30 seconds left in the game.

Warrandyte composed themselves enough to hold on for a well-deserved win, 35-33. Zac Ratcliffe was awarded the grand final most valuable player award for his great leadership and team play.

BOYS UNDER 14-2

The U14.2 boys triumphed in their bronze medal game against Doncaster.

The Venom started the game determined to make up for the disappointing semi final loss to Doncaster two weeks before and from the tip off, it was obvious the boys were there to win.

Early baskets from Trent Arnold and Matt Ratcliffe saw Warrandyte take off to an

early lead, and they were never headed.

Doncaster were always going to be tough, with their two tall centres and fast guards. The Venom boys were not going to let the taller Doncaster out rebound them. Sean Cubitt and Rowan McKenzie fought hard on the boards and scored valuable baskets.

Matt Killey controlled the ball down the court and played tight and Lachie Moore provided some spark with ferocious rebounding and some timely baskets.

Tim Baker, back from an ankle injury, provided much needed height inside and pulled in some big rebounds. Jack Sumner rotated with the guards, played tight defence and grabbed a couple of tough rebounds.

Warrandyte went to the break 21 - 15 up, and their full court man to man defence made it difficult for Doncaster to get the ball down the court.

Doncaster got to within two points with under a minute to play but Warrandyte maintained their composure and controlled the ball to run out winners 38 - 36.

GIRLS UNDER 12 EASTERN

Emma Collins's Under 12 Eastern girls were also in the winners circle defeating Melbourne by 20-11 in the Grand Final at Waverley.

The Venom were strong from the opening and continued on with a strong performance to lead 10-2 at the break. Melbourne, to their credit, shaded the Venom in the second half but Warrandyte were worthy winners.

Beth Mooney was the top scorer for the Venom with nine points and picked up the Most Determined Player award. Madison Taylor with four points and Taylor Padfield with three points were the Venom's other main scorers.

BOYS UNDER 14 METRO 4

Aaron Murphy's Under 14 Metro 4 boys were always going to be winners regardless of the outcome in the Grand Final against the Sunbury Jets having won through from the elimination semi final game.

This was Aaron's first

Friday night Grand final as coach and the Venom started out well with the opening basket to Jack Power and the Venom held the slight advantage at 20-19 mid way through the second half.

Sunbury grabbed the lead emphatically with a three point to take the lead and the Jets' taller players started to swing the game their way and a better shooting percentage soon put points on the board.

Jack Power with 23 points and Liam Roadhouse with 10 points were the Venom's scorers.

GIRLS UNDER 16

Bruce Davis's Under 16 Eastern girls have no recent Friday Night experience and when they formed for this season, no one could have predicted the result.

A slow start to the season but a strong finish saw the team win straight through to the Grand Final to take on McKinnon for the flag.

The Venom opened strongly, Tayla Flynn scoring first for the Venom, and it looked like it was all over when the score line blew out to 16-4.

McKinnon slowly worked their way back into the game to close the gap only four points at the break.

The second half was the most tense 20 minutes any of the parents or players would have gone through with McKinnon narrowing the gap with the Venom hanging on.

Warrandyte's key defender Myka Johnston sitting on four fouls came back into the game with little over three minutes to go and scored a key goal to give the lead back to the Venom.

Eleanor Cousens tied the game up again for Warrandyte to answer a McKinnon score and Jessica Telford gave the lead back to the Venom with less than one minute to go.

A foul was called as the final siren sounded but McKinnon missed the first shot missed and Warrandyte were home 27-26.

In an even team Jessey Telford top scored with 11 points with Carly Bensch and Myka Johnston with four points and Parris Webb with three points.



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Redbacks bring home 11 titles

By TONY OLIVER

In one of the strongest performances in recent years, 19 Warrandyte Redback sides competed in the Grand Finals of the Saturday Basketball Competition resulting in 11 premierships and eight runners up flags.

Reflecting recent strength in the girls competition, Warrandyte came away with the Under 15 and Under 17 A Grade flags.

In a seasawing Under 17 game, Balwyn held a three point lead at the break but the Redback girls opened up the second half with a scoring blitz to reverse the score line and take a five point lead.

Balwyn were not overawed and with an impressive six out of seven from the free throw line again regained the lead.

Now it was Warrandyte's time, and when Kaitlyn Little drove successfully to the base line the Redbacks established a two point lead.

The final minutes were tense but controlled play from Warrandyte gave them the flag, the first time, as far as is known, that Warrandyte have won the Under 17 shield.

Melissa Zuccolo with 10 points, and Bonnie Jones seven points were Warrandyte's main scorers.

UNDER 15(1) GIRLS
Completing the A grade double, Nicole Howard coached the Under 15 girls to a win over Bulleen by 3 points.

Meg Dargen in a strong display was awarded the Most Determined Player award.

Nicolette Prior top scored with nine points and was well supported by Ashlee Brobbel with seven points and Courtney Petalas with six points.

UNDER 15 (4) GIRLS
Glenn Terry's Under 15 girls defeated Balwyn 17-15.

It was always a close game with the Redbacks down by two points at the break. Balwyn scored the opening point of the second half but with some good rebounding Warrandyte came back slowly.

Amy Burgoyne gave the Redbacks the narrowest lead with five minutes to go and extended it to three points with a good drive on the base line with 80 seconds to go.

Balwyn dragged one point back but Warrandyte hung on to win 17-14.

UNDER 19 (1) GIRLS
In something of an upset the Redbacks top age girls went down to Doncaster 29-33.

It was close all game but Doncaster were just too quick and shot too well.

UNDER 13 (1A) GIRLS
Reversing the semi final result, Kelli Taylor's girls picked up the flag with an all-the-way, but very close win, over Eltham.

Defence was the highlight and with a full team available, the girls showed at the end how good they were.

UNDER 9 (A2-1) GIRLS
The Warrandyte team were runners up to Park Orchards by 20-16.

"I thoroughly enjoyed coaching the girls this season. Making it to the grand final was solely due to the girl's commitments and improvement throughout the season, and is their just reward",



Under 15 D premiers. Back row from left: Amy Burgoyne, Olivia Falcone, Rachael Seraceno, Jasmine Dawson, Vanessa Branch. Front: Glenn Terry (coach), Emily Hutchens, Samantha Terry and Madelaine Dazenko.



Under 9 premiers, back row from left: Haydn Lockie, Harry Rock, Steven Garrick, Karl Papez. Front: Connor Martin, Jake Trewella, Kiama Harris-Allan, Callum Padfield.

coach Dale Leeson said after the game.

UNDER 9 (C2-2) GIRLS
"It was a lovely season and all the girls developed their skills - which is what it is all about" said coach, Jo Metcalfe.

"At this age, it is not about winning and losing".

UNDER 11 (B1-2) GIRLS
Ann Cousins's girls took on Ivanhoe and came away with a 32-28 win.

A five point lead at the break to the Redbacks soon evaporated and Ivanhoe established a five point lead with eight minutes to go.

The Warrandyte girls dug deep and slowly inched back into the game and Maddison Taylor gave the Redbacks back the lead with four minutes to go.

Ivanhoe quickly responded but Tegan Hume gave the Redbacks the lead which they held onto.

Maddison Taylor with 12 points and Taylor Padfield with six points were the Redbacks top scorers.

UNDER 11 (C2-2) GIRLS
Jacki Howe's Under 11 girls had an easy win over Eltham by 24-7.

The Redback girls opened the scoring and were never challenged. Paige Biondo with 12 points was the main scorer.

UNDER 15 (B2) GIRLS
Two weeks before the finals this talented team were sitting in fifth place so reaching the grand final was a positive result itself.

Warrandyte opened brightly against Balwyn racing to a 9-2 lead after four minutes play. Balwyn were taller and

being more effective in the key, and went into the break leading by eight points.

Balwyn had the better of the opening of the second half but the Redbacks with determined play got back to within two points with just over six minutes to go.

Balwyn however broke the spirit with a three point outside shot, their fifth of the game, to edge ahead.

Balwyn went on to win 39-35.

Jesse Taylor with 13 points and Eleanor Cousins and Taylor Flynn with six points were the Redback's top scorers.

UNDER 11 (C2-1) GIRLS
Robyn Jones's Under 11 Girls came up against Marcellin in the Under 11 C grade final. Sadly the Redback girls were no match going down 30-6.

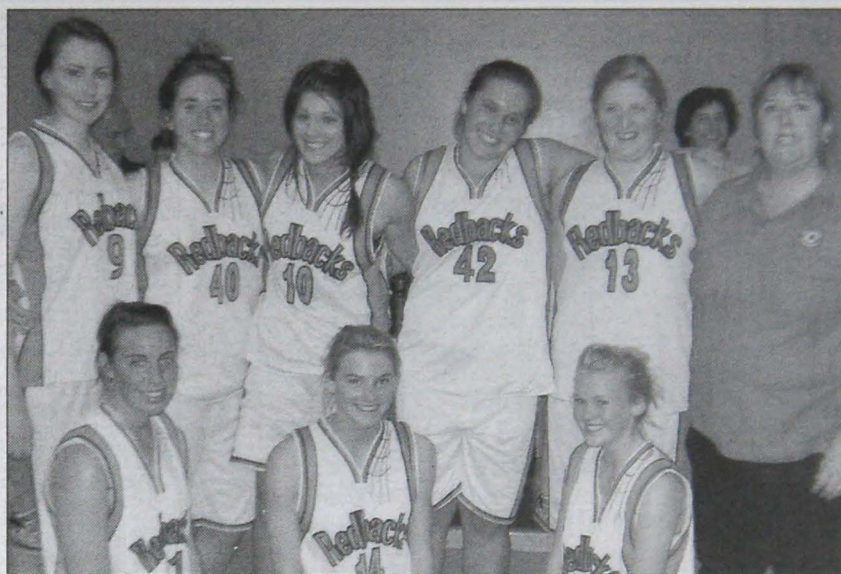
Kirsten Berriman, Georgia Falkingham and Misty Taylor scored two points each for Warrandyte.

UNDER 11 (AR-1) BOYS
Coach Ian Wood paid tribute to David Spinoza's defensive play after Warrandyte's Under 11 AR boys defeated Eltham by 43-32.

While Warrandyte scored the first point of the game (Zac Ratcliffe from the free throw line), Eltham were done more in the first half and turned with a one point lead.

Warrandyte were hampered to an injury to centre Chris Bolands in this half. But he returned to the game with a bandaged face after having "bitten" his tongue in a clash.

With better rebounding ability, Warrandyte edged



Redbacks' Under 17 Girls premiers. Back Row: Kirra Solty, Fiona Rennie, Natalie Metcalf, Melissa Zuc-colo, Ashlee O'Brien, Jenni O'Brien (coach). Front: Philippa Birch, Kaitlyn Little and Bonnie Jones.

ahead and were able to close out the game.

Zac Ratcliffe top scored with 12 points, with solid support from a number of players including Dane Stewart (8), Connor Gardiner (7), Nathan DeLacy and Chris Bolands (6), Zeph Hilton and Zac Plischka (2).

UNDER 9 (DB-3) BOYS
Coach Fiona Rennie said her team had really progressed and developed well this season but all games had been close.

As it turned out, things went Warrandyte's way, with an easy 32-14 win.

Main scoring was by Kiama Harris-Allan (18) and Callum Padfield (8). Kiama collected the Most Determined Player award.

UNDER 15 (DB)
The last game of the night was Bryce Petalas's Under 15 boys taking on Balwyn.

In the previous game Balwyn had easily defeated Warrandyte by over 20 points and with a restricted number of players the outlook was not good for Warrandyte.

But everything went the way of the Redbacks, with an easy 44-16 win to Warrandyte.

All players were on the scoreboard, Matthew Colbourne-Veel with 18 points, Nicholas Toohey (10), Mitchell Lambert and Xavier Longfield (6), and Aaron Spotswood and Alistair Douglas (2.)

UNDER 17 (CC) BOYS
The Under 17's CC team took

an early lead in their Grand Final against Banyule with a turnaround jump shot from Nathan Annand, quickly followed by Sam Porter's slick drive to the basket for another.

Luke Miller's baseline three-pointer kept the team in front and Alex Dzenko threw up a floater that fell straight through for another two points.

Tim Bendle built the points considerably with on-target foul shots and by half-time Warrandyte stood at three points ahead 14-11.

There was excellent defending under the ring by Nick Branch and Daniel Mueller and Tim Hall's presence on the court revved his team mates up and kept them on track. Jordan Hutchins finished off strongly, hitting two deep three's to extend the lead.

Banyule fired up to close the gap to three but Warrandyte held on for a 30-27 win. Most Determined Player was awarded to Jordan Hutchins.

UNDER 13 (DB) BOYS
Doug Hilton's Under 13 DB boys won their Grand Final against Nunawading in a fiercely fought battle - especially the second half, during which both teams scored 20 points.

Although having a slight height advantage, Warrandyte had to work hard to maintain their lead throughout the game.

With a half-time score of 18-6, the Redbacks had reason to feel confident, but needed to ensure they stayed focussed throughout the second half.

Jack Robson made some amazing defensive rejections throughout, and an equally impressive 'steal and score' was made by Chapman in the first half.

In the last four minutes, Jesse Givens-Lamb thrilled the Warrandyte supporters with his full court lay up that resulted in another two points on the board.

At the final siren, the score was 38-26, leaving the Redbacks jubilant at the end of an incredibly successful season.

Cam Mackintosh was the top scorer for the team with a total of 14 points.

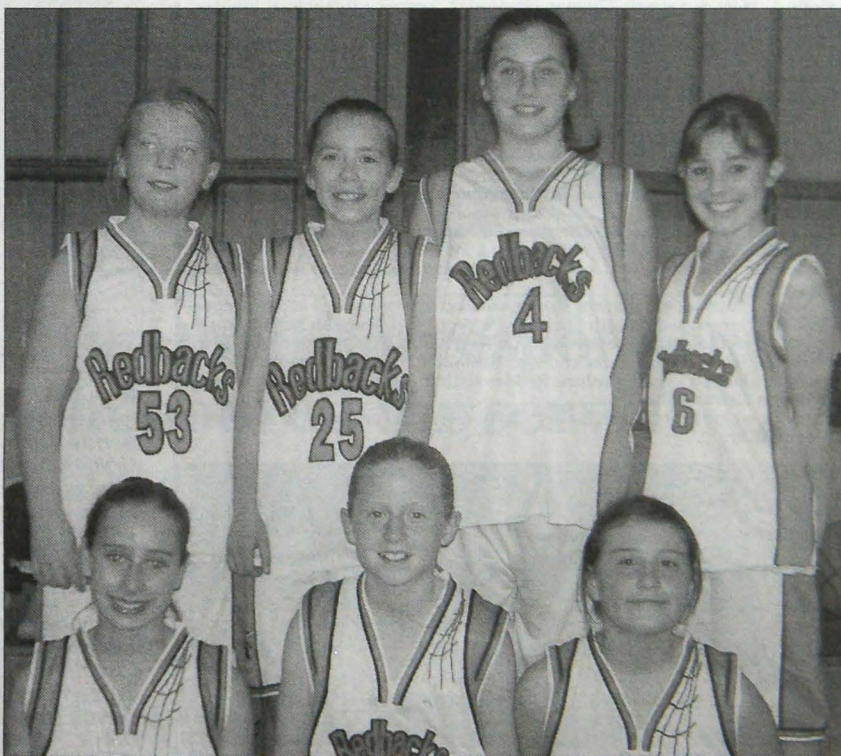
UNDER 9 (CA-1) BOYS
Nickey Tucher's Under 9 boys went down by 30-28 in a close game.

"The boys played like champions in a game between two equally matched sides," said Tucher.

UNDER 13 (DB) BOYS
Frank Gatti's boys were runners up against Eltham in the Under 13 DD grand Final.

UNDER 11 (CB-1) BOYS
Mark Arnold's boys finished second on ladder and went on to the Grand Final game against Bulleen Templestowe, in Division CB.

Despite a great team effort, the boys were runners up going down 24-30.



Redbacks' Under 11 C Girls were premiers over Eltham. Back row from left: Micaela Bumpstead, Sarah Dent, Molly Lavery, Ellen Glendenning. Front: Paige Biondo, Courtney Howes and Liana Branch.

Warrandyte junior football



Kevin O'Mara, left, is presented with his Life Membership by junior football club president, Steve Blakey.

Life Membership for Kevin O'Mara

Kevin O'Mara. Kevin has been awarded only the ninth Life Membership in the history of the Warrandyte Junior Football Club.

Kevin has had two boys play at the club from tackers right through to Colts and he has been a tireless worker at the club through all those years.

He has been a strong supporter to his two boys, Paul and Joe, right through their junior career and spent many of those seasons as the assistant coach/runner.

Kevin joined the committee very early on and spent several years looking after property and grounds.

He spent one year as assistant secretary and then became secretary in 2002, a position he held for four years until his youngest boy

Joe played his last season of juniors.

Kevin was awarded the 'Club Person of the Year' award in 2000.

In the last two years since leaving the junior club in an official capacity, Kevin has kept close links with the club and takes a keen interest in both its on field and off field activities and is a regular at Family Hours.

He has also taken his love of junior football in a different direction by taking up umpiring in the YJFL.

Kevin also served on a couple of sub-committees at the club and is also still a confidant and mentor to many at the club and is always willing to pass on whatever advice or knowledge he can to ensure the club is a better place.

Juniors name their award winners

Warrandyte Junior Football Club recently capped off their season with their annual presentation day and two Colts dinners.

The club held separate sit down dinners for both colts teams which were well attended by players, parents and friends alike.

Club president Steve Blakey paid tribute to all associated with the teams and especially wished those top age colts in their final year with the club all the very best for their future and strongly encouraged them to continue their playing careers with Warrandyte in the Under 18's.

As well as the trophy presentations, another highlight was the announcement of Tristan Valentino as next year's club captain with David Beasley club vice captain.

The two colts dinners were followed by separate trophy presentations for all other teams from tackers through to Under 15s.

Results of the main awards were as follows:

Colts 1 Best & Fairest: Thomas Fitzpatrick; runner up, Michael Whittle; third, Tristan Valentino.

Colts 2 Best & Fairest: Caleb Atkinson; runner up, Grant Westgarth; third, Mathew Falkingham.

Under 15 Best & Fairest: Andrew Reddie; runner up, Josh Harris; third, Lachlan Chapman.

Under 14 Best & Fairest: Darcy Jones; runner up, Sam Tansley; equal third, Sam Beasley and James Kalinchev.

Under 13 Best & Fairest: Ryan Exon; equal runners up, Tim Nilsson & Jacob Ballard; third, Jack Power.

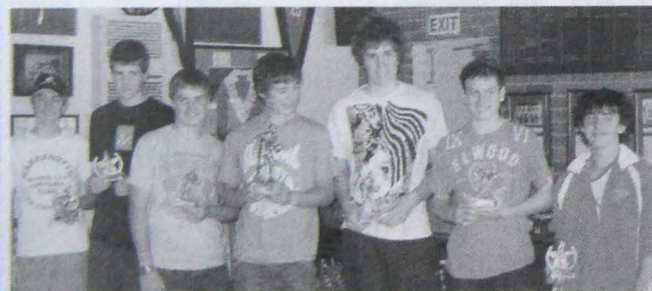
Under 12 Best & Fairest: Ryan Tester; runner up, Joe Hardy; third, Matthew Collins.

Under 11 Best & Fairest: Christian Petracca; equal runners up, Reece McKenzie & James Appleby; third Jason Castagna.

Under 10 Best & Fairest: Josh Beasley; runner up, Lachlan Wintle; third, Conor Lucas.

Several Warrandyte players also performed extremely well at the League Best and Fairest awards with Christian Petracca and Reece McKenzie finishing third and fourth respectively in Under 11 Gold, Ryan Tester second in Under 12 Brown, Ryan Exon and Zac Galbally fourth and seventh respectively in Under 13 Gold, Andrew Reddie sixth in Under 15 Div 2 and Caleb Atkinson fifth in Colts Div 4.

In other club news, Steve Blakey was re-elected as president at the club's recent AGM.



Under 14 Trophy winners Dylan Burns, Taylor Hayton, Sam Beasley, Darcy Jones, Sam Tansley, James Kalinchev and Mathew Colborne-Veel.

A hat trick of the best Bloods

By RICK GORDON

Three players shared the honour of best and fairest for the Warrandyte Football Club in season 2007. Rick Bourke, Tom Naughtin and Matt Wood all finished on 18 votes at the club's presentation night.

The mercurial 'Red Rick' Bourke pushed his way back into the seniors this season after spending most of 2006 in the reserves following a chronic groin injury and made an immediate impact with his skill, pace and courage.

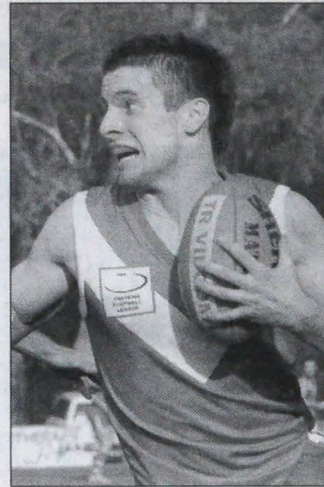
He also took out the "Madge" Allsop Shield for Most Courageous.

Team captain Tom Naughtin has always played with little regard for his own safety, and despite missing a number of games through a serious ankle injury, was able to win the Players' Award and the John O'Brien Club Champion Shield.

In an emotional speech, Tom spoke of his love of the club and thanked the many volunteers who contribute to it.

It was Matt Wood's fifth Best and Fairest for the Bloods, and he was also honoured with selection on the wing in the EFL Third Division Team of the Year.

Coincidentally, there was also a three way tie for second, with forwards Lee Evans, Michael Morello



Tom Naughtin ... joint Best and Fairest winner and Players' Award winner.

and half-back Dion Mullet-Treleor all earning 15 votes.

Josh Eyre finished third on 14, but may have won the award if he had

not left the club for Duntroon to train as an officer in the army.

Best first year player went to the high marking forward Luke Dunn. Seven of the above players started their football playing for Warrandyte as juniors, which is seen as a great credit to the junior club and reflects the emphasis that the senior club has on developing and rewarding local talent.

There was also a tie for first in the Reserves award, with Chris Chapman and Sean Donovan both taking trophies, with James Bowen second and Bernie Opteynde third.

Craig Lincoln was awarded Most Courageous, Brad Wilton Most Determined, and Brian 'Bruno' Elliott took out the Players' Award.

Premiership coach Peter Green was farewelled by club president Phil Treeby, who thanked Peter for his work in developing the young local players and strengthening the ties with the junior club.

Green responded by emphasising his belief in the importance of the local club. "A tremendous bond of fellowship and community exists in this club, from the players, coaches, committee, volunteer helpers, parents and supporters."

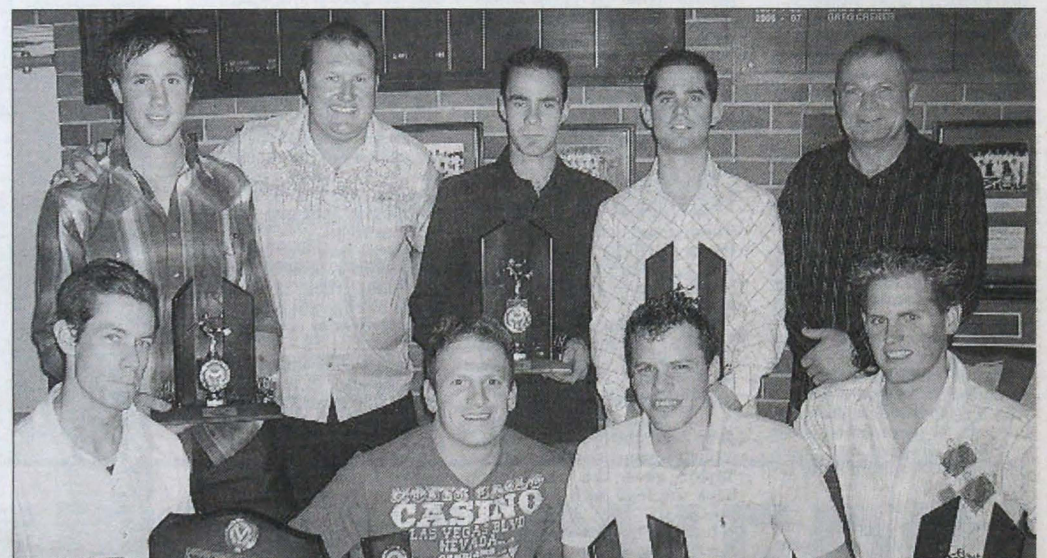
Green is now working in Queensland and is unable to continue coaching next season.



Best and Fairest winners, from left, Rick Bourke, Tom Naughtin and Matt Wood.

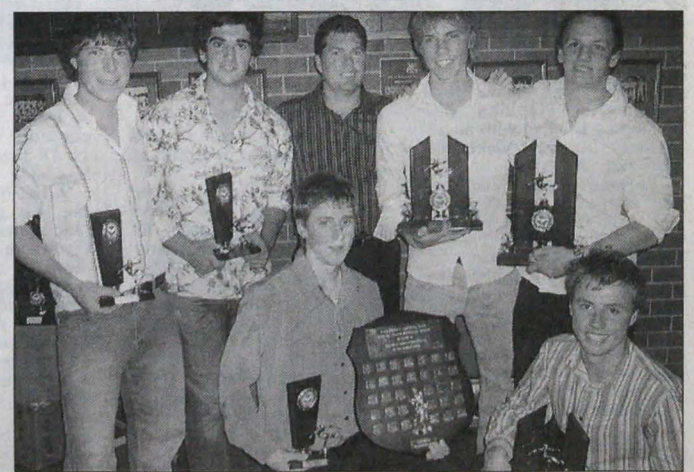


Farewell ... Warrandyte president Phil Treeby congratulates outgoing coach Peter Green.



● ABOVE: Reserves Award winners. Back row from left: Bernie Opteynde, coach Ash Grybas, Sean Donovan, Chris Chapman, assistant coach Mark Watson. Front: Brad Wilton, Craig Lincoln, Bernie Elliott, James Bowen.

● RIGHT: Colts award winners, back row from left: Evan Jones (Most Determined) Jason Khouri (Most Improved) Dale Vitiritti (Coach) Matt Dunn (Third Best and Fairest) Daniel Large (Best and Fairest). Front: Tyson Fitzgerald (Most Consistent) and Tim Beasley (Second Best and fairest).



Warrandyte cricket

Dytes suffer nightmare season start

It's been a nightmare start to Warrandyte's new cricket season after being thrashed by Bayswater Park in the opening round of the Wilkins Cup in the RDCA.

After being asked to chase 174 for victory in their one-day clash, Warrandyte was humbled for just 96 and now sits on the bottom of the table after Round 1.

But while the First XI started badly, the club's two premierships sides from last season, the Second and Fourth XIs, both won their opening matches after being promoted to higher grades.

The Third XI opened with a tie in a match they should have won.

In the senior game, the match against Bayswater Park pitted together the two teams that met in last year's Preliminary Final. While Bayswater Park lived up to its tag as the premierships favourites, Warrandyte was left in shock after going into the season with high hopes of matching it with every other team in the competition.

The game was lost in a catastrophic 10 minute period before drinks during Warrandyte's innings.

The Dytes were well placed at 2-55 following a bright start from Ben Taylor and Stuart Haworth.

But they lost three wickets in three overs, with the experienced pair of Adam White and Dave Mooney among the dismissals.

At 5-60, Warrandyte couldn't recover as the innings completely collapsed with a series of soft dismissals littered throughout the batting order.

Warrandyte captain Adam

White said after the match that the result was a wake-up call to the players.

"It's a reality check, there is no doubt about that," White said.

"We have had a really positive pre-season off the back of our good results from last year, but to be perfectly honest, I think too many of our players were not ready for the first ball of the new season.

"The good thing from our point of view is that we have got the shock now and we have hopefully got our bad game out of the way early, which gives us a chance to address a few issues before we get into really bad habits," White said.

"Bayswater Park came to play and looked like they had set themselves for a really strong start to the year, whereas we are a bit of work in progress with our team, so I think to be fair, we were a little bit rusty.

"That doesn't mean the result is acceptable, but I am confident we will bounce back quickly."

While there were not too many positives to be drawn from the match, the batting effort of Justin Cleaves would have given White some comfort.

In his first game back at the club since his stint at Northcote in Melbourne Premier cricket, Cleaves top scored with 26 during an enterprising innings in the middle order.

While so many others failed, Cleaves was very comfortable at the crease and looks set to play a big role in the line-up.

Youngster Jake Sherriff

made his debut and also showed his potential.

Given the new ball, Sherriff took a wicket in his fourth over during a lively opening spell.

Warrandyte travels to Montrose this week, as they try and forget about the Bayswater Park disaster and concentrate of getting back the confidence within the team.

White has promised he will not be making any changes to the team, with everyone given the opportunity to make amends for the thrashing.

The players know there is plenty of pressure on spots too, after the seconds started their new season off with a very impressive win over Croydon North.

The Second XI under new captain Cameron Day wasted no time in taking the next step after winning the B Grade premierships last season and taking on North Croydon in A Grade.

The Seconds completely outplayed Croydon North, winning by 48 runs.

Alex McIntosh made an outstanding debut, taking two wickets in a tight eight over spell.

Adam Beardall was economical with his leg spinners, taking two wickets and following up an outstanding all round effort with an unbeaten 51.

Veteran spinner, Robert White, was again miserly taking 3-16 off his eight overs.

Steve Goddard with 31 got the team off to a good start while Beardall and Brad Valentine with 39 guided the Seconds to an easy win.

Stuart Smead's belligerent 58 was the highlight in an exciting tie in the Third XI match against Ainslie Park.

Craig Holland was the best of the bowlers with three wickets in a match that Warrandyte should have won.

The Fourth XI stepped up a grade after winning the premierships last season and showed they will again be a finals contender with a comfortable win over Montrose.

Scores Round 1:

First XI: Warrandyte 96 (Cleaves 26, Haworth 22) lost to Bayswater Park 7-173.

Second XI: Warrandyte 6-196 (Beardall 51 n.o., Valentine 39, Goddard 31) d Croydon North 8-148 (R. White 3-16).

Third XI: Warrandyte 8-160 (Smead 58, C. Lincoln 22) tied with Ainslie Park 160 (Holland 3-18).

Fourth XI: Warrandyte 139 d Montrose 77 (T. Standing 3-13, T. Rees 3-24).

Junior scores:

Under 16-1: Warranwood 6-233 vs Warrandyte

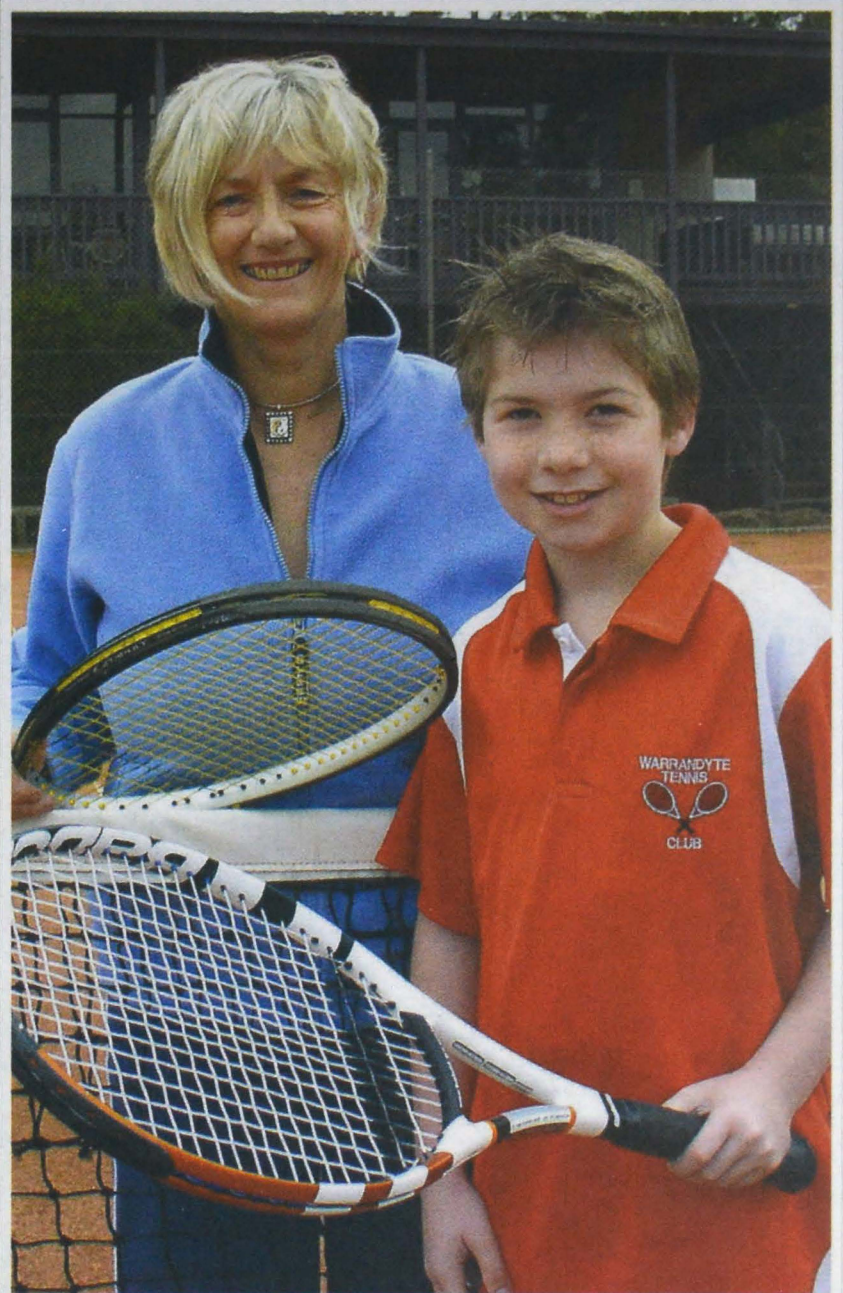
Under 14-2: Warrandyte 7-193 (Brown 56, Buzzini 38 no) vs Kilsyth

Under 12-2: Warrandyte 0-21 vs Wantirna South 81 (Creber 3-12, Wakefield 3-7)

● Even though the cricket season has just started the Under 16 and Under 12 teams are still looking for players.

The Under 16s need to add to their squad and the Under 12s need more players to allow them to run two teams in the RDCA competition.

If you are interested in playing call David Ellis (junior coordinator on 0419 514962).



Long-time tennis club member, Pam Booth has encouraged junior player, Callum Northover to be part of the Centenary mixed doubles tournament later this month.

Tennis club wraps up Centenary celebrations

Warrandyte Tennis Club will wrap up its 100th anniversary celebrations with a mixed doubles tournament.

It will be held on Sunday October 21, starting at 11am.

Two competitions will be held which will include an open event and an adult and child event.

The mixed doubles tournament has been organised to recognise the fact that a similar event was held when the club held its opening day 100 years ago.

The club is hoping to attract as many cur-

rent and former players as possible and a photograph of all who attend the day will be taken for the club's archives.

Food and refreshments will be provided on the day.

The tournament brings to an end a year of celebrations which have included the Centenary Opening Night, the placement of a time capsule and a Centenary Dinner.

More details on the tournament are available through Mark Bence (9844 2859), Judy Green (9844 2096) or Wendy Synnot (0409 353 882).

Basketball correspondent is honoured for service

The *Diary's* basketball correspondent, Tony Oliver has been awarded Life Membership of the Warrandyte Basketball Association

Tony was joined by Nick Peters in accepting their awards from another Life Member, Ian Wood at the Warrandyte Redback Basketball Association presentation day.

Both Nick and Tony have been active members of the club for many years including being committee members and referees.

Tony continues to record the club's success for the *Diary* and Nick has also been

a coach for many years.

Speaking at the presentation day, president Stephen Bendle reflected on a successful winter competition with more than 50 teams playing each Saturday.

He also highlighted the continued development of the Friday Night program, and now the BigV Women's side.

Participation medals were given to all Under 9 players.

The winner of the Tom Hay trophy, the main club award, was deservedly won by Bruce Davis, a recognition of his outstanding work around the club and the inspirational leadership he showed in

developing the BigV proposal.

David Gibson, coach, referee, player, and BigV administrator received the Daryl Valentine Award.

The Ross McLennan award for the Redback coach was won by Jenni O'Brien.

The Clubman award recipient was Di Trenfield.

The event was preceded by an exhibition game with sides made up of Warrandyte referees playing a side made up of Warrandyte coaches.

While there was some dispute as to the outcome of the game, the level of skill and enjoyment entertained the big crowd.



Big-hitting Stuart Haworth was one of one only two batsmen to make a mark against Bayswater Park. Picture by Daniel Wellesley.

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warrandyte auction

11am saturday 10 november unless sold prior
 suit \$430k plus buyers

Location! Location! This single level 3 bedroom family home on over 1/3 acre is only a short stroll to the Yarra River, Goldfields Plaza & transport. Features formal lounge with ofp & adjacent dining. Open plan kitchen/meals and family living area. IG pool & double carport.



warrandyte auction

11am saturday 27 october unless sold prior
 suit \$460k plus buyers

Your family will love the lifestyle this 4 bedroom home offers. Walk to Yarra River, Goldfields Plaza, primary school & transport. Features formal lounge/dining. Kitchen/meals/family. Set on 1/3 acre approx of mature gardens including concrete tennis court. Quadruple carport.



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 private sale \$795k

Five bedrooms, four living areas—what can we say? This home is big! Situated on 1.25 acre approx of landscaped gardens with space galore! Huge formal & informal living areas including lounge/dining, kitchen/meals, rumpus & parents' retreat—ideal to work from home or host overseas guests. IG pool & spa, sauna and gazebo. Double carport.



warrandyte auction

2pm saturday 10 november unless sold prior
 suit \$800k plus buyers

An unrivalled opportunity to secure a 4 bedroom home on more than 4 acres in this coveted pocket of Warrandyte. Offers scope to add your own personal touch. Features formal lounge with ofp. Separate family living area. Triple garage. Beautiful views, matures gardens and space for a pony.



warrandyte north private sale \$859k

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.

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