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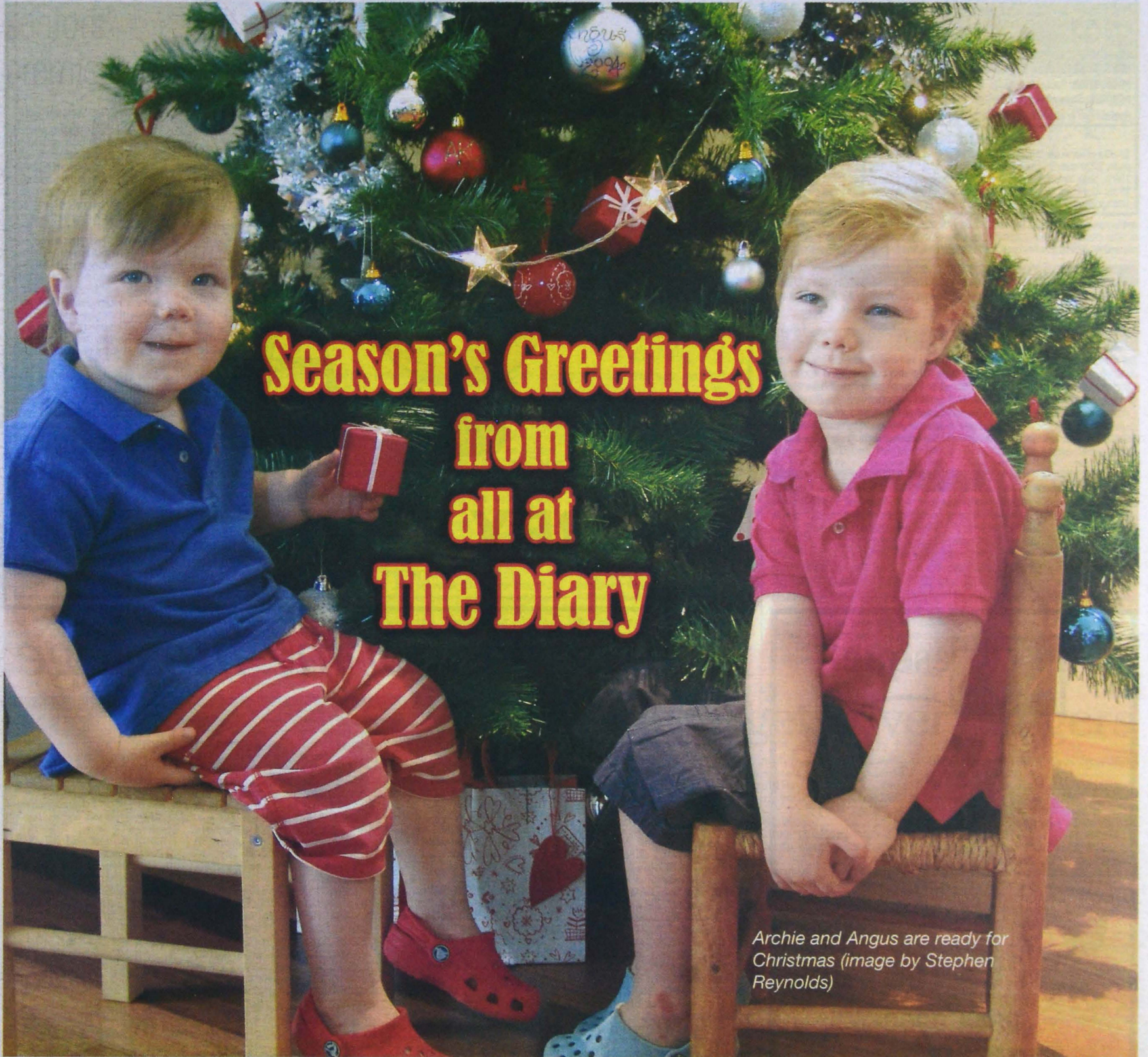


WARRANDYTE diary

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No 404, December 2007 For the community, by the community

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Season's Greetings from all at The Diary

Archie and Angus are ready for Christmas (image by Stephen Reynolds)

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— Pablo Picasso

WARRANDYTE diary

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NEXT ISSUE

Next issue of the *Diary* will be published on Wednesday, February 13. Advertising and editorial copy closes Friday, February 1.

OUR NEWSPAPER

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

A SPECIAL PLACE

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

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OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH

DON'T LET THE LITTLE THINGS SPOIL YOUR FESTIVE SEASON



MERRY CHRISTMAS

How Santa got the message

IT was the moment of the day that Santa dreaded most.

Worse than getting out of bed on a minus 30 degree morning, worse than Mother Christmas's lumpy porridge, worse than collecting the Midnight Herald-Sun when it landed in reindeer poo.

The old man sank wearily into the chair, loosened his black plastic belt and checked his emails. The blinking Outlook Express icon announced he had 78,263 new messages. 78,263 little "I-wants" demanding ipods, Barbie Karaoke sets and Spiderman Web Blasters. With a sigh that shook half the snow off the roof he clicked open the first message and started reading.

"MAKE \$1,000 DOLLARS A WEEK WORKING FROM HOME!!" He must work out how to use the spam filter.

Still, it was a tempting idea. It may sound glamorous dashing all over the sky behind a rhinopathic reindeer but it all becomes a bit tedious after the first couple of hundred years. The deadlines were impossible, the old sleigh was no Airbus 380 and Rudolph continued to ignore the GPS—you just can't teach an old reindeer new tricks!

Not to mention the fact that chimneys were getting scarce—you try squeezing down the flu of a Warrandyte pot belly—the sack was playing merry hell with his sciatica and the best he ever got for his trouble was an arrowroot biscuit and a glass of skinny milk! Was his weight problem really that obvious?

And the whole celebrity appearance thing was getting out of control. Westfield expect you to be in 50 places at once, Carols

living with The Trotts

by Candlelight makes you sing and now Daryl Somers wanted him on *Dancing With The Stars!* In these boots?

Maybe a career change wasn't such a bad idea, but what sort of job does a senior citizen with bad dress sense look for? Matel executive? Virgin pilot? Elf handler?

Another sigh finished the snowjob on the roof as Santa hit the delete button and opened the next message.

"Dear Father X

Let's be frank. You know and I know you don't exist. Ever since I saw you pull your beard down for a puff on a Winnie Blue in the Myers loading dock at Shoppingtown when I was eight I knew you were really Derek Fairley making a few extra dollars on the side. Gave me a bad case of claustrophobia I can tell you. But as long as you keep coming good with the presents we'll keep this little scandal out of the *Diary*.

So let's talk turkey. Dad should be easy. He's mad keen on carbon credits at the moment so I imagine that's some sort of gift voucher.

Mum wants a Roger. I'm not sure what it is but I heard them discussing it in bed last night and Dad said "You want a good Rogering!" so don't get a crummy one.

Mum suggests perfume for Cinnamon so I suppose Old Spice would be alright but what she really wants is a pair of Vegan shoes. I know cows are vegetarian but I'm not sure about vegan? See what you can

come up with.

Don't worry about Gran, I always give her the same thing—some aftershave I got from the motel we stayed at up on the Gold Coast in 2005. She just puts it away in her bathroom cabinet and forgets about it, so I wrap it up every year and give it to her again and she's always surprised. I suppose a lady shaver would be better but it would have to be heavy duty.

Which brings me to my main point. Me.

I'd kind of like a Harry Potter illuminated wand but Cinnamon says that's juvenile. And I badly want the Geelong premiership video but that's not expensive enough to waste on a Father Christmas present. So I guess it's out of a playstation or one of those tiny digital cameras I could use to get shots of Sally

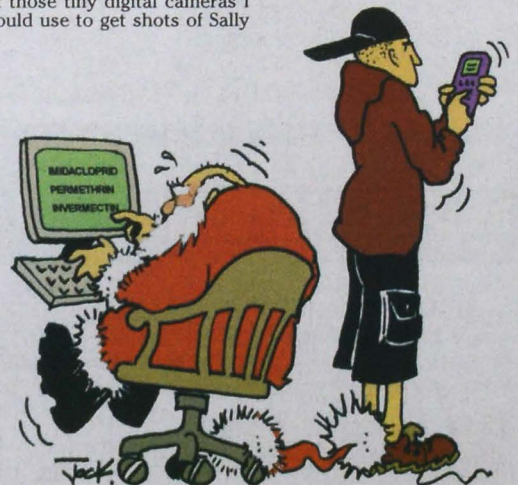
Connors in her sports bra. Actually it would have to be wide angle so maybe stick with the playstation.

Oh, and go careful on the landing! We've got a Foxtel dish since you were here last.

Jasper
 P.S. And don't think I've forgotten how you put our guinea pig to sleep!"

Santa smiled and forwarded Jasper's message to the workshop. The next one was from Kevin asking for a mandate. There's a joke there somewhere, thought Santa, but I'd better keep everyone happy.

ALAN CORNELL



Netball 'orphans' home

Facility will 'merge' with seniors' premises

By KARLY HICKMAN

Exciting new plans for a netball clubhouse and training facility at the Recreation Reserve were revealed last month.

Warrandyte Netball Club, with a history spanning more than 50 years, is the last "homeless" sporting organisation in the town. The club believes girls have been left behind when it comes to sporting facilities in Warrandyte, especially at a time when childhood obesity is causing such concern.

The proposal seeks to develop and increase participation in netball in Warrandyte, while expanding and enhancing facilities for Warrandyte senior citizens.

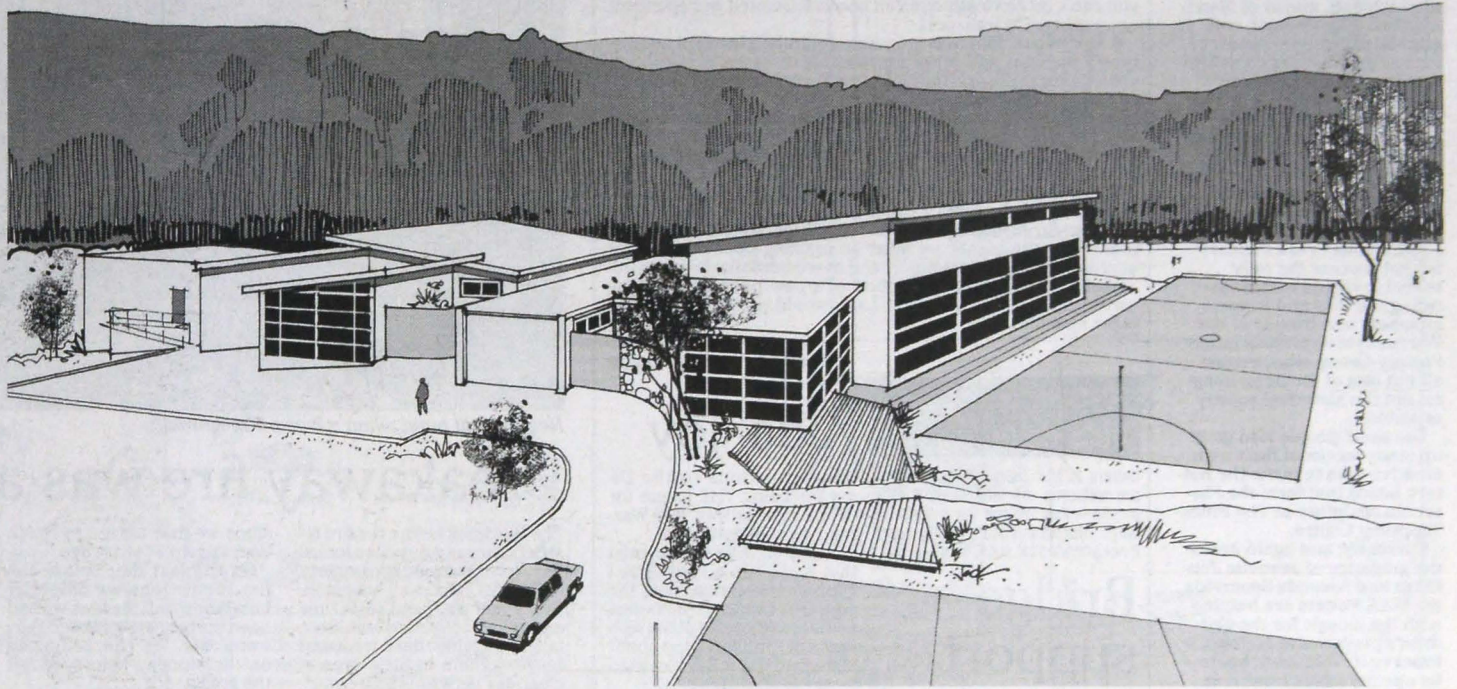
The building includes a clubhouse for the netball club adjoining an updated and enlarged senior citizens centre. The new netball facilities would include change rooms, bathrooms, a canteen and an indoor training area.

An additional outdoor court will be constructed, adjacent to the new netball clubrooms. The existing outdoor courts will be upgraded.

Meredith Thornton, netball club funding coordinator, said the proposal would provide a "social hub, not just a training facility".

The netball club anticipates the facility will be up and running in two to four years, assuming planning and funding proceed as expected.

The seed for new netball facilities was sown more than a



Our artist's impression of the refurbished senior citizens clubrooms and the new netball facility.

year ago when members of the netball and tennis clubs, the Warrandyte Community Association and the community bank decided to "drive the project forward". They established the Warrandyte Netball Clubrooms Committee.

"The results have been fantastic," Carey Nichol, president of the committee told the *Diary*. "In a relatively short space of time we have got agreement from the senior citizens and Manningham council to proceed with the initial planning and funding stages."

Architect Mostyn Veith was asked to draw up preliminary plans. The committee feels these "take into consideration the key aspects of the development".

The proposal includes a large indoor space the size of half a netball court, for players to practise in poor weather. Storage, toilets, change rooms, a netball club office and new senior citizens office have been included in the plans.

The 1970s-style senior citizens building will undergo a facelift to blend in with the new extension. A "viewing deck" will provide both seniors and netball parents with additional outdoor seating.

It is intended that the building will be extended and remodelled in a style more in keeping with the Warrandyte environment. The proposed facade will be brick, stonework and copper. Large expanses of glass will provide an easy link between

indoors and outdoors.

The senior citizens do have concerns about some aspects of this proposal and are negotiating with the netball subcommittee before plans are finalised. They are especially pleased about the proposed decking, believing it will provide an ideal seating area.

At present, Warrandyte Netball Club training sessions are on two poorly maintained asphalt courts at the reserve, with no changing facilities apart from the West End public toilets. "The lack of an undercover, well-lit area is of particular concern for parents picking up children after training, especially in the winter," Meredith Thornton said.

Apart from safety concerns,

the committee outlined the difficulties in obtaining sponsorship and the "lack of a platform" for fundraising without a clubhouse. At present, the club has no place to store its equipment or documents. Equipment has been stored in the homes of coaches and parents.

Ms Thornton stressed the need to ensure the proposal generated only a small ecological footprint and enhanced multiuse facilities within the Warrandyte sporting precinct.

Warrandyte Community Association member and Warrandyte Community Centre president, David Dyason, is acting as building consultant on the committee. He told the *Diary* that Mr Veith was chosen as architect as he is "empathetic with a feeling

for the way Warrandyte people enjoy what they have".

Mr Dyason emphasised that the shared facilities would offer benefits for both parties, rather than force compromises. "The netballers will not be using the facilities for much of the day so at these times the senior citizens can take advantage of the substantial space."

The committee is establishing a facility to allow individuals and businesses to make tax-deductible donations to assist in the initial stages. More information on this will be available in the New Year.

● For further information, please contact Sarah Wrigley on 0412 186 302 or Carey Nichol on 0407 563 201.



River fun: a few steps more could lead to a tragic ending. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

Drowning targets river dangers

By SANDY BURGOYNE

A young man drowned in the Yarra River at Warrandyte last month. He was swimming with friends upstream of the Kangaroo Ground Road bridge when he went missing in the late afternoon. His body was later recovered from a deep section of the river near to where he was last seen. A police spokesman said that the water depth there was eight to 10 metres.

This tragic occurrence is a reminder that although the Yarra is an inviting place to be on a summer's day, swimmers and waders need to be aware of possible hazards. For instance, the Yarra runs at around a half metre in many places as it flows through Warrandyte, but the river hides deep waterholes, such as that in which the young man drowned.

Lifesaving Victoria, as part of its mission to prevent aquatic related death

and injury in Victorian communities, promotes a series of common sense reminders on river safety.

- Never turn your back on toddlers and children.
- Never swim alone.
- Look before you leap—always check it's okay to swim before entering the water.
- River currents are often stronger than they appear. You can throw in a twig to check how fast the river is flowing.
- Remember, the current is stronger around the outside of a bend in the river.
- If you are caught in a current, float on your back and travel downstream feet first to protect your head from impact with any objects. Angle your travel towards shore.
- Submerged objects can be dangerous. Keep watch for trees, branches,

rocks and rubbish. Always remember to enter the water feet first.

● Remember, river conditions can change rapidly due to heavy rainfall or the release of water from storage areas. An area that is safe in the morning can be dangerous in the afternoon.

● Take care on riverbanks. They are often slippery, and can even crumble away resulting in someone accidentally falling into the water.

Local police sergeant Keith Walker also has a water safety message for locals and visitors alike.

"Whilst the Yarra is a beautiful spot to swim in, it does have its dangers including deep holes and snags. Please make sure that if you go swimming, you find out about any dangers in or near where you intend to swim or paddle. Always go with a friend so that you can look out for each other. Most of all 'Keep Safe'."



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Credit not given where due

I am writing concerning the article in which Cr Ron Kitchingman, mayor of Manningham City Council, congratulates Jeanette Jennings for her outstanding contribution in creating art in our community. While I join him heartily in his congratulations, I am disappointed that he is unaware of who really carried out the work involved in creating the path at the Federation Playspace in Warrandyte.

Andersons Creek Primary School was not the only school involved with decorating the tiles and it was members and friends of the Warrandyte Arts Association Pottery Group who created all but one of the large images, not the historical society as stated.

The same people also gave up many weeks of their own creative time to make the pottery beads that form the Pinorchin sculpture at The Pines Shopping Centre.

Currently, and again under the guidance of Jeanette Jennings and Amanda Sgourakis, the WAA Potters are helping with the mosaic for the children's playground at Finns Reserve in Templestowe, to be opened in the New Year. This is a very exciting project and we are enjoying the challenge, but we would be grateful if the people who really do the work received their share of the accolades.

Marjorie Beecham
Castle Road

Potters overlooked

As a member of the WAA Pottery Group I was just a teeny bit disappointed to see that our contribution to the ceramic path at the Federation Playspace had been overlooked.

We spent a semester making the image tiles of events in Warrandyte history, including portraits, from photocopies produced by the historical society.

Jeanette Jennings and the school children who contributed are entitled to every bit of acknowledgement for their efforts. But surely so are we?

(Mrs) C. Masiulanis
Naughton Avenue

Labor gives thanks

I would like to thank the people of Warrandyte for their support during the recent federal elections and on voting day.

I look forward to working hard over the coming three years and I hope to be standing as the ALP candidate for the next election.

Andrew Campbell
Labor candidate
for Menzies

Don't burn our bridge

There are some fundamental town design and town-making principles that need to be understood in relation to the proposed pedestrian/cycle connection across the Yarra.

● If you can't get to it you can't use it! Warrandyte is divided in half by the river requiring most residents to drive in order to access their daily needs. The implications of this can be seen in the traffic congestion on the bridge and streets throughout the day. If, for whatever reason, you are unable to drive then you can't get to things and can become isolated or dependent upon others for transport.

● Australians' lifestyles are causing spiralling levels of obesity, type 2 diabetes and other preventable diseases. A significant contributor to these is the lack of incidental daily exercise, such as walking and cycling, that we undertake. This is particularly important for our younger generation who, health experts warn, may be the first to not live as long as their parents. The lack of safe and convenient connections within Warrandyte is a major factor in limiting people's walking access.

● Places that are walkable are safer, more socially connected, have better performing local economies and, importantly, are more environmentally sustainable. If we are serious about preserving the planet we must be creating opportunities for alternative forms of transport and movement within our town.

I believe that the construction of a new pedestrian bridge across the Yarra at Bradleys Lane would provide these and other benefits.

Peter Boyle
urban designer, Alphington



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 support

I am writing in support of the footbridge connecting Bradleys Lane and Everard Drive, as I see it as part of making Warrandyte more accessible.

I love walking and bike riding and would happily abandon the car when in Warrandyte and just walk or ride everywhere. Of course this means that we will need better paths, bike tracks and bike routes.

Most of those in support of the footbridge are the younger, more recent Warrandyte residents. They want their children to be able to walk or ride to school, sports, friends and so on, just as we did as children in the 1950s.

Currently there is only one place to cross, and it is quite busy in terms of traffic. I was recently knocked off my bike in Yarra Street and so am very aware of the dangers when cars and bikes use the same road space.

I would like the Warrandyte Community Association to take on this issue within the context of making Warrandyte a better place to live.

Jan Davies
Bradleys Lane

David Kerr
Webb Street

Kids' joy

Congratulations to the *Diary* for being THE forum for discussion within the Warrandyte community.

Living on a dead-end road that leads into a State Park I can understand some of the concerns expressed in the last few issues by some of the residents of Bradleys Lane about increased traffic flows caused by the footbridge.

However during a recent morning walk I was privileged to observe the joy and enthusiasm of children and parents of both our primary schools partaking in "The Walk to School Day". There is a regular group of children who ride their bikes to school along the southern side of the river and it seems to me that it would benefit children on the northern side if they could access their schools via a walking bridge close to Tarooma Avenue.

A number of the arguments against the bridge have merit on face value. However my feeling is that the broader community would benefit from the proposal and that the various objections and problems can be overcome through consultation and thoughtful design of the bridge and surrounding road infrastructure. While I hate the thought of another study that goes nowhere, perhaps there is a case here for a feasibility study to get all the issues on the table and develop a plan in some detail.



Help was at hand when a burnoff re-ignited.

Breakaway fire was a close go

The last week before the fire restrictions was a busy one for us. Our North Warrandyte property on Stony Creek is all bushland.

Every year we spend some time and effort collecting leaf litter, fallen branches, dead trees and burning them in little fires in clearings between the trees.

This year we concentrated on the last week before restrictions came in because weather conditions or social commitments had stopped us burning off earlier. We checked the fire pump, hoses, roof sprinkler and our "bushfire kit" that we keep in the house during summer.

Each year we do a little bit more and are a little bit better prepared—just in case. This year we were proud that we had done the best preparations

since we first moved to North Warrandyte 13 years ago.

On the last day before the fire restrictions we diligently hosed down all the fires we had been burning and checked they were cold. We checked again on the Monday before we left the house.

Only three hours later we received a call from a neighbour to say that the CFA were fighting a fire in the bush at our place. Apparently an ember from our burning-off had landed in the bush 30 metres away and sat smouldering for over 24 hours before catching alight.

The six tankers and crews from North Warrandyte, Warrandyte, Parks Victoria and Kangaroo Ground were extremely efficient and had the one-acre

fire under control in minutes. No personal property was lost and the bush will regenerate—but we were extremely lucky. Our clearing and burning-off had, incongruously, helped start the fire and also helped stop the fire spreading towards the house.

We have learnt a sobering lesson about how flammable our bushland is.

I have nothing but praise and admiration for our local CFA and Parks Victoria guys and girls. Their quick and intelligent response prevented a disaster I am sure—and it was all smiles when the drama was over and everyone was mopping up. I am very proud to live in this community. To our CFA volunteers especially: thanks!

Andrew Yen
The Chase

Protecting off-lead dog walking

Are you concerned about the possibility of losing dog off-lead areas in Warrandyte?

Of interest to local pet owners is the incorporation of Friends of Manningham Dogs and Cats (FOMDAC). This organisation has been meeting regularly since 1999, following the acceptance by Manningham council of the domestic animal strategy. Five of the current committee members were community representatives on the steering committee that guided the extensive process of consultation preceding the strategy and, at the invitation of council, went on to form FOMDAC.

In the intervening years this small committee has aimed to keep domestic animal issues on council's agenda. Submissions have been written, petitions prepared—most significantly when the dog off-lead status of Ruffey Lake Park was threatened—and



Who's laughing? Local dogs want to protect their off-lead status.

the committee has met regularly with council by-laws officers and rangers to discuss and advise on animal issues.

Now, FOMDAC has incorporated and is seeking to expand its general membership so it can truly represent dog and cat owners in Manningham. The group aims to present a combined voice to council, and the committee will keep members informed on issues relating to pet ownership.

Monthly meetings are held, which general members are welcome to attend. Once membership increases we plan to hold pet fun days, group dog walks, and have a presence at community events.

FOMDAC aims to promote

responsible pet ownership and represent and advocate the legitimate needs of dog and cat owners.

Membership is not limited to Manningham residents. FOMDAC is keen to have membership from adjoining municipalities—especially dog owners who walk their dogs in Manningham's parks.

Membership forms are available in electronic format (cheque payment required) by emailing fomdacinc@yahoo.com.au. Forms and information will also be available at local vets, pet shops, and produce stores.

Doreen Burge
Vice-President FOMDAC
Warrandyte

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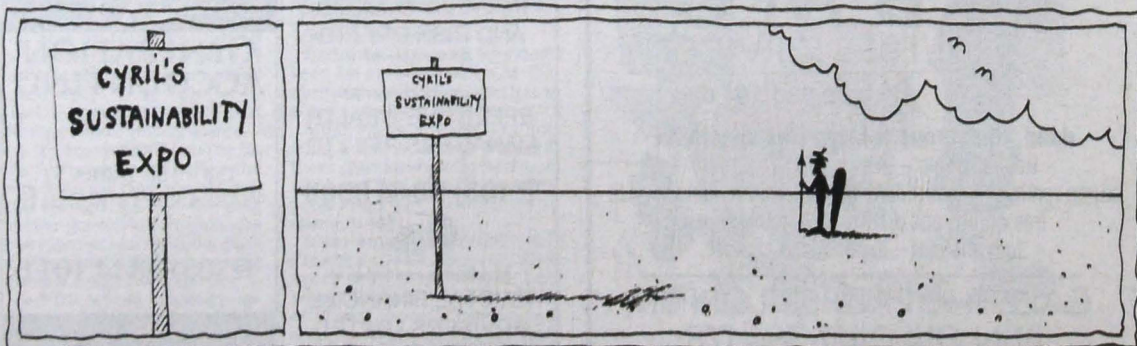


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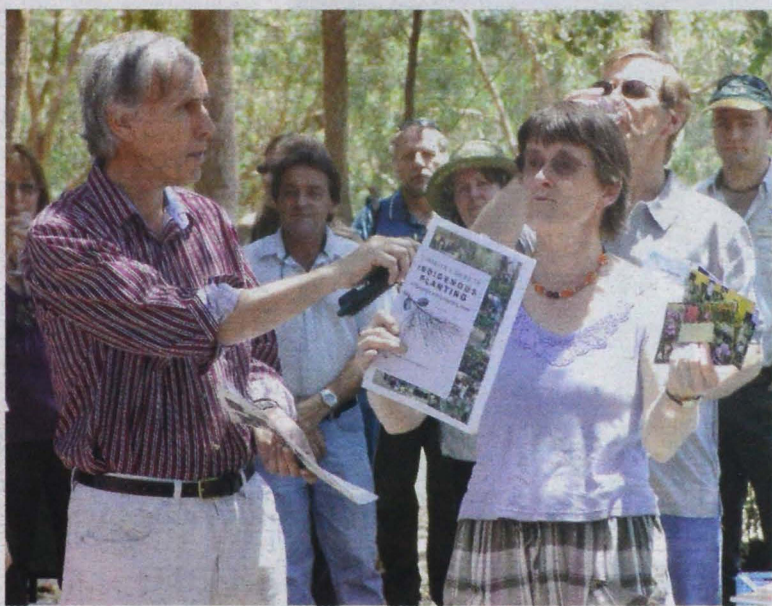
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Happy anniversary, FOWSP!

The Friends of Warrandyte State Park celebrated their 25th anniversary with a barbecue and reunion at the Park depot in Pound Bend. Now regarded as one of the most successful "Friends" groups in Victoria, FOWSP was founded in April 1982. Through all these years the group has grown and prospered, making a major contribution to the development and conservation of the Warrandyte State Park. The birthday program included a reptile display and demonstration.



Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS



Carols by Candlelight

STIGGANTS RESERVE

SATURDAY DECEMBER 15
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Picnic on the grass from 7.15pm

- ★ Choirs from Andersons Creek, Kangaroo Ground and Warrandyte Primary Schools
- ★ Kevin O'Mara
- ★ Raymond Khong & May Gavin
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- ★ Cindy V & her band
- ★ Rachel Jubasz



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Thanks to our Diary volunteers

Each month another issue of the *Diary* appears—as if by magic. Each month we cover the local news and sport, champion the community's causes and help you smile a little. Our pictures are windows on our local world. We touch on some of the personalities in this town—and remember those who have left us.

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

This year we were honoured to receive Best Layout in the Community Newspaper Association of Victoria 2007 awards.

Time now to pay tribute to all our hardworking stalwarts.

This year, news reports were researched and written by Sandy Burgoyne, Emma Clark, Cliff Green, Karly Hickman and Joanne Green.

Columnists included Roger Kibell, Alan Cornell, Pat Coupar, Marilyn Moore and Judy Green.

Features were contributed by Prudence Truby King, Jeremy Loftus-

Hills, Val Polley, Sandy Burgoyne, Karen Throssell, Cliff Green, Richard Morton and Don Charlwood. We published poetry by Karen Throssell, Sue Brown and Corinne Fenton.

Sports stories were written by Robert White, Sue Webster, Tony Oliver, Judy Green, Rick Gordon, Sonia Rappell, Ricky Bourke, Dale Vitiritti, Chris Chapman, Shaun Kelly, Zac Boyce, Tyson Barber, Justin Nelson and Jack Wright.

Occasional contributors included Jeff Adair, Helen Moppert, Keryn Wood, Meaghan O'Connor and John Schauble.

Our pages were illustrated with photographs by Stephen Reynolds, Sandy Burgoyne, Robert White, Judy Green, Austin Polley, Jan Tindale, Joanne Green and Emma Clark and artwork by Jock Macneish, Paul Williams, Syd Tunn, Ona Henderson, Wayne Rankin and Melanie Coupar.

The paper was edited and designed by Cliff Green, Robert White and Sue Webster. Sandy Burgoyne edited our website, sending our newspaper out to readers around the world. Rachel Schroeder set the type, designed

the ads and supervised production, assisted by Mark Schroeder. John Ingram delivered press material and the craftsmen at Streamline Press printed our paper.

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

Last, but certainly not least, we remember the folk who make it all financially possible—our esteemed advertisers.

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

We're taking a break over Christmas and the New Year, so we won't see you in January. But we'll be back with our first issue for 2007 on Wednesday, February 13. We close copy on Friday, February 1.

CLYDE & OCKER



"What's the best thing about Christmas, Ock?"
"No *Diary* until February, Clyde!"

Fire trucks aren't just Santa's transport



The kids at Warrandyte Primary School are well aware of the dangers of fire in their community. They know fire trucks aren't just used to ferry Santa around our streets at Christmas. Recently, members of the Junior School Council visited Warrandyte CFA station where Kate Murphy showed them around, demonstrated some of the equipment and explained how to become a volunteer. Pictured left, Kate is flanked by Zac, Kiandra and Ella.

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Handcrafted quilts for Yarra Warra children

By JOANNE GREEN

This Christmas will be long remembered by the children at Yarra Warra Pre-school in North Warrandyte. Each child will receive a gift on which their creativity will be displayed against a colourful background.

Yarra Warra parent, Clair Akers, has crafted a quilt for each of the 50 four year-olds at the kinder.

The quilts include a fabric panel featuring the child's own drawings, expressing "the things that make them happy. There are lots of footballs on the boys' quilts and lots of rainbows," Clair Akers said.

Earlier in the year, Clair offered to make two quilts, one for each group at the kinder and incorporating an original square drawn by each child. She spent six weeks at the Pre-school helping the children design their squares.

"Her quiet manner meant that the children worked with her beautifully," said Yarra

Warra director Connie Soltz.

When Clair put the two quilts together she found that they didn't do justice to the children's work. "I didn't like them together, although individually they were fantastic," she said. "They were two busy, there was nothing to rest your eye on, so I decided to make 50 quilts—and they look great!"

Clair pulled the original two quilts apart and decided to make individual quilts for each child. The child's own drawing is now the centerpiece against a bright and textured background. "It was a bit of a surprise for Connie," she said. "I'd made about half when she found out."

Each quilt took about an hour-and-a-half to make, using a total of 100 metres of fabric that Clair bought.

Quilting has been a passion of Clair's for the past 10 years, and she told the *Diary* she was only too happy to put in the time and effort.

Primary school awarded Waterwatch cash grant

Warrandyte Primary School has been awarded a grant of \$2000 through the Melbourne Water Young Watercare program.

Thirty-one schools across Melbourne will share more than \$55,000 for projects to help protect and improve local rivers and creeks.

"Warrandyte Primary School has shown great initia-

tive in presenting their ideas and applying for funding through this program," Brian Tee, MP for Eastern Metropolitan Region told the *Diary*.

"It's fantastic to see students stepping out of the classroom and getting involved in local environmental projects, putting what they learn into practice," he said.

Leah and Lisa are cyberspace friends

It had all the trappings of a State visit but the guest of honour was an 11-year-old school girl from Anderson's Creek Primary.

Leah Milburn-Clark has just returned from Italy, where she took the opportunity to visit her e-pal, Lisa Moretto in the small town of Anguillara Veneta, 30 kilometres south of Padua.

As Leah and her family arrived at Lisa's primary school they were greeted by a photographer and ushered into the assembly hall to the strains of *Advance Australia Fair*. The whole school then sang the Italian national anthem, followed by *Kookaburra sits in the ol' gum tree*—in perfect English—and a beautiful Italian folk song.

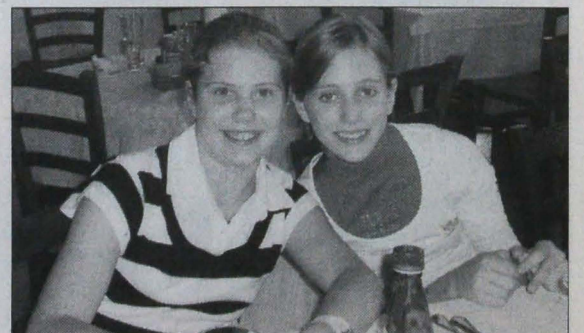
The children had made a huge "Welcome Leah" banner and decorated the assembly hall with hand-drawn Australian and Italian flags.

"It was just amazing," said Leah. "We toured the school and then visited the English room. Grade 5 asked all kinds of questions about Australia and Anderson's Creek. They were amazed that Anderson's

Creek had lots of different buildings. Their school is all in one. They gave me a book that had a drawing by each of them in it of their family or games they like to play. It was really special," she said.

Because of the differences in school year and structure, Lisa has now moved on to high school. Leah finally got to meet her. There seemed to be an instant bond. "I really liked her," said Leah. Four of the high school students took Leah on a tour and then it was off to lunch, organised by Lisa's mother, Michela at a local restaurant. "Lots of Lisa's grade and their parents came to lunch too," said Leah. Lisa's primary school English teacher, Paola Longato, who facilitated the visit did her best to translate the multitude of conversations around the table.

Leah's visit to Anguillara was the result of an e-pal (today's equivalent of pen pal) program instigated by Anderson's Creek's Italian teacher, Concetta Gigliotti and her "English" counterpart, Paola.



Leah (left) with her e-pal, Lisa.

● FEDERAL ELECTIONS

Andrews back with a reduced majority

By EMMA CLARK and CLIFF GREEN

Warrandyte's political split has been maintained, with Kevin Andrews (Liberal) retaining Menzies and Jenny Macklin (Labor) returned in Jaga Jaga in the recent federal elections.

However, following the national trend of a substantial swing to Labor that resulted in a change of government, ALP candidates on both sides of the river increased their percentages.

Mr Andrews, formerly minister for immigration and citizenship in the Howard government has been elected into opposition.

However whereas Ms Macklin, was formerly deputy leader of the Labor opposition, she is now minister for families, community services and indigenous affairs in the new Rudd government.

Mr Andrews told the *Diary* that "the national outcome has sent a clear and important message to Coalition members.

"And now we must move forward, working closely with our community to develop future policy that reflects an understanding of what the people of Australia have said they need.

"A government is only as good as its opposition. I intend to work with my colleagues to make sure the Rudd government has the best opposition possible."

Locally, Mr Andrews is "keen to make sure Menzies residents are not forgotten by the new Rudd government and will



Hopefuls; handing out how-to-vote tickets at Warrandyte (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

be active in getting our local message heard in the federal parliament". He thanked local residents for putting their faith in him.

The Labor candidate for Menzies, Andrew Campbell, gained a 4.9% swing towards Labor across the electorate.

He told the *Diary*, "I would like to thank the people of Warrandyte for their support during the election and on voting day. I look forward to working hard

over the next three years and will be standing as the ALP candidate for the next election."

David Ellis stood as a candidate for the Greens in the Warrandyte electorate in the last state elections, and then stood for the Greens as federal candidate for Menzies.

He campaigned strongly throughout the Warrandyte area, scoring approximately 10% of votes in Warrandyte and Park Orchards, but receiving

only 5.71% of the votes across Menzies as a whole.

In Jaga Jaga, Greens candidate Lisa Hodgson achieved a solid 10% of the total.

At the North Warrandyte booth, she obtained a significant 24% of votes.

However, it seems that most voters stayed with the traditional two-party preferences. In both electorates, Family First and the Democrats achieved only 1.5% of votes each.



Kevin Andrews: returned in Menzies but out of shadow cabinet

Jenny Macklin: back in Jaga Jaga and in Rudd's new ministry

HOW WE VOTED

MENZIES OVERALL

Candidate	Party	Votes	%
Kevin Andrews (MP)	Liberal	36,867	51.49
Ken Smithies	Family First	1,778	2.48
David Ellis	Greens	4,085	5.71
Philip Nitschke	Independent	2,816	3.93
Andrew Campbell	ALP	25,401	35.48
Damian Wise	Democrats	652	0.91
TOTAL		75,536	81.74

WARRANDYTE

Candidate	Party	Votes	%
Kevin Andrews (MP)	Liberal	1,209	46.84
Ken Smithies	Family First	46	1.78
David Ellis	Greens	281	10.89
Philip Nitschke	Independent	140	5.42
Andrew Campbell	ALP	874	33.86
Damian Wise	Democrats	31	1.20
TOTAL		2,637	97.88

SOUTH WARRANDYTE

Candidate	Party	Votes	%
Kevin Andrews (MP)	Liberal	266	59.51
Ken Smithies	Family First	5	1.12
David Ellis	Greens	45	10.7
Philip Nitschke	Independent	26	5.82
Andrew Campbell	ALP	101	22.60
Damian Wise	Democrats	4	0.89
TOTAL		477	97.17

PARK ORCHARDS

Candidate	Party	Votes	%
Kevin Andrews (MP)	Liberal	1,232	58.67
Ken Smithies	Family First	49	2.33
David Ellis	Greens	179	8.51
Philip Nitschke	Independent	102	4.86
Andrew Campbell	ALP	521	24.81
Damian Wise	Democrats	17	0.81
TOTAL		2,149	97.72

WONGA PARK

Candidate	Party	Votes	%
Kevin Andrews (MP)	Liberal	1,073	63.01
Ken Smithies	Family First	44	2.58
David Ellis	Greens	134	7.87
Philip Nitschke	Independent	75	4.40
Andrew Campbell	ALP	372	21.84
Damian Wise	Democrats	5	0.29
TOTAL		1,732	98.33

JAGA JAGA OVERALL

Candidate	Party	Votes	%
Stephen Lele	CEC	391	0.54
Jenny Macklin (MP)	ALP	34,790	48.47
Lisa Hodgson	Greens	7,178	10.00
Andrew Conlon	Family First	1,713	2.39
Conrad D'Souza	Liberal	26,947	37.54
Jason Graham	Democrats	759	1.06
TOTAL		71,778	78.40

NORTH WARRANDYTE

Candidate	Party	Votes	%
Stephen Lele	CEC	2	0.14
Jenny Macklin (MP)	ALP	519	36.76
Lisa Hodgson	Greens	339	24.01
Andrew Conlon	Family First	21	1.49
Conrad D'Souza	Liberal	510	36.12
Jason Graham	Democrats	21	1.49
TOTAL		1,431	98.67

RESEARCH

Candidate	Party	Votes	%
Stephen Lele	CEC	4	0.41
Jenny Macklin (MP)	ALP	402	41.10
Lisa Hodgson	Greens	104	10.63
Andrew Conlon	Family First	27	2.76
Conrad D'Souza	Liberal	423	43.25
Jason Graham	Democrats	18	1.84
TOTAL		992	98.59

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- Move firewood away from the walls of your home.
- Cover vents and crevices with fine wire to prevent sparks and embers entering.
- Gutters should be cleaned.
- Ensure access to adequate static water supplies.
- Check and have your firefighting equipment serviced.

- Most importantly—make sure you have a practical bushfire plan in place. Decide whether you will stay and protect or leave early. Consider who will be home and when. More than one plan may be needed to cover different scenarios.
- For further fire information updates, residents are urged to tune in to local radio, especially ABC Radio 774, the emergency services broadcaster, or call the Victorian bushfire information line on 1800 240 667.
- Anyone interested in joining the CFA as a volunteer can contact the volunteer hotline on 1800 232 636.



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CLYDE & OCKER



"Who did you vote for in the federal elections, Ock?" "King Kong!"

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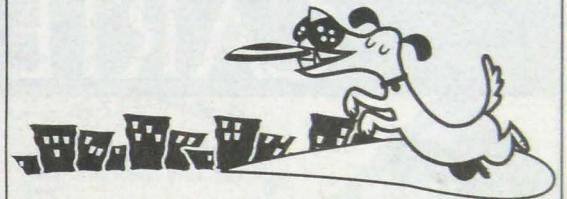


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Pa and Ma Ubu at WHS

The kids studying drama at Warrandyte High School have enjoyed a packed year.

"Two classes of Year 11 students have worked with energy and passion throughout 2007," a school spokesperson told the *Diary*. "The students have shown enormous creativity in their development of a range of stagecraft tasks for their major productions including their latest, Ubu Rex—their first absurdist play."

Ubu Rex tells the story of Pa and Ma Ubu, vulgarians who usurp the throne of Poland, devastate the country, invade Russia, but are eventually dethroned.

STEPHEN REYNOLDS took these pictures of this successful production.



Wonder women work wizardry

The "Wonderful Women of Warrandyte" fundraising evening, run recently by Warrandyte Neighbourhood House as a fundraiser for Maroondah Breastscreen and the Ovarian Cancer Research Foundation, resulted in cheques totalling \$3525 being forwarded to these two worthy causes.

More than 150 people turned up and funds were raised through a silent auction of goods donated by local businesses, artists and others. A painting by Cherry Manders was auctioned before the paint had dried!

The program included talks on women in Burma, how to nurture your "Woohoo" team (your friends), songs from Chocolate Lilies, poems by Karen Throssell and an audience participation dance item.

JAN TINDALE rolled up and took these picture for the *Diary*.



CARTER

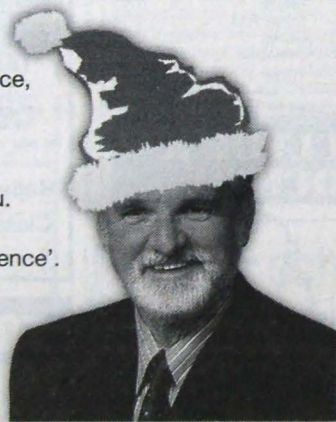


Firstly, to all our Warrandyte clients and their families we wish you a Merry Christmas and a safe and prosperous New Year.

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Will our beautiful river be scraping rock bottom this summer? (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

Yarra river flow reduced

By SANDY BURGOYNE

Last month Gavin Jennings, Victorian minister for the environment and climate change, announced that yet more water would be taken from the Yarra River. He said that during 2007/8 up to 10 giga litres of water from the river would be made available to Melbourne water consumers.

In making his November 13 announcement the minister said, "Unfortunately, the environment also needs to shoulder some of the burden during these difficult times". He also said, "During times of low water levels, all water users need to reduce water consumption—households, industry and rivers, in this case the Yarra."

However, the Yarra Riverkeepers and Environment Victoria believe the Yarra River is already heavily stressed by the demands made upon it.

"The river has been shouldering the burden for quite some time now. Up to 70 per cent of Melbourne's water comes from the Yarra catchment and that demand has reduced the river's flow by half," Leonie Duncan, coordinator of Environment Victoria's Healthy Rivers campaign, told the *Diary*.

"Resorting to taking more water from the Yarra instead is unimaginative and irresponsible."

"Continuing to degrade our river systems is no way to manage the drought and face the challenge of climate change," she said.

"It is a water grab," Ian Penrose, of Yarra Riverkeepers said.

"They are going to take 10 billion litres out and they have probably been taking it out ever since they made the announcement. They are pumping it into Sugarloaf Reservoir now, and lowering the flows down to a lower threshold than was previously (the case). There is a risk that they will continue to go back (to the Yarra)."

"History says that they continue to go back to the river when they get into problems with water supply."

With this latest extraction of water the

minimum threshold flow of the Yarra at Warrandyte has been reduced to 200 megalitres per day from 250. If the Yarra falls below this level pumping ceases.

In his announcement the minister said that special measures would be taken to minimise the environmental impact on the river of the reduced environmental flows.

"Melbourne Water is monitoring eight waterway health parameters, including pH, temperature and blue-green algae as well as for fish and other priority species at six key locations along the Yarra River," Ben Pratt, external affairs manager for Melbourne Water said.

"These six locations are Millgrove, Coldstream, Warrandyte, Kew, Collingwood and in the CBD.

"In addition, Melbourne Water has also upgraded its automatic monitoring stations to provide instantaneous, online data for critical parameters, 24 hours a day," he said.

However, these measures do not impress some environmental groups.

"Increased monitoring isn't a substitute. It's like the analogy of a dehydrated man comes to hospital and they just stick him on a monitoring machine and don't give him any water."

"They just watch his vital conditions. It's no substitute for providing water," Riverkeeper Ian Penrose said.

"Six monitoring sites along a 242 km river doesn't really cut it. This move is taking a huge gamble with the health of our river. The government is stepping up monitoring because they know that taking more water from the river means we are at serious risk of toxic algal blooms and mass fish kills," Leonie Duncan of Environment Victoria said.

The environment minister noted in his speech that Victorians are now consuming 28 per cent less water than 10 years ago. This is a good outcome, but further savings could result from better water management.

"Currently the amount of water that falls on the metropolitan area is almost equal

to the amount of water that Melbourne consumes," Ian Penrose said.

"Just think about this great resource that we have when there is a storm over Melbourne, the amount of water it drops, and currently we don't capture that. It could be used through rainwater tanks in a much more extensive way than currently happens."

"Secondly our waste water, the programs for recycling that are incredibly slow and we still aren't capturing that. So recycling waste water and using stormwater that falls on the city are two major sources of water supply," he said.

Leonie Duncan of the Healthy Rivers campaign agrees.

"Melbournians have done so well to reduce our water use, but there's more that can be done. Before we take more water from our rivers we need to get serious about maximizing water efficiency and conservation. In its recent report, *Central Region Sustainable Water Strategy*, the government calculated that about 110 giga litres can be recovered by 2055 by encouraging a suite of simple voluntary water efficiency and conservation measures in Melbourne households—such as switching to water-efficient washing machines, air conditioners and shower-heads. Why can't they accelerate this program and bring those savings online sooner?" Ms Duncan said.

The Yarra is at the centre of Warrandyte's community and is worthy of our consideration.

"I encourage people to support the efforts of community groups like Yarra Riverkeepers, to raise awareness about water matters and to share in protecting and restoring our wonderful river," Ian Penrose said.

Leonie Duncan suggested that those who are uneasy with the reduced flows allowed to the Yarra should write to water minister Tim Holding, and Gavin Jennings, minister for environment, stating their concerns.

Restore banners: festival committee

By KARLY HICKMAN

The Warrandyte Festival Committee is attempting to have the popular and historic street banners reinstated.

The locally produced banners, strung along Yarra Street in the weeks preceding the festival, have been a feature of Warrandyte for many years.

Earlier this year, the power company SP Ausnet—a division of Singapore Power, owners of the poles from which the banners were displayed—banned the banners, stating "Industrial change" and safety issues as the main reasons for more rigorous restrictions.

Festival committee president John Boyle says he hopes to pressure appropriate parties to



ensure the traditional banners are displayed leading up to the 2008 festival.

The committee is busy planning the 2008 event, to be held on March 15 and 16 at Stiggants Reserve.

The festival website has been updated with details of such activities as the competitive mountain bike ride, annual billycart race, duck race and parade.

Festival secretary Mary Ann Gibson told the *Diary* last month that the theme for next year's festival is "Home-grown Fun".

In keeping with this theme, a feature of the festival will be a Pumpkin Challenge, including competitions for largest pumpkin (grown solely with recycled water), the best decorated pumpkin and a pumpkin weight-guessing competition during festival weekend.

Another new addition to the program will be a forum for teenage girls. The traditional Sunday morning children's market will go ahead with particular emphasis on "home-grown and homemade".

A proposal to bring back Saturday night activities for local

young people is being investigated. This was a notable gap in last year's program.

The festival will again run as a "Waste Wise" event, with a keen commitment to make it a "cleaner and more environmentally friendly occasion". Thus all services and materials used at the festival will be assessed for their impact on the environment.

The Warrandyte Festival website can be found at [www://home.vicnet.au/~warrfest/index.htm](http://www.vicnet.au/~warrfest/index.htm)



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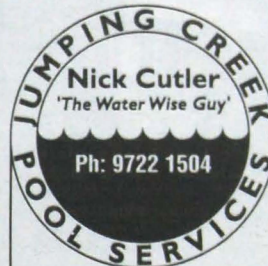
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It wouldn't be Christmas in Warrandyte without the annual community carols presentation at Stiggants Reserve.

The combined churches of Warrandyte and Park Orchards are presenting Carols by Candlelight at Stiggants on Saturday, December 15 commencing at 8pm.

As always, "it will be a varied program of popular Christmas songs and traditional carols, with something for everyone, of all ages and musical tastes," organiser Rick Gordon told the *Diary*.

"Our local Warrandyte choir, the Bellbird Singers, will lead the singing, accompanied by the Eltham Concert Band. Local legend Kevin O'Mara will open the program, joined by choirs from Kangaroo Ground, Warrandyte and Andersons Creek primary schools.

"Jazz vocalist Rachel Juhasz will make a return performance singing Christmas standards in her smooth swinging style, along with Esther Baulch, a youth worker at the Warrandyte Community Church, who sings folk, jazz and blues."

Tenor Raymond Khong will sing some popular jazz and classical Christmas pieces, accompanied on the piano by his wife May Gavin. "Ray has sung with the Australian Opera and the Victorian State Opera and has thrilled the crowds at the carols for the past three years with his powerful renditions of inspiring songs," Rick Gordon said.

Another featured artist this year is Cindy V, gospel folk singer, accompanied by her band.

"Come early with your picnic tea, or food and drinks can be bought on the night, and pre-event entertainment will be provided from 7.15 pm." Candles will be available for purchase, and donations will be accepted during the performance for the annual Christmas Bowl Appeal.

Enquiries can be made through the Warrandyte Community Church on 9844 4148.

Bank launches website

The Warrandyte Community Bank has launched a community based internet site, "with a primary focus on events, activities, businesses and community organisations in the Warrandyte region".

"As well as providing valuable information about local events, community groups and sporting clubs, there is also a description of the history of the local area, a photo gallery and a community noticeboard," bank spokesperson Sarah Wrigley said.

"We hope everyone in Warrandyte will use it as their home page to keep up-to-date with what is happening in Warrandyte. As a free service for local business owners, the business listing is proving a popular way to further promote and market local businesses."

Details on how to include information can be found at www.warrandyte3113.com.au. Or you can call into the Bendigo Bank Community Branch at 144 Yarra Street, or phone 9844 2233.

Bank board chairman, John Provan, has stepped down after three years as chairman of the initial steering committee and four as chairman of the board.

"John has made a substantial contribution to the Warrandyte community," incoming chairman Sarah Wrigley told the *Diary*. "It was through his enthusiasm and his efforts that a bank was re-established in Warrandyte after all the other banks had left town."

Local residents were able to inspect their new police station and wander through the community garden next door one Saturday last month.

Although the police station was officially opened by Chief Commissioner Christine Nixon in July, most locals had not seen inside, unless on official business.

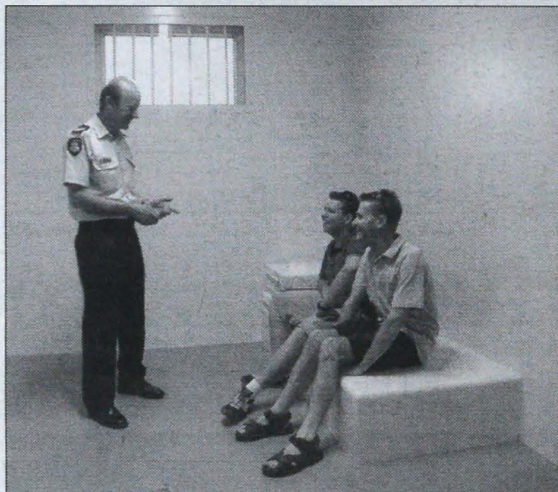
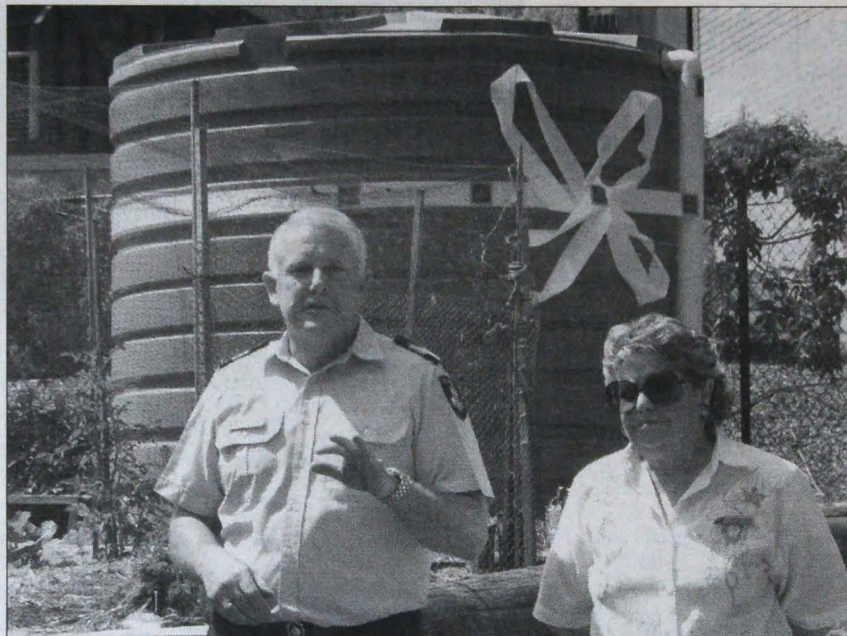
Perhaps the up-to-the-minute detention cell created the most interest, however visitors also admired the other fine facilities provided for our local police and Sergeant Keith Walker proudly demonstrated all the new communications gadgetry.

Pastor Peter Keep of the Warrandyte Community Church dedicated the new building and spoke glowingly of Sgt Walker's outstanding work in the community.

Sgt Walker undertook a special role in the community garden, when he named the gazebo in honour of David Watson, the "garden guru".

David played a major role in the garden's establishment and continues to act as a profound influence on the garden and as advisor to the 24-plus gardeners who continue tending their plots, despite the rigours of drought and water restrictions.

Top: Sgt Keith Walker introduces Cr Pat Young who "unwrapped" the tank at the garden. Right: residents test the lock-up at the new police station.

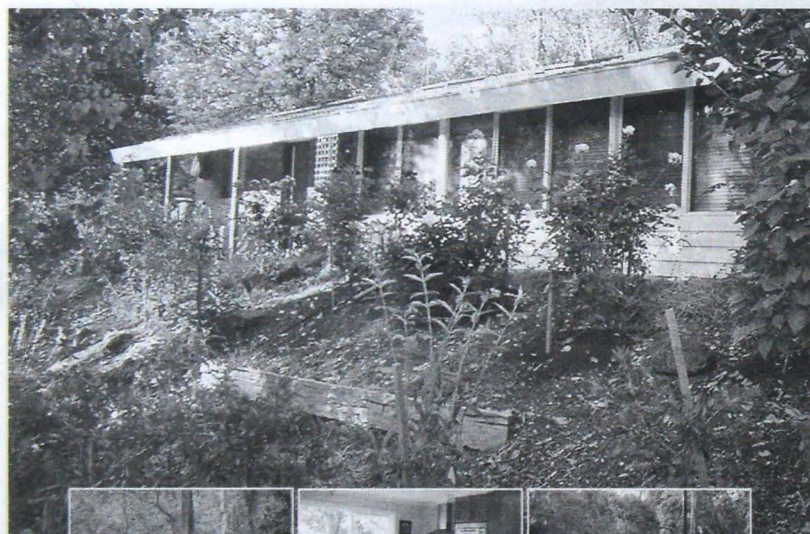


New centre at The Pines

A new community centre, largely dedicated to adult education and within easy reach of Warrandyte, opened late last month.

The Pines Learning and Activity Centre in East Doncaster, adjacent to the shopping centre of the same name, will accommodate the Donvale Living and Learning Centre and the Manningham University of the Third Age.

"These two organisations now have a permanent home and can comfortably accommodate a growing number of people who participate in their learning programs," mayor Ron Kitchingman said.



COUNTRY LIFESTYLE WITH CITY CONVENIENCE

\$750,000 (all offers considered)

Come and enjoy country living with views of majestic gum trees in tranquil Warrandyte North. This single level 3 bedroom + study family home situated on an acre of land offers fantastic indoor and outdoor living spaces. The home is flooded in natural light, it boasts delightful garden outlook from every room, elegant lounge and dining, modern timber kitchen with stainless steel appliances, large family/games room, beautifully renovated main bathroom with leadlight windows and many more features that complete today's contemporary living requirements. The moment you step outside you will be delighted with the fully paved entertaining area, pool and pizza oven, other external improvements include double carport, large workshop in the rear garden, smaller garden shed and large level parking area to the front of the home.

Open for inspection Saturday & Sunday, 1.30-2.30pm, or alternatively call now for an appointment.

Suzanne Russell 0407 361 396



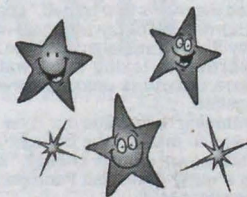
Celebrate Christmas

From all of us at Warrandyte **Community Bank**[®] Branch we wish you a very merry Christmas and a wonderful celebration with family and friends.

Branch will be open - Monday to Friday 9.00am - 5.00pm and Saturday 9.00am - 12 noon except public holidays.

We look forward to seeing you at Warrandyte **Community Bank**[®] Branch, 144 Yarra Street, Warrandyte or call 9844 2233.

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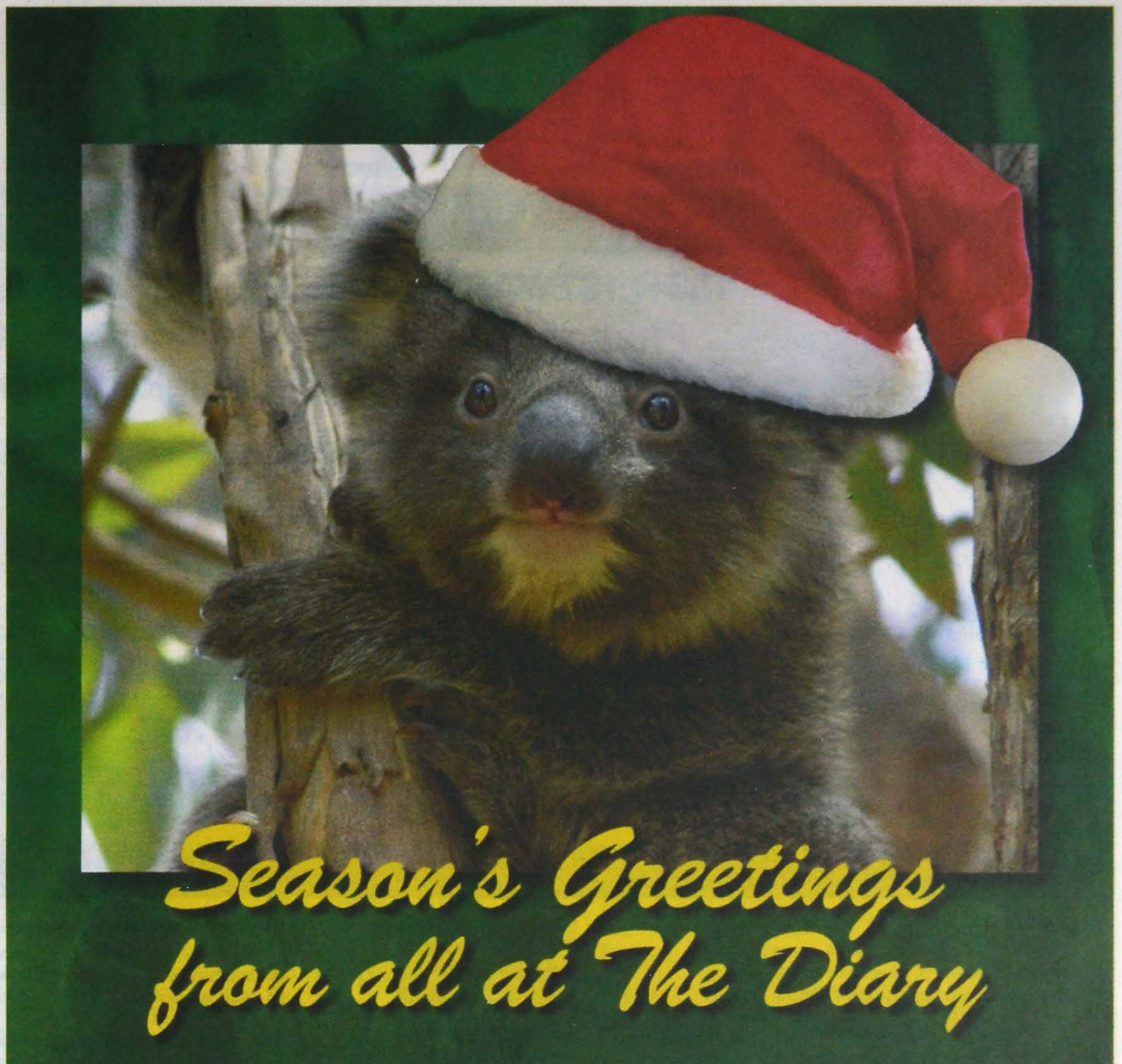
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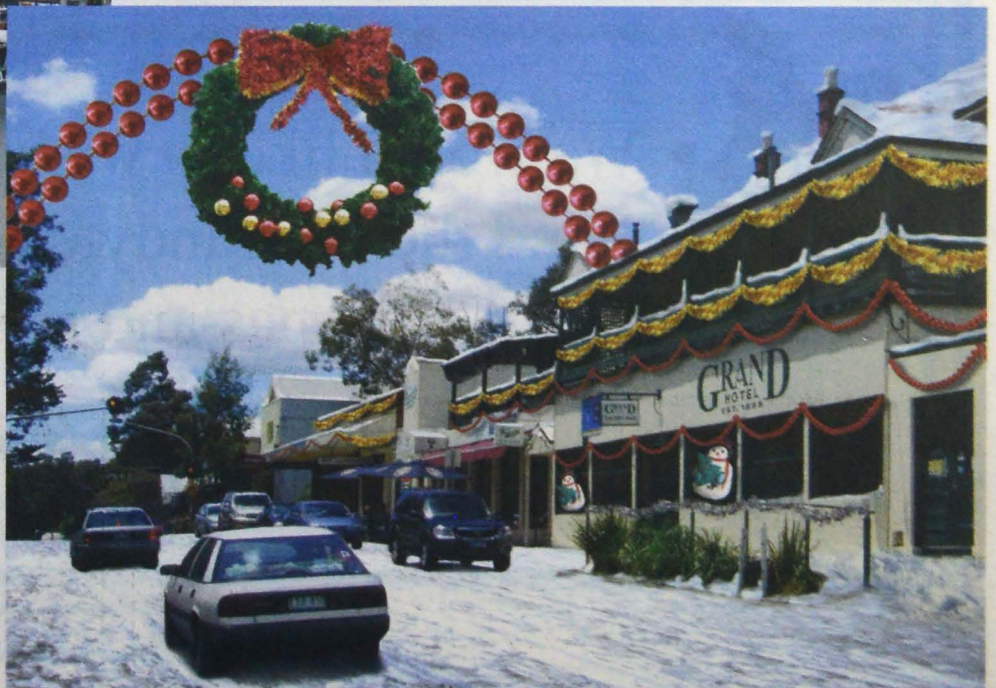
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Covering Christmas

Fire trucks and koalas wearing Santa hats, Yarra Street and the Grand Hotel under a mantle of Yuletide snow, carol singers, kids and Christmas trees—these have all featured in STEPHEN REYNOLD's wonderful festive season montages on the front page of the *Diary*. Heavily into nostalgia during this year of our 400th issue, we thought we'd give them another run...



Season's Greetings from all at The Diary



LANDFIELD

REAL ESTATE PTY LTD

183 – 187 YARRA STREET, WARRANDYTE 3113

Phone: (03) 9844 3085 Fax: (03) 9844 2228

Email: admin@landfield.com.au

Lions Club of Warrandyte Inc.

Next Meeting 24 January

We offer our thanks to the kind people of Warrandyte who support our activities and to those who donate their pre-loved goods for resale in our Opportunity Shop at the Community Centre, proceeds from which go back into our community. And we also hope you have a very Merry Christmas and we wish everyone a Happy and Prosperous 2008.

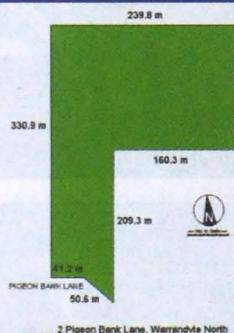


WARRANDYTE NORTH

Land of Opportunity

Wander through this 13-acre site and you can see for yourself: hilltop views, flat useable land across the ridgeline at the top of the property & a long winding driveway. Amongst trees on the ridge, the vision for a dream home strengthens – in a place where you're untouched by noise and traffic. Just a few minutes' walk from the Yarra River's stunning Blue Tongue Bend, this is an amazing canvas for an astute buyer with a vision.

Price: \$650,000 plus



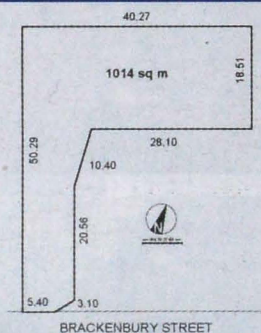
2 Pigeon Bank Lane, Warrandyte North

WARRANDYTE

Pure Imagination

With plans and permits in place for an impressive 3-bedroom + studio home with a spectacular front balcony, all that's left to bring to this 1/4 is your cheque book and your imagination. See beyond the crushed rock driveway to the bushland freedom this property could bring you and your family—just behind the charming Yarra St cafes, shops and the Yarra River.

Price: \$280,000 plus



BRACKENBURY STREET

WARRANDYTE NORTH

Live the "Green" Dream

Created by sustainable design architect Ross Henry, this tri-level eco 4BR home lightens the carbon footprint with recycled 120-year old jarrah floors, double glazed windows, and north facing construction to take in the sun. Nearing completion, the work of art just needs the finishing touches to its 3 upstairs BRs with lofts, attic and downstairs cellar. Walk into the breathtaking open plan living room, and you'll have all the inspiration you need to finish the job.

Price: \$720,000–\$850,000



KINGLAKE

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"GLENBURN" Easily accessible clean grazing land, 20 minutes from Yarra Glen via all sealed road. A serviceable 2 bedroom cottage, cattle yards, 5 paddocks and 7 dams. Hard to come by acreage so close to Melbourne. Adjacent to Kinglake National Park and nearby fishing spots, this is a top opportunity to plan your great escape.

Price: \$900,000 plus



We would like to wish all our clients
and the Warrandyte community a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

from all the staff at Landfeld Real Estate



LANDFIELD

REAL ESTATE PTY LTD

183 – 187 YARRA STREET, WARRANDYTE 3113

Phone: (03) 9844 3085 Fax: (03) 9844 2228

Email: admin@landfield.com.au

Outstanding Election Day Results

If you elected to sell your property with Landfield Real Estate (Warrandyte) Pty Ltd on 24 November 2007 you would have been extremely happy with the results.

Landfield recorded almost \$3 million in sales at this time, a testament to the skills and professionalism of the Landfield staff and a clear sign of the high demand for properties in and around the area.

Providing the highest level of customer service is a key focus of our staff at Landfield Real Estate and we pride ourselves on our customer satisfaction achievements, as acknowledged by our happy clients:

My sincere thanks for all your efforts which went toward us successfully selling our house in Warrandyte last Saturday 24th November. I could not fault the entire auction process and wouldn't hesitate in recommending you to anyone. Having never sold a house before you helped me through a very stressful time and I am extremely grateful. My deepest thanks,

Deb Saunders
Everard Drive

After trying a few local agents in the area I found Dominic and his staff to be the most professional and courteous people to deal with. Dominic answered all my questions in regards to selling my property promptly and advised me of his advertising and selling strategy very professionally. A pleasure to deal with and full marks to the Warrandyte Landfield team for the excellent result for the sale of my property.

David Termorshuizen
Charlotte Court

I would like to thank you & the team at Landfield for making the sale of my house in Warrandyte such a smooth transaction. It was an difficult time for me, as I had lived in Warrandyte for 35 years, and making the decision to sell was very hard. But you gave me support &, with your team, managed every aspect of the sale in an efficient and professional manner. Kind regards,

Jo Bradbury
Bradleys Lane

Peta, the children and I would like to thank you and your staff for the wonderful result you achieved for us in the recent auction of our home. You made the very emotional task of selling our family home that much easier. We appreciated the professional manner in which you conducted the sale and for the steady flow of information regarding the progress of the sale. I will certainly recommend your company to friends and the wider community. With thanks,

Keith Walker
Blooms Road

Thank you Dominic for selling our home. We have been very impressed with the manner in which you have operated your business in Warrandyte. In all dealings, you have been frank and clear about the process of selling real estate. We look forward to continuing our relationship for future projects in the Warrandyte area. Yours Faithfully,

Liane Macquire
Cemetery Road

So if you are looking for quality service when it comes to selling or renting your property now is the time to contact Landfield Real Estate.

Our staff will be happy to assist with any queries you may have and will also provide you with some handy tips to help get the best value for your property.

www.landfield.com.au

Manningham City Council
Local Environment Update
www.manningham.vic.gov.au



MANNINGHAM

Get ClimateWise Now!

Sustainable personal transport

The final workshop for 2007 in the Get ClimateWise Now! Series will focus on sustainable personal transport initiatives, and provide an introduction into Carbon Rationing Action Groups (CRAGs).

Expert speakers will discuss Bio-diesel, electric cars, electric scooters and electric bicycles.

Date: Thursday 13 December

Time: 6:45pm to 9:00pm

Venue: Council Chambers, 699 Doncaster Rd, Doncaster

Bookings essential: Kay Toussaint 9840 9348

Cost: Free

The Get ClimateWise Now! Series continues in early 2008 with workshops covering solar water and air heating, domestic wind energy, green buildings and renovations, and food miles. Find out more at www.manningham.vic.gov.au under 'Environment Groups & Events'.

2008 Environmental Seminars

Council's Environmental Seminar Series returns in 2008, on the first Wednesday of each month beginning in February.

The first session on 6 February will feature wetland ecology specialist Damien Cook. Damien will discuss his recent trip to Mongolia to view a one million hectare wetland and grassland area, and the existing environmental assets and threats.

Date: Wednesday 6 February

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: South Warrandyte Hall, Hall Rd, South Warrandyte

Cost: Free

Catering: Supper provided

Enquiries: Lyn Meredith 9840 9326

Sunday Walk - Ruffey Lake Park

The first Sunday Walk for 2008 will explore the wetlands of Ruffey Lake Park. The two-hour walk is free and suitable for all ages. Appropriate shoes, hat, clothing and water bottle are required.

Date: Sunday 3 February

Time: 10.15am Sunday 3 February

Bookings essential: Kay Toussaint 9840 9348

Sustainable Garden Awards

Congratulations to the winners of the 2007 Middle Yarra Sustainable Garden Awards, which were judged, and announced on 24 October, by celebrity gardener, Jane Edmanson.

The competition was run as part of the Spring Outdoors program, and was open to entries from residents in the Manningham, Banyule and Nillumbik municipalities.

All three categories were awarded to Manningham residents. The winners were:

- Rural Garden category – Brenda and Tony Moore
- Courtyard Garden category – Lachlan Poulton
- Suburban Garden category – Cecilia Tong



Jimmy & Debbie
wish everyone

a

Happy Christmas

and a

Wonderful New Year!

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is fully booked*



*Wishing all our valued customers a very Merry Christmas
and a happy and prosperous New Year!*



*Daisy's On
Warrandyte*

Goldfields Plaza

Worship at your local church

Celebrate Christ's birthday with your neighbours.

Church services for 2007 are as follows:
 Anglican Church (9844 3473) Christmas Eve 11.30pm, Christmas Day 8am, 9.30am.
 Uniting Church (9844 3476) Christmas Eve 7.30pm, 11.30pm, Christmas Day 9am, Community Church (9844 4148) Christmas Eve 7pm, Christmas Day 10am.
 Catholic Church (9876 1509) Christmas Eve 6pm (Park Orchards), 9pm (Warrandyte), Christmas Day 10.30am (Park Orchards). Anyone requiring further information, please contact the church of your choice.

Singers

Local choir, Bellbird Singers, is appealing for new members. There are no auditions. Everyone is welcome. The choir is a group of people who love to sing and have fun doing it. They meet every Monday night at the Warrandyte Uniting Church in Tarroona Avenue, between 8pm and 10pm. The choir will be performing at the Warrandyte Carols by Candlelight (see below), so come along, hear them

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.

sing and decide if you'd like to join. Further information from Lise on 9844 2553.

Reunion

Advance warning: A reunion of Warrandyte Primary School pre-1940s students will be held at the school on Sunday, March 2 between 11am and 3.30pm.

Carols

The Warrandyte Community Carols by Candlelight will be presented by the combined churches of Warrandyte and Park Orchards at Stiggants Reserve on Saturday, December 15 at 8pm. See elsewhere in this issue for further information. This year's Manningham Carols by Candlelight will be held at Ruffey Park Lake on Friday, December 14 from 6pm.

Cracker

The Earth Harmony Centre is presenting "A Christmas

Cracker" with visiting Chicago blues legend Corky Siegel, accompanied by Lil' Fi and Big Boy Lemonade on Saturday, December 22 at 8pm. \$20 admission, early bookings essential. Phone 9844 5155. The centre is at the top level, 246-250 Yarra Street, Warrandyte.

Visit

Readers are reminded that Government House, Melbourne, will be open to the public 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 for purchase, there will be children's entertainment in the grounds and musical performances in the grounds and in 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.

Tell us

The *Diary* is your newspaper and we're always ready to publish details of your forthcoming events. Give us all the facts and simply drop it through the door in the *Diary* office, post it to PO Box 209, Warrandyte 3113, fax it to 9844 4168, or email warrandytediary@aapt.net.au.



A special award has been presented each year for the past nine years to young people in the Warrandyte-Park Orchards area, honouring the memory of Christie Lawrence and Luke Mayall who died in a car accident. The award alternated between candidates from the hospitality and performing arts fields. The 2007 winner is Winnie Huang (pictured), a talented young violinist. The organising trust has decided to wind-up the awards, and to mark this they made two additional recognition awards, one to Matt Moran, actor and director and the second to Loughlan Prior, dancer.

Jazz

The Eltham Jazz and Blues Heritage Festival will be held across the Australia Day weekend, Saturday, January 26 and Sunday, January 27, 2008. This festival will showcase some of the best jazz musicians and performers on various stages throughout Eltham, admittance free. Top performers will include Gil Askey with Paul Williamson, Andy Cowan, Judy

Jacques, Warrandyte's own Ella Thompson, Bob Sedergreen and others. For further information contact 9431 4498, 0419 351 640 or lucia2345@hotmail.com or www.elthamtown.com.au.

Newsletters

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

artyfacts

Pottery Expo on again in February



The annual Warrandyte Pottery Expo is happening again, down on the riverbank at the bottom of Webb Street, on the weekend of Saturday, February 23 and Sunday, February 24, 2008. Three potters from India will be exhibiting, including Giri Raj Prasad (pictured). There will be demonstrations, clay activities for the public and live music. Indian food, a wine bar and Bollywood dancing will be featured. Call Jane Annois for further information on 9844 2337 or www.potteryexpo.com or jane@potteryexpo.com.

Christmas

"Wrapped in Christmas" is the theme of the exhibition currently running at Stonehouse Gallery (the old Gospel Chapel), 103 Yarra Street, Warrandyte, 9884 3629, during December. Work from all the Stonehouse artists will be featured and free festive wrapping is offered.

Final

Your final opportunity to visit Artstreams Gallery, at the corner of Yarra and Police streets, will be the last few days of their final exhibition—"The Last Picture Show", a pre-Christmas bargain sale. There will be a gala party on Sunday, December 16. Call Peter for further information: 9844 0248 or email Peterd@connexus.net.au.

COREY'S COMMUNITY

By SYD & ONA

Ruddy the red-nosed reindeer,....
 then all the reindeer loved him,
 as they shouted out with glee,
 Ruddy the red-nosed reindeer
 you'll go down in history!

LIONS CLUB OF WARRANDYTE Opportunity Shop

The Lions Club, Liz, staff and volunteers would like to thank everybody for your generous donations throughout the year and wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

THERE WILL BE NO GARAGE SALE IN JANUARY

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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.

Ample parking.
Light refreshments available.

Bring along your family and friends.
Enquiries: 9844 4495



Whappened to be on Phillip Island on Election Day. It was a beautiful morning and we felt enthusiastic as we drove towards what we thought was the polling booth.

Normally, schools are selected because of their parking space and availability but when we turned up to the local primary school, it was obvious we had made a mistake. Cowes is not a very big place and it didn't take us long to realise that the booth would probably be at the rec centre. Now the recreation centre is right next to the footy ground and it was that very ground that had been chosen as the tent city for the night before the beginning of The Great Victorian Bike Ride.

Obviously Mr Howard had not bothered to contact the organisers of the ride because, without doubt, he would have chosen another date so the melee of cyclists and voters would not have ensued. It was the clash of Lycra hot pants and board shorts. Each group was focused on their own agenda and made it very clear to those about them what were their views about rights and responsibilities. In a way what was happening around the footy ground was a metaphor for the political struggle that was going on inside the booths.

We had arrived just as the peloton was heading off. It seemed there must have been some coordination because the polling booth was bedecked



kibbled

"Obviously Mr Howard had not contacted the organisers of the ride because without doubt he would have chosen another date..."

with team colours as were the riders. If colour and movement is what show biz is all about, this was Hollywood.

Although The Bike Ride is used as an individual and team-building opportunity for all sorts of organisations, predominantly schools, it was obvious that the first task of everyone involved in the ride was to select which garish colour the group was going to use for their Lycra. What with the fluorescent riders and the tasteless political posters, I'm not sure that I was in a fit state when I actually got to cast my vote.

As soon as we had voted, we set off for the local Farmers'

Market that is located on the other side of the island and can only be reached by using the same road as were the riders. The 10 or so kilometres provided us with the opportunity to test my avoidance technique as well as observe humanity in all its diversity.

There were the serious riders who were fatless and focused. They rode stiletto-tyred, mean machines and carried nothing more than a drink bottle. They stared ahead through expensive wrap around sun glasses. There were the "let's-do-it-for-fun" cyclists who had gears but, from the size of their backpacks and the toy penguins and feathers and tinsel stuck on their helmets, hadn't really thought much about the Gippsland hills.

The majority, however, were school kids from the late primary years to the late secondary. Naturally, amongst those were the different types. It wasn't hard to identify the Testosterone Teens who kept making mad dashes to get ahead of each other in between being dragged back to be with the group by teachers who began the day in their 30s and by morning tea time were ready for retirement.

The girls divided between the deadly serious loners who had read all the literature, had trained for the past six months and were determined not to let "those idiot boys" ruin a fulfilling and character-building ride and the more social girls who insisted on riding in chatting-

picks. "There was the smattering of "suiciders", the type who insist on riding the model of bike that can only be peddled lying down. They seem to work on the assumption that a tall aerial will alert Mack drivers that they are a human and not just a scurrying, potential road-kill.

We were pleased to see the mature riders were not missing. Helmets tend to disguise a lot but the grey beards and the fat bums are giveaways. These participants generally rode alone leaving us to contemplate the motives for their rides. Mid-life crisis? Getting over a separation or bereavement or ASIO agents on reconnaissance?

The most poignant sights, however, were of the younger kids who had broken down and were standing, teary-eyed in the long grass, whilst their tight-lipped teachers were wrestling with inner tubes, puncture kits and spanners that kept getting lost in the grass. Apart from the tears, what was gut-wrenching was that this was hour one of day one and they had travelled no more than four, flat kilometres.

Doubly poignant was that it was a horrible reminder of our own ill-fated long-service leave. We set out in a clapped-out campervan and the first of many times we broke down was one hour out, on day one, in Nagambie.

Have a safe and an enjoyable break.

ROGER KIBELL

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This is the year that was for our intrepid nature reporter

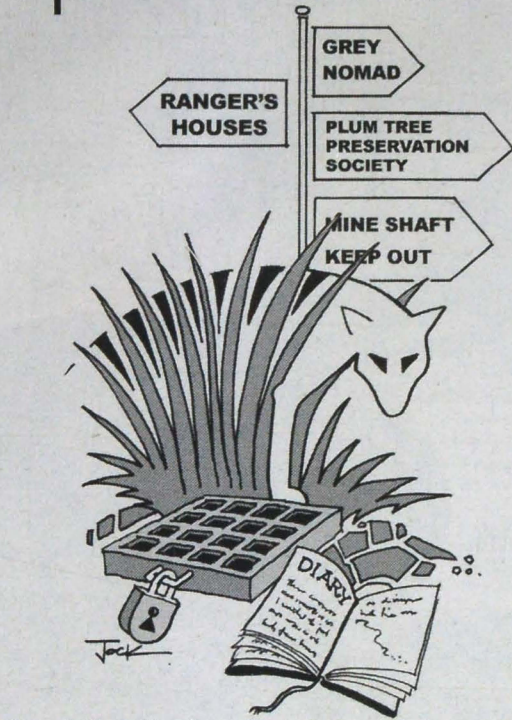
EARLY January: Another scorcher. Fires still burning out of control north and south of the Divide. The air is smoky and the light an ominous orange. In energy-sapping heat, walk around the garden. Depressing. I don't think the Pomaderris will make it. Pond level low. Evaporation or a leak?

Mid February: Hot day. Go down to the river for a swim. See a Gippsland Water Dragon. Impressive. Must be nearly a metre from head to tail. Not normally found around here. Probably an escape or deliberate release by an owner finding it's grown too big to cope with. Should report it.

March: Wasps still a pest when eating outdoors. Nights cooler now. Still no rain. Aggies defying the drought, are flowering along the road and driveways. Canoe from Jumping Creek to Pound Bend, most willows are gone now. Hurray! River level very low, have to walk some rapids. See an unusual large brownish-grey buff-breasted bird—later identified as a female Darter. So different from the all-black glossy males.

Early April: Easter. Camping up at the Avon River. River murky after the Great Divide bushfires, but new growth already on the eucs in the burnt areas. Masses of newly-germinated wattles. Had a bet with Mike we wouldn't get another 30 degree day. It reached 29.5. Pheew! Won 20 dollars!

Late May: Rain at last! Frogs calling at night from the pond. Ewing's, I think. Take a walk along river track at Black Flat. Heaps of fungi, moss and lichens. Love this time of year. Heaths and Correas flowering in the garden. Spinebills visit their tubular flowers. If they can't reach down the funnel they bite the flower off at the base to reach the nectar. Lots of broken



flower bells scattered over the ground! Oh well.

June: A week in Mallacoota. Deep low pressure system forms off the southern New South Wales coast and moves west dumping nearly 200mms of rain on Gippsland. Vast areas flooded. Prince's Highway cut. Only just get back. Good rains in Warrandyte too. Is this a freak event or the beginning of the end of the decade of drought?

July: Garden looks great. Tiny tussock grass seedlings popping up in bare areas. Fantastic. Won't have to plant tube stock That will save time (and money). Also find young correas, daisy-bush and bulbines, not

GREY NOMAD

RANGER'S HOUSES

PLUM TREE PRESERVATION SOCIETY

MINE SHAFT KEEP OUT

always where I want them! Will try transplanting. Cotoneasters down the road laden with berries. Birds love them. Hmm.

August: Went to Africa.

Mid September: For a few days last week the Cherry Plums by the river were resplendent in full petalled bloom. Yesterday strong winds stripped these Cinderella trees of their pretty ball gowns. Leaves still to fully open on spiky bare branches. It would be so easy to end their days. A swift injection of poison in the trunk, a little hatchet job around the bark. Too much opposition. Would cause too much controversy. Must stop dreaming about it.

nature

By PAT COUPAR

Early October: Dry again. No decent falls of rain since July. Still the flowers on the Hill look good. Most of the wattles have finished, but bush-peas and lilies are doing well. Stunning red flowers on ground-hugging Running Postman. Trying to think of other red-flowering local plants. Can't. Mountain bike tracks have been repaired or at least deterrents put in place. Time to prune and mulch in garden.

November: Grasses flowering. Hay fever has returned. First test match starts—feels like summer. Good fall of rain at weekend saved the day for many plants in the garden. Rumours have surfaced again of a Tasmanian Tiger sighting in gorge country north of the river. Might investigate.

December: ...

There are no more entries in the nature writer's diary. No one has heard from her for quite a while. She seems to have gone missing. What has happened? Did she follow up on that Tassie Tiger sighting and get into trouble? Perhaps she fell down a mineshaft, but no, they have all been capped and the tunnels gated. Did she seek shelter at a ranger's house? No, they were pulled down decades ago. Has she got lost—too many signs around Warrandyte for that. Perhaps she has been abducted by the Plum Tree Preservation Society who took her wishful thinking seriously. Could she have succumbed to some unknown tropical disease picked up while in Africa? Or has she quietly slipped away to join the ranks of the Grey Nomads and headed off to destinations unknown? Will we ever hear from our nature writer again or read her monthly musings?

Story of a family on a hillside

WE haven't yet received the annual "mow it or else" letter from the council, but it's probably in the mail. They waste good ratepayers' money, picking on us. The thriving snake population is a very effective motivator to keep the grass short, to say nothing of the prospect of bushfires. It takes us a month or so to get on top of it, that's all. The last of the tall grasses succumb to the brushcutter's whiplash by mid-December each year, just as soon as our colourful expanse of blue pincushions finishes seeding.

So in another week or two I will no longer be able to sit here at my computer and gaze up the hillside at butterflies dancing amongst tall seedheads fluttering in the breeze, or muse upon the deeper meaning of it all.

For the hillside seems to perfectly reflect our lives over the past few years. The towering eucalypts are like old friendships—their health has been undermined by years of drought and neglect. Most are putting on

our place
By MARILYN MOORE

a brave face, but I fear that tragedy has crept in while our backs have been turned and many are now quite dead. Others are looking distinctly scraggy, with dead limbs and leaning trunks aplenty. The rest are true stalwarts, upright and strong, an undying reminder of years gone by as well as the framework of years to come.

The intermittent carpet of wildflowers represents the bright spots—dinners, parties, bushwalks, weekends away, and myriad lively cycling trips, excursions and holidays. Strangely lacking at times, but the seeds remain safely buried. Wildflowers always come back.

Lastly, the rampant swathe of lush grasses that has overtaken our place seems to be Huey's depiction (in natural media) of life with kids. Completely captivating but, year by year, gradually obliterating the orderly

existence we once enjoyed. No amount of cutting and pruning stems the tide either, as an endless supply of surprises lies poised to grasp any available toehold.

"Hmmm," I hear you say. "Daydreaming is all very well, but it doesn't get the grass cut." True. Sigh! Wouldn't it be heavenly to have a whole day with nothing to do?

There have been distressingly few opportunities this year to relax and enjoy anything. Fate has dealt us her most chaotic hand yet, alongside a workload that would have been unsustainable even without all the dramas.

Nevertheless, overwhelming though it's been, the past year has not been without its bright spots. At the dawn of 2008 we will be able to look back and see that the balance sheet for 2007 was not all bad. It's good to be able to stop for a moment, take a deep breath, and appreciate that.

And of course our struggle to cling to sanity is a mere bagatelle compared to the misfortunes and tragedies of others.

Some poor little kids I came across last weekend provide a handy example. We were staying overnight in a country town, in a house all-too-adjacent to theirs. The entire district was treated to non-stop shrieking abuse and obscenities from the feral shrew who was undoubtedly their mother; the kids, meanwhile, chattered meekly to her and each other as though nothing were out of the ordinary. The poor little sods must have been used to it. How could any person, any woman, any mother, undermine the lives of perfectly good children like that? I am still reeling in shock.

Give me rampant grasses, bats in the hallway and tiger snakes in the pool any day rather than the unfettered screeching of a madwoman. We have so much to be thankful for!

Talking of loud noises, I guess we'll be listening to a chorus of brushcutters over the next couple of weekends. Personally, we'll be leaving gumbosons on until the job's finished. So happy Christmas folks, count your blessings, and may all your snakes be little ones!

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TERM 1 2008

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Creative Writing Tues pm
Community Choir Mon pm
Children's Drawing Mon, Tues pm
* Hebel Sculpture Thurs pm
Machine Embroidery Sun pm
* Calligraphy Club Mon am
* Felting weekend workshop

HEALTH & WELLBEING:
Yoga Mon *am, pm
* Nia dance for fitness, Mon am
Nia introductory workshop, Sun pm
Tai Chi Tues pm
Pilates Tues am, Wed pm
Strong Women Stay Young Tues am, Fri am
Monday Walking Group Mon am
Power Walking Fri am
Circuit Fitness Class Wed am
Older Adults on the Move Wed am

LANGUAGE:
French Club Wed pm

LIFE SKILLS:
Book Club monthly Thurs pm
Monthly Discussion and Lunch Group Tues pm
Film Club monthly Tues am
Digital Photography Wed am
* Digital Photography weekend workshop

ENROLMENTS:
from Monday 21 January

TERM 1:
Jan 29-Mar 19

ENQUIRIES 9844 1839

DATES TO REMEMBER
WOMEN'S HEALTH DAY
Wednesday, March 5th
"Food: Fads and Fables"—How to sort out what is really good for you—fad diets, organic vs conventional vegetables, the 100k diet, the push for buying local.

THE VERY GRAND READ
10th Anniversary Celebration with highly acclaimed author Garry Disher
Tuesday, March 18th

*New this term

www.warrandyteneighbourhoodhouse.org.au

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

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WONDERFUL WEEK IN WARRANDYTE

Town Celebrates Festive Season

REGATTA ON RIVER

Non-Stop Tennis Tournament

ART EXHIBITION A HIGHLIGHT

Unruly Behaviour

From RICHARD MORTON
Our Special Correspondent

SEVENTY-SEVEN years ago, Warrandyte celebrated the festive season with an exhausting week of events, extending across the entire Christmas-New Year week.

Perhaps it was the 1929 crash that prompted the holding of the first Warrandyte Christmas carnival. As the country slipped deeper into the Great Depression it might have seemed a good idea to lift the spirits of the community and to stimulate local trade. Two Christmas carnivals were held in Warrandyte in the summers of 1930-31 and 1931-32.

This tradition may have extended into the 1930s but we have no records of later events, although the Christmas art exhibition inaugurated in 1930 (see below) was held again in 1937-38. For the first of these, organised by the Warrandyte Women's Auxiliary Association (Ethel E. Osborne, president; Florence Hargreaves, secretary; Bella Trezise, treasurer) the Warrandyte Historical Society has a full program.

The carnival commenced on Friday, December 26 with the

opening of the "Xmas Fair" at 3pm by Councillor Angela Booth in the Fernery (the program locates the Fernery "opposite the Dance Hall"—the Mechanics Institute?—on the north side of Yarra Street next to the estate agency), followed by "Side Shows and Amusements". A dance in the hall followed at 8pm (double tickets 5/-). The Xmas Fair at the Fernery continued the next day and there was also a scout demonstration and sideshows. Saturday finished with a "Cinderella Dance" in the hall (double tickets 3/-).

The following day, Sunday, December 28, there was a children's service at the Church of England with contributions of fruit and flowers to go to the Children's Welfare Home, Royal Park. There were afternoon services in the other churches followed by a performance by the Northcote Returned Soldiers and Citizens Band at the bridge at 3pm.

In the evening there were carols and community singing in the hall preceded and followed by musical items by the band.

On Monday there was a roll call at the school with games and

competitions and the presentation of an armchair to the oldest pupil. This item was awarded to 78-year-old Mrs Moad (Alicia Frencham) who was, however, unable to be present. Professor W.A. Osborne read a letter from Mr Pretty, the son of Mrs Rosa Pretty, "the first teacher in the slab school". In the afternoon there was an invitation tea party for old scholars and returned soldiers and their wives. The day finished with an old-time dance at the hall with music provided by Mr and Mrs Frank Lowe and Mr Sam McAuley. It was reported that:

Among the visitors were several from the old diggings days, survivors who could tell the younger generation stories of stirring deeds in the olden times, when the miners had charge of the scene, and raked among the beautiful scenery for the dust on which civilization is builded.

On Tuesday there was an excursion to Kinglake by bus and a euchre tournament and dance in the hall at night. Wednesday saw a cricket match at the sport ground, visitors against residents, and a girl guides' open day at *Lowestoft* with a demonstration of boomerang throwing. A fancy dress ball in the hall concluded the day.

Thursday, New Year's Day, was the big day on the river with a canoe parade and a swimming carnival. Mr W.H. Everard, MLA, opened new swimming sheds. The carnival finished in the evening with a farewell concert in the hall and the presentation of prizes and trophies.

Concurrent with the carnival was

a tennis tournament commencing on Christmas Day and finishing on New Year's Day, and an exhibition of paintings (under the patronage of Her Excellency Lady Somers) in the Penleigh Boyd studio. The latter event attracted a record attendance of about 200 people on New Year's Day.

Miss Lorraine Bremner was the winner of a "lucky button" competition, the prize for which was to select one of the paintings displayed in the exhibition. Miss Bremner chose "Gums and Wattles", "a typical work of Clara Southern Flinn, in which river wattle and gums were combined to form a representative Warrandyte picture". This was considered a very appropriate outcome as Miss Bremner's sister, Miss Alison Bremner, a student at Swinburne Technical School, had designed the carnival poster. Other events available during the carnival were a "Wee Golf" tournament, a *Palais de Dance* and a photographic competition.

We know less about the carnival the following year but it seems to have followed the same "Back-to-Warrandyte" theme, although the program seems to have been less extensive, perhaps reflecting the general gloom of the Great Depression. This time Mr Pretty was present in person and gave a talk on the Friday night on the early days:

Mr Pretty said that his first teacher was Miss Blair. When she left Warrandyte, his mother opened a School in the old Court-house, and later a "slab" School was built

by Messrs Hunter of Templestowe. The funeral of Mrs Pretty was the first to take place in the Warrandyte Cemetery. Mr Pretty referred to an old tree which was felled to make a Bridge for his mother to cross the Creek to the School. It was a yellow box, three feet in diameter, and was cut down by an old British sailor who was nicknamed "George the Tiger".

The Bridge was placed in position 65 years ago, and is still in splendid condition.

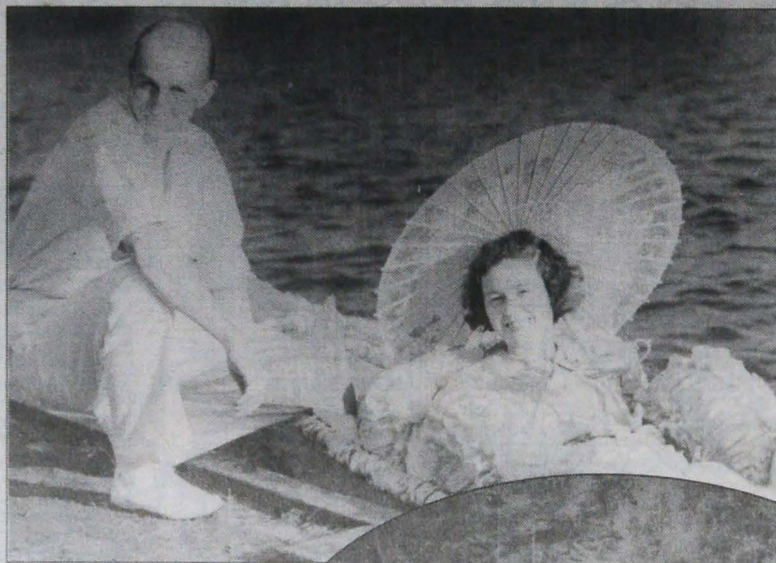
Mrs Pretty's old home of wattle and daub is still standing. Mr Pretty also spoke of diverting the River at the Pound Bend by a company. He said a tunnel was made through solid rock. A village of tents sprang up, and the work was completed, leaving the River dry. However, a flood washed the dam and all the plant away. This ended the project.

Unfortunately, the festivities were disrupted the following day by an unruly "out-of-town" element that Warrandyte had begun to attract. The *Ringwood Mail and Warrandyte Gazette* reported:

On Saturday afternoon Constable W. Ware and his assistant made themselves very much felt among a number of hooligans who had been fighting in the Main Street. It did not take them long, however, to disperse them, when they disappeared nursing their heads after a baton display. It was also disgraceful to see girls and youths parading about the Main Street, to the disgust of visitors and local residents.

An innovative feature of this year's festivities was a "Court of Injustice":

A "Court of Injustice" was held in aid of the funds for the local Public Hall on Saturday afternoon. It caused much fun amongst a crowd of visitors to the town.



Mr Fitzgerald and partner, winners of the 'Best decorated canoe', New Year's Day 1931.

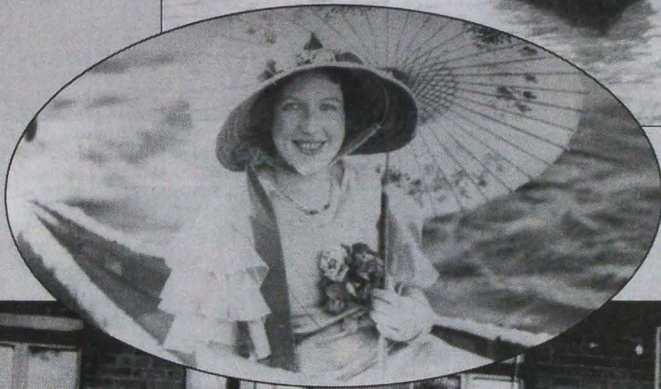
'Best decorated canoe' parade, Warrandyte, New Year's Day 1931.

'Rive Fete', New Year's Day 1931.





Participants in the 'River Fete', New Year's Day 1931.



Competitor in the 'Best decorated canoe' parade at Warrandyte during the 'Back to Warrandyte' festival, New Year's Day, 1931.



The 'Court of Injustice' in session outside the Grand Hotel in the 'Back to Warrandyte' Christmas Festival, Saturday 26 December 1931. The 'Judge' is Professor W.A. Osborne (centre) with 'barristers' Charles Hensworth (left) and Edward Hensworth (right). 'Constables' include Edward Houghton and Alfred Harrison.

A motor truck with "Judge", "Barristers", and "Clerk of Court", paraded the streets, and the "Constables" made many "arrests". These unfortunates were brought before the "Judge" and had to pay small fine; and great enjoyment was derived from the effort, and a good sum realised.

Although no catalogue of the 1930 art exhibition survives, we can get a good idea of the range of the work displayed through a review by the painter and art critic, Blamire Young, published in the Melbourne Herald. Warrandyte stalwarts were represented by Clara Southern, Frank Crozier, Harold Herbert, Jo Sweatman and two works by the late Penleigh Boyd. Young, however, emphasised the diversity of the offerings representing "every artist who ever set up his easel in the neighbourhood", including "the exponents of Futurism". By the latter he meant the exponents of modernism and was making an astute reference to the battle lines that were already being drawn in the practice of Australian painting. Not represented in the exhibition because he was already involved in his own one-man show was another Warrandyte resident, Adrian Lawlor, who was to play a leading role in the battle to come.

The program for the 1930-31 Back to Warrandyte Xmas Carnival carried a number of advertisements that give us some idea of the commercial life of the village between the wars. The proprietors of a range of local services promoted their offerings: Miss A (Aggie) Moore—still remembered by older residents—ran the local

newsagency and lending library ("All journals and periodicals in stock"); R.T.L. Ross, cash butcher ("Orders called for and delivered"), offered his customers prime meat; J.J. Moore, general storekeeper, promised "Anything and everything you need"; J.W. Walsh, baker and pastrycook, traded from the "Little shop opposite the Hall" (where the bakery still does a roaring trade today).

There was a ladies' and gents' hairdresser ("Meet me at the Barber's"), an estate agent and a general blacksmith and wheelwright ("On the river bank opposite the garage").

The popularity of Warrandyte as a tourist destination also provided business opportunities. Visiting the township was obviously thirsty and hungry work with a number of establishments offering refreshments. Mrs Naxton at River View promised her patrons a "Dainty Devonshire Afternoon Tea".

The Fernery under the proprietorship of Mrs Schult offered cool drinks, confectionery and ice cream while also providing her specialty of homemade cakes and scones. Mrs Robertson at the Warrandyte Café ("Opposite the Bridge") limited her providence to Afternoon Teas. All offered Hot Water for a small fee to impecunious visitors wishing to make their own drinks.

By the 1930s a direct bus service to Melbourne had replaced the journey by train to Ringwood to connect with the local horse-drawn coach service. Mackin and

Hudson advertised a Warrandyte service from the city with buses leaving from opposite Ball and Welch, a now long-defunct department store in Flinders Street. H.F. Bickerton and the Blue Bird Motor Service also promised a regular service between Warrandyte and Melbourne. Both firms offered motor cars and coaches for hire while the redoubtable J.J. Moore also catered for the private motorist at the Warrandyte Garage where he was in partnership with L. Retchford ("A Grade Engineer"). Moore was also operating his general store and the Central Tea Rooms.

A number of establishments offered accommodation for the overnight or weekend visitor. "Selby" on Tills Drive catered for outdoor leisure activities offering fishing, boating and shooting, while "Whooppee" on the Ringwood Road, as its name suggested, attracted a more frivolous crowd with the sedentary delights of billiards, radio and player piano. Not to be outdone in the accommodation stakes, Tresize's Grand Hotel promised first-class accommodation, excellent cuisine, the luxury of electric light (the hotel had its own generating plant as Warrandyte did not then have a connection to the grid) and the indulgence of hot baths.

(Thanks to the Warrandyte Historical Society and to Murray Houghton for researching the newspaper reports on which this article is based. Pictures courtesy Warrandyte Historical Society.)

Exhibition

ART SHOW IN ARCADIA

Warrandyte Draw

(By Blamire Young, The Herald Art Critic)

THE picture season of 1930 comes to an end with an exhibition of quite a novel character which is to be held far from the ignoble strife of our trams and trains.

As half the fun of this enterprise is in the going and the coming it will be just as well to be precise about it, so we will deal with this part of the matter first.

The exhibition of the Warrandyte pictures opens tomorrow at Warrandyte. Mr Tate, the former Director of Education is to open it. A special service of buses leaves Flinders Street (opposite Ball and Welch) at 1.20 p.m. in time for the opening.

The route lies through the Doncaster district which is particularly attractive at this time of the year, freshened and freed from dust by the late rains.

Picturesque Studio

The exhibition is held in the studio that Penleigh Boyd built for himself—an interesting building where we see the humble wattle-and-daub raised to its highest power, and with the aid of beams cut from the local timber converted to a spacious arcadian studio.

There are two pictures by Penleigh Boyd—one a slight water color and the other an oil sketch of the bridge over which we have just passed. From the bridge itself, looking over the wide stretch of flood water such as December seldom sees, is to be traced the ruins of the old water wheel used in days gone by for washing gold. It is a great pity this relic of the gold-days was destroyed, but a vivid sketch of it, made 10 years ago by Harold Herbert, shows us what an interesting feature it was.

The pictures that have been got together for this unique occasion are the work of every artist who has ever set up his easel in this neighborhood, and the list is very nearly complete.

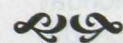
An exhibitor of whom we see very little, and should like to see more, is Frank Crozier. His picture of Mount Bogong, though hung among the noisiest of the extremists, stands out in unruffled repose with a detached air of good breeding. His color is deep, with the depth of nature's glamor, and sublimated through the spiritual experience of a sensitive mind. "The Black Horses" is also good and pleasantly individual in its presentment.

Archie Colquhoun, though true to himself and to his character as the 'John Knox' of pictorial triviality, gets a little further than usual beyond his grasp of essentials. His large canvas called 'Still-life' is unequal in its realism, but there are passages in the lower half that are quite impressive.

The exponents of Futurism are fully represented with the exception of Adrian Lalor [sic], who is fully occupied at his exhibition at the Little Gallery. They cut strange capers in their pictorial rompers, and enjoy themselves hugely at the expense of their more academic neighbors.

Charles Wheeler's poetic seascape shows him as a colorist of refinement and charm. Others identified with this sketch of the Yarra Valley and happily represented in the show, are Jo Sweatman, Isabel Tweddle, Ethel Syme and Clara Southern.

Herald, 19 December 1930.



Regatta Prize Winners

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Decorated canoe | — Fitzgerald; |
| Special prize: | E. Sloan; |
| Long canoe race: | D. Swanston; |
| Cork hunt: | Miss C. Osborne; |
| Greasy pole: | W. McAuley; |
| Pillow fight: | — Winter; |
| Diving: | C. Walker; |
| Diving: | Miss U. Osborne; |
| Tennis-singles: | Miss E. Gould and G. Sanford; |
| Tennis-mixed doubles: | Miss Joyce and E. Hemsworth; |

Fancy Dress

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| "Eastern Lady": | Miss Concannon; |
| "Spanish Lady": | Mrs. Todd; |
| "Early Victorian": | Miss Concannon; |
| "Swaggie": | Miss Sweatman |



*Merry Christmas
and a happy New Year*

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from the management and staff at Victory IGA Warrandyte



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Monday	Dec 24	7am-8pm
Tuesday	Dec 25	CLOSED
Wednesday	Dec 26	8am-8pm
Thursday	Dec 27	7am-10pm
Friday	Dec 28	7am-10pm
Saturday	Dec 29	7am-10pm
Sunday	Dec 30	7am-10pm
Monday	Dec 31	7am-8pm
Tuesday	Jan 1	8am-8pm
Wednesday	Jan 2	7am-10pm



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Christmas memories

By VAL POLLEY

Christmas is coming; the geese are getting fat...

THE old rhyme starts running through the mind once December approaches each year. However much we deplore the commercialisation, there is still a lot to love about Christmas. One true indication of the rapid approach of the festive season is when the round of end-of-year concerts begins.

There are many fond memories of concerts past in Warrandyte. There have been some memorable WAA ones held in the Mechanics Institute Hall. I recollect "A Bush Christmas", evoking memories of Christmases past and present; a wonderful mixture of Australian carols, Christmas music, ballads and sketches. One highlight was a Walter Magilton swagman reciting a Henry Lawson poem in a realistic bush camp setting. There was also an equally wonderful Medieval Night, presenting the music, dress and celebrations of that time to a most appreciative audience.

Most of us parents, though, tend to be more involved with the school, kinder or dance school concerts, many as helpers, costume makers and audiences. The reward of children enjoying their place in the limelight after a year of tapping, jazz and ballet classes throughout the year is a delight. The happiness of kinder children at their end-of-year show brings enormous pleasure to parents and grandparents alike.

Warrandyte dance schools have kept going over the years and will probably continue to do so as long as there are small girls who love to get onto a stage. My turn as a dance mother came during the time of the Renee Ann Martini school in the 1970s and 80s, especially when great activity took place around the Christmas concert. A frenetic round of rehearsals, costume fittings and flurry would culminate in grand performances and exhaustion. Having two daughters meant I had two of everything to make, but it was such fun I am so glad to have been part of it. Some of those costumes survived and now form part of our granddaughters' dress-up box.

One Christmas, during conversations in the waiting period for rehearsals to end, it transpired that the mothers felt a bit left out of Christmas celebrations. Husbands often had work parties to attend, children were certainly not short of celebrations but mothers seemed to miss out. By the end of the rehearsal a Christmas evening had been organised, the hall booked and tasks assigned. It was hugely successful. Actors, Terry and Carole Ann Gill, already well known for their roles on stage and TV and their own pantomimes at Shoppingtown and other malls, lived in Warrandyte. They were great initiators and supporters of anything theatrical.



Renee Ann Martini School of Dance Concert 1977.

With their help with music and lighting the hall was transformed. A veritable banquet was assembled—tables laden with food—including whole hams and turkeys, salads and breads, as well as silver punch bowls and wine. The party was open to all and it was a memorable evening for those Warrandyte residents who attended.

These days Carols by Candlelight at Stiggants Reserve is a well established feature of the Warrandyte Christmas. It is a lovely experience to join others on a warm summer evening with the riverbank as a backdrop and join in raising one's voice with others in song. Carols and Christmas songs must be amongst the best known music in the world. Back in the early 1970s we would travel to meet Eltham friends in the little redbrick Kangaroo Ground church on Christmas Eve for the service of carols and lessons. The little church at dusk, with its arched window recesses filled with greenery and candles, and the welcoming congregation, epitomised the best of Christmas celebrations. After the service everyone would adjourn to the hall where the ladies of the parish had laid on a marvelous supper. Later

on this service moved to the Uniting Church here in Warrandyte where it continued to attract good congregations. Then in the mid 1970s the Warrandyte and Park Orchards churches combined to present an ecumenical carols service and this evolved into the Carols by Candlelight program we enjoy today.

But for many residents it is the street party or street barbecue that brings neighbours together for some Christmas spirit. Our street barbecue has been held since 1978, following inspiration from the UK where street parties had been held to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee. It seemed such a good idea our street decided to follow suit.

The invitations went out, in rhyme. (They are always in rhyme, it's now firmly established. The style varies widely depending on the authors), I think this one dates back to 1985. See panel. The venue has always been where rear gardens meet what is now State Park Reserve. Everyone brings everything they need plus a plate of something to share be it biscuits, cake, dips or whatever. Over the years it has



INVITATION

(to be sung to "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen")

God rest ye merry gentlemen,
And all you ladies too,
It's the time we get together,
For the annual barbecue,
So December 1st at 12 o'clock,
We hope to welcome you,
Bring your own everything,
and something to share,
Something to share.

(Gosh, this rhyming gets harder every year!)



2006 Hutchinson Avenue barbecue.

proved to be a great way to introduce new neighbours to the street, meet old friends and watch the children grow. It is to be hoped all the new council regulations imposed for such events do not see them disappear completely from the Christmas calendar with a subsequent loss of community goodwill.

The Christmas season in Warrandyte

is a busy time for all involved. It means not only Christmas festivities but families, summer holidays, sunshine, beaches, berry fruit picking and bush flies (but hopefully not bushfires). May this year's festive season be enjoyable for all Warrandyte residents. Enjoy the fun and travel safely. A Happy Christmas to you all.

Saying it aloud



There are some things
you need to say out loud—
especially changes—
hard to believe, changes

To yourself, at first,
quietly in the wakeful hours,
and then more confidently
or resignedly
by the mirror,
so that they seem real.

The truth of them spreads
from your mouth
to your brain.
Changes

Unexpectedly joyous
changes:
"I am eight"
—so old...

"I am beautiful"
—he says so

"My daughter"
—I have a daughter!

"Her husband"
—she's married?

Incomprehensibly bad
changes of status:

"She's leaving"
—this is no longer "home"

"Suicide"
—he wanted to die

and now

"I have cancer"
—CANCER

See, it wasn't so hard.

Now say it naked
in front of the mirror
in front of your 14D
now slightly pendulous,
but still quite beautiful
breasts.

Tell them

"you harbour death cells which must
be destroyed—
cut out, poisoned, burned,
—or I'll die"

Say it aloud.

KAREN THROSSELL

Warrandyte basketball round-up with Tony Oliver

Opal guard signs up for 2008

Coming off a whirlwind inaugural season in the Big V women's basketball competition, Warrandyte Venom has been active in the off-season with an eye to building on their 2007 Division One runners-up performance.

Having lost Maree Vincent, Michelle Ackland and Eleanor Stevens from their 2007 roster, the Venom have announced that former Australian guard Sally Phillips (nee Crowe) will suit-up next season, adding considerable bite to the team's guard rotation.

Phillips, a veteran of 198 WNBL games with the Australian Institute of Sport, Dandenong and Adelaide, will team up with Venom's 2007 MVP Kate Cohen, giving the team nearly 500 games of national league experience in the back court.

Added to that, Venom captain and former Opal Jo Metcalfe has confirmed she will play again next season, adding a further 300 games of WNBL experience to Warrandyte's developing senior program.

For Phillips, who won a World Championship title with the Gems (Australian Under 21) and was a leading college player in the United States, the move back into senior basketball has come at an ideal time.

With a young family and a keen desire to help aspiring players, the talented playmaker has been welcomed at Warrandyte with open arms.

"I'm really looking forward to playing. It's a great chance for me to show our younger players what it takes to make it to the highest level in basketball," said Phillips.

"Being competitive is a big part of my game and I'm pleased I have that back in my life now at Venom. I'm looking forward to doing my best and helping the program to keep taking big steps forward."

"The senior group have a desire to win, the coaching staff have put a great program in place and I want to be a part of that winning culture. I will be giving my all to win the title next season," added Phillips.

Coach Justin Nelson, who has been appointed to take the reigns again in 2008, is delighted with the changes to his roster and is confident the Venom will again provide supporters with a hard-working, dedicated team.

"We went close last season, but changes were needed and we decided to move a couple of players on, but on the flip side we identified our potential recruits early and have worked hard to bring them into the club," said Nelson.

"Sally is another valued team member who brings a wealth of experience to our program."

"She is in good shape and, like Kate and Jo, she really wants to help develop our younger players and build a winning culture."

"We started talking with Sally last season when she came to watch us play and it quickly became like old times when she caught up with Jo and Kate."

"The three of them are all natural leaders and enjoy teaching the younger players, so it's definitely a good position for our club to be in," said Nelson.

Nelson also confirmed the return of shooting guard and England representative Jodi Kennedy from injury, and promised some more recruits in the weeks ahead.

"Our final roster is close to being finalised, but hopefully we have another announcement or two coming up shortly."

Warrandyte will play practice matches in February again Ringwood, Latrobe University and Latrobe City, plus a match against Diamond Valley in early March.

The Big V 2008 season is scheduled to start in late March.

Record numbers in Venom colours

The first grading phase for the 2007/2008 season in Friday Night basketball is well under way and Warrandyte Venom are fielding a record 26 teams in the upcoming season.

This grading will be finished before Christmas and will go a long way in determining the likely grades for all teams.

David Daniel's Under 12 boys continued their good recent form with a 35-29 win over Frankston at a recent game at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre.

The Venom were able to hold steady in the final minutes as Frankston closed to within two points.

Connor Bentley-Rayner top scored for the Venom with nine points assisted by Justin Ronan-Black with seven.

A pleasing aspect is that contributions to the scoreboard were made by most members of this young team.

The Venom had scraped a draw last week after coming back from a 15 point deficit against Eltham and the results of the next two games will have a major impact on their season.

"The team is good enough to play in a high Metro division" said Daniel.

Next on court were the Venom's Under 16 boys taking on Broadmeadows.

Warrandyte held a comfortable six point lead at the break but with the loss of two of their key guards in the second half they began to struggle.

Broadmeadows put on full court pressure and forced a number of turnovers.

In the tense final seconds it was Broadmeadows who played the more accurate basketball.

The final Venom attack was unsuccessful as the ball rebounded off

the ring with the siren sounding to give Broadmeadows the 36-34 win.

Liam Roodhouse top scored with 10 points with good support from Taylor Hayton, Jack Power and Tim Demos, each with six points.

Coach Aaron Murphy was still positive after the game, highlighting the good defensive performance.

"A win and a loss so far is a good result," he said.

In another tight game, Gerry Pearce was able to get the Under 14 Pool 5 boys over the line against Dandenong Rangers.

There was nothing in the game at the break with a scoreline of 11-all and with the game locked up at 26-all with just over two minutes to go, the result was up in the air.

A Connor Gardiner drive on the base line for a goal give the Venom the slight advantage, but Dandenong quickly replied.

Warrandyte's centre, Chris Bollands came to the rescue with five seconds to go with a Warrandyte basket to give them the game.

Bollands was equal top score with Nathan DeLacy each with nine points each, with Zac Ratcliffe chipping in with six points.

The games concluded with Ian Wood's Under 18 boys taking on Ringwood.

The Venom had a good win the previous week defeating Camberwell by 54-25 but were given a lesson in pressure basketball by Ringwood who won 74-24.

The Venom had no answer to the Hawks full court pressure and were never in the game. Andrew Whittle top scored for the Venom with eight points.

"It is a team game where everybody must take responsibility for their actions at this level," said Wood.



Venom players Tess Gardiner, left, and Sarah Boras are happy after their 44-30 win over Camberwell in an Under 16 grading game at Eltham. This is an inexperienced side and the win was pleasing, built around good defence and good shot selection.

Redbacks' teams make their way through grading system

The grading phase is now complete in the summer season of the EDJBA basketball and Warrandyte Redbacks teams are settling into the season proper.

A number of younger age sides recently competed at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre.

Under 14 D Boys had a good win over Nunawading Vikings with a

strong finish in the last two minutes.

Jake Martin top scored with 16 points, with Josh Gatti with eight points, Liam Foster with four points and Brock Jays with one from the free throw line.

Coach Alex Reeves was positive after her team's 36-20 loss to Eltham in the Under 12 DFA boys.

"They are coming together

well," she said.

Under 16 D Grade side had a solid 30-24 win over Eltham. Leading scorers were Alex Dezenko with nine points, well supported by Xavier Longfield with eight points.

Warrandyte Redbacks Under 14 C girls narrowly lost 20-17 loss to nearby Bulleen. Warrandyte started well and were in front for most of the

game but Bulleen finished the stronger. Leading scorers were Claire Brown with eight points and Georgia Albert with seven points.

Warrandyte's Under 18 girls could not hang on against Eltham, going down 24-22.

Rebecca Thomas with seven points and Nicole Blow with six points were the main contributors.



Redbacks' Under 14 C Girls. Back row from left: Andrea Peters (coach), Nicole Costin, Georgia Annett, Georgina Albert. Front: Rachel Miller, Sophie Grant, Claire Brown, Shelby Greenlaw.



Redbacks' Under 16 D Grade side. Back row from left: Matthew Edwards, Brent Seymour, Bryce Petalas (coach), Corey Newman. Front: Xavier Longfield, Matthew Carvanu, Alex Dezenko. Absent Daniel Bedson.

A super day for super kids

This year's annual Supersmashers program at Warrandyte Tennis Club involved 50 beginner children aged from 5-12 and not yet of competition standard.

"It was another successful event," according to the club's junior convenor, Michelle Gilling.

"There are names already on the waiting list for 2008," she said.

This year also successfully trialled the younger starting age for 5-year-olds with a number of younger children participating.

The six-week program finished with a grand finale day including an exhibition match played by several of the club's top players - a goal for the new young beginners to aspire to.



Warrandyte's Supersmashers celebrate their big day.

Netballers win four premierships

By SONIA RAPPELL

Warrandyte netballers have brought home four summer competition premiership titles.

Warrandyte finished the Summer Doncaster and District Netball Association competition with five teams competing in Grand Finals.

The previous week a further three Warrandyte Netball Club teams were eliminated in close first semi-final matches:

- Under 15/1 Magpies lost

to East Doncaster Ravens 21-26.

- Under 17/1 Eagles lost to Koonung Blazers 26-30.

- Open A Falcons lost to Koonung Energizers 26-31.

The first to win were the premierships were the Under 13/1 Warrandyte Brumbies, coached by Karin Green, assisted by Jess Dusting.

The team was Alexandra Drohan, Brenna Edsell, Sara Febbo, Ysabel Galley, Keeley Green, Kirilee Hosler, Courtney Ratcliffe, Gabby Ryan and Zoe Van Gulick.

The final score in a close game was Warrandyte Brumbies 24 to DYC Cubs 21.

"It was an awesome effort from every team member," said Karin Green.

Club President Sonya Febbo told the team after their win that they had "improved significantly over the season and as a club we are very proud of you today."

The second winning team were the Under 15/3 Warrandyte Robins, coached by Karin May.

The team was Darcy Bulman, Akela Coutts, Shelby Greenlaw, Gemma Lindsay-Knape, Kellie May, Sophie Richardson, Julia Robertson, Ruby Stansfield, and Hannah Thornton.

The Warrandyte Robins comfortably defeated the Koonung Hotshots 21-13.

Sonya Febbo, standing in on the day for coach Karen May, paid tribute to Karen's work with the girls since last season.

"Player skill levels have improved since earlier in the year. The team includes a lot of players new to the game but they still finished top of the ladder at the season's end."

The Under 17/2 Warrandyte Kangas, coached by Jacinta Kemm and managed by her father Garry, was the third Warrandyte Netball Club team to become premiers. Undeclared throughout the season, they achieved a 31-26 victory over the Koonung Flames.

The team was Phoebe Baker-Gibb, Nicole Culkerman, Rhianna Kemm, Alyse McLaren, Megan Seymour, Rhiannon Simpson, Bethany Whitcher and Sarah Green.

"I am very pleased and very proud. Everyone played a

fantastic game and worked really well as a team," said Jacinta Kemm.

The final Warrandyte premiership team was the Warrandyte Open B Hawks, coached by Lyn Dyason, with Jan Bryar.

The team is Cherise Angelotti-Casey, Jennifer Barrett, Patricia Barrett, Erika Dyason, Amelia Fraser-McKelvie, Jacinta Kemm, Alice Saunders, Carly Sayer, Kristie Turner and Jess Alwood.

Warrandyte Open B Hawks defeated the Koonung Flyers 26-21.

Dyason was "very relieved" with the win.

"The team was undefeated all season. It was a great game, with two regular players out and one unwell on the day but the team still pulled through with a win," she said.

Runners-up were the Warrandyte Wallabies Under 13/3 team who went down to the Koonung Astrals 9-18.

Coached by Sarah Lewis, 15, and Helena Dwyer, 14, the team is Sarah Abdurazak, Jemina Bekirofski, Julia Donovan, Vanessa Krynicki, Marlanthi Papastergiadis, Asta Phillip-Owen, Nicola Pinolo, Cara Watson, and Chloe Yap.

Warrandyte Netball Club fielded 18 teams in the 2007 Summer DDNA season, making it one of the biggest clubs in the district competition.

The teams included two Open teams, three Under 17 teams, four Under 15 teams, four Under 13 teams and five Under 11 teams (who do not compete in finals).

The 2008 Winter DDNA season starts Saturday 8 March and inquiries can be directed to Peta Walker on 9844 4898.



Warrandyte Brumbies Under 13 premier team.



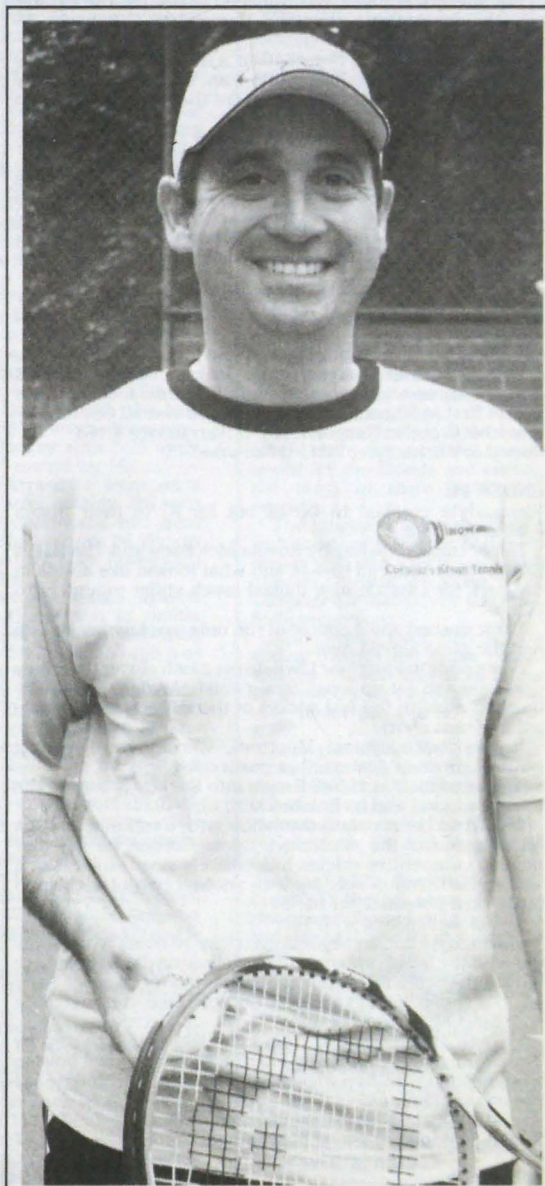
Warrandyte Robins Under 15 premier team.



Warrandyte Kangas Under 17 premier team.



Warrandyte Open Hawks premier team.



New Warrandyte tennis coach, Craig Haslam.

Tennis club serves up a new coach

Warrandyte Tennis Club will start 2008 with a new head tennis coach.

Craig Haslam has been appointed from January 1 to take over the role which has been held by Aaron Nolan for the past 10 years.

Haslam has had 20 years experience as a tennis coach in a number of clubs including 10 years recently at Doncaster.

He was a nationally ranked junior, played NCAA Division 1 College Tennis in the USA and played professionally in ATP satellite tournaments in Australia and America.

Haslam and his family have lived in Warrandyte for the past two years.

He has indicated he is eager to be involved in community activities and has expressed a "passionate commitment to furthering the success of the Warrandyte Tennis Club".

His coaching program will cover all levels from beginners to advanced, including training squads, mid-week ladies groups, holiday tournaments and private lessons.

Groups will be kept small and will include sessions for 5-7 year-olds. Coaching will take place at both the Taroona Avenue and South Warrandyte courts.

Haslam can be contacted on 9844 4625 or 0488 722 538.

Mixed results for junior cricketers

UNDER 16: Some short-pitched bowling by the opening bowlers, Jarryd Lane and Jack Ellis, may have got early wickets but also proved expensive and allowed Croydon Ranges to get off to a good start.

The change bowlers managed to stem the flow of runs and some economical bowling by Mitch Gaffney and Jake Van-der Zant saw the total dragged back to 184.

Chasing the total Warrandyte got off to a smart start with the new opening pairing of Van-Der Zant and Ellis making 20 before Van-der sant fell for nine.

The introduction of Darcy Jones saw the total move swiftly onto 98 before Jones lost his wicket caught for 31. Lane then joined Ellis to see him to his 50 and ultimate retirement at 63.

But wickets tumbled and the need to rebuild the innings saw the scoring rate slow and Warrandyte fell shy by 16 runs.

Warrandyte played Norwood in a 35 overs a side game and although playing the bottom team on the ladder, injury to Darcy Jones (broken finger) meant that the result was no foregone conclusion.

However the timely return of Alistair Douglas from overseas meant that Warrandyte had their full quota of players.

A swift opening partnership of 65 off 13 overs between Van-der Zant and Ellis was the ideal start. However the fall of Ellis having reached 35 saw wickets start to tumble. Joel King and Matt Edwards fell cheaply and the loss of Van-der Zant for 22 had the team concerned about setting a competitive total.

However some lower order hitting out by Mitch Gaffney and Dylan Burns (30 off the last five overs) saw the total move onto 111.

Gaffney and Jarryd bowled well and picked up early wickets and the bowling partnership of Jackson Leiman and Ellis brought three wickets each. Matt Edwards took his first wicket first at Warrandyte and Norwood was all out for 75. Round 4: Croydon Ranges 7/184 d Warrandyte 8/168. Round 5: Warrandyte 7/111 d Norwood 75.

UNDER 14: Warrandyte crashed to be all out for 87 in their match against Lilydale.

But accurate bowling by Rowan McKenzie and Tim Baker saw Lilydale reduced to 4-14 and what looked like a walk in the park for Lilydale now looked much stiffer mountain to climb.

Panic ensued and a couple of run outs saw Lilydale at 7-36 and the game almost over.

Some poor fielding saw Lilydale get much closer than they deserved and set up a nail biting finish. Jayden Clay finally finished off with the last wicket of the innings and Lilydale fell five runs short.

In the match against Montrose, Warrandyte,s opening bowlers proved economic but unsuccessful.

The introduction of Neil Brown into the attack turned the innings around and he finished with on 3-10.

Montrose nerves started to show with a run out, and the introduction of the diminutive Cyrus Gordon for his first bowl in competitive cricket immediately saw results with a wicket. He then followed up with another pair of wickets to finish on a potential hat trick.

Montrose finished with 141.

Warrandyte had to negotiate a tricky 10 overs which they did with the fall of one wicket. The following day Warrandyte moved the score on at the required three runs an over early on, but a mid innings introduction of some very accurate spin bowling slowed the pace.

Despite an excellent 47 from Luke Warren supported by Tim Baker, a hat trick by the Montrose left arm pace bowler, who finished with five wickets overall, saw Warrandyte fall 14 runs short.

Round 4: Lilydale 82 lost to Warrandyte 87.
Round 5: Montrose 141 d Warrandyte 125.

UNDER 12: Warrandyte,s bowlers took to their task with the wickets shared evenly between the team had East Ringwood under pressure from the start.

Noah Wakefield 2-4 off three overs and Jamie Arnold 2-0 from five highlighted the attack.

Warrandyte's batsmen then took the East Ringwood bowling to task and built a score of 170 without loss for a comprehensive victory. This saw retirements for Alex Syndikas (30), Trent Arnold (30), Jamie Arnold (20) and Cameron Creber (27).

The local derby against South Warrandyte provided the Warrandyte team with a harder test.

South Warrandyte batted first and wickets and Brandon Stafford managed to finish with 3-15 to be the pick of the bowlers. But with extras of 55 the accuracy was a little astray and South Warrandyte scored 7-139.

Warrandyte's innings got off to a good start with a 50 opening partnership between Chris Bolland's (22) and Brandon Stafford (24).

However the loss of Bolland's wicket saw a mini collapse as wickets started to tumble with regularity and Warrandyte struggled to 6-77.

The innings consolidated moved to 131 when another mini collapse had everyone biting their nails until the ship was steadied by what are now becoming the reliable batting of Alex Syndikas (29 n.o.) and Trent Arnold (30 n.o.). Warrandyte ended up comprehensive winners over their local rivals with a total of 8/204.

Round 4: East Ringwood 87 lost to Warrandyte 0-170.
Round 5: South Warrandyte 7-139 lost to Warrandyte 8-204



WARRANDYTE TENNIS

Hat-trick of titles for Rod

The finals of the 2007 Warrandyte Tennis Club championships were completed early this month.

In the men's event Rod McCutcheon defeated Scott Brimelow 6-1,6-4. Rod has won the title twice before, the first time in 2002, while he was still a junior, and again in 2005.

Rod and Scott teamed together in the men's doubles where they were successful defeating Gert Naude and Michael Greve in

straight sets, 6-2,6-4.

Current junior girls' club champion, Elise Northover added the senior ladies' championship to her collection of trophies.

Fourteen-year-old Elise defeated another junior, Jade Valentino 7-5,6-2 to take out the title.

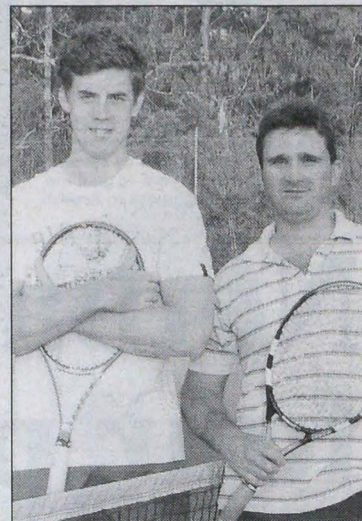
In the ladies doubles event Michelle Gilling and Carmen Hill were victorious over Elise Northover and Jade Valentino 6-0, 6-2.



Warrandyte Tennis Club's women's doubles champions, Michelle Gilling, left, and Carmen Hill.



Talented junior player, Elise Northover won the Open women's club championship singles title.



Men's doubles champions, Rod McCutcheon, left, and Scott Brimelow. Rod defeated Scott in the final of the Open men's singles.

Trophy presentations for leading juniors



Most Improved Junior, Kieran Sproule-Carroll

Warrandyte Tennis Club's Junior Presentation Night for 2007 was held last month and a number of presentations were made to those who had participated in ERT finals over the year.

Presentations were also made to winners and runners-up in the junior club championships and Masters events held earlier in the year.

Recognition was made to players who had won positions in the Eastern Region Development Squads. They included Kieran Robertson, Jade Valentino, Michael Ashfield, Gabby Mitchell, Adrian, Daniel and Brayden Mifsud, Daniel, Mark and Nick Ford-Learner.

Victorian Junior Competi-

tion team members, Mark, Nick and Daniel Ford-Learner, Jade Valentino, Elise Northover, Gabby Mitchell, Daniel and Adrian Mifsud and Kieran Robertson were also acknowledged.

Certificates were presented to juniors who had been selected for the club's talent squads and included Alex Jurkenas, Dane Wilshire, Jakob Reade, Matthew Sheers, Stuart Langridge, Claire Pini, Emily Hull, Shannon Pike, Olivia Allardice and Jim Taylor.

The 2007 Coach's Award was presented to Roland Youakim.

Club coach Aaron Nolan was recognised for his past 10 years in this position and received the club's best wishes for his future endeavours.

The perpetual trophy for the most improved junior went to Kieran Sproule-Carroll.

Sportmanship certificates were awarded to Lisa Rennie, Brayden Mifsud, Matthew Gilling, Fiona Pearson, Eric Li and Adam Given.

Larissa Travassaros received a club recognition award and Thomas Dobbie was named as the Best First Year Player.



The premiership winning team from left, Kim Mead, Karen Savage, Karen Ellis, Pauline Frolley and Tracy Ellis.

Premiership winners finish undefeated

Warrandyte Tennis Club's Section 4 mid-week ladies team capped off a successful season by winning the division premiership.

The team was undefeated all season and overwhelmed their opponents by six sets to love and 48 games to 29 games.

Award recognises Wendy's centenary efforts

Warrandyte Tennis Club has named Wendy Synnot (pictured) as the 2007 Club Person of the Year.

This award, named in honour of Keith Wilson, was presented to Wendy earlier this month in recognition of the outstanding work she has put in to the club over the past 12 months in her roles as a member of both the general committee and the centenary committee.

Plaques were also presented to the members of the Centenary Committee responsible for organising the various events of the centenary year.



Warrandyte Tennis Club's 2007 Club Person of the Year, Wendy Synnot.

Holland fires up as 'Dytes roll on

TWELVE months after his last First XI game, Warrandyte's powerful all-rounder, Campbell Holland, led his team to an inspiring win over East Ringwood in last Saturday's round of RDCA cricket.

A mixture of injuries and inconsistent form has seen Holland re-establishing himself in the lower grades but he was back with his pace and aggression to take 3-61 off 17 overs.

The win, which saw Warrandyte amass 8-295 on the first day, came only a week after a poor performance at St Andrews in which they were dismissed for only 147.

A quirk in the fixture saw Warrandyte play both St Andrews and East Ringwood twice in four rounds.

The win over East Ringwood has catapulted Warrandyte to equal top position with a match against fellow table leaders, Bayswayter Park, to come this Saturday.

Warrandyte captain, Adam White, described the win over East Ringwood, as the team's best for many years.

"We finally showed our true ability with the bat and put pressure on the opposition bowling. We know we have the attack to restrict our opponents but we now have to get more consistency in our batting line-up," he said.

The match at East Ringwood started like many others with Warrandyte crashing to 3-18. But White and Brad Valentine slowly turned the game around to take the score to 85 before White was dismissed just before tea.

Following the break, Valentine and Dave Mooney put on a valuable 65-run partnership before Valentine was dismissed for 51. His innings was critical as he weathered some accurate bowling and provided a backbone for the innings.

Mooney, whose innings blossomed the longer it went on, was then joined by Matt Chapman and the pair aggressively pushed the scoring rate along before Chapman was dismissed as the score nudged past 200.

With 11 overs to go, veteran Robert White joined Mooney and the pair added another 40 before Holland replaced White and played the tiring attack in a personal runrage that saw him unbeaten on 35 as the score finished on 295.

All the while, Mooney (79 not out) held firm at the other end, gathering



Campbell Holland on the attack during his unbeaten 35 against East Ringwood. Picture: Daniel Wellesley.

singles with deft nudges and placement of the ball in clearly his best innings for the season.

His rock solid effort enabled the lower order of Chapman, White and Holland to add almost 90 match-winning runs.

Veteran Gerald Walshe was the first to break through as East Ringwood took up the runs chase. The grand campaigner, who bowled 14 overs in succession is now only one short of a magnificent 600 wickets for the club.

Holland was fast and accurate in his opening spell and when he was

given a break at drinks, Robert White was introduced and shortly after took the prized scalp of East Ringwood captain, Brett Rowe.

Holland was back in the action just before tea and a sizzling yorker resulted in another wicket to have East Ringwood on the back foot at the break.

Holland continued his hot streak with another wicket soon after play resumed and then White continued his miserly spell, taking 3-24 off 16 overs of accurate off spin.

East Ringwood were finally dismissed for 181 and then Ben Taylor launched a second innings assault, scoring 36 not out as Warrandyte scored 3-49.

It was a completely different Warrandyte side to the one that had so meekly surrendered to St Andrews the week before.

Warrandyte's attack had restricted St Andrews to 205 with Walshe and Jake Sherriff sharing the bowling honours with three wickets each.

The task to make the runs did not seem onerous on a fast St Andrews ground but a number of controversial umpiring decisions against Warrandyte played on the minds of following players and the score crashed to 8-70.

It was then that Matt Chapman and Robert White started a fightback that at one stage looked like snatching an unlikely win.

Both played aggressive cricket, taking the game to the St Andrews attack and the pair added 77 before

White was dismissed. Chapman followed soon after and Warrandyte were left to ponder what captain Adam White believed to be "a blip on the season's radar."

Warrandyte are now 5-2 with two one day games to complete the pre-Christmas leg of the season and are now well placed for a legitimate assault on he finals.

The wheels appear to have fallen off the Second XI season. After winning the opening four games Warrandyte have now lost three games in a row, the most recent being a 191-run thrashing at the hands of Warranwood following an 85 run loss to South Wantirna in the previous game.

The only real highlight for the Seconds has been the outstanding improvement of young fast bowler, Alex McIntosh who continues to add to his wicket tally.

He took 5-57 on Saturday in an almost one-man show as the Warrandyte attack struggled to make any headway into the Warranwood batting line-up.

The Third XI has turned its season around. After a shaky start, Warrandyte scored two crushing wins, including a 194 run win over St Andrews on Saturday.

Junior fast bowler Jack Ellis did most of the damage with the ball, taking 4-27 and he was well supported by Tim Hookey with 3-25 as St Andrews were routed for 142.

In reply, Warrandyte went on a run-making spree, scoring 316 with Tully Grieve continuing his great form with the bat, scoring 86. He was well supported by Luke Revell (55) and Greg Creber (31).

In the previous match against Wonga Park, Grieve was in similar spectacular touch with an unbeaten 73 as he and Stuart Smead (66 n.o.) destroyed the attack.

The Fourth XI, under the astute leadership of Graeme Rees, continue their golden form following their promotion this season.

Rees has also been in great all round form and he has had strong support at the crease from the Zach brothers and Vin Pettigrove while Craig Lincoln and Joel Grieve continue to take wickets.

Scores Round 6:
First XI: Warrandyte 147 (Chapman 42, R. White 37) lost to St Andrews 205 (Walshe 3-18, Sherriff 3-37) and 5-122.

Second XI: Warrandyte 194 (Brent 59, Day 43) lost to Wantirna South 279 (Holland 3-61).

Third XI: Warrandyte 266 (T. Grieve 73 n.o., Smead 66 n.o.) d Wonga Park 158 (Croft 3-21).

Fourth XI: Warrandyte 271 (G. Zach 62, Sharpe 55, B. Zach 48, G. Rees 33) d Wonga Park 111 (C. Lincoln 4-30).

Scores Round 7:
First XI: Warrandyte 8-295 (Mooney 79 n.o., Valentine 51, A. White 38, Holland 35 n.o.) & 3-49 (Taylor 36 n.o.) d East Ringwood 181 (R. White 3-24, Holland 3-61).

Second XI: Warrandyte 114 (Haworth 31) lost to Warranwood 305 (McIntosh 5-57).

Third XI: Warrandyte 316 (T. Grieve 86, Revell 55, Creber 31) d St Andrews 142 (Ellis 4-27, Hookey 3-25).

Fourth XI: Warrandyte 277 (G. Rees 65 n.o., Pettigrove 56, B. Zach 45, J. Grieve 39) d Wantirna South 174 (J. Grieve 3-29, G. Rees 3-30).

Bloods name coaches

By RIC GORDON

Warrandyte Football Club has appointed Dale Vitiritti as Reserves coach for 2008. Dale has played more 300 games for the club, and is a life member of the Eastern Football League and showed his coaching prowess with the Under 18s during this season, narrowly missing a finals berth.

Dale will concentrate on developing individual player's skills at training and impart the knowledge he has gained over his years in the game.

He is planning to develop winning habits for the young players.

"They're a young side and I'm looking for improvement and it all starts on the training track," he said. "We'll be working in with the seniors - the biggest part of coaching twos is to see how many blokes can get into the ones."

Looking after the Under 18s will be Jason Bowen who plays in the reserves and captained the side.

AFL Victoria recognised his coaching of the Colts last year and he is looking forward to taking the same squad into the EFL.

"I hope the players make the most of their opportunities," he said. "The club has always promoted young players with talent to the seniors, and I expect a couple of them to become regular senior players. Any new players will also be most welcome."

Things are looking good for a much more competitive season ahead for the Bloods and making the most of their Division 3 reprieve.

The lineup will be bolstered with the pending return of proven senior players such as Mick Stewart, Sugars McAdam, Rick Templeton, Aidan Davey and Mark Spiliotocopolous.

Also coming back after season ending injuries are Tanka Powell and Joe O'Mara, who as an Under 18 showed a lot of promise in his only senior game in Round 18 of 2006.

Four players who were expected to help Warrandyte cement a spot in Division 3 only managed a handful of games between them; Holman (6 games), Luke Naughtin (6), Roberts (9) and Tsapatsaris (4).

Along with Garrett (4) and Logan (7), there is plenty of experience and class coming back into the side to have a tilt at success in 2008.

The club is also actively recruiting key position players to complement those who have recently progressed through junior ranks.

Pre-season training will continue on Mondays and Wednesdays until Monday 17 December when the players will complete a river time trial and finish with a barbeque. Training will start again on Monday 21 January.

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Warrandyte's Under 18 coach, Jason Bowen.



Dave Mooney on his way to an unbeaten 79 against East Ringwood. Picture: Daniel Wellesley.

Cricketers hold Past Players Day

Warrandyte Cricket Club will host its second annual Past Players Reunion Day on January 12 at the clubrooms.

All past players, members and supporters are invited to attend from 1pm onwards to catch up with old friends while watching the First XI clash against ladder-leaders Croydon Ranges in a one-day match.

Finger food will be served throughout the day, including a barbecue at 3pm and the bar will be open from 1pm.

For more information, contact Stephen Goddard (0411 367 808) or Daniel Wellesley (0416 085 717).



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from all our families, to you and your family
Wishing you a very Merry Christmas
and a joyful New Year
from all the staff at Gardiner McInnes Estate Agents



warrandyte private sale \$320k
 This 750sqm approx vacant allotment offers a rare opportunity to build your dream home (stca) in the heart of Warrandyte. Includes existing storage shed. Walk to shops, cafés, transport and Yarra River. Your ultimate lifestyle awaits!



warrandyte auction
 2pm sat 15 dec unless sold prior suit \$430k+ buyers
 Environmentally sensitive living. With Yarra River valley views, this 3BR home offers lounge/dining, kitchen/meals. Elevated deck for entertaining. Dble garage. Solar electricity & 9000L water tank. Walk to State Park, river & Goldfields plaza.



warrandyte north auction
 11am sat 15 dec unless sold prior suit \$460k+ buyers
 Paddle your own canoe! Alistair Knox designed home on over 1/3 acre with the Yarra flowing by. 3BRs plus study. Kitchen/meals. Lounge/dining. Single carport and ample additional parking. Access to Yarra River walking trails.



warrandyte private sale
 buyer enquiry range \$580k plus
 Light and airy single level 4BR + study home on 1/2 acre with views across pastureland. Features lounge/dining. Kitchen/meals. Huge rumpus. Triple garage and ample additional parking. Walk to river, primary school, shops and transport.



kangaroo ground private sale
 suit \$800k plus buyers
 Calling all horse lovers! Imagine owning 25 acres of rolling pasture with stunning views of the Dandenongs! Includes family home with 2BRs plus rumpus (suit 3rd BR). Lounge/dining. Kitchen/meals. 7-car accommodation. Ménage, hay shed, golf practice hole and spring-fed creek.



warrandyte private sale
 suit \$1.3 million plus buyers
 But wait there's more! 37sq 5BR home on 14 acres with views of the Dandenongs. PLUS 2BR cottage, PLUS huge shed and 2 stables, PLUS 40 squares of glass houses/shade house (previously commercial nursery)—suit conversion to workshop (stca) or parking vehicles.

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Please join the staff from Gardiner McInnes Estate Agents and Supa Victory IGA Warrandyte for our annual

Food for Thoughtfulness CHRISTMAS FOOD APPEAL

Saturday 22 December from 8.30am-12noon
 at Supa Victory IGA Warrandyte

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