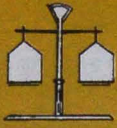


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COMPLETE 2008 Festival PROGRAM IN THIS ISSUE

Farewell, Clinton

Remembering a fine journalist and friend

By CLIFF GREEN

Warrandyte joined the nation in mourning the sudden and untimely death last month of leading sports commentator Clinton Grybas.

Aged only 32, with an international career already underway, he was found dead in his Southbank apartment on Saturday, January 5.

Clinton Grybas began what was to become a celebrated media career writing basketball reports for the *Warrandyte Diary* whilst in Year 10 at Warrandyte High School.

He exhibited a remarkable talent for the media at the earliest possible age. His family remember him watching football telecasts with the sound off, recording a ball-by-ball description into a tape recorder. His call was perfect: he never fell behind the game or got a single player's name wrong.

When he began a course in journalism and public relations at RMIT, we widened the scope of his experience, assigning him to general reporting and feature writing. His reports were a major influence in the campaign to have a community basketball stadium built at Andersons Creek Primary School.

He helped pioneer the introduction of digitalisation at the *Diary*. He was a tireless worker leading a busy life, sometimes arriving in the office at midnight and working on our computer until early morning.

But Clinton's first love was in broadcasting, and he was soon describing football on community radio in the outer eastern suburbs.

The accuracy of his call and his bright and friendly style were noted by the ABC and he was invited to join their Friday night football commentary team.

He delivered the Radio 774 Monday morning sports report and began to describe a wide variety of sporting events on radio.

A stint with the ABC in Perth expanded his range of experience and he was soon presenting programs across the range of TV and radio, including anchoring Test cricket broadcasts.

Clinton had continued his relation-

ship with the Warrandyte Basketball Club as player, coach and umpire. On his return to Melbourne, the ABC assigned him to their NBL coverage. He travelled all over Australia describing the game on national television and anchoring a weekly basketball magazine program.

He covered the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur for the ABC and described the finals of the women's water polo at the Sydney Olympics—a career highlight. He even covered lawn bowls and poker! No sport was beyond his capacity to research and accurately commentate. He was clear, fast, friendly, accurate—and when required—excitingly dramatic.

His move into commercial media at radio station 3AW and Fox Sport television confirmed his position as one of the best sports broadcasters in the country.

Throughout this time he continued writing occasional pieces for the *Diary*, especially on adult basketball and its progress in Warrandyte and beyond. He reported for us on local stars at the Kuala Lumpur and Melbourne Commonwealth Games and the Sydney Olympics.

He added an extra touch of professionalism and glamour when he came back to MC the Warrandyte Football Club's centenary dinner in 2006.

Clinton was a splendid role model for the young reporters who have followed him here at the *Diary*, many of them going on to successful careers, undoubtedly inspired by Clinton's example and dedication.

But when all else has been written and said, Clinton Grybas will be remembered as a genuine good bloke, who never forgot his love for, and connection to this place. He was modest, self-effacing and generous. He was a good and loyal friend and we were very proud of him. He will never be forgotten. He was the best.

The *Diary* extends deepest sympathy to Laurena and his family.

Further tributes on pages 20, 21, 22 and 26.



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"Minds are like parachutes—they only function when open."
— Thomas Dewar

WARRANDYTE diary

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NEXT ISSUE

Next issue of the *Diary* will be published on Wednesday, March 12. Advertising and editorial copy closes Friday, February 29.

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.

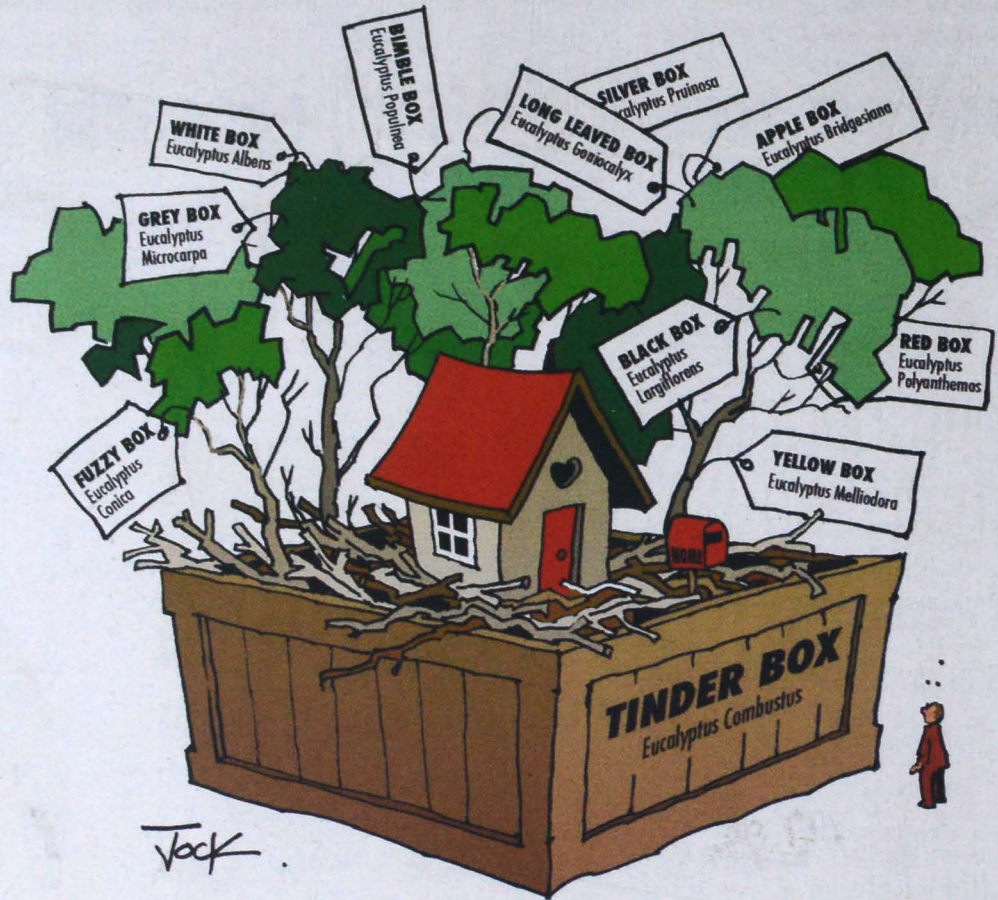
A SPECIAL PLACE

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.

OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH

IDENTIFYING WARRANDYTE'S ENVIRONMENT



And a good time was had...

ARE we there yet?" No one bothered answering. Jasper's comment

was not so much satirical sarcasm tinged with pathos as wishful thinking. The Landcruiser, closely followed by its faithful Jayco Flamingo, sat in an endless torrent of traffic crawling its way from Anglesea to Lorne. Like ants going to a picnic. It was nearly 2008, nearly 40 degrees and nearly more than he could bear.

"All part of the fun!" Neville beamed. Neville was not so much the glass-half-full type as the glass-slopping-over-the-side type.

"Where are all these people going?" Narelle wondered aloud. "The Falls Festival," supplied Cinnamon. "The one you wouldn't let me go to, remember?"

The highway was alive with P-plates and enough yahooing to jam the internet.

OONCAH, OONCAH, OONCAH!!!

The cliffs rocked and the earth quaked. A landslide was surely imminent.

OONCAH, OONCAH, OONCAH!!!

Teenage mutant nitwits scurried between cars, droopy shorts barely resisting gravity, relieving high spirits and anything else that needed relieving.

"Well if these are the sort of people going it's a good thing we didn't!" noted Narelle.

"Just young people being young people!" smiled Neville. Neville would smile if a shark bit him.

"What do you call that then?" The purple Commodore in front was rocking on its axles

living with The Trotts

as five heads slammed back and forth wailing as one.

"Bohemian Rhapsody!" obliged Cinnamon.

"Reminds me of my first trip down here with Macka and Dicko," started Neville. "Boy did we play up! I stole a beer glass from the Pacific!"

"Good grief," sighed Cinnamon. "He'll be telling us about the policeman and the potato next."

"Did I tell you about the time we put a potato in a policeman's exhaust pipe?"

"YO FOX!" Two grinning faces squashed themselves against Cinnamon's window.

"Roll down ya window dude!" Gran leaned her well-lavendered and not inconsiderable form across Jasper to better deal with the situation.

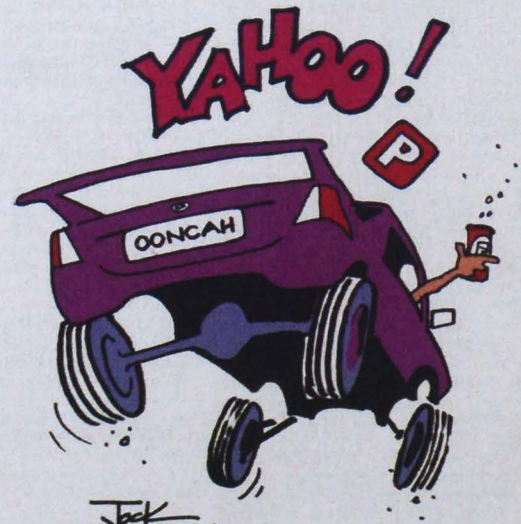
"Fuck off!"

You could dredge Port Phillip Bay with a voice like that, thought Narelle.

But all things come to he who waits, even Lorne, and eventually the Trott family pulled into their caravan site and unhitched the Jayco. Narelle wound down the legs at the corners of the van, Neville cranked up the roof, Jasper and Cinnamon bickered about who put whose tent where and Gran set up the Caraboo camp chair and smacked a March fly into oblivion.

"March flies in December!" she snorted. "There's an inconvenient truth for you!"

"All part of the fun!" tittered Neville, sounding more like the



Dalai Llama by the minute.

It all came together like a well-oiled machine, not counting the huntsman that dropped from the canvas into Cinnamon's hair, the tent pegs that buckled in the rock-hard ground, the hose that didn't reach the tap, the fridge that wouldn't start, the empty gas bottle, the lamp that everyone else was supposed to pack and the aroma from the toilet block 20 metres behind them. All part of the fun.

Neville surveyed it all with glowing satisfaction—the Flamingo, the annex, the tents and the new beach shelter he'd been so keen to show off that popped up as quick as flies at a barbecue. The fact that it defied every effort to collapse it back into its bag and looked like becoming a

permanent part of the campsite was a mere trifle.

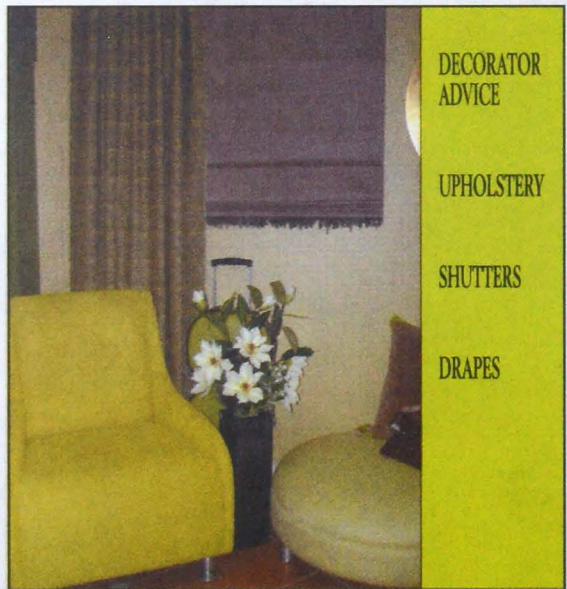
"We'll keep the boogie boards in it!" grinned Neville. He got on your nerves after a while.

But now the whole family was happily settled in a semi-circle, each in their camp chair, each with its little mesh drink holder, squinting into a sky as blue as a carton of Cold Power. Ah the serenity! Nothing but the soothing rumble of the surf, whoosha, whoosha, so soothing in its monotony, whoosha, whoosha, seemingly closer all the time, whoosha, whoosha, whoonca, oonca, OONCA!! OONCA!!

"YO FOX!"

And a familiar purple Commodore pulled into the site beside them.

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WARRANDYTE WARRANDYTE



Are we ready if Warrandyte burns again?

By EMMA CLARK

Warrandyte residents are less prepared for fire than they should be, according to a survey conducted in the area last month.

The survey was run by Dr Douglas Goudie, as part of a national study by the Australian Bushfire Co-ordination Research Centre into bushfire preparedness and safety maximisation.

Dr Goudie has completed studies in NSW, Victoria and Canberra with guidance and involvement from fire authorities.

Households in fire zones throughout the Yarra Ranges were surveyed, including Warrandyte.

Dr Goudie told the *Diary* that "the study aims to develop national guidelines for crisis communication. The goal is to find out what will, won't and doesn't work in terms of bushfires. The focus is on maximising safety during the event."

In the areas surveyed in Warrandyte, the results showed the importance of forming stronger community and neighbourhood links. Communication strategies such as phone trees and fire-guard meetings are very important in ensuring that everyone is aware and prepared.

"The survey results highlighted the need to be self-reliant and self-responsible in the event of a fire. A neighbourhood which is strong in terms of fire preparations and community links will

Survey casts doubts on us surviving a major bushfire

result in a safer bushfire situation and can minimise the risk of serious loss to property and lives," said Dr Goudie.

Dr Goudie reported that there also "seems to be a sense that because the town is on the fringe of the city, the threat is not as great as if it were in a more isolated area."

The deep preparation is lacking, compared to other areas in a similar geographical location. There seems to be less concern in the area than there should be, considering the risk of bushfire.

The survey results also highlighted the importance of maintaining fire plans. "For example, people might have had a phone tree in the past but are not sure if it works any more. People in Warrandyte are fire aware, but not necessarily fire prepared," said Dr Goudie.

The results indicate that in Warrandyte and further across the study, people who had experienced or been threatened by a bushfire were more likely to take bushfire preparation more seriously than those who

did not have direct experience of a bushfire.

Dr Goudie pointed out the importance of "having those who have experienced a bushfire communicate the reality—noise, fear, heat to 'fire novices' to help make the threat real to those who have not experienced a bushfire."

The final trigger to begin implementing fire plans for most people was seeing or smelling smoke. Ideally, fire plans should be implemented before reaching this stage, which highlights the importance of phone trees and tools such as radios and the internet in being aware and prepared for fires.

The results showed that people rely on radio, in particular the ABC, in the case of a bushfire event. However, it is important to remember that power outages are likely during a fire, and a radio with spare batteries should be part of a fire preparedness kit. People in Warrandyte wanted more local updates on the ABC during a fire, and more information from community radio stations.

In Warrandyte, people also rely heavily on roadside banners such as those declaring total fire bans. They reported that the signage perhaps needs to be more prominent in order to maximise effectiveness. Many people in Warrandyte noted that the *Diary* is a useful source of information on fire safety and preparations, but wanted more fire information leading up to the summer months.

Prevention is best protection

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



Victorian bushfire information line:
1800 240 667
Fire and emergency calls: 000

Your choice: leave early or stay and defend

By EMMA CLARK

Bushfires are a significant risk in Warrandyte each season and residents are urged to decide early whether they are evacuating and leaving the area, or are adequately prepared to stay and defend after their property.

In the case of a fire, the CFA and the police will work together to minimise damage and potential loss of property and life.

The CFA strongly recommends early evacuation, which means leaving the area early on a day of total fire ban. However, in the case of an emergency situation, traffic throughout Warrandyte may become a problem as people who are not in the area

prevent people from entering a dangerous area. In the case of a fire, there is every chance that people attempting to get to their homes will not be allowed into their street. We will not be letting anyone into an area which might be unsafe, as driving through these areas is dangerous for the driver, other people and to the emergency services in the area.

"We wait until the CFA advises us that it is safe to return before we allow people return to the area," said Sergeant Walker. "We do encourage people to return to their homes once the area is declared safe to help protect their homes from ember attack."



may be attempting to return.

Second Lieutenant Glenn Smith of the South Warrandyte CFA told the *Diary* that "the CFA does not have the power to make people stay or evacuate. If people choose to stay, they must be well prepared to protect their house and property, not only during the fire but after the fire has passed."

"If there is a fire in the region the police will block roads to prevent people from entering dangerous areas. This would also make it difficult for people who decide to evacuate late in a bushfire situation."

Sergeant Keith Walker from the Warrandyte police told the *Diary* that the police agree with the CFA on the dangers of late evacuation and strongly encourage people to leave early if they are not prepared to defend their property.

"In an emergency situation, we set up traffic diversion points to

It is also advised that people should not decide to leave their property during a bushfire, as driving will pose a much greater risk than staying in a house. However, in an unavoidable situation where a person is in their car during a fire, there are several things that can be done to minimise damage.

Second Lieutenant Smith said: "You can increase your chance of survival by getting down as low as possible in the car, turning on the hazard lights and closing all windows and vents to prevent smoke getting into the car. If you must drive through smoke, having the headlights on will actually decrease visibility as it will be like driving through a thick fog, so using parking lights and hazard lights will make it easier for you to see and be seen."

Digitally altered images by STEPHEN REYNOLDS



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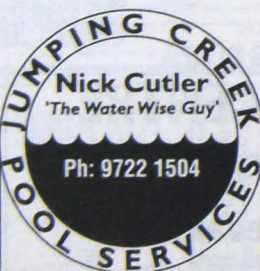
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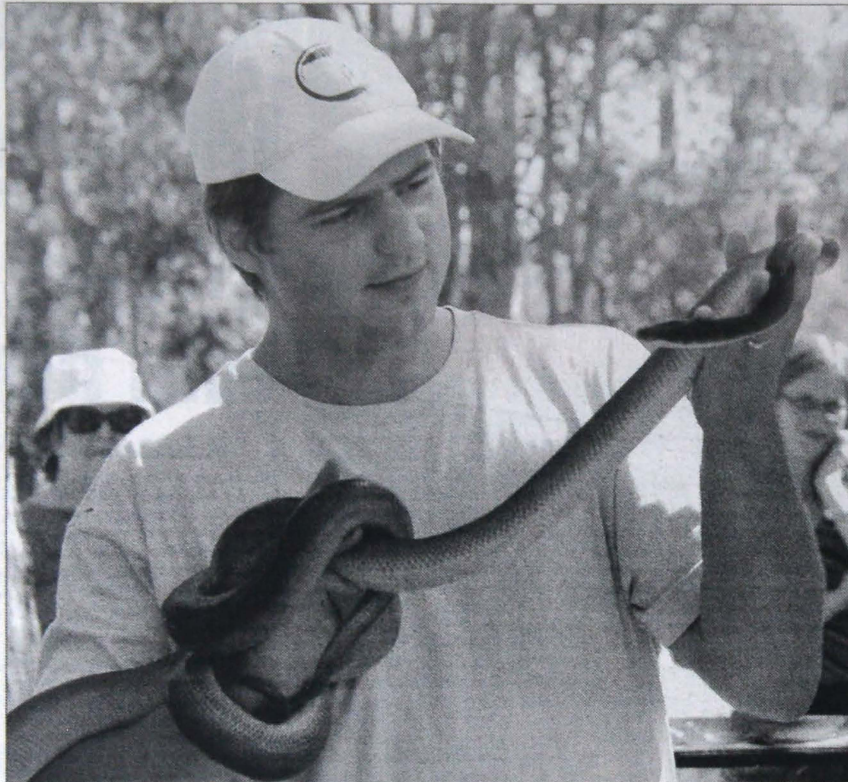


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"Snakes are part of life in Warrandyte." (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

Snakes need protecting from dangerous people

A normal day in summer for me consists of at least one phone call with the person on the other end of the line upset that there is a snake in their yard and wanting me to come and remove it ASAP. I often wonder if snakes are thinking the same thing, that there is a massive, extremely dangerous and very scary creature known as a human in their home.

Snakes are part of life in Warrandyte and they are probably going to become more common around homes as the drought in Melbourne worsens.

Warrandyte is probably our busiest area and as I do more and more snake removals I am unfortunately finding more and more cases of cruelty to animals.

One recent job I undertook in Warrandyte—the customer who called me was in no way responsible for what I found—but unfortunately one of his neighbours or a recent local to that area was. I arrived at around 10am and to my surprise found what I thought was a tiger snake with a color mutation.

My surprise turned to disgust when I realised that the color mutation was actually paint stripper that had eaten away the scales of the snake and was causing it utter agony.

I have been trying in vain, twice every day, to soak the snake in the paint stripper and do everything possible to care for it, but unfortunately it died.

This year we have removed up to six snakes that have been trapped in fruit tree netting; four of those had to be put down.

We have been to a number of jobs with people running around with shovels wanting to kill these native animals and at least two jobs where people have either on purpose or by accident killed blue-tongue lizards.

Every year only ONE person dies from snake bite, thousands of snakes are killed by dangerous people and the number one reason for snake

bite is people trying to kill them.

The point I am trying to make is that too many people still think it's okay to kill or torture reptiles because they think they are dangerous or are just plain scared of them. ALL native animals are protected by law. At no time is it okay or justified to kill snakes or lizards. Snakes are venomous but they DO NOT chase people to bite them, THEY DO NOT attack or bite for any other reason than self-protection and they are not evil.

I have dedicated my life to these very misunderstood, beautiful and inoffensive creatures and if you do have a snake in your house or yard then please call us or another snake catcher to remove the animal safely.

If you cannot afford that, then leave it alone and it will move off.

A snake is just as protected as koalas or kangaroos; they are more important to the ecosystem and are always going to be a part of our amazing and beautiful country.

Please look after them because without them Warrandyte would not be the amazing place it is.

If you do need a snake or other reptile removed at any hour please call us at Black Snake Reptile relocation on 043 2143 228 or 5961 9183.

Michael Alexander Black Snake Reptile Relocation

dear diary

Carols saved

We were sitting down to what was meant to be Carols by Candlelight on Saturday, December 15.

Disappointed children and adults arrived with their chairs and blankets, then sadly ambled on home after they realised they had been cancelled.

For the lucky ones who stayed and pressed on with their picnics, down the hill came our lovely local choir, the Bellbird Singers.

When people heard these beautiful voices they gathered around.

Thank you so much to this very kind group of people who make our lead-up to Christmas very enjoyable.

Nicole Lawrence Weerona Way

Kids loved tennis

Many thanks to the wonderful people at the Warrandyte Tennis Club—especially Michelle Gilling—for organising the Supersmashers program for the young ones at the end of last year. What a fantastic concept. Our grandson, his friends, mum and dad and grandparents especially enjoyed the extras—fruit, icy-poles, tea, coffee and biscuits. Many thanks.

Anne Drew Cooks Crescent

Lights at last

I am delighted to see that the state government has finally seen fit to install pedestrian operated traffic lights on Yarra Street. This is after five years of lobbying by the Police Community Consultative Committee. The matter was also raised a number of times by myself on behalf of the PCCC both in parliament and directly with the minister.

Local traders, who often had a grandstand view of too many close calls, will be pleased that this necessary addition to Yarra Street will now improve pedestrians' safety in Warrandyte.

I congratulate the PCCC on their win and hope that future concerns for safety are dealt with more expeditiously.

Ryan Smith MP for Warrandyte

Recycle

When bringing in the recycling bin at the Uniting Church, I noticed that it hadn't been emptied and a "contamination" sticker had been placed on it. Apparently a member of the public had placed two bags full of recyclables inside the bin.

Some people do not realise that if recyclables are placed inside plastic bags, then the lot is rejected at the Visy recycling centre because of safety reasons.

Recycled objects should be placed loose inside the bin and plastic bags placed in the general rubbish bin or recycled at a supermarket.

John Hanson Webb Street

Great music locally

What a treat! The Warrandyte community was privileged to experience one of the world's best blues harmonica players—Corky Siegel.

Corky, from Chicago, performed with our own L'I Fi (fantastic!) and Big Boy Lemonade at Earth Harmonies Centre. They were supported by Neil Graham, composer and fabulous dobro guitar player.

We are just so lucky to have this quality of musicianship on our doorstep.

Without travelling to the big smoke, we had such a good

night (enhanced by local wine and nibbles).

Lots of people missed out. So if you have an event arranged, how about submitting details to the Diary's "Out of the Box" so that we all know about it.

Please come back to Warrandyte—Corky, Fi, Lemonade and Neil so more of us can be superbly entertained locally.

Cath Andrew Kruses Road

PS: I believe L'I Fi will be at the Warrandyte Festival!



Corky Siegel and L'I Fi performing in Warrandyte. (Picture by Jeremy Loftus Hills)

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



Across the divide

Warrandyte and North Warrandyte should be separate communities. We live in different municipalities, electorates, police and fire brigade districts. But for close on 160 years this has been one place—Warrandyte. River crossings have played a major role in keeping the community together. VAL POLLEY explores the stories of these connections.

WARRANDYTE residents may take their bridge across the Yarra somewhat for granted, but a bridge in Warrandyte has been a major feature in the township since the first one was built way back in 1861.

Following the gold discovery in Anderson's Creek in 1851 the township grew at a rapid pace. In those early days of exploration the only crossing of the Yarra was by a punt which crossed the river somewhere in the location of the Old Post Office. One can only picture the problems this caused given the steepness of the slopes on the northern side.

No pictures of this punt appear to survive and so we can only surmise that it was for foot passengers only. The punt was replaced by an early bridge, built in 1861, somewhere in the same vicinity, but this was swept away just two years later in the flood of 1863.

One assumes a punt again became the only method of crossing the river because it was not until 1875 that there was a new bridge. This was located adjacent to where the current bridge is sited.

It was built of local yellow-box timber and reputed to never have closed for repairs. It went under water in the great flood of 1934 but

survived, unlike many others along the river at that time.

This bridge was much loved by residents and is featured in a number of postcards and paintings and was the subject of parties, articles and poems.

It survived for 80 years before being replaced in 1955 when the present concrete bridge, opened by Sir George Reid, was built. Now some 50 years old this has not been yet been upgraded or altered though traffic flows have greatly increased over the years.

The debate about bridges in Warrandyte over recent months however has been focused not on the main bridge, (apart from traffic concerns) but on a new footbridge proposal put forward by the Lions Club of Warrandyte. In this context it is interesting to note a number of new footbridges have been constructed over the river in recent years.

Footbridge crossings have long been a feature of the Yarra, and in the lower Yarra area, the old footbridges in Collingwood, Richmond and Studley Park have been supplemented by the arch-curved Flinders Street footbridge link to Southbank. In the middle Yarra area, two new footbridges were built in 1990, one at Burke Road and one in Westerfolds Park to provide access and crossings



Yarra bridge at Warrandyte: keeping our community together. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

news feature

for the Middle Yarra Trail.

There is still the old suspension bridge that once provided admittance for monks to the monastery and which now gives entry to Odyssey House.

However an additional new footbridge has been built upstream of Fitzsimons Lane to provide linkages to Eltham and the Diamond Creek bicycle trail network.

In the Upper Yarra a new footbridge was built in Warburton (see "Warburton loves their bridge" in the *Diary*, October 2007) that supplements the two existing footbridges and provides an improved walking/cycling experience (and raises the number of bridges in Warburton to five).

It could be therefore be asked why no new footbridge has been constructed in the Warrandyte area in recent years to provide local residents with an additional crossing for bicycles and walkers in this area. Historically there was a "swing" footbridge across the Yarra in Warrandyte for many years.

It was located in the Pound Bend area, a short way upstream of the tunnel exit. The photo (below), thought to be taken in the 1920s, shows a group of people sitting on it. This bridge was amongst the many along the Yarra washed away in the disastrous floods of 1934. However this one was never replaced.

We must not forget the one excellent example of a heavily utilised footbridge in Warrandyte. This is the one that crosses the Anderson's Creek close to its confluence with the Yarra. It was built sometime late in the 1980s as part of the walking/bike track along the river.

Up to that time locals had to scramble across a fallen gum tree or wade through the creek to access this part of the river bank.

Since being built the bridge has provided excellent access and is widely used, providing an easy entry from the west end along the riverbank parkland and walking track to the main township.

The Lion's Club proposal for another footbridge that could connect North Warrandyte via Bradley's Lane to the west end of the township has received a very mixed reaction from residents.

Perhaps this is because there is not a planned footway/bike trail proposal to accompany it. Discussions appear supportive of having a new footbridge across the river in Warrandyte but the debate now appears focused on where it could be best located to provide the optimum linkage between North Warrandyte and south of the river.

Warrandyte boasts a number of bike groups and entertains multitudes of walkers and walking groups. Yet access between north and south of the river is confined to just one (very busy) bridge crossing for traffic and pedestrians.

Perhaps some further discussion between interested user groups, the Lions Club, State Park managers and the Warrandyte Community Association is called for.

This could explore some additional options so a resolution of the arguments could be reached and Warrandyte could again enjoy the delights of a pedestrian-only river crossing. It took two and a half years from conception to opening for the Warburton footbridge.

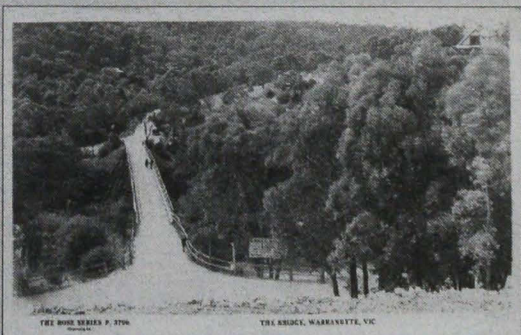
Our community should pool its collective wisdom and energies and see if we can do better.



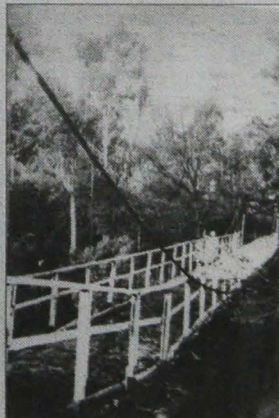
Above: This timber trestle bridge served Warrandyte for 80 years.

Right: A view approaching the old timber bridge.

(Pictures courtesy Warrandyte Historical Society)



The old swing bridge near Pound Bend, destroyed in the 1934 floods. (Pictures courtesy Warrandyte Historical Society)





Counting platypus will help prevent the extinction of these beautiful animals.

Watching for platypus in local streams

The Australian Platypus Conservancy is looking for people to help monitor platypus in the Warrandyte area.

Platypus Count aims to establish a network of volunteers who will systematically record their sightings of this fascinating animal, in order to track how well platypus populations are doing over time.

This new program is being co-ordinated by the Australian Platypus Conservancy in partnership with Melbourne Water.

Platypus are often thought of as shy and elusive. "In actual fact," Conservancy biologist Geoff Williams said, "they are reasonably easy to spot, as long as you take time to look. One woman has recorded platypus on more than 200 occasions since 2003 during her morning walks along the Yarra at Viewbank and has even seen the animals mating."

Based on this, APC is hoping that others will start watching for platypus in the course of their daily activities.

"There are many people who walk, jog or cycle along the Yarra on a frequent basis," Mr Williams said. "It usually only takes a minute or two to tell if a platypus is active in the area—the ripple patterns they make are a real giveaway—so a major time commitment is not required."

A Platypus Count information session will be held on Tuesday, February 26 at 7.30pm at the Warrandyte Senior Citizens Centre in Taroona Avenue.

The program's aims and methods will be explained and tips provided on spotting platypus in the wild. Alternatively, you can email the Australian Platypus Conservancy on: platypus.apc@westnet.com.au for more information.

Wildlife carer forced to cease help for injured

By SANDY BURGOYNE

North Warrandyte's shelter for injured wildlife has closed. Maxine Rosewall is a licensed wildlife carer and over the past 10 years has looked after many indigenous birds and animals at her home and returned them to the wild.

Two years ago her council rates almost doubled and just before Christmas last year she found out that the water rates on her North Warrandyte property had also risen sharply. This has caused Maxine to consider her financial position. She may have to sell her house and move to a smaller property—some-where, she hopes, in the War-

randyte district. Because of this, she told the *Diary*, she has reluctantly decided that she can no longer accept injured wildlife into her care.

"If I get phone calls where people want me to help because they know I'm here I'll have to say no and that will hurt me more," she said.

Although Maxine has been the sole carer of the wildlife in her shelter she insists that she would not have succeeded without local support.

"I give my thanks to the whole community—they have just been great," she said.

The long list of people she wants to thank include Margory

Lapworth for help with fund-raising; the North Warrandyte veterinary practice; the staff of the IGA supermarket and the Warrandyte Pharmacy; plus the countless people who donated aviaries, shades, cupboards and other equipment.

Maxine is still caring for four birds, a kangaroo joey called Ruby Tuesday and a pregnant blue-tongue lizard. These will either be returned to the wild in the next few months or moved to another wildlife shelter.

● Advice and care for injured native wildlife is still available at all hours from Help for Wildlife on 0417 380 687, or Wildlife Victoria phone 0500 540 000.

Making amends for past wrongs

With "sorry" pledges in the news, Nillumbik council has confirmed its commitment to reconciliation with indigenous people.

The council has adopted a reconciliation charter that urges "all levels of government, commerce and individuals to ensure indigenous people enjoy social, health and economic conditions with all Australians".

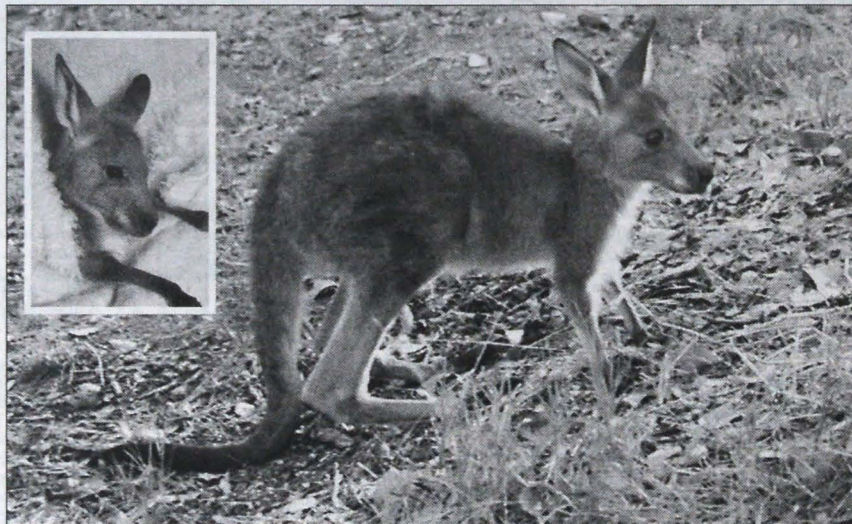
Created with the assistance and support of Wurundjeri Elders, the charter will be launched at the official opening of Moor-rul viewing platform in Kangaroo Ground in coming months.

The charter was unanimously adopted at a recent Nillumbik council meeting.

"This charter is the end result of years of positive engagement between Wurundjeri Elders, council, the Nillumbik Reconciliation Group and other interested parties," Nillumbik mayor, Cr Warwick Leeson, told the *Diary*.

"It is this council's definitive contribution towards reconciliation."

"The reconciliation charter will be the public flagship between the Wurundjeri and Nillumbik council for many years to come," Cr Leeson said.



Injured wildlife like Ruby Tuesday have lost a haven of hope. (Pictures by Melinda Hossack)

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Who'd have thought? Traffic lights in our village!



"Walk!" The lights say so. (Picture by Sandy Burgoyne)

By SANDY BURGOYNE

Warrandyte's set of pedestrian-operated traffic lights on Yarra Street is working at last.

Someone at VicRoads threw the switch just before Christmas.

Starting in September last year the progress had been by turn manic and glacial. At various times the crossing resembled an ant colony with workers rushing around, but only to do a single job. The poles went in first. A couple of weeks later the light arrays, with cute little white crosses on each light to show they were not in use, were added.

A long period of inactivity followed with not a worker in sight. Then one morning a

gang of workmen descended on the village, put out witches' hats and stopped Yarra Street traffic alternately in both directions. When they packed up and left the crossing had the white lines appropriate for a pedestrian crossing, but the traffic lights were still not lit.

Just before Christmas another gang of workers arrived and finally connected all the bits together to give us a working crossing with pedestrian-operated traffic lights.

Local road-users were slow to adjust to the changes after almost 25 years dealing with the excitement of the walking legs/zebra crossing. Drivers can still be seen cautiously approaching the crossing while scrutinising both sides

of the road for pedestrians who may suddenly jump out onto the road.

Mark Challen, manager of the community bank, has noticed that the change of road technology has yet to fully register with all road-users.

"I've seen some drivers stop on a green light, but others who drive through on red," he told the *Diary*.

Locals on Yarra Street have noted that they hear fewer incidences of brake lockups followed by a string of rude words since the new lights were turned on.

Pedestrians are enjoying the authority of a red light to stop the traffic before they step out onto the road. Previously many locals adopted the technique of advancing

to the edge of the zebra crossing, waiting until the traffic screeched to a halt then delicately picking their way through the stationary vehicles.

"I love the new pedestrian crossing. It's great to be able to cross Yarra Street in safety," Rae Danks, the *Diary's* advertising manager commented.

The local Police and Community Consultative Committee actively campaigned for the installation of traffic lights on the crossing for more than five years.

It may have taken a long time for the new lights to be switched on, but they are making a welcome contribution to road safety in the village.

Probe shows buses are on the nose

By SANDY BURGOYNE

Surprise, surprise! According to a recent survey of Warrandyte residents, few locals travel by bus. We wonder why?

The survey was conducted in December last year by the Warrandyte Community Association at the Warrandyte community market and outside the IGA supermarket.

It was designed to find what local people thought of current bus services within and around Warrandyte and what improvements are needed.

The sample sought to include equal numbers of males and females. The respondents were aged from 16 years and the survey achieved a good mix of age groups from under 35 years to 55 plus. The response was good, with 149 questionnaires completed.

The results showed that bus usage in Warrandyte is generally quite low. Almost half of North Warrandyte respondents and 25% of those from Warrandyte stated they never used buses.

The largest group, at 85%, of those who considered themselves regular bus users were aged under 25. However, in this group school attendances would account for some of their bus travel.

Bus usage of the age group 25-64 years was about 27%, but rose to just

over half in those 65 years and over.

A majority of the people surveyed were generally satisfied with the frequency of service during peak hour, but were critical of the time it took to get to their destination.

The provision of bus services outside of peak times and at night was considered sub-standard in North Warrandyte and only average in Warrandyte.

Stewart Lewis, who took over as the WCA's public transport spokesperson in October last year, initiated the survey. He realised that access to bus services was important for a range of local people. His first step was to talk to Manningham council about public transport in Warrandyte.

"I spoke to Claude Cullino, director of assets and engineering, and he said it would be worthwhile doing some research and presenting it to the council's transport committee," Mr Lewis told the *Diary*.

"I knew from my marketing background that the best type of market research is quantitative, where you put a structured questionnaire together and go and speak to people in the community then collate it into a report that is statistically based," he said.

Local company Gundabluey Research designed the questionnaire and trained the WCA volunteers who administered the survey. Manningham council con-



Modern, comfortable buses, but not frequent enough. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

tributed \$1000 to pay for processing of the raw data.

The survey showed some interesting trends. The most frequent destination for a bus trip was the city, although Ringwood was slightly more popular in the under 25s. The Pines, travel within Warrandyte and the Doncaster shopping centre were next on the list.

Of the people who had stopped using local bus services 40% said they did so because the services were not regular enough. The next most common reason was that the times were not convenient. Others included that the route did not go in the right direction; too many transfers were required; lack of an express service and that the bus took an indirect route.

When respondents were asked if an express service to the city would per-

suade them to use buses more often almost 80% answered yes.

Frequency of service was considered important with 67% of respondents stating that they would use buses more often if this was improved.

Almost 60% of those surveyed said that a park and ride facility near Warrandyte would persuade them to use buses more often.

The WCA has presented a summary of the survey to Manningham and plans to meet the council's transport committee later this month to further discuss the findings.

WCA spokesman, Stewart Lewis, believes roads around Warrandyte will become more congested with the opening of the freeway extension.

"When Eastlink opens up all the way through to Frankston it is possible

that there will be much more traffic and that travel times are going to be lengthened," he said. "So that was one of the drivers in my mind on how we can improve public transport."

The state government's Department of Infrastructure (DoI) is conducting a series of metropolitan bus service reviews, with that for Manningham starting early this year. The department will be seeking public participation in this review and Mr Lewis anticipates that the results from the bus use survey will be particularly useful in any submission that WCA makes.

The department will hold a community workshop to discuss bus services later in the year in Manningham and is also seeking written submissions. Details will be announced on the website <http://www.doi.vic.gov.au/>.



The journey between Warrandyte and Park Orchards has been made safer with the completion of the new \$1m roundabout at the intersection of Knees, Stinton and Falconer roads. Built by Manningham council, the project was partly funded through a \$362,000 grant from the Federal government. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

Community bus quest

By SANDY BURGOYNE

The need for a community bus for Warrandyte and district is once again being considered.

In the middle of last year the Warrandyte branch of the Bendigo Community Bank distributed survey forms to a range of community groups that might benefit from such a service. These included schools and churches, plus sports, cultural and service clubs.

More than 60 forms were distributed, but only 14 were returned completed.

"The response rate wasn't brilliant, which makes it very hard to judge the overall final usage of (a community bus). There certainly is potential but it's finding what's the most effective way of doing it," Sarah Wrigley, chairman of the bank's board, told the *Diary*.

The survey probed the interest in four sizes of bus and asked how often the individual group would expect to use the vehicle over a month. The 20-25 seater was the most popular choice at just over 70%, but the 10-15

seater was not far behind.

The results indicated the 20-25 seater could expect a regular 24 days a month usage, with an additional six community groups stating possible casual use.

Although provision of a community bus may seem to be a good and logical idea, it brings a plethora of tough questions with it.

"The logistics of putting on a community bus—that is a large bus—for Warrandyte are pretty much not feasible without support from local government.

"We've got nowhere to put it. With a larger bus we are more likely to need a driver and co-ordinating drivers and timetables—the schedule for who's got it and who is paying for it and all the rest of it. It becomes quite a logistical nightmare," Ms Wrigley said.

A standard car licence allows the operation of a mini-bus seating up to 11 passengers, but finding a driver for a larger vehicle is more difficult. A "light rigid" endorsement is needed to drive the next size of bus,

with a "medium rigid" licence required for buses with a capacity greater than 25 seats. To gain each of these endorsements the candidate driver needs to make a commitment of both time and money.

The bank is still interested in hearing from local groups on provision of a community bus. Contact Sarah Wrigley on 9844 2678; e-mail: sarahw@gundabluey.com.

The Warrandyte Community Transport Group (WCTG) ran a community bus service for around six years until 1994. Funding for the purchase of the first bus came from Lions, Apex and Rotary club fund-raising, plus grants from the state government and the then Doncaster and Templestowe Council.

The service was popular and in 1992 carried 18,500 passengers using a small bus. Money was tight and the group struggled.

The WCTG purchased a larger bus, but by mid-1994 the group was in financial difficulties and the service was forced to close.

Council tackles carbon

Manningham council has initiated the carbon rationing action groups (CRAG) program to help the community battle climate change.

"There is a great deal of information out there about the different ways people can make a difference, but the sheer volume of advice can be overwhelming," mayor Cr Geoff Gough said.

"People who join a carbon rationing action group will receive tools to help them measure the energy they consume on a daily basis."

The group will then set a lower emissions target to reach over the following 12 months and they can change their energy use to help them reach this voluntary goal.

Council is organising Get Climate Wise Now workshops, to be held at the council chambers at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster. They will cover a wide range of energy-saving topics:

- Solar hot water and solar air heating—Thursday, February 21;
- Domestic wind energy—Thursday, March 20;
- Green building—renovations and double-glazing options—Thursday, April 10;
- Rethinking energy use—food miles and product recycling—Thursday, May 22;
- Climate action rationing action groups overview and climate change—where to now?—Thursday, June 19.

The workshops will run from 6.45 to 9pm. Entry is free but bookings (9840 9348) are essential.



Cashed up: North Warrandyte Landcare Group members (from left) Sam Eadie, Jacqui McLaren, Shelagh Morton, Ann Penrose, Ruth Rankin and seated, Jill Jameson. (Picture by Wayne Rankin)

Money for Landcare

North Warrandyte Landcare Group was successful in obtaining \$44,492 in funding through round 9 of the Natural Heritage Trust Envirofund grants.

The successful project entitled "Links in the Yarra Habitat Corridor in North Warrandyte" will focus on six sites along the Yarra River, the main one being the riverbank and gully below 37 Osborne Road, the former home of the Osborne family.

The site is highly visible from Jumping Creek Reserve and previously had willows and elms removed by Parks Victoria. Extensive rabbit control was carried out in March 2007 and will be followed up this year as part of Parks Victoria rabbit control program.

The Envirofund grant will

enable the landcare group to undertake weed control in this area and begin revegetation with local indigenous plants produced in the Osborne Road nursery. The rehabilitation of the site will take many years, but this grant has provided funding to commence stages 1 and 2.

Other defined areas to benefit from this grant will be the Yarra riverbank at the rear of 19 and 21 Osborne Road, 45 Osborne Road and 40-42 Osborne Road, as well as a part of Wombat Gully.

The landcare group has again received a \$2500 Landcare Support Grant from Nillumbik Shire Council. These funds will be used to complement weed removal work already funded

by Nillumbik over past years on the Osborne and Hamilton roadsides as well as partly funding a rabbit control program to be co-ordinated by the group on the entire Osborne Peninsula.

Melbourne Water has awarded the group a Community Project Grant of \$2832 to provide a water supply for the group's indigenous nursery in Osborne Road. This money will be spent on a 10,000 litre water tank with a solar-powered pump so the nursery can continue to produce up to 12,000 plants each year. It is anticipated that with the tank installed, recycled water will be sourced for use in the nursery.

● Information on the group from Ann Penrose on 9844 0934.

Vegies: anti-carbon

You too can grow produce such as this in your own garden! (Pictured below)

WarrandyteCAN's next information session will focus on "Food Miles".

How far has your food travelled to reach your table? Perhaps it has come from interstate, or even overseas, all adding to carbon emissions in the atmosphere.

"Along with purchasing 100% accredited Green Power, reducing food miles is the simplest, most immediate action we can all take to reduce carbon emissions," CAN president Wayne Rankin told the *Diary*.

"We make daily choices about the food we eat, especially when shopping, and the outcome of these choices is crucial to reducing carbon emissions. By eating locally produced fresh food the impact on global emissions can be significant, not to mention other benefits such as good health and dollar savings.

"The ultimate, of course, is to become fully sustainable and grow your own. Warrandyte residents have the luxury of space in their backyards to do so, unlike many inner city areas."

Mr Rankin believes growing your own has the added benefit of control over how the produce is grown "and brings great satisfaction at harvest time".

The next WarrandyteCAN information session will be held at Andersons Creek Primary School on Thursday, February 21, commencing at 7.30pm.

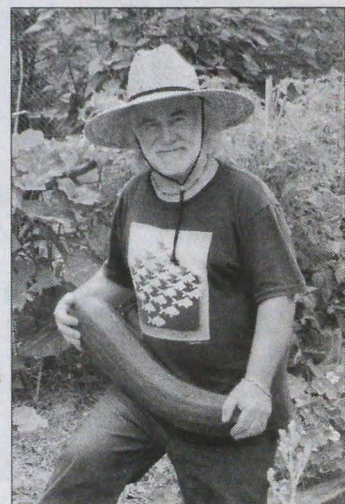
● A study of Food

Miles in Australia, focused on Melbourne, has been co-authored for Ceres by Sophie Gaballa who will speak on this topic.

● Also presenting will be Greg Revell from Gene Ethics who will enlighten us on the role that genetically modified food plays in threatening the future of our food, biodiversity and the environment. He will also speak on growing your own food.

● Adrian Whitehead from Beyond Zero Emissions will deliver an overview of the Bali Climate Change conference.

WarrandyteCAN will have a stand at this year's Festival. "Visit us to learn how you can reduce your emissions and help the planet," Mr Rankin said. Also, try guessing the weight of the large zucchini. And maybe win a prize!



Wayne Rankin and his giant zucchini

Draft Weed Action Plan - invitation to comment

Nillumbik Shire Council invites you to comment on the Draft Nillumbik Weed Action Plan. The Plan aims to provide strategic direction for improved management of weeds throughout the Shire. The Plan will improve Nillumbik's weed management programs and practices through:

- preventing the establishment of new weed species
- applying resources to best effect by focussing on assets that are threatened by weeds
- improving weed management practices and policies by learning from the outcomes of weed control programs in action
- forming partnerships with residents and other landowners, public agencies and volunteer groups to coordinate and multiply the effectiveness of weed management across the landscape of the Shire.

Copies of the Draft Plan are available from www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au or by contacting Lisa Pittle, Land Management Officer, on 9433 3211 or Lisa.Pittle@nillumbik.vic.gov.au.

Written comments will be accepted until 29 February 2008 and should be directed to Lisa Pittle, Land Management Officer, Nillumbik Shire Council, PO Box 476, Greensborough Vic 3088 or email Lisa.Pittle@nillumbik.vic.gov.au.

Alan Marshall Short Story Award 2008

Nillumbik Shire Council invites writers from across Australia to enter this annual short story competition held in memory of the great writer and former resident of Eltham, Alan Marshall.

Judge: Cate Kennedy

Entries close: 4pm Friday 22 February 2008

- \$2000 Open Section First Prize and \$1000 Open Section Second Prize for stories up to 2,500 words
- \$1000 Local Writers' Section Prize for stories up to 2,500 words
- \$400 Young Writers' Section Prize (15-19 years) for stories up to 1,000 words

Competition details and entry form may be obtained from www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au. For more information please email artsinfo@nillumbik.vic.gov.au or telephone (03) 9433 3359.

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Our citizens are tops

By SANDY BURGOYNE

Warrandyte residents scooped the pool at the Manningham Australia Day 2008 awards with Peter Hanson named Citizen of the Year and Anastasia Plischka Young Citizen of the Year.

Peter Hanson is a busy young Warrandyte man. At the age of 36 he has been given the type of accolade that many receive much later in life.

A quick study of Peter's community accomplishments shows why he received the award. He joined Warrandyte fire brigade in 1991 and is still a member.

"If the (fire) call came he'd drop everything and run and leave his work behind," his mother Bev told the *Diary*.

However, that is only one of the ways he has served his community.

"Out of everything that I do locally by far is what I do most is the historical society and people probably wouldn't realise that," Peter said.

His interest in local history started early. He grew up on his parent's property in Webb Street and when he was about seven years-old he discovered a mine in his front yard.

"I thought, this is interesting. There were old bottles and pottery and that sort of thing so I kept digging and digging in this soft backfill. It has nice straight walls and you could see the old pick marks.

"It went to 11 metres straight

down. I had two ladders and a lighting set-up and a windlass," he said.

He researched the claim's history and found that it was the Westbury Reserve mine started in the 1880s.

Peter realised that much of the district's history was being lost. He joined the Warrandyte Historical Society and set about photographing and researching the mines of the district.

"What really spurred me on was when the mines were being shut off. People think the mines have been there for 150 years and they will be there forever," he said.

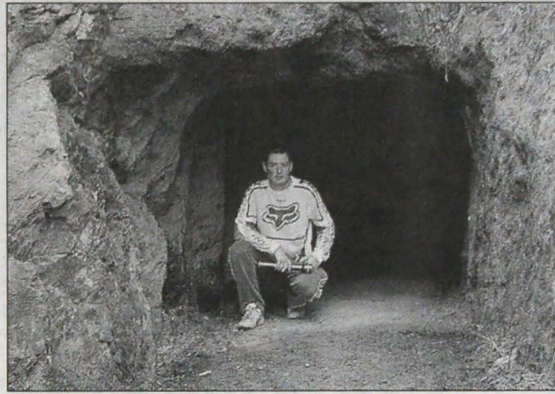
Peter successfully negotiated to have the Crown Mine uncapped and a gate installed, allowing authorised access to the site.

Recently Peter has been involved in recording oral history and copying historical photographs.

"That is really important before people move out of the area or die, or get too old and they can't remember. Often people have photos of what they talk about," he said.

Peter joined the police force last year and, coincidentally, was confirmed as a constable on Australia Day—the day the mayor of Manningham, Cr Geoff Gough, presented him with the Citizen of the Year award.

Warrandyte is soon to lose Peter Hanson as his first post-



Peter Hanson, at the entrance to Geraghty's Mine. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

ing with the police force is to Stawell, midway between Ararat and Horsham. He is looking forward to researching and photographing the Magdala and other gold mines in and around that town.

● Anastasia Plischka is a Year 12 student at Warrandyte High School who has a string of volunteer work to her credit.

"(She) is a very impressive young woman who, at the age of 17, provides a fantastic example for young people," Manningham mayor Cr Gough said.

In her busy schedule Anastasia volunteers her services as receptionist at Warrandyte

Housing and Support Services. She helps out at the Rotary Opportunity Shop and each Christmas joins the team to wrap toys and prepare hampers.

Ms Plischka takes part in many activities at her high school including fundraising.

"Anastasia has been a member of the school's student representative council since Year 7, acting in the positions of secretary and treasurer," Cr Gough told the *Diary*.

She was on the Manningham Youth Committee in 2006 and recently took part in an Australian Citizenship course in Canberra.

Community honours conferred

A number of local residents were honoured to receive recognition in the Menzies Community Australia Day Awards, sponsored each year by federal MP, Kevin Andrews.

They were presented on Australia Day, in Mr Andrews absence, by Senator Rod Kemp. Local people honoured include:

She researched and wrote, "For the Community, by the Community: the 35 Year History of the Warrandyte Diary".

DAVID CURRY

David has been a member of the Warrandyte Rotary Club for 21 years. During this time he has worked diligently as president, secretary, treasurer and board member. For many years he led the way in organising the art show—a major fund-raiser for the club. David is extremely community-minded and has held senior positions as a member of Freemasons Australia. He continues to use his skills and knowledge to serve the community.

WARWICK DUNCAN

Warwick is a former president and continuous active member of the Lions Club of Park Orchards. He has also done outstanding work on behalf of Transplant Australia. A recipient, as a young man, of a liver transplant, he has taken on the duties of Transplant Australia's Victorian and national president and has promoted the organisation as a speaker and presenter at schools and service clubs. He is "in training" with his sons to walk the Kokoda Track in 2008 raising funds for the cause of organ donations.

RICHARD FORDE

As a foundation member of the Rotary Club of Warrandyte, and during a long association with voluntary work spanning

20 years, Richard has shown a willingness and a capability in every position in the club, including involvement with the art show, community activities and Rotary International—all assisting to raise funds to provide better facilities locally and overseas.

ELISABETH GALLAGHER

Elisabeth served her community for 20 years as secretary at Warrandyte Primary School. About five years ago she began volunteering her time at Warrandyte Housing and Support Services. She is a valued member of the service's staff, using her considerable skills to counsel people affected by drug and alcohol abuse.

DAVID GREENWOOD

For the past 11 years David has been a very active member of the Rotary Club of Warrandyte as youth representative. He has worked tirelessly for the Youth Exchange Program—opening his home to overseas students. He has been active in fund-raising through the art show and the opportunity shop. He has actively supported the Warrandyte Christmas markets and the stocking raffle each year.

JOYCE GULLERY

Between 1982 and 1999 Joyce and her late husband fostered a number of children. After her husband passed away, Joyce and Marilyn Byrne, a relative, were given permanent custody of two boys. In total, Joyce has

fostered 79 children and also provided housing for families in need of a few weeks respite. Joyce's energy is amazing and unstinting—her feet don't ever seem to stop!

ANN IRVING

Ann was bursar at Warrandyte High School for 26 years. On her retirement four years ago she volunteered her services to the Warrandyte Housing and Support Services, assuming control of financial services. Ann has involved herself with the Rotary Opportunity Shop and the Warrandyte Community Market, which she attends monthly.

GRAEME REDMAN

During Graeme's 18 years as a member of the Rotary Club of Warrandyte, he has held all board positions. He has been a member of Rotary Mental Health Board for five years, during which time he worked diligently and enthusiastically to bring this problem to the forefront. He has worked long and hard for the art show and is actively involved in both the Christmas market and the Christmas stocking raffle.

ROBINA STEVENS

Robina has been a loyal volunteer at Information Warrandyte for more than 10 years. During this time she has been recruitment officer and has organised training sessions for our volunteers. Her loyal support is much appreciated.



(Picture by Ian Wright)

SANDY BURGOYNE

Sandy (pictured) has been involved with the *Warrandyte Diary* community newspaper as a volunteer since 1979, firstly as a photographer, then as a reporter-photographer and more recently as editor of the internet edition, circulating around Australia and across the world. Sandy has also contributed feature articles, including those requiring historical research.

Court water saved

By JOANNE GREEN

Warrandyte Tennis Club is playing its part for the environment by conserving water and reducing its use of mains water by up to 80%.

Last year the club installed a 27,000 litre water tank, taking water off the clubhouse roof. This water is used to dampen those courts in use during play.

Also last December, the courts were treated with calcium chloride.

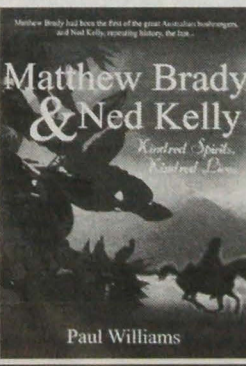
"Calcium chloride coats the courts and traps moisture from the air," club president Mark Bence told the *Diary*. Eventu-

ally the chemical can absorb enough moisture to produce a liquid. "That, coupled with the tank, makes us almost self-sufficient. Water usage could be cut from 100 litres to 20 litres."

The club raised half the cost of the tank and the calcium chloride, the balance coming from Manningham council. Club members installed the tank and applied the chemicals.

"It's vital for us to save water, and tennis courts use a lot of water," Mr Bence said. "It was important so we could continue to play competition tennis here."

Bold tales of derring-do



Bushranger Matthew Brady was hanged in 1826 in Hobart Town, Van Diemen's Land. History was repeated in 1880 when outlaw Ned Kelly met the same fate in Melbourne, Victoria, 54 tumultuous years later.

Matthew Brady was the first of the great Australian bushrangers, Ned Kelly was the last.

Diary artist Paul Williams has drawn these two infamous yet grimly inspiring lives together in a documentary book entitled *Matthew Brady and Ned Kelly: Kindred Spirits, Kindred Lives*.

It is available from the Old Bakery Cottage Bookshop in Yarra Street.

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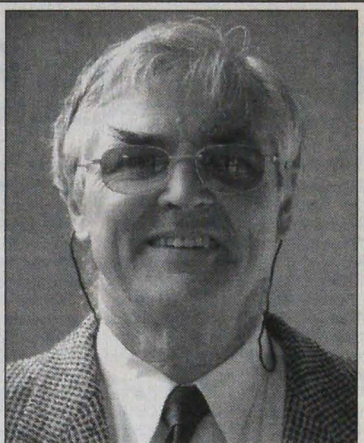
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Evensong for Garry

By JOANNE GREEN
 Garry Gason, Warrandyte's Anglican minister, is retiring.
 Rev Gason, who has been minister at St Stephens in Stiggant Street for 16 years, is taking long service leave before his retirement in June.
 He told the *Diary* he is retiring because his tenure at St Stephens is due to expire. "After you reach 65 it's rather difficult to find a new parish."
 Rev Gason conducted his last service as minister on December 30. "I tried to conclude my ministry over Christmas, and the coming of Lord Jesus," he said. "That was the message I was trying to achieve through my ministry."
 Garry Gason's ambition to become a minister came and went through his young life. However, when he was working in the

premier's office after leaving school and was offered a promotion, he felt that God was calling him to the ministry.
 He has been an Anglican minister for 42 years.
 Following retirement, the Gasons intend remaining in the parish. Garry has said he is prepared to take services and fill in whenever he is needed.
 They will be settling into a new house and Garry hopes to find time for gardening.
 Coming from the country to Warrandyte 16 years ago, he "picked up a feeling that Warrandyte still wants to be a community. There are difficulties, but there is still a feeling of community."
 This sense of belonging to a community will be Rev Gason's lasting memory of his time as Warrandyte's Anglican minister.

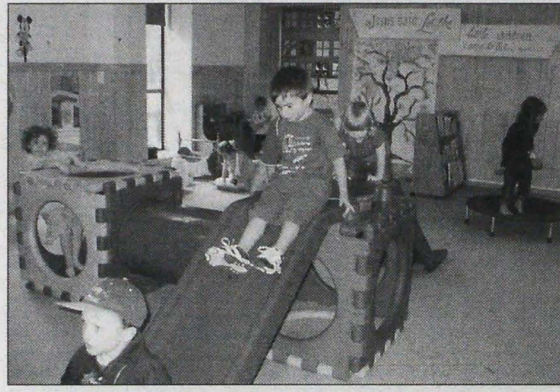


Rev Garry Gason.
 (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

Call for lollipops

Would you like to be a lollipop person? Nillumbik and Manningham councils are looking for community-minded people who would like paid positions as children's crossing supervisors.
 "Crossing supervisors work with the local school communities to provide a safe environment when crossing roads," a Nillumbik council spokesperson told the *Diary*. "They generally work 1.5 hours per school day be-

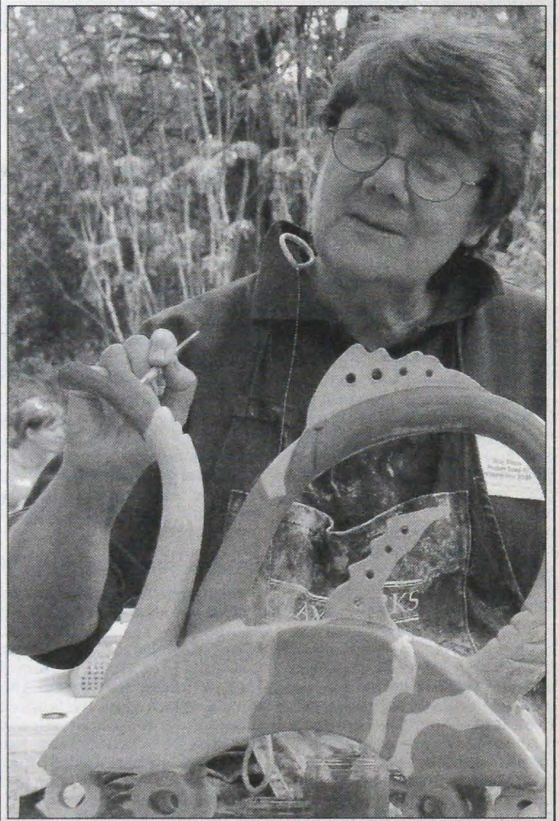
tween the hours of 8-9am and 3-4pm. Supervisors have a role in educating children and parents about safety at children's crossings and are valued employees of the council."
 Manningham employs 40 school crossing supervisors and currently has vacancies for new starters.
 • Further information from Natalie Hall (Nillumbik) 9433 3301 or Heather Leadbeater (Manningham) 9840 9237.



Caring for kids

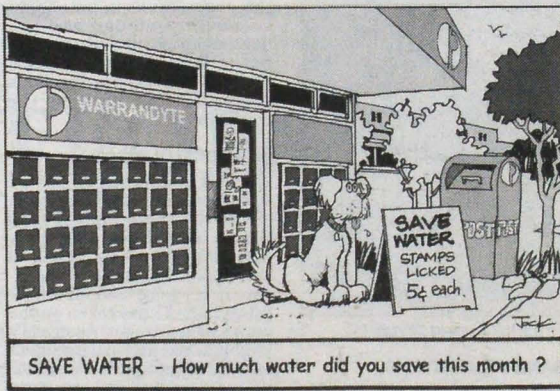
The playgroups based at the Warrandyte Community Church have been operating without a break for 25 years.
 Meryl Dawson helped found the first group in 1982 when her son Tim was three years old. She is still working in the playgroups.
 "Every time I go to the supermarket I meet someone who has used the playgroup facility. Some of them are nearly as old as their mums were when they first attended," Meryl said.
 "More than a thousand children from 500 Warrandyte families have benefited from the love

and care bestowed on them by playgroup leaders during those 25 years," current coordinator Jan Bangay told the *Diary*. "It has been a great support for parents who, from time to time, have needed the help of other mums."
 During the 1980s, two groups operated weekly. A group operated each weekday in the 1990s. This year, playgroups are operating on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.
 • Further information from Jan Bangay, 9876 4519, or from the church office, 9844 4148.



Pots by the river

The Warrandyte Pottery Expo, one of the district's most popular events, is on again this month on the riverbank at the bottom of Webb Street. The event will be held across the weekend of Saturday, February 23 and Sunday, February 24. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)



Counting the days

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House is publishing a calendar featuring 12 Jock Macneish cartoons promoting water conservation—plus laughs. Too late in the year to buy a calendar? Wrong! This one covers the financial year—July 2008 to June 2009. Costing only \$10 each, calendars will be available first at the Neighbourhood House stand at the Festival, then at various outlets around the town. We know saving water is a deadly serious business—but you've gotta have a laugh!

Do you enjoy performing?
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 Classes run every Saturday from 9.30-11am, 11am-12.30pm and 12.30-2pm at Warranwood Primary School gym for students in Years 1 to 10. Every child is guaranteed a speaking role and the opportunity to be in four concerts plus on-stage at Warrandyte Festival! CALL KYLIE on 0411 807 744 for details

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SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESS

Local garden opens for CFA

John and Pat Anderson, with the support of the Bradleys Lane Community Fireguard Group, will be opening their garden for the ABC Open Garden Scheme and the Warrandyte Festival over the Labour Day weekend. The \$5 admission will go to the North Warrandyte CFA. The garden includes vegetables, natives, rose arches and stone carvings and a large collection of salvias. Plants, many of which are dry tolerant, will be on sale. The garden will be open at 98 Bradleys Lane on March 8, 9 and 10 from 10am to 4.30pm.

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.

are available. Call Amy Marsden, 9844 1676, email amy@marsden.id.au.

Honour

"Queenie: One Elephant's Story" has been named as an Honour Book in the Children's Book Council of Australia Children's Book of the Year awards for 2007. It was written by Warrandyte resident and occasional *Diary* poet, Corinne King. She shares the honour with the publisher, Black Dog Books and the illustrator Peter Gouldthorpe.

Toys

The Warrandyte Toy Library at 182 Research-Warrandyte Road, next to the Yarra Warra Preschool, is open on Wednesday between 10.30am and 12noon and on Saturdays between 10am and 11.30am during school terms. For \$40 annually and one duty session per term, a single-child family may borrow up to three toys for three weeks; \$50 for two children and six toys; \$60 for three children and nine toys. There is an additional \$40 fee if members are not able to perform duties. Toys suitable for infants to early primary age

Fair

The famous Strawberry Fair at St Anne's in Park Orchards will be held on Saturday, February 23 and will feature food, cakes, craft, toys, plants, a white elephant stall and lots more. St Anne's is at 60 Knees Road, Park Orchards. For further information phone 0425 788 126.

Churches

Ashley Price has been appointed associate pastor at the Warrandyte Community Church (9844 4148). Peter Keep remains as senior pastor and Dan Crozier is the youth pastor. The Uniting Church (9844 2038) is seeking a new minister with Rev Alan Hardie standing in at the moment. At the Anglican Church (9844 3473) Gary Gason has retired and the Rev Ed Smith is taking services until April. Catholics are worshipping at Park Orchards (9876 1509) and are being administered from North Ringwood. For enquiries please call the above numbers.

Contact

Telecross is a free service by the Red Cross, providing a daily contact call to elderly or house bound-people to ensure they are safe and well. Anyone interested in registering for this service or in becoming a volunteer should contact their local Red Cross office or visit www.redcross.org.au.

Jazz

Manningham Arts Centre is providing a nine-week course "Join a Jazz Band", allowing participants to play alongside "Boss of the Piano", Bob Sedergreen. The course, commencing on April 8, is designed for participants with some playing experience. It consists of eight two-hour sessions with an end-of-year concert. Call 9840 9381 for further information.

Support

Manningham Community Health Service conducts a Women's Anxiety and Depression Support Group, offering support, encouragement, hope, companionship, laughter and information about recovery on a weekly basis. Contact Pam Quinton-Randall on 8841 3000 or email pam.quinton-randall@mannchs.org.au.

Business

Nilumbik council provides a range of seminars, workshops and networking events to assist locally based businesses to get started and grow. Programs include "Start Your Own Business", a course of eight three-hour sessions. To



Patchwork and quilting classes are being conducted by Ronnie Travassaros at her home in Kangaroo Ground, commencing in February. Ronnie was critically injured in an accident on Kangaroo Ground Road some years ago. She was not expected to survive but with intensive treatment and rehabilitation she has defied all odds. Her rehabilitation has been greatly helped by DASSI Attendant Support Workers. After four years of attending patchwork and quilting classes, with the help of DASSI she is now passing her knowledge on. For more information and class schedule contact ronnie@connexus.net.au

enrol call 9001 4170 or 0419 573 703. Other activities are a Livewire program to help keep you informed about the web and its development of your business and a series of seminars and workshops. The Nilumbik HomeBiz Network Inc. meets monthly to share information. For information go to www.nilumbik.vic.gov.au-Business and Tourism-Business seminars and programs.

Lifestyle

The 2008 Manningham Lifestyle Week will take place between February 28 and March 8. The week features talks, demonstrations and outdoor activities that are designed to help residents improve their health and well-being and have a really good time. Events include physical activities, art and cultural workshops and health and well-being talks. Residents can pick up the program from the Manningham civic centre, local libraries and neighbourhood houses or download through www.manningham.vic.gov.au

SHOP LOCALLY

artyfacts

Church hosts workshop with Chinese master

Warrandyte artist, Denise Keele-Bedford, has organised a touring program for Associate Professor Sun Baijun from China. He has produced a series of works based on the "Life of Christ" from a contemporary perspective. They will tour four ecumenical centres around Melbourne. He will also be conducting free to the public workshops at the Warrandyte Uniting Church on Wednesday, April 2 and Thursday, April 3. Participants will be introduced to the technique of Chinese traditional ink wash painting used to create contemporary/abstract paintings on ink wash paper. Classes are limited and bookings essential. Call Denise on 9844 1681 or 0408 599 423.

Exhibition

An exhibition by Warrandyte artist, Scott Nye, currently showing at the Eltham Library Community Gallery closes on February 19. Scott has painted rural and semi-rural landscapes of Warrandyte, Eltham and the Yarra Ranges with occasional drawings of the urban environment.

Stonehouse

Recent graduates from Box Hill, Holmesglen and Chisolm TAFE colleges will be showcasing their work at the Stonehouse Gallery during February. Works on display include imaginative uses of clay, colour, design and an exciting array of glazes in both sculptural and utilitarian ware. The gallery is at 103 Yarra Street, Warrandyte.

Music

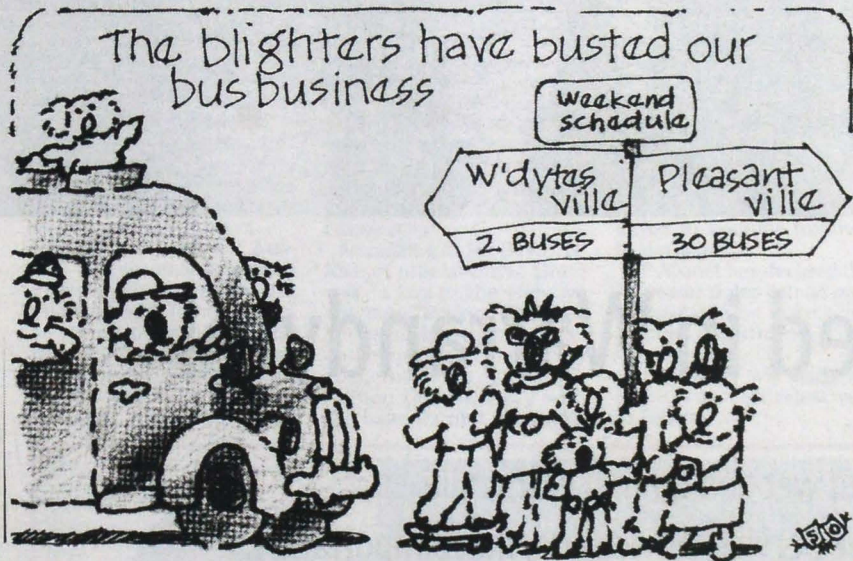
Melbourne-based Girish Makwan who was born in India, along with Leo Dale, will perform at the Earth Harmony Centre, 246-250 Yarra Street, Warrandyte on Friday, February 15 at 8pm. Girish plays a variety of Indian instruments and is also a chant singer. Leo plays sax and flute. Tickets are \$20. To book call 9844 5155.

Manningham

Manningham Gallery's February exhibition will feature the artist group "Valley Potters" presenting their 30th anniversary exhibition. "Earth Matters" shows the work of more than 30 ceramic artists from across Melbourne. The exhibition, at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster will run until February 23.

COREY'S COMMUNITY

By SYD & ONA



CLYDE & OCKER



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LIFT OUT PROGRAM

Warrandyte Village Festival

SATURDAY, MARCH 15 & SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2008



Ban on banners lifted

By KARLY HICKMAN

The Festival banners will be flying along Yarra Street once more.

This follows strong lobbying of SP Ausnet, who own the power poles, by John Boyle, president of the Warrandyte Festival Committee and Ryan Smith, state MP for Warrandyte.

The power company has decided that banners can be hung from some of the poles as they are, while others require some adjustment.

Early last year, SP Ausnet—a division of Singapore Power—cited “industrial change” and safety issues as the main reasons for the more rigorous restrictions.

Although SP Ausnet are maintaining their position, claiming “banners can be

placed on power poles, provided that appropriate safety precautions and regulations are adhered to,” the company has agreed to work towards a solution to the problem.

According to Ausnet, “all proposed banner locations have been identified and individually assessed, as have the banners and brackets, to ensure they comply with industry standards and don’t pose a safety risk to the community.”

According to Mr Boyle, SP Ausnet official David Grant was “a key to the effective outcome,” striking a balance between the wishes of the community and the safety concerns of the company.

When the difficulty with the banners first arose, Mr

Boyle contacted local MP Ryan Smith.

Mr Smith, elected in November 2006, attended his first Warrandyte Festival in 2007. “I saw how disappointed Warrandyte residents were at the absence of the banners,” he told the *Diary*.

“I felt that disallowing the placement of banners was sabotaging something built up over time.”

Mr Smith therefore decided to become involved in the issue.

SP Ausnet has decided that 16 power poles can be used in their current state, while 36 need adjustments to the brackets.

Ace Energy will hang the banners during the last week in February.



Where had all the banners gone? Andersons Creek roundabout, Festival week, 2007. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)



Royal Family: King Derek and Queen Keri and (from left) daughters Hilary, Georgina and Celia.

The animals will be pleased! Derek and Keri Fairley have been named King and Queen of the Warrandyte Festival for 2008. Derek as vet and Keri as vet nurse run the local animal clinic in Melbourne Hill Road. As well as their normal practice caring for

local pets, they also provide free veterinary treatment for injured wildlife and are actively involved in a number of local community groups. “Monarchs for a weekend,” the Fairleys will lead the Festival parade on the Saturday.

Pump up those pumpkins!

Have you seen the giant pumpkin, growing bigger by the day in the Warrandyte Community Garden behind the police station?

This fine vegetable monstrosity will occupy pride of place at the garden’s stand on Stiggants Reserve, when passers-by will have an opportunity (for a small fee) to guess its weight.

Also, everyone is invited to enter their own home or school-grown pumpkin—hopefully fed with recycled water—in the largest pumpkin competition.

And if that wasn’t enough, the Community Garden is running a contest for the best-decorated pumpkins. Judged at the Festival and organised in age groups—Grade 3 and Under, Grades 4 to 6 and Open.

Decorated pumpkins can be from any source—home-grown or shop bought. They can be carved or decorated with any material—paint, glitter, stickers, etc. Prizes will be awarded.



Pumpkins can be left at the Warrandyte Community Garden, Police Street, between 4 and 6pm on Friday, March 14 or at the Festival site, Stiggants Reserve, between 9 and 10am on Saturday, March 15.

● Call Judy Green on 9844 2096 for further information.

Warrandyte Village Festival



Festival briefs

Moonshiners

Fancy yourself a lager specialist or a draught aficionado? Brew a bottle or two for the home brewing competition. Categories include stout, lager, bitter, ale, pilsner, draught light and other and people's choice. \$2 per entry.

Crash and burn

Watch in awe as our local heroes—police, SES, ambulance and CFA—rescue a victim from a crashed and burning vehicle in a combined training exercise. Stiggants Riverbank, 4.30pm Saturday and Sunday.

Steam on!

Enjoy the smell of hot oil, the hiss of steam? No, not a trip to McDonalds! We're talking about the Eltham Steam and Stationary Engine Preservation Society display. Soak up the atmosphere, yarn to the greasy old blokes. East of the Rotunda, all weekend.

Pets' paradise

Is your pooch the prettiest in town? Your cat the coolest? Find out at the pet show, near the Riverbank stage on Sunday at 9.30am. Various categories, including cats, dogs, rabbits, hamsters, mice, goldfish, birds and reptiles. Crocodiles?

Paint the town

The Rotary Art Show will be exhibiting work from local and interstate artists at the Warrandyte Community Church on Yarra Street. Open Saturday, March 15, 9am-5pm and Sunday, March 16, 10am to 4pm. Admission \$2.

Speed demons

The Billy Cart Derby on Sunday morning is sure to provide lots of thrills and spills as kids aged 8 to 15 put their driving skills to the test. There is even a race for the adult enthusiasts! Registration is between 8.30 and 9.15 at Police Street and racing zooms off at 9.30.

Bizarre bazaar

The Sunday Kids Market will embrace this year's theme of "Home Grown Fun" as local youngsters set up stalls with home-made or home grown goodies. The market runs 10.30am to 12.30pm at Stiggants Reserve. Up for grabs will be certificates for the most colourful, most creative, and most environmentally aware stalls.

Gold seekers

John Hanson will be leading a Sunday afternoon tour of an 1850s gold mine. Run by the Uniting Church, participants are asked to meet at 2pm at 104 Webb Street and to bring flat shoes and a torch. Donations to Walk Against Want appreciated.

Ducks ahoy!

Everyone's favourite, the Duck Race, will be held on Sunday afternoon. Hundreds of eager yellow plastic ducks will be launched into the Yarra River at Forbes Street at 2.30pm, where they will "swim" through the rapids to the finish line across from the bottom of Stiggants Street. Ducks available for sale at schools or at the Information Caravan near the stage for \$2. Trophy for the winner's owner.

You're history

Explore Old Warrandyte at the Warrandyte Museum in the old post office in Yarra Street. Open from 12noon to 4pm Saturday and Sunday. Displays of aboriginal, gold mining and social history. Admission free.

Saturday night fever

By KARLY HICKMAN

The new Saturday night program on the Main Stage promises to be a swinging event for all.

Festival organisers have been concerned that in the past, the Saturday night show has catered for an older audience, leaving young people with nothing to do.

"In recent years the youth have been left without anything to do or see on a Saturday night," organiser Ben Dennis told the *Diary*. "Previous program formats have targeted an older crowd."

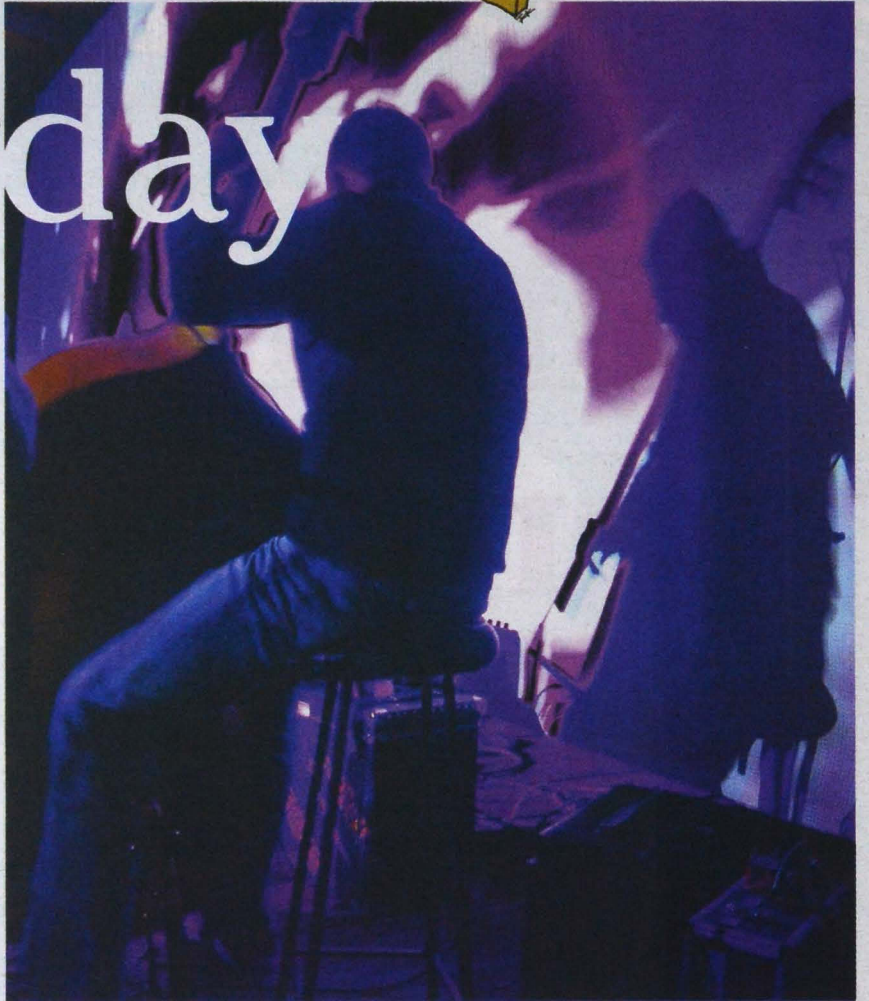
In an attempt to turn this around, Ben Dennis has organised a stellar line-up of acts, including local band The Teskey Brothers, swing band Frankie Wants Out and the eight-piece group, Ska Vendors. He believes bands from the differing genres of swing, jazz and ska are likely to draw an audience of all ages.

Rick Gordon, Festival veteran, hopes that this year's program will achieve two goals. "Firstly, to trial a new approach never tried at the Festival; and secondly, to cater for young people whilst not excluding Warrandyte's older demographic."

Presenting the entire program on the Main Stage at Stiggants, the organisers hope to "integrate the crowd, rather than segregating one (younger) group of the community".

"The difference between these bands and others is the way they involve the crowd, whether it be a 14 year-old teenager or an 80 year-old," Ben said. "The music will have the crowd dancing or grooving along to the beat."

The Teskey Brothers will kick off the night in a relaxed mode with a melodic, roots-style sound, likened to the styles of George Benson or



Ray Charles. It includes such influences as blues, funk, jazz, soul, rock and latin.

Melbourne-based Frankie Wants Out, titled "the sultans of swing" and self-styled a "gangster swing band" is heavily influenced by the New York music halls in the 1920s and 30s and the more modern sound of such bands as Royal Casino Revue.

Frankie Wants Out has been making audiences of all ages jump, groove and swing from St Kilda to Fitzroy. Com-

mitted to the Melbourne music scene, their EP released in 2006 is entitled "The Melbourne Way".

During 2007 they performed at festivals in Queenscliff, Brunswick and Wangaratta, and at the Melbourne International Arts Festival. Their music has featured on Triple J, PBS, 3RRR and ABC-774.

Winding up a wonderful night will be Ska Vendors, a well-established Melbourne band who play ska, reggae and rocksteady. They

performed with such well-known bands as Neville Staples, The Special Beat, Bomba and Area 7. They provided backing for Carlos (Bonanza Ska) Malcolm on his trip to Australia in 2005.

PBS FM describe their music as "happy, energetic and very danceable".

● The Teskey Brothers will play from 7.30 to 8.15pm; Frankie Wants Out between 8.30 and 9.30pm and The Ska Vendors will wind-up the program from 9.45 to 11pm.

'Tis folly not to come to the Follies

It's a most convenient truth that the annual Follies, staged by the Warrandyte Theatre Company at the Mechanics Institute Hall is probably the funniest, best night out of the entire festival.

This year it's titled "An Inconvenient Follies", so we can assume the sketches, gags and musical items will address that most hilarious of topics, global warming.

Prepare for an evening of floods, fire, frivolity and general mayhem guaranteed to change the local climate forever.

The show is being co-directed by Darren Bowers and Howard Geldard and produced by Denise Farran. Musical director is Jack Stringer and stage manager is Phyl Swindley.

As usual, a plethora of

wild-eyed writers is cobbling the scripts together, led by Alan Cornell (he of *Diary* Trots fame).

A huge cast, 30 plus, should lead to some inconvenient moments backstage.

An Inconvenient Follies will run at the Mechanics Institute Hall, cnr Yarra Street and Mitchell Avenue on Thursday, March 13; Friday, March 14; Saturday, March 15. Thursday, March 27; Friday, March 28; Saturday, March 29. Thursday, April 3; Friday, April 4 and Saturday, April 5 commencing at 8pm.

● Bookings can be made at the Old Bakery Cottage Bookshop at 189 Yarra Street, or by phoning 9844 1744.

Book early. The Follies is the most popular show in town!

Reading in a Grand style

One of the festival's special features—The Grand Read—is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year. So they've renamed it "The Very Grand Read".

Marion Winton and Paul Haskings began it all as a place where amateur and professional writers could read their work before a local audience. Joan Rogers from the Bakery Cottage Bookshop took it on after a while, then *Diary* poet Karen Throssell has organised it since, on behalf of Warrandyte Neighbourhood House, partly as a place where students of WNH writing classes could try out their work.

To celebrate the occasion, the organisers have invited award-winning author Garry Disher to be guest of honour. Garry has written more than 40 books and won several international and Australian awards.

The Very Grand Read will be held upstairs at the Grand Hotel on Tuesday, March 18. Cocktails from 6 to 7.30pm, readings from 8 to 10.30pm. Cost is \$12 if booked by March 3 (9844 1839), or \$15 at the door.

On ya bikes for the big ride!

Pedal-pushers of all ages are invited to join the Warrandyte Festival Bike Ride on Sunday, March 16.

Run by YMCA, Parks Victoria and the Festival Committee, the morning ride will weave its way through the State Park, along the Yarra and through the historic gold mining areas to Black Flat.

A Parks Victoria ranger will accompany the ride and provide commentary at sites of interest. An informative talk about the area's historical significance and future challenges will be conducted at Black Flat.

The ride will cater for family groups, among others, and everyone is encouraged to bring their morning tea to enjoy when they reach Black Flat.

The route is an easy eight kilometres and is suited to road or hybrid bikes.

All riders must register via the Bike Ride link on the Warrandyte Festival Website. Check-in on the day is at the Taroona Avenue netball courts at 9am for a 9.30am start.

● Registration forms can be accessed via the Festival website at home://vicnet.au/~warrfest/index.htm



ALL WEEKEND

SATURDAY 15 MARCH: 9am – 5pm
SUNDAY 16 MARCH: 10am – 4pm
 (Unless otherwise stated)

FESTIVAL INFORMATION CARAVAN: East of Main Stage on Stiggants Reserve. All festival information, lost property, lost children. Buy your ducks here for the Duck Race.

FIRST AID: Available from St John Ambulance in the West Riverbank area.

RADIO EASTERN FM 98.1: Be constantly up to date with festival happenings by tuning in. Radio Eastern FM is broadcasting live from the Stiggants Riverbank area all weekend.

ON STIGGANTS RIVERBANK
WEST OF ROTUNDA

FESTIVAL FEASTING: Lots of food to suit every taste available all weekend including Saturday and Sunday evenings. Wine tastings from local wineries.

WARRANDYTE COMMUNITY GARDEN PUMPKIN CHALLENGE: Giant pumpkins don't need lots of water but take up the challenge and see just how big you can grow one using recycled water as far as possible. Pumpkins must be either home or school grown and will be judged at the festival. Competition for the best-decorated pumpkins. Judged at the festival in age groups: Grade 3 & under, Grades 4-6, Open. Pumpkins can be from any source. To enter either of these competitions, drop your pumpkin off on Friday 14 between 4pm & 6pm at the Community Garden in Police St or on Saturday between 9am & 10am at the festival site. Guess the weight of the pumpkin on display at the festival. Judy Green, 9844 2096.

PARKS VICTORIA DISPLAY AND FRIENDS OF WARRANDYTE STATE PARK: Extend your Park knowledge. Displays & videos.

SPINNERS AND WEAVERS: The Doncaster and Templestowe group displays handspun and handknitted items in rotunda.

MANNINGHAM WOOD TURNERS: Woodturning machines on display in rotunda.

STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE: Static display including local aerial photographs.

MANNINGHAM CITY COUNCIL: Warrandyte's waterways are teeming with living creatures of all shapes and sizes. Learn about these fascinating creatures and the results from Manningham's waterwatch monitoring network.

NILLUMBK SHIRE: "Get Active in Nillumbik"—free activities for all the family plus free drink bottle giveaway.

WARRANDYTE CFA: Fire safety displays and badge making.

EAST OF ROTUNDA

WARRANDYTE CLIMATE ACTION NOW (CAN): Learn about issues of climate change and benefits of growing your own fruit and vegetables.

WARRANDYTE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION: Information.

ANIMAL FARM: Feed and cuddle farmyard favourites. Small charge (in Riverside Rotunda).

WARRANDYTE TOY LIBRARY: Kids' activities.

NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE: Meet staff and volunteers, discuss courses and support groups and find out about this fabulous local resource. Launch of their calendar. Activities during the weekend.

TENNIS SERVING COMPETITION: Check your service speed by radar as seen at Melbourne Park. Run by Warrandyte Tennis Club.

ELTHAM STEAM & STATIONARY ENGINE PRESERVATION SOCIETY: Display of working engines and machinery.

BLACKSMITH: Display of old-fashioned blacksmithing.

PROSPECTORS AND MINERS: Display of old gold mining equipment. Children can come and pan for gold!

PONY RIDES: Run by the Village School.

ROCK CLIMBING WALL
ABORIGINAL ART

ON STIGGANTS RESERVE

ART AND CRAFT MARKET: Homegrown or handmade products including craft, produce, plants, clothes & jewellery.

FREE CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES: A range of fun activities for pre-school and school-age children will take place in the children's tent over the weekend. Run by the Warrandyte Uniting Church (12-4pm).

KIDS' GIANT WATER SLIDE: Starts noon Saturday. Run by Scouts. Changing tent. Bring bathers and towel. 50¢ per slide or \$5.00 for all day pass.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

ROTARY ART SHOW: Featuring local and interstate artists. Warrandyte Community Church in Yarra Street. Open 9am-6pm Saturday 11am-4pm Sunday. Admission \$2.00.

WARRANDYTE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM: Features displays of Warrandyte's aboriginal, gold mining, artist and general social history. 111 Yarra St. Entry is free between 12noon & 4pm Saturday and Sunday.

WARRANDYTE COMMUNITY CHURCH: LEISURE ON THE LAWN. Behind church, adjacent to Riverbank Reserve. Hang out and have coffee. Enjoy activities for all ages. Sunday 9am festival service.

SEBASTIAN JORGENSEN: In concert at Earth Harmony Centre 246-250 Yarra St (top carpark behind shops near bridge) pre-book or pay at door. \$20. 8pm start. 9844 5155.

FRIDAY AND SUNDAY EVE AT THIS YEAR'S FESTIVAL

Humania and Deborah McSpalpern will commit random acts of illumination, God willing, from the wind-powered "Good (Air)Ship Venus". They'll pause on Saturday Eve at Stiggants Reserve to enlighten the lost souls there!

OPEN GARDEN SCHEME

Sat 8, Sun 9 & Mon 10 March : 10am to 4.30pm

98 BRADLEYS LANE

John & Pat Anderson will be opening their garden for the ABC Open Garden Scheme and Warrandyte Festival over Labour Day weekend to raise funds for North Warrandyte CFA. Vegetables, natives, rose arches and a collection of perennial salvias as well as other members of the mint family. Many are drought tolerant and non-invasive. Plants will be available for sale. Entry \$5. Enquiries 9844 3442.

Warrandyte Village Festival Program



SATURDAY NIGHT SWING

A night of Ska, Swing & Soul on the banks of the Yarra River

Sat March 15 : 7.30-10.45pm

STIGGANTS RESERVE MAIN STAGE

7.30-8.15 The Teskey Brothers Blues, Reggae, Soul

8.15-8.30 Swing Patrol Dance presentation

8.30-9.30 Frankie Wants Out Gangster Swing

9.45-10.45 The Ska Vendors Ska & Light Show by Humania & Deborah McSpalpern

Food will be available to purchase.

Come and enjoy a great night of free music in beautiful surroundings. Dance hard or just relax and soak up the atmosphere. **The Teskey Brothers**, a local group of talented musicians with a unique and original style, have a huge following in the Warrandyte area. Sultans of swing, **Frankie Wants Out** are a 9-piece band sure to get you up on your feet. They've been pulling audiences from Fitzroy to St Kilda and show no signs of letting up. Another 9-piece band the **Ska Vendors** play ska/reggae/rocksteady. They get their sound from the Jamaican Pioneers, the two-tone legends from the UK, as well as a myriad of great Melbourne ska bands that have all had an influence on their music. Love the music but can't dance? **The Swing Patrol** will teach you the basics and get your limbs flying as the bands cook up a musical feast!

THURS 13-SAT 15 and THURS 27-SAT 29 MARCH
THURS 3-SAT 5 APRIL

THE FESTIVAL FOLLIES "An Inconvenient Follies?" As usual, the Festival heralds the gathering of the Warrandyte Theatre Company troops for the Follies season. We have a 30-strong cast of locals at last count, with many great newcomers. The theme this year centres around the concept of Inconvenience—with many references to the notions of sustainability in modern life. Mechanics Institute Hall, BYO food and drink. \$18 per head, \$15 concession. 7.30pm. Bookings: Joan Rogers at The Old Bakery Cottage Bookshop, 189 Yarra Street, 9844 1744. Booking essential.

FRIDAY 14 MARCH

ROTARY ANNUAL ART SHOW: OFFICIAL OPENING & COCKTAIL PARTY from 7.30pm \$15 Warrandyte Community Church, Yarra St. Tickets and Art Show entry forms from Margory Lapworth, 9844 4495.

SATURDAY 15 MARCH

9am-5pm ALL-WEEKEND ACTIVITIES. See side panel.

10.15am: PARADE MARSHALLING: At the bridge tennis courts (pedestrians) and Tills Drive (vehicles and horses).

10.30am: JUDGING OF FLOATS: Perpetual Trophy for best parade entry. Other categories: Most Colourful, Most Imaginative, Best Costumes/Make-up and Most Warrandyte-ish.

11am: OFFICIAL START OF PARADE: At Community Centre. Cutting of ribbon by local councillors.

11am: NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE: Strong Women Stay Young, Busy Needles craft group, children's drawing in Neighbourhood House stall east of Rotunda on river reserve.

11.10am: FESTIVAL PARADE: Including town crier Ian Craig, festival monarchs Derek and Kerri Fairley, bands, floats, vintage cars & more. Commentaries at Community Centre, Grand Hotel and Stiggants Reserve. Enquiries: Jill Parker, 9844 0180.

11.45am-5pm: GROOVE ON SATURDAY: With 10 local bands performing on the stage from heavy rock to soul & blues. Between Stiggants carpark and the footbridge. See details below. DJ's playing alternative rock, hip-hop, funk, jazz and blues.

12noon: MAIN STAGE AT STIGGANTS: Official festival opening by the monarchs of the Warrandyte Festival, Derek & Kerri Fairley, and local councillors, followed by entertainment provided by local schools, dance groups and musicians—see detailed program below. On the Main Stage at Stiggants Reserve.

12-4.30pm: RIVERBANK STAGE: MC Red the Clown with Phat Max, Ben Mitchell, Andy Jans-Brown, Floyd Thursby and Steve Boyd & The Preachers—see times below.

4pm: HOME BREWING COMPETITION: Registration from 4pm and judging from 5pm. Warrandyte is full of home brewing enthusiasts and this is your chance to pit your skills against each other! Beer categories include stout, lager, bitter, ale, pilsner, draught light/others and peoples' choice; \$2 per category. Please provide at least 2 bottles per category. Located in the tent next to the top Stiggants St entrance to the Reserve. (Ask at the information caravan if you can't find it). Sponsored by The Grand Hotel and Buckley's Beer.

4.30pm: CAR RESCUE: Police, CFA, Ambulance & SES. Simulation of a rescue from a crashed and burning vehicle in a combined training exercise. Riverbank Stage area.

7.30pm-10.45pm: SATURDAY NIGHT SWING: Stiggant's Main Stage. A night of ska, swing and soul with The Teskey Brothers, Swing Patrol, Frankie Wants Out and The Ska Vendors—see top of program for details.

● **ASSOCIATED ACTIVITY**
THE FESTIVAL FOLLIES "An Inconvenient Follies?" Warrandyte Theatre Company's annual revue. See earlier in program for details.

RIVERBANK STAGE

SATURDAY 15 MARCH

12noon: MC Red the Clown.

12.15pm: Phat Max.

12.40pm: MC Red the Clown.

12.50pm: Ben Mitchell.

1.35pm: MC Red the Clown.

1.45pm: Andy Jans-Brown.

2.25pm: MC Red the Clown.

2.45pm: Floyd Thursby.

3.30pm: MC Red the Clown.

3.40pm: Steve Boyd & The Preachers.

4.30pm: Car Rescue Demonstration. Local SES, Police, Ambulance & CFA.

SUNDAY 16 MARCH

9.30am: Dog Show and Pet Parade run by Warrandyte High School.

11am: Snake Man.

12pm-12.15pm: MC Phil Melgard.

12.15pm: Five Finger Discount.

12.30pm: Snake Man.

12.50pm: MC Phil Melgard.

1pm: Half Hour Show—Flash Twinkle Toes.

1.35pm: MC Phil Melgard.

1.45pm: Black Letter Project.

2.30pm: Snake Man.

2.45pm: MC Phil Melgard.

2.50pm: Tin Pan Orange.

3.30pm: Snake Man.

3.45pm: Kutcha Edwards.

4.30pm: Car Rescue Demonstration. Local SES, Police, Ambulance & CFA.

YOUTH EVENTZ

UNDER AGE EVENTS
 DRUG & ALCOHOL FREE

GROOVE ON SATURDAY

Stiggants St carpark, near footbridge

11.45am – 5pm

Saturday it's Rock Day with 10 local bands performing on the stage from heavy rock to soul and blues:

11.45am Electric Vishnu

12.15pm The Screaming Pigeons

12.45pm The Thod

1.15pm Up an at 'em

1.45pm The Vambrance

2.15pm Disillusional Minority

3.00pm Through the Window

3.30pm Triact

4.00pm Wilson's Concourse

4.30pm Celadore

MOOVE ON SUNDAY

SKATE COMPETITION

Sponsored by YMCA

Skate Park, Warrandyte Reserve

Cnr Yarra St & Tarooma Ave

Free Entry + Great Prizes

1pm Under 12 (Primary School)

2pm Under 15

3pm Open

4pm Professional Skate Demo

Refreshments Available

Alcohol Free Zone

Enquiries: Rick Gordon

9844 2242, 0411 025 412

MAIN STAGE — STIGGANTS RESERVE

SATURDAY 15 MARCH

12noon: Official opening of the Festival with Manningham and Nillumbik councillors and presentation of monarchs of Warrandyte Festival, Dr Derek and Kerri Fairley.

12.15pm: Warranwood Drama School.

12.30pm: Warrandyte Primary School Prep & Grade 1, Grade 5 & 6 Bushband.

12.55pm: Andersons Creek Primary School student performance.

1.25pm: Warrandyte Primary School Grade 2 Choir and Grades 3 & 4 Choir.

1.45pm: Park Orchards Primary School musical performance.

2.15pm: Warrandyte High School drama and band performances.

3.15pm: Swing Patrol. Swing dancing demonstration and public lesson.

3.35pm: "Dance Plus" Pre-school, Juniors and Intermediates – let us entertain you.

4.15pm: Warrandyte Fifty Five Plus Variety Group. New members welcome. 9844 2437.

Saturday Night Swing

8.30pm: The Teskey Brothers. Blues, Reggae, Soul.

8.15pm: Swing Patrol. Dance presentation

8.30pm: Frankie Wants Out. Gangster swing.

9.45pm: The Ska Vendors. Ska.

SUNDAY 16 MARCH

10am: Snake Man. Live display and entertaining discussion about our local reptiles.

11.15am: Eltham Concert Band. Back again with its big and brassy sound.

12.20pm: Orangotango. Swing music from around the world for fun.

1.20pm: Super Delux Quartet. Heavy grooves you can shake your rhythm stick to!

2.20pm: New Frontier. Still jazz, still local, still great.

3.15pm: The Cadillac. Melbourne's most exciting 50s rock 'n' roll show band.

4.15pm: Mother. 70's rock. Everybody loves 'em.

5.20pm: Liz Stringer. Melbourne based, original acoustic contemporary roots artist.

6.20pm: Lil Fi. Soaring from folk blues to gospel, fund, R&B to field hollers (and rockabilly is never far away).

7.45pm: Musiki Manjaro. Vibrant and energetic, contemporary African dance band.

9pm: GRAND FIREWORKS FINALE (subject to withdrawal of current restrictions). Sponsored by IGA Warrandyte.



gardiner mcinnes

ESTATE AGENTS

Congratulations to all the wonderful community groups participating in the 2008 Warrandyte Festival!

Your enthusiastic contribution is what makes Warrandyte the unique and vibrant community that draws families from all around the globe!



Join the Home Grown Fun this Warrandyte festival!
Keep an eye out for the Gardiner McInnes team at the festival parade and collect your free plant
We look forward to seeing you there!



warrandyte private sale \$275k incl gst
Whether you're looking for an investment property or premises to operate your own business, this single fronted shop of 50sqm (approx) is ideal! To be sold with vacant possession—just waiting for your business!



warrandyte private sale \$285k
Gently sloping 750sqm approx building allotment, lightly treed and ideally positioned only a short stroll from the Yarra River & Warrandyte Village. Offers scope to build around the existing IG swimming pool. With the Warrandyte Village on your door step—your ultimate lifestyle awaits!



warrandyte auction
11am saturday 1 march unless sold prior
With a rich artistic feel, this 3BR timber family home is set on two titles & offers development potential (STCA). Features lounge/dining with solid fuel heater, timber kitchen, covered deck for entertaining, large rear gardens with shady oak tree.



viewbank auction
2pm saturday 1 march unless sold prior
suit \$450k plus buyers
There's nothing to do but move in & relax! Renovated 5BR family home in quiet garden setting. Lounge/dining with gas log fire. As new kitchen with SS appliances. Separate self-contained 2BR zone with external access—great to work from home. Double auto garage.



warrandyte north auction
11am saturday 23 february unless sold prior
suit \$660k plus buyers
A Bradleys Lane address is within your reach! North facing 5BR family home on 1.25 acres approx. Lounge/dining with views of Kangaroo Ground. Kitchen/meals. Elevated deck for entertaining. Double carport. Plus the river at the bottom of your garden!



warrandyte north auction
1pm sunday 2 march unless sold prior
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 & spring fed creek.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

pottery expo at warrandyte on the riverbank

Saturday 23 & Sunday 24 February
on the riverbank (enter near Webb Street end, melways 23 E11)

The 2008 Pottery Expo will have an exotic Indian flavour

Presenting ceramic masters from India
Giri Raj Prasad & Manori Lal

Enjoy 40 Australian Ceramic Artists • Bollywood dancing • Ceramics courses • demonstrations • ephemeral sculpture • music

For more info visit www.potteryexpo.com or call Jane Annois on 9844 2337





Warrandyte Lions Tennis Club

invites the local community to



FREE SUNDAY TENNIS

Recently refurbished en tout cas courts will be open free to the community on Sundays from 10am to 6pm during February and March.

Come and enjoy a barbecue (byo) and a hit and giggle at the best riverside site in Warrandyte.

Bookings essential.

Interested in joining the WLTC or starting a regular playing group?

Bookings and enquiries can be made online at: lions.tennis.courts@hotmail.com or phone John on 0408 019 130

Also at Landfield Real Estate (Monday to Saturday) or Lions Op Shop (Sundays)

Lions' Giant Op Shop Clearance Sale
Community Centre Atrium • Sunday February 24th



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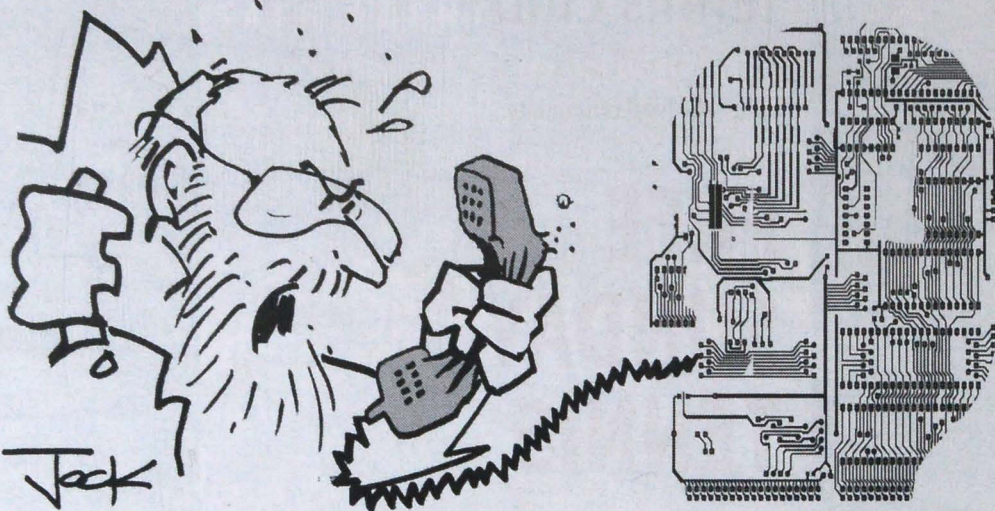
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PUTTING YOU THROUGH

Pushing Roger's buttons will bring strange results

THERE was a three-month gap between leaving the old house and moving into the new. It was convenient in that we were able to drip feed furniture and "stuff", but what was problematic was that we were still running a business from the old house and needed to access our emails whilst at the other.

We had discussed the possibility of starting a new account but realised we would need a new address so immediately gave that up as a bad idea. In desperation, I rang our telephone and internet provider and immediately began the roundabout of "press 3 for confusion" and "press 6 for total incompetence".

"I'm sorry but you have been put through to telephone connections. What you need is our internet department."

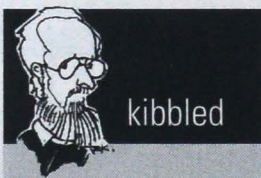
"But I pressed that!"
"Would you like me to put you through?"

"Thank you."
Pause
"This is the main menu. Please listen for..."

I pressed a random number on the assumption that it would be wrong anyway and that eventually I might get a human on the other end of the line.

"Internet Connections. How can I help?"

It took me a few minutes to explain my problem and immediately I was passed over to Hasan who was my lifesaver. It took him a few minutes to explain that what I need was "Dial



kibbled

"I rang our telephone and internet provider and immediately began the roundabout of 'press 3 for confusion'..."

Up Broadband" and he then set about guiding me through all the stages of the process on my computer and IT WORKED AND IT HAD ONLY TAKEN ME FIVE MINUTES TO ACHIEVE. I had finally had a positive experience with our provider. I wanted to send champagne and to adopt him but was held back because there wasn't a number I could press for that.

Needless to say, that wasn't the end of it. Because I am technologically inept, I did something to the laptop settings

and had to ring again to restore a setting, a minor tweaking so I thought.

This time, after surfing several departments and countries of the world, I got back to Internet Connections.

"No, I don't need IC, I just want to get to Dial Up Connections to reinstall a setting." Pause.

"Hello, Telephone Connections."

I took a deep breath and asked to be put through to the internet department. Things were going well. I had only been on the phone for 35 minutes and was getting close to the right department.

"Good morning, Internet Connections. Kylie speaking. How may I help?" I felt like we were more than customer and faceless voice. I had already spoken with Kylie this morning and here she was again.

"Hello again, Kylie. Had a good morning? Your shift must nearly be over by now so how about you end it on a high? Just put me through to Dial Up Connections and I won't have to send around the boys."

"Do they need internet connections?"

"No Kylie, they've just changed their minds so could I please speak with Hasan in Dial Up?"

"Putting you through." Pause.

I didn't have the great good fortune of speaking with Hasan and it only took me 40 minutes to explain to three different faceless operators that I didn't want a new broadband or a new plan or a new dial up connection but only a code to reinstall my

existing connection.

All this happened in our kitchen and whilst I had been on the phone, Herself had mixed the ingredients for the Christmas puddings and had prepared the evening meal. She did, however, keep me supplied with coffee and biscuits to keep up my energy for the last few laps. On several occasions she had suggested I should hang up but I couldn't bear the thought of starting from scratch again.

Up to this stage it had taken me one and a half hours to get nowhere. Where are the Hasans of the world when you need them? Eventually, I was put on to Technical Support where I explained my difficulty to Craig.

"Really we're only tech support for broadband..."

I interrupted Craig by reminding him that I had been on the phone for a long time and that I had heart problems and wouldn't see out the end of my session with the provider unless he could help me, even if he was really tech support for some esoteric department that deals only with the letters G to L on the keyboard.

"Well, I shouldn't but..."
"No but, Craig, just go for it!"

Craig held my hand and led me down the path until we reached the problem code.

"But all you need to do is type in..."

As I typed in the code I recited, "There is only one God and his name is Hasan."

ROGER KIBELL

Professional male mid 40s seeks house to share, s/c flat or similar.
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Ways to survive our cruel, drought-stricken seasons

In our last issue, Diary nature writer PAT COUPAR, modest as always, didn't quite declare it was her final column, but she left enough clues, hinting she was disappearing into the wide green yonder—to Mallacoota in fact. Pat had been writing her wonderful column for almost 18 years. Thank you, Pat, for taking us into your magical wild world through your elegant and informative writing. And best of luck. And thanks, too, to daughter Melanie, whose lovely line drawings often enhanced Pat's words.

Meanwhile, well-known local garden designer and horticulturalist BEV HANSON has agreed to share her wide-ranging wisdom with us each month.



Warrandyte Community Centre garden: surviving with no additional water

AFTER the wonderful drenching rains we had in Melbourne prior to Christmas, someone asked me if I thought the drought was over. Certainly not!

With 11 years now of below average rainfall, it is in the subsoil that water available to trees and shrubs is sadly lacking.

After that rain, if one were to dig into the soil you would find the moisture had only penetrated the top few centimetres. That moisture is soon taken up by plants or evaporated from the soil. The same loss occurs with hand watering.

Our aim should be to get the moisture further down into the soil and mulch to keep evaporation to a minimum.

Water restrictions allow drippers, not sprinklers. A dripper line is much more effective in getting deep penetration of water into the soil.

Smaller plants are easy to replace if they don't survive the drought, but not the trees and larger shrubs.

The following are some suggestions on how to help our

- garden plants survive:
- Collect all your rainwater from roof run-off—the bigger the tank the better.
 - Use a wetting agent (available from nurseries) to help store water and release it slowly to plants.
 - Reduce the amount of water intake of the plant by trimming some branches.
 - Plant in autumn rather than spring. New plants will have a much better chance of establishing a larger root system to survive the next summer.
 - Carry water from the kitchen, laundry and bathroom to precious plants near the house.
 - Plants in pots, that need extra attention, should be put in a shady place in the garden

- so water run-off will not go to waste.
- Place shadecloth over a pergola to protect plants from the sun.
 - Make a shade "umbrella" from a cut branch to protect small plants from the sun.
 - When hand-watering over the summer period, dig a depression beside plants (on the upper side if on a slope) and fill with water several times to soak down around the root zone.
 - Cut roots of large trees or shrubs that are encroaching on important small plants by digging with a sharp spade.
 - Place upturned juice or soft drink bottles beside plants to refill when hand-watering, allowing the water to soak slowly into the ground. They can also

garden life

By BEV HANSON

be fitted with a slow release device.

- Alternatively, plant-pots or pipes, if dug into the ground near plants, can be used.

We have all lost plants during the drought and no doubt will lose more in the future if we don't have a re-think about what we plant.

Even those who had doubts about climate change are coming round to seeing that less rain is likely to be a reality in the future.

In the next issue I will write about suitable plants and plant preparation before the approaching autumn—the most suitable time to plant.

On turning into a basket case

I'm definitely becoming a grumpy old woman. Everywhere I look there's something wrong—too much, too little, too messy, too hot, too cold. If it's not too hot, it's too humid. Everybody is way too busy, and there's too little time to think about anything. There are simply not enough hours in the day, and I'm too tired to tackle the night shift. And it's only February. Aaaarrrggghhh!

While our friends are downsizing and thinking about retirement, we seem to be expanding in all directions. I like having plenty to do, but we are accumulating "stuff" at an unholy rate of knots and our poor little house is simply bursting at the seams. There's not a vacant flat surface anywhere. I didn't used to mind a certain amount of untidiness when I could remember where I'd put things. (The rest of the family will tell you that I am continually losing my car keys. That, however, is sheer exaggeration as I seriously mislaid them only once and they eventually turned up in a very logical place—the fridge.) These days

our place

By MARILYN MOORE

I can't remember anything for more than about five seconds. I can spend half the day rummaging through papers looking for things, and the other half trying to remember what I was looking for or why I was looking for it.

Today, for example, I have lost my cane washing basket. It's 34 years old, of medium build, weathered complexion, and not in the habit of wandering off. How can you lose something the size of a washing basket? I used it only two days ago. Now where...?

It's not as though we have a large house. A large house would be a recipe for disaster. Just think of the things one could lose in all those unvisited rooms! Believe me, it can happen. Last summer, when our daughter was working at a well-known bridal registry, a newly-wed woman memorably vented her spleen at the CEO when it appeared that a

truckload of wedding presents had not been delivered on the appointed day.

Fireworks of every description ensued as the complaint worked its way down through successive levels of management and the "culprits" were finally brought to heel. Subsequent investigation revealed that the presents had indeed been duly delivered and signed for. Was this woman even vaguely embarrassed when it transpired that the presents were not only delivered on time but also neatly stacked in one of the infrequently used rooms of her very large house? No apology was ever made to the staff. I wonder if losing stuff is a daily occurrence for people who live in macmansions?

One of our no-go zones will have to be sorted next weekend when our son moves back home. (I'm optimistically saying "sorted", but judging by past experience I probably mean "relocated".)

When he first left we resisted the temptation to use his room as a store, but expediency eventually got the better of us.

Now you can't get in the door. Our excuse is that we've been cleaning out my in-laws' house over the past few months, and there is so much stuff that must be kept—boxes of photos, glass-plate negatives, books, papers, memorabilia—much of which belonged to my husband's grandparents.

There are photos, letters and postcards dating back to the late 1800s, Lilliputian editions of novels and Bibles designed for the long sea journey to the Antipodes; beautiful portraits of family left behind in Birmingham; an engraved wooden writing box containing treasured letters; a well-worn wallet carried by my children's great-grandfather through the trenches of Flanders during WWI, still containing well-thumbed letters, photos and good luck cards. Our own memorabilia looks pretty meaningless in comparison.

But before I revisit that treasure trove, I'd better go and have another look for this damn washing basket and rescue the clothes off the line. It looks like rain.

Want to learn about the beauty of our local plants? Naturally!

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Memories of Clinton

They were cadets together

My family first met 14-year-old Clinton as the basketball coach of my brother Luke: part of the generation of Warrandyte kids Clinton coached on his way through high school. He impressed with his knowledge of every player in every squad, their strengths and how to draw out their best.

Clinton and I were both still in school when we started writing for the *Diary*, me doing news with Cliff, and Clinton on sport beside the late, great Lee Tindale. Clinton started Journalism at RMIT the year I graduated, and took over as the *Diary's* sub-editor, the second beneficiary of the paper's support for aspiring local journo. Cliff Green reckoned my layouts were neater, but Clinton's headlines had more

flair. Too right.

Other local sports writers saw him as a terrific young bloke going places: with his rich, even voice, it was no surprise he headed for broadcasting.

In the years since, we've listened to his meteoric rise. Yet every broadcast, every byline, reminded me of days at the *Diary* and before. No matter how high he rose, he always conveyed that air of a lanky lad in ref's stripes, who'd catch a lift home after a game.

So many people reading this have known Clinton much better than me. Thousands of strangers have mourned him too, from footy fans to Clinton's own sporting heroes. It somehow seems far more natural that he should have entered their glamorous world

than that he might leave any part of this one.

It was Sunday afternoon in England when my mum broke the news by text. I trawled the internet and devoured emails from home, all laden with stories I could share.

I think that this sharing is what helps us start the world turning again after it stops to mark the passing of someone extraordinary. Nothing can bring Clinton back; but everyone he met—on air, on court and everywhere else—can keep a little bit of the best of him in the world. Always.

Georgi Stickels

Georgi was the Diary's first cadet. She is now living and working in Oxford, England.

Watched his career

We have known the Grybas family since they moved into Melbourne Hill Road and we became good friends through tennis and golf.

Clinton was only entering his teenage years at that time, but it was evident then that his future would involve sports media. His knowledge of any sport at that stage was remarkable. We would see him at his parents' home and the TV was always on sport, and Clinton would know everything about whatever sport it was.

One of his first commentaries was on May 23, 1992; a football game between Warrandyte and Templestowe. We still have the video tape.

It was great to see him join the ABC, and Vic and Sandra were delighted. Since joining 3AW Clinton has never looked back.

It's a great loss of such a young and talented guy, who had so much more to give.

We will never forget his smile and sense of humour and we were devastated by his sudden death.

Our hearts go out to Vic, Sandra, Ash, Julie, Jade and Lannah.

Tom, Penny, Melissa and John

He set an example

Look people in the eye. Listen to what they have to say. Do your research. And work hard.

Those are some of the lessons I learnt from the late Clinton Grybas. Not because he ever sat me down and told me how to conduct myself, but because he set an example that I have never forgotten.

When I graduated from Warrandyte High School and was studying Journalism at RMIT, I was wide-eyed and eager to forge a career in the media. Clinton was already doing it. He was only four years older than me, but had been working as a commentator at the ABC for a number of years, covered the Sydney Olympics, and reported on sport in local publications for several years.

Even when he started working on national and international events, he never ran out of time to keep filing for the *Warrandyte Diary*. He did the work gladly, voluntarily and very well. Despite what must have been considerable demands on his time, Clinton never seemed frazzled or at the end of his tether. He always found the energy for a friendly smile and quick hello in the *Diary* office.

He had boundless enthusiasm, a healthy appetite for hard work and a common-sense approach.

Journalism is a competitive industry, and it can be easy to think it'll all be too hard, you'll struggle to get a job, and maybe you should try something less cut-throat. Clinton was an optimist, and never suggested I scale down my ambitions. He encouraged me to develop a program for community radio and follow my dream to work in public broadcasting.

A few weeks ago, when I was working the Saturday shift at SBS TV News, Sky News reported the death of football commentator Clinton Grybas. I thought it was a mistake. I couldn't believe someone so vibrant, healthy and only a few years older than me could lose their life so suddenly. At the funeral, I saw several of his colleagues speaking highly of him, remembering the good times they'd shared, and reflecting on his professionalism and kindness. I realised then that I am only one of many to be touched by the example Clinton set—always hardworking, patient and committed to his craft.

Rachel Baker

Former Diary cadet Rachel worked at the ABC for five years and last year joined SBS as senior TV journalist in Melbourne.



Sub-editor Clinton at the Diary computer, 1993 (Picture by Sandy Burgoyne)

A family gives thanks

Our family would like to send our heartfelt thanks to the wonderful people of Warrandyte for all the love, kindness and support given to us following the passing of our dearly loved son and brother, Clinton.

Your visits, cards, letters, gifts of flowers, food etc., were gratefully received and will be remembered always. A very special thank you to the many friends who arrived early one Saturday morning to "clean and tidy" our previous home for the new owners who were arriving on the following Monday. The new owners were delighted with the presentation of their first Warrandyte home.

We were also happy to see many familiar faces at the service celebrating Clinton's life and afterwards at the War-

randyde Football Club. As I am sure most of you would have known, Clinton loved Warrandyte and loved being associated with the various clubs—football, cricket, basketball. He would try to come home for dinner with us, his family, at least once a week and on stepping out of his car would say, "smell the fresh air, there is nothing like clean Warrandyte air".

We shall miss him greatly. He was indeed a most wonderful, thoughtful and dearly loved son, a loving brother to Ashley, a loved brother-in-law to Julie and proud and loving uncle and godfather to Jade.

Vic and Sandra Grybas and family

'...long after his tragic passing...'

Along with the rest of the Warrandyte community, I was shocked and saddened by the death of Clinton Grybas. He had made a success of his career and was destined for bigger and better things in his professional and private life.

I wish to acknowledge Clinton's work and his ongoing commitment to the Warrandyte community.

His stellar rise from cadet reporter for the *Warrandyte Diary* and announcer on community radio to popular sports broadcaster is the stuff of every young person's dreams. Yet he remained untouched by the trappings of celebrity and never forgot about his local community.

He will be sadly missed by the Warrandyte community, but his life and the way he lived it will be remembered long after his tragic passing.

**Ryan Smith
MP for Warrandyte**



Taking the baton: Clinton in the Commonwealth Games torch relay, 2006.

Memories of Clinton



Manningham in mourning

Manningham council has been deeply saddened by the death of sports broadcaster Clinton Grybas.

Clinton played a wonderful role in the Manningham community for many years, and was a member of the Warrandyte Football Club and Warrandyte Basketball Club.

He also interacted with Manningham council regularly during his time as a journalist for the local newspaper, the *Warrandyte Diary*.

Clinton was a passionate and highly talented man who gave a tremendous amount to the people of Manningham.

The community watched with enormous pride as Clinton's career blossomed at the ABC, 3AW and Fox Footy. His commentary on everything from the Australian Open and Com-

monwealth Games, to cricket tours and AFL grand finals, was exciting, informative and a joy to listen to.

He was a gifted and hard-working commentator and journalist, but more importantly, a caring and compassionate man who touched the lives of so many.

Manningham council sends its deepest sympathy to Clinton's partner, Laurena Toulmin, his family and friends.

Cr Geoff Gough
mayor
Lydia Wilson
chief executive

MP sends condolences

I would like to offer my sincere condolences to the family and many friends of Clinton Grybas, a journalist, commentator and man of the highest order.

Although I never met him I always felt I knew him. He called the footy, the basketball, the cricket, the soccer, the tennis, the Olympics, the Commonwealth Games and was always welcome in my living room on the television. He was informative and precise but more importantly he had a style about him that made you feel that you were at the event with him.

He played for the Warrandyte Football Club and War-

randyde Basketball Club and began his cadetship at the *Warrandyte Diary*, so I realise that former teammates and workmates have been hit hard by his sudden passing.

By all accounts he was a terrific bloke and that came across in his media work. He was a man who you instantly liked and trusted.

He made his mark in life by doing what he loved best, watching and commenting on sport.

Many thanks for the memories. Vale Clinton Grybas.

Danielle Green
MP for Yan Yean

'Focussed'

Clinton brought a measure of pride to most people in the wider sporting community. However, there was an overwhelming pride within the community of Warrandyte, particularly from those people who had some influence on his life as he grew up.

It was so gratifying to see him so focussed on what he wanted to achieve in life. He grabbed every opportunity with so much enthusiasm. His tragic, untimely death shocked us all.

Long may he be remembered for the gentleman he was and for reaching the pinnacle of his achievements in such a short time.

Brady Family

300 Chasing the baskets

Warrandyte Basketball Club has more than 40 teams and 300 players in the new Saturday junior competition. It has the numbers and talent to improve on last season's six premierships and two narrow grand final defeats.

The boys have fielded 27 teams and the under-17s set a professional example by appearing for their first game in magnificent new uniforms. The outfits rival those worn in the NBL and have

By **CLINTON GRYBAS**

given the team a "winning look" borne out by early results.

Warrandyte is also well represented in the Friday night junior championship which includes teams from far-flung parts of Victoria.

It is a 23-week season and there is still plenty of basketball to come.

Warrandyte's intracub competition is played on Wednesday

nights among seven men's teams. There are three games at the high school gymnasium, with one team having a bye.

It is a "friendly" competition—Hitmen, the name chosen by one of the teams might not give that impression—but the intense rivalry between clubmates produces some top basketball.

We have not yet had a North Melbourne Giants talent scout walk through our door, but we feel it is only a matter of time.

Clinton's first byline:
June 1990



King of the kids—and a dog.



Clinton and Sue Anderson. (Picture by Chris Killey)

A family remembers

'...no mean feat with a whistle...'

"A close game's a good game!" How many times was that phrase uttered on a Warrandyte basketball court by Clinton Grybas as he was refereeing?

If you sat close enough to the court, you received an early insight into what was to be his brilliant career, as he provided his own sideline commentary on the game in progress. Which is no mean feat with a whistle in your mouth!

Clinton's enthusiasm for life shone through. Whether it was playing, coaching, refereeing or even as a spectator. To see his passion as he clenched his fist, bent to one knee and called an offensive charge. That was a sight to see.

This was not limited to basketball. Clinton was a regular on the golf course, challenging fellow golfers to skins tournament on the putting green and ensuring everyone's scorecard was correct. The day's highlights were often recapped after a detour via 7/11 for a slurpee.

Clinton had a fantastic sense of humour and an infectious laugh. After the joke had long past, Clinton would still be laughing to himself. You could not help yourself but to keep laughing too. By this stage you did not know if you were still laughing at the joke, or if you had caught Clinton's infectious laughter.

With the utmost respect, he was a true gentleman: a friend and remarkable inspiration. His warm smile and magnetic personality will be greatly missed.

Melinda, Michelle and Callum Anderson

'...you don't even have to look...'

I first met Clinton in his early teens. He was like a son to me and with pride called me his "other mum".

His passion for the Warrandyte Basketball Club rubbed off on me and he convinced me to join the basketball committee. He would pick me up and take me to the meetings, sharing his daily stories on the trip.

Clinton spent a lot of time in our household, whether it was to deliver the basketball

magazine to be folded and posted, or to talk over difficulties at the club. A great deal of the time was spent in general "chit chat".

As he left the club for new horizons—3LO and ABC-TV—we still kept in touch. He was so elated at being given the opportunity to finally work in the field he adored—sport. I remember a time when we were sitting side by side at a Warrandyte basketball game, and he gave me a running commentary. I said, for goodness sake I am trying to watch the game and concentrate. He said, listen to me and I will tell you what is happening and you don't even have to look.

We kept in touch. Clinton was the most perfect person anyone would want to meet. He was genuine. What you saw on TV was not a façade. His love, his enthusiasm and his honesty were what you got.

I felt so proud when my husband and I went to watch him run with the Commonwealth Games torch. That was awesome. His delight to see our support was ecstatic.

There are so many memories I will always keep close to my heart. I already miss his enthusiasm, his passion, his brilliant smile, his love and his commentary.

Sue Anderson



Memories of Clinton

Inspired a comp

In early January we all heard the tragic news of the passing of Clinton Grybas. For the older members of the Greyburn Cup competition memories will abound of Clinton's tireless work with the Greyburn Cup which he joined whilst still at school.

The Greyburn Cup basketball competition is held Wednesdays at Warrandyte High School. Clinton went onto the committee, did the newsletter and refereed all the games, which was quite a challenge as at that time there was a women's comp, an open comp and an over-30 comp.

Clinton was the driving force behind the competition for many years. He organised presentation nights and ran them, and they were always well organised and fun. The weekly newsletters carried the game reports and lots of stats which all players enjoyed. His

refereeing was always fair and firm and he took no nonsense from any player.

Clinton started to step back from the Greyburn Cup as his media career took off, however he always came back for the finals. Clinton graced us with his presence for the last time on December 19 and he was looking forward to his media roles in the future and wished us all the best.

For all of us who knew Clinton, he will be sadly missed. His friendly smile and his kind and friendly nature and great energy will always be remembered. We will also miss his wonderful calls on TV and radio, whatever the sport. He was one of the best.

From all the past and present players of the Greyburn Cup we offer our deepest condolences to Clinton's family.

Paul Jenés



Clinton with Sandy Burgoyne and Ian Wright. (Pictures by Stephen Reynolds unless credited)

'...he was an instant natural at match calls'

I first met Clinton through my wife Sandy's connection with the *Warrandyte Diary* in the early 1990s. One thing we had in common was a love of contemporary Australian sports with a Victorian flavour. As Sandy and I were spectators at the MCG on Friday, March 29, 1996 when Geelong blew Melbourne away I actually didn't hear much of Clinton's first AFL commentary as it occurred. That night at Clinton's invitation, Sandy and I spent a short time in the area at the back of the ABC commentary box in the MCC members' area so we sort of saw him make his debut. Over the next few weeks I listened and quickly realised whoever was going to hire him had a good one. I'll say from day one he had no apprehension and was an instant natural at the Australian style of sports broadcasting, especially match calls. Who would ever forget that water-polo match at the Sydney games? Another great thing about him was his humility; plainly he was that good he didn't need to prove himself, he would embrace everyone. His passing is a tragic loss.

Sandy Burgoyne

Ian Wright

'...reminded life is precious'

I can only imagine the sorrow that is in the *Diary* office at this time. I know you must be feeling the loss of Clinton so keenly and deeply that I just don't know what I can say to you. You were the first to give Clinton a break and I know the pride you had in him, watching his advancement and achievements. I know Lee was especially proud of him and I can only send prayers and dearest wishes to Jan, this being so close to the anniversary of Lee's death. I guess once again we are reminded that life is precious and not to take anyone or anything for granted.

Dennis J. Hoiberg

Voice of the Diary cadets

Clinton: you were the "voice" of the cadets in my MA thesis on the *Diary's* history. You filed your first story on basketball when you were 15 years-old, but in your haste to put it in the contributors' box on the *Diary* tree you omitted your name. Therefore your first printed article did not carry your by-line. You went on to

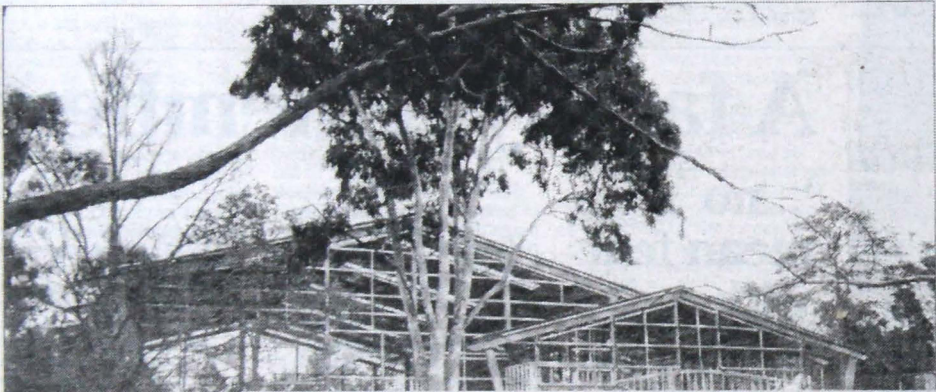
report for the *Diary* on news important to the Warrandyte community and demonstrated a strong investigative talent.

The national broadcaster, ABC sports radio and TV, recognised your prodigious talents and put you to work in Perth in 1997. Later you returned to Melbourne, left the ABC moved to 3AW (Southern

Cross) radio and drove the Fox Sports TV AFL coverage. Your colleagues and audiences alike marvelled at your accuracy, sports knowledge and good humour.

You informed us, entertained us and inspired us, but now you are gone.

Stadium on target



Basketballers doomed to watch?

By CLINTON GRYBAS

Doncaster and Templestowe plans to build a mega-stadium in Doncaster, leaving Warrandyte's 500 basketballers still waiting for a facility large enough to cater for their desperate needs. And they will be waiting several more months at least for a definite announcement on a new stadium, as the response to Doncaster council's Indoor Sport and Recreation Plan staggers along.

The release of the report last year was met by the Warrandyte Basketball Club with great excitement, recommending as it did a new court to adjoin their present facility at Warrandyte High School. While that hope is not lost, council's immediate goals now centre on a 3,000 seat stadium at

Rieschiecks Reserve in Doncaster, and the development of a large netball facility at the former Templestowe Primary School site.

This continuing saga has reached crisis point for the club, who cannot cope with the basketball boom at junior and senior levels. There is now no chance of a new court being built anywhere but alongside the club's present facility.

"We endorse the principle of constructing second courts at a number of existing centres, including Doncaster Reserve in Leeds Street and Warrandyte High School," the report said.

Finding money for this is now a top club priority. President Graeme Riley told the *Diary* that the club has been invited to take part in a working group looking at the whole of the municipal-

ity, including the Rieschiecks stadium.

"The club has two issues facing us," he said. "We've got to participate in this working group while independently putting in a proposal seeking funding for the next financial year which starts on October 1."

"We haven't got enough court facilities to train our players, let alone play there. We will go along with the working party and participate in it, but it won't deflect us from our desire to get another court at Warrandyte."

Plans for the stadium at Rieschiecks Reserve allow for three developmental stages for development, possibly leading to an \$8 million, 3,000 seat facility with eight courts and function rooms.

Of great concern to Graeme Riley, is a provision for gaming machines in stages

two and three of the project.

"Council should be focusing on the immediate, real needs of kids who want to play basketball," he said. "Court space. Not gaming facilities and function rooms. We've got plenty of function rooms and gaming machines but we haven't got courts for kids to play basketball on. That's the need, and that's got to be the priority."

"The club is going along with the rest of the draft plan because it primarily seeks to support basketball and I'm happy about that, but the club will be seeking funding from council in the next financial period to build a second court at Warrandyte."

"We can't wait two, three or four years or whatever it's going to take to build a venue which doesn't directly help us.

We have an immediate need for another court at Warrandyte for the current needs of our club."

Co-ordinator of recreation and development, Rob Dagnall, said there were no "cold hard facts" on details of the proposed stadium. As for the Warrandyte club's new stadium, he says there will be further discussions.

"The basketball club is participating in a working party and involved in further discussion. It will be a number of months before something is done. The Warrandyte stadium is just one of a number of issues," he said.

Concerns that council would be reluctant to fund a new stadium on Ministry of Education land at the school were not shared by Rob Dagnall. "It is not against the club," he said.

The roof's on! Despite rain del...

By CLINTON GRYBAS

Warrandyte's new basketball stadium target for an opening date of September one week later than expected due to rain at a critical stage of its build. More than 20 days of wet weather were recorded at the Andersons Primary School site, much of it pouring on foundations.

"We have had a lot of rain at the time when the foundations were poured which held things up," said principal Des McKenzie told the *Diary*.

"It forced a shift in priorities for two to three weeks. But it is not all that bad and nothing should really stop it now."

The roof of the stadium was put on last month, the venue now providing an impressive backdrop to the Goldfields Plaza.

The design of the stadium was always one of its strong selling points. The parties concerned were eager to ensure the venue did not have the "tin shed" look of most stadiums. Mr McKenzie says the exciting plans

stadium usage will be negotiated by a management committee formed by representatives from the school, the basketball club and Manningham council.

The basketball club has been pursuing more court space for the better part of this decade, having outgrown the stadium at Warrandyte High School which opened in 1987. The campaign gathered momentum when Warrandyte MP Phil Honeywood set up a working party, following lobbying by

the club and the new stadium now remains a major talking point within club circles.

"There is no question that a lot of the kids are very excited about moving in there." She said the new venue will help alleviate current court constraints imposed by record numbers of junior players joining recently.

The club hopes to have a well-equipped office and property shop at the new stadium.

Part of our town for 20 years

A PART from returning to Greece for funerals and a wedding, John and Despina Tsiotinas have never holidayed in their country of birth. Part of Warrandyte for almost 20 years, the couple intend spending two or three months in Greece and other parts of Europe after selling John and D Motors.

"We'll take a little holiday, back to the native country," John said. "We haven't travelled much in Greece. We know Greece from the books, we don't know it."

John, 72, is from southern Greece, Tripolis, and Despina, the daughter of a tailor, is from Naousa in the north. "Her part is very productive in industry and agriculture—they produce the best peaches in the world for size and taste," John said. "We've got more history, it's very mountainous."

"His part grows rocks," retorted Despina, 64. "People from here have been to the islands in Greece and we've never been there. My son has been there four times. But this has been our country now for 44 years."

Arriving in Melbourne in 1955, John spent brief periods in Bonegilla migrant camp and labouring on the South Australian railways but it "was not his life" so he packed his bags and came to Melbourne. Meanwhile Despina had left Greece at 23. "I had a sister here and she brought me here. John and my brother-in-law were friends—John was the first person I met off the boat and it was love at first sight." Despina worked in a lingerie factory in South Yarra while John shared a house in Richmond. He had wanted to be a mechanic from the very beginning. They had a very simple wedding in 1966 with "no parties but quite a few friends", followed by a honeymoon in Lakes Entrance, driving John's FJ Holden.

"I was 19 when I arrived in Australia. Greece, she wasn't a progressive country," John said. "After the civil war it was very hard and we were very poor. Like today's migrants we were looking for a better life and Australia was looking for migrants."

"With migrants, you have to screen them but to isolate them and not treat them nicely is not my cup of tea. You have to treat them like human beings. I was naturalised in the late 1950s or 60s. I had an interview so it was pretty similar to today—to see what sort of citizen I would be. Migrants have to know a country's history." Despina agreed, "You can't let every crook in, you have to check them out."

At first the Tsiotinas rented half a house in South Yarra with friends, keeping two rooms and a kitchen and sharing the other rooms, and moving to Templestowe in 1972. "The house cost \$24,000, very expensive. We only had a table, a couple of chairs and a bed. We can't get rid of that table now, it's the same one," said Despina.

"Having children was very hard without family but we did it. We've got two boys and a girl and two grandkids. We lived in South Yarra and a little Italian woman next door who'd lived in Australia all her life would correct me, my English and about life. I called her mum and the kids called her grandma. I also learned English from my sister and an Australian woman, a neighbour. She came in every day for coffee at nine o'clock," she said.

"All the kids got an education, we worked hard and it paid off. They went to Greek school in Brunswick twice a week through primary and high school. To speak Greek. We speak to them in Greek and they answer in English. The kids didn't work while they were at school, John said no, use the time to study. Myself, I hated school.

"When you see the kids doing something better than you it's worth it. You want the best for them. One son is a chemical engineer, our daughter's a biochemist and the second son is an industrial chemist. My joy is my family and grandkids and my greatest accomplishment is to be a wife, mother and grandmother."

The Tsiotinas eat both "Australian" and Greek food and still keep their culture, according to John, just as other migrants try to be close to each other for their culture and facilities



Despina and John Tsiotinas. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

village people

By PRUDENCE TRUBY KING

and language. "Greeks are exactly the same. The biggest thing was language. Communication is the most important thing in life. In Greece I wasn't a good student. Here I had opportunities to go to school and improve my English at tech and English school. My uncle in Greece said you must learn the language and it was very good advice. I don't like to call myself progressive but I took the opportunity to learn.

"I've wanted to do things but lack of knowledge has prevented that. To express something but lack of knowledge has prevented that.

"Even without education you can still learn. The neighbourhood was so welcoming here—there are no Greeks here where we live. You meet so many people in business; it increases your life but your social life becomes difficult. Associating with the public makes a big difference in your life.

"I always wanted to work for myself and get a service station. I went to BP and ran one for them in Swan Street for 20 years. Then I was told I had to leave so I started looking around. One of my customers was a real estate agent and he said, go to Warrandyte. Our kids went to Warrandyte High School. Kids' success in life is the

most pleasant thing. We're devoted to them," he said.

John has worked from seven to seven each day throughout his life, committed to business, his only leisure following European soccer. "When I came to Warrandyte I was a stranger here. I was devoted to work, I brought myself, the person I am. So long as you like what you do work was pleasure and entertainment for me. As you go along in business you find different people who support you in many ways. The Richmond environment was very multicultural but Warrandyte is quite different, there's something quite special, it is a community."

"He spent more hours there at the service station than here at home," Despina recalled. "He knows everyone in Warrandyte and their names. He's got more time now, he can't sit still and all the Warrandyte elderly have got his phone number." She said she looks forwards but she's going to miss it all. "Customers see you as friends, not customers. I worked with John every day. In a way I'm a very quiet person—I do quilting. We don't do it in Greece but we do fine needlework. I love to keep my family together, I love to get them together, it's the best thing."

"They gave me encouragement and it was a pleasure to help people," John continued. "I do what I intend to do, I'm not greedy. It's making your future better. I bought Warrandyte about 20 years ago. It was a big step. I'm a self-devel-

oped man, with help from friends and family. We didn't make a lot of money when we sold the petrol station. It's not suited to a service station nowadays and I wasn't able to capitalise on it and they will probably develop it into a commercial area.

"We live a simple life and a happy life with understanding and common sense. No alcohol or smoking, we're not outgoing people. We live as clean as we can. Apart from that we look forwards to enjoying ourselves. Futurewise, who knows? If you have life and health it is an opportunity to do other things. We'll still be here in five years, it's the family house, the middle of the family. The kids were raised here and went to school here—its mum's house.

"After the holidays I'm going to sit down and work out which way of life I'm going to live. First to get pleasure—meeting people. I'll possibly join an elderly class for technology. It used to be very manual but it's different now. Modern technology is very hard and I'm looking forward to that and also just to catch up with modern society.

"My entire life is to be kind. I would do anything for anyone, I would never say no if it was to help people. To be in Warrandyte and part of Warrandyte, it's a great honour to them and a great honour to me. I'll use my spare time helping people and if I'm a volunteer then it will be in Warrandyte. I arrived here in 1955. We feel Australian. Australia means more to us than anywhere else."

What if?

As I was striding the early morning pavements, a visitor in an interstate city, I came upon an old red car lying at an awkward angle across the footpath.

Strange way strange place to park a car. But there was something else. The driver's door was hanging open like a limp hand.

I peered inside. Young lad, half sitting half lying at an awkward angle.

I stopped a passer-by who checked he was breathing—tick had a pulse—tick he was warm—tick tick. But his eyes were open, lost somewhere.

I called the police. We waited wondering about the broken window, a brick and the contents of his life an old blanket, sleeping bag backpack... scattered on the back seat.

Another passer-by stopped—someone who cared. We waited called an ambulance. We waited.

I couldn't help thinking, what if this was my son or daughter lying there and the whole world was just passing by going about their daily busyness.

The ambulance arrived before the police. The ambo had this look on his face like, "Another one, another Drug-Induced-Alcohol-Affected-silly young man."

But what if it wasn't as it seemed. What if he'd had a fit a convulsion an anaphylactic attack?

What if?

CORRINE FENTON



Warrandyte basketball round-up with Tony Oliver

Big V Venom set for new season

Warrandyte Venom's 2008 Big V women's team is focused on going one step better than their runners-up performance in their debut season in 2007.

Following a gruelling three-month pre-season fitness and conditioning regime under the watchful eye of Steve Metcalfe, the Venom's new look senior squad is bigger, stronger and more determined to go all the way in 2008 according to coach Justin Nelson.

"We've made some excellent changes to our program and make no secret of the fact that we want to win the championship," said the second-year coach.

"We were very proud of our achievements last year, but the experience showed us where we could improve and we've acted to ensure all of Warrandyte can boast a successful senior women's basketball team."

Amongst those changes include the recruitment of former Australian guard Sally Phillips (nee Crowe), New York centre Jess Oram, former Bendigo SEABL forward Billy Addlem and former Redbacks junior Jazmine Borella, who has recently returned from a college career in America.

"Jo Metcalfe, Liz Benbow, Kate Cohen, Chelsea Ransom and Mandi Gammilonghi are ready to go again, while Jodi Kennedy returns from a knee injury, so it's a very experienced group," said Nelson.

"Our recruits have fitted in really well, especially Jess

(Oram) who is touring Australia and has decided to play basketball at Warrandyte, a move we are very grateful for."

Leaving last year's team are Maree Vincent (delisted), Michelle Ackland (Werribee), Eleanor Stevens (retired) and Melissa Cook (retired), while a number of the club's younger players have been positioned in a focussed development group.

"We recognised the need to make some changes and believe we are moving forward in the right direction. No team stays the same from one year to the next and last year's team knew changes would be made when we sat down and looked at our strengths and weaknesses," said Nelson.

"From there, we set about recruiting players who bring more than just an on-court presence to the club.

"We always look for quality people who want to help our program excel and assist with developing our junior players.

"With the senior group in place and training hard, we then set about bringing together the best juniors at Venom and started a Feeder Group, which is coached by Jo Metcalfe, Kate Cohen and Nicole Howard."

The Feeder Group incorporates 16 juniors and the senior coaching staff hopes to see some of these players make their senior debut during the season," said Nelson.

"It's a huge step for a junior player to make the senior level and we are very wary of throwing our kids to the wolves. We

have organised some pre-season games for our juniors against Division Three Big V teams in the hope it provides them with some experience ahead of the season.

"At this stage we will also take most of our juniors to Frankston for the Big V pre-season tournament in early March".

The Venom has also made some alterations to its senior coaching staff, a move Nelson believes will strengthen the team's management and ultimately its performance on the court.

"Kate Cohen and Steve Metcalfe will join Nicole Howard as assistant coaches, David Reinecke will solely concentrate on looking after the club's junior girls program, while Bernie Curtin returns as our team medical trainer.

"The coaching staff work really well together and we are satisfied the team has prepared itself for a successful year.

"Our entire focus is on building a culture that will serve the club for decades, not just a year or two.

"We want all of our members to be proud of what Warrandyte can achieve at junior and senior levels."

Venom 300 Membership tickets are now available for only \$20 (adults) and \$10 (children), which entitle the holder to free entry at all home games this season (excluding finals).

The team's first home game is on Saturday April 5 at 7pm against last year's grand final opponents, Warrnambool.

Summer competition heats up for Redbacks

The second half of the summer basketball season kicked off at the start of February at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre.

With Easter and the end of Term 1 coming early this year, it is a shortened season and wins are important for finals positioning.

The opening games for the Warrandyte Redbacks however were all about the future with two Under 8 games.

Warrandyte's DA boys had a come-from-behind win against an Eltham side. In a skilful game, Eltham had a three point lead at the break but Warrandyte were better in the second half to win by 19-13.

Given the quality of the game and the positive spirit it was played in, a draw would have been a fair result.

Ben Dickson top scored with eight points, with help from Connor Martin (5) and Harry Rock (4).

When you have a coach of the quality of Jo Metcalfe you know the girls will have a good time. A slow start to the second Under 8 game saw Balwyn with a nine point lead. There was no fairytale story in the second half with Balwyn winning 22-7.

Kelly Roodhouse (four points) and Annie Pearson (3) were the scorers for the Redbacks.

Andrew Petalas was in charge of the Under 16 A Grade Girls' game against Bulleen. The scores were locked at 14-all at the break with Warrandyte failing to



Warrandyte's Under 8 Redbacks. Back row from left: Finn Swedosh, Dylan MacDonald, Samuel Martini and Harry Rock. Front: Connor Martin, Aaron Castagina, Jasper Robison, Ben Dickson.

dominate as might have been expected.

Bulleen were slightly in front as the end of the game approached but a late goal by Kirra Soly put the Redbacks in front.

Warrandyte were able to hold this advantage in the final minutes to record a gutsy 24-23 win.

Courtney Petalas led the scoring with eight points and had support from Kirra Soly and Nicolette Prior.

The Under 18 A grade game against Eltham was more one sided with Warrandyte winning against a determined

Eltham side by 29-19.

In a strong even side, centres Ashlee O'Brien (11 points) and Melissa Zuccolo (8) had impressive games.

A clean sweep for the Redbacks girls followed when the Under 20 girls defeated Eltham by 43-34.

The Redbacks were always in control and were able to withstand a late charge from Eltham who put up a number of successful outside shots.

Janelle Lucas with 16 points was the Redbacks key scorer, with six points each from Andrea Peters and Alyssa Simpson.



Warrandyte Venom's Under 14 girls were close losers to Melbourne. Back row from left: Jess Oram (coach), Simone Caruana, Kahlia Flett, Rachael Watson, Emily Stones Front: Zerah Gordon, Jordan, Moloney, Stephanie Tibb and Madison Geddes.

Venom bid for top level grades

The second round of grading for Championship Basketball has swung into action and five of Warrandyte's Venom sides have realistic chance of making Victorian Championship - the highest level in Junior basketball in Victoria.

After their strong effort at the Eltham Tournament Damian Arsenis's boys fronted up against Craigieburn in a fully timed game.

Tournaments are a good way to bond and to refocus but they also can be physically and emotionally draining, especially with only seven players, as the Venom has in this side.

The Venom boys were never seriously challenged however winning easily by 60-20 and outscoring the visitors in each quarter.

All players were on the scoreboard, with 15 points to Zac Stevenson, 11 to Jaye Witnish and 10 to Max Stevenson.

Next on court was the Under 20 girls in a come-from-behind win against Sunbury by 51-46.

The Venom trailed by seven points at the final change but a final quarter 18-6 scoreline secured the win.

Lauren Sabidussi led the scoring with 20 points, including 11 in the critical final quarter. Bob Powell (8) and Tahlia Higgs (7) were strong supporters.

At the Park Orchard's Stadium, Jess Oram's Under 14 girls could not overcome a slow start and went down by three points, 35-32, against Melbourne.

The Venom outscored the visitors in the second half and pushed Melbourne in the final minutes. However, the Tigers held their nerve to record the victory.

For the Venom, Madison Geddes with 14 points and Kahlia Flett with 11 were Warrandyte's main scorers.

In the second game at Park Orchards, Bruce Davis's Under 18 Girls had a easy win over Keilor side 36 - 6 with Jess Telford scoring 11 points and Parris Webb 10 points.

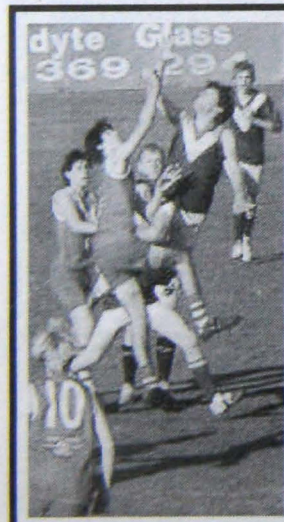
The final game was between Bulleen and Warrandyte in Under 18 pool BB. Bulleen had just held out the Venom in the grand final at the Eltham Tournament but the Venom were quietly confident.

With the scores locked at 14-all at the break it was anybody's game.

The Venom started to edge in front and for a brief period in the second half, the full court pressure from Bulleen resulted in a number of turnovers and easy points to the girls in blue.

The Venom were not able to recover, going down 35-28.

Melissa Zuccolo scored eight points for the Venom, with six to Simone Reid and five to Nicolette Prior.



WARRANDYTE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB REGISTRATION DAY

Sunday 17th February 2008 from 2 - 4pm
Warrandyte Reserve (Tarroona Ave)
Free sausage sizzle, kids activities and prizes to be won.
Registration Fee \$80.00 includes a Club Jacket for new players.

ALL NEW PLAYERS WELCOME TO JOIN A GREAT FAMILY CLUB

For further details go to www.warrandytejfc.org
or call Club Secretary David Ure on 0412 380 034
Happy Hour from 4 - 5pm



Warrandyte basketball round-up with Tony Oliver



26 Venom teams take to courts Big weekend for junior basketball

FOR a large and growing number of Warrandyte Venom basketballers, the last weekend before the return to school was spent in various basketball stadiums during one of the largest junior basketball tournaments in the world – the Eltham Dandenong Junior Basketball Tournament.

In a packed schedule, most teams played six games across the weekend with teams and players coming back before the season proper starts.

A record number of 26 teams represented Warrandyte with pride and the accompanying support by family and friends was fantastic.

At every game there seemed to be more Venom supporters than those from opposing clubs. The spirit and the pride shown is a credit to all.

There were some great 'firsts' for teams, including the 12.2 girls not only winning their first ever game, but they also made it through to the semi-finals losing to Werribee by 9-4.

Warrandyte's 16.1 girls beat Kilsyth's VC team by 41-28, the 12.1 boys scored a similar result against Eltham's VC team, while the 16.2 boys celebrated a grand final win with their new coach, Scott Rimes.

All up, 14 Venom teams

made it through to the semi-finals, eight made it through to grand finals, while our 14.2 girls and 16.2 boys won their sections.

One of the best games across the weekend was the 14.2 girls grand final with the Venom's American Big V player Jess Oram coaching her team to a thrilling two-point win defeating Altona by 39-37.

It's fair to say Jess has just about let all of New York know.

The Under 16 boys had a thrilling win against Werribee in the grand final by 48-41. Werribee opened strongly and Warrandyte were clawing their way back into the game to be 25-all at the break.

The game seasawed in the second half and when Luke Collins outside shot went in with three minutes to go the margin was three points, the largest at that stage of the half.

The final minutes were tense with the Venom being slightly more composed to record a good win by 48-41.

"They are learning how to win and just keep getting better. A good team effort and that's what I like," was coach Scott Rimes comment at the end of the game.

Another success story was the Under 18 boys coached by Ian Wood.

The team improved by at least 10 points a game

over the weekend.

Their opening game against Whittlesea was a loss by seven which was reversed to a three point win when they came up against the Pacers team in the semi-finals.

In a high quality game against Eltham in the grand final they were not disgraced going down by 41-32, again improving by 10 points when these sides met earlier in the tournament.

"They are starting to have some self belief. They are starting to win and that gives them confidence that they know they can win," said Wood.

The future looks good for the Venom, with the four Under 12 boys sides all doing well.

Damian Arsenis's boys battled through a heavy schedule and an illness to make it through to the quarter finals. However the toll of the previous six games was taking effect, and despite leading by five points against Werribee in the semi-final, the boys ran out of legs and finished the game with just four players left on court.

One of the other under 12's just missed out on the finals while the other two were runners up in the grand final.

David Gibson's boys went down 34-27 against Whittlesea and Andrew Robertson's side lost 29-9 against Blackburn.



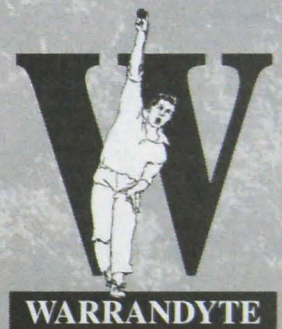
Under 16 Boys grand finalists at the Eltham Tournament. Back row from left: Sam Holston, Billy Lavery, Scott Rimes (coach), Brad McKenzie and Luke Collins. Front: Kyle Robertson, Matt Ratcliffe, Joel Rimes, Lochie Johnson and Josh Edwards.



Venom's Under 12 Girls, preliminary finalists at the Eltham Tournament From left: Sarah Davis, Emma James, Zoe MacDonald, Claudia Kuen, Madeleine Rowarth, Natalie MacDonald, Cassidy O'Donnell and Morgan Cocks.

Warrandyte Cricket Club

We would like to thank the following sponsors for their support in season 2006-07



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The Warrandyte Cricket Club would like to thank the above listed sponsors for their contribution towards the training of young cricketers in the district.

Please support the businesses that support your local club



Ayrton Dehmel ... represented Victoria in the Under 17 National Cricket Championships in Melbourne.

Talented young player sets new cricket targets

Warrandyte High School student, Ayrton Dehmel, is climbing the ladder of success as a cricketer.

The 17-year-old who is in Year 12, has just represented Victoria in the National Under 17 titles played in Melbourne over the Christmas period.

It was not the first time the talented all-rounder has represented Victoria as he toured Western Australia with the Under 15 squad two years ago.

He now has his sights set on being selected for the National Under 19 titles which have long been regarded as the nursery for future Australian Test stars.

Dehmel started his cricketing career at Warrandyte in the Under 12s and rapidly rose through the ranks, playing Second XI at the age of 13 and winning the Second XI bowling award. As a 15-year-old he made his debut in Warrandyte's First XI.

He also represented Ivanhoe in the prestigious Under 14 Sub District Hatch Shield competition and was named captain in his second year.

He is now a member of Ringwood Cricket

Club's Second XI team in the tough Melbourne Premier Cricket competition.

An orthodox right arm off spinner and right handed batsman, Dehmel is passionate for the game but understands this year is also a critical time in his education and he now must play a balancing act as the year progresses.

Dehmel said he realised that he still had a long way to go in the development of his game as the Under 17 championships showcased some of Australia's best junior cricketers.

"It was pretty intense right from the start," he said. "The players from New South Wales especially were very big and strong and the standard of cricket was very high."

Dehmel knows he still has a long way to go before thinking about selection at the Under 19 level but he is determined that he will prepare himself in the best possible way when the time comes.

Apart from cricket, Dehmel was also an outstanding junior footballer at Warrandyte and is a promising tennis player.

- ROBERT WHITE

New recruits boost hopes for Bloods

By JAMES LOGAN

Training resumed last month in preparation for Warrandyte Football Club's '08 campaign, with 80 senior players making an appearance on the track.

Coach Graeme Hocking has been very happy with the numbers at training and the progress that has been made by the players and coaches.

"The group is binding well and will be a very tight unit for the season ahead," he said.

"We are determined to be a successful Division 3 side once again and lay the foundations for another tilt at Division 2 in the near future."

While a cloud hangs over the future of the Round 1 opponent, Mitcham, it's full steam ahead in planning for the April 12 clash. There will be three practice matches before that date against Longwarry, Bunyip and Chirnside Park.

Warrandyte's list for 2008 has seen a transfusion of new blood with more recruits expected in the coming weeks.

A real positive for the Bloods in '08 is the return of several experienced senior players from overseas trips and interstate work commitments which took them away from Warrandyte last season.

Local and Under 18 players will be the main focus once again, while the football department is working to attract experienced players to fill any 'holes' in the side.

Up from the Under 18s and showing a lot of potential are Evan Jones, Jason Khouri, Pat Nichol and Daniel Large who all tasted senior football last year.

With a horror injury run last season, last year's new



Warrandyte coach, Graeme Hocking welcomes new recruit, Adam Hinds who has joined the Bloods from East Ringwood.

comers Luke Naughtin, Adam Tsapasaris and Tom Roberts could also be viewed as recruits.

Some of the new players wearing the red and white in '08 include free running midfielder Josh Durant, who comes across to the Bloods from Maffra Football Club;

John Eldridge, a hard hitting, power forward making the journey down from the frost bitten hills of Seville and East Ringwood forward pocket Adam Hinds has left the Roos to find a new home at the Bloods.

Vinnie Jones comes across from Ringwood, a nimble onballer who will add some pace to the midfield. Daniel Rowe is a half forward flanker from Ringwood, and Darren

Thorne showed huge potential as a junior and with the Eastern Ranges until his hamstring hampered his progression.

Starting his career at North Ringwood before a short stint at Ringwood, Darren is looking forward to a big year at Warrandyte.

Ben Torney is a big, tall forward who most recently played with Whitefriars in B Grade Amateurs. With a great set of hands and raking left foot kick to match he will be a handful for opposition backmen.

"We are still searching for a big ruckman," said Hocking. "They just don't seem to grow them that tall here in Warrandyte. Anyone over six feet tall will be considered!"

'Clinton has left a footprint in the history of Warrandyte Basketball Association that will live on.'

Clubs pay tribute to a 'nice guy'

TWO local sporting organisations have paid tribute to their No. 1 member, Clinton Grybas, following his sudden death last month.

Clinton was the No. 1 ticketholder at the Warrandyte Football Club and held the same position for Warrandyte's Big V Venom women's basketball team.

Football club president, Phil Treeby said the committee, players, past players and supporters of the Warrandyte Football Club were shocked and saddened by Clinton's death.

"Clinton regularly attended club functions and was the distinguished guest and host of the Centenary Dinner held in 2006," Treeby said.

"He was such a nice guy - an excellent role model for the boys. He showed that success can come with determination and hard work."

"Everyone at the club expresses their condolences

and support for the family at this difficult time. He will be sadly missed."

Clinton's brother, Ash, has played 183 games for the club, played at full back in the 2006 premiership team, and coached the reserves in 2007. Warrandyte Basketball Association's Mandy Ratcliffe said Clinton's name was synonymous at Warrandyte.

"He was a vibrant young man and he had a passion and love of not only basketball but all sports from grassroots to national and international level," she said. "His love of the Warrandyte Redbacks is well known. A junior player, referee, coach, committee member and a driving force in the construction of WSC, Clinton was always getting in and getting involved."

"The senior competition which he drove and ran for many years out of Warrandyte High, the original home court of the Redbacks, is still run-

ning today and although his media commitments often saw him far from home, he always kept in touch with what was happening around the Association."

Ratcliffe said Clinton was delighted in becoming the Number 1 ticket holder for the Warrandyte Big V Venom women's team.

"For those who were at any of the Big V games Clinton attended you will know the delight he had in being home at Warrandyte."

"He was amazed at the sea of familiar and new supporters of Warrandyte and how his little club had grown."

"His pride and passion at how Warrandyte had taken the big steps forward was clear and he often made mention of Warrandyte in his media role."

"Clinton has left a footprint in the history of Warrandyte Basketball Association that will live on," Ratcliffe said.

Warrandyte Cricket

Valentine's day!

Bastmen take control as Dytes charge to finals

Warrandyte's batting, which has long been its Achilles' heel in recent premiership aspirations, now holds the key to winning this season's Ringwood District Cricket Association Wilkins Cup premiership and promotion to the prestigious Chandler Shield.

In the past two games, Warrandyte have been set massive totals to chase and reached them with time and wickets to spare.

With one round of the home and away season to play, Warrandyte is on the top of the ladder and is assured of a double chance in the finals and the likelihood of a home finals match.

The double chance was assured following the completion of last Saturday's top-of-the-table clash with Croydon Ranges when a masterful innings of 104 by Brad Valentine helped clinch top spot on the ladder.

It was Valentine's first First XI century and could not have come at a better time.

Warrandyte captain, Adam White, described the innings as one of the most important in the club's recent history.

"There was so much hanging on the result. A win, and we get the double chance; a loss and we finish third, so it was all to play for," White said. "Brad stood up to the pressure and it was signifi-

cant that he was there at the end to hit the winning run."

Valentine went to the wicket in the 11th over and was dismissed with only eight balls remaining.

White also praised opening bowler, Campbell Holland who took five wickets the previous week from a marathon 21 overs.

"Campbell has really made a difference since he rejoined the senior team. He is probably the fastest bowler in the competition and the intimidation factor is important to our attack."

One of the key components in Saturday's big win was the batting of Ben Taylor. The aggressive left hander has had a horror run this season but his 58 gave Warrandyte the positive start they needed to take control of the match.

For the second match in succession, Warrandyte had to contend with opposition batmen attacking a bowling attack which has been able to subdue the opposition all season.

Holland took an early Croydon Ranges wicket and Warrandyte was on top until experienced batsman, Glen Spencer took hold and raced to a spectacular 121 to set up a respectable team total of 263.

Warrandyte took a positive attitude into their batting and Taylor and Matthew Sazenis were aggressive in their running between wickets to establish a solid start.

Valentine then joined Taylor and they took to score to 94 before White joined Valentine and the pair put together a 127-run partnership to put the game out of Croydon Ranges' reach.

The partnership continued a remarkable run between White and Valentine and in the last six matches in which they have both batted, they have recorded partnerships of better than 65 with their best being 141 in a match-defining effort against Montrose.

Both players are among the leading run-scorers in the competition and they are getting critical support from



Brad Valentine salutes his team mates after scoring a defiant match-winning 104 against Croydon Ranges on Saturday.

Dave Mooney and Justin Cleaves in the middle order.

In the previous match against bottom-placed Montrose, the Warrandyte attack was again put under pressure in wet conditions.

One of the Montrose opening batsmen went on a brilliant run spree, scoring 101 in less than 30 overs and the Warrandyte attack was savaged for 293.

Matthew Sazenis was the best of the Warrandyte bowlers with five wickets.

It was again left to the batsmen to repair the damage and with White (91), Valentine (84), Mooney (30) and Cleaves (28), Warrandyte scored 9-301.

The two recent wins has highlighted Warrandyte's ability to control games in pressure conditions.

"We have beaten all teams in the competition and although we don't want to get ahead of ourselves, I think we deserve to be premiership favourites," White said.

"We've still got some improvement ahead of us but the players are continually wanting to lift the bar in each match."

Warrandyte plays Ainslie Park in the final round and a win will ensure top position and a home final. A loss may also find the Dytes on top but they can't finish any lower than second.

Juniors' season in the balance

By DAVID ELLIS

A win of the toss enabled Warrandyte's Under 16s to bat first reducing the impact of a shortage of players due to the Australia day holiday weekend.

This however looked to have backfired as Warrandyte were quickly reduced to 3/8.

Darcy Jones' return to the side from injury (broken finger) however proved timely as he firstly put together a 20 run partnership with Joel King and after his dismissal, Jones (60 not out) and Jackson Lehmann built an unbeaten 100 partnership to bring Warrandyte's total to 4-131.

Defending a 131 total would require early wickets and hopes were raised with a wicket in the very first over. However this proved to be a false dawn and despite some crisp fielding a number of difficult catches that would have changed the result weren't taken. This allowed St Andrews to pass Warrandyte's score easily with the loss of two wickets.

The boys managed to salvage some pride picking up a further five wickets with Jones the pick of the bowlers with figures on 3-14.

This result leaves the team just out of the top four places and they will need other results going their way to have a realistic chance of finals.

Scores: Warrandyte 4/131 (Jones 60 n.o.) lost to St Andrews 7/185 (Jones 3-14).

● Top side Wonga Park built a strong foundation and passed the 100 mark with the loss of only three wickets in the first Under 14 match after the Christmas break.

A team effort by the bowlers however managed to peg back Wonga Park to close their innings at a competitive 170.

Warrandyte's batting this season has depth and consistency and the 170 total proved way too low as Tim Nilsson firstly supported by Jayden Clay and then Neil Brown moved the total close to Wonga Park.

Daniel Nilsson then followed his brother's example with the bat to cement the win.

Finals are a certainty for this team and they must have a realistic chance at the flag this year.

Scores: Warrandyte 3/180 (Tim Nilsson 60 n.o., D. Nilsson 40 n.o., Brown 31) d Wonga Park 170.

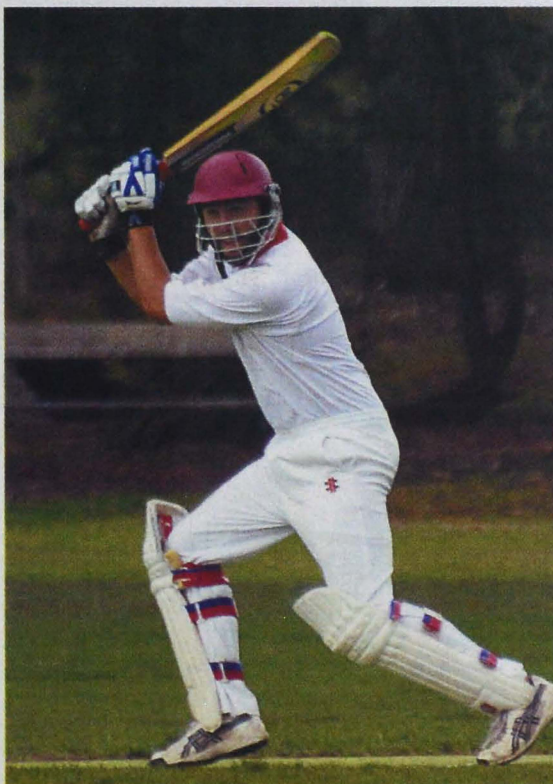
● There couldn't have been much beach cricket played on the Under12s summer holidays as they looked rusty in their first game back.

Warrandyte's innings never got going and a regular procession of batsmen back to the club house saw the Under 12s put together a lowly 127 with only Alex Syndikas putting up any resistance.

A wobble midway through the Croydon innings as Cameron Creber took a couple of quick wickets briefly gave Warrandyte hope, however their total was eventually passed with ease.

This leaves the boys just outside the finals places. They will have to get back to winning ways quickly to have a shot at finals.

Scores: Warrandyte 127 (Syndikas 31 n.o.) lost to Croydon 6-180



Ben Taylor on his way to 58 against Croydon Ranges. Picture: Daniel Wellesley.

Fourth XI thrashes 499 in runs feast

It was a run feast of glutinous proportions when Warrandyte's Fourth XI scored 5-499 against Ainslie Park on Saturday.

Three batsmen, Vin Pettigrove (122), Ryan Pascoe (112 not out) and Brendan Zach (109) each scored centuries in a relentless assault on the opposition bowling.

The massive score highlighted the Round 13 fixture with the First XI scoring 4-271; the Second XI making 257 and the Third XI topping 300.

With only one round remaining, all four Warrandyte teams are now in a position to play in the finals.

The Second XI has turned its season around with two successive wins in fourth on the ladder.

In a nail-biting finish on Saturday, Warrandyte's last two batsmen, teenagers Ryan Hoiberg and Daniel Barry scrouged the seven runs

needed for victory.

It was a welcome return for the Second XI which had won its first four games and then lost five in a row to almost throw away a finals chance.

The Third XI consolidated their position in the top four with a commanding win over Croydon North. Josh McKellar was in great all round form and followed up his four wickets with an unbeaten 52.

Under 16 player, Jack Ellis made a patient 42 in a sound partnership of more than 60 with Jack Wright (65).

After a shaky start to the season when the batting looked brittle, the Third XI line-up looks far more solid following a series of big scores which has given the side the momentum to be a premiership aspirant.

The Fourth XI continues its remarkable winning form under the astute leadership of Graeme Rees. The team was

promoted at the start of the season after winning last year's premiership and they have taken all before them and last Saturday's massive score of 499 has sounded alarm bells among opposition sides with only one game remaining before the finals.

Scores from matches since the Christmas break:

ROUND 10:
First XI: Warrandyte 9-185 (A. White 66, Valentine 40) d Ainslie Park 8-180 (Sazenis 3-27, R. White 2-26, Holland 2-38).

ROUND 11:
First XI: Warrandyte 4-174 (Valentine 65, A. White 44, Mooney 35 n.o.) d Croydon Ranges 165 (Sazenis 3-11, Holland 3-31, Walshe 2-30).

Second XI: Warrandyte 185 (Centofanti 46, Day 32) lost to Kilsyth 7-190 (Mcintosh 3-39).
Third XI: Warrandyte 174 (Croft 64, Kline 63 n.o.) d Croydon North 140.
Fourth XI: Warrandyte 167 (B.

Zach 45, Pettigrove 35) d Ainslie Park 121 (T. Standing 3-37).

ROUND 12:
First XI: Warrandyte 9-301 (A. White 91, Valentine 84, Mooney 30) d Montrose 293 (Sazenis 5-64, R. White 2-59, Holland 2-67).

Second XI: Warrandyte 4-178 (Day 49 n.o.) d Lilydale 93.

Third XI: Warrandyte 260 (Smead 60, Gidley 54 n.o., Kline 49) d East Ringwood 193 (Gidley 5-52).

Fourth XI: Warrandyte 247 (R.Pascoe 73, B. Zach 63) lost to South Warrandyte 257 (Lockie 3-69).

ROUND 13:
First XI: Warrandyte 4-271 (Valentine 104, A. White 66, Taylor 58) d Croydon Ranges 263 (Holland 5-50, Sazenis 2-40).

Second XI: Warrandyte 257 (Morgan 49, Centofanti 48, Goddard 34) d Lilydale 248 (Beardall 5-51, D. Barry 4-62).
Third XI: Warrandyte 9-305



Under 16 player, Jack Ellis scored 42 for the Third XI.

(Wright 65, J. McKellar 52 n.o., Ellis 42, Smead 32) d Croydon North 124 (J. McKellar 4-14).
Fourth XI: Warrandyte 5-499 (Pettigrove 122, R. Pascoe 112 n.o., B. Zach 109, Sharpe 57, G. Rees 39) d Ainslie Park 163 (Lockie 3-16, G. Rees 3-25, Lincoln 3-45).

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Price: \$860,000 plus



WARRANDYTE

Cinderella in Waiting
This Cinderella-in-waiting just needs a little magic to reach her potential. A classic blonde brick 3BR set on a flat quarter acre has you in a dream position. A short walk to Goldfields shops and restaurants, the skate park, recreation reserve and popular Pound Bend. Renovate, extend or build on this central Warrandyte property for a fairytale new beginning.
AUCTION: 23rd February at 12.30pm



WARRANDYTE NORTH

WARRANDYTE

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



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

