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On guard: Local fire trucks were greeted with gratitude and pride during the Warrandyte Festival parade last month.

(Picture by STEPHEN REYNOLDS)

Your say on fires

Forum seeks local input

By CLIFF GREEN

Warrandyte residents are being offered a chance to have their say on the recent bushfire emergency.

The Warrandyte Community Association is holding a forum on Tuesday, May 5 at the Warrandyte Community Church in Yarra Street, commencing at 7.30pm.

Residents will be able to discuss and debate all aspects of this devastating event.

It is intended that views expressed and points raised at this forum will inform the community submission to the Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission being prepared by WCA.

"In the Warrandyte community, where environmental lifestyle and values are so important, the recent bushfires raised significant issues that will resonate through our community for a long time," WCA president Dick Davies told the *Diary*.

"Some of these will be addressed by the Royal Commission. However the commissioners do not plan to hold any meetings in Warrandyte. Consequently, WCA is convening

a forum—which will take the form of a workshop—to hear Warrandyte residents' views and feelings on issues arising from the fires," Mr Davies said.

"The workshop will be by the Warrandyte community, for the Warrandyte community."

In the weeks since Black Saturday, a wide range of issues has been expressed throughout the community, both via the letters column of the *Diary* and in informal discussions and debates at the Warrandyte Festival and elsewhere.

Wherever local residents have gathered, Black Saturday has been analysed and discussed. Controversial topics have included the "stay and defend or go early" policy, dead timber left lying in the forests and along roadsides, the need for more cool burns, the wisdom of closing schools on days of high fire risk and the need for a second river crossing—among many others.

The bushfire forum will be an appropriate place to raise all pertinent issues. "It will explore possible ways forward," Mr Davies said. "It will not be an occasion for finger pointing. We will focus on issues, not personalities."

The forum will be run as a workshop, professionally convened by Bruce Turner, a local resident who

has facilitated several other forums in Warrandyte.

"Feedback from the forum will form the basis of a WCA submission to the Royal Commission and perhaps also individual submissions," Mr Davies said. "It will also help to define specific issues for future meetings and for discussions with local and state government."

"We are expecting a good turnout and it will be on a 'first come best dressed' basis. So be early!"

The deadline for written submissions to the Royal Commission is Monday, May 18.

For further information call Dick Davies on 9844 4686.

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"When you are an anvil be patient.
 When you are a hammer strike!"
 — Arabian Proverb

Swimming Australia
 Nick Barry

WARRANDYTE diary

EDITOR: Cliff Green
SPORTS EDITOR: Robert White, 9846 5188
WEBSITE EDITOR: Sandy Burgoyne
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DIARY OFFICE: 168 -178 Yarra Street, Warrandyte, 9844 0555
EMAIL ADDRESS: warrandytediary@aapt.net.au
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NEXT ISSUE

Next issue of the *Diary* will be published on Wednesday, May 13, 2009. Advertising and editorial copy closes Friday, May 1.

OUR NEWSPAPER

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

A SPECIAL PLACE

Warrandyte (approximate population 8000) is situated on the Yarra River, some 27km from Melbourne. For countless ages a well-stocked hunting ground of the Wurundjeri people, in 1851 Warrandyte became the site of the first official gold discovery in Victoria. It soon established its character as a small, self-sustaining community set in a beautiful river valley. Around 1900 the miners, orchardists and tradespeople were joined by a number of young painters who were founding the Australian nationalist arts tradition. Now a commuter suburb of Melbourne, the natural beauty, community spirit and sense of independence of Warrandyte has been largely retained. This newspaper is the voice and true expression of that spirit.

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AT THE BRIDGE FOLKART
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OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



When 'tis folly to be Neville

MECHANICS Institute halls were built as adult education facilities and used as libraries for the adult working class..." explained the talking post to a passing stream of people who wouldn't have cared if Hitler had invaded Templestowe from this very spot—they were here to see the Follies!

Including the Trott family from Dingley Dell Road who bustled through the door with enough baskets and eskies to keep gluttony near the top of the Seven Deadly Follies.

"Table 4," said Joan, pointing to a table at the front near the piano. In no time the paper plates were spread, raffia bowls filled with Smith's Salt and Vinegar, Nachos and beer nuts, and Neville had unscrewed a bottle of Sav Blanc that had made the trip all the way from New Zealand for under 10 dollars. "Exhubiting crisp cutrus and pussionfruit. Pufect with fush or as an aperutuf," read Neville from the label in his best Underbelly accent.

"Or Bubba's family-sized Capricciosa," added Jasper lifting the lid on Italy's contribution to obesity in all its gooey glory.

"Thai chicken anyone?" offered Barney passing along a tupperware container of pimply chicken wings swimming in soy. Barney and Beryl from next door, Tom and Betty Hodgkiss from the tennis club and a couple who'd come

from Warrnambool to see their granddaughter dressed as an i-phone made up the table.

"A show about sin can't be good!" quipped Barney who fancied he could write better skits than the usual Follies material and was probably right.

"The Suvun Duddly Suns!" guffawed Neville who, on the other hand, never knew when to let a joke go.

"Shoosh," said Narelle as the lights went down and Jack squeezed his way towards the piano, only to trip over Gran who'd moved her chair into the aisle for a bit of extra legroom.

"Steady on Kojack!" snapped Gran. "And not too noisy on that old goanna!"

With a blaze of light and a piano chord that reverberated through Gran's aids like the start of the Grand Prix, the cast burst onto stage and the show was away!

"Asking for discounts for stuff from the Op Shop

Making a U-turn in front of the bus stop

Everyday rubbish in recycle bins

These are a few of my favourite sins!"

The first half flew by in a welter of priests, devils and fairytales and by the start of the second half the audience was well primed and eager to get in on the act.

Adam appeared with minimal help from the wardrobe department and Barney yelled "Hey Adam, where'd you find a fig leaf in Small Mens?"



living with The Trotts

went green and Narelle went puce.

"Here's how to be an agreeable chap

Love me and leave me in luxury's lap," she crooned, crooking a languorous finger under a jaw that might otherwise have dropped to the floor.

"Hussy!" hissed Narelle.

Neville stared stupidly in the full glare of the spotlight, a rabbit ripe for the slaughter, as Lisa smouldered on.

"I'm getting hungry, peel me a grape!" she cooed and leaned in to ruffle Neville's hair.

In the nick of time Neville yanked his lovingly greased head out of harm's way, his cry booming through the microphone as he did so.

"Not the quiff!"

"No grapes today lady!" said Gran. "Take a beer nut and piss off!"

But the show must go on and soon the Trotts were hootin' and hollerin' along with the rest of the audience and by the time the lights had come up and people were filing out the doors they all agreed it was the best Follies ever.

"I liked the singalong at the end best," said Neville. "That blonde woman was an absolute knockout!"

"Yeah!" agreed Cinnamon. "Better than that guitar bloke they usually have!"

ALAN CORNELL

	FIRE NUMBERS		FIRE AND EMERGENCY: 000		
	CFA Regional Headquarters 8739 1300	Warrandyte CFA 9844 3375	North Warrandyte CFA 9844 0847	South Warrandyte CFA 9844 2861	Wonga Park CFA 9722 1463
VICTORIAN BUSHFIRE INFORMATION LINE: 1800 240 667					

Cemetery take-over

Management goes to 'super' administration

After more than 140 years of local community involvement, Anderson's Creek Cemetery will now come under a regional management.

Since it first opened its gates, the cemetery, like all cemeteries in Victoria, has been under the control of a trust made up of volunteers from the local community.

But the state government has decided it will now introduce two new super trusts to administer the 10 larger cemeteries in metropolitan Melbourne.

From January 1, 2010 Anderson's Creek Cemetery will form part of the North-Western Cemetery Trust. Templestowe and Lilydale cemeteries will also become part of the same super trust.

Kangaroo Ground Cemetery, which the government regards as a "small" cemetery will retain its independence but will now source any support it may need from the North-Western Trust.

Other cemeteries to be included in the North-Western group are Wyndham (Werribee), Fawkner, Preston and Keilor.

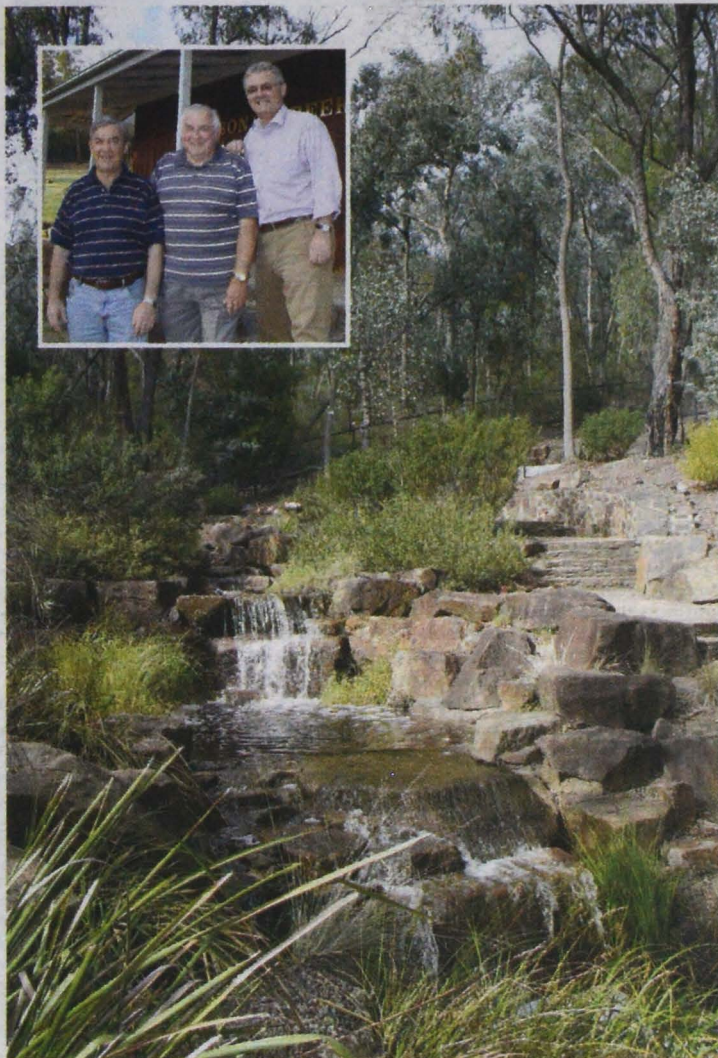
The super trust for the southern region will administer Springvale and Cheltenham cemeteries.

The super trusts will have appointed board members who will be paid.

Anderson's Creek has been included in Victoria's Top 14 cemeteries (the others include Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo and Mildura) for the past seven years although its revenue stream, like that of Templestowe, is about 50 times smaller than Springvale.

Anderson's Creek, Templestowe and Lilydale asked the government to re-structure the regional plan to incorporate an Eastern Region made up of the three cemeteries.

The trio argued that the eastern



A delightful corner of Anderson's Creek Cemetery. Will this bushland setting be maintained under non-local management? Inset: Three of the cemetery trust's long-serving volunteer members: (from left) John Chapman, Terry Sloan and Robert White. The other trust members are John Ingram and Bruce Williamson.

cemeteries had a common community interest and with the growth in residential development expected in

the future, an Eastern Region would be economically viable and would better represent the interests of

the area.

But the government rejected the submission and the three cemeteries will be retained in the large Northern Regional Trust.

Anderson's Creek Cemetery chairman, John Chapman, who has been a trust member for more than 30 years, said the decision to take direct control of the cemetery away from the local community was disappointing but bitter-sweet.

"We have been very proud with what we have achieved at Anderson's Creek and believe it to be a real showpiece for our community," he said. "We have developed it with the local environment as our top priority."

Mr Chapman said that Anderson's Creek Cemetery was showcased to delegates at a recent national cemetery and crematoria conference held in Melbourne and received rave reviews.

"In a sense we have created a problem for ourselves because people have come to like the cemetery so much that we are in constant demand from people wanting to have family members buried at Warrandyte," he said.

But Mr Chapman said the new state government compliance regulations had made it difficult for the current trust to cope with the additional responsibilities and expectations.

"Compliance rules have also made the operation of the cemetery far more expensive and it is getting harder for trust members to cope with the extra demands placed on them," he said.

"It wasn't all that long ago that trust meetings discussed the future of the cemetery but now we find most of our time is taken up with risk management, key performance indicators and constant changes in government financial management procedures."

Mr Chapman said members of the Anderson's Creek trust would continue in their roles until the 2010 deadline.

"It will be business as usual and we look forward to carrying out our role for the community as trusts have done for the past 140 years," he said.

Speak up on carbon policy

Manningham council has taken the unusual step of calling for a change in federal policy and a call has gone out to the community to back their effort.

According to Cr David Ellis, under the government's planned carbon pollution reduction scheme, carbon savings made by councils will not count towards Australia's overall carbon emissions, but only make it easier for major carbon emitters to meet their target.

"It will also mean that community groups and individuals, seeking to reduce their carbon footprints through renewable energy or 'greenpower', will be wasting their efforts, since the reductions they achieve would be mandated as being achieved by the power companies anyway," Cr Ellis said.

"The impact will greatly effect communities like Warrandyte that have been active in responding to the climate emergency. The government has taken over a nationwide groundswell of community action and rendered it irrelevant."

On Cr Ellis' initiative, council called on government "to ensure that legislation for carbon reduction does not negate efforts of councils and local communities".

Cr Ellis believes that the government's target of "just 5 per cent reduction by 2020 is modest enough. If the scheme also acts as a disincentive to voluntary action it will be worse than nothing."

"We look to the senate to show leadership in achieving an effective carbon reduction plan that does not negate the efforts of those working to meet the challenge," Wayne Rankin, president of Warrandyte CAN (Climate Action Now) told the *Diary*. A CAN petition is circulating in Warrandyte.

"This is one instance where personal commitment needs a political voice. Many people in Warrandyte will want to make their own submission to the senate enquiry," Cr Ellis said.

Planning for new North fire station

By SANDY BURGoyNE

North Warrandyte brigade's relocation to a new fire station beside the North Warrandyte Community Centre on Research-Warrandyte Road has moved a step closer.

Plans have been submitted to Nillumbik council and a public notice was posted at the front of the property in January. One official objection has been received and council's mediation process is in progress to deal with this.

"We are on the CFA capital works program and we are slotted for the 2009/2010 financial year. So all things being well we will be (building) in the next 12 months, maybe even sooner," Rohan Thornton, North Warrandyte captain, told the *Diary*.

"We were one of the few (fire

station) projects that had land allocated. A lot of other projects have got money to build, but they can't find the land."

North brigade has received some high profile encouragement for the new fire station project.

"One of the biggest supporters of this whole project in the early stages was (former councillor) Bob Stubbings," Rohan Thornton said.

Cr Stubbings worked hard to have Nillumbik council accept the Research Road site as the logical place for the new fire station. This was confirmed in 2004.

Lex de Man, CFA Yarra area general manager, and state local MP Danielle Green also support the building of the new facility.

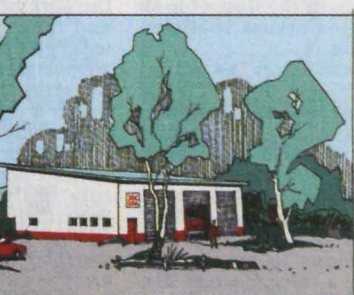
The brigade wants to work with

the community in planning the move and is mindful of the responsibilities of sharing the site with the Yarra Warra preschool centre.

"The first thing everyone comes up with is what about the mix of children, the fire trucks and the kindergarten and that's our paramount issue too," Mr Thornton said.

North Warrandyte's existing fire station in Glynns Road is past its useful service life.

"Our facility is falling to bits. It was built in 1962 as a temporary facility



An artist's impression of the new fire station.

and to be honest when it rains we have a water feature down our meeting room wall.

"At the moment we virtually have to move one of the trucks to get into

the toilet." The chassis of one of the trucks had to be shortened by 200mm before fit-out so that it would fit into the space available.

The Research Road site, about 1.5 km south of Glynns Road, is considered more favourable to turnout times as the majority of brigade members live south of the current station.

"They have to drive all the way to the northern part of the area and the majority of our calls are in the southern part."

"We are basically driving from one end to the other then coming back and driving down. So we are likely to get the trucks out the door two to three minutes earlier than what we currently are, which is very good," North's captain said.

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We can't let nature take its course

The names will never sound the same. Marysville, Kinglake, Flowerdale—all testify to what happens with bushland, close-settled communities and fire. For Warrandyte it is not a matter of if but when.

How should we prepare? A royal commission may offer some answers six or 18 months from now. Meanwhile the public mood is shifting—from shock and grief, through heartening generosity to growing calls for accountability.

As a Manningham councillor I see neighbouring councils coming to terms with a holocaust on their doorstep. I hear constantly from constituents fearful of the same. The fires have brought a new paradigm, a need to remake our expectations of fire safety, of bushland management, of building in high-risk areas.

Manningham council responded quickly to all aspects of the recent fires but state-wide and locally planning controls do not reflect either the seriousness or the urgency of the situation. Recent updates on our Manningham website advise exemptions for fire-prone areas, clearing of vegetation not bigger than a finger and up to 30 metres from the house. The reading may be prompt, but the text is dangerously outmoded.

It should now be clear that "con-

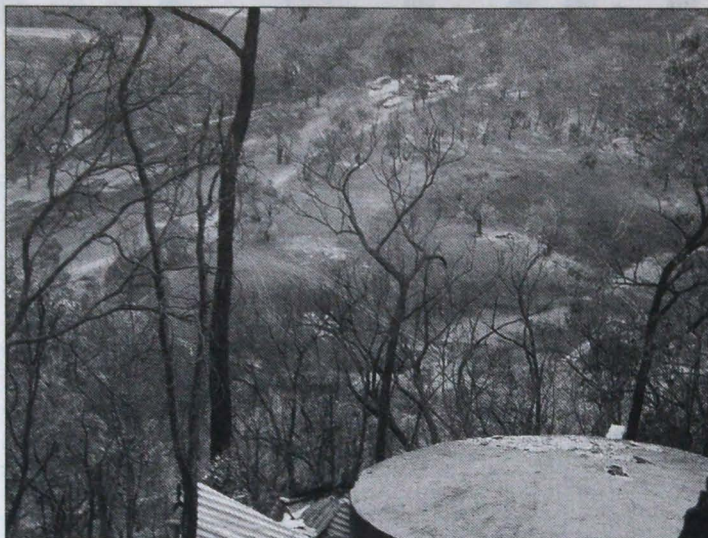
dear diary

servations" in outer urban areas and closely settled communities simply cannot be the same as for extensive forest. In the latter case, letting nature take its course and preserving habitat in dead and fallen trees is part of the continuing ecology. In communities like Warrandyte it means putting lives and property indelibly at risk.

Much public and private land right across Warrandyte, far from being pristine bush, is dangerously neglected. Examples are seen in the skeletal trees and invasive burman of Black Flat on Tills Drive and the derelict bushland adjacent to Andersons Creek Primary School. (I understand that DSE, at request of the council, have undertaken to do limited clearing of fallen vegetation in this last case.)

Close to my own home a large private bushland property is perilously dry and encumbered with fallen timber which the owner is currently not permitted to remove. Fifteen houses abut this land. All are seriously at risk.

How is it that local councils, my



Too close for comfort: Christmas Hills following Black Saturday. (Picture by Kerry Cross)

own included, will compel landowners to slash a grassed paddock to reduce fire risk and yet require people living next door on a "bush" block to continue to live in a fire-trap? The reality we need to face, and quickly, is that where bushland co-exists with

extensive housing, sound management will effectively amount to judicious and sympathetic gardening. Useful revisions of environmental planning policy would encourage rather than prohibit removal of fallen trees on private land. Retention of

standing dead trees should also not be enforced. It is time too to reassess the ecological impact, value and extent of burman. This invasive shrub is surely something very close to an indigenous weed—no contradiction.

Inevitably, some will use the current legitimate concern to call for widespread and unregulated clearing. Count me right out of that. Measured revision of vegetation controls is part of the necessary response, but so too is the matter of how to build, or even whether to build, in vulnerable areas. Fire-safe bunkers must also be on the agenda. We need to earnestly evaluate all of these things and it will not help to have the process reduced to a loaded debate of conservation versus fire-preparedness. We can have a measure of both and, living where we do, must accept the need for both.

Retained native vegetation is the essence of Warrandyte and a significant part of Manningham's Green Wedge. We need to act judiciously and quickly to ensure it remains a green wedge, not like the sombre black swathe that memorialises over 200 lives lost to our immediate north and east.

Cr David Ellis
Tills Drive

That wind change saved suburbia

May I congratulate you on your editorial statement in the February 2009 edition for your frank and honest assessment of the dangers that Warrandyte faced on that horrific day.

If the wind force had been more northerly than north-westerly I am certain not only Warrandyte would have been destroyed but also possibly Diamond Creek, Research, Eltham, Park Orchards, Donvale, North Ringwood and parts of Mitcham, as the only defence line for that scenario for the fire-fighting authorities would have had to be Whitehorse Road in Mitcham.

The death toll if that circumstance had happened would have been in the many hundreds of people, far more than was the final result in the affected areas.

As a person of almost 80 years of age I saw Black Friday, February 13, 1939 start as a small puff of smoke from over the Eltham area, caused by a poultry farmer burning dead fowls.

As I lived in Blackburn Road on my father's orchard, where the The Pines shopping centre extension now stands, it enabled us, at the time, to see right over that area.

My main concern as far as Warrandyte is concerned is the apparent almost total lack of concern as to the way that some land owners and house owners maintain their properties for fire pre-

vention and public safety in the event of a disaster of the magnitude of February 7.

In my opinion, all public authorities, both at government and local level, need to have a good look at current land and vegetation clearing regulations to enable people who care about their properties and would like to take some action to make their homes safer in a fire disaster, rather than being denied opportunities to do these tasks in a responsible way because of overly stringent current land and vegetation regulations.

It is without question that the fire threat to Warrandyte and surrounding areas is only going to be a greater threat as time goes by, due to climatic and temperature increases and the ongoing lack of decent rainfall due to a change in the flow of lows and highs across southern Australia.

In conclusion, as a lifelong resident of the City of Manningham, and a former councillor of the city and former orchardist for almost 50 years, I feel that I have a fair knowledge of the area and some of the changes that need to be made to current regulations to make Warrandyte a safer place to live and also to enable concerned residents a greater ability to defend their properties if they choose to stay and defend.

Ivan Peter-Budge
Tindals Road

Reduction needs care

In the aftermath of Black Saturday, there is a great deal of concern over fuel loads in the area, particularly in Warrandyte State Park.

The Yarra River and Warrandyte State Park provide a wonderful habitat corridor which stretches from Westerfold Park right through to Kinglake National Park, providing support for hundreds of species of flora and fauna, some of them rare and threatened.

These parks are areas of bush left in a natural state and their very existence is becoming more important with biodiversity under severe threat due to climate change. Many Warrandyte residents are privileged to live adjacent to or very near Warrandyte State Park, however this doesn't mean that fuel loads should be reduced just for their protection. Certainly living close to the park brings its own risks and these risks need to be weighed up against the many advantages. If the risk appears too great then perhaps moving to a safer suburb would be the answer.

While our CFA and SES volunteers played an important role in the fires on Black Saturday and the ensuing weeks, so too did our local Warrandyte State Park rangers. They were on the firefront for several weeks in extremely trying conditions.

Thank you to all the rangers for their firefighting efforts!

Ruth Rankin
Osborne Road

Second Yarra River crossing needs urgent re-examination

We all know that the CFA has given us choices: in the event of fire, stay and defend your home, if you are physically and psychologically prepared, or "evacuate early". This seems to me such a grey area.

Unless each residence has a concrete bunker, it is my belief that to remain and defend most of the residences in North Warrandyte would be to risk death.

So there is only one option, and that is to evacuate. But what does "early" mean? Whether it is the day before, or the night before, or the morning of—I guess that is read differently by every resident.

I am concerned about when a family decides to leave and

is then caught up in the dreadful bottleneck that occurs regularly every single normal day at the Warrandyte Bridge. It is the only exit from the area when under the threat of fire. Residents could not evacuate into the face of the fire that would come from the north, and consequently have to use that one and only exit.

Even if a mass exodus commenced many hours before a fire outbreak, the roads would be chaos. With extreme winds, trees would undoubtedly fall, blocking the only two roads leading to the bridge. With panic and anxiety there would most likely be accidents.

To leave once a fire has broken out in the area (a fire moving as fast as Black Saturday) would mean that travelling

slowly, bumper to bumper, would result in hundreds of people being incinerated in their cars.

Can we see the imperative need for another exit from North Warrandyte—the construction of another wide bridge over the Yarra? Arterial roads would be necessary, but expense should never come into it when so many lives are at stake.

Surely, experts with knowledge of the area must be able to come up with an answer. There is no time to waste. We must prepare for future summers. Are you in a position to get the ball rolling?

Lynette Colenso
Kangaroo Ground

● More letters on page 6



Scorched earth: only 10 minutes from Warrandyte.

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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New system aids instant fire alert

By **KARLY HICKMAN**

Warrandyte resident Jason McClintock is leading the development of a unified communication system that will assist local fireguard groups during fire emergencies.

The communications breakthrough will make it faster to let neighbours know of advancing fire threats via automated phone calls and text messages, as well as allowing people to watch the development of fire activity via the internet.

"After the Black Saturday fires I realised that people were simply not getting enough warning that they were in danger," said Mr McClintock, a unified communications implementation expert.

The system will mean that one person who detects fire danger would need to call just one number. From there, the system, located in a se-

cure central location would call all other members in the fireguard group simultaneously, playing a pre-recorded message and alerting them to the potential danger and urging them to implement their fire plans.

This is far more timely and effective than the current chain or "phone tree" model, where one person is responsible for calling a group.

"From all the trials completed to date, the process of notifying residents through the new system now takes approximately 40 per cent of the time taken by the manual system, and this includes all phones, including mobiles, in the group rather than a single contact number as was the case with the manual system," Mr McClintock told the *Diary*.

The caller would have to enter a pin code to activate the system, thus avoiding

hoax calls. There is also a pre-recorded false alarm message if needed.

"As well as being faster to arrive, the message is known to be accurate and is conveyed clearly," Mr McClintock said. This eliminates the possibility of garbled transmissions.

Mr McClintock agrees that this is a modern day version of the old fire bell. "Three quarters of the fire bells around the state have either been ripped out or are in a state of disrepair," he said.

In conjunction with the notification system, Mr McClintock's business is also developing a website that will allow adjoining fireguard groups to receive notification of warnings sent out by others. "On Black Saturday, Hurstbridge was on red alert, but at North Warrandyte, we had no idea what was happening," Mr McClintock said.

The website would utilise

Google Earth to show the status of fireguard groups in different areas, as well as real time weather patterns. This could play a vital role in notifying residents of approaching danger.

Mr McClintock explained that while the CFA website was useful, it took time for events to be uploaded. This new website could be much more up-to-date as it would immediately log fire danger areas as fireguard groups call to register alerts.

Jason and colleague Max Garner are working diligently to get relevant bodies like the CFA on board. "The system has currently been deployed for two fireguard groups free of charge, but we hope additional sponsors can be attracted, particularly in the business of telecommunications, to allow the system to be deployed on a much wider basis," Mr McClintock said.

Burning questions

The Black Flat area of Warrandyte State Park was due to be cool burned last spring as part of the Department of Environment and Sustainability's fuel reduction plan.

Speaking in parliament recently, Ryan Smith, state MP for Warrandyte, asked the minister for water, environment and climate change if "burn number W33 was conducted as scheduled (and) if not, why not (and) when will the burn take place?"

The minister replied: "The 1.6 hectare planned burn, W33, in Warrandyte State Park was dominated by burgan. The planned burn is part of an ecological restoration program, within the park, to remove this species and regenerate indigenous vegetation.

"Burgan is best treated in two steps," the minister said. "The vegetation is slashed and brought to ground level, then the area is burnt at a later stage under prescribed



Cool hands: DSE firefighter controlling a planned burn.

conditions. The vegetation was slashed last autumn.

"However, the area was not burned in spring 2008 as originally planned because of the extreme fuel loads and the dry conditions experienced in September and October, 2008.

"Burn W33 has been re-

scheduled in the fire operations plan for 2008/9, and may be burnt in March/April 2009 if weather conditions are suitable," the minister said.

Also scheduled to burn this autumn is the Koornong area of the State Park and Fourth Hill in the vicinity of David Road.



Crossing place...

Who needs a footbridge over the Yarra? Denise Illing of Oakland Drive contributed this picture of Dad, one of the kids, the dog and two bikes making this unorthodox crossing one Saturday morning last month.

Cash for kids' CFA projects

Warrandyte High School has been granted up to \$9725 to help finance a range of student activities involving volunteering and community projects.

MP for Yan Yean, Danielle Green, announced the funding as part of the state government's Respect strategy.

"The strategy focuses on increasing respect within the Victorian community and encouraging more young people to volunteer," Ms Green told the *Diary*.

"Young people work in areas or issues of concern to them with a local organisation."

Warrandyte High School students will continue working with the local CFA brigade.

"This has never been more important to our community because of the Black Saturday bushfires," Ms Green said. The students learn about fire prevention, community safety, first aid and undergo basic fire safety training and drills.


Chris Ferguson, teacher at the school and CFA volunteer, initiated the program, which is now being coordinated by David Kahukiwa.

"The project is a fantastic way for our students to learn about such community organisations as the CFA," Mr Kahukiwa said. "It shows the students the hard work volunteers perform for the community, building respect and admiration."

Many advanced graduates of the program have gone on to be valuable members of the three local brigades.

As part of the program, Warrandyte High School students will also be involved in qualifying for the Victorian lifesaving bronze shield, where they will learn valuable water safety and lifesaving skills.

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Remembering bushfire heroes

Every day and every night of the year, we in Warrandyte are protected by firefighters, many of them volunteers. Such events as Back Saturday focus our attention on these people, but how often do we say thanks?

One evening last month, the schools, kindergartens and child-care centre came together at Andersons Creek Primary School to say thank you to the three CFA brigades and the DSE.

A barbecue was held and the kids had an opportunity to talk to the firefighters and inspect their trucks and equipment.

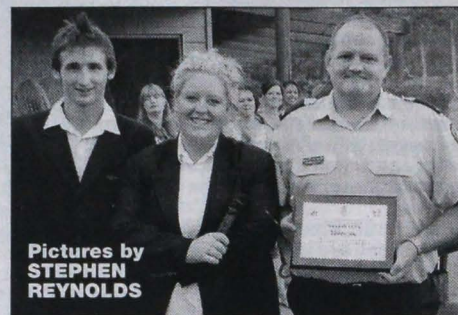
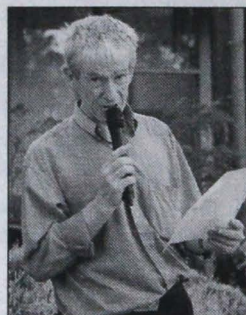
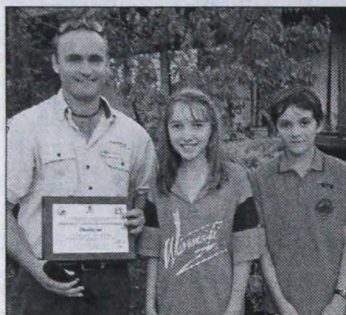
"Going to school each day, we don't always think about how safe

we are," Trevor Thornton, president of Andersons Creek school council told the *Diary*.

"These people give up hours of their time to ensure that we are protected."

School captains and the kindergarten/child care teachers then made formal presentations to the captains of the North Warrandyte, South Warrandyte and Warrandyte CFA brigades and the Warrandyte DSE firefighters.

Each group commended the CFA/DSE members and thanked them not only for their efforts in the recent fires, but also for their ongoing commitment to the safety of our community.



Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS

Vandalism grief

As a former long-time resident of Warrandyte and as a parent of a child at Andersons Creek Primary School, I am writing to ask the parents of teenagers in Warrandyte a question. Do you know where your teenage children are at night?

How could it be then that the symbol of the school and the Warrandyte community was vandalised on Friday night, the wooden struts smashed and beer cans left scattered around the school grounds, the night before the Warrandyte Festival?

The poppet head had been proudly prepared by the principal, Des McKenzie, ready to lead the children in the parade on Saturday morning. Imagine the distressing sight Des encountered on Saturday morning to find the damage only hours before it was due to be taken down to the waiting children.

Luckily, Des is the kind of person who never says die, and as a brilliant handyman, rushed home to get the necessary wood and nails to make extensive repairs. Little did the children know, when he turned up with a fully restored poppet head, that he had been working for hours to repair the vandalism these destructive and heartless vandals had

dear diary

Letters to the *Diary* on local topics are welcome. All letters—including emails—must include the writer's full name, address and phone number, even if not intended for publication. Letters may be edited for reasons of style, length or legality. Letters can be posted to: Warrandyte Diary, PO Box 209, Warrandyte Vic 3113. Email: warrandytediary@aapt.net.au; fax: 9844 4168 or left in the mail slot in the Diary's front door at the Warrandyte Community Centre.

caused.

Not only that, it was the second time in a week that the poppet head had been damaged. The police were called and it was also discovered that a brand-new ute in a nearby street was "keyed" by the same beer can swilling vandals.

So, Warrandyte parents, do you know what your children were doing that night? Perhaps the community needs to consider a curfew for teenagers and tighter controls on liquor sales in the area to curb this destructive and anti-social behaviour.

Bronwyn Doran
Yallambie



On behalf of the Warrandyte Parks Victoria and Department of Sustainability and Environment firefighters (pictured), I would like to thank the Warrandyte community for their generosity and support over the recent horrific fire event.

It was an extremely difficult and exhausting few weeks for our firefighters, all of whom were faced with situations and challenges which tested both their physical and mental resolve.

Through it all was the constant bolstering of generosity from the local community, who were never short of a "pat

on the back", a "good on ya" or even a homemade treat!

We also relied heavily on local retailers for food and supplies, many of whom showed amazing generosity and often moved mountains to get us our meals, or ensure there was ice in stock to keep our water cool. All of which may seem trivial to most, but amongst it all it can make the difference.

It appears that the very worst of times brings out the very best in people.

Conrad Annal
Ranger In Charge
Warrandyte

Simple days best

First of all I would like to say well done on yet another successful Warrandyte Festival. It was great to see the banners back on Yarra Street to celebrate the occasion. I have fond memories of making a banner at Warrandyte Primary School for the festival, although this was around 1978 so our artistic flair was simpler back then.

Come to think of it, everything was simpler, and this brings me to my cause for writing.

It is with a heavy heart that I watch the Yarra River through Warrandyte slowly losing its beauty, its simplicity—and most importantly—its depth.

The whole bakery concept is lovely for the tourists and the locals, if you can get in the door, and great for local business. But what's with the "grandstand" down below?

Is someone training the ducks for a live performance to entertain the tourists? People are actually fishing off the strategically placed rocks there! What are they expecting to catch—a loaf of bread?

This grandstand is a Mecca for those who wish to ignore the fact that feeding bread to ducks slowly kills them. But hey! The kids enjoy it, so too bad, so sad for the cute

little duckies. The important thing is that the kids don't see them die slowly of malnutrition from the bread in their stomachs.

If you walk further up to the Taroona Avenue end of the river, just by the little bridge, there are newly made steps leading to the shallows of our river. Did tourists or new Warrandytians complain about the slightly bumpy path? Was the council threatened to be sued because someone broke a nail walking down there?

Why are we allowing this to happen to our river? Growing up in Warrandyte, people were able to ride their horses along the river. We shared it. We rode our bikes, walked up and down it, sunbaked on the banks, swam, paddled and swung from high ropes into it.

We cut our feet on rocks, slipped off the bank into it, fell off our bikes and tripped over tree roots. No one was sued. No one was blamed. It was life!

For the sake of all things good, for the sake of our environment, traditions and simple beauty—let Warrandyte be.

Nicole Van't Foort
Montmorency

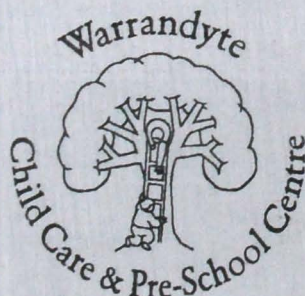
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Splendid year for community association

The Warrandyte Community Association reports a splendid year of activity on behalf of the community.

"This past year has been exceptionally successful with wins for WCA on so many issues, reflecting the dedication of many hard-working members," president Dick Davies told the *Diary*.

WCA is pleased that the Warrandyte Netball Club has finally gained storage and changing space, courtesy of the Senior Citizens Club.

"We have been concerned for some time about the lack of sporting facilities for young women in Warrandyte," Mr

Davies said. "Finally we have reached a temporary solution until a final strategic plan is agreed."

The former Liberty garage site at West End is being developed as a carwash facility. WCA expressed concerns about removal of the underground fuel storage tanks and "associated residues from the former service station".

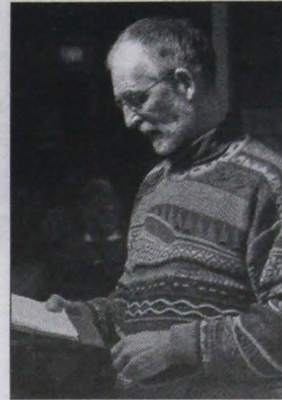
"The developer, Solid King Pty Ltd, has amicably agreed to meet these and all of the association's and other residents' conditions, including landscaping, noise and external lighting," Mr Davies said. "Our transport survey has

contributed to better bus time-tabling in North Warrandyte. The Bicycle Users Group (BUG) has been bugging Manningham council to extend and improve bike paths.

"They have been positively received and won't give up until it happens!"

WCA is campaigning, through the Manningham sewerage stakeholder panel, to ensure cleaner water in the Yarra.

"The thorny issue of business sustainability in the Green Wedge is of increasing relevance following the terrible fires," Mr Davies said.



Dick Davies: successful year

WCA is concerned with a number of other issues. Manningham's heritage guidelines have been approved, "but we are still concerned about this one."

"Redevelopment of the former post office site at East End is unresolved; that of the 'Ginkgo' site is underway. Removal of excessive signage cluttering the KG/Research Road intersection hasn't happened," Mr Davies said.

● A Bushfire Forum, organised by WCA, will be held at the Warrandyte Community Church, Yarra Street, on Tuesday, May 5, commencing at 7.30pm.



Vox populi: WCA takes local issues to the community. (Pictures by Stephen Reynolds)

Centre group's gains

The Warrandyte Community Centre Supporters Group, formed some years ago to ensure the centre remains in community hands, reports "some significant gains over the past 12 months".

Spokesperson Leisa Martin is appealing for supporters to renew their membership. "It is one simple gesture that allows us to persist in retaining community management of this wonderful facility," she told the *Diary*.

The group reports that the Community Bank meeting rooms are now open for business. "These two meeting rooms are on the first floor and are available to community groups and offer excellent facility," Ms Martin said.

A standard has been established for cleanliness of the centre and a contract awarded to maintain these standards. "I think you will find, either as a visitor or user of the centre, significant improvement in this key area of concern."

"The Community Conversation, a public forum held last year, revealed many aspects of aspiration and concern for the centre," Ms Martin said. "The committee has been diligently working through the issues and has found the task of producing a strategic plan from the outcome to be quite onerous. However, a plan is forthcoming."

Warrandyte residents are urged to join the group. "We value the support of the community as we continue to enhance the services and facilities that are available," Ms Martin said.

Forthcoming events at the centre include a volunteer expo this coming winter and a Supporters Group winter formal with live music.

● Further information from Leisa Martin on 0409 833 931.

Riding to victory



Stephanie Parsons from Nunawading Pony Club competed in the Wyena horse trials last month. (Picture by Jessica Stevens)

The Wyena Horse and Pony Club is celebrating the success of their horse trials. In only the second year of operations, the trials are already enjoying an increase in entries.

The Wyena cross-country course has been extended and upgraded, enabling the event to become a state qualifier for the State Horse Trials to be hosted by the Pony Club Association of Victoria in May 2009. The dressage and show

jumping sections were held on Saturday, March 21 at the Wyena Croydon Road grounds in South Warrandyte.

"Despite temperatures in the 30s, all riders enjoyed a day of close competition," a club spokesperson told the *Diary*. "Many of the grade 1 and grade 2 competitors were keen to qualify for the State Horse Trials."

The cross-country section was held at the Wyena grounds in Husseys Lane on Sunday, March 22.

"The recent heavy rains had ensured a full water jump and improved the ground for the horses," the spokesperson said. "The undulating course was a test of endurance for both riders and horses with a large variety of obstacles to be jumped within a set time."

Juana Andreou, riding Tarragon Park Alinta for Wyena Horse and Pony Club, won the grade 1 section of the horse trials.

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Bushfire building standards adopted

New building standards have been introduced in high bushfire risk areas. This will undoubtedly include Warrandyte and surrounding districts.

"The Royal Commission is examining all aspects of the fires," local MP Danielle Green told the *Diary*. "However the government is taking action now to give certainty to people rebuilding, laying out a framework for new homes, alterations and additions.

Victoria is bringing forward adoption of the new standard for buildings in bushfire prone areas. The standard was due to be adopted Australia-wide by May 2010.

"Every new home built in Victoria will undergo Bushfire Attack Level assessment as part of the application for a building permit," Ms Green said.

She said the new standards would decrease bushfire risk, but would not make homes fireproof. "People still have to enact their bushfire plan and make a decision on whether to leave early or stay and defend their property.

"The government is examining what further actions landowners can take with regard to vegetation on their properties to reduce bushfire risk, while also balancing the needs of the environment and the very reason many people choose to live in heavily treed areas," Ms Green said.

Parade and display stir Anzac memories

Once again the old returned diggers, their families, friends and well-wishers will be assembling at the car park beside the Stonehouse Gallery at 10.30am on Anzac Day, Saturday, April 25. They will then march to the Memorial Grounds opposite the bridge where a simple memorial service will be held.

"After the service, the hospitality of the RSL clubrooms is offered to all," an RSL spokesperson told the *Diary*.

● A special exhibition will open on Anzac Day, Saturday, April 25 at the Museum in the

old post office in Yarra Street, between 10am and 5pm.

Organised by the Warrandyte Historical Society, the display will include an honour roll of serving local identities, indigenous involvement in the wars, recruitment posters and memorabilia and defence force and RSL flags.

The exhibition will also be open on the Sunday, April 26, between 12noon and 5pm and on following Saturdays and Sundays between 1 and 4pm. Admission is free and all are welcome.

Gail moves on

Gail Parke (pictured), who has been teaching at Warrandyte Primary School for 24 years, is retiring.

"Gail is putting away the chalk and duster, saying goodbye to reports, lesson plans, late night meetings and parent interviews to begin planning life after teaching," principal Gill Binger told the *Diary*.

"During her time at Warrandyte, it is estimated that Gail has guided and supported more than 600 students, many of whom still remember her

fondly as that teacher who always encouraged and challenged them to achieve their best."

A retirement function to celebrate the teaching career of Gail Parke will be held at the Karralyka Centre, Ringwood, on Friday, May 15 commencing at 7pm.

Bookings and payment of \$30 to Warrandyte Primary School.

● Please contact Doreen at the school on 9844 3537 for more information.



Led by a lone piper, marchers in the 2008 Warrandyte Anzac Day parade, emerge from morning mist, heading for the RSL Memorial Grounds. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

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Warrandyte Village Festival



Best festival yet. Isn't it always?

By JOANNE GREEN

KIDS with their faces painted as pandas and princesses, and the mingling aromas of Sar Hor Fun and sizzling sausages reminded us that it was festival time once more. Warrandyte residents turned out in force to celebrate what it meant to be Lovin' Livin' Local on March 21 and 22.

It was a weekend of family fun, with events to entertain every generation. There was a rock climbing wall to attract the adventurous and a farm for the animal lover in us all.

The art show revealed a whole community of talented artists and everyone was pleased with the opportunity to catch up with old friends.

"It was a really good festival," festival committee chairman John Boyle told the *Diary*.

"Everyone I spoke to thought it was great."

The duck race and billycart derby attracted as many

visitors as ever, but the festival's biggest success was in its evening shows.

The Friday night show attracted hundreds of young locals; it was so successful that the committee hopes it will be a part of the festival for years to come.

The Saturday night show attracted a slightly older crowd who wanted to dance to the relaxed swing sounds.

Sunday night was a highlight for many families, with numerous musical offerings. Hugh McSpedden's five metre balloon above the stage had the kids queuing to take a turn to see themselves as the Man in the Moon. No one missed the fireworks.

Not even a light shower could keep the crowd away. In a tribute during the show our local SES squad and CFA brigades received a standing ovation.

"There were different crowds each night" Kerrie Boyle said.

While one generation—riding on floats for the kinders and child care centre—was

experiencing their first parade, another was busy organising their first festival. A second generation of Warrandyte locals has become involved with the festival committee.

High School student Ben Dennis organised and ran the inaugural Friday night show this year, and it was a raging success.

The son of festival committee founding member Tim Ferguson—Jamie Ferguson, planned the Sunday night show and played on Saturday night with his band Nudist Funk Orchestra.

In addition, Jamie's two daughters were in the parade.

"It's wonderful to have three generations of Ferguson's involved in the festival," Jamie said.

"It's as big as Christmas for us."

"The nicest thing about the festival was seeing the young people taking responsibility for the events," John Boyle said. "It's really inspiring for we old people to see that."

2009 FESTIVAL RESULTS

GRAND PARADE

Best Overall Entry: Historical Society
Best Costume/Makeup: Dramaskool@Warranwood
Most Warrandytish: Warrandyte PS
Most Imaginative: Andersons Creek PS
Most Colourful: Yarra Warra Pre-school

DUCK RACE

- 1 Ethan Stark, Andersons Creek PS
- 2 Olivia Kitcher, Warrandyte PS
- 3 Lily Clifton Barnett, Warrandyte PS
- 4 Nadine Cleary, Andersons Creek PS
- 5 Chloe Mallows, Andersons Creek PS

BEER BREWING

Champion Beer: Randall Boyce (Pilsner)
Best Pilsner: Randall Boyce
Best Draught: Kevin O'Mara
Best Ale: Kevin O'Mara
Best Bitter: Michael Stanzel
Best Lager: Michael Stanzel
Public Choice: Michael Stanzel
Best Stout: Frank Turner
Best Light/Other: Natalie Papez

BILLYCART DERBY

- 1 Leigh Thomas
- 2 Ben Robson
- 3 Oliver Reade

Best Cart: Noel Reade
Best Effort: Aaron Vant Foort
Parents' Race: Nick Frowd

BATTLE OF THE BANDS

Joint winners who went on to play on Saturday evening: 'Mad Dash & the Hyphenators' and 'Quint'.



PUMPKIN CHALLENGE

Guessing the Weight of the Pumpkin:

- 1 Ann & Ian Penrose (6.135kgm)
- 2 Maryjan Kiewiet (6.123kg)
- 3 Trudy Farley (6.180kg)
- 4 (Equal) Jan Tindale (6.200kg) & Judy Anderson (6.100kg)

Pumpkin weighed: 6.150kg

TENNIS SERVING CONTEST

Open Mens: Zac Boyce and Glenn McColl (188km/h)

Open Womens: Lisa Edwards (134km/h)

Mens Veterans: Mark Bence (152km/h)

Womens Veterans: Marilyn Moore (113 km/h)

U/18 Boys: Matt Cook (172km/h)

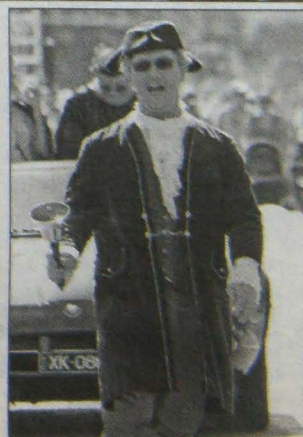
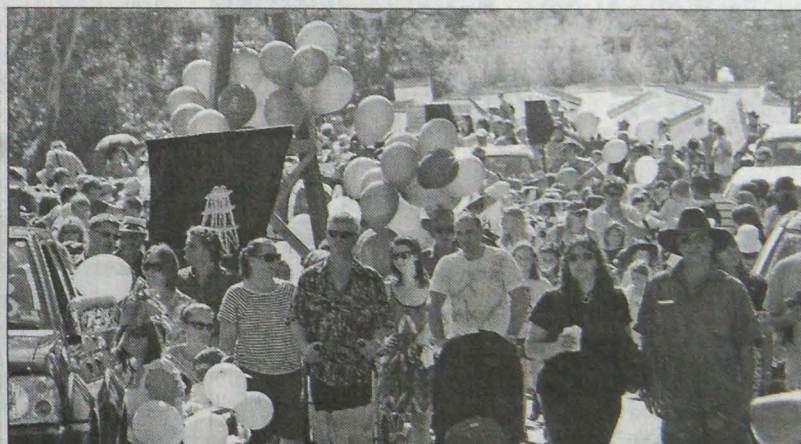
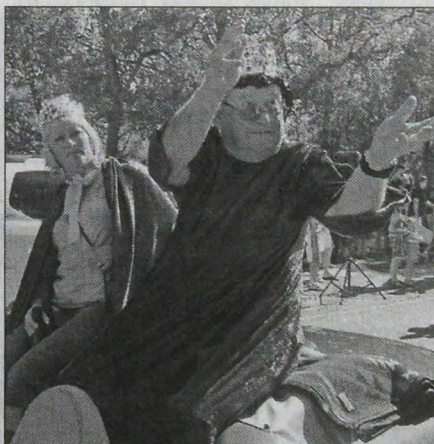
U/18 Girls: Lauren Todd (n/a)

U/15 Boys: John Lobosco (159 km/h)

U/15 Girls: India Caudrey (114 km/h)

U/12 Boys: Sean Bells (139 km/h)

U/12 Girls: Melissa Cook (100 km/h)



Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS

Anzac Day display

To commemorate Anzac Day this year, the Warrandyte Historical Society, in conjunction with Warrandyte RSL, is holding an exhibition at their museum in the old post office, 111 Yarra Street, Warrandyte. On display will be an honour roll of local identities, material relating to indigenous involvement in the wars, recruitment posters and other memorabilia. Entry is free. Homemade Anzac biscuits will be on sale. It will be open on Saturday, April 25 from 10am to 5pm and Sunday, April 26 from 12noon to 5pm and then each Saturday and Sunday from 1pm to 4pm until May 17.



Swinging brass at the Warrandyte Festival. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)



Art sale

The Warrandyte Arts Association painting group will be holding a bargain art sale on Sunday, April 26 at the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute Hall, corner of Yarra Street and Mitchell Avenue, Warrandyte from 10am to 4pm.

Felting

Manningham Arts Centre is running a two day workshop on felt and its versatility as an art medium on Sundays, May 17 and 24. Taught by leading felt guru Phyllis Hoffman, the workshop will explore the use of felt in textiles, including wearables, soft furnishings, toys, accessories and wall hangings. Cost is \$129 (\$117 concession) plus materials. Manningham Arts Centre is at 177 Foote Street, Templestowe (near Glendale Avenue). Bookings and enquiries: 9840 9381, 9840 9382, www.manningham.vic.gov.au/artscentre

Stonehouse

A collection of Australian inspired artworks is the featured exhibition at Stonehouse Gallery this month. The show includes the work of well-known wildlife potter/sculptor Damien Santamaria. Other artists featured include Syd Tunn and Ona Henderson, Merryn Aldist, Elly Pleasance, Meaghan Cavanagh, Sue Hicks, and Mary-Lou Pittard. Australian designed and made place mats, aprons, tea towels, puppets and birds will be on display at the Stonehouse Gallery, 103 Yarra Street, Warrandyte. Phone 9844 3629.

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WARRANDYTE MECHANICS INSTITUTE AND ARTS ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
 to be held in the WMIAAI hall
 Cnr Mitchell Avenue & Yarra Street
 Monday, April 27, 2009, at 8pm
ALL WELCOME

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PAINTING MEMBERS BARGAIN SALE
SUNDAY APRIL 26
 10am until 4pm
 in the WMIAAI hall

Injured wildlife?
CALL: Wildlife Victoria
0500 540 000
Help for Wildlife
0417 380 687

MANNINGHAM MANNINGHAM CITY COUNCIL
PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987
MANNINGHAM PLANNING SCHEME
Notice of Approval of Amendment C71
 The Minister for Planning has approved Amendment C71 to the Manningham Planning Scheme. The Amendment C71 came into operation on the 12 March 2009.
 The Amendment:
 • includes 95, 103-109, 163, 165, 167, 183 - 187, 189, 193 - 197 and 207 Yarra Street, Warrandyte as sites where prohibited uses can be considered under the Heritage Overlay;
 • includes provisions in the Clause 21.11 - Heritage and 22.03 - Cultural Heritage Policy to guide the discretion of appropriate commercial uses within the Warrandyte Township Heritage Precinct; and
 • rezones 123A Yarra Street, Warrandyte from a Public Conservation and Resource Zone to an Urban Floodway Zone, and 199-205 and 215 Yarra Street, Warrandyte, from an Urban Floodway Zone to a Public Conservation and Resource Zone.
 A copy of the Amendment can be inspected, free of charge, at the Department of Planning and Community Development website at www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/planning/publicinspection and free of charge, during office hours, at the offices of the Manningham City Council, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster.
 Signed: **LYDIA WILSON**
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Information

Information Warrandyte is looking for volunteers. If you are interested in meeting new friends, helping your community and can spare three hours each week, please call 9844 3082.

Churches
 Easter will be commemorated in Warrandyte and Park Orchards as follows: Stations of the Cross at Stiggants Reserve at 10.30am on Good Friday. Community Church (9844 4148) Good Friday 9am and Easter Sunday 10am. Anglican (9844 2193) Easter Sunday 10am. Catholic (9876 1509) Good Friday 3pm at Warrandyte, Easter Saturday 7.30pm at Park Orchards, Easter Sunday 10.30am at Park Orchards. Uniting (98440674), Thursday, April 9 at 7.30pm—Tenebrae, Good Friday 9am and Easter Sunday 10.15am.

Alpha

If God did exist, what would you ask? The parish of St Gerard and St Anne is running an Alpha Course, which presents the basics of Christianity in an enjoyable, non-threatening format. Questions and discussion encouraged. Begins Monday, April 20, morning and evening sessions, at St Anne's, Park Orchards. Email: lorrainecm@netspace.net.au or phone Maryann on 9876 4343 to book.

Alarms

The Yarra Area CFA has issued a warning about the necessity of having working smoke alarms in your house.

Club swings free

Warrandyte Swing Club is a free and open musical forum for all-comers interested in playing swing music in all its forms: Swing Jazz, Gypsy Swing, Western Swing and whatever other forms of swing are out there. It is a participatory forum for different levels of skill for all acoustic instruments and voices. Meeting every Wednesday night, beginning in May, at the Warrandyte Community Centre, it will concentrate on chord structure, melody and solo parts. Participants will set the musical agenda each week, choosing to concentrate on such different aspects of swing as song writers (Duke Ellington, Cole Porter, etc), singers (Billie Holliday, Ella Fitzgerald, etc), instrumentalists (Benny Goodman, Django, etc). Contact Glen on 0405 147 683 for further details.

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.

continues until mid-October. Most venues are in the eastern suburbs. Events start at 2pm and are suitable for runners and walkers. A compass is not needed but a watch is essential. Map reading instruction is available for newcomers. Call Barry Giles on 9889 5173.

Help

Do Care are seeking volunteers to visit older or disabled people in the community. If you can help a couple of hours each week, ring 9762 5211.

Lost

A number of items lost at the Warrandyte Festival are being held by the committee. If you are missing something please call 9844 2695 after hours to check if it was handed in to the information caravan. A number of purses were found, handed to the van and then claimed by grateful owners.

Newsletters

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

COREY'S COMMUNITY By SYD & ONA

5 minutes silence as Corey honours his fallen buddies in the bushfires...

...also "Dog" the frog leaps on board

CLYDE & OCKER

"It can't be Warrandyte, Ock. There's no bridge!"

Ceramic

Michael Doolan has won the Manningham Ceramic Acquisition Award for 2009. His winning entry, entitled "Bear Family", is currently on exhibition at the Manningham Gallery, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster. Other winners include Timothy Clarkson, Mary-Lou Pittard, Sally Lee, Irianna Kanellopoulou and Ann-Maree Gentile. The exhibition continues until Saturday, April 11.

Arts

The Artyfacts column is designed to carry news of exhibitions and other arts events happening in Warrandyte and surrounding areas. Send all your details—free of charge—to Judy Green; email: warrandytediary@aapt.net.au.

Our young artists...

Words and pictures by SANDY BURGOYNE

Warrandyte Lions Club named Domenico De Rosa, an artist studying animation and illustration, as winner of the Warrandyte Youth Art Awards last month. His special interests are in character development, story development and sound engineering.

Entry to this biennial award is open to local artists aged between 18 and 24 years who are engaged in any artistic discipline. The winner receives \$6000, which they may spend in the way that best advances their career.

Domenico De Rosa is an undergraduate studying animation and interactive media at RMIT University and plans to use his award to go overseas.

"I need to travel—to Tokyo. Asia is very strong in animation," he told the *Diary*.

He would also like to visit design and animation studios in Europe, USA and the UK.

A group of five judges drawn from the Lions Club and the community decided on the winner. They were: Anne Lynch and Avril Smith, with Lions members Lauri Hilakari, Ian Shugg and John

Papas.

All candidates provided references from eminent people in their artistic field, or telephone details of those best positioned to judge their individual artistic development and potential. Each applicant also provided examples of their art via DVD, CD or a web page and the judging panel viewed these before interviewing the candidates.

The winner, Domenico De Rosa, was the judge's unanimous choice after the interview stage.

In previous years the organisers of the award appointed three assessors from the same, or a similar, discipline, prepared reports on each finalist's work and their potential for future attainment. An adjudication panel then made the final decision, based on those assessments.

The other finalists for the 2008-2009 Warrandyte Youth Arts Award were: Loughlan Prior (contemporary and classical dance), Richard Langley (photo journalism and fine art photography), Ashlee Hughes (film design), Emily Chaffe (flautist and pianist), Kayla Ingram (graphic design), Ella Thompson (singer/song writer) and Kieran Murphy (guitarist).



Young talent time: finalists in the 2009 Warrandyte Youth Arts Award.



Been there: previous winner Malcom Laurence.



Difficult choice: Avril Smith, one of the judges.



Best on the night: winner Domenico De Rosa.



Poshest river picnic of all time

Words and pictures by SANDY BRUGOYNE

The "world's longest lunch" stretched to the bank of the Yarra at Warrandyte last month.

More than 100 diners sat at one long table along the riverside path at the bottom of Webb Street. A singer and guitarist entertained the guests as they dined.

This event was part of Melbourne's Food and Wine Festival and was held simultaneously at 22 other locations across Victoria.

The food and wines for the lunch were produced locally.

"Manningham Council worked closely with Box Hill Institute and Kellybrook Winery to host the event," Lydia Wilson, Manningham's CEO told the *Diary*.

"Together they served up some of the region's finest produce in a three-course meal prepared and served by Box Hill Institute chefs and students, complemented by award-winning Kellybrook wines and its trademark apple cider."



WARRANDYTE NETBALL CLUBHOUSE COMMITTEE
PRESENTS A MAJOR FUNDRAISING EVENT

CASINO ROYALE

Saturday 23rd May 2009
7.15pm prompt

Warrandyte
Tennis Club
Taroona Avenue

Tickets: \$50
includes 1 glass
of bubbles on
arrival and start up
"funny" money

Professional
Croupiers

Finger Food

A range of "Bond"
and speciality
drinks available
from the bar

JAMES BOND



007

TO BOOK: email warrandytenc@yahoo.com.au or phone 0410 399 037

Limited tickets available so book early to avoid disappointment — latest by 8th May 2009
All funds raised will go towards the proposed new clubhouse for the Warrandyte Netball Club

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Apply now

Warrandyte Community Grants Program

A Warrandyte community grant may be just what your community organisation needs to make a great idea happen

To find out more

Warrandyte **Community Bank**® Branch – 144 Yarra Street or
phone 9844 2233

Who is eligible for support?

Organisations, clubs or community groups that apply:

- > Must be recognised as an endorsed charity by the ATO with Deductible Gift Recipient Status or be a not-for-profit organisation; and
- > Should have an ABN

Applications Close – Friday 24 April 2009

Community Enterprise™ Foundation ABN 69 694 230 518. Community Enterprise™ Charitable Fund ABN 12 102 649 968. The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo, VIC 3550. (322893) (02/09)



Warrandyte
Community Bank® Branch

 **Bendigo Bank**

Billanook College Tour

Saturday 21 March 2009

10.15am for 10.30am start > RSVP Essential > Morning Tea and Tour start promptly at 10.30am



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web www.billanook.com.au

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Mooroolbark



Billanook College is a
Member of Round Square



Kellybrook Winery's 21st Cider Festival

Saturday May 2 and Sunday May 3, 2009
11am - 5pm both days

LIVE MUSIC
AND
MORRIS
DANCING

Cider making demonstrations
Scrumpy (bring containers or buy ours)
Sparkling Draught Cider
Fresh Apple Juice (pressed on the day)
Ploughman's and Squire's Lunches



Homemade Apple Desserts
Mulled Cider
Toffee Apples
Tasting & Sales of ciders
Wines and our Apple Brandy
A La Carte Restaurant Open
Children's Storyteller

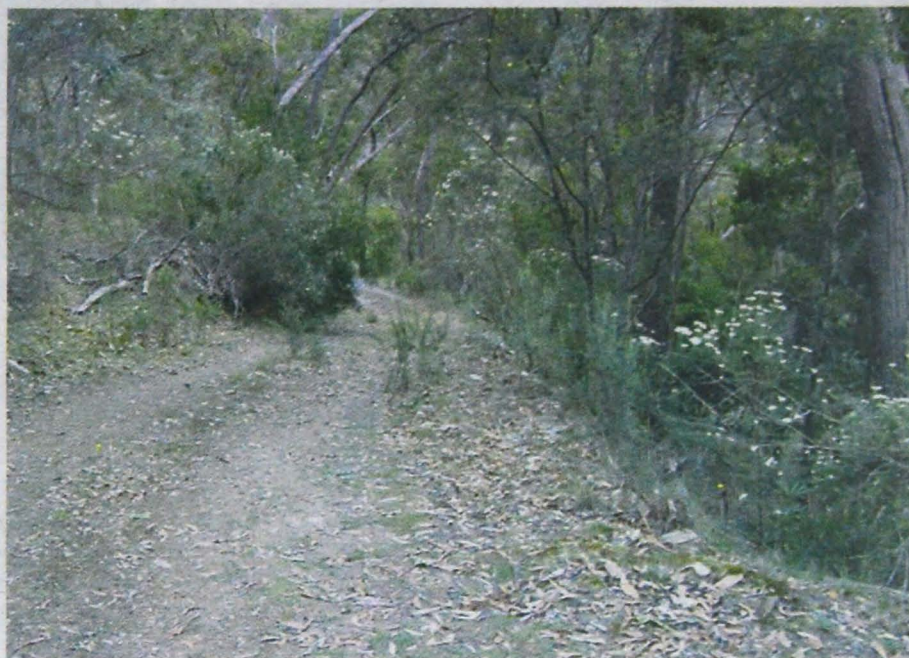
Admission: Adults \$5 Kids free

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Term 2, starting the 20th of April
Monday 10.00 am
Friday 10.00 am
Saturday 09.30 am and 11.00 am

Booking essential
no more than 5 people per class

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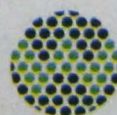
Bushfire Forum



Warrandyte Community Association invites members of the community to share their views and feelings about bushfires. Feedback from the Forum will form the basis of the WCA's submission to the Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission.

Tuesday 5 May

Now at The Community Church
57 - 59 Yarra Street Warrandyte 7.30pm start.

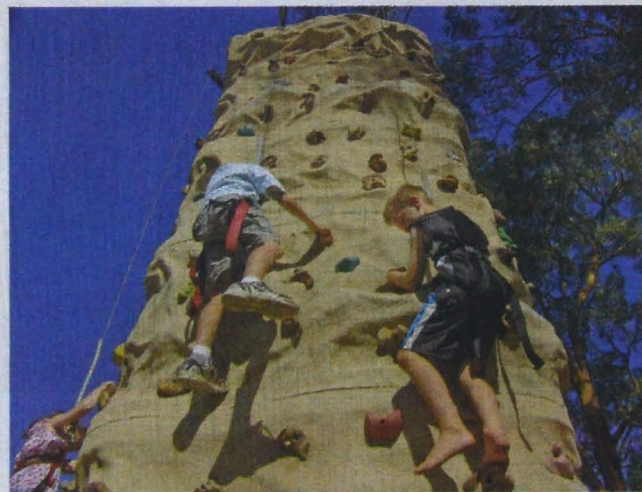


Warrandyte Community Association
INC. ABN223489
PO Box 76, Warrandyte 3112

Enquiries Ph
Dick Davies
9844 4686

Warrandyte Village Festival

LOVIN' CIVIN' LOCAL





Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS



LIONS CLUB OF WARRANDYTE

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Where? Warrandyte Community Centre Foyer

When? From 11am, first Sunday of each month

How much? \$10 tables provided

How to book? Ring 0428 319 478



A joint community service project of Warrandyte Lions and Warrandyte Community Centre Management



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Bolero's serves a wide range of dishes from Paella to Chateaubriand complemented by traditional and liquor based sauces.

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We have reported the news, celebrated the sport, publicised the events and championed the causes of this special place.

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Support your community



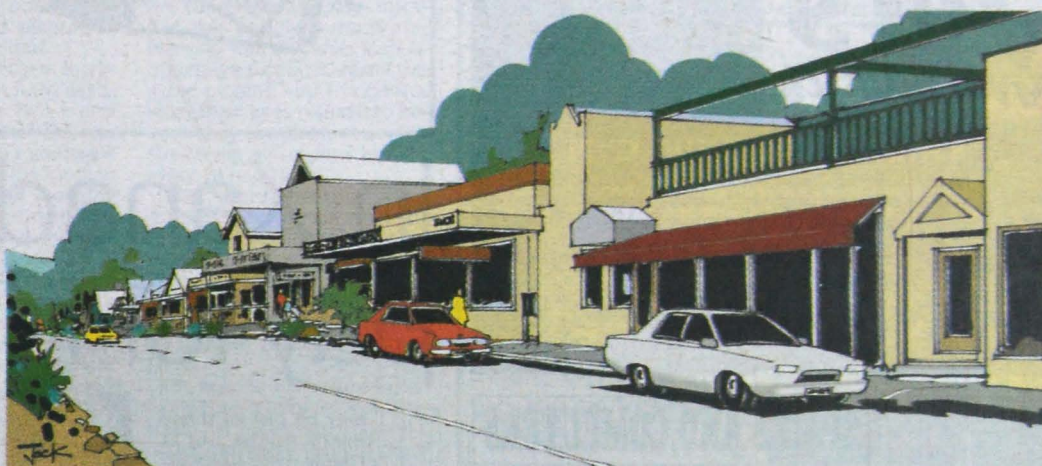
WCA works for you. We depend upon your membership.

Warrandyte's special character has always brought forward champions to work for its conservation and enhancement. That's what the Warrandyte Community Association does best.

WCA has an active committee of management elected annually by the membership. It meets monthly and holds public meetings and forums. We encourage members to participate and be active in community affairs.

Warrandyte Community Association

- Promotes all aspects of community life
- Defends the character and heritage of the township
- Protects the environment
- Protects the Green Wedge
- Promotes sporting, educational and cultural activities
- Defends and enhances community assets



Warrandyte Community Association

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

New Membership Renewal (tick one)

To become a WCA member/s please fill out this form and send with your payment (\$10.00 pa) per person. Membership falls due after the 1st July.

1 Full Name: 2 Full Name:

Address: Address:

Tel: Tel:

Email: Email:

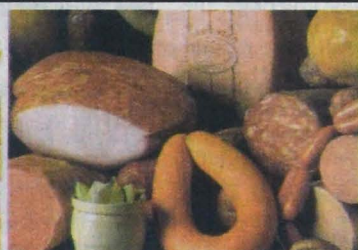
Please forward completed form to: Warrandyte Community Association
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Warrandyte Neighbourhood House
 TERM 2 CLASSES 2009

THE ARTS:
 Busy Needles (weekly craft group) Tues am
 Creative Writing Tues pm
 Community Choir Mon pm
 Children's Drawing Mon, Tues pm
 Painting & Printmaking Wed am
 Watercolour & Pastels Wed pm
 Portrait Painting Sat pm
 'Keep Creating' (artists contact group) Fri am
 * Felting Workshop Sat

HEALTH & WELLBEING:
 Yoga Mon pm
 Tai Chi Tues pm
 * Qui Gong Mon am
 * Laughter Club Tues pm
 Pilates Wed pm
 Strong Women Stay Young Tues am, Fri am
 Monday Walking Group Mon am
 Fitball Class Wed am
 Relaxation & Meditation Thur pm
 Older Adults on the Move Wed am
 * Latin Mix Aerobics Wed am
 * Lunchtime Meditation Thur pm

LANGUAGE:
 French Club Wed pm

LIFE SKILLS:
 Book Club (monthly) Thur pm
 Monthly Discussion and Lunch Group Tue pm
 Film Club Tues am (monthly)
 Digital Photography Wed am
 Cake Decorating Workshop Sat pm
 Men's Group Wed pm
 * Demystifying Mobile Phones Mon pm
 * Conscious Parenting Fri am

ENROLMENTS
 from Tuesday 14 April

TERM 2
 April 20 to June 26

ENQUIRIES: 9844 1839



www.warrandyteneighbourhoodhouse.org.au *New this term



In Xanadu did Mr Khan pay for his sacred water?

IT may be one of those literary myths but it certainly resonates with me.

The story runs that Samuel Taylor Coleridge, the hippy Romantic poet of the early 1800s, had just got into his opium fix for the morning and was well into writing "Kubla Khan", his poem about writing poems, when he was interrupted by a knock on the door.

"Good morning, sir. I was wondering if you were interested in saving money."

"Ah, I suppose so but this isn't really a good time. You see..."


"Well there's no time like the present to start thinking about it."

"But..."

"There are no 'buts' when it comes to financial security. I assume you are interested in ensuring that those nearest and dearest to you are well provided for. Unless, of course you are fabulously rich and don't need to even think about cost cutting. Is that the case?"

"Certainly not. It's just that I've been in Xanadu and I've been following the river Alph from its source and after a bit of mazy meandering I was rather hoping to discover where it would end up."

"Well, I think I can help. If you want to save for travel purposes, then you have to reconsider how you allocate your precious finances. Now, I notice from our office files that your water provider is



kibbled

"Unless of course you are fabulously rich and don't need to even think about cost cutting. Is that the case?"

Lakeside.

"I think so."

"But are you completely happy with their service?"

"Well yes! Apart from the occasional, expected bouts of giardia and a minor dose of dysentery, they've been very reliable."

"But do they offer specials on cupping and purging? If you change over to us at Waterwheel, an all black-coal-powered provider, we can, for a reduced rate, guarantee that your bouts of giardia, dysentery and any other water borne disease will be less severe than those offered by any other licensed provider."

"Speaking of water, if I don't

get back to my Alph, I'm going to be in strife. So if you don't mind, I'll..."

"So you and Alf live together in this one residence? Well, it just so happens that, for this month only, we have a special rate for those 'special' households who have the need for higher water usage for things like group showers, spas and saunas."

"Look, I'm sorry but I'm feeling a little light-headed at the moment. Perhaps I could think about it and get back to you by letter."

"Look, I'd love to say yes to giving you more time but this is a very limited offer. We are just offering this to selected customers, those valued consumers who live in attractive stone, thatched roofed cottages in this street. And the offer ends this afternoon at two o'clock."

"Uhm, you haven't actually said what the offer is."

"Oh that's easily fixed. Now if you just compare these lists of different rates, you'll see that we can offer you water, on tap, for the same rate that it would cost you to hire a servant to draw water from the local well."

"But I don't have a servant or a well!"

"All the more reasons to have us supply you with tapped water, although there has been some talk of putting it in bottles for those who haven't the hand strength to turn the handle on a tap. I must warn, however, that bottled water turns out to be as expensive

as the combined cost of a well, a servant and a butler to do the drinking for you."

"Sorry but you're getting fuzziier and fuzziier. I thought I understood what you were on about but I think I'm losing the plot a bit. I probably need another pipe!"

"We supply the pipes. All you do is pay us for how you use them."

At this point, Samuel collapsed under the combined effects of depleted opiate but more significantly from the difficulty of trying to understand his visitor's dialect whilst trying to make sense of the reams of figure-filled advertising. With Alph beckoning from his poem, his head reeling from the Gruen Transfer and the pressure of a full bladder, Samuel signed on the dotted line and fled to the relative sanctity of his study. When he eventually got back to his poem, inspiration, or his trip, had left him and Samuel was left with just a few lines of regret with which to finish his poem.

Interruptions can be like that. Some are welcomed but many are not. For example, I was going to tell you about my revolutionary solutions for curing the devastating effects of global warming and the world's financial crisis. It had come to me as I was musing over my morning cup of coffee. I had just sat down at my laptop...

Knock! Knock!

ROGER KIBELL

FRIENDS OF WARRANDYTE STATE PARK GROW INDIGENOUS PLANTS FOR SALE

Thursdays 9.30am-12.30pm
 1st Sunday 2pm-4pm
 Pound Bend Nursery
 (\$1 members, \$1.50 non-members)



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Encountering an echidna

nature

By LINDA ROGAN

A FEW years ago, while walking in late summer at One Tree Hill, a rustling amongst the leaf litter alerted me to the presence of a creature nearby. A small face arose from a mound of spines and looked vaguely in my direction; my first close-up view of an echidna's face.



Echidna on One Tree Hill.

This animal continued to snuffle and probe the stony ground with its leathery snout. Flicks of its tongue, in less than a second, captured any tiny ants near the surface. Moving quickly only a short distance, it repeated the process. Photography was made easier by the height of the bank—about a metre above the road where my husband and I stood. More than an hour, and 90 photos later, I was persuaded to move on, even though the echidna was still there. My husband is a patient man. The more I learn about echidnas, the more amazing I find them.

My photos clearly show the snout with two nostrils angled on the top of its tip. What I couldn't see was the amazing sensory system within the snout. This includes an acute sense of smell, a rich supply of pressure and touch receptors as well as electrical receptors. The snout can also pick up sound or vibrations, it is used as a rather efficient wedge and has a safety mechanism that prevents it getting stuck in a tight place. Overall the snout is critical to the survival of

the echidna, allowing it to feed in darkness. Totally blind echidnas have been known to remain healthy in the wild for years.

Echidna limbs are held horizontally away from the body and the hindfoot has an elongated claw on the second digit (apparently the grooming claw). That, together with its unique rolling gait, gives it a strange appearance. Perhaps that accounts for the call a local wildlife carer received from a concerned resident.

"There is an echidna with a broken leg in my garden!" the caller said.

After arranging for care by the local veterinarian, the carer hurried out to rescue this unfortunate animal. Upon arrival the carer found a perfectly normal, spraddle-legged echidna, lumbering about happily in the garden. Perhaps this shows how little we know about our native animals.

For their size, echidnas are incredibly strong and their claws make them a very efficient digging machine. My friends, whose garden is near echidna habitat and is frequently excavated, plants and all, will vouch for that.

They can overturn fairly large rocks, dig in hard earth and even climb a two metre high cyclone fence. "On one occasion an unwary zoologist left an echidna in his kitchen overnight and next morning found the refrigerator had been moved toward the centre of the room".

Echidnas have survived about 15 million years with very little change. They are found in all areas of Australia, including mountains and deserts and in nearly all terrestrial habitats excepting intensively farmed land.

Like all mammals, its young are fed on milk, but it is one of only three mammal species

(the monotremes) that lay eggs. Echidna eggs are laid directly into its pouch. Very few records of more than one egg, or pouch young (with the wonderfully descriptive name of puggle) have been recorded.

One record comes from the nearby Round the Bend Conservation Cooperative where an Echidna made her nursery burrow just four metres from the house of Frank Pierce and Janet Mattiske. Both keen naturalists, Frank and Janet observed and recorded the proceedings, taking great care not to unduly disturb the mother (they called "M"). On occasion they needed to repair the burrow where the gravel crust was prone to cave-ins.

Some weeks later, at the end of December, Frank and Janet saw the young echidna outside the burrow being suckled by mum. Eight days on, there was M again, suckling her puggle outside the burrow—but on closer inspection they saw that it wasn't the same puggle! And to confirm what their eyes refused to believe they saw the first puggle sheltering about four metres away. M had twins!

This was December 2005. A recent conversation with Frank reveals that the twins, B1 and B2, were sighted again last year, one about two kilometres away. It is natural that they should gradually move away from the area of their birth.

On my "to-do-before-I-die" list is the sight of an "echidna train", with a string of up to 11 males, doggedly tagging along behind a female who is almost ready to mate.

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Connecting the transport dots

JEEZ, I feel like I've been travelling all morning and I haven't even made it to Blackburn Road yet. So far I've missed one bus and caught three, made it to only my first appointment of four for the day, enjoyed a much-needed espresso while waiting for bus number two, and filled other interminable waits by reading *The Age*, making a couple of (unnecessary) trips to the 'loo and having a lovely chat with a Middle Eastern gentleman who had become completely bushed en route to Ringwood by bus.

The fact that he and I were waiting at the same bus stop at The Pines, despite aiming for opposite horizons, was somewhat disquieting, as was the discovery for him that the 304 and 305 buses don't actually run through Warrandyte to Ringwood during the day. There's no indication of this state of affairs at the bus stop—I'd already been caught out by the same filthy trick. Outside the Warrandyte Community Centre there's a timetable that distinctly mentions a citybound 305

stopping at 10.05am, 10.35am etc. So when the 364 bus to Doncaster Shoppingtown came along, I calmly watched it pass.

Had that happened in the olden days, the 1990s even, the bus driver, knowing there were no other buses stopping along that route, would have leant over and called out "Where you goin' love?" When you replied "East Melbourne", he'd have said "Hop on this one, you gotta change buses at The Pines." Not any more. Certainly there are helpful drivers about, but the rest seem to be mute, eyes fixed stonily on the road ahead, even when they're stopped. These days your best bet is to phone the Metlink number cunningly provided at each bus stop. (Is there a secret deal between Metlink and Telstra?)

You may have planned to wander down the street to catch a bus to the city, but what you actually find yourself doing is running up a big mobile phone bill listening to annoying music, interrupted at intervals by the sweetly spoken suggestion

our place
 By MARILYN MOORE

that it might be more expedient to check out the Metlink website.

I've been making a determined effort since November to make use of North Warrandyte's newly upgraded bus service.

Nobody can say how long the trial timetable will last. It started in November, but perhaps summer holidays weren't the best time to gauge its potential. Sure enough, come February, there was a sudden decrease in the number of buses, purportedly to improve connections. Who do they expect to swallow that codswallop? The upgraded service being seriously under-utilised probably had something to do with it.

Connections are definitely an issue, I'll grant them that. To get home from work, I catch a bus, two trains, then another bus. The first bus is frequently late, as is the way of buses in peak hour.

It is not uncommon then for a train to be cancelled, and the next one (running very late) to be too crowded to squeeze aboard.

The connecting train at Greensborough is often delayed, or non-existent, or terminates at Greensborough instead of going on to Eltham or Hurstbridge. Then of course the North Warrandyte bus from Eltham only runs once an hour. You won't be surprised to learn that a trip that takes 45 minutes by car can take over three hours by public transport.

I am persevering however, thereby accruing a nice little line-up of coffee retreats to pass the time, read a book, write a *Diary* article, peruse some work notes—a veritable refugee from the public transport system. Ah well, I've been rushing madly in all directions for the last 25 years—it's probably time I slowed down. In fact I can recommend our public transport system to all other empty-nesters as an antidote to feeling at a loose end. Guaranteed to fill in your day! Make sure you take a laptop or a good book.

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Our sinners celebrate

ACCORDING to an old village myth, if anyone knows about sinning, and enjoying it, you'll find them acting with the local repertory company. Is that why so many flocked to the Seven Deadly Follies this year? Maybe, but most cite other reasons: the wonder of seeing friends perform, the warmth of the home-spun yarn, and the camaraderie of a meal, fun and laughter together with friends.

Wine was still being poured as the lights went down on opening night. Jack Stringer's shaven head appeared at the keyboard, and the show opened with his driving boogie beat. It's a Stringer/Cornell collaboration—*You've Got Your Sin*. Then as the old hall starts to really rock, the cast breaks into a waltz. When Maria's favourite things, (*Sound of Music*), are transmogrified into Warrandyte's favourite sins, the audience suspects nothing is sacred, and what passes as mainstream morality is about to be pilloried mercilessly.

In Naomi Ousting's *Sin for Sale*, Celia Fairly persuades God to reduce the seven deadly sins to one publicly acceptable "not very nice sin: unprovoked and unjustified wrath". In Bill Mitchell's *Sinderella*, Noelene Cooper's storyteller is able to find a deadly sin at every turn of the plot. In Jack Stringer's *Cool Dude*, Simone Keiffer's check-out chick is so self-absorbed that she perceives neither death nor birth, even as they happen by her side.

While the first act is familiar Follies territory, the second was more diverse, took more risk and in the end was more problematic. In *Super Sloth*, Alan Cornell used digital video technology to signify transition from some kind of normalcy to the depth of depravity in the city. He showed the potential of this technology to control time and space in a new and exciting way, potentially removing one of the limits to this kind of theatre. Phil Swindley's confession trilogy was resolved with a

theatre

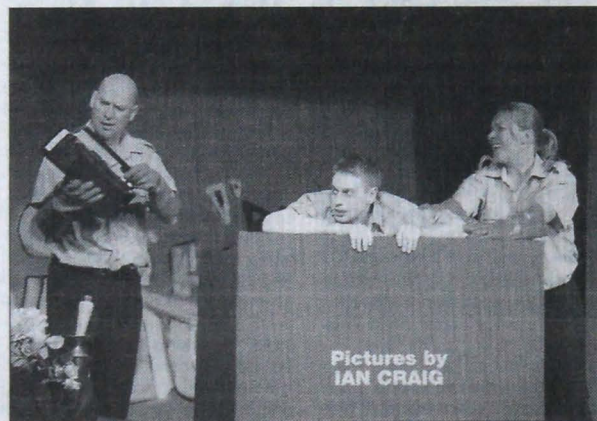
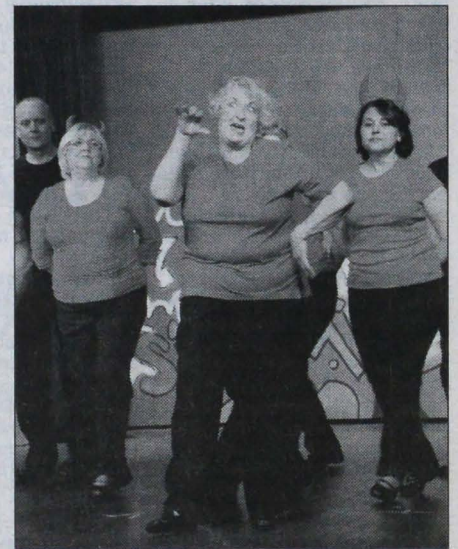
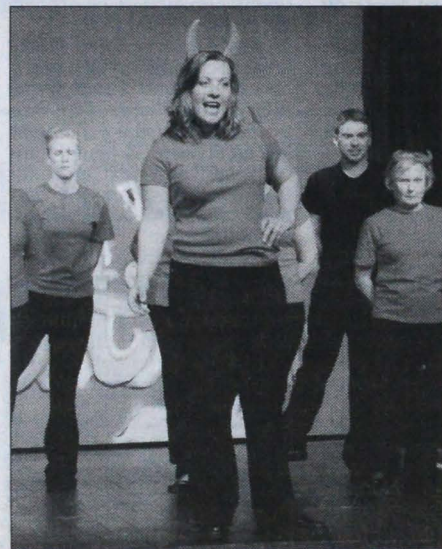
By JEREMY LOFTUS-HILLS

cliché—rum toting priest (David Howell) lusts after wavering nun.

Then as the show neared its climax Jan Nance sang a reworked version of Carly Simon's *You're so Vain*. If the show had a problem it was in the chemistry of the two sketches that led into this song and the few that followed and closed it. This structural problem may be inherent to the theme—how do you resolve morality theatre when you abhor moralising? Or perhaps the second half needed the injection of Alan Cornell's convivial singalong. It is inspiring to note that directors Adrian Rice and Lea Stringer recognised and re-jigged the second half of Act 2, and by the end of the season what was a meandering conclusion to the second act had more thrust.

The *Seven Deadly Follies* was technically excellent. Effects and incidental music were effectively mixed into the sound designed by Brian Laurence and Adrian Rice. Lighting design by Ian Craig was functional and made good use of follow spot. If the theatre only had them, footlighting would have enhanced some of the scenes, especially those set in the underworld. Fourteen is a lot of writers and by modern standards two and a quarter hours is a lot of theatre. A smaller, tighter team, or a rigorous editing function, might fix some of the (minor) faults in some sketches and resolve the theme with the hitherto obligatory crescendo.

Too soon we were back in the main street of Warrandyte, where as ever the spirit is willing, the flesh is delightfully creative, and the fickle finger of fate has preserved our township from the flames of a frightful fire season. How wonderful to be entertained by these people and to be encouraged to laugh not weep at our weaknesses.



Pictures by IAN CRAIG



To dance in the rain

I want to see it
hear it
touch it
smell and taste it,
let its snaking rivulets
race down my back
soak my clothes
and make my hair go flat
and stick to my head.

I want the wetness to
seep into my skin
and the wind
to cast big droplets
into my eyes,
to wash away
the ashy tears,
the grime
and the pain.

I want the roar
of heavy rain
to pound on the roof
and send its slow soaking-ness
into the roots
of our plants and trees,
so the ones
that still have a chance
will survive.

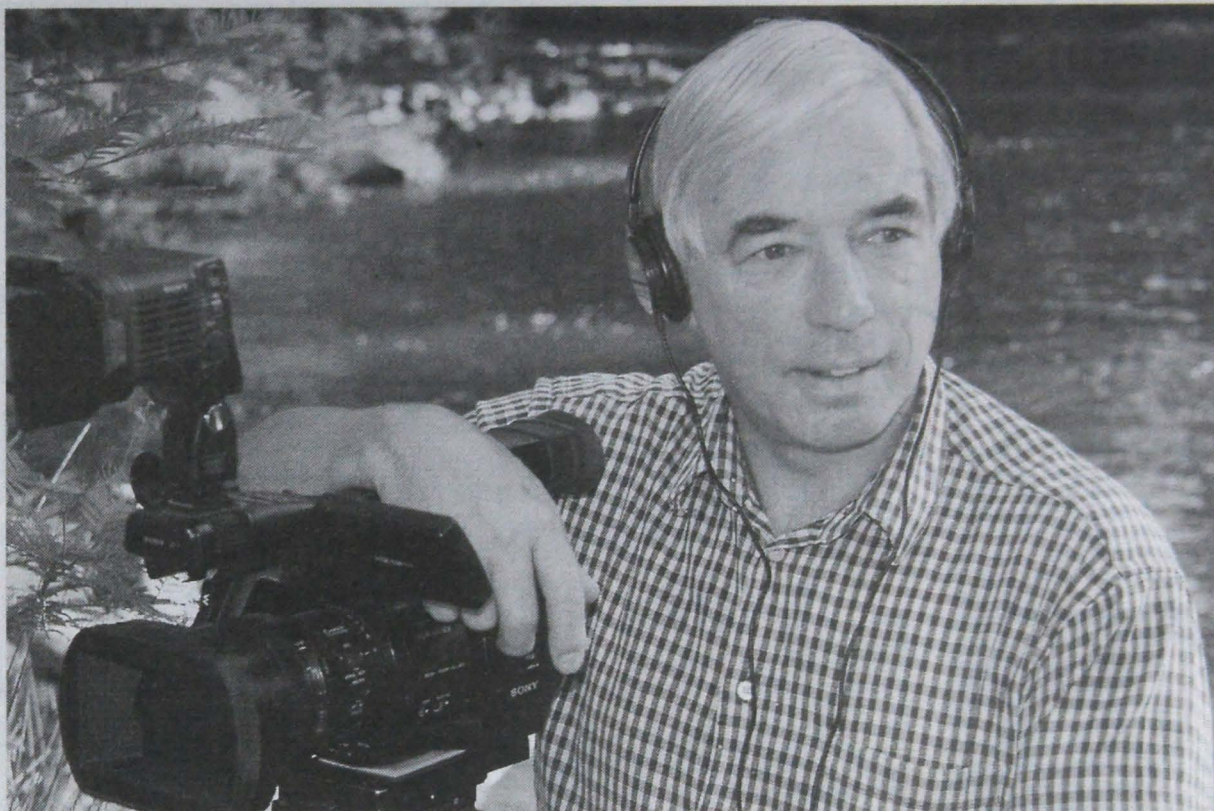
I only want what everyone wants...
to see
rain
falling...
good, decent rain, the kind we used to get
when our gardens weren't brown,
before our countryside was blackened
and our loved ones, neighbours
and fellow countrymen were lost.

I only want what everyone else wants
...to dance in the rain.

CORINNE FENTON

PRUDENCE TRUBY KING continues her series profiling the people behind this newspaper. Jeremy Loftus-Hills writes theatre reviews and general features for the *Diary*.

Student radical, local activist



Jeremy Loftus-Hills

BORN in Canberra in 1949, Jeremy describes himself as the son of a communist and agricultural scientist specialising in pasture and grassland who helped set up the CSIRO, and an artistic and creative Irish Catholic mother.

"I had a connection with the Yarra River from my early days, growing up with three brothers and a sister in North Balwyn in one of the first houses overlooking the river flats, where we went mushrooming and berry picking," he said. "In my teens I played in a band with Mick Coles called 'Sometimes Blue' and we'd rehearse in Warrandyte and do gigs. Later, when Diana and I were married with one child in Fitzroy we wanted to get out of the city environment and my father-in-law found a property in North Warrandyte—we couldn't find a reason not to.

"I was shiftless and I like to keep the idea of moving open."

The Loftus-Hills name started with the Hills in the south of England. "We think one ancestor left in 1833, a shepherd named Hills who signed his indenture to the Hentys with a cross, and within three generations the family had become academic. My grandfather's name was Loftus—he added Clive and hyphenated the surname at the turn of the century when his wife was attempting to differentiate them in Tasmanian society. I was tempted to go back to Hills but I should have done it earlier."

Jeremy's grandfather mapped geological surveys of Tasmania and he produced a radical interpretation of how the land was formed, also narrating the "Notes on the News" for radio.

Jeremy went to school at St Bede's then Burke Hall and Xavier. "But I was undone there. It was the 1960s

behind the byline

and I didn't fit it, I kept asking the wrong questions at the wrong time. The Jesuits couldn't cope with the changes in youth culture and I mixed with the wrong people and the wrong people at school. So few stood up for me, except the music teacher—I felt abandoned. So I moved to the local high school and it was totally liberating. I founded the school newspaper, became student of the year, organised the dance, produced the school revue and I've since been back and taught there," he said.

He went on to Monash University. "Under my father's influence I studied sociology, for the future and economics, because it wouldn't hurt. They were very turbulent years and I got caught up in them; I was very passionate. Jim Bacon, later premier of Tasmania, was with us, and I remember ramming a sturdy eight inch square by 10 foot piece of timber through the glass doors of the administration building. It was about everything: Vietnam, parking fees for students, and there was a lot of unrest about the suitability of the curriculum.

"But, my oath, I finished my degree. I was president of the film society and I decided to use this as a weapon. I recounted the story of those years—Bob Ellis called it a 'travelogue'—and I screened it up and down the coast at all the campuses I could find. But it didn't work—I was charging two shillings to come in and I was going broke very quickly.

"My father's father always stressed the importance of academic thought

and its independence and at my daughter's graduation recently the chancellor spoke about regarding accepted practice with a critical eye. If you are critical you are ostracised and you lose the contract."

Teaching seemed to be "the thing" then so he did his Dip Ed at La Trobe and taught for about 15 years and travelled. "Diana and I met in an ashram in Fitzroy, we were married in an ashram in New York and we honeymooned in Woodstock, the 'perfect example of an American country town'; on the surface anyway, but we had a car accident and the local rednecks were very aggressive and unhelpful. But I love Americans' openness and go-getter style." Jeremy and Diana had two daughters, Stella and Jacquie, who are in the arts. "As an Indian Sikh said, they bring joy and happiness to the heart and it's absolutely true."

The couple returned to Melbourne where Jeremy taught legal studies, economics and history and was faculty head at Templestowe High, but in 1994 the school was closed down. "They were difficult and draining years for teachers and I questioned whether I should go on, and I finally took a package. I joined PMG as an educational technologist, making instructional video programs.

"I had travelled to south-east Asia, the Middle East, Europe and Israel and saw how people work in different ways. I had opened a felafel and ginger beer stall at festivals and university campuses but I was frowned upon as I always had a full tin of money. I tried working as a mechanic but I was not very good at running a business," he said.

"Since then I've been an educational consultant, writing text books, editing magazine sections and consulting to schools regarding the changing ways of teaching,

Ideas coming out of the national curriculum in the early 90s were very inspiring and I loved teachers teaching across geography-history-commerce and taking the dryness out of commerce. I was on all the committees and I was union rep, ensuring everyone went on strike. I loved the classroom."

But learning new ways was a bit difficult for some.

"I remember one teacher throwing a dinner plate which just missed me and shattered against the tiles above the sink. He was a typical time-server—55, male, who sat in class and read the form guide. Men got brittle and he was a bitter man who didn't like a bloke like me telling him about changes."

As a local, Jeremy loves going to the Follies, "seeing the neighbours there from year to year and coming out to find that Warrandyte hasn't burned down.

"Recently we were on the 11th floor of an apartment in Parkville and looking out the window I thought 'they don't have this'—the community, the Warrandyte festival. In the city you have to go to Fed Square for mass activity."

He said it's important to work for the community. "It was the new religion and I threw myself into it. There's a depth there—you don't have to go to a cave in India to explore these things, they're all here. But I don't know if I've found my niche. I've tried with the festival but contributing to the community is not easy for me."

In the February bushfires Jeremy planned to stay and defend the family home "until one by one the truth came out. I heard there was no water in North Warrandyte that day. I rang the CFA that afternoon as I could see smoke and they said don't worry, it's a long way away. Two hours later it

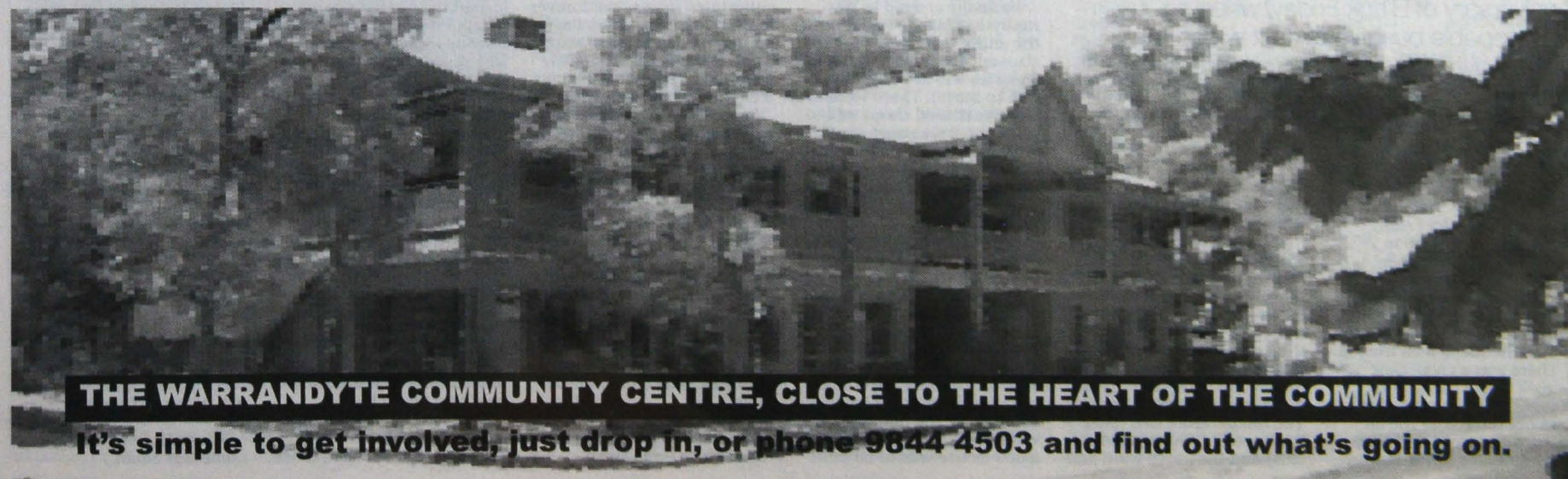
had reached St Andrews. One woman said she'd leave once embers started falling. How was she going to do that? Part of me is material enough to stay with the fire pump."

Jeremy's heroes have mainly been in the books of Karl Marx and Jack Kerouac. "Kerouac has endured with magic presence and his outlook, it's esoteric and he tapped into the indigenous experience. I'm very cautious about heroes now as I came undone. I read Joseph Campbell and started to be more careful.

"I should be marketing 'Out of the Blue', the story of the planning for the desal plant, which requires me as the producer to get out and sell it, but I find it hard to sell myself. I'd like to make a documentary that has meaning for me and is well received and widely seen. It may be shown at ACMI in May—I'll be interested to see how the environmental movement uses it. Otherwise I'd be researching the Ramsar agreement into Westernport Bay, the desal project and the pipes along the shore. During the financial downturn people respond when they're just about to fall over the cliff but the environment is past the point of no return for my children and theirs.

"There's the Chinese story of Lao-Tzu who tried to tell people how to find happiness and eventually he left the walled city. The gatekeeper cried 'how can you leave us?' and he asked him to write his thoughts down. Lao-Tzu went into a cave and wrote 65,000 rhyming couplets. 'How are you at time of death?' My mother who could hardly function was not content to let go. There must be something in the material world to prepare for death.

"The other thing is to transcend this sense of doing anything and find complete peace and equilibrium and move on. It's my ambivalence."



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Another Rotary art show hit

By KARLY HICKMAN

THE annual Rotary Art Show opening ushered in another fun-filled Warrandyte Festival.

The March 20 opening was well attended by community members, Manningham councillors, artists and Rotary representatives.

"Art is an integral part of the Warrandyte Festival and the Warrandyte community," Cr Meg Downie said as she officially opened the event.

Proceeds from this year's art show will go back into the local community with a particular emphasis on the Warrandyte Housing and Support Service, the Food Bank and the Bushfire Appeal.

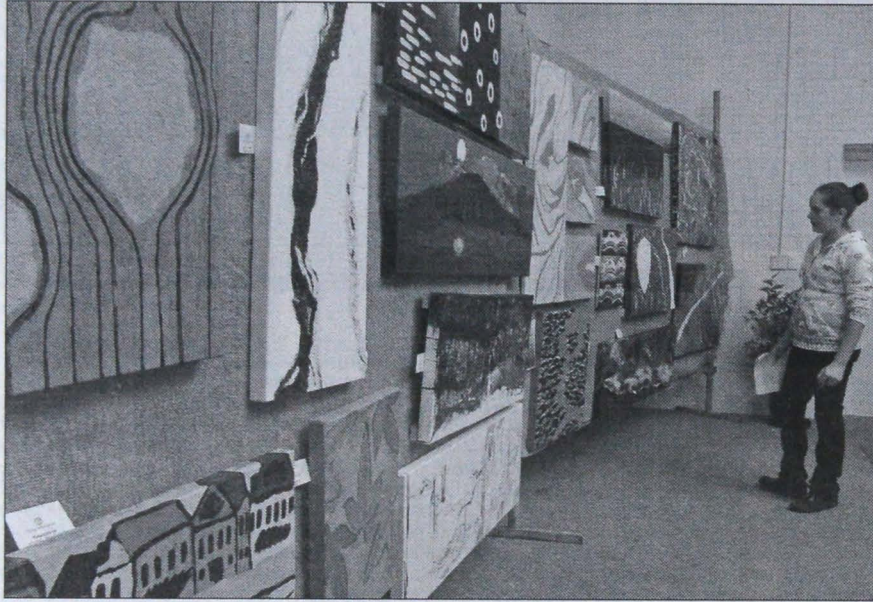
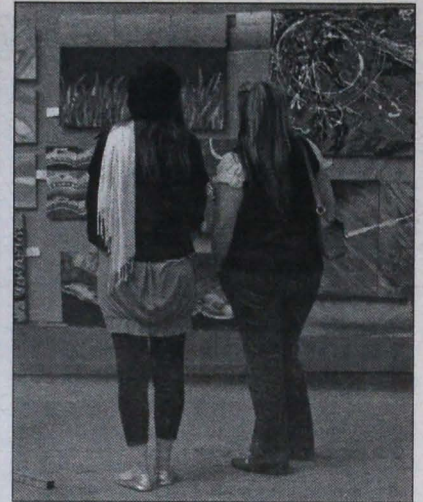
Visitors were able to view

330 artworks by local and interstate artists.

This year's show offered a specific student art award to students studying art at Warrandyte High School. The Young Artist Award was won by Year 11 Warrandyte High student Rebecca Keal for her *Houses of Colour*.

Rebecca was "shocked" by her success and said she "didn't want to do something too abstract" and would save the \$200 prize money.

The open prize was won by Terry Lewitzka for his *Sunlight and Shadows* with second prize going to Chris White for *Evening at Loch Ard Gorge*. In the 32cm and smaller category first prize went to John Fitzgerald for his *Morning Tea*.



Pictures by
STEPHEN REYNOLDS

Burnt memories

Jack

January 13 this year marked the 70th anniversary of Black Friday, when an unstoppable bushfire almost wiped out Warrandyte. Former local resident BUNTY MCKENZIE was 14 at the time. She remembers that fateful day as though it was yesterday...

BLACK Friday! That unlucky Friday, January 13 in 1939. It began when, as a 14 year-old I wheeled my borrowed bike back to the house in Kew where I had spent part of the school holidays with friends.

There was a clear view across to the Dandenong Ranges. Suddenly the view was obliterated as the air filled with smoke and haze. My home was in Warrandyte,

and as we looked out of the windows, it was obvious that there was a large fire somewhere in the hills.

At that moment the phone rang. My father was working in the city and his call was to tell me to pack my things as he was on his way to collect me. There seemed to be a fire in the vicinity of our home. How right he was! The temperature had risen to above 114 (40 degrees Celsius) and the north wind had

gathered strength during the morning.

We finally arrived in Warrandyte village to find almost the entire township destroyed, apart from the pub. (Aussies will never allow a pub to burn!). There were a few scattered shops still standing. It was only after talking to shocked residents that we learned the true extent of the devastation. There were no car radios in those days.

Some years previously my father purchased 10 acres of land on which there was a cottage and a large studio, previously belonging to the artist, the late Penleigh Boyd.

As it happened, all our possessions were in the studio, because the cottage had been let for the holidays. We were living in this building as a new house was to be built.

As my father and I drove through the gate, we were confronted by a scene forever imprinted on my mind. I'm sure everyone who has experienced the devastation of a wildfire has the same feelings, many far worse than ours.

As we all know, teenagers have a different outlook on life, and my first impression was fairly typical: look what's happened to my canoe! I had spent hours of fun with my friends in that canoe and this was all I could think of. Then I caught sight of my beautiful horse, standing shivering with shock and burns. I have forgotten the names of the people responsible for destroying animals at that time, but it was done very quickly with an expert and merciful bullet.

I was so upset by these terrible events that it was some time before I was aware of my

mother's condition. She had been at home alone and escaped the fire with her head wrapped in a wet towel. Having run up a steep hill, she reached the boundary fence in a state of exhaustion.

Suddenly the wind changed and the fire turned to burn against itself. It was only as an adult that I began to realise something of the ongoing trauma resulting from her experience—as must be the case with many fire victims.

It was a long, dry summer, and any water tanks that had survived the fires were very low. Because the pub was pumping water from the river, everyone armed themselves with towels and met there for a bath.

Everyone seemed to be covered in soot for weeks. Our only clothes were those

supplied by city charities who delivered things to the hall—then it was first in, best dressed! There was no media appeal for funds or organised distribution as at present, so people had to be more reliant on their own resources.

Some, afraid of the bush, moved away to other areas, many to the suburbs, but we joined the locals who stayed on to build again. My father joined the Bush Fire Brigade, as it was then known. Judge Len Stratton conducted an enquiry that resulted in the present organised volunteer brigades.

My fire experience is unimportant compared to that of thousands of other Aussies, but the memory is one that will never be forgotten.

(Bunty McKenzie's family name was Smith.)

Finals, but no titles for Hawks

Three South Warrandyte Hawks senior teams reached the Ringwood District cricket finals, but a losing Grand Final was the best any could achieve.

The Fourth XI started well in the field, restricting Scoresby/Ferndale to 5-103 at tea, but were unable to prevent the score reaching 205. The best of the bowlers were Under 18 players Troy Donis (5-48) and Tom Hall (3-21).

In reply, the Hawks lost wickets regularly and crawled to 133 with Under 16 player, Nathan Willoughby scoring 44.

The Third XI lost to Wantirna South. A score of 200 with Under 18 players Leon Holewa, 74, and Jack Hall, 27, top-scoring was never enough and was passed with only four wickets down.

The Second XI with Smith 4/29, Paul Milne 80 not out, Kane Hartrup 40 and Under 16 players Matt Manuell 63 and Darcy Price 55, went straight through to the Grand Final after beating Templeton, who won their Preliminary Final to earn a rematch.

At 6-100 at tea, thanks to four quick wickets from Under 18 bowler Robbie Bowen, Templeton was looking shaky, but 50 run partnership for the eighth wicket pushed their score to 187.

Facing eight overs before stumps, the Hawks collapsed to 3-10, and the next day staggered to 76.

South Warrandyte juniors also made finals action.

Wonga Park's 7-136 (Josh Kennedy 2-13) was too much for our U12-2s who managed 84 (Jake Sammartino 17 and Nathan Thompson 11).

Likewise, U14's score of 8-171 (Alex Kalathas 40 n.o., Lucas Williams 38, Daniel Redfern 31) was not enough to beat Wonga Park's 6-179 (Liam Batchelor 2-15 and

Thomas Scanlon 2-30).

U18-1 Brown reached the finals in fourth place to face the unbeaten Croydon

North were restricted to 120 with no batsman reaching 30 (Rob Bowen 4-5, Chris Ryan 3-11 and Tom Hall 1-19 off 10 overs).

In reply, Darcy Price dominated the scoring with an unbeaten 91 to help the side to 7-121 and a place in the Grand Final.

The following weekend was a complete contrast, with several more moderate scores, including Leon Holewa, 34, and Matt Grimwood, 26, helping the score to 179.

On the wide expanses of Exner Reserve, this score was enough, and Bayswater Park could only reach 137.

A number of excellent individual batting and bowling performances by juniors during junior and senior finals has set up a good base for future seasons. However, Hawks' coach Bob Neagle is not content to sit idly by and wait for next season.

He has enlisted former Victorian bowler Mick Lewis for some specialised training with a select group during winter.

● Outstanding Hawks player, Steve Garrett has swept all major awards at the club's senior presentation night.

He took out the First XI batting, bowling and Club Champion award.

Second XI: Batting, Ben Hartrup; bowling, Matt Cowen; team Champion, Dale Owen.

Third XI: Batting, Rob Cutler; bowling, Tom Chrisfield, team Champion, Rob Cutler.

Fourth XI: Batting, Tony Biggs; bowling, James Bowen; team Champion, Tony Biggs.

Fifth XI: Batting and bowling averages, John Cleary; team Champion, John Cleary.



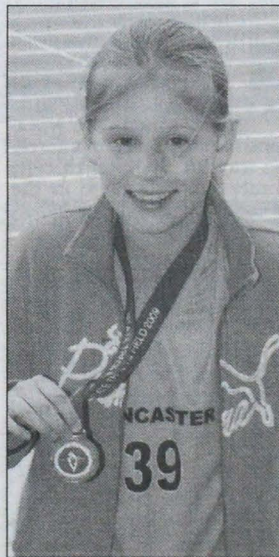
Fun Run a fair effort

The annual Fun Run held as part of the Park Orchards Strawberry Fair last month was a great success and many of the categories were won by Warrandyte identities.

Pictured after the Fun Run were from left (standing), race managers, Marita Annunziata and Catherine MacDonald, Ladies Open winner, Madeleine Prior and Mens Open winner, Mike McHugh. Category Winners Harrison Kerr, Liam Cridland, Laim Dame, Tom Warhurst, Abbey McHugh, Ashley Closs, Aaron Closs, Zac Price, Cara Cross, Matt and Devon Harris and race director, Jane KilKenny.

Kneeling: Mark Challen (Bendigo Bank sponsor) Jackie Hoser, Natalie MacDonald and Zoe MacDonald.

Nicole brings home silver hurdles medal



Nicole Reynolds

First year athlete Nicole Reynolds from Warrandyte won a silver medal at the recently held Victorian State Little Athletics Championships at Olympic Park.

Nicole, 10, from the East Doncaster club qualified for the 80, 70 and 60 metres hurdles at the state championships that are spread over two days.

Nicole's success on day two was preceded by an eventual first day at the championship.

Nicole's first day saw her crash heavily to the ground at the last hurdle of the 80 metres.

She sustained extensive grazing and major bruising to her leg.

An hour later a shaken but undeterred Nicole was able to run in the 70 metres, but still suffering from her

injuries she was run out in the heats.

On the Sunday morning a very nervous Nicole contested the Under 10, 60 metre hurdles and managed to qualify through to the final.

The final was run in windy conditions where Nicole led the field over the last hurdle but was eventually beaten to the finish line by 0.08 seconds to claim a much deserved silver medal.

Nicole started the season unable to hurdle but with post-Christmas training from coach Tom Kelly was able, in a short time, to instill technique with her natural speed and athleticism.

For more information on Little Athletics contact Liz Phillips on 0416187140 Or Edward Munks on emunks@gmail.com

Jack is top junior cricketer

Jack Ellis had a season with Warrandyte Cricket Club that he will never forget.

The 16-year-old played his debut First XI match, was part of the Second XI premiership, won the club's award for the best performed player in senior cricket and then won the Junior Champion of the Year as well as the Under 16 batting average.

In the Under 14s, nothing could separate Tim Nilsson and Sydney Phillip-Owen who shared the bowling award with an average of 13 runs per wicket.

Junior awards:
Under 14: Batting, Daniel Nilsson; bowling, Tim Nilsson and Sydney Phillip-Owen; fielding, Tom Ellis; coach's award, Ben McMellan.

Under 16: Batting, Jack Ellis, bowling, Rowan McKenzie; fielding, Alistair Douglas; coach's award, Dylan Burns.
Junior Champion 2009: Jack Ellis.

Tennis debutants miss title

A team of Warrandyte Tennis club boys, fresh to Saturday competition, reached the grand final in section boys singles/doubles 21.

They had held top position on the ladder for most of the season and had defeated East Camberwell by seven games in the semi final.

They could not manage enough games in the grand final where they lost to Donvale. The team included Thomas Battista, Zach Ballard, Nathan Delacy, Gareth Newberry and Sean Bowers.

Two other junior teams reached the finals. Saturday Boys singles/doubles 1 finished second on the ladder but lost to third team Templestowe in the semi final.

Sunday boys singles/doubles 7 after being top of the ladder for most of the season lost their semi final to Greythorn Park.

Sazenis wins club champion award



All-rounder, Matthew Sazenis won Warrandyte Cricket Club's First XI Club Champion award.

All-rounder, Matthew Sazenis has won his first Club Champion award at the Warrandyte Cricket Club.

Sazenis, 23, a former Under 16 captain, has been an outstanding left arm orthodox spin bowler in the First XI in recent years and his Club Champion title capped off another great year.

He also won the First XI bowling award.

Sazenis also had one of his best seasons with the bat.

Cameron Skermer took out the First XI batting award and also won the RDCA Second Division batting award. Skermer joined the club this year and has been a consistent top order batsman.

Another player to win an association award was

Fourth XI veteran bowler, John Prangley.

The Club Champion award for players other than First XI was won by Stuart Smead.

Jack Ellis won the club's Rising Star award. Ellis opened the batting in the Second XI and also made his senior debut during the season.

Award details:

First XI: Batting, Cameron Skermer; Bowling, Matthew Sazenis; Fielding, Matthew Chapman; Captain's Award, Campbell Holland.

Second XI: Batting, Marc Centofanti; Bowling, Adam Beardall; Fielding, Dale Lander; Captain's Award, Brendan Zach.

Third XI: Batting, Josh McKellar;

Bowling, Dean Gidley; Fielding, Stuart Smead; Captain's Award, Greg Creber.

Fourth XI: Batting, Nathan Croft; Bowling, John Prangley; Fielding, Geoff Zach; Captain's Award, John Prangley.

Fifth XI: Batting, Luke Revell; Bowling, Chris Douglas; Fielding, Luke Revell; Captain's Award, Luke Warren.

Jack McAuley Shield for senior Club Champion: Matthew Sazenis.

Darryl Valentine Shield for Club Champion (other than First XI): Stuart Smead
Maria McGhee Memorial Award for Best Performed Junior in Senior play: Jack Ellis
Clubperson of the Year:

Greg Creber
President's Award: Ben Taylor
Special performance awards:

Stuart Smead, 165 (4th XI v Bayswater Park)
Adam White, 100 (1st XI v Bayswater Park)
Brendan Zach, 144 (3rd XI v St Andrews)

Cameron Day, 131 (2nd XI v Chirnside Park)
Joel Greve, 126 n.o. (5th XI v Warranwood)
Marc Centofanti, 102 (2nd XI v Chirnside Park)

Greg Creber, 102 n.o. (4th XI v Lilydale)

Mitch Canham, 102 (4th XI v Ainslie Park)
Tim Hookey, 102 (2nd XI v Warranwood)

John Prangley, 8-24 (4th XI v Lilydale)
Chris Douglas, 7-25 (5th XI v Warranwood)

Warrandyte basketball round-up with Tony Oliver

Big V cope with Heat in Mildura

It was going to be a tough weekend in Mildura for the Warrandyte Venom BigV girls, with a double header against the local Mildura Heat.

Mildura had not played in the MSAC tournament and were an unknown quantity.

The first game on the Saturday was the Venom's 50th game in the BigV competition and coach Justin Nelson was looking forward to continue the growth of the club.

In a game that will be hard to top for the rest of the year, Venom recorded the win in a triple overtime game winning 77-70.

The ascendancy in the game swung back and forth all night.

Warrandyte took a commanding 10 point lead at halftime, 33-23. But it was Mildura who outplayed the opposition in the second half winning both quarters and forcing overtime.

Neither team could make a basket in the first overtime period and as the game progressed, made field goals and free throws were more valuable than gold.

Both teams displayed some amazing endurance and stamina maintaining efforts, the Venom held off the Heat on the road.

For Warrandyte, a heroic 50 minute effort from Janelle Lucas reaped 23 points, 15 rebounds, six assists and four steals,



Warrandyte's Big V Venom squad. Back row from left: Jenni O'Brien (team manager), Chelsea Ransom, Carla Sabidussi, Janelle Lucas, Sharlene Dalsanto, Molly Both, Jaz Borella, Ash Brobbel, Jess Oram, Justin Nelson (coach). Front: Meg Dargan, Nicolette Prior, Mollie Burke, Billie Addlem (vc), Sally Phillips (captain), Lauren Sabidussi, Bec Heddles, Casey Taylor.

including the most determined player award.

The question was how the teams would recover for the back up game on the Sunday.

Both teams started like they still hadn't slept from the game before.

Warrandyte snapped out of their early slump at the first break to outscore the home side 16-6 in the second term to take a 21-15 lead into the halftime break.

The second half was tight

on the scoreboard, but the Venom were clearly on top on the boards, particularly at the offensive end.

Warrandyte held on for a 48-37 win to wrap up a successful visit.

Janelle Lucas backed up her efforts from the night before top scoring with 17 points, while for the Heat, Amanda Hederics was strong again for Mildura, supported by a cameo of accurate shooting from Yelena Grivec.

"It's always tough to win in Mildura, but to do it twice within 12 hours and in extraordinary circumstances says so much about our team," said Nelson.

"The younger players learnt plenty and the more experienced players did exactly what we have come to expect from them.

"It was a fantastic weekend for the club and a terrific way for the club to celebrate its 50th game in the Big V."

Venom make grade as season opens

The grading is over and the representative basketball season is under way for most of the Venom sides.

A full round of matches at local stadiums saw the Venom come away with five wins, two exciting draws and four losses.

The Under 20 Metro 4 boys got their season away to a good start with a solid 54-21 win over Coburg.

The Venom controlled the game in both halves giving Coburg no chance to settle. Josh Blakey with 12 points led the scoring with good contributions from all players.

At Warrandyte Community Sports Centre, Justin Nelson took the Under 18 girls to a solid 42-27 win over the visiting Western Port.

Rebecca Heddles opened the scoring for the Venom and points to Nicolette Prior soon followed.

Western Port were never able to put sufficient scoreboard pressure on the Venom. Guard Meg Dargan continued to put pressure on the Western Port defence and led the scoring with nine points.

Earlier in the night, Venom's Under 16 VC girls went down gallantly to Sandringham 46-34.

The Venom took the game up to Sandringham, closing the gap to three points in the final quarter. However, the visitors were able to regroup and were steadier under the basket to take the points.

At the Park Orchards stadium, Gerry Pearce's Under 14 boys had a good win over the travelling Ballarat by 43-31.

Centre Chris Bolland was too dominant, scoring 16 points with guard Aidan Ceh contributing a solid 10 points to the win.

In the earlier game, Gavin Eddy's Metro 4 boys had the narrowest 33-32 win against Knox.

Warrandyte seemed always in control during the game but Knox came back with a late surge to lead by four points in the final minutes.

Warrandyte needed to regroup and drew level with two goals inside to James Eddy. It was down to the final seconds when a defensive error against Knox sent Kane Keppel to the charity line.

One for two was sufficient to give the Venom boys a good start to the season.

Redbacks bring home premiership titles

The grand finals of the domestic Saturday basketball competition have just been completed with Warrandyte Redbacks snaring some key flags.

It was a toss up as to which was the most valuable - the Under 12A boys grand final or the Under 18 Girls grand final.

The girls were on court first and held a 12-10 advantage at the break. Neither side were able to break away.

The second half was similar but the Redback girls appeared to be in control with a six point lead late in the game. Bulleen surged to close the gap to two points before Redback's Phillipa Birch scored a field goal and was successful with three shots from the free throw line to give the Redbacks a 28-25 win.

Stand-in coach Robyn Jones was happy but quick to point out that the girls along with regular coach Jenni O'Brien had done all the work.

Phillipa Birch top scored with 10 points with Ashley Collins contributing eight points, Simone Reid six points and April Richardson scored four points.

Doug Hilton's Under 12A grade boys were then on court taking on Bulleen. These two sides had had a number of close games during the season with Warrandyte just taking the points in the semi final.

The Redbacks opened very strongly to lead 12-2 at one stage. Bulleen finished the half better to close the gap to seven points at the break.

The second half mirrored the first with the Redbacks establishing what should have been the winning margin.

The Bulleen side gained the momentum in the final minutes as the Redback boys were hanging on.

The scores were locked together in the final seconds before Conor Gardiner scored the decisive basket for Warrandyte.

Bulleen's final shot as the siren went missed the net and Warrandyte were premiers with a 29-27 score line.

Coach Doug Hilton was hoarse after the game.

"You all should be very proud of your efforts against such fantastic opposition," he told his young team.

"Every single one chased, and worked hard. The side has bound together for a wonderful season. In 30 years time you will look back on this and remember all your team mates."

Not everything went the Redback's way with an under-strength Under 12 girls side going down 41-32 to Bulleen.

Warrandyte were missing key players with injury and other basketball duties, but with only five players they were always going to struggle against good opposition.

The girls closed the gap to three points just inside the final three minutes but could not go on for the against-the-odds win.

Courtney Petalas top scored with 13 points with good support from Sophie Richardson with nine points and Ashlee Brobbel with eight points.

Earlier in the day, Dale Leeson's Under 12 girls had a heart stopping win over Koonung by 23-20.

The Redback girls had led all match and appeared to be headed for a comfortable win when leading by 11 points with just over two minutes to go. Thereafter it was all Koonung who pres-

sured all the way to the final siren.

Hayley McIntyre with seven points led the scoring for Warrandyte with Teagan Leeson and Lucie Royal with six each.

Scott Martini's Under 10 boys game up against a better team in Nunawading and went down 37-25 in the grand final.

Matthew McLoughlin dominated the scoring racking up 18 points and picked up the Most Determined Player award as well.

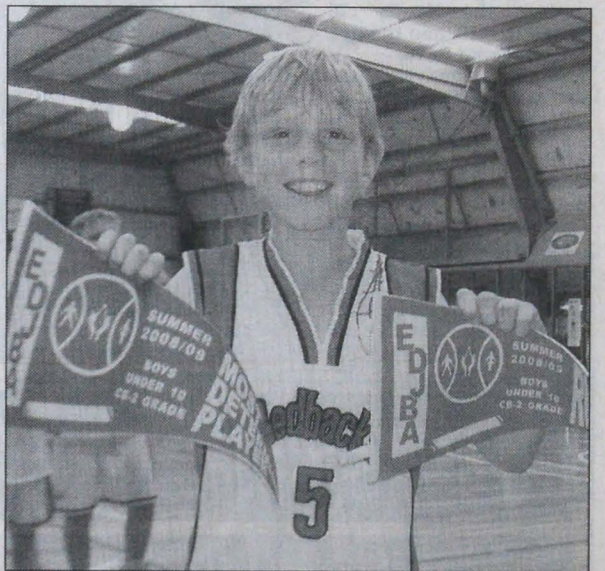
"A really good season and an exceptionally unselfish team players. A pleasure to coach and really nice kids," was Martini's comment after the game.

Jack Power's Under 12 boys were runners up against a strong Balwyn side, losing 33-13.

"It was a great season, and the kids learnt heaps. They are a lovely bunch of boys," Power said.

The Under 16 B grade girls perhaps surprisingly went down to Park Orchards by 29-26. Both sides were very nervous and probably under performed against their expectations.

Warrandyte came back



Matthew McLoughlin was voted Most Determined Player in the Under 10 boys final.

from a 10 point deficit in the second half but could not bridge the margin at the final whistle.

The Under 8 C grade girls, coached by Moura Yammouni, tried hard but lost 8-4 against Bulleen.

The team has made great progress in their two seasons of basketball, going from difficulties in bouncing the ball in the first season to runners up in a grand final. Much credit is due to their hard working coach in bringing these girls on so much, especially in team skills.

It was going to be a fairly tale finish when the Under 20 girls took on Banyule in

the A2 grand final. For most of the girls this was their last season in domestic basketball with Warrandyte. Most of the girls also played representative basketball with distinction.

Banyule had other ideas and were easy winners in the end by 57-29. Banyule were stronger overall and with 10 three-point successes were always going to be the winners.

For the Redbacks, Lindel Thomas top scored with eight points, with Andrea Peters contributing seven points, Sarah Ball (6), Kirra Soly (5) Jess Bensch (2) and Krystina Witt (1).

Mifsud takes out singles title

A new junior boys club champion has been crowned at Warrandyte Tennis club following the championship finals played late last month.

Last year's runner up, Adrian Mifsud defeated Tristan Jackson to take out the title in straight sets 7-5,6-4.

In the girls finals Elise Northover defeated the 2008 title holder, Jade Valentino in straight sets 6-1,6-3. Elise previously held the title in 2007.

Results:

Under 18 boys singles: Adrian Mifsud d Tristan Jackson 7-5, 6-4.

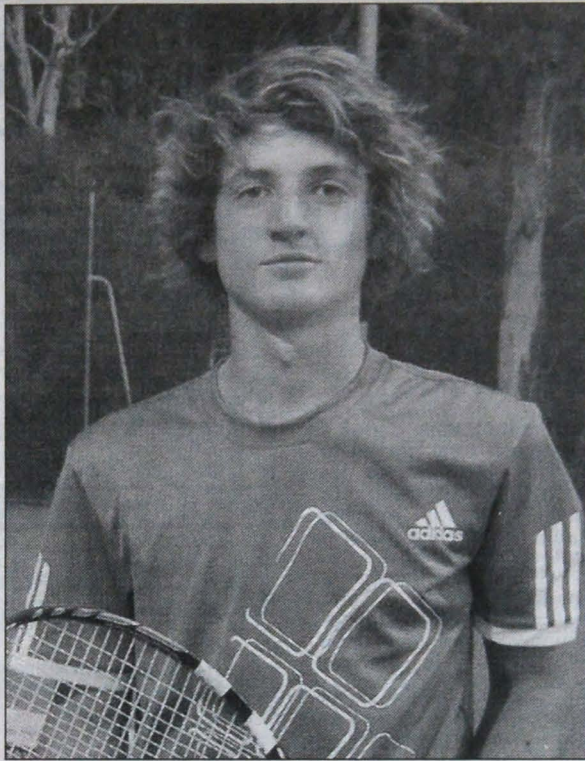
Under 18 boys doubles: Daniel Tester/Ryan Tester d Adrian Mifsud/Michael Tricarico 8-4.

Under 15 boys doubles: Ryan Tester/Brayden Mifsud d Daniel Ford-Learner/Daniel Mifsud 8-2.

Under 13 boys singles: Kieran Robertson d James Buckley 8-1.

Under 13 boys doubles: James Buckley/Matthew Gilling d Nathan De Lacy/Callum Northover 8-3.

Under 18 girls singles: Elise Northover d Jade Valentino 6-1, 6-3.



Adrian Mifsud, winner of Warrandyte tennis Club's Under 18 Boys singles championship.



Warrandyte Tennis Club Girls Under 18 singles champion, Elise Northover, right, with runner-up, Jade Valentino.



Under 15 Boys Doubles winners, Brayden Mifsud and Ryan Tester, left, with runners-up Daniel Ford-Learner and Daniel Mifsud.



Under 13 Boys doubles winners, James Buckley and Matthew Gilling, left, with runners-up Callum Northover and Nathan De Lacy.



Under 13 Boys Singles winner, Kieran Robertson, right, with runner-up James Buckley.



Tristan Jackson, runner-up in the Boys Under 18 Singles championship.



Under 18 Doubles champions Daniel Tester, Ryan Tester, left, with runners-up, Michael Tricarico, Adrian Mifsud.



Senior Singles/Doubles Section 3 premiership winners, from left, back row: Ryan Tester, Daniel Tester, Adrian Mifsud, Brayden Mifsud. Front: Daniel Mifsud, Michael Tricarico.

Juniors take out senior title

A team of Warrandyte Tennis Club juniors playing together for the first time in senior Saturday competition brought home the winning flag from their recent grand final.

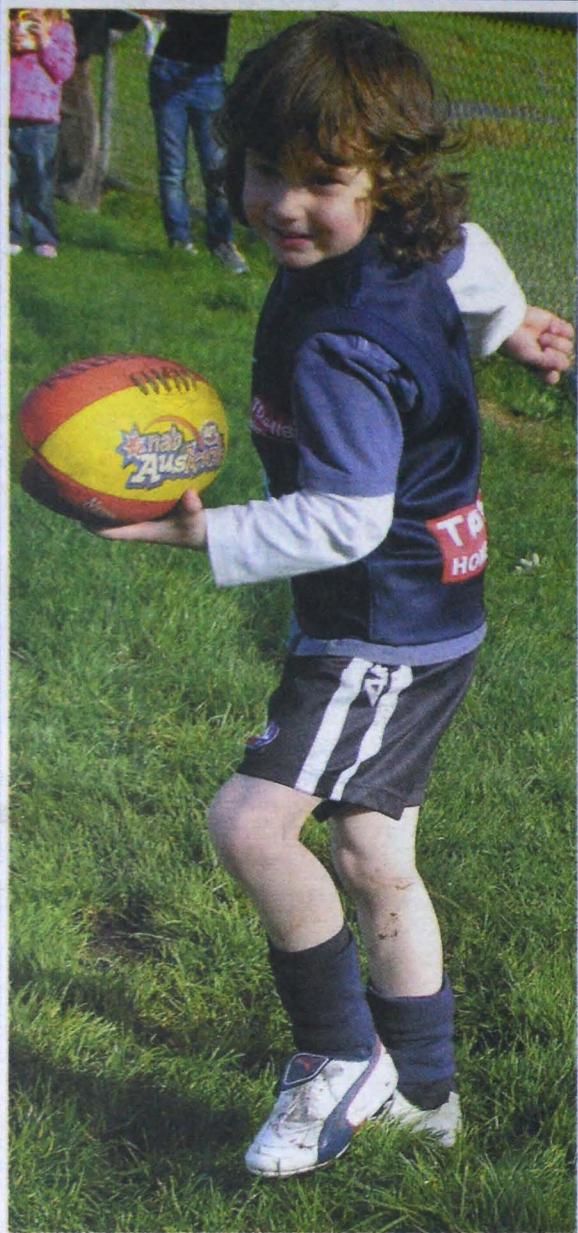
Section 3 singles/doubles defeated Wonga Park taking five of the six rubbers with a winning margin of 61 games to 27 games.

The team included Adrian Mifsud, Michael Tricarico, Ryan Tester, Daniel Tester, Brayden Mifsud and Daniel Mifsud. Another Warrandyte team playing in the

Saturday Open sets 9 grand final had a more difficult job on their hands when they played against Eaglemont.

Eaglemont had gone through the season, not only undefeated, but they hadn't dropped a single set throughout.

They comfortably defeated Warrandyte 48 games to 12 games. Brendan Hogan, Andrew Sommers, John Edsell, Adam Waugh, Sam Dell'Aglio, Paul Green, Mark Arnold and Mark Bence played in this team across the season.



Ethan Ward shows his handballing skills during an Auskick session last season.

Auskickers set to show their skills

Warrandyte's Auskick season starts on Saturday May 2 at the Warrandyte football oval at 9am.

Auskickers can still register during the season and the cost for the year is \$60 per child. Each child receives a backpack, football, pump, an AFL CD and a trophy at year's end.

On May 9 the annual Mother's Day kicking competition and family barbeque will be held immediately after the sessions with local master chefs Michael Canty and Mark Papez in charge of the cooking.

Warrandyte has the following coaches and assistants committed for the coming year: Chris Jackson, Paul dal Sasso, Marty Rostron, Mike Stark, Brad MacAndrew, Owen Humphris, Stuart Ball, Michael Hodgson, Edward Munks, Mark Papez and Peter Sharpe.

There is always a welcome opportunity for interested persons to begin or restart their coaching careers at this level.

Warrandyte's senior EFL club president Phil Treeby has also welcomed the young Auskick champs to participate at half time in their home games.

Warrandyte Auskick is in the Eastern Ranges TAC cup region and for more details on a football pathway to the AFL please look at their website at: easternranges.afvic.com.au or contact Anthony Parkin on 9724 9488.

For information on joining Warrandyte Auskick contact Edward Munks on 0434 020 191 or emunks@gmail.com

Junior footballers ready to kick off new season

Warrandyte junior footballers had to go far and wide for their first hit out for the new season on March 29.

The club's thanks go to Kangaroo Ground primary school and Research Junior Football Club for hosting our junior teams.

The games were played in

terrific spirit and provided well matched competition across the age groups.

The first round kicks off on April 19 and the players are busy honing their skills and building a fitness base to ensure a good start.

The coaches are upbeat about the season and look forward to confronting the

Positive signs for new Bloods

REPORT: BEN TAYLOR

Inaccurate kicking during a tense final term proved to be a costly factor in Warrandyte's loss to Boronia in the opening round of EFL Third Division football on Saturday.

The Bloods, under new coach, Michael Tout, matched their stronger opponents for the first three quarters and led by two points at the final break.

But Boronia, one of last season's finalists and early premiership favourites for this season, were able to steady in the pressure moments of the final term to win by 19 points.

The Bloods had more scoring shots than their opponents but Boronia were able to find the goals when it mattered in a tight finish.

It was a mix of nerves, excitement and anticipation that filled the change rooms before the Bloods ran out on to the ground on Saturday.

Months of preparation had led to this game and the players were quietly confident of causing an upset win.

A playing group saw some new faces who were eager to play together for the first time and test out all their plans and efforts of the pre-season.

The game started in the expected fashion, with both teams fighting hard for the ball and tackling in a ferocious manner. The pressure around the ball was intense and the courage shown by Warrandyte's onballers was inspiring to their team mates.

Warrandyte held off Boronia's initial attack and kept their heads up after conceding the first two goals.

Eventually Warrandyte's tackling and pressure around the ball were too much for their opposition as they kicked five first quarter goals, four coming from the boot of full forward Michael Morello and one from inspiring captain Tom Naughtin.

The frustration was evident from a shocked Boronia, and a small melee at quarter time further inspired the Bloods.

Warrandyte controlled the ball in the second term but failed to capitalise on the scoreboard.

Warrandyte's attack was led by the courageous Ben Reid and Luke Naughtin who set an example for younger players such as Tim Beasley, who showed commitment and courage well beyond his years.

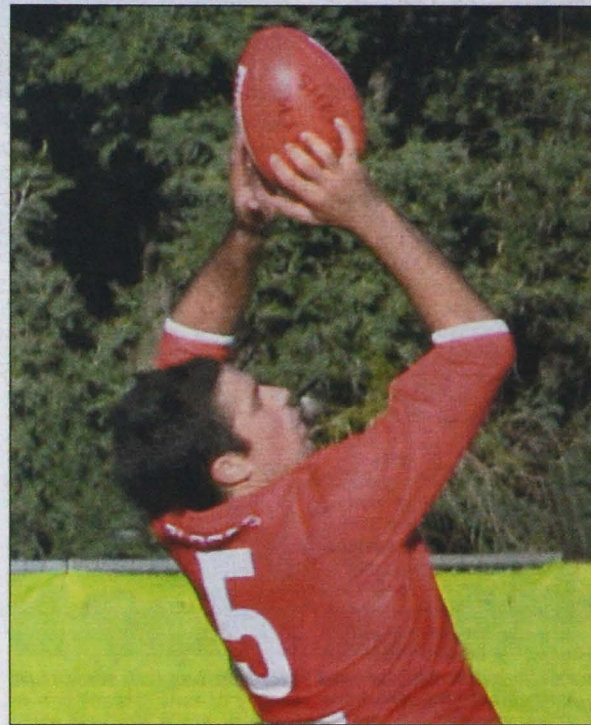
on-field challenges ahead.

Under 9s coach Carlos Castagna was pleased with the determined spirit of the boys.

Under 10s coach Dick Baker felt the form in the practice match was very promising.

The three new recruits Joshua Newman, Connor

Inaccurate kicking costly in first round



Warrandyte full forward, Michael Morello kicked four first quarter goals against Boronia in EFL football on Saturday.

The struggle on the field could also be seen on the scoreboard with just one goal separating the teams at the half time break.

Warrandyte had been in this position before, showing they could match it with the opposition but then falling away in the second half.

Tout pleaded with his players to stay positive and continue their first half effort and the third quarter played out in much the same fashion as the first two with both teams fighting hard to break away.

Warrandyte held a lead of just two points as they gathered at the three quarter time huddle.

Unfortunately for the Bloods, some inaccurate kicking and poor luck led to a 19 point loss.

In the end it was a simple case of Boronia playing out the game better and finishing stronger.

Tout praised the efforts of his team and said that for every negative about the

game there were five or six positives to be taken away.

RESERVES

The early signs were encouraging for the Reserves as former captain Chris Chapman booted a goal that awoke the crowd and inspired his team mates who found themselves with an early lead.

Unfortunately this lead would not last long as Boronia fought back and took advantage of some skill errors to go into quarter time leading by two goals.

New Reserves coach Adam Hinds was positive in his quarter time address, pointing out that Warrandyte's aggression and hardness at the ball would lead to further scoring opportunities.

However, the desperation and want for the football were not quite enough in the second quarter, which saw Boronia stretch their lead even further, going into half time leading by

37 points.

It was a scene all too familiar with Warrandyte, trying hard early but being overrun by slightly better opposition.

The challenge was put to the players to either let this season play out like the two previous seasons, or show some character and fight back.

The challenge was taken in the third quarter, looking like a new team in the red and white and showcasing the fitness that months of training had provided.

In a spirited comeback, Warrandyte showed a new sense of character and strength that pleased both supporters and coaching staff.

First-gamer Jake Bentley played a tagging role against one of the opposition's key midfielders, effectively shutting him out of the match in the second half, and newcomers to the club Daniel Bryant and Ryan Bethune imposed themselves, gathering plenty of hard ball possessions.

Co-captain Grant Godwin and club veteran Stewart Rough were also proving valuable and providing physical presence across half-back.

Unfortunately, this new attitude and work ethic was not enough to overcome Boronia who simply played better in the phases of the match that really mattered.

Warrandyte eventually went down by 23 points, winning the second half as well as the respect of the opposition through their fighting attitude.

Although a loss was not the ideal beginning to season 2009, the foundations are in place for a strong year. With many players unable to grasp a playing spot, internal competition will be fierce in the bid to find a place in the starting team.

If the reserves can continue to play the style of football that it showed on the weekend then success is bound to follow.

UNDER 18s

Season 2009 got off to a promising start on Saturday for Warrandyte with the Under 18s easily overcoming Boronia by five goals.

The younger contingent of the club are vital not only as a source of future talent but also through the enthusiasm and energy they bring with them.

A winning start will hopefully motivate the boys to work even harder to try and see finals action this year, a feat that is well within reach if their current efforts and determined attitude continue.

Scores:

Seniors: Warrandyte 8.15-63 lost to Boronia 12.10-82
Best: Naughtin, Reid, Large, T. Beasley
Reserves: Warrandyte 7.4-46 lost to Boronia 10.9-69
Best: Bentley, Godwin, Rough, Bryant
Under 18: Warrandyte 9.10-64 d. Boronia 5.3-33

on the day.

Coach Steve Blakey is looking forward to the boys testing their skills against top flight opposition throughout 2009.

The Under 14s led by Peter Stafford looked sharp and are looking forward to a competitive year in Gold division.

Huntly and Matthew Higgins will add firepower to the group who played Tackers in 2008.

Baker would like to see a few more boys sign up to add to his list but added: "Round 1 can't come quick enough for the boys."

The Under 15s played well despite low numbers

'Dytes bring home a premiership double

By Diary Sports Editor, ROBERT WHITE

The success of a sporting club is usually measured by the performance of the senior team.

But for Warrandyte Cricket Club the measure of success for 2008-09 is reflected in winning two lower grade premierships and having two other sides (Third XI and Fourth XI) making the finals.

The Second XI, which finished more than two games clear on top of the ladder, had an emphatic seven wicket Grand Final win and has earned promotion into the third of the Ringwood District Cricket Association's three premier divisions.

This is an outstanding effort as Warrandyte now have two teams in the top three divisions with the First XI holding onto their place in the Second Division (Wilkins Cup).

The premiership win for the Fifth XI is also highly significant.

The club re-introduced a "Father and Son" team to enable many of the talented junior players to play with their fathers or other senior club members.

Although a number of matches were forfeited during the year by other clubs, Warrandyte, under the astute leadership of Greg Warren, finished the year in second position and won the Grand Final by more than 120 runs.

"These results are great positives for the club going into the future," said Warrandyte president Matthew Chapman.

"The seniors were disappointing this season but rallied in the final games in pressure situations.

"But the effort of the Second XI in outplaying many of the Second XIs of more powerful RDCA

Chandler Shield clubs was a tribute to their ability and the depth of the playing group we now have at Warrandyte.

"The efforts of youngsters like Jake Sherriff, Daniel Barry, Jack Ellis and Alex McIntosh were outstanding all year while Cam Day led the side with tremendous enthusiasm and was a great role model for the team."

Chapman said the efforts of the Fifth XI were outstanding with more than half the team made up of Under 14 and Under 16 players.

"There are some pretty talented young players in that team and they will be pressing for senior selection in the not too distant future," he said.

The Second XI's win was built on a strong bowling line-up which gave the Chirnside Park batsmen very little chance to settle.

Veteran Steve Warr with four wickets and young pace bowler Jake Sherriff had their opponents 5-22 in a spirited opening until a 70-run partnership between two experienced players threatened to turn the game around.

But a brilliant match-defining diving catch by Adam Beardall in the gully turned the game around and Chirnside Park were all out for 121.

Warrandyte began the chase badly with consistent opening batsman, Mark Centofanti losing his wicket for one run and then Brendan Zach fell soon after leaving Barry to join Ellis and the two batsmen took the score safely to 2-34 at stumps.

Ellis lost his wicket soon after the resumption but Barry and wicketkeeper-batsman, Dale Lander set about the match-win-

ning partnership with Barry unbeaten on 35 and Lander scoring 55 not out.

Barry was rewarded with the Player of the Match award for his efforts.

The Fifth XI batted first and struggled early against some tight Norwood bowling and slipped to 6-108 before a 90-run partnership between Chris Douglas (48) and Lauchy Dougherty (47 n.o.) steadied the innings to finish at a creditable 7-216.

Adam Gamble and Douglas crashed through the Norwood top order and they never recovered,

being all out for 91.

Gamble finished with 4-33 and Douglas 2-12 off 11 disciplined overs.

His batting and bowling efforts earned Douglas the Player of the Match award.

Scores:
Second XI: Warrandyte 3-124 (Lander 55 n.o., Barry 35 n.o.) d Chirnside Park 121 (Warr 4-25, Sherriff 2-20).

Fifth XI: Warrandyte 7-217 (Douglas 48, Dougharty 47 n.o., Jones, 25, G. Warren 25) d Norwood 91 (Gamble 4-33, Douglas 2-11).



Daniel Barry ... Player of the Match in the Second XI premiership win.



Captains, Cam Day, left, (Second XI) and Greg Warren (Fifth XI) show off their premiership medallions.



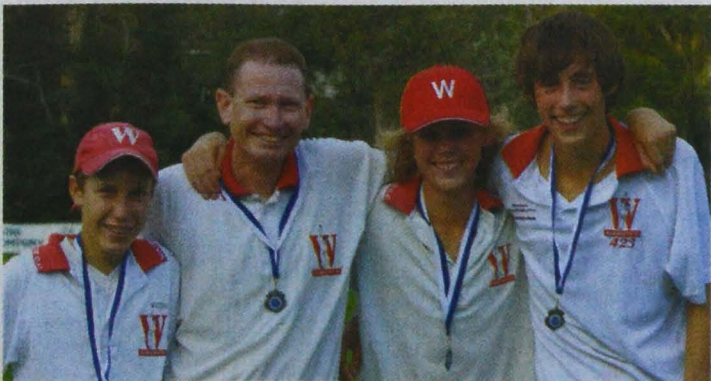
Chris Douglas ... Player of the Match in the Fifth XI premiership win.



Adam Gamble hits out during the Fifth XI innings of 217 runs.



The Second XI premiership team. From left, back row: Alex McIntosh, Jake Sherriff, Steve Warr, Cam Day, Marc Centofanti, Jack Ellis, Mitch Gaffney. Front: Dan Barry, Brendan Zach, Dale Lander, Adam Beardall, Stuart Howarth.



Luke and Greg Warren, left, with Tom and Jack Ellis.

Family flag festival

It was a real premiership family affair at Warrandyte.

Greg Warren captained the Fifth XI to a premiership and the team included his son, Luke.

Also in the team was Tom Ellis whose brother, Jack, was a member of Warrandyte's Second XI premiership team.



Warrandyte's Fifth XI premiership team. From left, back row: Nathan Aly (12th man), Luke Revell, Tim Baker, Adam Gamble, Chris Carver, Darcy Jones, Greg Warren. Front: Luke Warren, Tom Ellis, Rowan McKenzie, Chris Douglas, Lachlan Dougherty.



Lauchy Dougherty scored an unbeaten 47 for the Fifth XI.

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REAL ESTATE PTY LTD

183 - 187 YARRA STREET, WARRANDYTE 3113

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

Email: admin@landfield.com.au

Lions Club of Warrandyte Inc.

Meets 2nd & 4th Thursdays

Hearing Tests at Warrandyte Primary School 23 May 2009 for pre-schoolers and prep children between 8:45 a.m. and 3:15 p.m.

Enquiries and bookings telephone 9844 2041 or 9722 1369.



www.lionsclubwarrandyte.org.au

WARRANDYTE SOUTH

The Sounds of Silence

Charlie Paterson has lived in this simple white weatherboard for 60 years, and loved every minute of it. A peaceful bush setting bordering Warrandyte State Park, with kangaroos on your door step, access to horse riding/walking trails, lounge with wood heater, three huge bedrooms (master with BIR) and 84,000 litres of water tanks to service the 1/4 acre block. Plus a carport, 4 sheds, an enclosed rear verandah and a superb location, just minutes from Yarra Street shops and services.

PRICE: \$360k - \$400k



Kick Back & Relax

A warm and inviting 5-bedroom home, set amid tranquil native gardens on a 785sqm (approx) property that borders acreage. Superb mountain views from a timber deck amid the trees, solid timber kitchen with Westinghouse appliances, formal lounge, meals area, open study, upstairs TV/sitting room and 3 bathrooms. Plus split/system unit, double tandem carport, underground storage/cellar with space for potential office or rumpus.

PRICE: \$450k plus



WARRANDYTE

WARRANDYTE NORTH

The Long Weekend

Imagine a long weekend escape every day of your life from this family retreat on 1 & 3/4 acres. A front entertainment area overlooks native gardens and rolling lawns, with a big open kitchen to watch children roam safely. With four robed bedrooms (the master with a huge ensuite), a tiled family room and study nook, there's room enough to watch your children grow. Fully fenced with a separate animal paddock, double carport and 3 sheds in a tranquil corner of Warrandyte North.

PRICE: \$580k plus



Make the Tree Change to the River

Escape the noise, traffic and chaos of city life with this secluded river frontage retreat. A double brick split level home with 3 bedrooms + study/4th, formal lounge, rumpus room and bar, double carport, water tank, secure dog run and inground gas-heated pool on over 1/4 of an acre. A maple timber kitchen and meals area opens to a spectacular deck facing the river, where kids can kayak, swim and fish. Minutes from schools, shopping and restaurants.

PRICE: \$590k plus



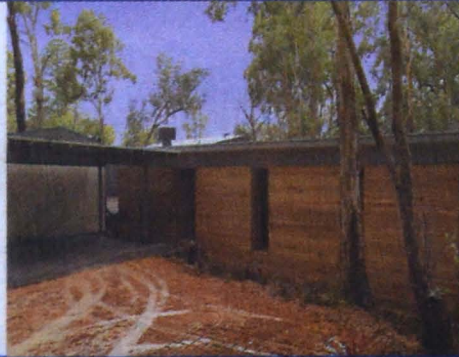
WARRANDYTE

WARRANDYTE

In the Heart of Warrandyte

A beautifully crafted architectural contemporary design, encompassing the excellent north orientation of the site. The interior of the kitchen, living and dining, flows directly through to the exterior to allow for informal relaxed entertaining. This project marries cleverly with its surrounds, emphasising the rich natural textures of the bush and yet not compromising on modern function or understated style. A unique pocket of architectural homes within Warrandyte situated within walking distance to the shops, public transport and local schools.

PRICE: \$560k plus



The Best Kept Secret

Rarely does the opportunity arise to secure such a magnificent block in one of Warrandyte's most sought after locations. Build your dream home on this cleared allotment of approximately 1 & 1/2 acres, boasting magnificent views of the Warrandyte hills. Don't miss this chance to secure a great allotment.

PRICE: \$625k plus



WARRANDYTE NORTH

WARRANDYTE NORTH

A New Adventure Begins

Enjoy family adventures galore in this impressive riverside home on just over one acre. Just 100 metres to the Yarra for bushwalking, kayaking and fishing, the two storey (approx) 40 square hour living zones, 4 double bedrooms and river views, master with W study/home office, mod con heating/vacuum, evaporative garage. A wrap-around verandah and covered porch lets you take in the pristine bushland, sheltered from noise, traffic and neighbours.

SOLD



Take Your Place At The Top

Perched at the top of a private court is this grand custom-built residence on 1/2 an acre, with 11 ft ceilings, hardwood floors, formal lounge with brick OFP, private dining room and balcony. With 3 bedrooms, timber kitchen with Bosch appliances, family room with cathedral ceiling, ducted heating/evaporative and master overlooking a resort. Double remote garage, workshop, cellar and storage - truly a refined property so close to the river and Yarra Street shops.

SOLD



WARRANDYTE