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# WARRANDYTE diary

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from  
everyone  
at the  
Diary



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— Anonymous



# WARRANDYTE diary

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### NEXT ISSUE

Next issue of the Diary will be published on Wednesday February 10, 2010. Advertising and editorial copy closes Friday, January 29, 2010.

### OUR NEWSPAPER

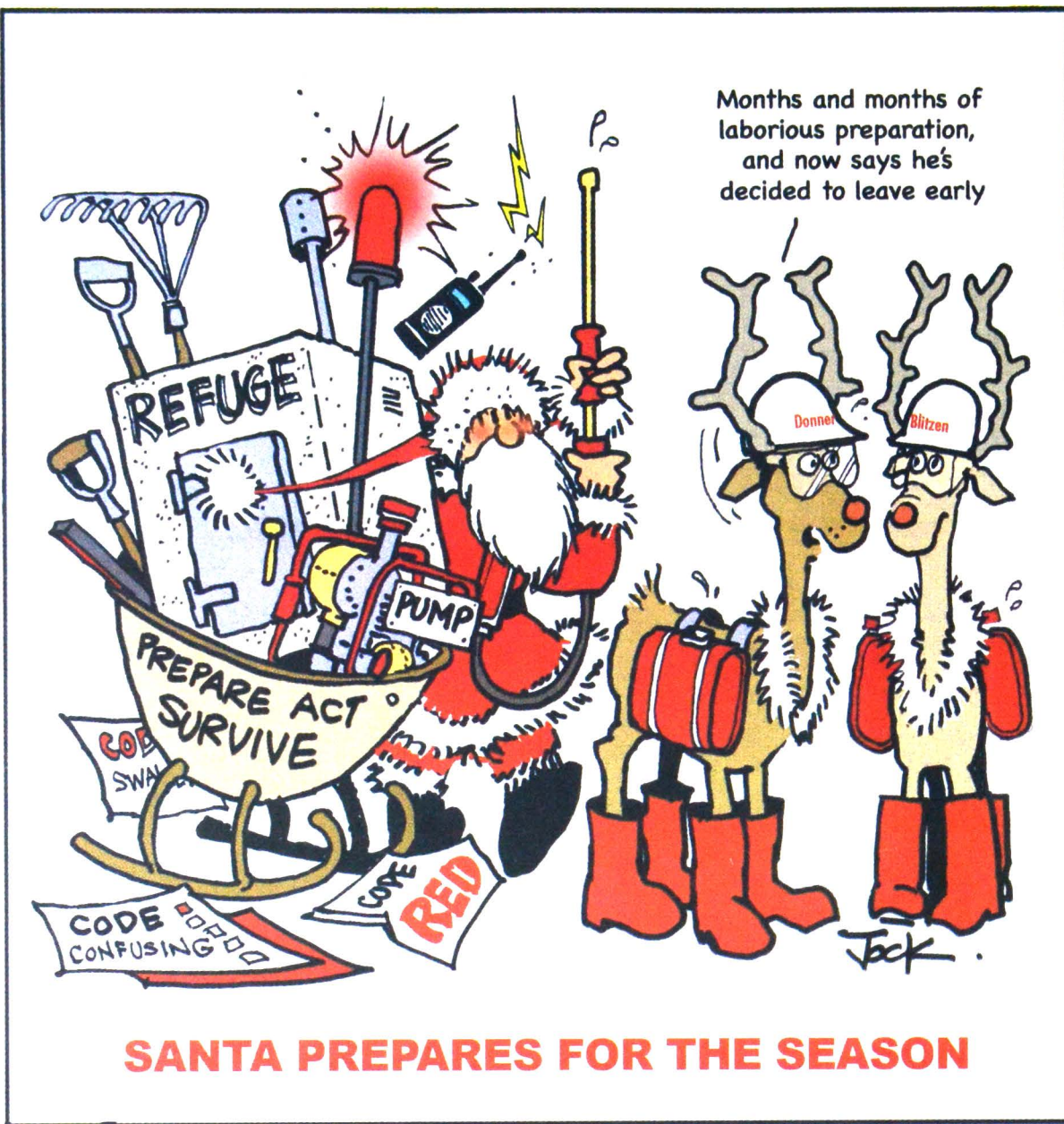
The Warrandyte Diary was established in 1970 as a small local newsletter. Although it has developed over the years, it has retained its strong community character, being produced by volunteers with only one aim: to serve its community. Financed solely through advertising, it guards its non-for-profit, 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.

## OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



Months and months of laborious preparation, and now says he's decided to leave early

### SANTA PREPARES FOR THE SEASON

# Just a line to let you know...

**N**ARELLE worked her way through the pile of Christmas cards, addressing the envelopes and slipping in a copy of the annual Christmas missive.

"Dear friend or relative, It's been another memorable year for the Trotts! I was only saying to Neville the other day, you wouldn't believe the things that happen to this family even if you read it in the Diary!"

Back in February I put our old treadmill on E-bay. I had to stop using it because it speeds up by itself and one time I came off the back of it and smashed our lava lamp. Anyway a lady called Eunice Hinkle bought it who used to live next door to us in Montmorency when I was little. How amazing is that? I never liked her so I didn't say anything. Still.

Neville's had a good year at work, apart from the global financial thingy which meant everybody had to take a 20 per cent pay cut so Mr Williams and his wife could still go on their Caribbean cruise. Fortunately the incident at the Christmas party was quickly forgotten—a couple of Baby Wipes and Mrs William's Collette Dinnigan frock came up good as new. In any case she seemed to think it was Tan Phuc Toy who spilt the tiramisu on her so that was lucky. I'm sure Tan will find something else soon.

Once again, Neville has been very active in social causes this year. He's a keen supporter of WCA, CAN and WASP

(Warrandytians Against Sign Pollution). He's also been busy with his fire plan, which is basically go and find the hose on High, go and connect the pump on Very High, go to Eastland on Severe, go to the airport on Extreme and go totally to pieces on Catastrophic.

It was another big year for Cinnamon. Her VCE was a bit of a challenge, but she did very well at English as a Second Language. Last month she went to Lorne for Schoolies. We were a bit worried about it at first but it all sounds like good clean fun—playing Twister, taking vitamins—E if I remember correctly. And some nice boys made a video with her that's going to be on the internet!

Jasper continues to struggle at school. We went to a parent/teacher meeting in second term, or it might have been third term I'm not sure, and Mrs Olsen said we should encourage him to concentrate more. Or something like that, I was watching a spider at the time.

Gran's a bit of a problem. Her mind wanders. Sometimes leaves her completely. She's been spending a lot of time down at the Community Centre lately—we think she



has a thing for Cliff Green. She started doing Tai Chi at the Neighbourhood House but they went too quickly for her. What she really needs is Zimmaerobics. I tried to interest her in Digital Photography but she couldn't understand why anyone would want to take photos of fingers. Everyone thinks butter wouldn't melt in her mouth but you try living with her! It wouldn't melt it would curdle!

Though I must say she coped remarkably well on our trip to Bali in the September holidays. We thought she might be a bit intimidated by all the street vendors but despite the language barrier they seemed to get the message and didn't come within a bull's roar of her after the first day. Neville was going to shout her a massage but they wanted double for excess skinnage when it all unfolded.

As for me I'd say 2009 was a big success. Marj Beecham said I had a unique approach to pottery, though my pots

### living with The Trotts

would be more symmetrical if I concentrated harder—or something like that, there was a beetle climbing the window at the time. I'm still doing Yoga at Equilibrium and can now do Upward-Facing Dog without passing wind which everyone is very pleased about.

My cousin Channelle came to stay in August. Her Tom didn't come on account of trouble with his prostrate—she can't get him off the couch. Anyway we went to see the Dali exhibition. It was surreal. We were told the queue started in Flinders Street which we found easily enough but when we reached the ticket window 35 minutes later it turned out it was for Connex so we got two to Eltham station and came home.

I've recently taken up Modern Dance at Pole Divas in Ringwood. I go with Angela Sidebottom who's a second cousin once removed who's married to a plastics salesman from Geelong—or she was till he ran off with that woman who decorates pinecones down at the Market. I really admire the way Angela's kept her dignity through the whole sorry business, though she did spray "Slut" all over the woman's fence.

Anyway, the Trotts would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. And remind you of the true meaning of Christmas, the birth of Santa."

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# LOCAL SCHOOLS BENEFIT FROM FEDERAL FUNDING

Oh, to be a school kid in Warrandyte in 2010! The nation-wide education building program, funded by the federal government as part of their stimulus package to deal with the global financial crisis, is bringing several millions of dollars into the town. All three Warrandyte schools have benefited. Watch the buildings going up...

## Outdoor learning space at WPS



Warrandyte Primary School has a new outdoor learning space. "The students now have a covered area to practise their plays, work in small groups and learning together outside," principal Gill Binger told

the *Diary*. Grace, Tianna, Dylan, Finn and Claire (pictured above) are practising their parts in a school play. The space was funded through a National Schools Pride grant.

# Creek kids score new arts centre

By **KARLY HICKMAN**

A \$2.5 million performing arts centre will be built at Anderson's Creek Primary School as part of the federal government's Building Education Revolution.

The multipurpose space will have raked seating for 520 people. This seating can be retracted, resulting in a large flat floor space.

"The new performing arts centre will be such an improvement for Warrandyte as we are a creative environment and our kids seem to be particularly talented in the arts," Andersons Creek Primary School principal Des McKenzie told the *Diary*.

The funding comes as part of \$14.06 billion that will be spent on primary

schools around the nation. "This is not only a fantastic thing for the kids, it will also be a fantastic community facility," Mr McKenzie said.

"Andersons Creek already has many of the facilities the government was looking to develop in primary schools, such as modular classrooms and interactive spaces," Mr McKenzie said.

It was quickly recognised that the existing performing arts facilities could be improved and that this could serve as a multi-functional space for the whole community.

The facility will have a stage, lighting and bio box, kitchen, showers and bathrooms. "The 520 seats collapse and retract, taking up only 1.2 metres of space against the wall," Mr

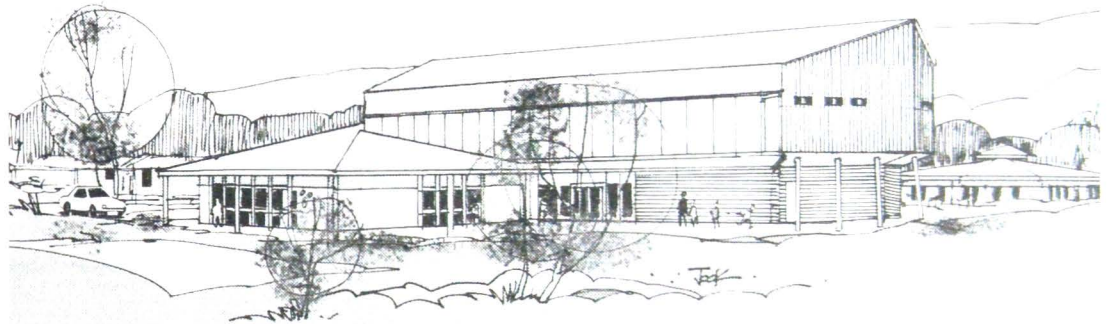
McKenzie said. "There's nothing like this in Warrandyte."

The new building will serve as a true multipurpose facility, providing a huge, flat, indoor area.

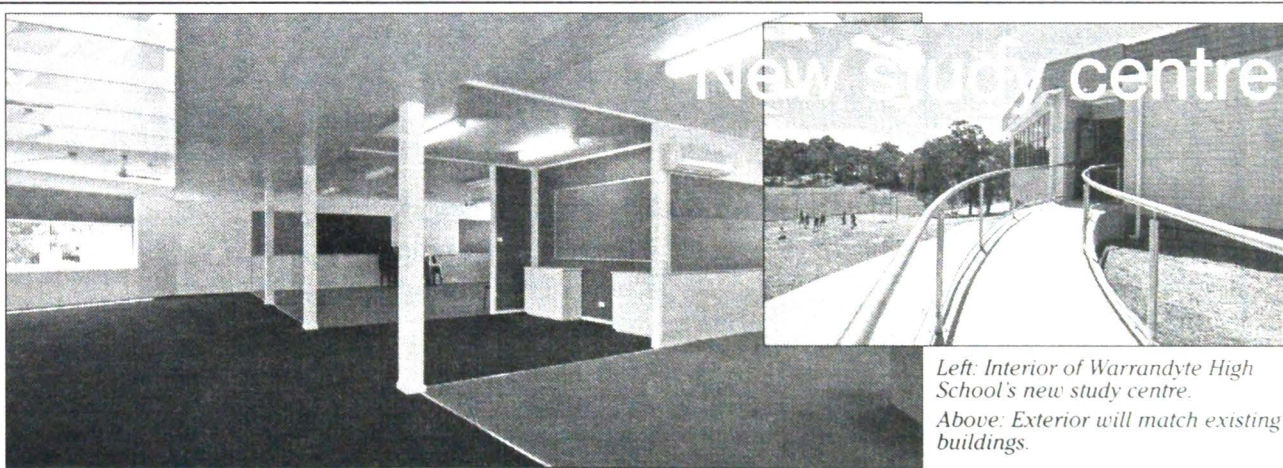
Three rounds of plans have been completed and the project will go to tender before the end of the year.

MP for Yan Yean, Danielle Green, said she welcomes the funding and is "pleased the Rudd and Brumby governments are showing such a strong commitment to education, making it their number one priority."

"For a community like Warrandyte that is so passionate about the arts, this is a great outcome for the kids at Andersons Creek and the community as a whole," Ms Green told the *Diary*.



Our artist's impression of the performing arts centre planned for Andersons Creek Primary School.



## New study centre for high school

Warrandyte High School was successful in obtaining a grant of \$200,000 under the Education Revolution grant scheme to construct a flexible learning space.

"In response to the global financial crisis the federal government implemented financial stimulus spending directed into the education sector with quite stringent timelines and uses for which this money could be used," a school spokesperson told the *Diary*.

"The funds were channelled into the building that has just been completed and provides an open plan learning environment, capable of housing up to three classes at a time with the focus on information computer technology."

Left: Interior of Warrandyte High School's new study centre.

Above: Exterior will match existing buildings.

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Our riverside track: open to walkers, pushers, kids, bikes and dogs—but not four-wheel drives! (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

## Just give them an inch...

Warrandyte is a place close to my heart, so when I am walking along the Yarra River—which I have done for over 30 years—it saddens me that I have to move out of the way of some idiot driving down the main footpath.

The gate that is normally closed at the driveway opposite Webb Street has been

opened to the public for convenient parking at the river. Give an inch and they will take a mile, as now tourists are using the walking tracks as a drive-through.

Locals were banned from riding their horses along the Yarra in Warrandyte, yet enormous white Toyota four-wheel drives with idiots behind the

wheel are okay. I'm assuming the next step will see Manningham council approving the asphaltting of the footpath and erecting side barriers which will allow the tourists to drive safely along the river without rolling into it.

Nicole Van't Foort  
(by email)

## Doggie do's—and do nots

dear diary

I am responding to Lisa Young's letter on page 6 of the November *Warrandyte Diary*.

Whilst it may seem "cute" to talk about pee-mails, your reader may not be aware of some of the facts relating to the impact of dog urine and faeces on the environment.

A random count of the passing traffic on the River Reserve shows that some 240,000 people visit the reserve each year, along with

an assortment of bike riders, pram pushers and horses. Roughly half of these visitors bring dogs off-leash. In other words, some 120,000 dogs are urinating on the grass, shrubs and trees at least once during their wanderings—and usually more often than that.

Dog urine has an acid in it that eventually destroys everything it lands on. Dog faeces left behind by selfish owners smell putrid in summer and can spread infectious diseases to other dogs, as well as children.

Spare a thought also for the hard-working volunteers who regularly attempt to

revegetate the banks of the Yarra. They see their plantings being destroyed in an instant by over-exuberant dogs suddenly let loose. At the end of working session, they often find their boots covered in dog excrement left in the bush.

Pee-mails—120,000 of them—are sending a strong message that owners care more about their dogs than the lovely River Reserve—which is dying a slow death.

Lindy Warrandyte  
(Name and address supplied)

## Pool safety: summer priority

This summer we will once again see many Aussies enjoying the pool in the backyard.

Tragically in the past 12 months, toddler drownings have increased and risen dramatically which obviously deeply concerns me. One drowning is one too many.

We want to urge people in your local area to take action so we can all work together to reduce the number of tragic toddler drownings.

Latest figures show that in the past 12 months, 32 toddlers drowned aged 0 to 4. I particularly want to highlight to people in your area that 59 per cent of toddler drownings happened in backyard pools.

Everyone needs to make this weekend a "home pool safety weekend". A backyard

home pool that has faulty fencing or a gate that doesn't shut properly is—put simply—a potential death trap.

A special checklist can be found at [homepool-safety.com.au](http://homepool-safety.com.au) which shows you how to check your pool is safe and secure.

Often parents affected by tragedy tell us they were going to get around to fixing the problem with their pool but by then it is sadly too late.

All people need to do is go to [homepool-safety.com.au](http://homepool-safety.com.au).

Rob Bradley  
Chief Executive Officer  
Royal Life Saving Society, Australia

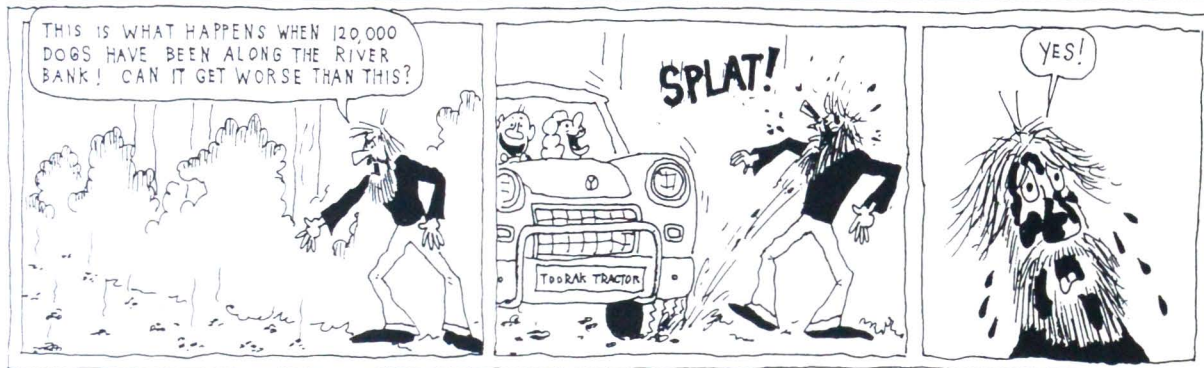
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By PAUL WILLIAMS



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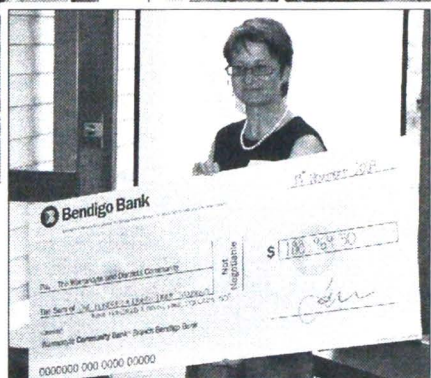


# \$188,000+ and counting



The Warrandyte Community Bank has donated more than \$188,000 to almost 50 local organisations, it was announced at the bank's annual general meeting late last month.

"A range of groups received grants and sponsorships last financial year," bank chairman Sarah Wrigley told the *Diary*. "These include kindergartens and childcare centres, all the primary schools in the area and Warrandyte High School, young mothers' support groups through Doncare and a range of sporting organisations."



Landcare groups, Friends of Warrandyte State Park, Warrandyte Climate Action Now and the Warrandyte Community Association also received funding.

"We helped groups that help our seniors, including Warrandyte Senior Citizens, U3A, RSL and the 55+ Variety Show. Arts groups include the

Above: They asked and they received: successful local group representatives at the community bank's annual general meeting. Inset: It's that lady with the big cheque again: Sarah Wrigley hands out the goodies.

Pottery Expo and the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute and Arts Association," Ms Wrigley said.

The Arts Association benefited from a major grant of \$50,000 to help improve their hall, the Wonga Park Sporting Precinct also received \$50,000 and Wonga Park CFA was donated \$30,000 towards the cost of a new "big fill" tanker truck.

A fully franked dividend of

eight cents per share was paid in October and the community bank branch saw a 15 per cent growth in deposits and lending, with its total "banking book" reaching \$112million.

Sarah Wrigley said this was pleasing, given the global economic crisis.

"We are now generating greater revenue and profits," she said. "As conditions continue to improve we expect another strong performance this financial year."

## Climate change action cash

State government funding will be available next year for local groups and individuals who are planning action to help reduce global warming.

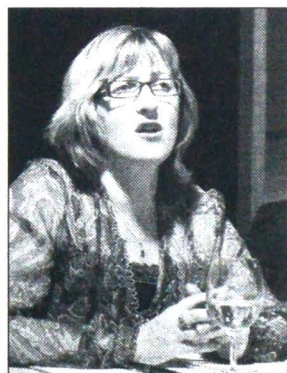
Danielle Green, MP for Yan Yean, believes climate change is one of the greatest challenges facing Victoria, Australia and the global community.

"The bushfires of February 7 proved that our state and our own community is warmer and drier as a result of climate change," she told the *Diary*.

"The state government recently unveiled a \$23 million Climate Communities program that will help individual Victorians and communities take local action to reduce emissions," she said. "Our own actions have a direct impact on our climate and as a community we should work together to combat the climate change challenge and reduce greenhouse emissions."

Climate Communities will be based on the successful LandCare initiative.

"The program will allow individuals and groups to apply for substantial grants for local projects, which can involve councils, businesses, schools and service groups," Ms Green said. The program will fund projects of various sizes with two grant rounds each year.



Danielle Green: bushfires proved our community is warmer and drier as a result of climate change.

Victoria and grants will be supplied through their Sustainability Fund.

Projects that may be backed under Climate Communities include reforestation or revegetation of land to act as carbon sinks, household energy efficiency programs to cut emissions and electricity bills or community education programs that prepare Victorians for the impacts of climate change and the introduction of a price on carbon.

● For further information contact Danielle Green's office on 9432 9728.

Grants of up to \$50,000 will be available.

The projects will need to meet one or more of these key objectives:

- Community abatement: involving reductions to greenhouse gas in addition to the CPRS cap;
- Community resilience: programs that are implemented within the CPRS cap;
- Community innovation: programs that involve trialing new ideas for sustainable living in the energy, waste and transport sectors and promoting their adoption in other communities.

The first round of applications will be opened next year. Further information will be available from Sustainability

## Plus cash for wildlife care

Wildlife carers in Warrandyte could be among those who benefit from a \$550,000 grant, according to local MP Brian Tee.

"These grants will ensure that the great work done by our local wildlife carers during last season's bushfires continues," he said.

Grants available include \$400,000 over the next two years to buy protective equipment, such as helmets and overalls, and \$150,000 for an education and training program.

"Wildlife carers in places like Warrandyte volunteer their time to protect our native animals," Mr Tee said. "This funding builds on a \$350,000 grants program already delivered to cover the cost of treating animals injured in the 2009 bushfires."

"Being a wildlife carer is a rewarding experience and anyone interested in being involved should contact my office on 9850 8600 for more information."

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## Local CFA brigades calling for your help

As we move into the Christmas season, this is a good time to reflect on the work that CFA volunteers do for our community. Your local brigade will be doing their annual letter drop and fund-raising this month, so consider making a donation.

The CFA sets up the local brigades with basic equipment, but the community needs to provide the funds to properly equip the fire-fighters.

"We've got two appliances, the car and our slip-on unit, which are brigade owned," Shane Murphy, Warrandyte's captain, told the *Diary*. "We need to replace them in coming years and obviously need funding for that. Additional training and equipment also cost the brigade itself quite an amount of money."

"To be able to do that to the full extent we rely on the support of the community," he said.

# South brigade on the firefront

By SANDY BURGOYNE

South Warrandyte CFA has been busy preparing for the approaching summer season.

### Fire ready meetings

South brigade ran five meetings last month with a total attendance of around 1000 residents.

The importance of formulating a plan now, before the onset of the fire danger period was stressed.

"Preparation of our property by the removal of fine fuels was the emphasis of each meeting," South's lieutenant Greg Kennedy told the *Diary*.

"A simulated fire was run as background to each meeting. The fire was located in the area in which the meeting was conducted so it was real action in real time in real circumstances. We believe the attendees were overwhelmed by this part of the presentation."

### Planning

"South brigade has developed a series of pre-plans for specific areas with special requirements — that is due to heavy vegetation, limited/restricted access for fire trucks, lack of reliable water supply, difficult topography," Greg Kennedy said.

"There will be 13 maps altogether with nine to be completed and approved by mid December. The remaining four maps, which cover sections of the Mullum Mullum Creek, are expected to be completed by the end of December."

To adequately cover their district South requested an additional vehicle from the CFA. The 2000 litre 4WD tanker should arrive soon.

"This additional resource will assist the brigade in responding to fires in the local area especially when our primary tanker leaves the area to attend fires," Greg Kennedy said.

### Tracks and Water tanks

The brigade has inspected most of the fire access tracks in reserves and easements within their area. Manningham council has completed all necessary remedial work on the tracks.

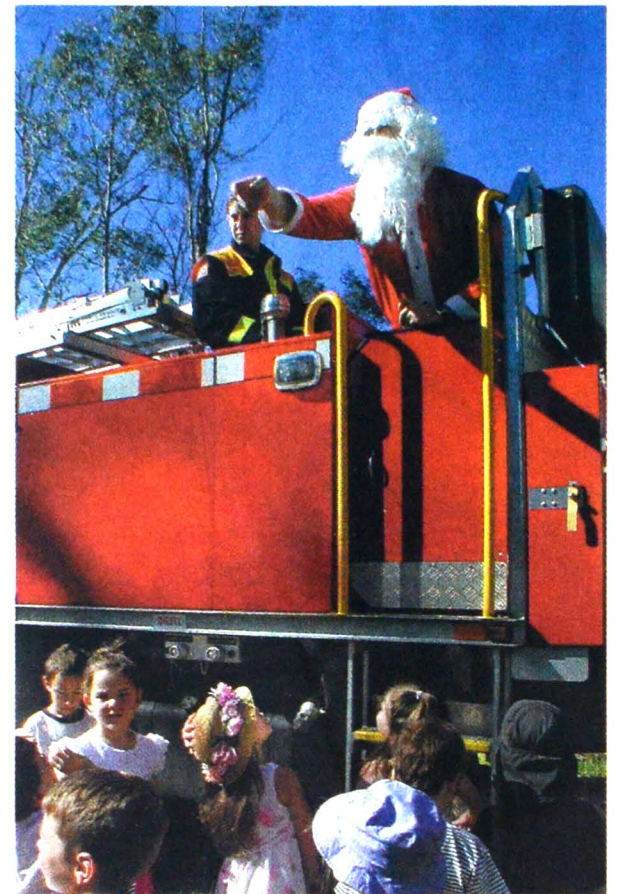
The lack of a reliable water supply to Johansons Road/Haslams Track/Anzac Road, South Warrandyte has been of concern for some years. South brigade put forward a proposal to install a 90,000 litre water tank in the area.

"The brigade approached Manningham council and after further consultation, the proposal has been adopted by council as a worthwhile project," Lieutenant Kennedy said.

The brigade hopes the tank will be installed by the end of next month.


● South Warrandyte CFA have a website: [www.swfb.org.au](http://www.swfb.org.au).

## Ho Ho time again!



That great supporter of the local CFA brigades, Father Christmas, will again visit Warrandyte and district on Sunday, December 20. Using his magical powers he will be able to simultaneously travel on trucks around the brigade districts of Warrandyte, North Warrandyte and South Warrandyte. Rumour has it that he may bring some of his hard working elves with him.

Listen for the CFA truck sirens in your locality on Sunday morning and go out and welcome the jolly man himself. The times given for the start of proceedings vary somewhat, probably because of conversion from Icelandic to eastern daylight saving time—Warrandyte 9am, North Warrandyte 9:30am and South 10am.

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

## Fire exercise tests readiness

By SANDY BURGOYNE

Warrandyte was the centre of a combined emergency services wildfire training exercise that CFA's Lower Yarra group held last month.

Several simulated fire emergencies were staged and crews were deployed to extinguish the "bushfires".

As a brigade member told the *Diary*, "everything was there but the fire".

North Warrandyte CFA brigade captain Rohan Thornton was incident controller for an exercise north of the river.

"That was an exercise that simulated an active arsonist in the North Warrandyte area, which we had nearly 25 appliances at. So what we exercised is the commencement of the fire and the escalation of the fire activity," he said.

In the scenario the "arsonist" was moving through the bush lighting a series of 12 fires. Flares were used to simulate smoke during the exercise.

"We had two helicopters from the State Aircraft Unit providing assistance. One was a fire spotter and one was a water-bomber. We were using those assets to try to minimise the fire threat.

"Where we had appliances that couldn't get there we'd divert the helicopters.

"As reports of new fires came in we'd fly the 'firebird' over the top and it would try to give us intelligence as to how many units we had to break away that were already committed," Rohan Thornton said.

Warrandyte CFA captain Shane Murphy considered the liaison with other services to be of great value, such as the SES organising the staging area on Donvale Reserve from where vehicles and personnel were despatched.

"The SES were heavily utilised during the Black Saturday fires in the staging areas.

"That was actually the first time I'd used them in that role. They worked very well, which means we've got more firefighting resources to use," he said.

"It's really the interaction with particularly the MFB (Metropolitan Fire Brigade) and the other agencies that were involved.

"They've tested their lines of communication there and strengthened the working relationships and the liaison there, so that's up a level from where it was in the

past," Shane Murphy said.

Warrandyte residents can expect to see the occasional MFB truck driving around Warrandyte as the crews familiarise themselves with the district's topography.

"On coming Sunday mornings don't be surprised if you see a number of MFB appliances in the small streets around Warrandyte and North Warrandyte getting enough local knowledge.

"Those stations, especially like Templestowe and Greensborough, will be there fairly early in the piece with a fire if it escalates," Captain Murphy said.

Local police were an integral part of the exercise and took part in drills to provide traffic management through dynamic road closures.

"It's just not a matter of putting a boom gate down ... 10 kms out. It is based on the fire threat and it worked extremely well," North captain Rohan Thornton said.

The following organisations took part in the wildfire exercise: CFA, Metropolitan Fire Brigade, Parks Victoria, DSE, Victoria Police from Warrandyte and Eltham, Salvation Army, St John Ambulance, State Aircraft Unit, and Manningham and Nillumbik councils.





# No 'safer places' here

## Leaving early could be our safest option

By SANDY BURGOYNE

As the *Diary* went to press, no Neighbourhood Safer Place (NSP), for shelter in case of bushfire, had been designated for Warrandyte or North Warrandyte.

This was stated in the district's Township Protection Plan, which is available from the CFA website ([www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)).

Nillumbik council recently said it is unlikely any NSPs will be approved in the Warrandyte/North Warrandyte district for the 2009/10 bushfire season.

A Neighbourhood Safer Place is a last resort for people who are trapped in a wildfire and where a last minute evacuation would be hazardous. It is intended for those whose bushfire survival plans cannot be implemented or have failed.

Municipal councils have the responsibility to nominate a site, an open space or a building, for assessment. The CFA then examines the location and evaluates if it meets a series of requirements before it can be officially designated as an NSP.

A key requirement for an NSP is that if an open space it should be a minimum of 310 metres from a fire hazard, or 140 metres if a building. This is to separate those sheltering there from lethal levels of radiant heat.

Even if approved an NSP will have limited capacity — it does not guarantee the safety of those assembled there and may not give

shelter from the elements, particularly fire embers. NSPs will not provide meals, amenities or cater for special needs, such as those of infants, the elderly, the ill or disabled.

Nillumbik's mayor, Cr Bo Bendtson advises residents to plan in advance of days of high bushfire risk.

"A Township Protection Plan will not directly answer what residents need to do in the event of a fire. Residents should be completing or updating their own bushfire survival plan with the emphasis being on leaving this area in accordance with your bushfire survival plan," he told the *Diary*.

All residents in Warrandyte and North Warrandyte should have received the state government's bushfire survival kit. This includes resources, such as the household bushfire site assessment workbook, which steps residents through a series of questions to identify risk factors and the defensible space needed around a property.

"The message from the CFA is that on Code Red days when fire risk is at its most extreme, your personal bushfire plan should be to leave early. You should not defend your property," Cr Bendtson said. "Know where you are going and plan your journey allowing plenty of time for the problems traffic congestion can cause. While the police will have traffic management points in the Warrandyte area, should the area be under attack from wildfire, traffic congestion will still occur," he added.

Just how bad the roads are likely to be on a day of active bushfires was demonstrated during the combined emergencies services wildfire exercise last month.

"It proved without a doubt that, despite what some people say, the bridge is still a problem. At one

stage we wanted to get something from the North Warrandyte fire station to the staging area at Warrandyte Reserve and it took 40 minutes to drive that distance because of the traffic build-up," Rohan Thornton, captain of North brigade told the *Diary*.

Warrandyte brigade captain Shane Murphy agrees.

"There was some traffic congestion and that's without the panic of a fire being around ... Having seen (the fire trucks) coming around some of those streets during the exercise (residents) should have an understanding of getting their own vehicles out and moving around at that sort of time is certainly not going to be easy or a good option. They should try and use what they saw (at the exercise) as a guide to say 'maybe we do have to get out earlier'," he said.

During a larger than usual bushfire emergency in the district, vehicles may be on our roads. Metropolitan Fire Brigade appliances are likely to be called in, with the possibility of large DSE trucks carrying firefighting bulldozers.

The Township Protection Plan, which is available from the CFA website, says of our district:

"These townships are located within a largely forested environment making it a high risk area in the event of bushfire. This area has very steep, narrow, dead-end, winding and dirt roads some of which can only be accessed by dedicated 4WD vehicles. Many of these roads are at risk of being blocked by falling trees and/or traffic in the event of bushfire.

"With only a few main roads residents are advised to enact their bushfire survival plan and leave early. Visitors are advised not to enter this area on days of increased fire risk."

In a bushfire emergency people who are caught out in the open, for whatever reason, will look for a place that appears to offer safety. Stories and images that emerged from the Black Saturday fires underline this. One such community space that became an oasis for many was Gallipoli Park in Marysville. Frightened residents in other localities collected in the town centre or at the CFA station.

Captain Thornton said that he can understand why a NSP hasn't been designated for the district. However, something is needed here.

"The lessons that we learnt out of February 7 is that people are going to gravitate towards public buildings. We are by no means discouraging people from leaving early or having a proper fire plan, but the reality is that some people aren't and some people's plans may go wrong on the day.

"I think it's incumbent on us as a brigade 7, where possible, provide a defended area where we make no guarantee to how successfully we can defend it. The reality is that people are going to gravitate towards the only community facility we have in our area (north of the river) and that is the (North Warrandyte Community) centre. We can't ignore that," he told the *Diary*.

Many years ago the North Warrandyte Community Centre was signposted as a fire emergency refuge, when it was intended as a haven from wildfire for people caught out in the open. However, the refuge sign was removed in 1991 after the wildfire that started at Pound Bend on the other side of the Yarra jumped the river and burnt to the edge of the centre's land.

The local fire brigades have a series of fire readiness meetings

scheduled in halls and centres around the district. Posters advertising these meetings are displayed in the various localities well in advance. The CFA website has a searchable database, by municipality, of approaching meetings.

The bushfire survival kit offers evaluation and information on how to prepare our households to a high degree of fire readiness. However, the official recommendation to us residents is to leave early on days of high fire danger.

The kit, the township protection plan and other advice and information can be downloaded from the CFA website ([www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)).

## Checklist

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



Pictures by SANDY BURGOYNE and STEPHEN REYNOLDS







# Music at Festival

By **STEPHANIE CRAWFORD**

Live music will once again take centre stage at the annual Warrandyte Village Festival to be held across the weekend of March 19, 20 and 21, 2010.

This year the festival theme is "Warrandyte Dreaming", paying homage to the indigenous people who were the original inhabitants of this beautiful river valley.

Joan Rogers will be honoured as Queen of the 2010 festival. Joan has left Warrandyte and relocated to Clunes, but is fondly remembered as proprietor of the Bakery Cottage Bookshop.

"For 10 years Joan took bookings for the Warrandyte Theatre Company and supported the community in many other ways," a festival spokesperson told the *Diary*. She will lead the Grand Parade on the Saturday morning.

The live music program will blast off with a Youth Concert on the Friday night at the Warrandyte Community Centre with a Battle of the Bands, testing the sound gear at 6.30pm.

The festival committee is sending out a call to all interested local groups, solo artists and young musicians keen to have a go. Ben on contact@eargasmicdjs.com is fielding enquiries and applications.

The music continues on Saturday night when an "All Ages Music Event" begins at 5pm on the Main Stage at

Stiggants Reserve.

"Bring your dancing shoes, picnic baskets, chairs and rugs and enjoy a great lineup of acts," the spokesperson said.

The renowned Eltham Concert Band is performing on the Main Stage at 11am on the Sunday.

The Sunday music program, through the afternoon and into the night, will deliver nine acts "with a family focus", ranging from rock and blues to jazz and country.

Highlights will include local four-girl 1970s rock band "Mother" and a German-style band "The Bees". All will be revealed when the "Nudist Funk Orchestra" takes the stage for the final act. Again, bring your kids, picnics, chairs and rugs.

The craft and produce market stalls will, as usual, focus on home-grown, home-sewn and hand-made. One-day sites will be available for \$45 and two days for \$75. Please call Maydeena on 0404 832 395 to make a booking.

The Rotary Art Show is on again in the Warrandyte Community Church in Yarra Street—with easy access from Stiggants Reserve—opening on the Friday night and continuing through the weekend.

The Fireworks Finale, usually scheduled at the close of the Sunday night concert, will not be held this year—for obvious fire-risk reasons!

# Thanks, press gang

By **CLIFF GREEN**

It seems like it was only yesterday when we set this little newspaper off on its lifetime journey.

Actually it was 39 years ago—December 1970. Twelve pages of the old quarto size: snippets of news from local schools and organisations and the first in a continuing history series. Oh, and Jock was there, taking the mickey out of the local estate agents.

But another year has rolled off the presses at Streamline and it's again time to thank all those sterling volunteers who have kept your monthly "Diary fix" coming.

News reporters are the backbone of any newspaper, and this year we've relied upon Sandy Burgoyne, Karly Hickman, Cliff Green, Tristan Maddocks and Joanne Green. Feature stories were contributed by Val Polley, Prudence Truby King, Jeremy Loftus-Hills, Richard Morton, Joan Broadberry and Don Charlwood.

Lots of people in the community contribute to the *Diary* in lots of ways. Those who scored a by-line this year include Vincent Thornton, Jan Davies, Buntly McKenzie, Jenny Brown, Ron Garrett, Kate Rotherham, Melinda Hosack, Margaret McCann, Ian Penrose, Sonia Rappell, Ryan Hoiberg, Michelle Gilling and Bill Parry.

*Diary* images—black and white and colour—are windows on our local world. Photographers have included Stephen Reynolds, Sandy Burgoyne, Ian Craig, Robert White, Jan Tindale and Jeremy Loftus-Hills. No other local paper can boast a team of artists like Jock Macneish, Paul Williams, Syd Tunn, Ona Hen-

derson and Wayne Rankin.

Columnists in a newspaper are like old friends in a neighbourhood. Alan Cornell, Marilyn Moore, Roger Kibell, Linda Rogan and Judy Green were familiar names this year. Karen Throssell and Corinne Fenton were our resident poets.

Our sports pages might be at the back, but many of our readers turn to them first. Robert White, Tony Oliver, Judy Green, Ben Taylor, Chris Chapman, Edward Munks and Lance Nilsson followed the challenges and reported the matches throughout the seasons.

Someone has to decide what goes in, where it goes, and how it's presented. Editors Cliff Green and Robert White accept full blame. Sandy Burgoyne does likewise with our online editions, keeping us in touch with readers across the world.

Of equal value are all those folk who labour behind the scenes to bring you your paper each month.

Rachel Schroeder set the type, designed the ads and supervised production. Mark Schroeder and David Hogg stood by, attending to all our technical glitches and problems. The skilled craftspeople at Streamline Press took pride in printing our paper each month.

Despite ongoing physical difficulties and indifferent health, Rae Danks bravely continued as our front-of-house person, managing our advertising and accounts. Rae was assisted by Jan Tindale and Briony Bottarelli.

Peter Norman and Joyce Norman continued delivering to our far-flung distribution

points—they also deserve our special thanks. They were assisted by Penny Munks and Edward Munks.

We especially appreciate our esteemed and valued advertisers. We have no other source for the vital finance that keeps the paper going and the issues coming.

Finally, it is to you, our loyal and enthusiastic readers, that we offer our special heartfelt thanks, especially to those among you who have contributed to our Dear Diary page.

During the coming year we'll be celebrating our 40th anniversary. So if you have a *Diary* memory you would like to share, please drop us a line.

● This is our last issue for 2009. No *Diary* in January, but we'll see you again on Wednesday, February 10, 2010. Copy closes on Friday, January 29.



# Diary wins award

The *Diary* has been honoured—yet again—in the annual Community Newspaper Association of Victoria awards. We were judged Best Editorial Comment for our front-page piece entitled "Warrandyte waits", written the day following Black Saturday and published in our February issue.

The judges stated: "With masterful use of anecdote, concise language, and strong imagery, the *Diary* editorial considered the way uncontrollable influences including temperature and wind direction came together that day in a way that even the most sophisticated equipment and best-laid plans could not stem..."

The CNAV awards have been running for four years, and the *Diary* has won a category on each occasion. In 2006 we took out Best Historical Article, in 2007 we were judged to have the Best Layout and in 2008 Karly Hickman's coverage of the St Stephen's Anglican Church crisis was awarded Best Hard News reporting.

**CLYDE & OCKER**

"We'll be 40 next year, Ock."  
"You don't look a day over 75, Clyde!"

## DIARY ADVERTISING RATES GO UP

The *Diary* has decided, with great regret, that it must increase its advertising rates, as from the next issue, February 2010. Rates have remained static since March 2006. Production costs and overheads have continued creeping

up across this period and rates must increase to assure the future of the newspaper. The average increase is 10 per cent.

● Details of the new rates are published on Page 2.

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# Christmas gift will bring joy

By **KARLY HICKMAN**

Kinglake's Anglican church will receive a welcome Christmas gift this year, when Warrandyte artist Walter Magilton donates his faithful copy of Violet Teague's famous painting, "Adoration of the Shepherds" to the parish.

The Black Saturday fires devastated the quaint timber and iron St Peters church and destroyed the replica of Violet Teague's oil painting, which hung above the altar.

"Every now and then as an artist you can get into something that is unusually challenging and rewarding," Walter Magilton told the *Diary*. "This was one of those opportunities."

Mr Magilton first found out about the lost artwork in a newspaper report, shortly after Black Saturday. He contacted Rev Stephen Holmes, vicar of St Peters, to volunteer to work on a re-creation of the lost replica.

Violet Teague painted the original, also known as "Anzac Christmas", in 1921. It depicted the nativity scene, but replaced the adoring shepherds with Australian light-horsemen. This was fitting, given that at the time, St Peters was known as the Kinglake War Memorial Church.

In 1992 the congregation relocated the original to St Pauls Cathedral in Melbourne as a precaution against fire. A replica was hung in St Peters.

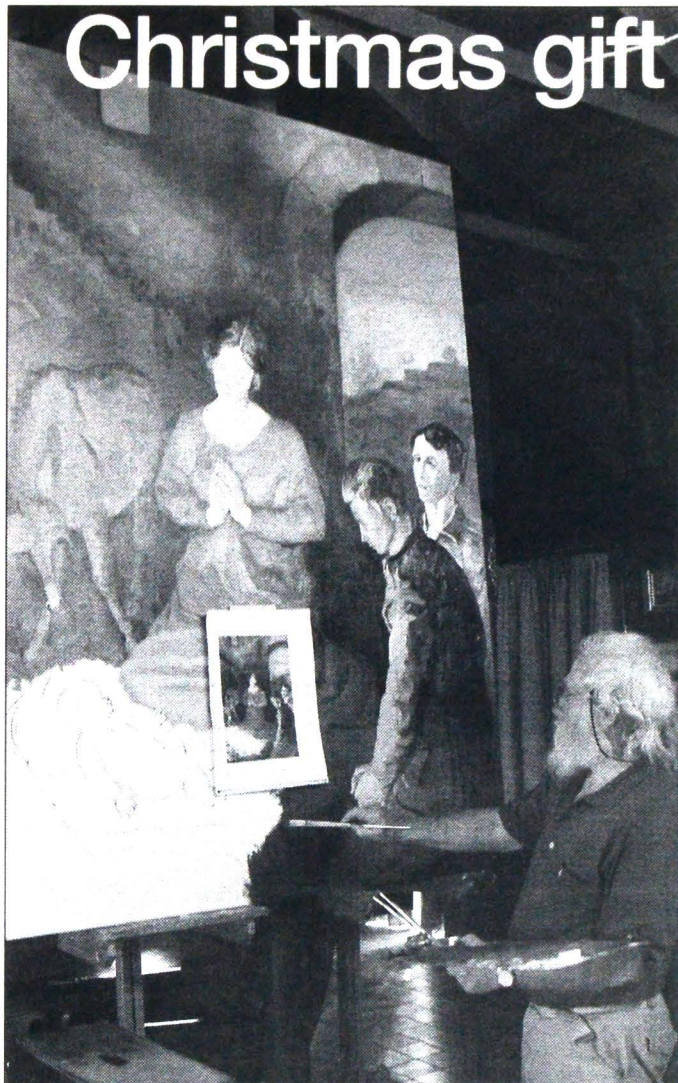
The project "turned out to be a bigger undertaking than I had expected, as I wanted it to be as close to the original as possible," Mr Magilton said.

He encountered many obstacles along the way. "The original wasn't able to be removed from St Pauls for insurance and logistical reasons," he explained. The problem was solved when he found a book containing high quality photographs and a detailed written description of the artwork.

"I have done the painting working off the book's photographs, as well as making observations on the differences between them and the original in St Pauls."

"One of the biggest difficulties has been recreating the aged look of the painting," he said. "I've had to use a glaze over the oil paint to tone down and mute the brightness."

It is likely to be another two or three years before St Peters is rebuilt. For the time being, Walter Magilton's reproduction of "Adoration of the Shepherds" will hang in Whittlesea's Anglican Church. Rev Stephen Holmes is vicar of both churches.



Adoration of the Anzacs: Walter Magilton works on his re-creation of Violet Teague's haunting painting. (Picture by John Fitzgerald)

# Warrandyte's man in parliament

By **TRISTAN MADDOCKS**

Three years into his tenure as MP for Warrandyte, Ryan Smith seems to have developed a feel for the way the community operates and expresses its collective concern.

"In other areas you have to go and find that out for yourself and you have to look quite hard and ask the questions and at times it is difficult to engage certain groups in the broader electorate. But in Warrandyte it is not difficult to engage at all and that actually makes the job a lot easier."

The 40-year-old Liberal MP's political star is rising and he was promoted to the dual roles of shadow minister for industrial relations and manufacturing in the state opposition's recent shake-up.

Mr Smith's entry into politics was almost an afterthought to a successful career in corporate finance and came from a desire to change the way Victoria was being run under the Labor government.

"I was very happy with my career in financial markets. I started my work career in the late 1980s and at the time the economic situation was pretty gloomy, Victoria was heading towards bankruptcy and I guess I matured in my career at the same time that Jeff Kennett took over."

Having always voted Liberal and admiring that party's economic management skills, Mr Smith joined the party in 2003 and supported the sitting member, Phil Honeywood, in various capacities.

"Then when Phil Honeywood announced his retirement I thought 'well, it's my electorate, I've been in the eastern suburbs for a long time and I've been in North Ringwood for the past 15 years',



Ryan Smith: part of our community.

(and) I thought if I wanted things to change then I couldn't sit back and let other people do it."

Referring to the touchstone issues that affect Warrandyte, Mr Smith said his role was to reflect the wishes of the community, and this underpinned his vision for the township.

A chief concern is the issue of traffic congestion, which has seen recent public debate but for which Mr Smith had no immediate solution. "I want to talk to engineers and council and see what's available," he said.

"The problem with issues such as widening the bridge is all you do is move the traffic further down the road. Residents during the recent public meeting indicated that they don't want that sort of large overall change."

"I'll advocate for what the residents want; if the community is prepared to put up with those bottlenecks, because

they don't want to have change, then that is something that I'm happy to live with, but if they do want a solution then they will have to work with me and other interested parties to find one."

If the coalition takes office at the state election next year, Mr Smith said he would arrange for the modernisation of sporting facilities at Warrandyte Reserve.

"In the very immediate term I would like to assist those sporting facilities down at Warrandyte Reserve, to update them and to cater for all the groups that use the area," he said.

With regard to development, Mr Smith said there was a limit to how much Warrandyte could grow and maintain its unique character. "There is certainly a limit, and I am not a supporter of subdividing land in Warrandyte," he said.

"I would say that the large majority of people who live in the area don't want to see any changes in those respects and I would advocate that on their behalf."

Mr Smith said he was passionate about keeping the Green Wedge sacrosanct. "Things have to develop but I would always advocate for appropriate development in that area."

And on the topic at the forefront of community concern—fire safety—Mr Smith had a firm message. "Don't let the word 'protection' in the township protection plan lull you into a false sense of security," he said.

"Make your plans, and don't be there if there is a high fire danger. I would encourage people to make their plans and I would hope that those plans involve not being around rather than trying to defend something that is not defensible."

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The grant program supports non-profit community organisations in Manningham to develop and deliver projects, programs and events which benefit and meet the needs of the community.

Before you apply for a grant you need to obtain a copy of the funding guidelines and the appropriate application form.

Applications close at 5.00pm Friday 29th January 2010.

Guidelines and application forms are available from Council's website [www.manningham.vic.gov.au](http://www.manningham.vic.gov.au), by request from [grants@manningham.vic.gov.au](mailto:grants@manningham.vic.gov.au), or by contacting the Arts & Cultural Programs Unit on Phone 9840 4441.

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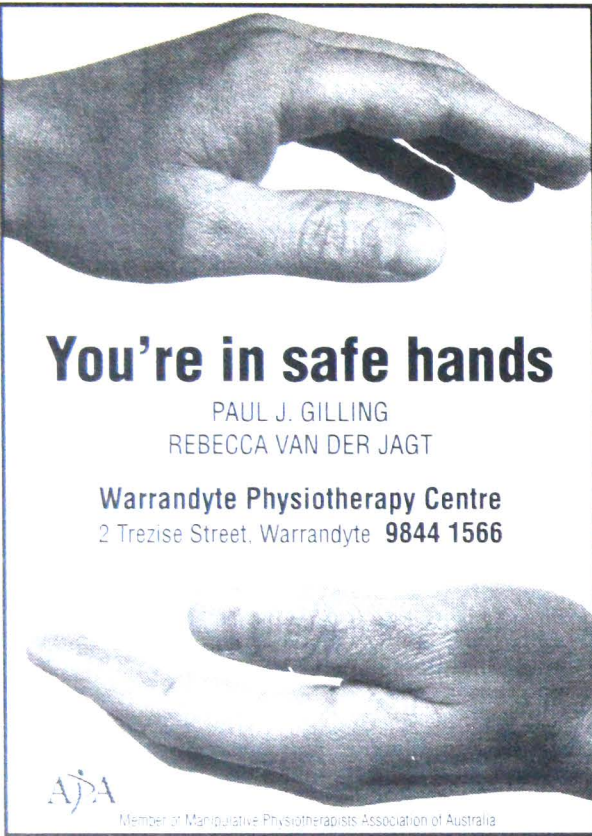
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PAUL J. GILLING  
REBECCA VAN DER JAGT

**Warrandyte Physiotherapy Centre**  
2 Trezise Street, Warrandyte 9844 1566

Member of Manipulative Physiotherapists Association of Australia

**Nillumbik talkback**

Would you like to be involved in making decisions about the services and programs Council provides? We want to make Nillumbik a better place to live, for you and your community; by gaining your feedback, you will help us achieve this goal!

Applications are open now for you to become a talkback member. Join us online at [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au) > News > talkback, pick-up an application form from a Council information stand, or phone Dimitra Bitsas, Communications Officer on 9433 3158 to receive an application form in the mail.

**FREE garden green waste drop-offs for Nillumbik residents**

To assist with preparing your property for summer, Council is providing residents with a number of opportunities to dispose garden green waste.

Plenty - Recycling and Recovery Centre  
Location: 290 Yan Yean Road, Plenty (Melway 11 D1)

Month	Date	Operating hours
December 2009	Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 December	8am-4pm
January 2010	Every Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday in January	8am-4pm
February 2010	Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 February	8am-4pm

Kangaroo Ground - municipal site  
Graham Road, Kangaroo Ground (Melway 271 B10)

Month	Date	Operating hours
December 2009	Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 December	8am-4pm
February 2010	Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 February	8am-4pm

Please note: this free green waste service is for tree prunings, garden clippings and leaf litter only. Commercial loads and food waste will not be accepted. Residents will need to show either a rates notice or their driver's licence as proof of residency within the Shire.

If you have any enquiries, please contact Council on 9433 3555.

[www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)  
9433 3111

**TOM KERKHOF TELEVISION**  
*Servicing the area for 40 years*

SERVICE TO:  
Televisions, Stereo Systems,  
DVDs, VCRs, Microwaves,  
Digital Set Top Box Systems installed, etc.

27 Mitchell Avenue Warrandyte 3113 Ph: 9844 3970  
Mob: 0408 175 274

# Christmas services

Celebrate at your local church this Christmas

Local church services for Christmas 2009 are as follows:  
Uniting (9844 3476) Christmas Eve—7pm and 11.30pm, Christmas Day—9am.  
Community Church (9844 4148) Christmas Eve—7pm, Christmas Day—10am. Catholic (9876 1509) Christmas Eve outdoor family mass—6pm (Park Orchards), 9pm (Warrandyte), Christmas Day—9.30am (Park Orchards). Anglican (9844 2193). Christmas Day—9am eucharist.

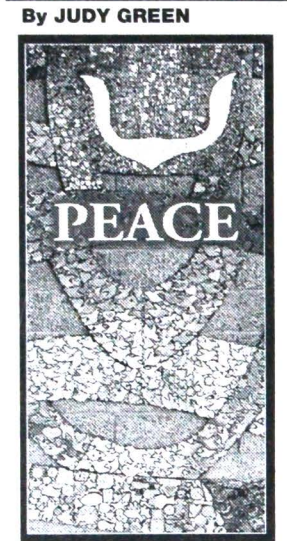
**Neighbourhood**  
Warrandyte Neighbourhood House will be launching their history, entitled "From Mudbricks to Manuscripts" on Friday, February 19 at the Warrandyte Community Centre commencing at 4.30pm. The history reflects the story of the group, beginning with the early co-operative movement in the 1980s and involving many of the town's identities. Anyone who has had a connection with NHW over the years is invited to attend. To book ring 9844 1839.

**Watch**  
Warrandyte Area Neighbourhood Watch holds monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at the Warrandyte Community Centre. The group seeks to identify preventable criminal activities and safety concerns in our area. Neighbourhood Watch plans to be at the Warrandyte Festival next March, fitting car number plate security screws and providing bicycle anti-theft identification marking. Any volunteers wishing to help can leave their phone numbers on 9844 3062 or 9844 3091.

**Dance**  
A Goddess Dance Party, to welcome in the New Year with hope and inspiration—and featuring the Teskey Brothers—will be held at Earth Harmony, 246-240 Yarra Street, Warrandyte on Friday, January 15, 2010 at 8pm. Bookings: 9844 5155—pre-pay \$20 or \$25 pay at the door.

**Stories**  
Budding authors are reminded that the closing date for the Alan Marshall Short Story Award is Friday, February 5,

**out of the box**



The Warrandyte Uniting Church has issued this card, one of a series, based on images from the Peace Wall at the church.

2010. Now in its 25th year, the award honours the memory of great writer Alan Marshall, formerly a resident of Eltham. There are several sections: open, local writer and young writer. Further details from [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au) or phone 9433 3359.

**artyfacts**

**Stonehouse**  
The December exhibition at the Stonehouse Gallery is entitled "Small and Precious". The Stonehouse artists and their suppliers bring together a collection of small and precious gifts including bottles, boxes, jewellery, felted items, ceramics, glassware and toys. The gallery, at 103 Yarra Street, Warrandyte is open daily from 10am.

**Manningham**  
Students and staff of the Manningham Arts Centre are showing artworks in a variety of mediums at their annual exhibition being held until Saturday, December 19 at the Manningham Gallery. The exhibition, entitled "Imagine", will be judged by Mary Lou Pittard and Ron Reynolds. The gallery, at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster is open from Tuesday to Friday from 11am to 5pm and Saturday from 2pm to 5pm.

*Songs of faith and joy...*

All Warrandyte will be singing its heart out when the combined churches of Warrandyte and Park Orchards present Carols by Candlelight at Stiggants Reserve on Saturday, December 19 at 8pm.  
Bellbird Singers will lead accompanied by the Eltham Concert Band. Kevin O'Mara will open the program, joined by choirs from Kangaroo Ground and Andersons Creek primary schools.  
Tenor Raymond Khong will sing popular jazz and classical Christmas pieces, accompanied by pianist May Gavin. Featured artist Rachel Juhasz has many solo, big

band and live theatre performances to her credit and has starred in numerous musical theatre productions around Melbourne.  
Ali Cash is a singer and plays keyboard for the Warrandyte Community Church band.  
Come early with your picnic tea, or food and drinks can be bought on the night.  
Outstanding local acoustic artist Harmony Byrne will be performing from 7.30pm.  
If the program is postponed due to bad weather, it will be held the following night, Sunday, December 20. Enquiries: Warrandyte Community Church—9844 4148.



**Decorations**  
The Manningham Arts Centre is running a Christmas Decorations Workshop for parents and children on Saturday, December 12 from 2.15pm to 3pm or 3.15pm to 4pm. Bookings are essential. Call 9840 9367.

**Autumn**  
An exhibition of photographs by Nathan Kao, taken along the Yarra Valley, will open on Thursday, January 28, 2010 at the Eltham Library Community Gallery, Panther Place, Eltham. The series, entitled The Last Autumn Leaves, captures the essence of autumn and winter. In the heat of summer, share these memories of fog and mist.

**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](mailto:warrandytediary@aapt.net.au).

## Celebrating a century of life and happiness

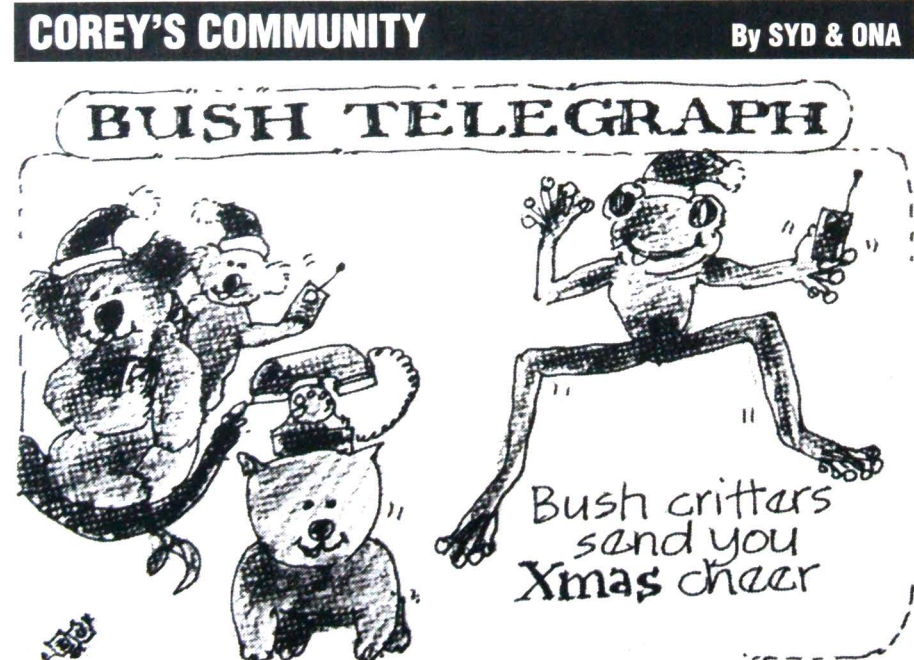


*Lee Souter: reaching 100 years.*

**On New Year's Day Lee Souter of North Warrandyte is celebrating her 100th birthday. Her long and eventful life began in Dorrigo in New South Wales where her father was the mounted policeman.**  
With her parents and five siblings she shifted to Sydney where she attended Fort Street Girls High School, then the Teachers College at Sydney University. She met her engineer husband Bruce during her teaching career and they moved to Adelaide.  
Shortly after World War 2 they came to Melbourne, finally settling in Warrandyte on a bush block. Bruce built a "shack" and they moved in. Lee describes this as a place of great and happy times, of parties and good friendships. The WAA Music Group was one of their special enjoyments. She still charms her guests with her piano playing.  
Returning home after the fires in 1962, they discovered four of the 12 houses in their area burnt. A tree was burning near their house. Bruce extinguished it with a bucket and they were safe.

**COREY'S COMMUNITY** By SYD & ONA

**BUSH TELEGRAPH**



Bush critters send you Xmas cheer



**Making Victoria FireReady:**

**Ten things you need to do now to prepare for the fire season.**



Experts predict that Victoria is facing fire conditions this summer every bit as bad as last fire season, and possibly even worse. No matter where you live, there are things you must do to prepare and make sure you're FireReady. This is even more important if you live in a bushfire prone area.

**If you live in regional bushfire prone areas:**

1. Prepare your property. Good preparation will give your home a greater chance of surviving a bushfire, even if you do plan to leave early.
2. Assess whether your house has sufficient defensible space by using the CFA Household Bushfire Self-Assessment tool, found at [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)
3. Develop a written fire plan and then practice it. If you have pets, other animals or stock, they need to be part of your plan. Larger properties should prepare a livestock fire plan ([www.dpi.vic.gov.au](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au)).
4. Prepare a relocation kit with essential items packed in sturdy containers or bags.
5. Fire Danger Ratings have changed. Factor this information into your fire plan and be aware of the ratings on a daily basis during the season.
6. Find out what's happening in your community. Attend a Fire Ready Community meeting. Join or form a CFA Community Fire Guard group in your local area.
7. If you are on holidays or travelling in Victoria this season, plan ahead, check the weather forecasts and be alert to any fire warnings - tune into your local ABC radio station.
8. Rural landholders, primary producers, tourism operators and other businesses should consider the insurance required to protect them if fire damages or destroys property and affects assets and income. Consider consulting a specialist rural insurance or business insurance broker.
9. If you own property in one of more than 50 areas identified as most at risk, get involved with your local CFA. Know what your area's Township Protection Plan is and how this impacts on you.
10. Look and listen for information. Tune into your emergency broadcasters ABC radio, local radio and Sky News TV. Visit [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au) or telephone the Victorian Bushfire Information line **1800 240 667**. Keep in touch with what's happening in your community.

For more information contact:  
**1800 240 667**  
[www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)

**PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.**  
**FireReady**

*Bolero's*

EUROPEAN CUISINE WITH A

*French & Spanish influence*

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

- FINE DINING
- BOUTIQUE FUNCTIONS
- SPECIAL EVENTS
- BIRTHDAYS
- ANNIVERSARIES
- TERRACE DINING

**9844 2271 • 188 Yarra Street Warrandyte**  
Fully Licensed • Closed on Tuesday

**CARTER**



**Exceptional Retail Position Overlooking the Yarra**

Exceptional opportunity to lease Warrandyte retail space which could be ideal for cafe or restaurant (STCA). These retail premises are located in the popular main street strip and comprise approximately 124.5 square metres in total, approximately 66.5sqm and 58.0sqm respectively. Owner will consider two separate tenancies. Includes shared rear car-parking and exclusive kitchenette and toilet facilities for each shop. Zoned Business 1 and suitable for varied uses.

This is an opportunity that should be seized without delay. Available December 2009.

**SHOPS 5 & 6, 188 YARRA STREET, WARRANDYTE**

**FOR LEASE**

**CONTACT David Ryan 9844 1200**  
**AH 0450 958 344**

*Merry Christmas to all our clients*

128 Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood 9870 6211 [www.carter.com.au](http://www.carter.com.au)  
163 Yarra St, Warrandyte 9844 1200 [info@carter.com.au](mailto:info@carter.com.au)





LIONS CLUB OF WARRANDYTE  
**Opportunity Shop**

*Christmas Greetings*

**CLOSED between  
Christmas Eve and New Year  
Re-opening January 2**

The Op Shop will close on any Code Red  
or Extreme Fire Warning days

168 Yarra Street, Warrandyte • 9844 4392

HOURS : Mon-Fri 10.30-4.30 Sat & Sun 11.00-5.00

Liz and  
the Lions Club  
of Warrandyte  
thank you  
for your kind  
donations.

# Carols by Candlelight

STIGGANTS RESERVE  
**SATURDAY DECEMBER 19**  
commencing at 8pm

Entertainment will be provided from 7.30pm  
If postponed because of bad weather, it will be held the following night  
—Sunday December 20.

SPONSORED BY THE COMBINED CHURCHES OF WARRANDYTE AND  
PARK ORCHARDS. FURTHER INFORMATION: 9844 4148

**MONTHLY VARIETY MARKET**  
**YOUR TRASH IS SOMEBODY'S TREASURE**

**Clean out your garage!**  
**Turn unwanted goods into cash!**

Avoid privacy, parking and insurance hassles

**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



fresh produce  
delivered daily



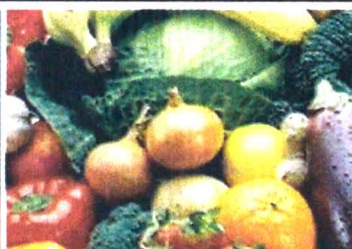
award winning  
meat department



continental  
delicatessen



good range of beer,  
wines & spirits



large range of  
fresh foods

Victory

SUPA



Warrandyte

**YOUR COMMUNITY SUPERMARKET**



**Kids' Club**



402 Heidelberg/Warrandyte Road, Warrandyte OPEN 7 DAYS — 7.00am til 10.00pm

Telephone: 9844 3089 • Facsimile: 9844 4866 • Email: igawarrandyte@spiritmail.com.au

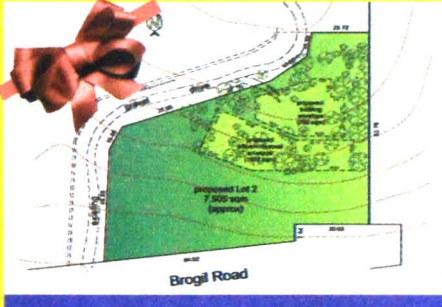
**NEW TO IGA WARRANDYTE : PENSIONER DISCOUNT 5% OFF EVERY TUESDAY**

SIMPLY PRESENT YOUR SENIORS OR AGE PENSION CARD WHEN FINALISING YOUR TRANSACTION. MINIMUM SPEND \$20. OFFER DOES NOT APPLY TO CIGARETTES OR BEER SLABS.



# gardiner mcinnes

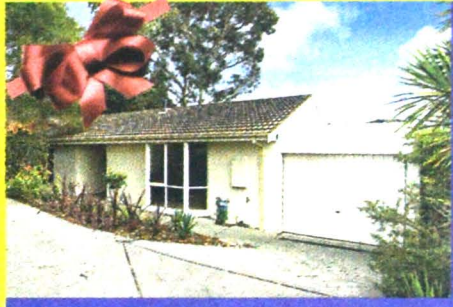
*From all our families, to you and your family  
Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a joyful New Year  
Vicki, Russell, Corina, Mel, Kim, Mary Lou, Barry, Laura, Emily & Isabel*



**warrandyte north (sms: REN653)**  
**asking price \$295k**

Do you have dreams of building a gorgeous new home but just can't quite find the right location? Look no further than this fabulous 1.8 acre (approx) vacant allotment, situated within walking distance of the Yarra River, transport and only minutes from the Warrandyte township's shops and cafes. Includes a huge 706sqm building envelope and all services are available (excluding sewerage).

private sale



**templestowe (sms: REN664)**  
**offers more than \$360k**

Extensively renovated and guaranteed to please, this well appointed two bedroom unit is serviced by a roomy lounge room with bay window, a separate dining zone and a brilliantly remodelled kitchen. Highlighted by new paint and carpets, gas heating, air conditioning, private rear yard and single garage. Positioned close to The Pines and Templestowe Shopping facilities, transport, walking tracks and Templestowe Park Primary.

auction 6pm 18 dec unless sold prior



**warrandyte (sms: REN652)**  
**private sale \$425k**

Immaculately presented 2BR unit in the heart of Warrandyte! This single level front unit on 397sqm approx offers a low maintenance lifestyle and is perfect for downsizing, first home buyers or investors. Features open plan kitchen, adjacent meals/family living area. Private balcony to enjoy abundant birdlife. Single carport. Only a short stroll to the Yarra river, Warrandyte village shops & cafes, with public transport at your doorstep.

private sale



**warrandyte north (sms: REN649)**  
**offers more than \$450k**

4 bedrooms, 3 living areas, 2 garage! Situated on a near 1/2 acre in a leafy relaxed setting, this 4BR brick family home offers 3 living areas and would suit owner occupiers or investors alike! Features open plan lounge/dining with polished boards. Kitchen/meals. Separate rumpus. Double garage, workshop plus sheds. Walk to Yarra River and transport, and only minutes to the Warrandyte township.

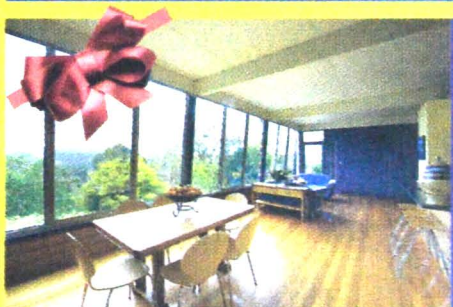
private sale



**warrandyte north (sms: REN658)**  
**estimated selling range \$620k-\$680k**

Renovated to provide the ultimate in family entertaining, this 4 double BR family home on 1/3 acre offers 3 expansive living areas. You'll love the huge formal lounge with gas log fire. Formal dining opening to an elevated balcony. Gourmet kitchen with SS appliances. Adjacent family meals area. Separate downstairs rumpus leading to a paved terrace/deck with built-in bbq. Fully fenced rear gardens. Ducted heating & vacuum. Plus ample off street parking.

private sale



**warrandyte north (sms: REN654)**  
**offers more than \$600k**

This stunning architect designed 4BR home offers some of Warrandyte's most breathtaking views, stretching from the Yarra Valley to the Dandenong Ranges. Crowning more than 3/4 acre of mature gardens with a flexible floorplan including 3 living areas. Open plan lounge/dining with polished boards. Rumpus with external access (suit 5th BR or home office). Sep. sitting room. Renovated kitchen. Deck for entertaining. 4BRs, 3 with balcony access. Double carport & ample parking.

private sale



**warrandyte north (sms: REN655)**  
**offers more than \$630k**

Breathtaking 4BR Alistair Knox mudbrick home on 1/2 acre offering the ultimate Warrandyte family lifestyle! Lovingly maintained, highlights include a grand open plan family living & dining domain with soaring cathedral ceiling, clerestory windows & feature open fireplace. Separate family living area. Kitchen with SS appliances. Solar heated IG pool & spa with sun deck & paved patio. Large lawn area for children to play. Ample parking plus transport at your doorstep.

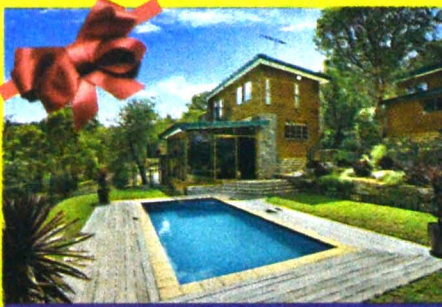
private sale



**warrandyte (sms: REN662)**  
**estimated selling range \$680k-\$750k**

Constructed less than 3 years ago to provide uninterrupted Yarra River valley views, this 3 double bedroom plus study Fasham Johnson home on a near 1/2 acre is your own private sanctuary. Highlights include a light filled open plan lounge/dining with balcony access. Adjacent kitchen with SS appliances. Downstairs rumpus, 3 double bedrooms, main with balcony access and designer ensuite. Powder room and plumbing for second family bathroom. Double carport. Walk to river, shops, school and transport.

private sale



**warrandyte north (sms: REN665)**  
**offers more than \$910k**

Set on 5 acres (approx) with valley views, this lifestyle property offers the perfect blend of bluestone and western red cedar. Drenched in natural light and complemented by timber lined ceilings, atrium style water feature and floor-to-ceiling windows. Includes 4 bedrooms and 4 living areas. Timber kitchen and family meals with polished boards. Separate family room. Parents' retreat. Lounge opening to deck with IG pool. 6 car garage and workshop. Garden water tanks.

private sale



**warrandyte (sms: REN660)**  
**offers more than \$1 million**

Bordering Jumping Creek with environmental design considerations including indigenous gardens, 150,000L water tank & formal dam, this north facing 4 double BR family home on 10 acres includes scope to agist horses. Designed to bring the best of nature indoors, highlights include huge lounge/dining with cathedral ceiling & gleaming polished boards. Open plan kitchen with SS appliances. Second informal living area. Elevated deck for outdoor entertaining. Generous workshop/shed. Double carport & ample parking.

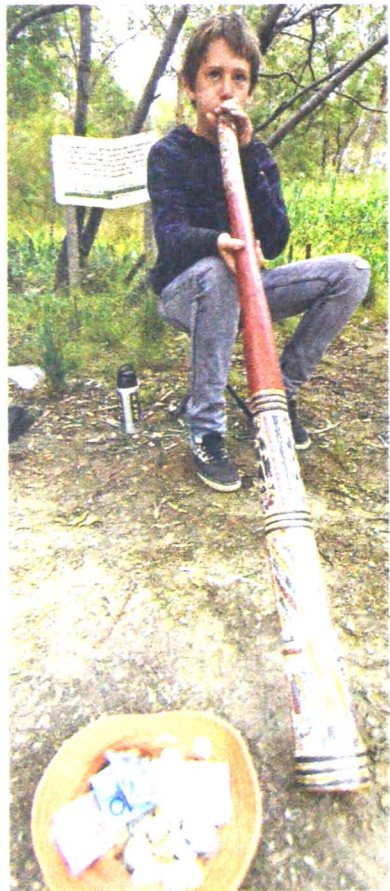
private sale



Please join the staff from Gardiner McInnes Estate Agents and Supa Victory IGA Warrandyte for our annual  
**Food for Thoughtfulness Christmas Food Appeal**  
Saturday 19 December, from 8.30am-12noon  
at Supa Victory IGA Warrandyte  
**FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE!**  
Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated! We look forward to seeing you there!

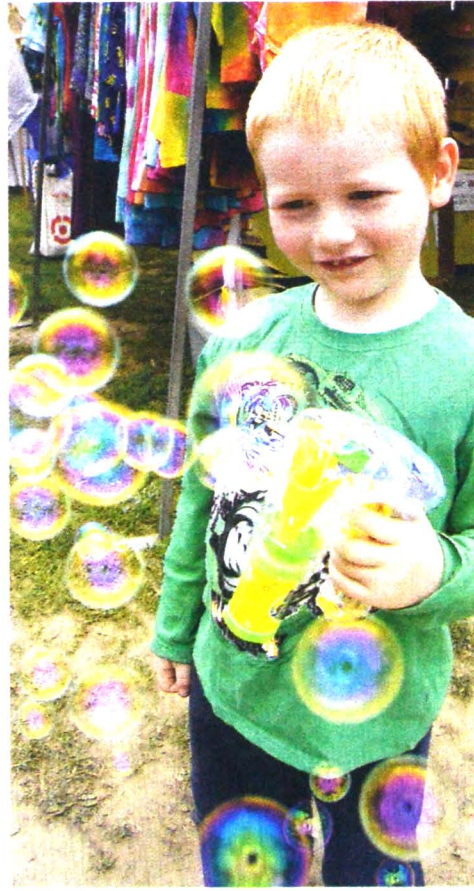
To request a call back and receive our latest open-for-inspection times simply SMS the property code to: 0427 873 639 (standard sms rates apply)  
**open 7 days, offices 2a & 2b webb st, warrandyte | t 9844 0052 vicki 0427 310 512 russell 0413 947 676 | www.gardinermcinnes.com**





# Merry market day!

Warrandyte's December market was abrim with Christmas cheer.



Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS





# Breaking news at Christmas

By **TRISTAN MADDOCKS**

**M**Y brother and I never meant it, but it seemed like every Christmas we would inevitably break something that wasn't ours.

There was the time at Granny's (that's our maternal grandmother, as distinct from Grandma, our paternal counterpart) that a freshly unwrapped Vortex (one of those grid iron-style throwing toys) sailed through the lounge room window with a crash. Shouts of "Oooh!" and profuse apologies filled the air as my brother and I ran to hide from the political fallout.

Then there was the time at my dad's girlfriend's parents' house in Ocean Grove, where—if memory serves me correctly—a stray soccer ball was the culprit and a window was again the victim. This was even more embarrassing because the damaged property was part of a business and the owners were not strictly family. I don't think we did dad any favours in endearing him to his lover's parents, either.

On the same trip to Ocean Grove, I almost killed my brother with a golf club. More precisely, it was the head of a golf club—a 1920s relic smothered in cobwebs that had been retrieved from an attic. It came flying off on the middle of the ninth fairway (I had been lining up a birdie) and landed with a thud, 20 metres to my left and about eight centimetres from Tom's skull. Our family duly noted that this was the third (and hopefully final) time that I came close to prematurely ending my younger sibling's life with a golf club (the other two were at Easter).

Calamities aside, my experience of Christmas has always been a disjointed one. My parents split when I was about eight and from then on, the 25th of December was a day of two halves. Lunchtime saw my brother and I gorging ourselves at dad's sister's place in Warrandyte and, as a consequence, we would be left to guiltily decline the treats my mum's family had prepared for dinner.

I think we did a pretty good job of enjoying the company of both families and participating in the right

spirit. There is no doubt it was difficult to transplant oneself from one environment—with its own peculiar interactions, traditions and expectations—to a second, totally different environment. But I think we did it pretty well.

For a kid, Christmas is, for better or worse, all about the presents and I have vivid recollections of the various emotions attached to the giving and receiving merry-go-round.

Adult reflection always brings the thought, "why did I want that so badly?", but at the time you are single-minded about getting your mitts on "the" toy that will set your heart racing.

At about age seven I rose extra early on Christmas morning to rush to the stockings on the fireplace and confirm that Father Christmas had delivered what I desperately wanted: a remote control car. For weeks I had made it known, in no uncertain terms, that this was what I desired. A hasty pillage through the chaff—books, puzzles and the like—brought the shock realisation that the item of my dreams was,

inexplicably, missing. At the same time, Tom rifled through his pile to uncover—oh yes—an exemplary piece of Taiwanese engineering in the form of a 4WD remote control car!

"Surely there must be an error," I reasoned. "Isn't Father Christmas supposed to be balanced in his offerings?"

Tears followed as excitement gave way to disappointment. Dad entered the room. "What's wrong?" he asked. I bemoaned Father Christmas's uneven distribution of wealth and pointed longingly at my brother's new toy, which he had already put to use irritating the dog and damaging the carpet.

"Oh," Dad said. "But are you sure you have looked properly through your (expensive and bountiful) pile of gifts?"

Adamant though I was that I had already worked my way through the cluster before me and sucked out all the goodness, I resigned myself, begrudgingly, to a second search.

Wrapping paper, lollies, cards, suspicious quasi-science-based

"toys": all the ingredients were there, except the car.

Then, like a phoenix rising from the wrapping paper, a large, unopened box fell under my gaze.

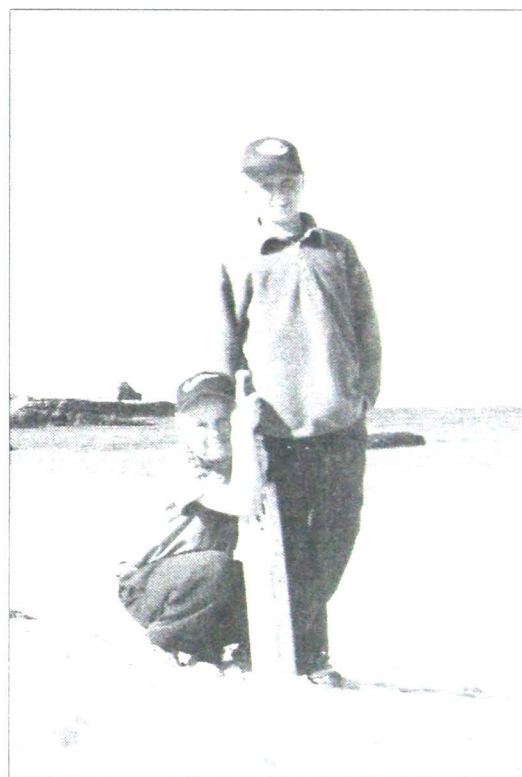
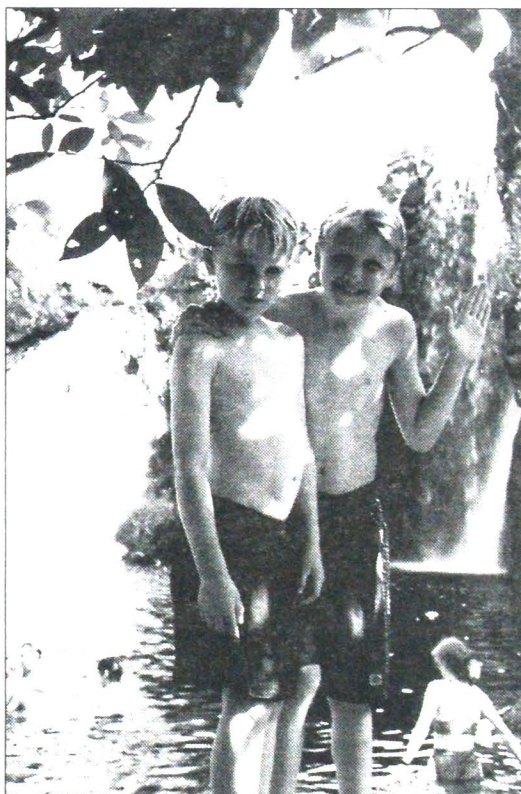
A flurry of breathless unwrapping and before me sat a shiny red 4WD monster. Minutes later it was demonstrating its all-terrain credentials in the sandpit and dirt mounds out the back.

So for at least 45 minutes, my desire was satiated, and I caused unknown havoc with my remote control car until some other toy (probably a robot) caught my eye on the ads that perforated Saturday morning cartoons. I don't want to give the impression that I was ultra-materialistic, but I think many young kids are heavily influenced by the insidious and incessant toy ads that flood children's television timeslots and I was certainly one of them.

And guess what? My car was bigger than Tom's car. Much bigger. Once I set it up I reckon I rammed it into his a few times, and order had been restored. Eat dust, little brother.



*Tristan's Christmas: memories of happy holidays with brother Tom (he's the smaller one).*



## For you in the snow from me by the sea

Dear B

This is not really that kind of letter, you know I never like Christmas—not being Christian, or even a shopper. You know how I scrooge at those English traditions the pines and the tinselly snow.

But you are in its midst and surprise! I am lost. Thinking of you, not by my bed in the too early morning "is it time?" Me hoping the presents are right. Your too generous gifts and strange hand-made cards,

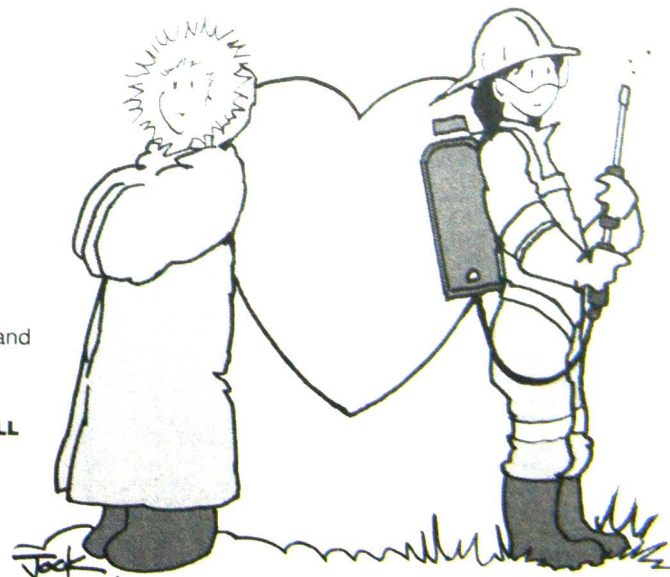
so quirky, so clever, so great. Today all lined up like those mantelpiece ones, (no wise men, no manglers or stars). Thinking of you, in the soft floating snow: with the goose, and the waft of plum pud; and the sleigh bells, the carols, Saint Nick.

So it's me over here with the cats and Code Red and you in the woods of the world. It's huge and entrancing and scary and fun (I'll try not to think about wolves.) You'll gobble it up and you'll grow and you'll grow and then you'll come home all fulfilled...

Twenty-fifth of December, no-one's birthday I know, but I like all the loving and giving. So for you in the snow from me by the sea, I'm wishing it over the waves. Sending peace and goodwill, 'cos that's what they say, and


My sweet girl, all my love, on this day.

**KAREN THROSSELL**





# Jets Gymnastics



**KINDER JETS & FUN GYM**

Did you know that Gymnastics can greatly enhance the learning development in your child. Come and do a FREE Try out class to see what its all about.

**Term 3 Special Offer**  
Bring in this Ad and receive a FREE Jets T-Shirt when enrolling for Term 3.  
\* New Members Only

Call 9439 6571 for more info or check our website  
[www.jetsgym.com.au](http://www.jetsgym.com.au)



**TREE & STUMP REMOVALS**

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- \* Mosaics Mon 1-3pm
- Creative Writing Tues 7:30-9:30pm
- \* Poetry 1 Mon 10:30am-12:30pm
- Poetry 2 Wed 4-6pm
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- \* Wu Tao Thur 7:30-8:45pm, Tues 1:45-3pm
- Monday Walking Group Monday 9:15-11am
- \* Fitness Circuit Wed 6-7pm
- Gentle Exercise for Older Adults Wed 11:15am-12noon
- Pilates - Beginners Wed 7-8pm
- Pilates - Advanced Wed 8-9pm
- Strong Women Stay Young Mon 9:15-10:15am
- Tues 10:30-11:30am, Fri 8-9am
- Tai Chi Tues 7:30-9pm
- Yoga (Hatha) Mon 8-9pm

**LIFE SKILLS:**

- French Club Wed 2-3pm
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- \* Genealogy Fri 10am-12noon
- \* Mediterranean Cooking Tues 6:30-9pm (3 sessions)
- \* Discover the Regions of France Thurs 6-7:30pm

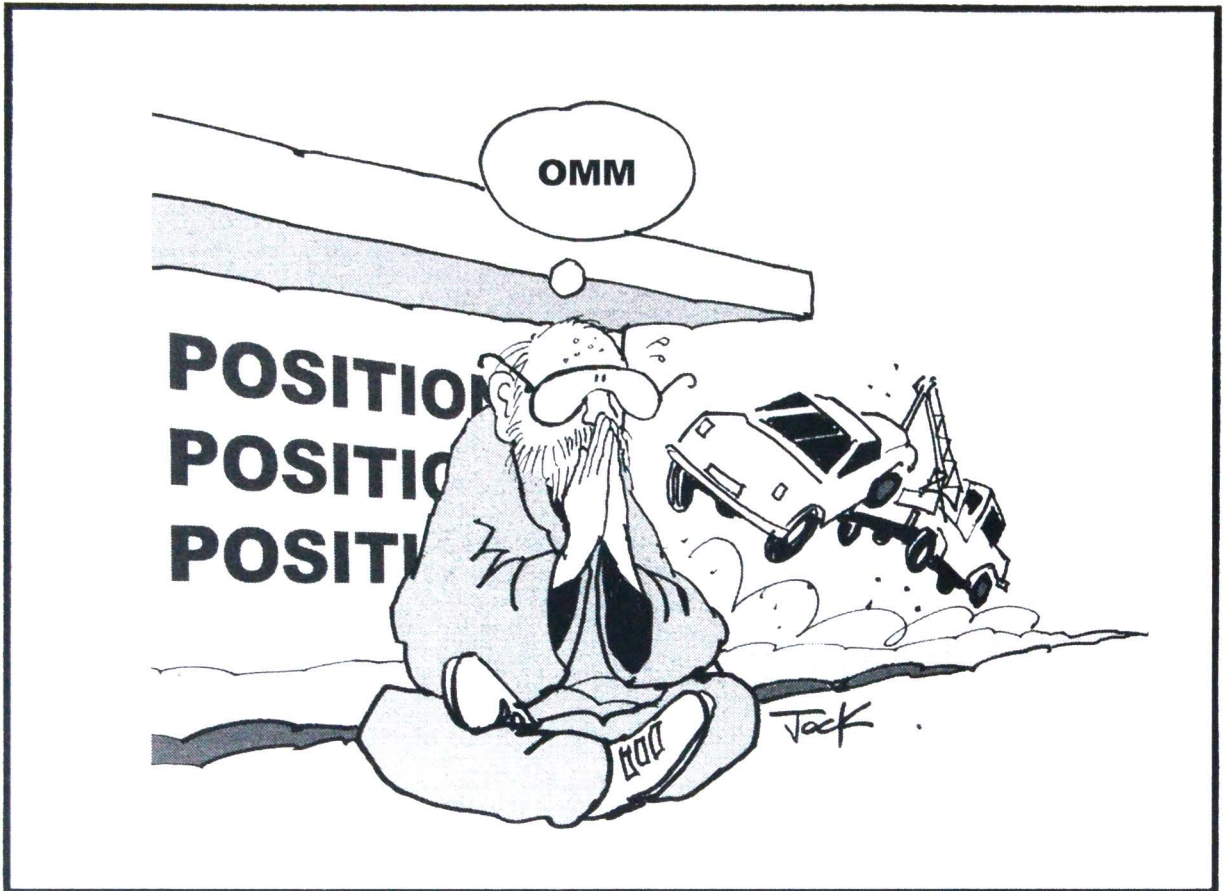
**ENROLMENTS:**  
from January 18, 2010

**ENQUIRIES 9844 1839**

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

\*New this term

[www.warrandyteneighbourhoodhouse.org.au](http://www.warrandyteneighbourhoodhouse.org.au)

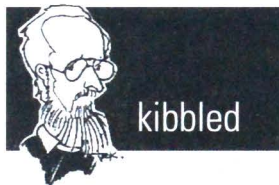
# Positioning for a parking spot defies meditation

**T**HE real estate mantra is that there are three important things to consider when buying real estate and they are position, position and position.

Now I know you might argue that with the fashion for buying apartments the rule might now be changed to, "position, a nearby coffee shop and an underground turntable car parking space," but I still think that when the latte becomes passé and the car becomes a museum relic the one thing that will still remain is where the property lies in relation to all old-fashioned necessities like shops, public transport, doctors, schools and a Warrandyte Diary outlet.

Because Herself is smarter than I, when we bought our current house we met the first requirement but it is by accident we stumbled upon the second. When pushed, the men and ladies in gold buttoned reefer jackets, European autos, fake tans, whitened teeth, mobiles surgically attached to their ears and smiles as genuine as a 100BC Roman coin will tell you that in order to capitalise on your position, it's not a bad idea to buy the worst house in the best street. We did that but it was because we couldn't afford the best or even the middle.

So it has been ever since I have come to understand what the rest of the population have known for ages,



**"The car behind you is tailgating to the extent that he has a better understanding of the state of your haemorrhoids than you..."**

that I have taken an interest in the way others, usually small businesses, have followed or failed to follow the rules. Take for instance the following.

A shop relies to a large extent on passing traffic. Obviously, if you don't know that a business is there, you certainly can't spend any money using it. The trick, however, is not just to have passing traffic but to have traffic that is able to stop once they have seen the business. Now, I suppose you can get away with being a dentist or an accountant if there is a side street or a conveniently empty church car park nearby, but for the impulse stop and shop, parking

on the doorstep is essential. What about then, the lifestyle business, the ones that promise peace of mind and battery recharging?

Nearby to our place is a very busy T intersection. It has traffic lights and no matter what the time of day, the traffic streams past endlessly. Added to this is the fact that for much of the day the commercial bar of the T has clearways and no off-street parking. The nearby side street is full of train commuters' cars so there is no casual parking within a bull's roar of the intersection. Why then begin a business offering Buddhist Meditation in a shop almost slapbang at the junction of the intersection?

Imagine the scene. It's peak hour. You are on your way home. The car behind you is tailgating to the extent that he has a better understanding of the state of your haemorrhoids than you. The petrol gauge has been hovering perilously close to ultra empty since you left work and the next servo is at least half an hour away. You have been warned that if you are late, again, to pick up the kids from the child care centre then .... well, you've been warned!

Just then, whilst waiting for the third set of red traffic lights, you notice, up ahead, a service promising peace. "Buddhist Meditation". That's just what you need; a technique to enable you to cope with the unreasonable stresses of modern life. Your partner

would surely understand if you are a bit late, after all it was to help the whole family. You may be a little late but so what? What they would get home may be a little tardy but that overdue man would be a calm, understanding, compassionate partner and father and not the usual grumpy, insensitive bear who stumbles into the den snarling and striking out at any infringement of unspoken rules.

The decision made, the only problem is that the centre is on the opposite side of the road and there is no discernible parking spot. Suddenly, red and then white lights show on the parked car three ahead.

"There is a God, even if he's Buddhist!" you cry and flick the indicator. At almost the same time the hand on the petrol gauge collapses to "I warned you!" the engine splutters and the car in front of you glides into the vacated parking space.

So you see the importance of position. Had that meditation centre been in the worst shop in the best retail trading complex your marriage would have been saved, your car would not have been permanently spirited away by a dodgy tow truck operator and the kids would not have learned to call you "that useless bastard!"

Come to think of it, I'm a bit worried about Santa's business site in Greenland.

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# Birds of the honeydew cycle

nature

By LINDA ROGAN



The Tui, NZ's largest and most vocal honeyeater. (Picture by Linda Rogan)

**A** VISIT to the brooding beech forests of Lake Rotoiti, NZ, gave respite from early November heat and held many surprises; most fascinating being a cycle found only in New Zealand beech forests, the honeydew cycle.

Two honeyeaters thrive in this beech forest. The larger of these is the Tui, which when first glimpsed, appears as a black bird with two white feather puffs at its throat. Brighter light reveals iridescent blue-green on wings and body and a lacy ruff of white-shafted feathers on its shoulders and neck. I loved to listen to its varied liquid song punctuated with grunts, coughs and chortles. It makes me laugh. The Maoris kept TuIs in cages teaching them complex speeches. The fact that it possesses two voice boxes may account for its vocal prowess.

The smaller honeyeater is the olive green Bellbird (slightly larger than our Bellbird). Its song is like ringing bells, or flutes, melodious and varied. Both of these honeyeaters are endemic to NZ and belong to the same family as Australian honeyeaters.

Both birds feed enthusiastically on forest flowers from several native trees and mistletoe during the summer blooming season. Long cold winters mean long spells when nothing is in bloom. Honeyeaters require another source of nectar to sustain them throughout the year.

Three beech tree species predominate in the forest: red, silver and mountain beeches. Flowering and fruiting in beech trees is erratic with good flowering years, called Mast Years, occurring only every four to six years.

When flower nectar is lacking, food comes from an unexpected source, a tiny insect. It is found on the mountain and the red beech trees where they are coated with a black fibrous encrustation on the trunks, draping the small limbs and spreading over the ground. It might appear a threatening process and gives

a moody darkness to the forest. In fact, this is sooty mould, and it results from the honeydew cycle.

Only hair-like white filaments protruding from the tree trunk through the black fungal strands show the presence of the insect at the heart of the cycle. Each filament has a wee droplet of nectar at its tip. The filament is part of the female scale insect that burrows into the bark of the tree. It derives sustenance from the tree and excretes excess through this tube (perhaps the longest anal tube in the animal kingdom). This nectar provides year-around sustenance to many native birds, lizards and insects. What is not collected by these animals drips onto the tree and the ground, feeding the sooty mould. This sooty mould in turn can be a food and home for insects.

This honeydew cycle has, however, been hijacked by the introduced wasp, which has become so common that in summer it can monopolise the honeydew, depriving the native animals. Special wasp traps on the surrounding trees are essential to tipping the balance toward

the native animals, allowing the honeydew cycle to continue to nourish the creatures of the forest

The wasp control occurs as a part of the Rotoiti Nature Recovery Project, one of the "mainland islands" projects. Mainland islands are defined as "manageable areas, isolated by means of fencing, geographical features or more commonly, intensive management". They are necessary in NZ because of the high number of destructive feral animals present, including possums. It seems strange that our possums have become such a problem. When they graze native plants that have evolved in the absence of browsing animals, the plants cannot thrive. Native mistletoe, whose flowers are favourites of honeyeaters, is rarely found in areas with large numbers of possums. Other feral pests intensively controlled by the recovery project are stoats, ferrets, weasels, plus mice and rats.

The long term goal of the recovery project is to reintroduce three birds: the Great Spotted Kiwi, the Saddleback and the Yellowhead. I wish them well.

# Marilyn's ink-stained masterpiece

**I** SHALL remember this year's lead-up to Christmas as a Very Inky Period indeed. What with getting this column written, plus a lengthy research report, an annual family newsletter (or "magazine" as one kindly aunt refers to it) and a pile of Christmas cards, I've been slaving over a hot pen more than usual in recent days. And in my hour of need, the rotten thing has let me down.

I am reminded of an incident that taught me an unforgettable lesson when I was about 10. My mother rarely got cross with any of us kids, but I probably deserved her wrath on this occasion. I'm not sure what went wrong exactly, but I was meant to be helping by washing the dishes. Somehow, not only my best dress but also every single thing in the dish rack ended up thickly coated with congealed grease. Where did it all come from? Who'd have thought such a teensy speck could travel so far and wide?

It's the same with ink, apparently. First it was a leak-

ing biro making a mess of my fingers and the computer keyboard, but that hardly counts now, given what's followed. Yesterday I attempted to print out a document on a borrowed printer in my daughter's shared house in Launceston. Nothing seemed to be happening, so carefully grasping the machine with both hands, I gently rotated it to check the connections at the back. Disaster!

Black ink had been seeping from the back and dripping onto somebody's lovely desk top—and I'd just trebled its coverage. I'd also contracted two very black palms. Still holding the thing aloft, I watched in horror as more and more inky springs erupted from various crevices in the ink-blotched cover. A trickle of black liquid ran down each of my forearms, heading for the elbow drip point. The puddle on the desk grew and spread. Please please don't drip onto the carpet! Nobody was listening. Nobody else was home. Damn! I couldn't put the filthy thing down, and I certainly couldn't carry

our place

By MARILYN MOORE

it out of the room. At home it would've been easy to sacrifice something within reach, an old t-shirt or towel, but in the bedroom of a complete stranger? He-l-l-p-p-p!

Needless to say, not a lot more got written that afternoon. But I did get back onto it, and this morning pulled out a draft (printed at a handy internet café) to finish on the plane on the way home. Unfortunately (or fortunately, depending on which way you look at it), the two ladies seated next to me proved such fascinating companions that my pen slowed to a crawl before stopping altogether, poised mid-air over the page. As the plane did its pressure thingy during the descent into Melbourne, we concentrated on unblocking our ears. I thought I'd wiped blood across my cheek—something wet was dripping from both hands. \*%#&!!!

A barrel of ink had been forcibly ejected from the confines of my pen. My hands were once again coated with ink. When the time came to disembark, I simply couldn't move without destroying anything I touched.

The cabin crew quickly sized up the situation and leapt into action with various emergency cleaning products. How could so much ink come from one little pen? Getting off the plane took so long that I found myself alone on the aerobridge—alone and neatly locked inside. Would blue hands prove to be a Good Thing or a Bad Thing when it came to talking my way through the airport security net?

This incident doesn't even rate on the Richter Scale of Air Disasters, I know, but it was a tremendous distraction from getting my column finished. In fact the original draft now looks SO last week that it's been relegated to the rubbish bin, all except for the last bit: Best wishes for a joyous Christmas and all good things in 2010!

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# Gorgeous Christmas panto charms the children



**P**RINCESS Gorgeous in Neverland is a pantomime in two acts. In the first, Peter Pan sheds his immortal coil and determines to woo a princess. In the second he endures many trials, eventually winning her hand. The plot is hackneyed, but it's not the story that entertains in a pantomime; rather it's the mimicry. (Pantomime derives from ancient Greek, pantos = all; mimos = mimic). And according to British tradition the mimicry is accomplished through characterisation, metaphor and burlesque.

Written by Keryn Wood, with music and lyrics by Jack Stringer, "Gorgeous" was first produced in Warrandyte nine years ago. In setting out to mimic and thereby mock the rich, powerful and pretentious, Wood creates two distinct lands. She populates Neverland with mythical creatures led by Peter Pan and Tinkerbell, and Graceland with humans led by King Elvis and Queen Lizzie.

J.M. Barrie created Neverland 100 years ago as a place where people never grow up, at least not beyond the consciousness of a two year-old. In Wood's Neverland, Peter Pan has grown up—into a svelte teenager. Tinkerbell, Pan's ever-faithful fairy companion, is having quasi-feminist growing pains to

**theatre**  
By JEREMY LOFTUS-HILLS

boot.

Barrie's Neverland exists against a backdrop of carnality and violence; these are exaggerated in Wood's play. Pan becomes a fairy-tale hero, and "Tink" reconciles with her new circumstances. But the baddies like Bendemeer, a self confessed "very very very bad man", are destined, it seems, to stay bad.

Now that Peter and Tinkerbell have decided it's not really magic or eternal youth that satisfies them, what sort of reality do they prefer? It's hard to believe that they both aspire to union with characters who live in the perverse world of Graceland.

This is a land of self deception, boredom and buffoonery where humans indulge a ritualised and trivialised existence.

Standout performances in Neverland came from David Tynan as Bendemeer and Simone Kiefer as Tinkerbell. While Captain Hook was played to perfection by Bill Mitchell, there were more opportunities for Bendemeer to snarl, be manic or scare the children. Add String-

er's show-stopping "I'm Bendemeer the Pirate" and he becomes a sure-fire hit amongst the under-12s. Simone coloured her character with a body language that spoke volumes about Tinker Bell's emerging dilemma, achieving an authentic blend of tragic and magic.

In Graceland, Darren Bowers' King Elvis made the best entry of the night. It's a brave man who dons the white jump suit and cape and sings pantomime lyrics to a selection of Elvis's greatest hits, with nothing but solo piano accompaniment. His cover of "Are you Lonesome Tonight?" was classic, his addiction to junk food was nostalgic and his parenting skills a revelation. But as the drama unfolded it was the nonsense of Lisa Upson's Brunhilda and the effete manner and conniving ploys of David Creedon's Gaylord that best mimicked the foibles of the rich, royal and famous.

Special mention should be made of the emerging talents of Jamie Stevenson as Peter Pan and Donna Pope as Princess Gorgeous. The lead roles in a pantomime fulfil important functions. The characters must bond with the children in the audience, which they both did well, although Jamie faltered a little when it came to being heroic and true.

He was, however, always in stride when playing opposite Donna's princess. It maybe that any young man set against the rambunctious cast of wenches and villains at the Neverland tavern would have been overshadowed at times. Donna looked and moved like the partially liberated love object that she was. Her performance gained strength as the action intensified in the second act. She performed best in extremes—during the quiet romantic and the aggressive outspoken scenes.

Jack Stringer's music matched the rhythm and mood of the pantomime perfectly. He varied the style from lullaby to rockabilly, through blues to vaudeville chorus, and his lyrics added life to key characters. Congratulations to the costume department led by Louise Phelan for dressing the characters so well, and to set designer Denise Farran for creating a medieval setting for this timeless play. Praise also to co-directors Jan Nance and Lea Stringer who tapped the potential of the large and diverse cast.

The pantomime is a fading genre in Australia. It is good to see the local theatre company embracing it again. It would be a pity to see pantomime die out altogether. In terms of the future of local theatre it has the potential to draw young

people into the fold. It does this via conventions that could have been strengthened in this production: audience participation for example.

Audience participation is traditionally managed by the characters themselves, or more commonly by a "master of ceremonies" who befriends the audience and encourages it to warn about danger ("Look behind you"), contradict the buffoon ("Oh no it isn't") and boo the villain.

By convention the leading young boy is played by a female, and cross gender parts are woven throughout the cast. In this production Princess Drusilla was the only cross dresser. This kind of casting is an important convention in pantomime, increasing the level of abstraction and absurdity. In this particular play it could also have helped balance the leading roles.

The Warrandyte Arts Association was founded after a Christmas pantomime on the Warrandyte Reserve in 1956. That production was lit with car headlights on a stage built especially for the play. We remain thankful for the year's entertainment. We hope that "from now on there will be no sadness in Neverland" applies equally to our community as we face an uncertain fire season and identify safer ways to live in our stringybark bushland.



Pictures by JEREMY LOFTUS-HILLS



# Tennis champs crowned

Warrandyte Tennis Club coach, Craig Haslam is the club's new men's champion while up-and-coming junior, Elise Northover, is the women's champion.

Haslam defeated another exciting junior player, Adrian Mifsud 6-3 6-3 in a high standard match.

Northover defeated Emily White 6-3 6-4 in a baseline battle.



Warrandyte's women's champion, Elise Northover in charge at the net.



Eye on the ball ... Tristan Jackson in action.



Adrian Mifsud prepares to play a backhand during last month's Warrandyte Tennis Club Championships.



It's all concentration as Daniel Tester prepares to hit a booming forehand.



Emily White crashes a backhand during the women's final.



Mark Ford-Learner in action during Warrandyte's Club Championships.



Warrandyte coach, Michael Tout.

## Tout gets Bloods' backing

Warrandyte Football Club has reappointed Michael Tout as senior coach for 2010.

Tout was impressive in his first season at the Bloods and has certainly won many admirers with his approach.

Billy McCormack, Daie Vitiritti and Mark Watson will continue to support Tout.

Reserves and Under 18 coaching applications have been received and coaches will be announced shortly.

## Life awards

Warrandyte Football Club legends Dale Vitiritti and James Logan have been honoured with Life Membership awards.

Vitiritti started his football career at the age of nine and won two junior premierships, before making his senior debut in 1988.

Over the course of the next 19 years, he played 306 games for the Bloods and in that time managed six top three finishes in the Best and Fairest but more importantly played in three premierships in 1993, 1999 and 2006, becoming the only Warrandyte player to do so.

Vitiritti then tried his hand at coaching with the Under 18s, then Reserves and is currently assisting senior coach Michael Tout.

Vitiritti dedicated the award to his family and particularly his father Alan (also a WFC Life Member) who died earlier this year.

Logan captained the Under 18s in 1996 and has since played more than 200 senior games, polled more than 90 Best and Fairest votes, was emergency in the 1999 premiership side and a key part of the 2006 premiership.

Off-field, Logan has been secretary of the club since 2000 and the driving force behind many new initiatives.

In an emotional acceptance speech, Logan thanked players, supporters and friends, and spoke of the football club being like an extended family particularly during difficult times.



# Relay runners set up tilt at State titles

By ED MUNKS

A number of Warrandyte athletes representing the East Doncaster Little Athletics Club competed at the recently held Eastern Metropolitan Region (EMR) relay competition at Reischecks Reserve in Doncaster.

Nicole Reynolds and Ally-Rose Ogden were key members of the girls Under 11 team that were successful in the 4 x 100m event and are now through to the state championships at Olympic Park.

Other local boys and girls that competed at the EMR competition were:

**BOYS UNDER 9:** Ben Munks and Justin Botha competed in the 4 x 100m, 4 x 200m and the Medley Relays. Nick Scala came fourth in the final of the Mixed Age Medley and competed in the 4 x 100m and 4 x 200m.

**BOYS UNDER 10:** Callum Pynt and Nicholas Ward won silver in the 4 x 200m relay, bronze in the Medley and came fourth in the final of the 4 x 100m, missing the bronze medal by .02 seconds.

**GIRLS UNDER 11:** Nicole Reynolds won silver in the 800m Medley Relay. Ally Rose Ogden also won gold in the 4 x 200m.

**BOYS UNDER 12:** Fergus Ward came fourth in the finals of the 800m Medley and 4 x 100m and fifth in the final of the 4 x 200m relay.

Jake Stewart also ran well in a number of relay events, but was unlucky that his teams just missed out on making the finals.

The under 12 team is coached by former Hawthorn AFL fitness coach Anthony Phillips with a number of our local boys utilising his training squad as cross training for their 2010 football season.



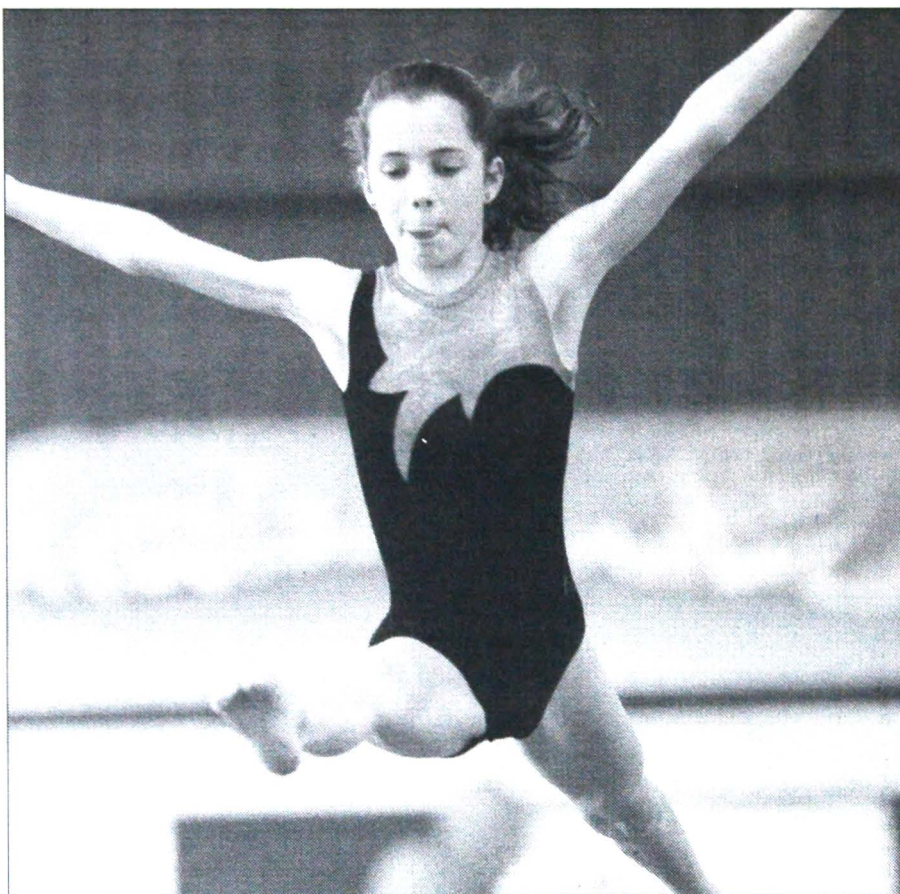
Nicole Reynolds on her way to winning silver in the Under 11 800 metre Medley Relay.

**GIRLS UNDER 13:** Shaely Pynt won silver in the 4 x 100m and silver in the 4 x 200m relays.

**BOYS UNDER 14:** Tom Phillips won bronze in the 800m Medley. Former Andersons Creek student Drew Corke won silver in the 4 x 100m Boys Mixed Age team.

Sean Bowers won silver as the emergency in the 4 x 100m relay and competed well in his other relays.

For more information on Little Athletics please contact Andrew Pynt on 0410 478 333 or Liz Phillips on 0416 187 140.



Isabella Sommers shows the form that won her a place in the National gymnastics titles in Queensland.

# Isabella makes mark at National titles

Isabella Sommers recorded outstanding results at the recent National Level 4 Women's Gymnastics titles in Queensland.

A total of 68 girls competed and Sommers came third on Bars and sixth place overall.

In the Victorian State qualifiers, which were held before the national titles, she finished seventh overall in a field of 40 girls to qualify for the State finals.

In the State titles, Sommers came third on Beam, fifth on Bars and overall sixth place in the state.

Isabella, 12, is a Warrandyte Primary School student trains at Jets High Performance gymnastics 20 hours a week.

# Amy balances her busy sporting life

Warrandyte's Amy Yoffa is the new Level 8 Victorian Champion for the Balance Beam.

Yoffa competed against the top 24 gymnasts in Level 8 for Victoria and was placed first on the beam.

She started at BTYC Gymnastics when she was seven-years-old.

Yoffa was also a member of a silver medal team at the Victorian Gymnastics Championships held in Maffra in October for State Level 8.

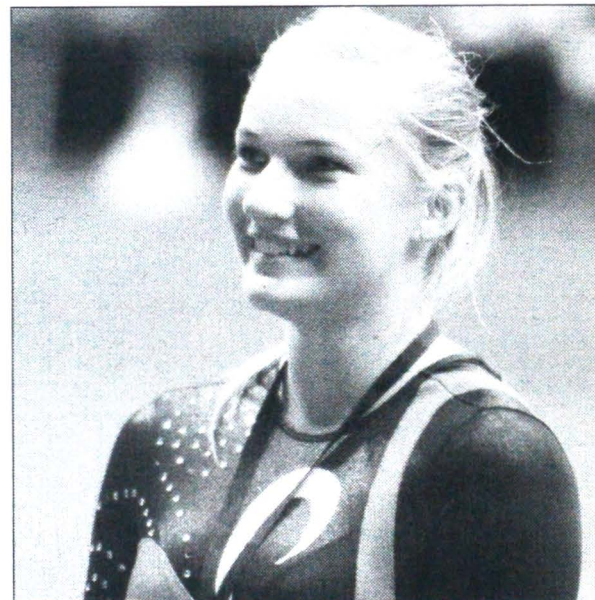
Next year Yoffa will start a

Women's Artistic Gymnastic coaching course as she has been selected to coach in 2010.

Yoffa has also successfully completed the AFL Trainers Course in 2009 as she helps out her father James who coached the Warrandyte Under 12s in 2009.

As a junior Yoffa also represented Victoria in diving. She is also a barefoot water-skier.

Yoffa is a student at East Doncaster Secondary College.



Amy Yoffa ... new Level 8 Victorian champion on the balance beam.

# Netballers bring home two flags

Warrandyte Netball Club brought home two premierships with wins to the Under 13s and Open B Grade.

Two other teams, Under 15/2 and Under 17/1 finished runners-up.

The Under 13/2 Sunbirds had a thrilling 19-17 win over Donvale Dingoes.

Coach Stephanie Natsis praised the work of the team's defenders and said the goal shooters performed brilliantly when cool heads were needed.

"Our centre court worked so hard and tirelessly. It really

was a wonderful team effort," Natsis said.

The Open B Warrandyte Hawks defeated East Doncaster Jets 22-20 in another tight Grand Final.

The Hawks girls got off to a good start and led by four goals at quarter time.

East Doncaster rallied and scoring was even for most of the match.

"We were able to hold on to win in a close match in what was a great overall effort," said coach, Lyn Dyason.

Under 15/2: Warrandyte Rosellas 18 lost to DYC Cougars

23. The team was Erika Dyason (coach), Rebekah Fall, Jasmine Woods, Kayla Mansour, Olivia Valbonesi, Caitlin Yule, Rachel McKernan, Kirsty Gates and Katrina Morris.

Under 17/1: Warrandyte Kangas 10 lost to East Doncaster Rebels 26

The team was Leanne Sawers and Bronwyn Haines (coaches), Hannah Thornton, Jessica Winters, Akela Coutts, Gemma Lindsay-Knape, Natasha Foster-Zuluaga, Dayle Humpreys, Selene Foster-Zuluaga and Claudia McKeough.



The premier Under 13/2 team from left: Stephanie Natsis (coach), Eliza McIntyre, Celest Carey, Olivia Chan, Sophie Bell, Stephanie Duncan, Vendela Hyde, Jessica O'Keefe, Sam Wilson, Meg Hogan and Sarah Lloyd.



The Open B premiers from left, Lyn Dyason (coach), Jess Allwood, Erika Dyason, Amelia Fraser-McKelvie, Jacinta Kemm, Rhianna Kemm, Cherise Angelotti-Casey and Kristie Turner.



Warrandyte basketball round-up with Tony Oliver

# Big V women continue to promote youth

After making finals for a third successive season, and doing so with the competition's youngest team, coach Justin Nelson has decided to almost retain an unchanged women's squad ahead of the 2010 Division 1 women's Big V season.

With only two players let go and one deciding to focus on Year 12 studies, the talented young squad is ready to go again and has been boosted by a couple of new faces, including former Blackburn leading player Jennifer Cameron.

A league-leading rebounder and prolific scorer, Cameron was on Nelson's radar for some time and the coach is delighted she has agreed to join the club.

"Jennifer is an outstanding young lady with everything we look for when recruiting a player.

"Not only will she help us in areas we need to bolster, but she brings all the qualities that make for a perfect role model across our junior program," said Nelson.

"Like Sharlene Desanto and Janelle Lucas, who both joined us last year, I can see Jennifer being a long-term

player for the club."

Reflecting on the changes, Nelson said he believed the 2010 squad looked to be more versatile.

"We wished Carla and Lauren Sabidussi all the best after last season, while we unfortunately lost Nicolette Prior through Year 12 studies.

"We totally endorse her decision and wish her well, but that has created some opportunities and I'm happy with the direction we are going in."

A part of that direction is a continued focus on younger players coming up from the club's junior program.

To that end, the 2010 squad will contain no less than 14 former or current Redbacks or Venom players.

"It's an exciting time in the women's program. We have a healthy junior program, a development pathway in place and we are seeing the results from patience, hard work and a focus on developing from within.

"Good things always take time and hard work, which is now paying off for us," said Nelson.

Player sponsorships are now available for both the men's and women's squads for \$200, while season memberships for entry to all 22 home games for both teams are available for only \$50 for adults, \$25 for children and \$100 for families.

For more information or to book call Lisa Saunders on 9844 1921.

## Venom in grading series

The first grading round for Friday night basketball has started and Warrandyte Venom are fielding a strong set of teams, following a restructure of the objectives and execution for Representative Basketball.

Andrew Robertson is in charge of the Under 12 boys and are grading in Pool 1, which will give them a good shot at the top levels of basketball.

They came up against Sandringham in the early game at Warrandyte Sports Centre.

The Venom got off to a slow start and were never able to recover. The visitors led 23-9 at the break but the second half was a much better performance, with the Venom taking the points, to put some pressure on Sandringham.

The visitors tightened up their defence in the final minutes to take the points 36-23.

Zac Pace led the Venom scoring with nine points with good support from Jordan Hallet and Brent Gaudion with five points each.

The core of the team come from a successful campaign last season when they contested the finals, going down in a high quality game to Melbourne.

They face Bulleen in their next encounter and will need to win to progress.

Gavin Eddy is coaching an Under 16 boys side with a win and a loss so far.

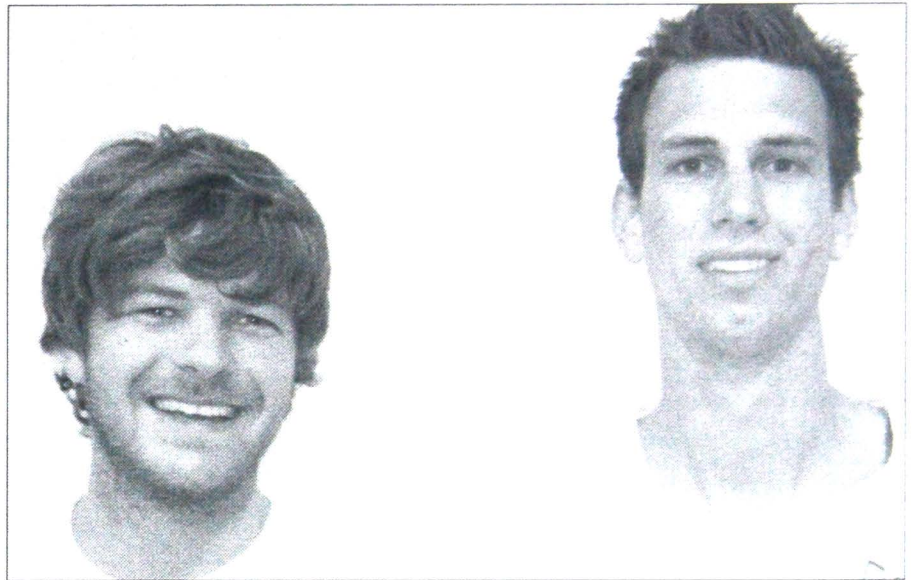
Their second game was at home against Craigieburn. The opening half was very tight with the defences on top.

Two late goals to the Venom's Sam Nothnagel put the Venom within one point.

The second half opened brightly with Hayden Bowen's goal giving the lead to the Venom for the first time.

However Craigieburn steadied and took control of the remaining minutes, running out winners by 42-25.

Sam Nothnagel top scored for the Venom with 12 points and seven points were contributed by Hayden Bowen.



Reece Borella, left, brother of captain of the girls Big V women's team, Jaz Borella, and Chris Vanderzaag are hoping for a big year with the Big V Men's team.

# Men's Big V team gets the green light

Warrandyte Basketball is celebrating its successful application for a Big V men's team, starting with a position in division three men in 2010.

Following months of work, the club was given the thumbs up at the recent Big V annual general meeting, a decision that club president Justin Nelson says the whole Warrandyte community should be proud of.

"We had a vision five years ago that this pathway would be built and it's fantastic for everyone at the club that we have achieved this goal," said Nelson.

"Our women's team have been nothing short of bril-

liant over the past three years and their success has set the foundations for the league accepting our submission for a men's team in 2010.

"The league identified the club as having a strong work ethic when it comes to showcasing Big V games to the community and they recognised our growth at junior boys level, all of which points to a successful men's program in the coming years.

"Already we have made big steps forward with Rob Cousens signing on as the naming rights sponsor of the team, Metro Signs, All Over Bins, Knox Star

Mercedes and Impact Sports Promotions have stepped up as major sponsors, while the player sponsorships have been very popular.

"This sort of enthusiasm highlights how much local support we enjoy in Warrandyte.

"The community loves basketball and will no doubt get along to games," said Nelson.

Coach Kevin Bowers is working with 43 players at tryouts and will eventually select a squad of 15 to take part in practice games during February.

The Big V season will start on March 20

# Redbacks show good form in Saturday play

Warrandyte Redbacks have been in good form in the Saturday EDJBA basketball competition.

In the Under 20 mens, Warrandyte took on Ivanhoe in a tight A Grade game and Warrandyte had a strong lead 16-7 at the break in a low scoring game.

Ivanhoe, a much taller team, and were able to put pressure on the Redbacks, closing the gap to two points in the final minutes.

Warrandyte were able to steady in the critical last three minutes and used up time to run out winners 29-22.

Andrew Clough top scored with 10 points with a number of other players all contributing well.

The side is going well in A Grade and should feature prominently in the finals series in 2010.

Warrandyte Under 16 girls were well under strength with two players on Venom duties and two players enjoying themselves on the Great Victorian Bike ride.

The result, a loss by 36-4 against Balwyn was therefore not unexpected.

Earlier, the Under 16 boys had a good win against Eltham by 51-22. It was a good all-round contribution

from all players and again, this is a side that will figure in the finals.

The Under 9s are just in the early stages of their basketball experiences and Dale Leeson's boys took on Eltham and went down 24-8.

"We will need to work on skill but the team is improving all the time," said Leeson.

Calum Bowers scored four points with two points from Levis Downig and Finley Swedosh.

The Under 9 girls were able to rebalance the score with a good 18-5 win over an Eltham side.

The score line of 6-3 at the break was an indication of the closeness of the game, but the Redbacks were able to get the ball in the ring several times to run out easy winners.

Amy Penver with seven points, Gemma Potter (6) and Jessie Yammouni (5) were the scorers for Warrandyte.



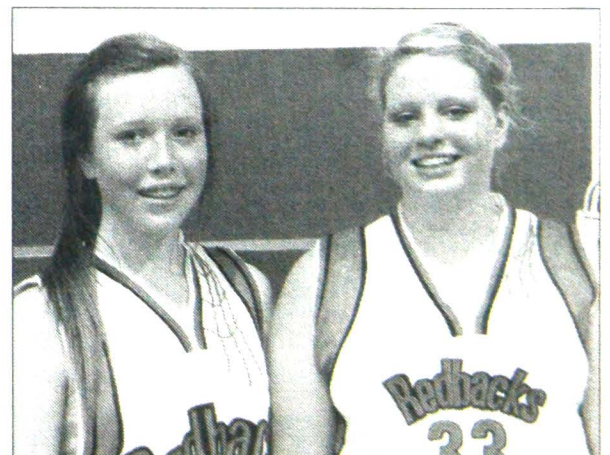
Coach: Craig Pattison. From left standing: Erin Blackwell, Cara Cross, Alisha Centrone, Livia Sheather, Adelyn Hoser. Seated: Meg Pattison, Natalie MacDonald, Claudia Kuen and Tessa Tehan.

# St Anne's girls are Hooptime champions

St Anne's school at Park Orchards has won the state finals of Hooptime for Grades 3/4 girls.

This year 511 school competed in the competition.

On the final day the girls played seven games and won the day undefeated.



Under 16 Redbacks' players, Breanna Edsell, left, and Rebecca Lee-Porcher



# It's tight at the top for Hawks

By FRANS BROUWER

South Warrandyte Hawks head the Ringwood District Cricket Association Chandler Shield ladder after five rounds of the season.

Two other South Warrandyte senior teams are in the top four, but the remaining three sides remain hopeful of finals action.

Several Juniors are performing consistently, in particular Under 16 2 player Nathan Willoughby who averages 100 plus in juniors with a century and four 50 plus scores. He is also averaging more than 50 in senior appearances in D Grade and A Grade.

The Hawks' Chandler Shield team lost in Round 1 against Mooroolbark but have been winners since then.

They head a group of five teams on four wins and one loss.

In Round 4, despite 6/30 from Steve Garrett in a total of 119, and 100 from David Hill and 84 from Ryan Hill in a score of 7/308, Warranwood was able to stave off an out-right loss when they scored 6/191 (Steve Lindsay 3/53) in their second innings.

In Round 5 the Hawks passed the previously unbeaten Norwood's 9/182 with 7/194 (Josh Barrett 65).

A Grade is sixth, one game behind four teams in a very tight grade. Round 5 saw a wonderful batting display against Lilydale's 148 (Robbie Bowen 3/47, David Mock 3/25).

The top order of Robbie Bowen 48, Dale Owen 93, Shane Biggs 62no and Nathan Willoughby 36no enabled the Hawks to reach 2/260.

But their 149 (Willoughby 30, Mock 29) was not enough against Croydon Ranges' 199 (Kane Hartrup 5/55) and 5/88 (Ryan Pane 3/7) in Round 6. In Round 7 they responded with 7/246 (Nathan Willoughby 128) in reply to Lilydale's 195 (Kane Hartrup 4/39).

Losses in Rounds 5 and 6 followed by a win in Round 7 left the Thirds fifth in D Grade, but they are two games away from fourth place.

Round 5: Hawks 181 (Manuell 46) lost to Lilydale 5/220.

Round 6: Hawks 188 (Caleb Atkinson 62) and 5/107 (Adrian Smith 35) lost to Eastfield 248 (Paul Garrett 4/24).

Round 7: Hawks 177 (Darcy Price 45, Joel Holewa 44) and 4/105 d Lilydale 131.

Tony Biggs Fourth's (I Grade) continue their winning ways and remain on top of the ladder.

Round 5: Hawks 5/249 d Lilydale 7/199

Round 6: Hawks 2/241 (Hayden Richards 113, Jake Robb 52no) d Norwood 55 (Matt Sheppard 5/8, Sam Cleary 5/17) and 93 (Josh Bird 4/37)

Round 7: Hawks received forfeit from Lilydale, K Grade

Round 5: Hawks 4/130 (Joel Holewa 62) d Olinda 71 (Matt Sheppard 4/24, Hayden Richards 3/14)

Round 6: Hawks 273 (John Cleary 74, Luke Brouwer 45, Justin Tucker 45, Jackson Cleary 37) d Warranwood 165 (John Cleary 4/18, Morgan Williams 3/32) and 8/191 (Jackson Cleary 3/37)

Round 7: Hawks received forfeit from Olinda.

M Grade is third, with both losses against top team St Andrews

Round 5: Hawks 7/163 (Barry Williams 40) d North Ringwood 10/103 (Williams 3/5)

Round 6: Hawks 222 (Paul Foley 40, Williams 51) lost to St Andrews 9/273 (James King 4/58, Williams 3/43)

Round 7: Hawks 134 d North Ringwood 10/121 and 2/81.

## Junior results

The Hawks' juniors are improving weekly. The Under 12 team stayed put in Section 1 despite losing its first two games, and winning form appeared soon after.

Round 4: Hawks 119 (Josh Exley 31no) and 5/49 d North Ringwood 82

Round 5: Hawks 7/145 lost to Norwood 7/150

The Norwood Hawks combined side that started in Under 14/2 was regraded to Under 14/3 and immediately won its next two games, followed by a close loss 136 to Montrose's 4/145.

The full Hawks Under 14-2 side has also won two more games, but had its hands full chasing Wantirna South's 8/201 scoring 77 and 3/38. The side is third in an even grade

Under 16-4 is also a combined side with Croydon Ranges. The team's only win came in Round 4 with some fine individual Hawks performances with Alastair Price 67no, Luke Tucker 30, Alastair Price two overs for 3/3.

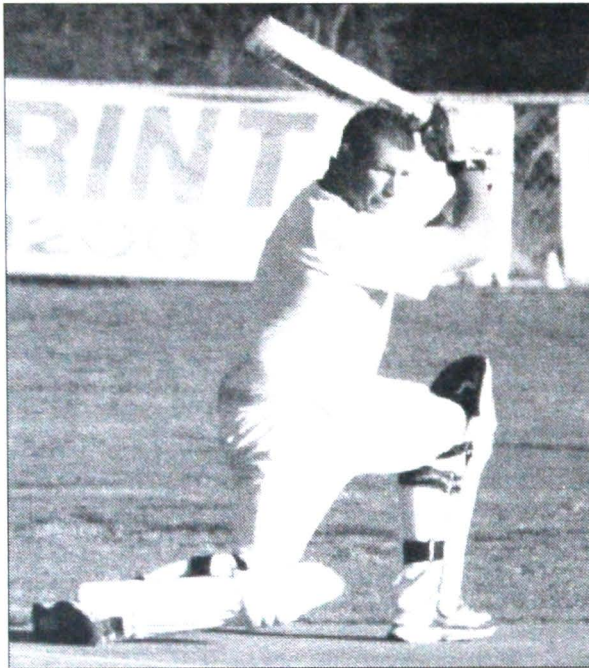
Second-placed team Wonga Park then scored 4/147 to defeat the Hawks 56 and 4/92 in Round 5.

Under 16-2 is on top and undefeated. Individual performances during Round 4 include Ollie Hansen 4/38, Alex Cattanaach 3/24, Nathan Willoughby 102no, Morgan Williams 25 while in Round 5, Willoughby scored 79, and Josh Bird 41.

The Under 18s have had their moments, but a win remains elusive.

A loss in the last over of Round 3, was followed by a 140 run loss in Round 4 against top side North Croydon (Hayden Richards 2/22, Leon Holewa 51).

In Round 5, Heathmont Baptist scored 8/161 to defeat the Hawks 8/89.



Campbell Holland blasts his way to 50 in Warrandyte's win over Chirnside Park. Picture: Daniel Wellesley.

# 'Dytes overcome fears of slump

By RYAN HOIBERG

Warrandyte dropped their first game for the year in RDCA Wilkins Cup cricket, losing to Lilydale at home in Round 4.

But they bounced back in emphatic style to clinch victory over Montrose and secure a spot on the top rungs of the ladder.

With skipper Adam White unavailable until after the Christmas break, the games he would miss loomed as a danger time for stand-in captain Campbell Holland.

However when Warrandyte claimed 3/3 to beat Montrose by 15 runs, any thoughts of a mid season slump were dispelled.

Warrandyte travelled to Montrose looking to dismiss any rumours of being a one man team and when they were sent in by Montrose the batsmen were given a chance to prove themselves.

After a steady start by opening pair Jack Ellis and Ben Taylor, Taylor (11) departed with 31 runs on the board. Ellis batted well with Morgan (23) to have Warrandyte at tea with a conservative total of 1/75, but well placed to attack the Montrose bowlers after the break.

When Morgan departed, and Ellis (32) finally fell in the 50th over, Dave Mooney crafted a well deserved 62 not out, helped by Dale Landers with 31.

With a final score of 6/224 off their 80 overs, it gave the Warrandyte bowlers a total to work with.

Warrandyte claimed an early wicket with Holland taking his first scalp with Montrose still yet to score. Warrandyte's bowlers continued to pile on the pressure, with Walshe claiming his first at wicket with the score at 2/22.

However the Montrose opening batsman attacked the Warrandyte bowlers, smashing 72, placing Montrose in a good position, with the 'Dytes' total looking vulnerable.

But the tide turned when

Lee Evans claimed three wickets in a row and the game was in the balance at 5/147. With Montrose at 6/173 and only needing 51 more runs with four wickets in hand, Matt Sazenis spun his web of magic, claiming four of the last five wickets.

Montrose fell from 7/205 to be all out for 209.

With one game remaining before the Christmas break, Warrandyte are well placed in third position with four wins and a loss.

In Round 4 Warrandyte hosted Lilydale at home and with Holland winning his first toss the 'Dytes batted first.

Holland's faith in his batting line up without seasoned performers White or Brett Montgomery was found to be a false hope, with Warrandyte slumping to be 7/102 at tea.

There was a regular fall of wickets, countering any efforts by the Warrandyte batsmen to take charge of the Lilydale bowlers.

The early loss of Jack Ellis (4) was followed by the newly promoted Blake Morgan (0) and when Taylor (12) departed four runs later Warrandyte were in deep trouble.

Justin Cleaves tried to stabilise the innings with a well constructed 40, though he could not find any support from his fellow batsmen, until Dale Landers joined him at 7/66 to push through to tea and give the 'Dytes a slight hope of putting together a total their bowlers could defend.

However, when Cleaves fell at 8/114, Warrandyte was bowled out for 132, with Landers left stranded on 22.

For Warrandyte to have any chance they needed early wickets, and when Gerald Walshe claimed a wicket in the first over, and Steve Warr snared another in the fourth, Lilydale were on the back foot to be 2/6.

However, any chance of a Warrandyte win was destroyed with a strong third wicket partnership by

## Warrandyte crash into 20/20 finals

Warrandyte has won both of their pool matches to win a place in the he Saxon Twenty20 competition involving all RDCA teams.

The conversion to the shorter version of the game still proved that smart cricket can win any form of the game, with Warrandyte's premier spinner, Matt Sazenis, claiming a seven wicket haul across both games.

The away win at Wonga Park was set up well by Sazenis (4/26) with Wonga Park bowled out for 124, after some tight fielding and smart bowling changes.

Warrandyte easily chased down the target, with Brett Montgomery (38 not out) controlling the innings, with president Matt Chapman (35 not out) smashing the Wonga Park bowlers around the park in the final couple overs to post a win by five wickets with two overs to spare.

Warrandyte hosted Chirnside Park in what was to be a danger game for the club. However, in front of a big home crowd, Warrandyte again chased down the posted total of 151 after Lee Evans claimed 4/31 and Sazenis 3/19.

Warrandyte's opening pair of Ben Taylor (41) and Campbell Holland (50) made light work of the large target, and with same late slogging by Tully Greve (29).

Warrandyte will face Warranwood in the quarter final.

Round 1: Warrandyte 5/125 (Montgomery 38 not out, Chapman 35 not out, Holland 31) d Wonga Park 124 (Sazenis 4/26, Warr 2/32, Evans 3/22)

Round 2: Warrandyte 5/152 (Holland 50, Taylor 41) d Chirnside Park 8/151 (Evans 4/31, Sazenis 3/19)

Lilydale, and Warrandyte's score was eventually passed with only the loss of three wickets, for Lilydale to win by a comfortable seven wickets.

Matt Sazenis claimed another five wicket haul, however it was a case of having too small a total for the bowlers to defend.

Warrandyte's Second Eleven are just outside the top four in the Newey Plate, after a mixed result from the last two rounds.

A great batting effort saw Warrandyte chase down Warranwood's total away from home, but then a complete failure to clean up Norwood's tail and a batting collapse meant the Second's season is currently in the balance.

Warrandyte's Third Eleven are also stranded outside the top four, again unable to dismiss their opposition.

This means the experienced team must perform well in the final games before the Christmas break to set up a finals chase.

The Fourth Eleven are on top of the ladder in their division, thanks to some fine batting by captain Nathan Croft and a six wicket haul to junior Tom Ellis.

The Fifth Eleven were unable to chase down a mammoth total, before receiving a forfeit in their latest round.

Scores:

FIRST XI

Round 4: Warrandyte 132 (Cleaves 40) lost to Lilydale 187 (Sazenis 5/55, Holland 2/29)

Round 5: Warrandyte 6/224 (Mooney 62 not out, Ellis 32, Landers 31 not out) d Montrose 209 (Sazenis 4/63, Evans 3/51)

SECOND XI

Round 4: Warrandyte 9/217 (Evans 69, Goddard 60, Zach 49) d Warranwood 9/211 (Beardall 3/54, McKellar 2/14, Howarth 2/24)

Round 5: Warrandyte 156 (McIntosh 46) lost to Norwood 174 (Warr 4/57, Beardall 3/36) and 2/46

THIRD XI

Round 6: Warrandyte 92 (Gidley 30) lost to St. Andrews 107 (Smead 4/10, Warren 2/15) and 7/192 (Prangley 2/19)

Round 7: Warrandyte 221 (Bowen 61 not out, Day 52) lost Montrose 8/347 (Smead 4/48)

FOURTH XI

Round 6: Warrandyte 110 (Croft 33) lost to Templeton 148 (Ellis 6/22) and 5/118 (Rees 3/21)

Round 7: Warrandyte 186 (Croft 56, Thomas 36) lost to North Ringwood 219 (Lane 6/55, Rees 2/27)

FIFTH XI

Round 6: Warrandyte 6/328 (Warren 85, Ryan 57, Thomas 40) lost to Warranwood 8/346 (Warren 2/30, Jones 2/46)

Round 7: Warrandyte won by forfeit

## Juniors make short work of veterans

Warrandyte Cricket Club's over 50s side was put to the sword by a combined side selected from the club's Under 14 and Under 16 teams.

The veterans put out the challenge to the juniors after a number of the senior games were abandoned.

The juniors needed to score 23 runs in the final over and they achieved their target.

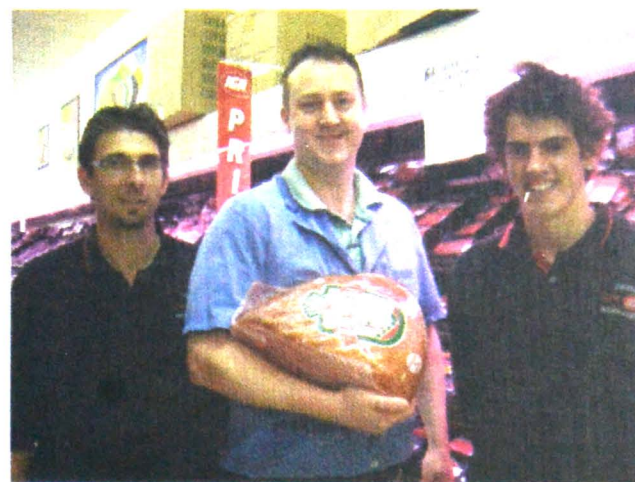
"It was a great day for all concerned and we hope to make it an annual event," said veteran's organiser, Steve Pascoe. Scores: Over 50s 162 (Ryan 30, G. Hartman 29, Pascoe 27, J. Hartman 2/8) lost to Combined juniors 8-164 (B. Mifsud 32 not out, T. Ellis 29, L. Warren 24, A. Ryan 20, A. Yu 20, Walton 2-27)





# Merry Christmas and a happy New Year

to all our valued customers  
from the management and staff at Victory IGA Warrandyte



*Help local children in need this Christmas by donating a wrapped present and placing it under our Christmas gift tree.*

**Support "Food for Thoughtfulness"**  
Saturday 19th December, 8.30am-12noon  
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## Lions Club of Warrandyte Inc. Seasons Greetings

The Lions Club wishes our community and our supporters a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



[www.lionsclubwarrandyte.org.au](http://www.lionsclubwarrandyte.org.au)

WARRANDYTE

### Country Charm, Modern Features

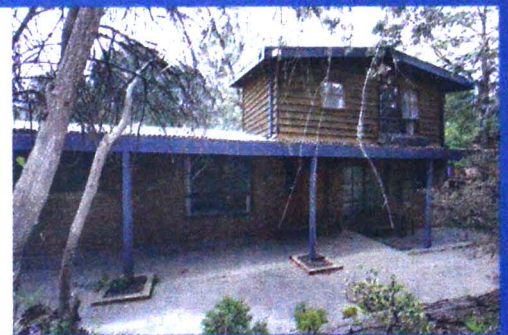
Step inside this warm, romantic home and be amazed at the magical architectural design and fantastic location. Situated just a few minutes walk from the Warrandyte township, Yarra River and local primary school, this home is the perfect start for those seeking a piece of Warrandyte lifestyle. Features main bedroom with ensuite and walk-in robe, open plan living, three private outdoor living spaces and state of the art Swimgym exercise pool. Downstairs provides 2 bedrooms and main bathroom, laundry and spacious rumpus/living area. A low maintenance, eco-friendly home.



WARRANDYTE SOUTH

### Wind Down in the Woods

Forget noise, traffic and the rush of the rat race from this serene clinker brick home set on 1/3 acre of tranquil bushland. A romantic split-level design with parents' loft retreat, three living zones, soaring ceilings, feature brick walls, leadlight windows and open fireplace, plus a spectacular backyard deck where you can read, sunbake or BBQ amid the gum trees.



WARRANDYTE NORTH

### Make 'Wind in the Willows' Your Next Chapter

The next chapter of your family's life is a fairytale existence in a grand Colonial style with an open plan living room with French doors to a romantic verandah with views of Sugarloaf Mountain. Set on a peaceful road shared by friendly locals.



KANGAROO GROUND

### Let Your Family Flourish

Superbly placed overlooking the Great Dividing Range, this unique architectural brick home is a 12-sided dodecagon, set on 2 acres to deliver the perfect family lifestyle. Enjoy fresh fruit from the orchard and wondrous wildlife including kangaroos, wedge-tailed eagles, water birds and tame kookaburras. Find your own space with 4 bedrooms, two living levels and a flourishing garden.



WARRANDYTE SOUTH

### Wake up to breathtaking views

Make the most of both the city and the bush with this exceptional 20 acre property with panoramic views of the Dandenongs and the Yarra Valley. Share your dwelling with kangaroos, echidnas and tawny frogmouths. A secluded valley enclosed by your fences emerges from a wandering track through trees to expose a large adobe shed, horticultural facilities and registered dam with irrigation rights. Features 4 BRs, study, ensuite, bathroom, kitchen, family, dining, 2 entertainment areas and a self-contained flat. Triple carport and workshop. Vast storage is a handyman's dream. Breathe in the country air and relax.



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With plans and permits in place for an impressive 3 bedroom + studio home with a spectacular front balcony, all that's left to bring to this quarter acre is your cheque book and your imagination. See beyond the crushed rock driveway to the bushland freedom this property could bring you and your family — just behind the charming Yarra Street village of cafes, shops and the river, on a street with Warrandyte State Park as your backyard playground and Warrandyte Primary within walking distance.



WARRANDYTE



We would like to wish all our clients and the Warrandyte community a **Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year** from all the staff at Landfield Real Estate



[www.landfield.com.au](http://www.landfield.com.au)