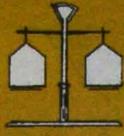


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# WARRANDYTE diary

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One way to cross that river!  
More STEPHEN REYNOLDS pictures on Page 14

# Second crossing?

## Lions' plan for river causeway

By TRISTAN MADDOCKS

A leading member of the Lions Club of Warrandyte is pushing for a second river crossing as an escape route for traffic in a bushfire emergency.

Former Lions Club president Laurie Hilakari has proposed the building of a concrete causeway between the end of Bradleys Lane and Everard Drive, giving North Warrandyte residents a chance to drive towards Templestowe in the event of a fire.

Mr Hilakari, who lives in Templestowe, said the main purpose of the causeway would be to eliminate traffic congestion at the intersec-

tion of Kangaroo Ground Road and Research-Warrandyte Road when fire threatened. Emergency services would only open the causeway during a fire.

"By having a causeway, you say to the Research-Warrandyte Road people, 'head towards Templestowe', whereas the people coming from Kangaroo Ground Road would head towards Ringwood."

He said the causeway would not affect the beauty of the area and could be built far more cheaply than a bridge. (Warrandyte Lions proposed a footbridge linking Bradleys Lane with Everard Drive in 2007. This idea was strongly opposed by some Bradleys Lane residents, although others supported it.)

"You would have a ramp going up and out from the causeway, you would have a gate at either one or

both ends, and it would only be used in an emergency situation. Police or CFA would be in charge of opening the gates."

North Warrandyte CFA captain Rohan Thornton said he would discourage a causeway because of "traffic management" concerns.

"In concept, the idea is fine, the trouble is, down that end (of Bradleys Lane) is probably one of the worst places. You wouldn't want traffic heading across there because they are likely to be heading into fires," he said.

"There is no infrastructure to disperse traffic at the other side of the river (in Everard Drive). From a traffic management point of view, in an emergency, it doesn't make sense."

Captain Thornton said the North Warrandyte CFA assumed the Warrandyte bridge would be blocked

during a fire and acknowledged emergency traffic management was a "complex problem".

"It is recognised that the bridge is going to be a major issue (in a fire). We assume the bridge is going to be clogged up and no one is going to move on it. I don't know whether there is a solution, because we are victims of topography. You can only do so much in this area. The North Warrandyte CFA assumes the bridge is going to be blocked, and we've certainly got plans that identify that that's going to happen."

VicRoads regional director Duncan Elliott said the 2007 North East Integrated Transport Study had considered an extra river crossing in Warrandyte and did not recommend it.

"Whilst there are no plans at this

stage for a second river crossing, local residents and community members are strongly encouraged to observe fire warnings issued by the CFA and Victoria Police," he said.

Warrandyte Community Association president Dick Davies said Warrandyte needed an overall transport plan that included emergency evacuation procedures. He said any additional river crossing would need to be "part of a bigger plan".

"What about the access roads? What would the emergency access be in a crisis situation?"

Mr Hilakari said the causeway was "warranted and needed".

"I would hate to think that we put this on the backburner and it cost hundreds of lives."

● The Diary invites readers' comments on this subject.

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the points add up."

— Graeme A.S. Browne

# WARRANDYTE diary

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**NEXT ISSUE**

Next issue of the Diary will be published on Wednesday, March 10, 2010. Advertising and editorial copy closes Friday, February 26, 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 not-for-profit, non-commercial status and its independent voice. The Diary carries a strong editorial bias towards the people, environment and character of the place it serves. Its monthly circulation is 4000 copies and it is available in Warrandyte, North Warrandyte, South Warrandyte, Park Orchards, Wonga Park, Warranwood, North Ringwood, Kangaroo Ground and Research.

**A SPECIAL PLACE**

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

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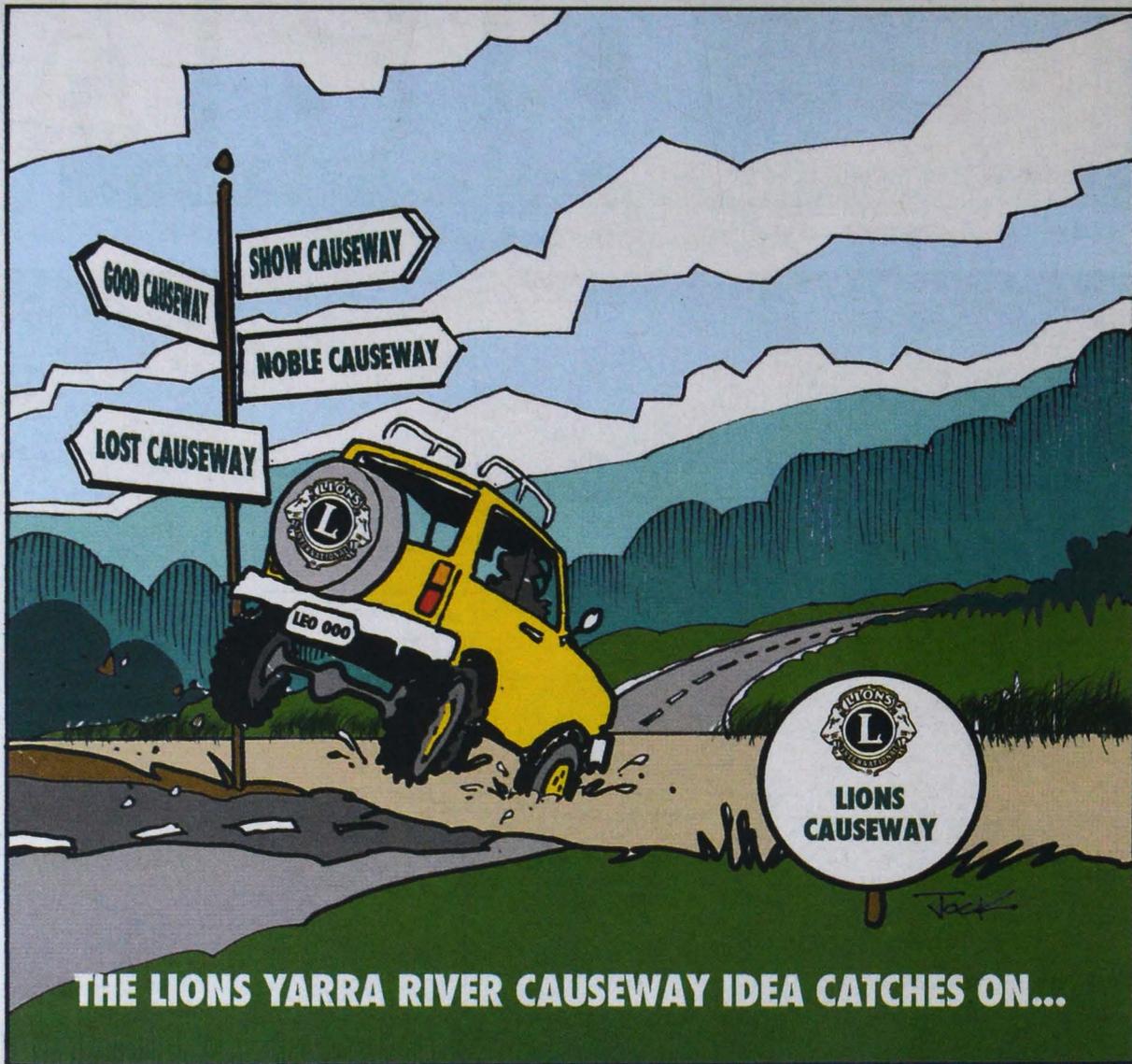
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**OVER THE HILLS**

By **JOCK MACNEISH**



**THE LIONS YARRA RIVER CAUSEWAY IDEA CATCHES ON...**

## Just a googly in the goolies

**B**Y rights he should have been visualising a deft flick off his pads to the square leg boundary. Or double checking he'd put on his lucky underpants. But right now Jasper was more concerned about the sandwiches Narelle had prepared for afternoon tea.

"What are they?"

"Curried egg," replied Narelle. "I bet none of the other mums make you curried egg sandwiches!"

"You're dead right," complained Jasper. "Why can't I just have Boston bun like everyone else?"

"Just remember to bring the plate home!" called Narelle as he climbed into the Land Cruiser.

"Geez, they don't half stink," said Neville, as they drove along Yarra Street's liquorice strap tarmac on the way to Tarooma Avenue.

Warrandyte Fiftys were batting this week, chasing Wonga Park's 544, a daunting total even on a ground so small the fast bowlers have to start their run-up on the other side of the fence.

But soon Warrandyte's batsmen were peppering the creek and by late afternoon were in sight of a glorious and improbable victory. Just 10 to get with two wickets in hand. Macca, a stalwart of the Fiftys for over 20 years, hunched over his bat, desperately protecting his wicket against the apparently unfathomable spin of a slow bowler who could be described either as vastly experienced, or simply old. In fact slow was an exaggeration, his looping leggies taking longer to cover 22 yards than a Friday night queue at IGA. But from the last ball of the over, Macca guided the cherry



down to fine leg where it hid in the long grass while the 14 year-old high school kid at the other end scampered through for 5. Unfortunately Macca had only completed 2 when the return came in to find man and boy stranded together at the wrong end.

Thus was Jasper brought to the crease to face the new over with one wicket to go and eight runs still required.

"Keep your head down Trotty," prompted Macca.

Jasper gave it a try but couldn't see the bowler, so lifted it again, took guard and faced up to a Wonga Park postman whose deliveries this afternoon had proved just as unreliable as they were during the week.

The postman welcomed Jasper to the crease with three consecutive no balls. The first was incorrectly addressed down the leg side, the second sailed so far outside the off it nearly made it to another postcode, while the third went airmail all the way from the bowler's hand to the keeper's gloves without

landing on the pitch at any point, passing perilously close to Jasper's nose on the way through. Warrandyte's score had advanced by three and Jasper's pads had stopped shaking.

The next ball, however, was correctly directed to its recipient and Jasper was compelled to offer some sort of response. His first idea was a scorching drive through cover. A reappraisal of line and length suggested a late cut may be the better option. Ultimately he opted for a snick between bat and leg stump, a decision rewarded with four invaluable runs.

The postman seemed less pleased with this outcome than Jasper's team-mates. Adding three strides to his run-up, he steamed in and sent an express delivery straight to Jasper's mail-box.

Few moments in cricket display more poignantly the underlying bond one cricketer feels with another. When any of their number, regardless which side, cops a pill in the pills, their intense rivalry is

**living with The Trotts**

set aside in an emotional coming together of shared pain, even tears, at least on the part of the recipient. This outpouring of genital solidarity was, however, lost on Jasper who had decided to discard his bat for the time being, lie down in the foetal position and mimic the mating call of a tawny frogmouth. A circle of concerned faces hovered above him, till Macca pushed through the crowd to render the sort of assistance only a man of his sensitivity could bring to the situation.

"Geez mate, did it hurt?"

But by now the worst was past, though the next worse wasn't all that pleasant either, and Jasper gingerly rose to his feet, demonstrating the sort of Warrandyte grit that has seen us survive floods, bushfires and the closing of the video store.

"I'm alright!" he wheezed. "I'll keep going."

"No you won't," said Macca, pointing to the umpire who stood with his finger in the air. In a classic case of adding insult to injury, he'd been given out leg before wicket.

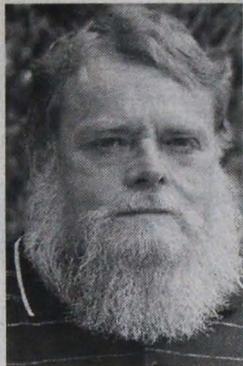
It was a sorry Jasper who entered the kitchen at the end of the day to answer his mother's cheerful enquiry about the day's events.

"It was so embarrassing!" reported Jasper. "I lost the match. I may never be a father." He reached into his cricket bag and withdrew Narelle's plate, gladwrap still intact. "And nobody touched the curried egg sandwiches!"

*Dedicated to Ash Ryan.*

**ALAN CORNELL**

## Local hero takes top honour



By **KARLY HICKMAN**

Warrandyte resident Anthony Giles-Peters (pictured) has been awarded an Order of Australia Medal in recognition of his services to people with a physical disability, working through the Australian Ventilator Users Network (AVUN).

"I am surprised and honoured by this award, and also take it as recognition of AVUN and the many people who have contributed to the organisation over the years," Mr Giles-Peters told the *Diary*.

Mr Giles-Peters co-founded the network in 1989 to provide a self-help and advocacy group for people who rely on ventilators for life support. He has been president since 1991.

While self-help remain the core of the network's functions, it has undertaken a strong advocacy role, contributing to government reviews and working to ensure that ventilator users receive medical and community support.

In the early 1990s, AVUN worked alongside the HIV/AIDS lobby in a campaign to save the Fairfield Hospital, concerned that if the hospital were closed, the multi-disciplinary team supporting ventilator users would be lost.

"When Fairfield Hospital eventually closed, AVUN represented the interests of ventilator users in their move from Fairfield to the Bowen Centre at the Austin Hospital," Mr Giles-Peters said.

Since 1996, much of the network's energies have been focused on developing community based, supported accommodation for ventilator users. "After more than 10 years work, the Ventilator Accommodation Support Service opened in 2007 in Thornbury," Mr Giles-Peters said.

The support service comprises four houses providing long-term accommodation and respite. "A number of the people who use the service came from the Fairfield Hospital. They had been living in institutions for decades.

"The service provides a real home where residents direct the support they need," Mr Giles-Peters said. Residents have a role in the direction of the service and can participate in the life of the broader community.

Mr Giles-Peters remains chairman on the Support Service steering committee, allowing him to oversee the initiative. The service is funded by state government and staffed by Yorrala.

Anthony has lived in Warrandyte since 1978 and is a life member of the Warrandyte Football Club. He was secretary of the club for eight years.

"My experience with the Warrandyte Football Club later helped me in setting up AVUN and applying for incorporation," he said.

In addition to his voluntary work with AVUN, Mr Giles-Peters is employed part-time as a disability advocate. He still manages to attend most of the football club's senior games.

● For more information on the Australian Ventilator Users Network go to <http://www.avun.org.au/>.

# Phone tower sparks concern

By **TRISTAN MADDOCKS**

A proposed mobile phone tower for Warrandyte Reserve is set to go ahead, despite concerns about its potential health implications.

The concrete tower, a joint venture between Vodafone and Optus, would be 30 metres tall with a 4.15-metre "headframe", three panel antennas and a radiocommunications dish.

The tower would be partnered by a radio equipment shelter featuring a digital scoreboard, to be used by the Warrandyte cricket and football clubs and built next to the reserve's current run-down scoreboard.

Vodafone spokesman Greg Spears said the tower, which would replace an existing light tower at the oval, would "substantially improve mobile network depth of coverage in this part of Warrandyte—an area that has been deficient in coverage for some time".

The facility would also allow Vodafone to expand its "next generation" wireless data and voice services.

Manningham council gave notice of its intention to enter a 10-year lease with Vodafone, worth \$15,000 a year to the council, at a meeting in November last year.

An earlier version of the Vodafone proposal was exhibited in the Warrandyte Reserve draft management plan in July and August last year.

Warrandyte resident Maedy Colenso has raised concerns about radiofrequency radiation that would be emitted by the tower.

Manningham council's approval of the tower was based on a World Health Organisation fact sheet from May 2006,

which found "no convincing scientific evidence that the weak (radiofrequency) signals from (mobile phone) base stations and wireless networks cause adverse health effects."

But Ms Colenso said more recent research was less conclusive about the health effects of mobile phone towers. "Until we know more about the true effects of this type of radiation it seems logical to lean on the side of caution and avoid it where possible," Ms Colenso said in a letter to Manningham councillors.

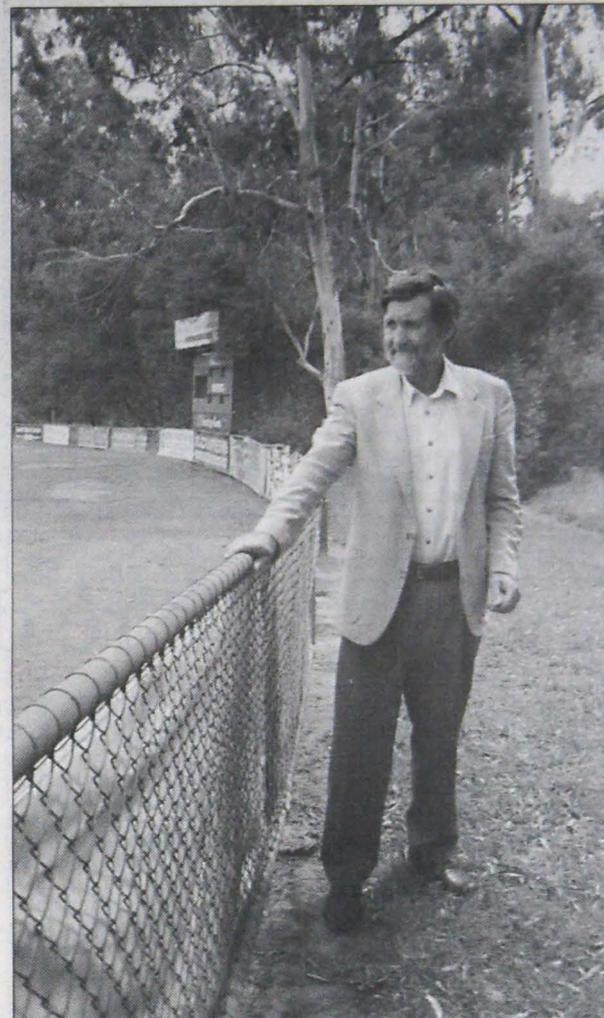
Manningham councillor David Ellis questioned the bundling of the tower with the scoreboard.

"If our clubs need a new scoreboard let's by all means look into that—but why link this with a phone tower? It is hard to see what the scoreboard offer has to do with the tower, apart from buying community acceptance for a potentially controversial proposal. Mobiles may be part of modern life, but there is genuine debate about the health impacts of the towers and this should be taken into account in any decision on new installations. I encourage Warrandyte people to consider the matter seriously and to make their views known."

Mr Spears said the tower's radiofrequency electromagnetic energy emissions (RF EME) would comply with Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) requirements.

"(Emissions would be) more than 3500 times below the limits mandated by the federal government," he said.

Warrandyte Football Club president Phil Treeby said



Cr David Ellis inspects the site of the proposed mobile phone tower at Warrandyte Reserve.

the scoreboard would benefit Warrandyte's sporting community.

"If (the facility) can be at the sporting ground and the community can get a benefit out of it, then I'm all for it," he said.

An ARPANSA fact sheet, available online, said the

evidence of harmful biological effects from low levels of exposure to RF EME was ambiguous and unproven.

"The weight of national and international scientific opinion is that there is no substantiated evidence that exposure to low level RF EME causes adverse health effects."

# Still no 'safer places' in Warrandyte

By **SANDY BURGOYNE**

As the *Diary* goes to press, no Neighbourhood Safer Places (NSPs) had received final approval by Manningham or Nillumbik councils.

South of the Yarra, eight sites around Warrandyte district have been accepted as meeting CFA guidelines, but await further assessment from Manningham. This is required under new state legislation before their approval can be finalised.

The eight sites are: In Park Orchards, Domeney Reserve pavilion and Domeney Reserve pavilion verandah. In Warrandyte, Goldfields Shopping Centre building; Goldfields Shopping centre open space; Warrandyte Reserve Elderly Citizens building; Warrandyte main street shopping strip and Warrandyte Reserve building. In Donvale, Mullum

Mullum Reserve hockey pavilion.

The CFA has assessed another two Warrandyte sites but declared them as not compliant with NSP requirements. They are: Pound Bend (presumably the State Park Reserve) and Warrandyte Reserve open space.

No proposed site has advanced to the preliminary approval stage in the Shire of Nillumbik. The CFA lists the North Warrandyte community centre as having been assessed but declared as not compliant with NSP guidelines.

This "not compliant" evaluation means that Pound Bend, Warrandyte Reserve open space and the North Warrandyte community centre are considered unsafe as shelter during a bushfire emergency.

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. This is the stage the eight Warrandyte district sites have achieved. They cannot be added to the formally approved NSP list until the municipality gives the final approval.

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 high levels of radiant

heat, which is the biggest killer.

Even if approved, an NSP will not be a guaranteed safe haven. The CFA lists the following cautions on its web site:

- Going to a Neighbourhood Safer Place/Place of Last Resort is an option of last resort when other plans have failed.
- Neighbourhood Safer Places/Places of Last Resort are not alternatives to planning to either leaving early or staying and actively defending your property.
- They are not inherently "safe" places during a bushfire.
- Many houses will provide more effective protection than Neighbourhood Safer Places/Places of Last Resort.
- Travelling to a Neighbourhood Safer Place/Place of Last Resort may

be dangerous. Traffic congestion, fire activity, heavy smoke, accidents or fallen trees may block your route.

- There is no guarantee that you will not be injured or killed by fire or radiant heat when travelling to or sheltering at a Neighbourhood Safer Place/Place of Last Resort.
- While emergency services will make every effort to protect people sheltering at Neighbourhood Safer Places/Places of Last Resort, there is no guarantee that emergency services will be present.
- There will be no provision for pets.
- There will generally be limited parking. Large numbers of vehicles may further compromise what little protection the area affords.
- No food, drink or toilets will be provided.

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# Mobility concern in village

The resurfacing of the footpaths along Yarra Street, and the creation of the footpath between the bridge and the Lions car park are most welcome as they now allow safer paths for pedestrians and children riding their bikes to school.

Unfortunately they do not take into account the needs of those who require mobility aids, such as wheelchairs or even prams.

Since his stroke a year ago, my husband now uses a wheelchair and has significantly reduced vision. His powered wheelchair allows him to travel from our home, up our steep drive, up and down Bradleys Lane and down Sloans Hill and to access the township, under supervision.

However, with his mobility and orientation instructor from Guide Dogs Victoria, we discovered that the footpath crosses dangerously sudden inclines at the entrances to the Lions Park and The Bakery. There is a need to create level crossing points at these two stumbling blocks. Much work was put in to create a drain at the driveway to the Bakery, but the gradient is still the same.

Whilst sympathetic to our situation, requests to Manningham council were met with a response of "no budget until April but we will look into the issue".

Most recently my husband and his GDV instructor discovered that the "ramp" at the pedestrian crossing is dangerously constructed (no rail on the fall side, and uneven edges).

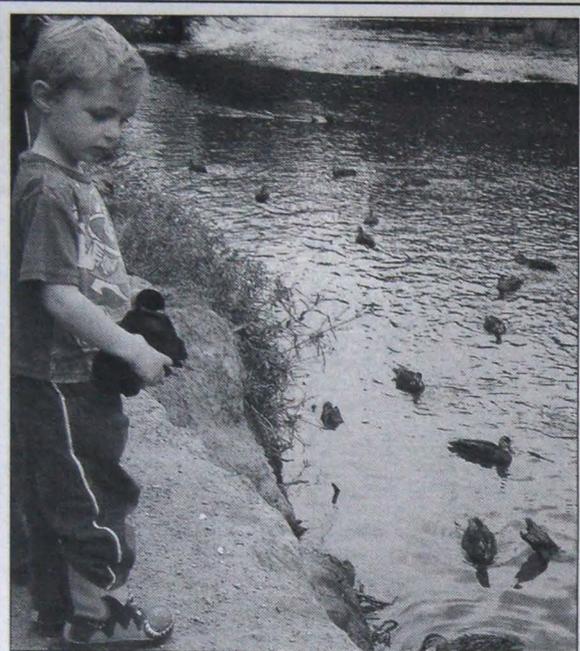
Most of these issues are not obvious until you need to travel or push someone in a wheelchair. Indeed, before we entered the world of disabilities, we also had no idea.

We are very willing to assist council, and perhaps the Warrandyte Community Association in conducting a review of Warrandyte's accessibility issues. My experiences in other shires have left me in despair: poor signage and unhygienic amenities.

A mobility map for visitors, detailing accessible paths, shops, toilets, eateries and accommodation would be of benefit to all visitors and residents in Warrandyte, regardless of their mobility issues.

It was an oversight that council failed to deal with these issues during the resurfacing of the footpath. Accessible and safe footpaths increase opportunities for all residents of Warrandyte to travel safely, thus reducing our reliance on our roads.

**Jozica Kutin  
Meindert Withoff  
Bradleys Lane**



*It's so tempting, but feeding those ducks can be fatal—for the ducks.*

# We're ducking responsibility

We are very lucky in Warrandyte. We have the bush, the hills, the river valley and the opportunity to enjoy the wildlife and share our lives with our pets—those other animals that help humanise our children and are always glad to see us at the end of the day—no strings attached!

Ducks and chickens are often the pets of choice, after dogs, horses, and so on. Sometimes we take on these pets with little information about their lifespans and needs, and end up discovering that they can become a "holiday liability". Ducks and chickens can live as long as dogs—most people believe they only live a couple of years (ask a battery hen!).

Keeping ducks and chickens involves fox-proofing, and this can mean two metre cyclone wire fences with 30-40cm concrete blocking around the bottom to keep out the foxes and the occasional determined dog. Or we forget to lock them in, resulting in the tragic feathery mess of a killing spree.

For whatever reason, sometimes people end up dumping their ducks on the river. They generally end up being killed by a fox or dog—the quick end. Or they die slowly of starvation, bacterial infection or worms. These "released" ducks don't fare well, as they don't know how to feed themselves. Frequently they are fed bread by well-meaning walkers and visitors and end up dying slowly of malnutrition, as bread causes diarrhoea and slow starvation.

Early last year concerned tourists mentioned a sick Pekin duck below The Bakery. It

took two weeks of constant antibiotics to restore this little duck to health. She had lost three-quarters of her body weight and was dying from bacteria, dehydration and worms. A kind person gave her a home.

On Christmas Eve someone hit a wood duck on Falconer Road and didn't bother stopping. After three days of antibiotic treatment she was successfully restored to her very happy family. Local vets provide free care for wildlife—our thanks to these wonderful people who take emergencies at 8.30pm on Christmas Eve.

Recently, during the usual holiday dumping time, I picked up two Muscovy ducks that had been dumped near the footbridge. They had apparently been begging for food from people walking their dogs, and would soon have been knocked off by a fox or a dog, or starved to death. A wonderful person has promised them a home.

If you have ended up with a pet that you can no longer care for, please let the local vets know. They are in touch with a network of people who can find homes for these trusting, helpless additions to our way of life in Warrandyte. They do not belong on the river!

**Kass Mulvany  
Warrandyte**

● *The Diary suggests that at places along the River Walk where misguided people feed the ducks, Manningham council or Parks Victoria should erect signs, listing the dangers of such feeding. Locals could then help by personally reinforcing this message.*

## dear diary

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

# One for the dogs

*Responding to Dear Diary letter, December, 2009.*

Dear Linda,

I cannot believe what I read. I have no words to describe what I thought of your letter. Words certainly fail me! Animals can't talk for themselves, so I will respond as an animal lover, and—God forbid—a person who has three dogs!

I am a local and have lived in the area for 15 years, and sense tells me it is not animals that are ruining our rivers but humans.

The river is supposed to be alcohol free—every year there are tons of litter, cans and bottles overflowing in our bins by the river. You must join us on Clean Up Australia Day and see what I mean. It's so much fun!

Oh yes, a little matter of the forest not being cleaned for the last 15 years on the Nillumbik side with massive, beautiful gum trees falling with the storms and lack of water—very fire-friendly.

Oh yes, you mentioned that the river is dying. Why wouldn't you fish in our river? You surely go swimming in it without shoes?

You mention dog's faeces and urine. Have you worded up the possums, foxes and wombats not to do it? We will just have to rearrange nature and tell all the animals not to do their do-do's in the bush—and God forbid, paths—and we'll just build them toilets.

The river would be a cleaner place if Australians were less compliant and passive with manufacturers who are marketing all their foods in plastic: bacon, custards, processed meats and so on, that is ending up in our rivers choking ducks and fish.

Lindy, I think the answer to your problem is that you really need a dog. Someone to give you unconditional love, lower your cholesterol and give you the opportunity to meet all the special dog-lovers who enjoy the simple things in life, like walking our dogs by the river.

You should try it some time! From all the dog-lovers out there, we say, "Live and let live".

**Trish  
(dog owner)**

# Tower worries

I have lived in Warrandyte for 41 years and have worked here in my own business for 19 years. Recently I read an article in the *Leader* newspaper about the Vodaphone mobile tower being put up in the Warrandyte Reserve in Tarroona Avenue.

I live next to the church in Tarroona Avenue and work in my clinic, also in Tarroona Avenue. I have three young children who go to the park and oval regularly, as I do. One of my children currently attends the kinder and my two year-old will go there in years to come. The tiny article in the *Leader* newspaper was the first I heard of this proposal.

How can a decision like this be made without the community's knowledge? When I built our clinic we had to notify neighbouring properties with letters and plans. Why hasn't the community been informed, or at the very least, the residents near this reserve? This surely goes against Manningham council town planning protocol. This is a very sensitive issue and needs to be addressed properly and fairly for all parties. Was the kinder and Elderly Citizens Club notified?

The article in the paper says that the mobile tower will be at the football ground, and Vodaphone would supply a new

scoreboard for the club.

Does everyone know that this is classed as a "high impact tower" under the industry code for mobile phone network infrastructure? This code is meant to consider and choose a community sensitive location, yet this site is close to a kindergarten, maternal health centre, elderly citizens centre, a church and residential housing. It is also close to Andersons Creek Primary School and a supermarket.

I have grand mal epilepsy, so I am very sensitive to electro-magnetic radiation. In mentioning this I know it is controversial as to whether electro-magnetic radiation affects health; but I have had personal experience. For example, blue-tooth phones can cause for me a petit mal. There have been studies connecting mobile towers and EMR to health issues. Until we know more about this problem, it seems logical to be cautious and avoid it where possible.

I realise that one of the arguments for a tower is mobile phone access in fire emergencies. I have never had a phone problem in Warrandyte. I would like to see proof and a better location chosen.

**Maedy Colenso  
West End Road**

# More tower worries

I have the gravest concerns about the proposed Vodaphone tower that is planned for the Warrandyte Reserve. Our health is obviously of great concern; from what we know about these towers, and also from what we don't know.

But for me it is aesthetic and ephemeral. Personally, I have been working as a member of the Warrandyte Community Association and the Warrandyte Netball Association for over three years on a development concept for the reserve that will accommodate our netballers. Preconditions have always been to both preserve and exploit the beautiful outlook that all the tenants have the privilege to enjoy.

This is an inappropriate site to position a high powered, techno-industrial device.

I'm very much against this tower.

**David Dyason (by email)**

# Thanks from carer

After a very challenging 2009, I am writing to say "thank you" to those who helped get me to 2010.

With the aftermath of Black Saturday to deal with on the wildlife side of things, I found myself surrounded by breakdowns on the home front. Luckily, I was also surrounded by members of the Warrandyte community who cared. Here's just a few:

The wonderful Warrandyte Lions Club helped to sort things out here, so that my family could send me to the USA to spend two special weeks with my gravely ill sister Jan. I will never forget their kindness.

Thank you Susan and Sharon Brookes, Helen and Shane Revell, Pauline Turner, Illiya Burchanin and Linda Marshall for their efforts in the fundraising for a new heater. Thank you also to all who do-

nated goods for our stall.

John Kordupel, thank you for being such a fantastic neighbour when I was ill over winter; and local Sean Dixon from SK Laundry Equipment, who appeared out of nowhere, donating parts and service to fix my washing machine, which was offline for six weeks over Christmas.

Thank you Wael and Erene from the newsgangs for their support and Sandy Burgoyne for all the "pep" talks and her computer expertise; the Veterinary Surgery for their continued support, and their well wishes following my surgery in October.

I remember all the kindnesses that have come from across this great community. My heartfelt thanks to you all.

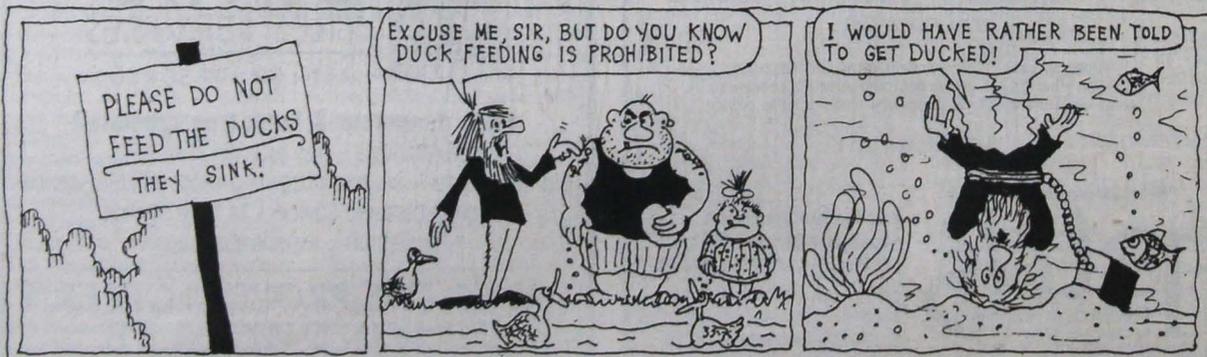
**Maxine Rosewall  
North Warrandyte  
Wildlife Shelter**

## Saturation Point

**Scott Macdonald  
0414 264 213  
PO Box 127  
Warrandyte Vic 3113  
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- Rainwater Tanks
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## CYRIL



By PAUL WILLIAMS

# Green Wedge plan for nursing home

## Government backs large extension

Manningham council has received notice of a plan to treble the size of the On Luck nursing home on Green Wedge land in Tindals Road.

Chinese Community Social Services Inc, who own and manage the existing facility are seeking ministerial intervention to "treble the size of the facility which remains in the designated Green Wedge zone," Warrandyte councillor David Ellis told the *Diary*.

The existing nursing home was the subject of a ministerial intervention in 2004 when planning minister Mary Delahunty overrode the council planning scheme and Green Wedge rules to allow the venture to be built without a council planning permit. The ministerial directive at the time specified that the development was to be limited to 60 beds.

"This major development goes right to the heart of Manningham's Green Wedge and open space policy," Cr Ellis said.

"Just like changes to the urban growth boundary in Melbourne's west last year, this raises serious questions about the government's commitment to the Green Wedge.

Mr Ryan Smith, MP for Warrandyte, stated: "While local Labor representatives have since claimed to be against



Green Wedge "invasion"? Cr David Ellis at the site of the proposed nursing home extension.

further development in the Green Wedge, the possibility that the Labor government could give its approval to this extension should make local residents very cautious as to the sincerity of these claims."

"The first notification councillors had of this was among matter posted in a general information pack on Friday evening, immediately prior to the Australia Day weekend," Cr Ellis said. State government has requested a response from council "within a week."

"This doesn't allow for input

from councillors, let alone the rest of the community," Cr Ellis said.

"These decisions need to be made in the open and with maximum consultation," Mr Smith said, "not as a result of arbitrary rulings and secret deals made behind closed doors."

"The value of aged-care accommodation, or of a Chinese-specific facility, is not at issue. The issue is whether the Green Wedge provisions should be overturned for any development that the state government chooses to

favour," Cr Ellis said.

"The people of Manningham need to know whether our open spaces are genuinely part of our future, or are just a 'land bank' for future development."

A special council meeting on this matter was being held as the *Diary* went to press. "I hope council will have developed some gumption on this matter by actually implementing and supporting our Green Wedge policy as gazetted," Cr Ellis said.

● Cr David Ellis can be contacted on 9844 5135.



An artist's impression of the retirement housing project in Harris Gully Road.

## Retirement project now seeks bids

The Warrandyte Community Retirement Housing Cooperative is now seeking firm commitments from intending occupants of the retirement housing units to be built in Harris Gully Road.

"The five villas will be initially available 'off the plan' and occupancy contracts must be signed for four of the five villas before actual construction can commence," a spokesperson for the co-op board told the *Diary*.

The villas will be available on a lifetime lease and loan model, and the land will stay vested within community ownership.

"There is a package available that contains all the information required to evaluate the project. It outlines facts about the development, floor plans, costs of the individual

villas and layout of the village."

It is proposed that the villas will be sold through a sealed tender process.

"This is a community project, initiated by community need, to benefit the community into the future," the spokesperson said. "The cooperative is a not-for-profit community organisation and the directors receive no payment or dividends for many months of dedicated work bringing the project to this point."

"Any residents committed to providing alternative housing for retirement in Warrandyte would be welcome to join the board."

● Requests for an information package can be made to PO Box 467, Warrandyte, 3113.

## Dob in a vandal!



Warrandyte Police are investigating several instances of damage by vandals to a bus stop on the south side of Warrandyte Road, near the corner of Mahoneys Court. A recent incident happened on Friday, January 15 about 10.45pm.

"Several offenders smashed the end panel of the bus stop," Senior Constable Scott Baldock told the *Diary*. "They left a large pile of broken glass on the ground."

Anyone witnessing this event or noticing anything unusual at this time, is asked to call Warrandyte Police Station on 9844 3231.

Damaged bus shelter in Warrandyte Road

## Sewerage works at Stiggants



No, it's not a bomb site! Yarra Valley Water is currently carrying out excavation works towards the building of increased emergency storage capacity at the Tarooma Avenue sewerage pumping station next to the second oval. This will reduce the potential risk of sewage overflows into nearby Andersons Creek and, eventually, the Yarra River. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

## New Diary phone and office arrangements

Due to a change in office staffing arrangements, the only Diary phone number now available (advertising and editorial) is 9844 0555. If the office is unmanned, an answering machine will cut in, you can leave a recorded message and we will get back to you as soon as possible. If our office is closed and you wish to speak to a staff member, please post a written message through the slot in our front door or arrange an appointment by phone.

**Injured wildlife?**

CALL:  
Wildlife Victoria  
1300 094 535  
Help for Wildlife  
0417 380 687

## Local Menzies award winners

Six local volunteers were honoured at federal MP Kevin Andrews' Menzies Community Awards on Australia Day.

### Ian Abell

Nominated by Warrandyte Lions Club

Ian is a foundation member, having joined in 1972 and since then he has held every office in the club. Warrandyte Lions raise \$100,000 each year, which it mostly spends locally. This does not happen without considerable effort, and the person who drives us all to put in that effort is Ian. He is a true inspiration.

### Simon Kearney

Nominated by Richard Aumann

Simon's community contributions are ongoing. In partnership with William Burns he donated 40 acres of land to the wildlife corridor on the Mullum Mullum Creek. He has served as a director of the Warrandyte Community Bank, is a foundation member of the Warrandyte Community Association and a founding director of Warrandyte Community Housing Co-op.

### Anne Lynch

Nominated by Information Warrandyte

Anne has been a reliable and loyal volunteer at Information Warrandyte for more than 10 years. Her outgoing, caring and friendly personality is greatly valued by co-workers and clients alike. Anne is an asset to Information Warrandyte and is a valued member of the team.

### Julie Pryor

Nominated by Ms Keri Fairley and Dr Derek Fairley

For many years Julie has been involved with the care of wildlife. She began caring for many species (possums, kangaroos, etc), going out day and night to collect or rescue sick or injured animals. During the past 10 years Julie has concentrated on rescuing koalas and is known for the care and shelter she provides.

### Glyn Rogers

Nominated by the Rotary Club of Warrandyte Donvale

Glyn is a founding staff member of the Rotary opportunity shop, Pandora's Box, which began six years ago. He has been instrumental in the management of staff and teaching new volunteers. His quiet demeanour assisting the public, and his sense of humour, is much appreciated.

### Sue Turner

Nominated by Park Orchards Primary School

Sue is vice president of the school council and a driving force in setting up the school vegetable garden and hen house. She has involved many members of the school community and the wider community in this project. Sue's enthusiasm is commendable and highly valued by everyone.

## Anglican church greets minister

By CLIFF GREEN

Distinguished churchman and author, Canon Alan Nichols AM, has been appointed minister of St Stephen's Anglican Church in Warrandyte.

He replaces Rev Doug Dickinson and Bishop George Hearn, who deputised at St Stephen's during 2009.

"Canon Nichols will be part-time at St Stephen's, while continuing as a consultant to the church on ethics and strategic planning," a parish spokesperson told the *Diary*.

His wide-ranging responsibilities include membership of two government committees. He chairs the Supportive Care Project Steering Committee and is on the advisory panel of the Victorian Assisted Reproductive Treatment Authority.

He has just completed nine years on the board of the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre.

Originally a journalist, Alan Nichols is the author of a number of books. He is a canon of St John's Cathedral, Gahini, Rwanda, having served there with World Vision during the 1994 genocide.

His Warrandyte appointment follows two difficult years for St Stephen's.

Following the retirement of Father Gerry Gason in 2007, fears were expressed that the hierarchy was planning to close the church or amalgamate it with a much larger parish. The congregation had dwindled to a mere handful and the parish was in debt.

However, churchwardens rallied present and past parishioners, a string of stand-in min-



Canon Alan Nichols: new face at St Stephen's.

isters filled the gap, and with community support, the church survived. The appointment of Alan Nichols strengthens community hopes that St Stephen's is here to stay.

"Warrandyte is a special place," Canon Nichols said. "I hope St Stephen's will be able to offer a perspective on faith and community which will be enriching to local people."

● In the first of a series of "conversations" at St Stephen's—weekly on Sundays at 11am—Grant Hill of Oxfam will discuss Climate Change: agenda for 2010, with local Landcare activist Shelagh Morton on February 21. The following week, Dr Ron Amor, author of *Explore the Yarra*, will debate Saving Warrandyte: past and future, with local resident and historian, Dr Richard Morton.

The series will continue through March, dealing with such topics as Christians and Buddhists working together and the ethics of genetically modified crops.

"St Stephen's is interested in inclusive conversations with the community based on a faith-life-community nexus," Canon Nichols said.

● St Stephen's Anglican Church is in Stiggants Street. Holy Communion is held every Sunday at 10am. Canon Nichols can be phoned on 0408 387 460.

## Farewell Peter, from your community

By KARLY HICKMAN

Peter Keep, who has been pastor at the Warrandyte Community Church, is retiring after more than 18 years.

"I have been so lucky to have had the opportunity of being directly involved and part of the Warrandyte community," Pastor Keep told the *Diary*.

Peter Keep came to Warrandyte and took on the pastor's role at the Community Church in 1989. At that time, the church had moved from its old site in the Gospel Chapel (which now houses the

Stonehouse Gallery), to a new site further along Yarra Street and adjacent to Stiggants Reserve. This had been squash courts and had recently been converted by the church.

"I knew people in Warrandyte and had visited a couple of times, but the move was still a big change because we essentially moved from the sea to the bush," Mr Keep said. However, Peter immediately felt at home with Warrandyte's "village feel".

Upon his arrival in Warrandyte in 1991, there were only about 50 members of the Community Church, with about 40

attending Sunday services. The church now has over 300 members.

"We've made some internal modifications, which turned what was essentially just three squash courts into a useable space with huge capacity."

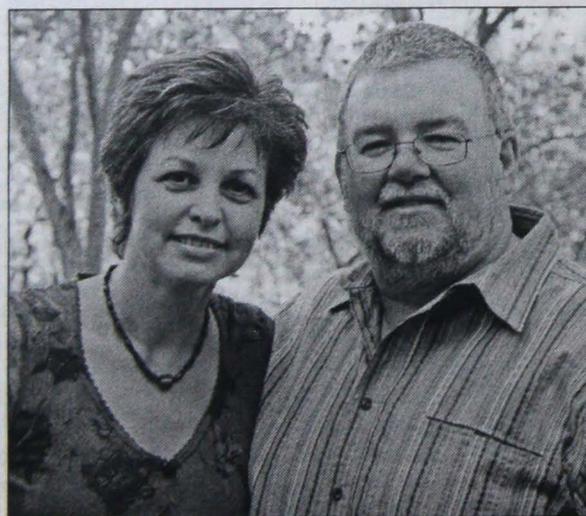
This capacity was tested in August last year when more than 700 people turned up to listen to bushfire expert Dr Kevin Tolhurst.

Mr Keep said the Community Church plays an important role in encouraging local people to be active and engaged community members. He believes his key achievement at the church is giving people an opportunity to be directly involved in the community, participating in a number of local groups.

"My best memories revolve around significant people—those we have been able to help through our services, such as counselling."

Pastor Keep is certainly not retiring to a quieter life. He will be commencing a masters degree in Professional Education and Training before starting an organisation aimed at helping educate pastors in developing countries.

"While I'm excited about what I am going on to do, there is also some sadness about leaving such a great church with such a community mindset."



New adventures: Pastor Peter Keep and wife Anthea.

## Des says 'goodbye' from the Creek

By TRISTAN MADDOCKS

After almost 50 years as an educator and 18 years as principal of Anderson's Creek Primary School, Des McKenzie has retired.

The popular teacher has been replaced by former Manningham Park Primary School principal Heather Waring, who will head Anderson's Creek during term 1 while the school's council appoints a permanent replacement.

Mr McKenzie, who came to Anderson's Creek in 1991, said he had seen the school change dramatically during his tenure.

"In terms of resources, I think it is fundamentally enhanced from when I got there," he said.

"We have our own indoor stadium, synthetic ovals, music rooms, multi-purpose rooms, and something like 150 computers in the place. There have been a lot of developments."

Reflecting on how his role as principal had changed over two decades, Mr McKenzie said the job was greatly affected by the government of the day.

"You have got to change with the education department, which has changed about four times since I've been principal. Basically it depends on who is in government and what their priorities are. Probably the high point—the most creative we ever were, and this almost sounds like heresy—was when we were one of the self-governing schools, which Jeff Kennett introduced. We were one of 53 schools that had fairly autonomous control over what

we did."

In contrast to Anderson's Creek's time as a self-governing school, Mr McKenzie said public schools now experienced a great deal of bureaucratic restriction.

"We are now in a situation where we have got basically no control. I'd say schools, curriculum, budgets, strategies, have been strangled in the last five years to an extent that I've never known in my 48 years (of teaching)."

He said education was about more than just ensuring children met certain criteria.

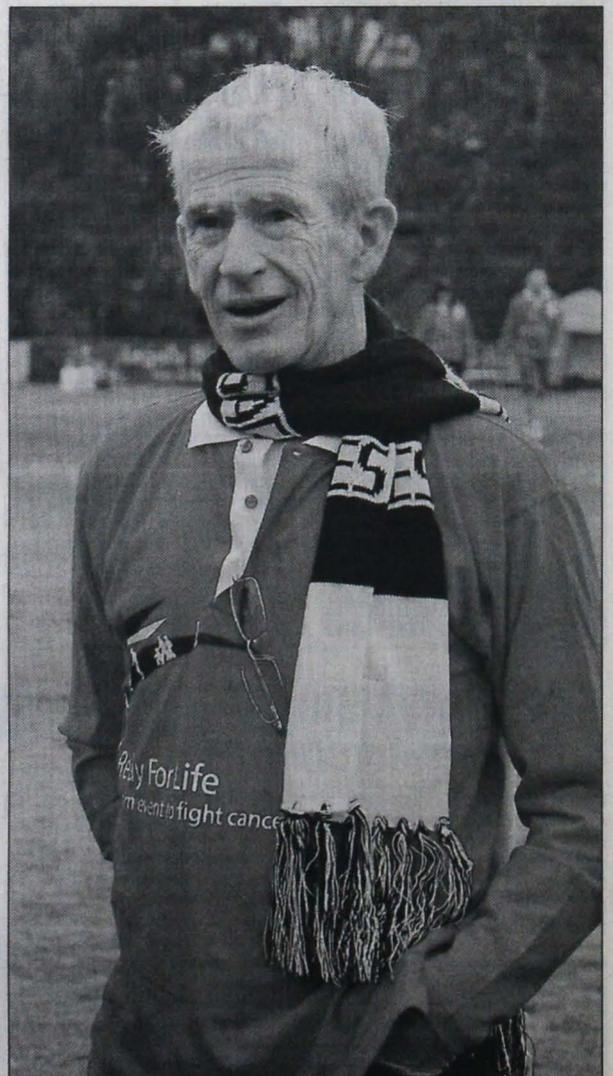
"These are human beings, they are not items coming off the production line," he said.

Mr McKenzie cited the growing role of technology in the classroom as a highlight of his career.

"One of the things that has been important to me all the time I've been at Anderson's Creek is the way in which computers and technology have changed and that they are in fact changing the way people learn. And if we are serious about preparing kids for life you have to guide them through that digital development."

Melvyn Cole, a former principal at Springview Primary School, who went to teacher's college with Des McKenzie in the 1960s, said Mr McKenzie was "just as enthusiastic towards the end of his career as he was at the start".

"What you see is what you get," Mr Cole said. "He is an earthy bloke, he relates well and people get on well with him. He was not just a principal in the office, he rolled up his sleeves and got into it."



Part of the community: Des McKenzie at the 2009 Warrandyte Relay for Life. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

# Fun at festival, 2010

Warrandyte Village Festival hits the town next month. The fun begins on Friday night, March 19 and continues until Sunday night, March 21. **STEPHANIE CRAWFORD** takes us on a whirlwind tour through festival weekend.

## PARADE

Commencing at 11am on Saturday, the Grand Parade winds its way from the bridge to Stiggants. Join local school kids, fire trucks, community groups, local businesses and hobby groups as they parade along Yarra Street. Joan Rogers will be crowned queen of the festival, town crier Ian Craig will rally the troops, there will be competing floats, vintage cars and much much more.

## READ

The Grand Read is on again—in its 12th year—as part of the Warrandyte Festival. Local writers will read their work, upstairs at the Grand Hotel, on Tuesday, March 23, commencing at 7.30pm. Entrance: \$15 at the door or \$12 if booked in advance on 9844 1839.

## WEBSITE

The festival committee is launching its new website on February 22. It will have a fresh new look and will be "jam-packed" with detailed program information. Visit [www.warrandytefestival.org](http://www.warrandytefestival.org) for all things festival.

## ART

The ever popular Rotary Art Show opens on the Friday night and continues through the weekend. Warrandyte Community Church in Yarra Street is the venue once again.

## MUSIC

The All Ages Music Event will entertain from the main stage at Stiggants Reserve from 4.30pm on Saturday, running through until around 10.30pm. "Spectrum", "The Boogaloo" and "The Thods" will be among featured bands performing.

## CARTS

The Annual Billycart Derby is among the most popular and longest running events at the festival. Registration is between 8.30am and 9.15am on Sunday and the carts begin running soon after. Registration costs \$7. The derby is open to kids aged 8 to 15 years, plus a special race for parents: a great opportunity to foster family relationships. All bilycarts must reach certain safety standards. Enquiries to Neil Carter on 0418 357 282.

## BATTLE

The Battle of the Bands hits the soundwaves at the Warrandyte Community Centre at 6.30pm on Friday evening. Flyers giving full details of this event will be circulating around local schools during festival weeks.

## ACTION

The river stage at Stiggants will be a top centre for entertainment on Saturday and Sunday between 12noon and 4pm. Organiser Adie Courtney said: "We are going for energetic irreverence—lots of circus acts edging towards danger, exciting music from left of centre, reptilian visitors. Plenty for kids and heaps to keep more mature kids on their toes too!"

## DUCKS

More than a thousand ducks, each purchased for \$2 and decorated with their owners' unique designs, will be released onto the Yarra and race to the finishing line. Plastic ducks will be sold at schools before the festival and from the information caravan on Stiggants during festival weekend. Launch time is 2.30pm Sunday, at the bottom of Forbes Street, finishing at Stiggant Street. Trophies to owners of the winning ducks.

## DISPLAYS

Static displays along the river bank will include CFA brigades and SES, Warrandyte Community Association,

Toy Library, Climate Action Now, Netball Association, woodcraft groups, farmyard animals, blacksmiths, local councils, Warrandyte State Park and those greasy old blokes with their stationary engines. Mosey along and meet the enthusiasts.

## BIKES

The Warrandyte Festival Bike Ride will be held—for the fifth year—on a scenic route through Warrandyte State Park, along the river and across historical old goldmining sites—an easy 8km ride designed to cater for family groups. Check in at the Netball Courts, Tarroona Avenue at 9am on Sunday for a sharp 9.30am start. Organised in conjunction with Manningham YMCA, the ride will be mainly over gravel roads and tracks, so children should be capable of riding on gravel. Bring your own morning tea and check all tyres are in good condition and are properly inflated. Registration essential. Details in our next issue or consult the Warrandyte Festival website: [www.warrandytefestival.org](http://www.warrandytefestival.org).

## STOP PRESS!

This year's festival sees the introduction of the Warrandyte Relay for Life Gift, a brand-new event to be held on the Sunday between 12.30pm and 2.30pm. ● Watch for details in the full festival program, to be published in the next *Diary*, due out on Wednesday, March 10.



Someone had to take out the rubbish! John Boyle has retired as president of the Warrandyte Festival.

## 'Festival John' passes the baton

By **STEPHANIE CRAWFORD**

John Boyle, who has been president of the Warrandyte Festival Committee since the 1980s, is retiring. His contribution to the planning and staging of the festival has ensured its success and continuing non-commercial character and community focus.

Other festivals rely heavily on council and commercial involvement. Warrandyte takes pride in its community-run festival. This philosophy has been central to John Boyle's involvement.

"The Warrandyte community is uniquely spirited and generous," he said. "Other places need heavy commercial involvement."

Warrandyte has also resisted efforts by councils to virtually run its festival by appointing council officers as paid festival organisers.

Planning and staging the festival has always been totally performed by volunteers. "The 40-plus organising committee is a talented group, excited to be involved in such a successful community event," Mr Boyle said. They relish the opportunity to co-ordinate a party for all the community to enjoy.

"The next generation is now becoming involved, maintain-

ing a tradition and contributing to the community."

John Boyle was encouraged to join the committee in 1981.

At that time he was a father of four young children, busy struggling to establish a family business. The festival quickly took a central role in his personal life, leading to 28 years on the committee, 25 as president.

"It's a wonderful tradition," he said. This year will be a great event, as always. "Families and friends will catch up. Some won't have seen each other for 12 months. Young people who grew up in Warrandyte, attending the local schools and the festival, will bring their children. And so the tradition of attending the festival is passed on to the next generation."

John Boyle feels it is now time for someone younger to step into the president's role. "It will be good for a young person to take the reins," he said.

Reflecting on the past 28 years, John said he has been continually impressed by how many busy people volunteer their time. "They are very generous. I've had a ball, a lot of good fun. It's been the best thing."

## Climate action

Again this year, WarrandyteCAN—our local climate action group—will be at the festival, demonstrating some of the tools that can help minimise global warming.

"WarrandyteCAN aims to share information locally on the practical aspects of emission reduction at a household and business level," president Wayne Rankin told the *Diary*. "With some political advocacy where appropriate."

The group's stand this year will feature the benefits of home vegetable gardens, with a competition to win a fully installed "ready to plant" corrugated steel veggie bed, valued at \$850, including organic soil and mulch, donated by VEG—Very Edible Gardens.

● For information call Wayne Rankin on 9844 4438 or Jill Dixon on 0404 024 449.



Signing on: Warrandyte CAN at the festival. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

## WARRANDYTE FESTIVAL 2010



Warrandyte Dreaming

## Jock's inspiration flows

By **STEPHANIE CRAWFORD**

*Diary* cartoonist Jock Macneish has been designing the official logo for the Warrandyte Festival since 1978.

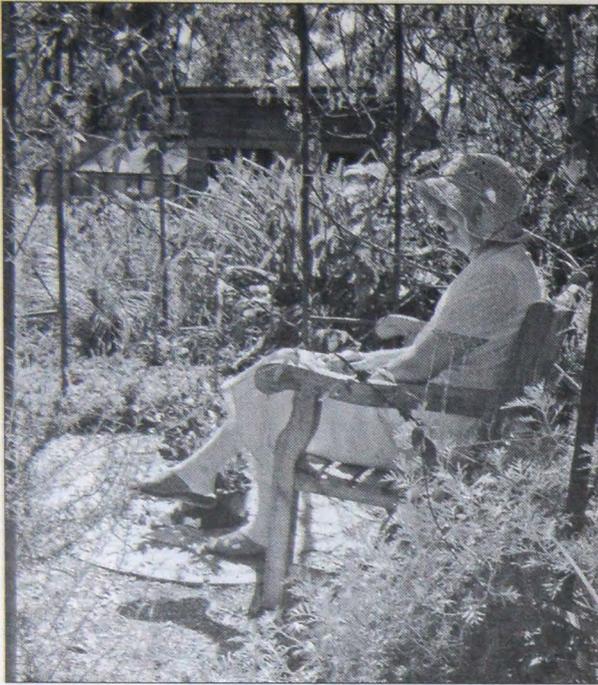
Each year, the festival committee chooses a theme that Jock translates into a graphic design. He spent a week puzzling over the theme, "Warrandyte Dreaming".

"I thought about dreaming while sleeping," Jock said. "I thought about day-dreaming, dreaming in long grass with the sun shining, the folds of the Warrandyte hills and that rare place on the Yarra River with its curves and swirls. As a person is always included in the design, I thought about lying down sleeping."

Jock always begins his design by tracing out the course of the Yarra as it flows through Warrandyte. Within an hour he had transformed his ideas into this year's logo. It incorporates a naked woman, representing "Mother Earth as young woman". Jock drafts and redrafts his logo until he is "reasonably happy" with the final design.

"I felt a trifle concerned as to whether it was appropriate to include a naked woman," he said. The community has a licence to comment freely, and "the level of community engagement is wonderful".

Jock is delighted to have received nothing but positive feedback on this year's design.



## Quantock hits town

"Seriously funny" Rod Quantock is staging his one-man show, "Bugger the polar bears, this is serious", in Warrandyte on Saturday, February 20, for one night only.

The venue is Warrandyte High School. The show is being supported by WarrandyteCAN, our local climate action group.

"Rod uses humour to help communicate the threats of global warming," WarrandyteCAN president Wayne Rankin told the *Diary*. Tickets cost \$30 and half the proceeds will go to support Environment East Gippsland in their efforts to save the region's Brown Mountain old growth forests from being lost to woodchipping.

"Rod Quantock's critically acclaimed show has had a successful Melbourne run and heads for Sydney this month," Mr Rankin said.

• PayPal bookings online at [www.eastgippsland.net.au](http://www.eastgippsland.net.au). Click on donate and choose Rod Quantock Fundraiser Show or phone Ingrid on 9870 8378.

## Open garden

A special Warrandyte Open Garden weekend is scheduled for March 13 and 14 with funds going to North Warrandyte CFA.

Last opened in March, 2008, the garden attracted 1400 visitors with North Warrandyte CFA receiving \$9600.

The garden, at 98 Bradleys Lane, claims to have one of the largest perennial salvia collections in Victoria.

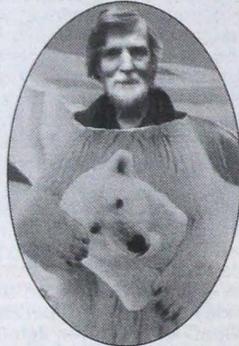
"Salias are renowned for their ability to cope with water stress and many of them will be in flower in March," a spokesperson told the *Diary*. Other features include rose arches, ponds, pergolas, a shade house and a "goldfield

garden", so named because of the source of the rocks, timber and ironwork used in its construction.

The river flat at the back of the block hosts a large and productive vegetable garden.

A large range of rare and unusual plants will be on sale, especially salvias, not readily available from commercial nurseries. Live music will be played during the weekend and refreshments will be available.

• The garden will be open from 10am to 4.30pm and parking will be available. Admission is \$6 with persons under 18 free.



Rod Quantock bearing up: two heads are better than none!

# French flavour at pottery expo

One of Warrandyte's major events—the annual pottery expo—is on again this month, on the Yarra riverbank at the bottom of Webb Street, on Saturday and Sunday, February 27 and 28.

The expo is marking its 10th anniversary this year and special celebrations are planned.

"The expo began in Warrandyte following the model of the 'Marche de Potiers' in France," organiser Jane Annois told the *Diary*. That first expo was marked by the presence of a number of noted French potters.

"So it is fitting that the French potters should return to be our guests for the anniversary celebrations," Ms Annois said.

Visiting artists include Christian Faillat, Yves Gaget, Brigitte Long, Jean Marc Plantier, Sylvie Ruse Maillard, Maryse Tavernier and Jean Pierre Thomas.

As always, a number of Australian potters "will be showcasing fine contemporary ceramics," Ms Annois said. "You can discover and purchase unique ceramic art pieces."

"There will be pottery demonstrations and activities, ceramic products and information will be available and there will be live music and great food."

The expo will be open each day between 10am and 5.30pm. In the case of a Code Red Fire Danger day, the event will be held the following weekend, March 6 and 7.

• A tie-in exhibition, entitled

"Melting Pot", is being held at the Manningham Gallery between Wednesday, February 24 and Saturday, March 13.

The seven visiting French potters will be joined by seven Australian ceramic artists—Robert Barron, Vicky Grima, Sandy Lockwood, Veronique Pengilly, Judy Pierce, Wendy Jagger and Jane Annois.

A French "soiree" will be held at the Manningham Gallery on the evening of Friday, February 26, featuring the French jazz group Ruth Roshan and Tango Noir. Bookings are essential on 9840 9367. Manningham gallery is at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster.

• Further information from Jane Annois on 9844 2337 or [jane@potteryexpo.com](mailto:jane@potteryexpo.com).



Stephen Reynolds captured these images at the Warrandyte Pottery Expo last year.



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# Local trust buried by state bureaucracy

After more than 140 years of direct community control, Anderson's Creek Cemetery will pass to one of two super cemetery trusts established by the state government.

Anderson's Creek Cemetery, which has been controlled by a trust made up of volunteers, will now be merged with such larger cemeteries as Fawkner, Altona, Keilor, Preston, Werribee, Templestowe and Lilydale.

The two super cemeteries will start operating in March with one representing southern Melbourne and including Springvale and Cheltenham with Anderson's Creek coming under the management of the northern group of cemeteries.

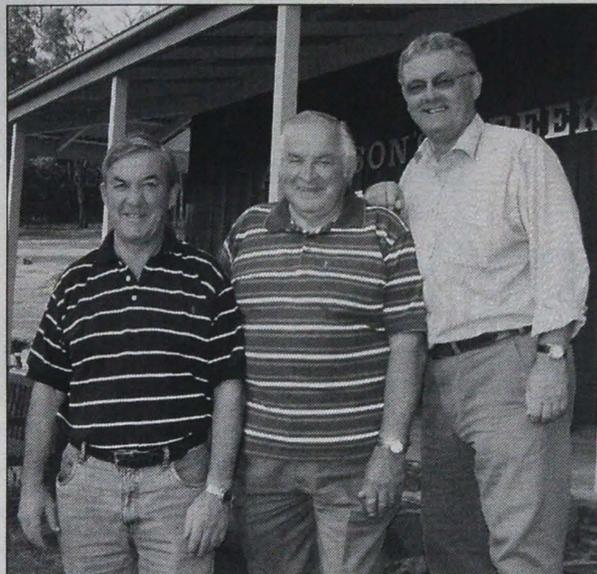
Early last year a bid by Anderson's Creek, Templestowe and Lilydale to have a third super trust formed to include the eastern group of cemeteries was knocked back by the government.

The eastern group believed the special nature and environmental management of the cemeteries could be compromised if they were controlled by administration based at either Fawkner or Altona.

Anderson's Creek Trust chairman, John Chapman, who has been a trust member for more than 30 years, said it was a sad day for the community that local people would no longer have control of the cemetery.

"It has been in community hands for more than 140 years but now it will be controlled from elsewhere," he said.

"We can only hope that those in charge will understand the unique nature of Warrandyte and the fact that the cemetery has been developed with an understanding



Not trusted: sacked cemetery trustees—John Chapman, Terry Sloan and Robert White.

and a recognition of the local environment.

"We believe the works that have been undertaken over the past 20 years or so have provided Warrandyte with something to be proud of. Certainly within the industry it is rated very highly for its design and its management," Mr Chapman said.

Over the past 30-40 years the cemetery has had its fair share of difficulties. In the 1970s the trust was virtually broke as the small number of burials made it impossible to have full-time ground staff.

"We really struggled in those years. The cemetery was overgrown, headstones were damaged and we just couldn't afford to make any improvements. Even a request for

state government help fell on deaf ears," Mr Chapman said.

"We decided that if the cemetery was to have a future it had to run with a more business-like approach so we increased fees and found some funds to improve the look of the cemetery so that we could attract more burials." That created its own problems as more and more funeral directors recommended the cemetery to their clients and it began to fill up.

The trust was the centre of controversy in the mid-1980s when it decided to apply for three acres of state forest adjoining the cemetery, which had been granted as a future extension in the early 1900s. There was some local opposi-

tion to the use of the area of state forest for the cemetery but this was resolved after many meetings with local residents and opposition campaigners.

A road that split the cemetery into two portions had to be closed and a new road built between the cemetery boundary and the Catholic Church to service a number of houses. This was built and named McCulloch Street after long-serving trust secretary and legendary Warrandyte postman, Bill McCulloch.

Five years ago, with the cemetery again nearing capacity, the trust was offered more than an acre of land by the Catholic Church to develop as a further extension.

Again there was community opposition with the issue being resolved at VCAT and with the trust agreeing to a number of demands from local and adjoining residents.

"It has been a bit of a roller coaster ride in recent years but I believe the local community has benefited from what we have been able to achieve," Mr Chapman said.

He said he was saddened by the fact that the cemetery was now out of local control but added that newly introduced government procedures had made it virtually impossible for a volunteer group to cope.

"Eventually the cemetery will again reach its capacity and I doubt whether there will be any further extensions.

"But myself and my fellow trust members remain proud of what has been achieved and the efforts of pioneer trust members, who worked so hard in difficult times over so many years, should never be forgotten," he said.

# Fire clearing on Scotchmans Hill



Volunteers Marian and little Ruby help clear undergrowth from Scotchmans Hill Reserve.

Late last year, the recently formed Brackenbury East Fireguard Group teamed with State Park rangers in a fuel reduction project.

Volunteers, rangers and DSE firefighters removed and chipped woody debris and cut grass to create a 10 metre buffer along the fuel break between private properties and Scotchmans Hill Reserve.

"The Fireguard Group had already undertaken fire preparedness work on their own properties," Warrandyte State Park senior ranger Conrad Annal told the *Diary*. "They contacted us, wanting to volunteer their time on a fuel break within the park.

"The fire preparedness work at Scotchmans Hill was originally planned for early 2010, however with the help of the local Fireguard Group, this community working bee helped build upon preparedness efforts sooner."

This work is part of a much larger program of fire preparedness activities occurring across Warrandyte State Park this financial year.

"The program includes maintaining and improving

80km of fuel breaks, including the slashing of 27km of breaks to reduce understorey fuels," Mr Annal said. "This will be followed by a second cut to reduce growth in late summer."

As well as reducing fuel loads in the park, the work will allow fire trucks improved access in the event of a wildfire event.

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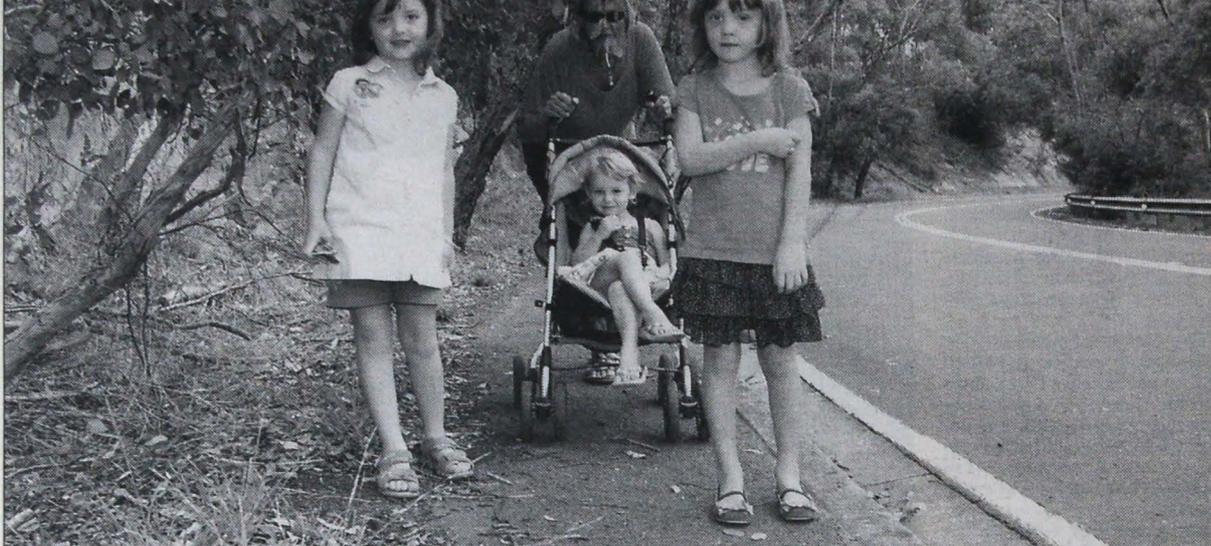
The topics covered in the seminar include:

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Seminar Dates: Wednesday, 24 February 2010  
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 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster

# Paths to danger out north



Angela Knight and her daughters Michaela and twins Charlotte and Alex go on safari in North Warrandyte.

Words and picture by SANDY BURGOPYNE

North Warrandyte residents are finding it hard going to walk beside a section of Research-Warrandyte Road. The footpath and roadside between Hawkes and Banning roads are in need of urgent attention.

The footpath has always been narrow by suburban standards, but bushy shrubs, broken surfaces and rockfalls now make it difficult for pedestrians to pick their way through the obstacles.

"A particular hazard is the trees overhanging the footpath between Banning and Hawkes roads. These force pedestrians, and especially cyclists and mothers with prams, on to the road, a hazard under any circumstances, and conflicting with WCA promotion of foot and bicycle paths," Dick Davies, Warrandyte Community Association president told the *Diary*.

Parents of children attending Yarra

Warra preschool find the section of footpath treacherous.

"We have many families who live in Bradleys Lane. They find it most arduous and unsafe to negotiate the stretch of footpath between Banning and Blooms roads with a pusher and a pre-schooler," Meegan Hall, the three-year-olds' teacher, told the *Diary*.

Nearby resident, Angela Knight, prefers not to walk over that section of footpath.

"It's not a great strip of road to walk along with children," she said.

"I get a bit nervous with the kids on such a narrow path because of the speed of the traffic that goes through this winding part of the road."

Ms Knight also pointed out that the footpath doesn't have kerb ramps on either side of Banning Road. A pusher must be wrestled on to the road surface instead of rolling smoothly onto it.

The overhanging trees on this section

are a potential danger to road users. A falling tree could block the road during a bushfire, preventing the movement of emergency vehicles and the evacuation of residents.

WCA has drawn the overhanging tree hazard to the attention of VicRoads, which has responsibility for Research-Warrandyte Road.

"Whilst the WCA supports maintaining the Green Wedge, it is important that major routes are cleared of obvious hazards," Mr Davies said.

Work to remove the overhanging trees is expected to be underway by early this month.

WCA supports greater improvements to pedestrian access on Research-Warrandyte Road.

"We would like to see a continuous path along the road at least from the kinder down to the bridge so that kids can cycle safely and mothers push prams, etc, without crossing the road," Mr Davies said.

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## Longest Lunch returns to riverside



Andrew Sankey leads the Longest Lunch team onto the Warrandyte Riverbank last year.

The path along the Yarra River at Warrandyte has once again been selected as a venue for the World's Longest Lunch as part of the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival.

The event, supported by Manningham council, will be held on Friday, March 12.

"The festival is dedicated to promoting locally produced food and wine in more than 250 events over 12 days," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

Box Hill Institute students, along with trainees from the 15 Foundation, will be cooking and presenting a three-course luncheon under the supervision of Andrew Sankey of Jamie's Kitchen Australia TV fame.

The lunch will run from 12noon on the riverbank (Mel 23 E11). Tickets are \$95 per person and include a three-course meal, drinks and afternoon entertainment.

● Bookings are essential, through Natasha Bishop on 9840 4451, or visit [www.manningham.vic.gov.au/longestlunch](http://www.manningham.vic.gov.au/longestlunch) by Friday, March 5.

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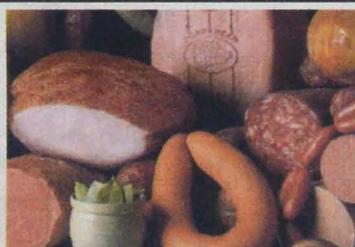
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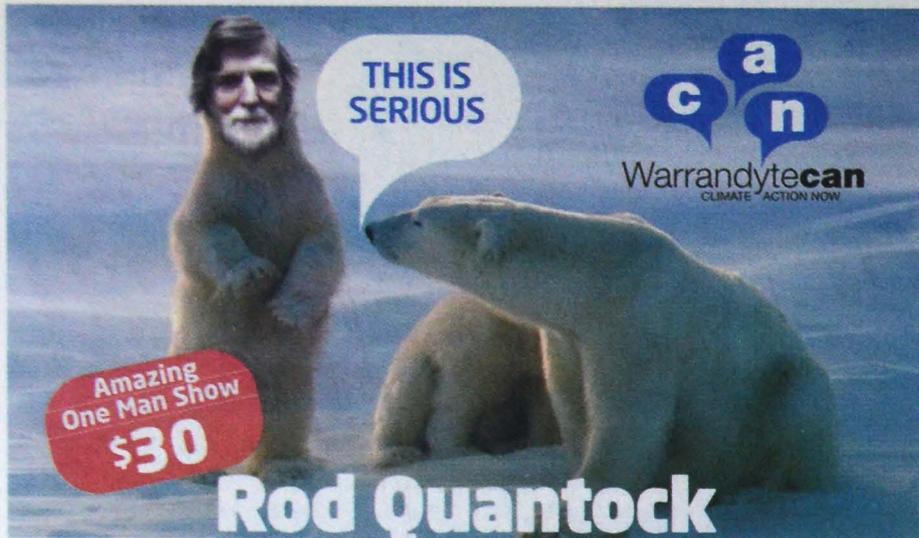
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**warrandyte north (sms: REN665)**

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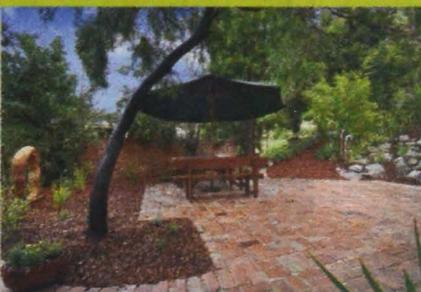
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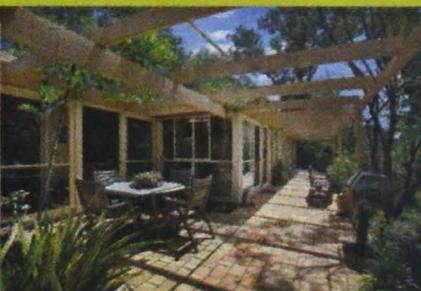
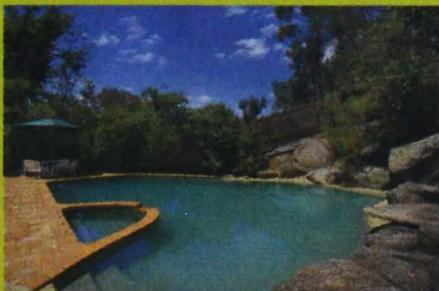
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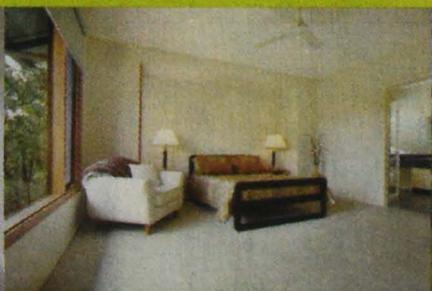
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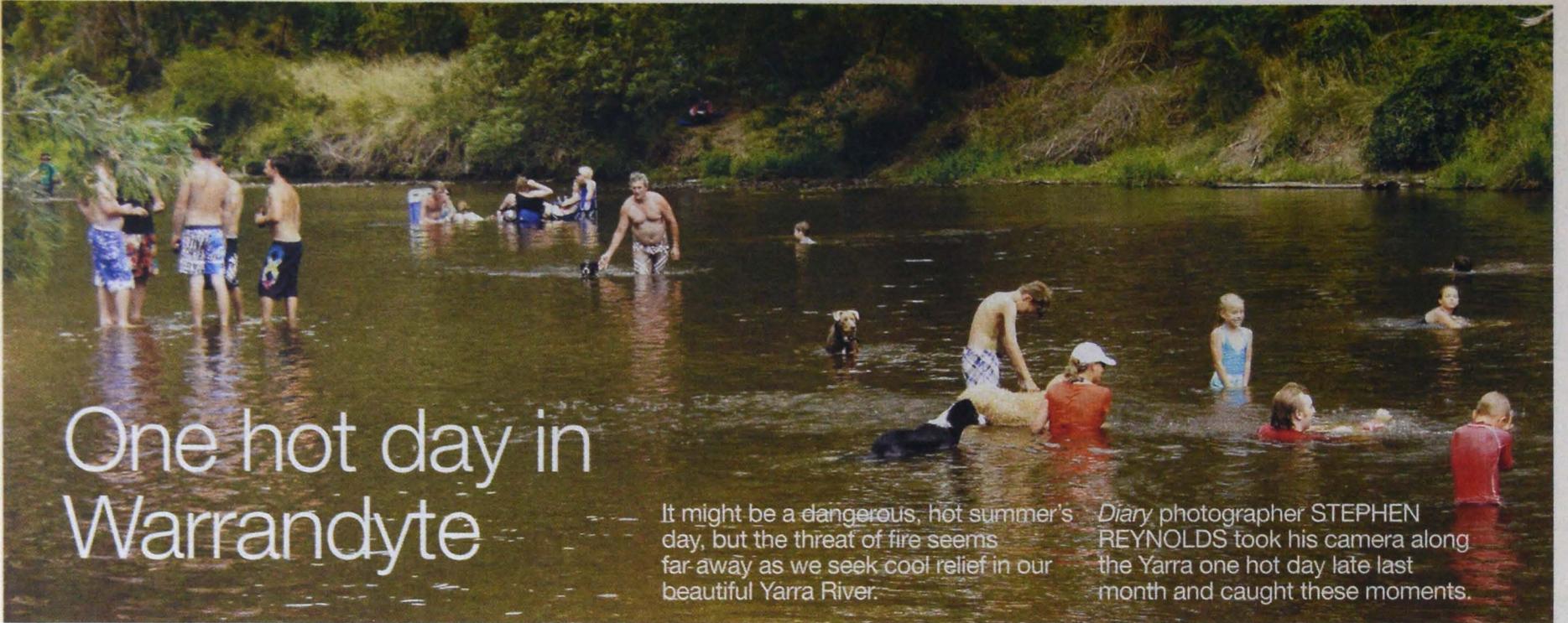
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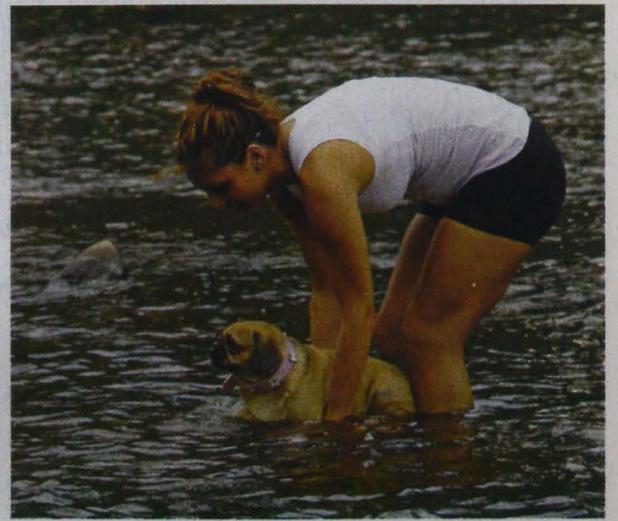
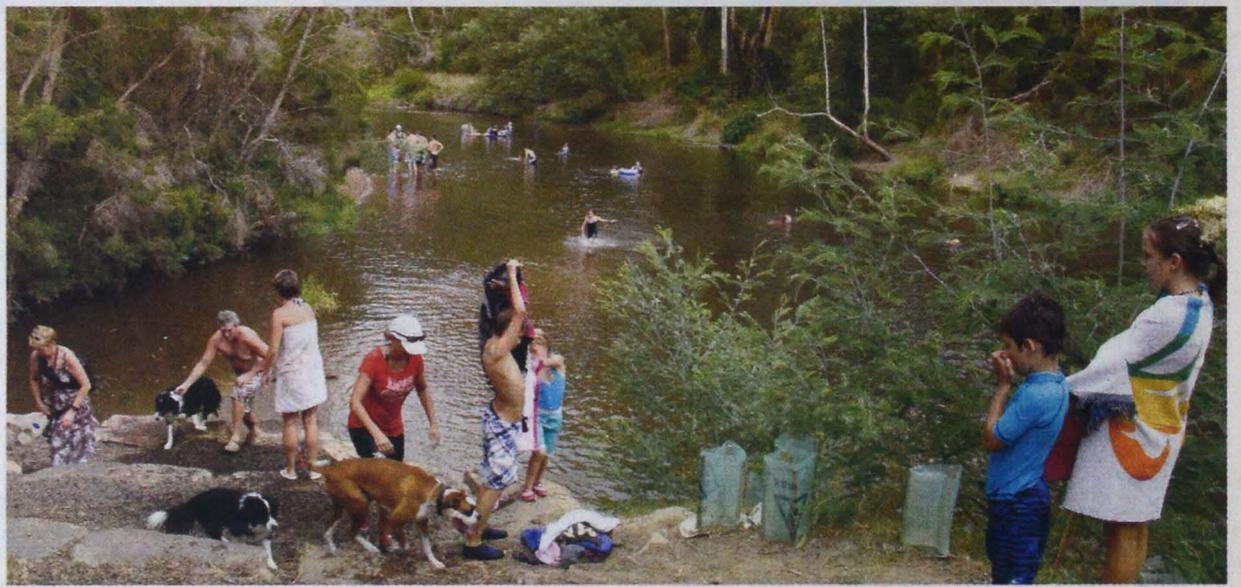
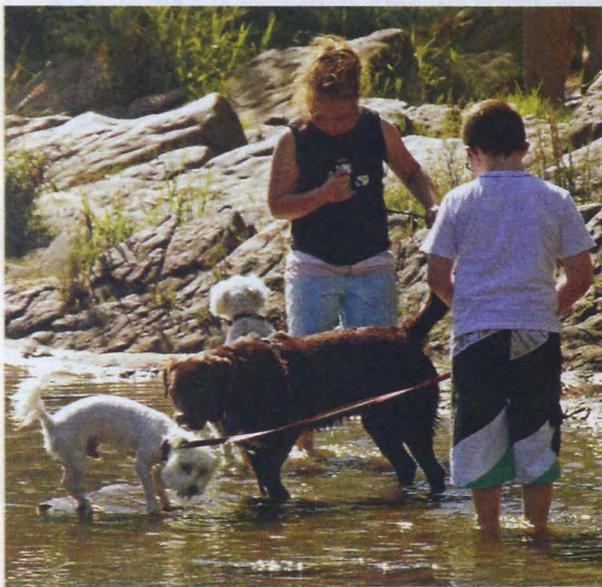
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# One hot day in Warrandyte

It might be a dangerous, hot summer's day, but the threat of fire seems far away as we seek cool relief in our beautiful Yarra River.

Diary photographer STEPHEN REYNOLDS took his camera along the Yarra one hot day late last month and caught these moments.



# 'House' has history

The Warrandyte Neighbourhood House is celebrating its 21st birthday this year. To mark the occasion, a history of the House entitled "From Mud-bricks to Manuscripts" has been produced. It will be launched on Friday, February 26 at 6.30pm on the verandah of the Warrandyte Community Centre by Merial Clark, former president of the Association of Neighbourhood Houses and Learning Centres. Anyone involved in the early days of the co-op or later in the House is welcome to attend. Please RSVP to 9844 1839.



## out of the inbox

By JUDY GREEN

(president), Jill Howell (vice-president) and Heather Ingram (treasurer).

## Orienteering

The park and street orienteering summer series continues in nearby suburbs until the end of next month. This "thought sport" combines map-reading with decision making and running or walking. Events are held most nights of the week starting at 7pm and finishing around 8pm. Further information from Geoff Hudson on 9888 8121 or the website [street.orianteering.com.au](http://street.orianteering.com.au)

## Women

The Nillumbik Women's Network is calling for nominations for the third and final edition of "Celebrating Nillumbik Women". This project has already produced two editions, 2008 and 2009. The publication features brief profiles of local women who have made or continue to make a significant contribution to the social infrastructure and cultural life of the community. The 2009 edition includes accounts of bravery and resilience of women in their response to the Black Saturday fires. Nominations close on February 12. Forms are available from [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au)-A-Zindex>Celebrating Nillumbik Women.

*Jean Chapman (pictured) played a major role in the establishment of the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House and a number of associated organizations during the 1970s. The story of Jean's pioneering efforts is told in the history of WNH, to be launched on February 26.*

## Retreat

Local churches are running a "Retreat from Daily Life", enabling participants to join with others from Warrandyte churches, meet with a spiritual guide and reflect on their spiritual life. The retreat will run across a fortnight, from March 14 to 28. If you would like to participate, please call Lorraine McCarthy on 98767 1509 or Rev Lynette Dungan on 9844 3476.

## Neighbours

You are invited to participate in the North Warrandyte Neighbours & Get Together Parties. If you wish to be added to the email list contact [lesley@renascentcollege.com](mailto:lesley@renascentcollege.com) or phone 9844 5888.

## Seminar

The next Manningham City Council Environment Seminar will be held on Wednesday, March 3 at Currawong Bush Park commencing at 7.30pm. Seminars are free, supper is provided and no bookings are required. Dr Lindy Lumsden will talk about "Bats".

## Leukaemia

The Leukaemia Foundation is conducting the World's Greatest Shave from March 11 to 13. Monies raised help fund research into better treatments and cures and help with improvements in the quality of life for patients and their families. To discover further information or register to colour or shave your hair, contact [www.worldsgreatest-shave.com](http://www.worldsgreatest-shave.com) or call 1800 500 088. You may wish to recruit a team from your friends or work colleagues. Sponsors can be sought through the association's website.

## Youth

Local churches provide a number of activities for young people. The Uniting Church (844 2406) has Sunday school at 10.15am and a youth group led by Celia Fairley meets regularly. The Catholic Church (9876 1509) conducts children's liturgy on Sundays at 10.30am at Park Orchards. The Community Church (9844 4148) runs several programs for various age groups.

## Plants

A propagation workshop will take place in Warrandyte on the morning of Wednesday, February 17 where you can learn the techniques of growing your own indigenous plants. Topics will include seed collection, sowing, cuttings, division, pricking out, growing media and timing and requirements. Information will be provided in small groups with hands-on demonstrations. Morning tea and workshop notes will be provided. A small fee applies. Please call Artur at Middle Yarra Landcare Network on 9844 2551 or email [myn@netspace.ent.au](mailto:myn@netspace.ent.au).

## Watch

Warrandyte Neighbourhood Watch will be providing and fitting car number plate security screws and bicycle anti-theft identification marking at the Warrandyte Festival in March. If you would like to help with this project, please leave your name and phone number on 9844 3062 or 9844 3091.



Stonehouse Gallery is holding a Student Encouragement Award exhibition during February. It showcases works by tertiary ceramic students from various TAFE colleges. The award is aimed at giving students some financial assistance to continue developing their skills. The awards will be presented by Anna Maas from SKepti Gallery. In conjunction with this, the gallery will showcase works by Boronia West Primary School students.

## Didgeridoo

The Melbourne Didgeridoo Festival is coming to Manningham in a day-long celebration showcasing one of the world's oldest wind instruments. The festival will be held at Mia Mia Aboriginal Gallery in West-erfolds Park, Templestowe, on Saturday, February 20. It will include kids' activities, didgeridoo workshops and a concert from 5pm to 8.30pm, featuring some of the best "didge" performers. Further information on [www.miamia-gallery.com](http://www.miamia-gallery.com).

## Carols

Warrandyte's annual Carols at Stiggants was a great success last December. The organisers—the combined churches of Warrandyte and Park Orchards—wish to thank the community for their support and generosity. \$1265 was passed on to the Christmas Bowl Appeal.

## Walking

Warrandyte has a new walking group sponsored by the Heart Foundation. The group runs (walks!) every Monday, commencing at the Goldfields Shopping Centre at 9.15am. Two volunteers, Karin Meade and Kathryn Gorthorn will be facilitating the group. Walks will be approximately 5kms, finishing back at the shopping centre with coffee and the option of a laughing session with Karin. If you are interested, please register on [www.heartfoundation.org.au/walking](http://www.heartfoundation.org.au/walking) or turn up on the day.

## Pancakes

Warrandyte Uniting Church is holding a pancake stall outside the Warrandyte IGA supermarket on Saturday, February 20. Money raised will go to the Share Community Appeal for welfare projects.

## Interchurch

The churches of Warrandyte and Park Orchards are running four major events during 2010. A retreat (see above) will be held from March 14 to 28. Stations of the Cross will take place at Stiggants Reserve on Good Friday at 10.30am. The Week of Prayer service will be held at the St Stephen's Anglican Church in Stiggants Street and the annual carols service will be held at Stiggants Reserve in December. Interchurch office-bearers are Murray Bouchier

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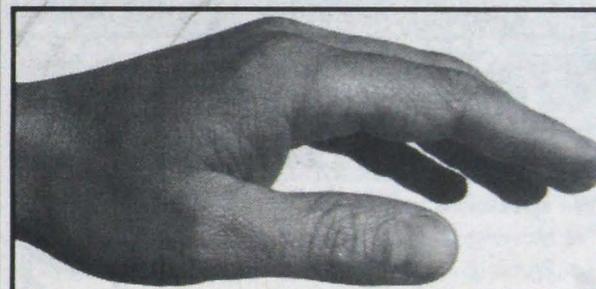
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By SYD & ONA



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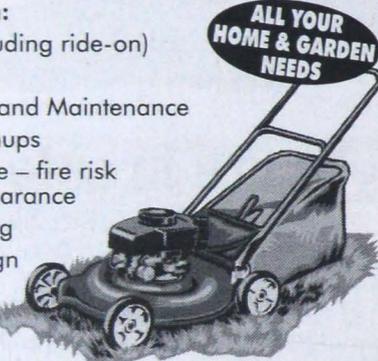
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# Warrandyte Neighbourhood House

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- Busy Needles** (weekly craft group) Tues 10.30am-12noon
- Children's Drawing** Mon, Tues, 4-5.30pm
- Community Choir** Mon 7.45-9.30pm
- Art at the Mosaic House** Wed 1-3pm
- Mosaics** Mon 1-3pm
- Creative Writing** Tues 7.30-9.30pm
- Poetry 1** Mon 10-30am-12.30pm
- Poetry 2** Wed 4-6pm
- Digital Photography** Wed 10am-12noon
- Film Club** Tues 10am (3 times a term)

**HEALTH & WELLBEING:**

- Latin-mix Aerobics** Wed 10.30-11.30am, Sat 8am-9am
- 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 (Natha)** Mon 8-9pm

**LIFE SKILLS:**

- French Club** Wed 2-3pm
- Monthly Discussion and Lunch Group** Tues 12.30-2pm
- Genealogy** Fri 10am-12noon
- Mediterranean Cooking** Tues 6.30-9pm (3 sessions)
- Discover the Regions of France** Thurs 6-7.30pm

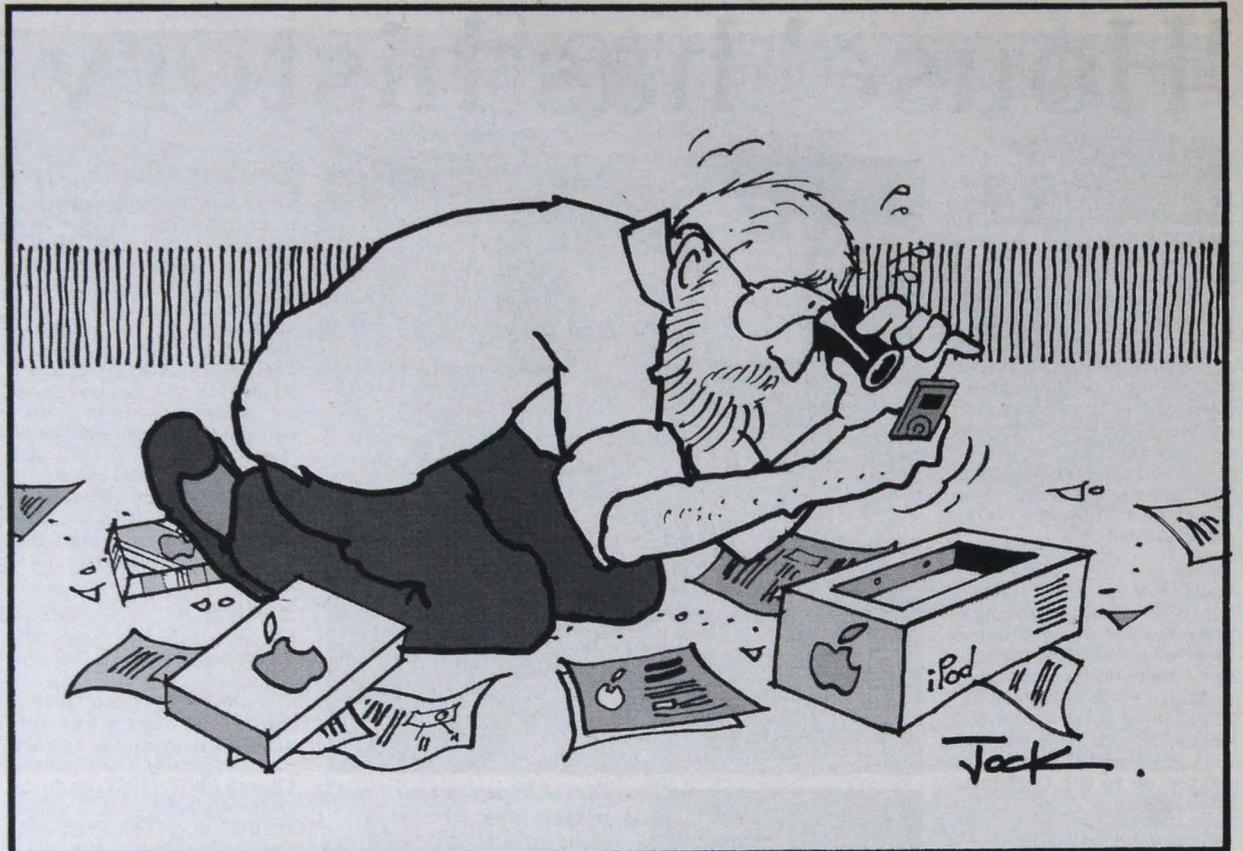
**ENROLMENTS:**  
from January 18, 2010

**ENQUIRIES 9844 1839**

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

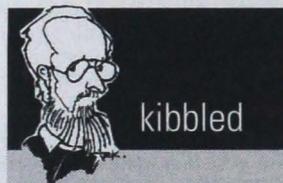
*\*New this term*

www.warrandyteneighbourhoodhouse.org.au

# Thinking outside the box: definitely a no-brainer

FOR years we've heard about how our personal strengths are determined by the side of our brain that is most dominant. If you are left brain dominant then, evidently, you are more inclined to be good at maths and the sort of skills that get you good jobs with engineering firms, accountants and brain surgeons. If you are right brain dominant, you are "into the arts" and are more inclined to live in poverty surrounded by lots of unpublished novels, unframed acrylic masterpieces and assorted helpful things made out of macramé.



**"I'm poverty stricken, have the odd thing published, paint and have mastered the suspended macramé pot plant holder..."**

I thought I am right brain dominant. I'm poverty stricken, have the odd thing published, paint and have mastered the suspended macramé pot plant holder. I don't get maths but I thought I was not too bad at manual dexterity. Recent events, however, have made me doubt even this.

Herself kindly gave me an iPod Nano for my birthday. This was to ensure that I could plug myself into something I like, whilst she caught up on the five or six hundred TV cooking shows that proliferate on our channels. It seemed like a wonderful compromise. She could be Rick Stein or Nigella and I could be Otto Klemperer or Bernstein. The only snag was the packaging. It seems obvious, now, that you aren't supposed to own an iPod unless you are under 18, have a technological brain that is wider than your shoulder

and that you have 20/20 eyesight. It's obvious, I don't fit the demographic!

Having unwrapped the gift, I was blown away by the beauty of the present. There it was; gleaming, purple, anodised aluminium surrounding a brooding black screen. This wafer-thin techno porn was held in place by a clear plastic cradle contained within a plastic display box, the bottom section deeper and thin-cardboard lined, obviously housing the instructions, headphones and other lengths of cabling, eventually reused for tying up tomato plants or for securing the side

gate against gusts of sou-westerly winds.

I had delivered my heartfelt oohs and aahs and was ready to launch myself into the world of nano technology when I encountered my first problem; I had no idea how to open the box. Age is useful, if for no other reason than it has provided me with lots of practice in opening similar boxes so I assumed I could use the old fingernail technique and run my thumb nail around what I assumed was probably the opening.

My first attempt failed. I was either trying the wrong spot or the fiends at Apple had used some super strong plastic film, only able to be opened with a Dr Who sonic screwdriver or a chainsaw. I smiled at Herself and tried again, this time turning the box to see if there were any instructions. There were faint squiggles in what I can only assume was Glob from the planet Spon because, whatever it was, was indecipherable.

After a cup of coffee and a gentle talking to from Herself, I approached the box again, this time deliberately engaging both sides of my brain and there they were; two little microscopic tabs on the bottom two narrow corners of the box. Whatever award-winning graphic was on them was irrelevant because I couldn't make out what they were. All that mattered was that they stuck out slightly and that was enough for me. I yanked the protruding tab

and miraculously, the sticky section peeled from the side of the box. Having released both sides, the lid lifted and I was near the Holy Grail of technology.

It was only after I had broken one of the plastic supports that holds both ends of the beauty that I discovered the graphics on the back of the cradle that showed me that I was supposed to bend it backwards to release the iPod. I must admit, the graphic was very clear but neither my left nor right brain had twigged that I was, first, supposed to turn over the cradle. By this stage I was beginning to think that the hairy bike-riding chefs weren't such a bad choice after all.

Package designers must design only for other package designers because they don't seem to think about people like me. Pale grey or silver printing on white paper is all very designer magazines but it is not conducive to easy reading, especially when it is in 6 point font, therefore, the little fold out instruction sheet (sic) was put to one side.

The salesman had warned Herself about this "older person's problem with iPod instruction pamphlets" so, thoughtfully, she had also bought me an "iPods for Idiots" manual. I look forward, eventually, to using it. In the meantime, I'll make do with watching "My Best Offal Recipes" with Herself.

**ROGER KIBELL**

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# Emperor of the Eucalypts

nature

By LINDA ROGAN

**T**HIS summer, I experienced a nature adventure missed in childhood. It started with a camping trip east of Melbourne. As usual I was on the lookout for interesting small creatures; also as usual my husband made the most interesting discovery while I was photographing something else.

I had just focussed on a small red wasp with blue wings when I heard him call, "Linda, come look at these."

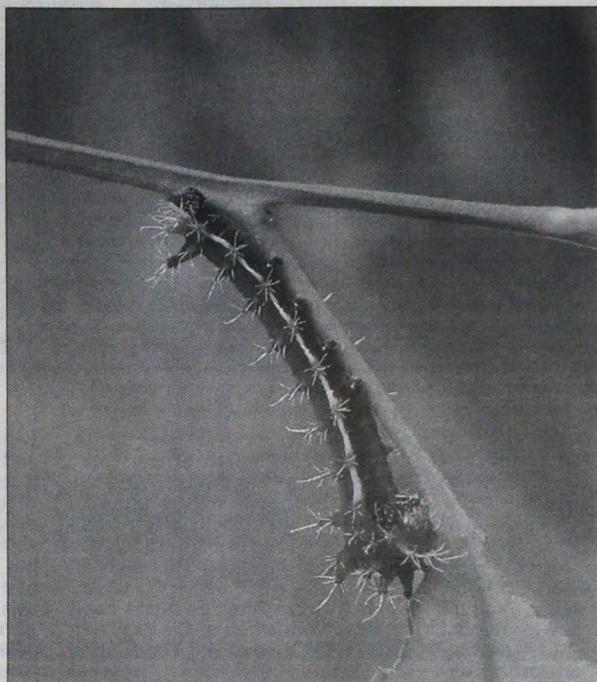
Amongst the leaves of young gum trees, Peter pointed to a pair of small black caterpillars with three pairs of orange tufts and numerous pale bristles on their backs. They were munching on opposite sides of the same leaf, head to tail. Inspecting nearby leaves we found several more, larger and more colourful.

What could they be? I took photos and decided to return for another look before we left for home.

Three days later, the caterpillars were larger and more colourful. We took two of them home to raise and observe.

At home, I filled a vase with fresh gum leaves that one began munching. The other soon shed its skin, bristles and all and the new skin was a brilliant aqua blue. By now, Peter knew their identity. The internet confirmed that these were early instars of the Emperor Gum Moth.

From mid-December until early January, we watched



Early instar of the Emperor Gum Moth caterpillar. (Picture by Linda Rogan)

as these hungry caterpillars grew larger and more colourful with each moulting. On New Year's Day morning, one caterpillar was particularly ravenous and plump. A bright yellow line ran the length of his body, blending with the gum leaf mid veins. The tubercles on his bright green back shown orange and those at the head and tail end were tipped in brilliant blue.

But where was the other? I found some leaves had been woven together enclosing a shiny brown pupal case. A small air hole offered a

glimpse of a bright blue tip of a caterpillar's tubercle. Clearly I had missed the first pupation. I really needed to be vigilant with number two.

We had dinner guests on January 2. After bidding the guests goodnight, I decided to quickly check on the caterpillar. The bright green caterpillar was not among the gum leaves. Eventually I found the caterpillar crawling nearby, now a deep reddish brown; a dramatic colour change.

Returned to the Eucalyptus leaves, the caterpillar's head moved back and forth

between leaf surfaces and strands of silk were evident. Pupation was imminent. It was already 11.30 and past my bedtime but I didn't want to miss the event a second time.

By 1am the very fat caterpillar, had built a sort of silk cradle underneath itself. Progress was slow so I decided to get some sleep.

At 8.16am a neat little package of silk and gum leaves still showed the colours of the caterpillar inside but it was impossible to tell head from tail. Over the morning more silk was laid down and movement decreased.

Being away for the next two days, I was keen to see the cocoon on my return. The gum leaves had pulled together around a solid brown case only about two-thirds the size it was two days ago.

This story is incomplete. Next year, or up to four years later, the adult Emperor Gum Moths will emerge. After a quick photo, we will return them to the bush.

Friends say that as kids, they collected these caterpillars in great numbers, sometimes rearing them at school. The Emperor Gum Moth and a similar species were very common in Melbourne suburbs. Now they are seldom seen.

Museum Victoria states this could be due to predation by the increasing numbers of European wasps. This is yet another reason why we need to destroy any European wasp nests that are about. Advice on eliminating European Wasp nests can be found by searching the Museum Victoria website.

## Off to a whingeing good start

**D**ECEMBER slid almost imperceptibly into January, and the dreaded Christmas shopping muzak—that joyless drivel which achieves the seemingly impossible feat of rendering "Rudolph" indistinguishable from "While Shepherds Watched" (or any other carol)—faded into blessed oblivion. If there was any post-Christmas shopping madness (when is too much simply not enough?), I missed it completely. An unsung advantage of having to work through the Christmas break!

Ahh, the quiet bliss of peering into the well-worn oculars of my trusty Zeiss microscope. Examining the life and times of teeny damage trails left in crystal grains by the spontaneous fission of a few random uranium atoms, millions of years ago, is about as much excitement as I need by the end of December.

And how amazing those little fission tracks are! How reassuring that the natural laws of chemistry and physics rule so unassailably, relentlessly truthful and entirely ignorant of the superficial

machinations of modern human existence. Despite what most people fondly imagine, the real world is not governed by commerce or politicians at all.

Admittedly, commerce does have an impact. My Brunswick bus driver is fond of waving his hands about and declaring, "This used-a be-a good-a country! You could make a living, I came-a here in 1967 ..."

His passenger friend, no doubt familiar with the theme, is right on to it. "Yeah. Those big shopping centres have ruined everything ..."

"No small shops any more! My wife, she used-a just walk around the corner. Now ..." he shrugs.

"You'll have to help her carry the shopping now."

"No! I never do shopping. Never have I been shopping! My wife, she do shopping ..."

"OK, OK, that's her job. But bloody American big business, it's ruined everything ..."

"When we came to this country, we could do so much."

"Now there's no room for small business."

"Bloody big shopping centres ..."

Being a devout fan of the

our place

By MARILYN MOORE

Periodic Table doesn't always get me through the day unscathed—coming to grips with pool chemicals was the bane of my life at one time. I'm sure it's easier if you just shut up and do what you're told, but that would be playing into the hands of the manufacturers, and I'm never going to let them get away with that.

Apart from old-fashioned things like bicarb, caustic soda, detergent and ammonia, household chemicals remain something of a mystery, too. After our annual camping bludge, we spent a week in an apartment with a gleaming new kitchen, where I especially coveted the seam-free ceramic cooktop. You'd just have to clean that with a quick wipe of a damp cloth, wouldn't you?

Nup, my mistake. According to the instructions: Remove spills while warm with a scraper. Clean with a damp soapy cloth. Cool. Apply special cleaner. Rub vigorously with a

clean soft cloth. Remove residue with clean damp cloth. Apply special sealant. Rub well with clean soft cloth. Polish with clean soft dry cloth.

Two bottles of product and five cloths later, I'm scanning the thrice-rubbed surface intently for imaginary smears, and the evening's half gone. Do we actually need all these products? No wonder "bloody big shopping centres" are springing up everywhere. Sitting by the campfire and giving the billy a scrub with a handful of good granitic sand is probably more my style, so maybe the cooktop's off my 2010 wish list.

When all's said and done, it's nice to be back in my own kitchen. The tent is dry and packed away, the old camping pots and pans are back on the shelf, and the unaccountably large amount of clothing I packed for a week in the bright lights will be unpacked any day now. Best of all, we seem to have collected a delectable range of home-grown country produce—olive oils, wines, fruit, cheeses, vegetables and bread—to share around and enjoy. Luckily small business isn't quite dead after all!

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# A 'divided' community, united by its newspaper

The *Diary* celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. Each month through 2010, SANDY BURGOYNE will relate the history of this unique community newspaper.

It would seem a simple task to describe the *Warrandyte Diary*. A typical definition is—not-for-profit community monthly newspaper run by volunteers—but that is shorthand for a quite complex entity.

"Community" is a much-used word that becomes distinctly rubbery when one tries to define it. This is probably because it is a familiar word that is stretched to cover many differing concepts making it difficult to provide a satisfactory definition.

The Macquarie Dictionary definition of "a social group of any size whose members reside in a specific locality, share government, and have a cultural and historical heritage," falls short of the many contexts in which the word is used. Definitions 7 "adjective (of a radio or television station) owned and operated by the community which uses it", and 8 "phrase the community, the public" are closer to many modern uses of the word and to a description of the *Diary*.

Academics recognise that a group of people can identify themselves as a community by geography or by a special interest. This produces such differing concepts as the "community school", the "business community", the "Greek community" and even the existence of a "virtual community".

Plainly a strong geographic relationship exists in the *Diary's* circulation, as the printed version distribution of 4000 copies per month covers a radius of only a few kilometres to the three Warrandytes, Wonga Park, Warranwood, Park Orchards, Research, Kangaroo Ground and Park Orchards. The newspaper addresses "communities of special interest" within the district, of which Warrandyte has many, such as the

## a town and its newspaper

schools, sporting clubs, churches, service clubs and arts groups. During the 1980s a recent arrival to Warrandyte counted 52 local clubs and associations and was amazed that a small township could support such a breadth of activities and interests.

Through the website ([www.vic.net.au/~warrandy/](http://www.vic.net.au/~warrandy/)) the *Diary* connects with a worldwide virtual community of travellers, former residents, extended families and casual surfers.

The *Diary* motto of "For the community, by the community" rightly suggests a newspaper grounded in its community. The office is in the Warrandyte Community Centre on Yarra Street. Most staff and contributors are resident in the district and many are active in other community groups. The businesses advertising in the paper are either locally based or provide a service to the district. Large organisations, such as the state government, use the *Diary* to disseminate district specific information.

An important function of the *Diary* is to bring together that which every bureaucrat—local, state and federal—seems intent on splitting up, the greater Warrandyte community. The eyes of the average commissar light up when they behold a solid line on a map. It is a ready-made place to put a boundary. Straight lines, such as major roads are preferred, but wavy and wobbly lines are also pounced upon with glee.

What to us residents is a beautiful river that unites our district becomes a dividing line through the middle of the Warrandyte community, something like WA's famed rabbit-proof fence. This leaves all parts of the *Diary* circulation north of the Yarra in a different municipal district, and a different everything else district, from the suburbs on the Warrandyte side of the river. Over the years *Diary* cartoonist Jock Macneish has made much mirth about this ridiculous, artificial division and the bridge features in many of his drawings.

## Jock's Warrandyte



Bridgehead: The river as a barrier between two communities is justifiably ridiculed.

Local hopes for a united municipal community were raised briefly during the forced council amalgamations in 1994. Back then the *Diary* humorously toyed with the idea of a united Shire of Warrandyte but quickly dismissed the idea as "we'd be battling to afford a part-time rate collector cum dog catcher and one secondhand grader". In a more serious vein the *Diary* put forward the idea of a middle Yarra council taking in the district from Warrandyte to Yarra Glen and including Wonga Park, Yering, St Andrews, Steels Creek and North Warrandyte. The article continued "it would include Warrandyte State Park, Winneke Reservoir and Kinglake National Park, with the Yarra as its spine. The concept of a river valley as a municipality makes sense geographically, and we could certainly live as neighbours with our friends in those communities. And we defy any developer to force a bridgehead into that little lot!" A simpler suggestion was for Warrandyte to join the new northern municipality or for North Warrandyte to become part of a southern council.

However, what seemed a logical boundary realignment to locals came to nothing. The council on the south side of the river changed its name from the City of Doncaster and Templestowe to Manningham with small adjustments to its municipal boundary. The town hall remained in Doncaster.

North of the Yarra most of the shires of Eltham and Diamond Valley, together with sections from the Healesville and Whittlesea shires, were drawn together to create the Shire of Nillumbik. The eastern-most suburbs of Montmorency and Lower Plenty were transferred to the City of Banyule. The Shire of Nillumbik's southern boundary remained at the Yarra River, leaving North Warrandyte isolated on the fringe of an even larger municipality to its north and still officially separated from Warrandyte. The town hall was moved from Eltham to the back woods of Greensborough.

We can add to that a plethora of other boundaries such as state electorates, with Warrandyte in the

suburban Warrandyte electorate, and residents north of the Yarra in semi-rural Yan Yean. With the federal electorates Warrandyte is in Menzies, whilst North Warrandyte and other readers north of the Yarra are in Jagajaga. This division extends to police services, where North Warrandyte residents need to report breaches of the peace to distant Eltham and not Warrandyte police station.

Local newspapers were certainly available in Warrandyte from at least the late 19th century, but the coverage of our news was patchy.

The weekly Evelyn Observer newspaper commenced publication in 1873 at Kangaroo Ground. The paper published a string of brief social, community and mining news about Warrandyte, often credited to "our own correspondent". The Observer also reported on the many fires in Warrandyte between 1888 and 1905. Early in the 20th century it went through several name changes, including The Evelyn Observer and Bourke East Record and The Eltham and Whittlesea Shires Advertiser and Diamond Creek Valley Advocate. As will be seen from the title, the paper's focus was changing and by the 1940s had little Warrandyte news, although the occasional story of tragic or dramatic consequences was run, such as the coroner's finding on the 1939 Eltham-Warrandyte fire.

The expansively named weekly Boroondara Standard and Bulleen, Nunawading & Lillydale Advertiser, although based in Hawthorn at the end of the 19th century, included news of the Warrandyte community and mining affairs from a correspondent. It is not known if this newspaper was available in Warrandyte.

The Reporter, known from 1925 as the Box Hill Reporter, was a weekly that sponsored major district competitions in football and cricket from the early 1900s, and Warrandyte fielded teams in both sports. This guaranteed at least a mention for the teams in the results and the possibility of a more detailed report on their games. The paper also printed small news items from the settlements included on its impressive circulation list. The Reporter gradually

concentrated its interest to Box Hill and district. The paper's coverage of the 1939 Black Friday fires illustrates this. Several column inches were used to describe the fund-raising activities of the Box Hill community, but mention of the settlements that had suffered, such as Warrandyte, was less than a sentence. The reports did not include descriptions of the fires.

During the 1950s the Ringwood Mail reported on some events in Warrandyte, such as amateur theatre productions, the local cricket teams, plus occasional historical stories of the district and descriptions of socials, such as the annual Lilac-time Ball.

Doubtless Warrandyte did have newspapers or newsletters focussed on the district. For instance the name of the Ringwood Mail and Warrandyte Gazette (from the 1920s and 30s) suggests that an earlier publication, the Warrandyte Gazette, had existed and united with the Mail. However, no reference could be found to this in the State Library of Victoria's (SLV) newspaper collection. Soon after the first issue of the *Warrandyte Diary* hit the streets in 1970 the editor was handed a copy of The Warrandyte Newsletter Vol. 1, No. 2, dated April 18th 1951. Unfortunately no more is known about this publication and the SLV does not list the publication in its comprehensive newspaper catalogue.

The above is far from a complete coverage of the newspapers that have reported on Warrandyte and district in the past. However, it illustrates that most of these publications originated from other suburbs and Warrandyte news was not a priority. Also some of these newspapers based their circulation on municipal boundaries where it was expected that Warrandyte readers would be avidly interested in Doncaster and Templestowe news and North Warrandyte were hungry for the doings of Eltham and Diamond Creek.

Next month we travel back to December 1970 when the first issue of the *Warrandyte Diary* rattled off the printing press and started its task of reporting to a group of residents united in a sense of community.

## The swimming pool, Canberra 1950s

Stark sparkling turquoise contrasts with musty wet corrugated concrete, soggy togs, kiddie wee and slimy thongs.

Water smells crystal fresh (blue there to disguise the yellow) chlorine, coconut oil, and warm burnt bodies.

Teenage mating site. Boy—dripping gangly bare macho rib strutting on the diving board.

Each boy outdoing the other. How high can you go? How much water can you spread?

Girl—cooking on her crisp towel pretends not to notice any more than the boy notices her new green and white check

bikini with the matching shirt which ties in a knot above the navel. Matching beach-bag too—but she didn't expect him to notice that.

She decides to show her carefully cooked tan off and sits on the edge of the pool her legs cool and changing colour under water small bubbles around the edge.

She would love to plunge into that clear pungent blue dive deep cool swirl head full burst out huge lung full great gulps of non-chlorine air.

But she's just washed her hair and the chlorine makes it go green the fusty chemical smell lasts for days

and she's not sure whether the bra cup she's sewn into the bikini is actually waterproof. So she sighs and stays there

dangling her feet and just occasionally looking up at the brown show-off boy competing to make bigger and bigger splashes the cold of the water

steaming on the hot concrete. Then with a thunk and a gasp she's drenched—water pouring over just washed hair, and bikini top (which survives).

She goes to curse the beaming boy swimming towards her but she notices his tanned arms and his challenging grin

and she doesn't mind when he heaves himself up shaking himself like a young pup flicking hand through hair like Elvis.

She tosses her chlorine soaked but newly washed hair hoiks up her top which the water has made sag just a bit and smiles.



KAREN THROSSELL



# The return of the rabbit

By VAL POLLEY

**T**HE bunnies are back! Buoyed by the wonderful spring rains and inspirational gardening programs on TV we took a chance and planted out our well-fenced veggie beds with beans and potatoes. We were rewarded by strong healthy plants and even started training the runner beans up the tripods. Until the other day all was looking good. Then early one morning, when approaching to inspect the crop, a little baby bunny sprang out from amongst the plants. He squeezed through a minuscule hole in the inner fence, raced through a larger hole under the perimeter fence and disappeared. As had all the beans; most of the leaves and many of the plants. How he remained svelte enough to squeeze through the holes was surprising. How he (they?) managed to munch through the whole crop even more so. Once again we find ourselves competing with rabbits to grow crops or plants in the garden. Once again we got to ruminating over rabbits.

It's a fraught relationship; humans and rabbits. On one hand there is the image of the rabbit as family pet and the warm, cuddly or heroic rabbits of literature. Think Beatrix Potter and her endearing anthropomorphic rabbit characters, Peter Rabbit, his sisters Flopsy, Mopsy and Cottontail and cousin Benjamin Bunny. All cute; wearing their human style clothes and expressing very human characteristics. Think Watership Down with its heroic rabbits, Fiver, Hazel and Bigwig who escape human destruction of their warren and lead their rabbit community on a journey to seek a new home, encountering many trials and tribulations on the way but ultimately succeeding. Then think rabbit as destructive force, costing the Australian economy many millions of dollars every year.

Imagine the early settlers arriving in the bush in places such as Warrandyte to establish a new home. How unsettling it must have been, so scary and alien. Picture finding such different plants and trees; birds and animals to those in their homelands. Imagine living away from civilization in remote areas—hearing the noises of the bush for the first time—a disembodied kookaburra chorus at dawn, unseen koalas grunting in the night, possums scuttling over the roof, and cockatoos shrieking. Perhaps it's no wonder early settlers wanted to bring plants and animals from "the old country" to soften the alien environment and make it feel more like home.

But what were they thinking of? If only they had looked to the more familiar species of wild duck, geese and pigeon; fish and eel that were similar to their European counterparts. How different Australia would look today if they had hunted (and eaten) some of the native mammals rather than introducing the fox, rabbit and deer.

Instead they established acclimatisation societies (in 1861 for Victoria) to organise the acquisition of imported animal, bird and plant species; some for crops, some for sport, some to beautify. But many of the imports, while perhaps initially successful, later became pests or noxious weeds. The list is extensive with fox, deer, sparrow, starling, blackberry and, of course, the rabbit for starters.

Domesticated rabbits had arrived with the early convicts but it was Thomas Austin, a member of the Victorian Acclimatisation Society and pioneer pastoralist with a property "Barwon Park" near Winchelsea, who is credited (blamed?) for introducing the wild rabbit to Australia as early as 1859. Thomas who was accustomed to shooting rabbits in England, asked his brother to send

him 24 wild rabbits, as well as hares, partridges and sparrows. While it is not clear what happened to all the latter species; with the rabbits breeding like—well—rabbits, this small population soon grew with Thomas giving away rabbits to all and sundry. By the 1860s much of Victoria's farmland was abandoned because it was stripped bare and so successful was he that in 1867 Thomas is said to have killed 14,362 rabbits on his property alone.

It only took about another 20 years for the rabbits to spread out across the eastern states despite attempts to stop them with rabbit-proof fencing and other control measures and by the turn of the century the rabbit had reached the Northern Territory and Western Australia. By the 1940s there were millions of rabbits inflicting huge costs on the Australian economy. Their rapid spread led to the destruction of large tracts of vegetation and subsequent erosion leading to the siltation of waterways. It hastened the demise of some native species and put pressure on others such as the Bilby and the Bandicoot as the rabbit competed with them for food and habitat.

Following the introduction of the myxomatosis virus in the 1950s, the rabbit population in many areas was virtually wiped out. For a while it looked as though the rabbit problem was over. However populations recovered due to the development of resistance in remnant groups and despite concerted efforts such as shooting, baiting, fumigating and warren destruction; the rabbit gradually spread across the countryside again and built up its numbers.

The impact of the rabbit on our bushland block and those of our neighbours became very apparent as the drought bit hard in the mid-1990s. Any plant that could be browsed was eaten and many plants literally vanished overnight. Rabbits

are known to strip a landscape bare especially in drought periods and areas that were not surrounded by good fencing were soon bare of all surface vegetation. It became a battle, surrounding each plant or emerging leaf with wire or protective covering and the rabbits became bigger and bolder, able to jump the lower fences, stand on hind legs to browse higher branches or push over protective wire rings. To go out into the garden at dusk was to see rabbits scatter in all directions and the numbers seemed always to be on the increase.

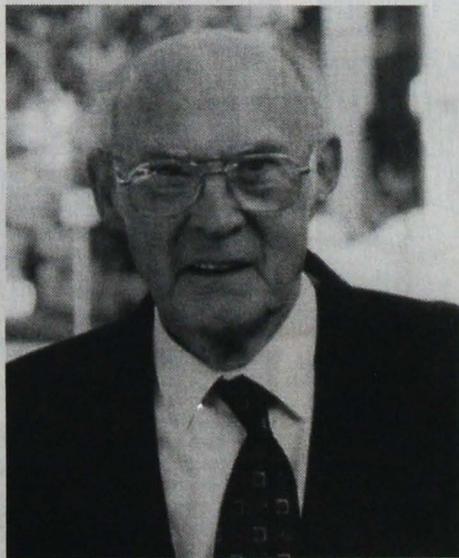
Warrandyte residents took up the challenge of battling the rabbit with a number of local Rabbit Action Groups being formed so residents could come together and undertake a baiting program. Cooperation with the Warrandyte State Park saw a number of major rabbit-proof fences being erected to try to stop the spread of the rabbits into the park and adjoining properties such as ours. Thanks to the hard work of our group some relief was gained though it appeared that rabbits from further afield still managed to infiltrate and occupy any newly cleared area.

The release of the Rabbit Calicivirus in 1996 and its gradual spread across the state led to a major decline in our rabbit numbers and for a few years we hoped once again that the problem was solved. But resistance to the virus has gradually increased. In the intervening years since its introduction, while the drought has had a major impact on plant life, the rabbit problem was manageable with very minimal numbers being seen. It seems however the recent wetter spring may have led to a major breeding impetus for the local rabbits. In good seasonal conditions a doe may have five to six litters in a season with up to eight kittens and a single pair can increase to 184 individuals in 18 months.

At present we are observing baby bunnies making their presence felt with many ground-cover and smaller plants being heavily browsed. Being so small they appear able to find the smallest chink in the fencing. It is scary to think they will be capable of breeding themselves from about four months old. However there is some good news. Scientists are considering new strains of the Calicivirus to combat the rising rabbit numbers after warning that Australia is again on the brink of a rabbit plague (The Age, December 28, 2009). Ten new strains are under consideration with researchers keen to develop a strain to which rabbits would be unable to develop resistance. But of course this will not happen quickly so it's back to erecting more fencing to try to exclude the furry pests. Sometimes the garden feels like a reverse Colditz scenario with rabbits battering at the defences or tunnelling to get in.

Rabbits have a mixed history in Australia. While mostly considered a pest; nevertheless in tough economic times such as in the Great Depression of the 1930s, the rabbit was a welcome commodity with skins that could be sold for cash and meat available for the table. Following the introduction of myxomatosis, rabbit tended to disappear as a food source though it is interesting to see that farmed rabbit is now reappearing as a fashionable gourmet food in Australia. The Akubra hat; an Australian icon, has benefitted from the bunny, each hat using between eight and 13 rabbit skins.

Our love/hate relationship with the rabbit will no doubt continue too. While I'll still read Beatrix Potter stories with the grandchildren, we will try to deny rabbits access in order to grow some of our own food and re-establish the native plants. Only time will tell if we, or the rabbit, will prevail.



David Hughes

## David Hughes: Holden hero

**T**HE passing of well-known former Warrandyte resident David Hughes on November 17, 2009 came as a great shock to his friends and family. He was 77.

David Cromwell Hughes was born in Warrandyte on March 25, 1932 and was educated at Warrandyte State School No. 12. After finishing school he worked for J.J. Moore and Sons in the grocery trade. Employment in Ringwood with S.E. Dickens and Moran and Cato followed.

He survived the bushfires that devastated Warrandyte in 1939 and 1962.

David continued living in War-

randyte with his wife June and their three children—Robert, Julie and Christine.

In the late 1970s the family moved to Bond Street in Ringwood and then to Bramley Drive, North Ringwood.

He continued working in Warrandyte, servicing and restoring Holden cars with his brother Alex. Their fine restorations were known far and wide, especially among veteran car enthusiasts. Following the completion of his last restoration, David and his family moved to Ballarat.

David is sadly missed by his family and his many friends.

ALEX HUGHES



All is in readiness for the start of the 2009 Strawberry Fair fun run.

## Strawberry Fair fun run for all

ST Anne's Primary School at Park Orchards will be holding its annual fun run next month.

It will be held on Saturday, March 13 at 8.30am sharp as part of the school's Strawberry Fair.

Entrants can run over 2.5km and 5 km and entries are open to individuals and family groups.

The course covers the St. Anne's school, Domeny Sporting Ground and the 100 Acre Reserve.

Entry is \$5 and medals are awarded to first in each category and a trophy for first family to complete 2.5km run.

The run is proudly sponsored by Bendigo Bank, Fitness Energy and Active Feet.

Further information, contact Catherine MacDonald on 0412 368 803, or Marita Annunziata on 0404 042 263.

## Relay success for local little athletes

By ED MONKS

Young Warrandyte athletes representing the Doncaster Little Athletics Centre won a number of medals at the State Relay Competition at Olympic Park.

In a successful day in tough competition they achieved the following results:

**BOYS UNDER 9:** Adam Bardrick was a key member of the 4x100 and also the 4x200m team which just missed the final being pipped in the morning qualifying races by less than a second.

**BOYS UNDER 10:** Callum Pynt and Nicholas Ward won silver in the 4x100m (missing gold by .03 second) and silver in the 4x200m. The team was able to progress to the finals however, and once there they were again able to turn it on in an impressive result for the second year running. Local dad Andrew Pynt was a very proud coach of the youngsters and impressed upon his charges that racing is not over until you cross that finish line.

**GIRLS UNDER 11:** In another great effort Nicole Reynolds and Ally Rose Ogden won silver in the 800m Medley Relay and bronze in the 4x100m. Ally Rose also won bronze in the 4x200m.

**BOYS UNDER 12:** Fergus Ward and Ed Phillips came 18th overall in the 4x100. Ben Lyall and Ed Phillips came seventh overall in the 4x200m.

**GIRLS UNDER 13:** Shaely



Nicole Reynolds baton changing into Charlotte Bassett in the final of the Under 11 girls' 4 x 100m final.

Pynt came seventh in the final of the 4x100m and sixth in the final of the 4x200m relays.

**BOYS UNDER 14:** Local Warrandyte junior footballers Sean Bowers, Tom Phillips and Drew Corke

came eighth in the final of the 4x200m. Sean Bowers and Tom Phillips came fourth in their 4x100 heat (12th overall).

East Doncaster Little Athletics club is also proudly supported and sponsored

by the Warrandyte branch of the Bendigo Bank and Camp Australia.

For more information on Little Athletics please contact Andrew Pynt on 0410 478 333 or Liz Phillips on 0416187140.

# Hawks' bid to fill finals position

By FRANS BROUWER

South Warrandyte Hawks face a nerve-racking month as they try to protect their top four position in the Ringwood District Cricket Association's Chandler Shield competition.

There is only one game between first and fifth in one of the closest seasons in recent years.

The Hawks slipped from top place after making 243 (Ryan Hill 101, Ben Neagle 52, Steve Garrett 49) but it proved to be insufficient as Bayswater Park scored 6/248 (Nick Barrett 3/46) in reply at Colman Park.

The Chandler Shield team is one of a number of senior Hawks teams pressing for finals berths.

Four of the six teams are in the top four, but three could finish anywhere between second and fifth.

The Fourth XI booked their place for March action after they received a forfeit.

The two bottom sides (K and M) batted just once and won outright, and would now be unlucky to miss out.

A Grade who are in sixth position and unable to make the finals, but safe from relegation, had a good win over St Andrews who scored 198 (Kane Hartrup 3/46) to fall short of the Hawks' 224 (Robbie Bowen 54, Cam Head 42).

D Grade in reply to Heathmont Baptists' 7/233, scored 6/308 (Leon Holewa 99 run out, Sean McMahon 40, Matt Manuell 41) to win and push itself off the bottom of the ladder.

Second placed I Grade received a forfeit and one more win should cement the double-chance.

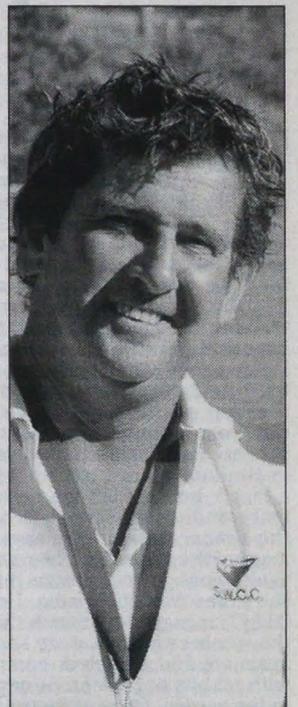
K Grade is second and this team is just one game (and healthy points) ahead of the fifth placed team. It won by an innings against Croydon Ranges, dismissing them for 50 (Tim Cochrane 6/12) and 69 (Hayden Richards 4/24, Sam Cleary 3/32) and declaring at 2/209 (Luke Brouwer 68, captain John Cleary 67no, Hayden Richards 31no).

M Grade is third and also one game ahead of fifth and also had an innings win, with 3/186 (Jake Robb 78, Barry Williams 67no) against South Croydon's 84 (Jacek Holewa 3/4, Barry Williams 3/25) and 101 (Barry Williams 6/22, Joseph O'Brien-Garioch 4/16).

This team had two unlucky narrow losses after Christmas with makeshift sides, being forced to call upon veterans and occasional players.

Wins have been hard to come by for Hawks juniors.

There have been some outstanding individual performances by South



South Warrandyte veteran, Barry Williams, has been in top form with nine wickets and an unbeaten 67.

Warrandyte juniors this season, and several have gone on to representative teams.

However, this has not translated into enough team wins.

After several seasons of Hawks regularly making two or three finals series each season, only the U16-2 team is likely to make it this time.

At least two other teams could make it, but each needs to win the three remaining rounds and beat at least two teams in the top four.

The Under 18s have not won a game, but passed up opportunities in two games against North Ringwood when fielding one player short.

Under 16-2 are unbeaten on top of the ladder and this team will need to refocus after the break.

Under 16s is the pinnacle of junior cricket and flags are hard to come by. The Hawks lost an Under 16-3 flag by two runs three seasons ago, and would dearly like to go one better.

Under 16-4 combined with Croydon Ranges are two wins from fourth with a remote chance of finals.

Under 14-2 have a difficult run home and are unlikely to figure in the finals.

Under 14-3 combined with Norwood are only one game from fourth and with a manageable remaining draw could play finals.

Under 12-1 have had just one win but have produced a number of great individual performances.



## Warrandyte basketball round-up with Tony Oliver



# A big year ahead for Warrandyte basketball

This year promises to be yet another history-making one for Warrandyte Basketball with a number of exciting new initiatives set to be launched.

The launch of Warrandyte's first Big V Men's team is just around the corner. Practice matches are only a month away, memberships for the coming season are now available and we're all looking forward to a huge year from both of our Big V teams.

'Derby Day' will be launched on March 27

and will see local rivals - Redbacks and Steelers - going head to head in more than 40 games to see who will be crowned the first ever Derby Day winner.

Finally, a new tournament for Venom teams will see the launch of the Yarra Ranges Classic.

This is to be played on the Labour Day weekend in March and will be hosted by Warrandyte and Kilsyth.

This will take Warrandyte into a new era of hosting its own major event.

# Big V series is set to go

The draw for the 2010 season for Big V basketball has just been released and with few exceptions there will be a least one game of top grade basketball at the Warrandyte Community Sports Centre each week-end.

Warrandyte will be fielding both a Men's and Women's team in this year's Big V competition.

The court facilities have yet to be expanded and the club will not be able to play double headers - two games on the one night.

Supporters however will be able to enjoy a game and mingle with the players at the after match function.

The Warrandyte Venom Women will be in Division One, with an impressive history of two runners-up flags and a semi final appearance in their short history.

The team will be based very much on youth with the retirement through injury of Sally Phillips.

The Mens' team, under Kelvin Bowers, is hard at training and it is hoped that they will perform well in their first season in Division 3.

Practice games are under way at the moment, with games against Darebin being completed last week-end.

Upcoming games this

Saturday will be against Mornington, with the Women's tip off at 6:30 pm followed by the Men at 8:30pm.

Both games will be at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre.

A "call to arms" was well received from the community at a recent meeting led by Warrandyte club president, Justin Nelson, and Scoretable leader, David Booth.

However, more helpers will be required and if anybody wants to contribute to the successful running of the BigV competition, they should make contact with the Association.

# Redbacks return to action for new year

Saturday basketball has kicked off for the new year.

Warrandyte's Under 8 girls had a good win against Bulleen by 13-6 in a game at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre.

It was 4-all at the break and the Redback girls were able to control the game thereafter. Jesse Yamouni scored just before the final siren for the Redbacks.

Jemma Potter had a stand-out day scoring eight points for the Redbacks.

The Under 10 girls, coached by Jo Metcalfe, also had a good win, defeating an Eltham side by 28-15.

Amy Pearson was on fire

with 15 points, with Kelly Roodhouse with six points and Nikki Metcalfe and Amy Richardson with four points each.

Dale Leeson's Under 12 girls could not make it a clean sweep going down to the visiting Ivanhoe girls by 24-19.

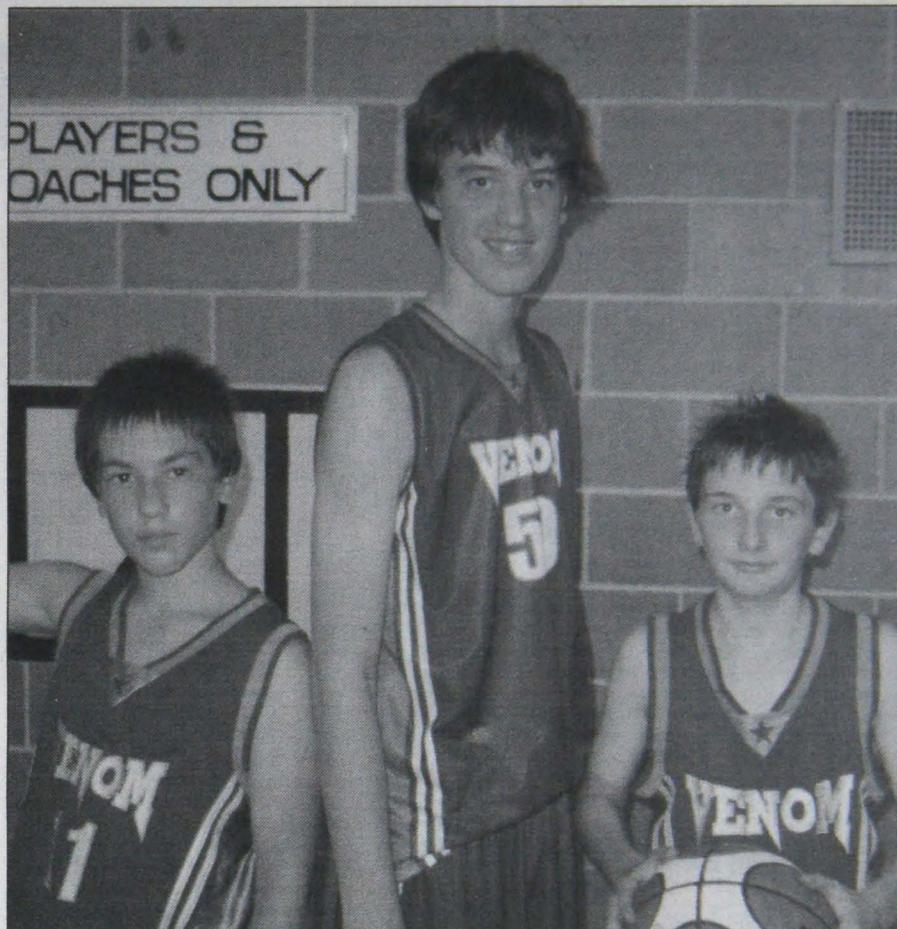
Taylor Padfield scored six points with Natalie Macdonald and Tegan Leeson with four points each.

By the time the afternoon came, the temperature in the stadium was approaching 40C and the heat policy was in place. This required shortened halves, longer half time break and addi-

tional time outs.

Steve Killey's Under 14 boys were not able to overcome Doncaster who played with more skill. The Redbacks went down 36-27, after holding a slight lead at the break.

The result was better for another Redback side with Doug Hilton's boys overcoming Park Orchards by 24-12, with Chris Bollands almost doing it single handed with 14 points.



Happy after the Under 16 win over Hawthorn are from left, Aidan Ceh, Chris Bollands and Zac Plischka.

# Venom teams work to make best grades

Round 1 of the second phase of grading for Friday Night basketball got under way after the Eltham Tournament.

Warrandyte's Under 18 girls had a heart breaking loss against Knox in their Pool AA match, going down 34-32 when Knox shot a successful field goal after the siren.

The Venom trailed by two points at the long break and by four points going into the final quarter but had drawn level before the damage of the final seconds.

Caitlin Hallett and Meg Dargen with seven points each were the top scorers for the Venom.

This puts a serious dent into the Venom's chances of playing in the top competition this year. The girls will

need to perform against Ringwood and then Geelong to make it through.

Prospects are better for the Under 14 girls, defeating Bulleen in a fully timed game earlier in the night.

The Venom were never seriously challenged with strong second and third quarters to take the points 29-16.

Solid scoring by most players was a highlight with six points to Christy Terei and Maddison Taylor.

Two exciting Under 16 games were played at the Park Orchards stadium.

Ian Wood's Pool DD boys were hot and cold against a taller Sandringham.

The early action favoured the Venom but Sandringham came back well to lead by 19-14 at the break. That

lead was extended to 10 points before the Venom made a late charge.

The game came down to the final critical seconds with the Venom closing to two points and with the momentum.

The Venom were desperate to get the ball and needed to send Sandringham to the line. The visitors were able to convert enough to take the points by 34-32.

Jack Cousens top scored with 10 points and had an excellent second half given that he was sitting on four fouls.

Mason Walsh contributed five points with most of the other players getting on the score board.

The following game featured Warrandyte in a regional match up with Hawthorn.

Chris Bolland's height was doing the damage for the Venom in the first half but the teams were more evenly matched when Chris was given a rest.

Hawthorn had a chance to even the score before the break but the Venom's Zac Plischka scored on a fast break to give the Venom a 19-15 lead.

The second half was tight with neither side being able to dominate.

Chris Bollands was dominant again (top scoring with 16 points) but Hawthorn were able to exert equal pressure at the other end.

In the final seconds, the Venom were able to hold on for a gutsy 45-42 win.

Earlier in the night at Park Orchards, Emma Collins and the Under 12 Pool BB girls has a solid win over Blackburn by 44-22.

Top scorers to the Venom were Abbey Ceh (17) and Tessa Tehan (10).



Jo Metcalfe speaks to her team of Under 10 girls.

# Australia Day champions

The Eltham-Dandenong Australia Day tournament is the traditional start of the basketball year and the tournament had more than 800 teams competing and all states in Australia represented.

Warrandyte Venom has celebrated another successful Australia Day Tournament with many teams making it through to finals, capped off by the Under 20 girls winning their division.

The girls performed consistently over the weekend, defeating Waverley 28-16 in the semi final. In the final the Venom girls took the points in a tight match 33-28.

The win however came at a high cost as one of Warrandyte's key players, Bec Heddles, suffered a horrible injury from a freak situation when she landed awkwardly and fractured her ankle.

Michael Flynn's Under 16 girls made it to the final against a team from Sydney, the Amazons. The Venom had gone through undefeated, having accounted for the Amazons 26-21 in an earlier round.

While Warrandyte were confident, it was the Amazons that took the points 34-23.

Kellie Fletcher top scored for the Venom

with seven points, with Ellen Glendenning contributing six points.

Warrandyte's Under 18 boys always appeared in control leading for most of the game by 2-4 points. A game of this quality can be decided in a short period of time and at the four minute mark, Oakleigh locked up the scores at 21-all and then got the critical next two baskets.

The Venom surged at the end with Luke Collins getting a field basket to make it a three point game. The Venom had another shot but it missed and Oakleigh were victors by 26-23.

Tim Demos top scored with six points, with Luke Collins and Jarrod Buzzini chipping in with five points each.

The Under 18 girls paid a heavy price for a poor first half in the Grand Final against Bulleen.

The Venom opened the scoring with two free throws from Brianna Ricci but Bulleen applied the pressure and had the 27-17 lead at half time. Hannah Bensch top scored with seven points with solid support from Emily Tricarico and Caitlyn Wilson with six points each. Wilson was named most determined.

# Bloods' playing list boosts hopes

By CHRIS CHAPMAN

Pre-season training has resumed in full swing as Warrandyte footballers prepare for the upcoming EFL season.

More than 80 senior players have attended since the start of training in November and with just eight weeks until Round One, selectors are facing a happy selection headache.

While retaining all except a handful of players from 2009, the Bloods have also seen several new faces on the track so far this year.

Some of these new arrivals include brothers Cam and Brad Vanflorenstein, who along with Scott Burgess arrive from Croydon with valuable experience at a higher level.

Clint Kennedy has joined Warrandyte from Rye Football Club.

Bloods' 2003 Best and Fairest winner and 2006 premiership player Todd Holman also returns to the fold after a couple of years on the sidelines and should make an immediate impact in the Warrandyte midfield.

Clint Wheatley is another former Warrandyte player to return in 2010, having last pulled on the boots for the Bloods in 2005.

With three practice matches scheduled for the coming weeks, Warrandyte coach Michael Tout is looking to have a settled side to



Warrandyte are expecting further development from young players such as Tim Beasley, left, and Alex McIntosh this season.



take into their Round One match against recent arch-enemy Whitehorse Pioneers.

"We'll use the practice matches to experiment a little bit with different positions" said Tout, "but come Round One we expect to have a fairly settled senior side."

The faith shown in younger players last year (Tout's first at Warrandyte) was something that paid off in the second half of the season, with names such as Tim Beasley, Ross Ansaldi and Alex McIntosh regularly

featuring in Warrandyte's best.

Warrandyte's Under 18 side will be coached by Brian Cartwright, with high expectations after continued improvement in recent years culminating in a Grand Final appearance in 2009.

Club stalwart Ash Grybas returns to coaching duties taking charge of the Reserves side, with assistance from Jarrod Loughman and James Logan.

Warrandyte practice matches kick off with a

game against Eltham Panthers on February 28 (venue TBA) which will be a charity fundraiser for Madison Bartlett, who was seriously burned and tragically lost her parents and sister in the Black Saturday bushfires.

Both Eltham and Warrandyte Football Clubs urge all local people to support this event and see some great football at the same time.

Other practice matches have been scheduled against Tarwin (March 20 at Tarwin) and Glen Waverley (March 27, venue TBA) before the season proper kicks off at Warrandyte Reserve on April 10.

The Glen Waverley match will be an AFL Family Day with appearances from AFL stars, activities for the children and food stalls, all to raise much needed money for worthwhile charities as part of Warrandyte's focus to be an active and valuable community oriented club.

Check the WFC website for more information closer to the date: [www.warrandytefc.com](http://www.warrandytefc.com)

Pre-season training continues on Mondays at 6pm (meet at Warrandyte Reserve) and Wednesdays at 6pm (meet at Mullum Mullum Reserve, off Reynolds Road in Doncaster East). New players and supporters welcome.



Be a part of the action for 2010 with the Warrandyte Junior Football Club.

## Junior football registration day

Warrandyte Junior Football Club will hold its registration day at the Warrandyte football rooms on Sunday 21 February.

Registrations will open at 10am and close at midday.

The junior football club is encouraging past and new players to attend on the day.

For more details contact secretary David Ure 0412 380 034.

## Warrandyte Cricket Club

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

If you have not received a Business Directory for 2010, they are now available from the Warrandyte Post Office and the South Warrandyte store.



**WARRANDYTE**



Please support the businesses that support your local club

# Five teams seek flags Finals fever grips 'Dytes

By RYAN HOIBERG

Warrandyte's First Eleven are sitting just outside the top four in the Wilkins Cup competition in the Ringwood District Cricket Association.

Currently placed fifth, the 'Dytes had a win over previously undefeated ladder leaders, Chirside Park and are well placed to defeat Heathmont Baptists after Saturday's first day of Round 10.

Warrandyte captain, Adam White, said his team would try and take outright points this week and cement a finals position.

Heathmont batted slowly and refused to take any risks against the Warrandyte attack and were finally dismissed for 125 after 67 gruelling overs.

White and young batting star, Jack Ellis, then took to the Heathmont attack and at stumps Warrandyte were 1/51.

"The first aim is to guarantee the first innings points but after that we will be striving for an outright win," White said.

"Lilydale defeated Heathmont outright in the previous game and they now hold a slender lead over us on the premiership table."

But so tight is the competition that an outright win could leapfrog Warrandyte from fifth to second place.

In a season that has slowly been built around a steady batting line-up with a strong bowling attack, Warrandyte defeated Kilsyth in the last game before Christmas by 143 runs with middle order batsmen Stephen Glenk holding the innings together, backed up by David Mooney and Campbell Holland in a lower order.

Holland dominated Kilsyth, backing up with the ball to show his all round capabilities. Warrandyte bowled out the Kilsyth order cheaply in 37 overs, with Holland claiming 4/16 off just eight overs, backed up by Gerald Walshe, Lee Evans and Matthew Sazenis, each claiming two wickets.

Warrandyte asked Kilsyth to bat again, hunting for an outright win but they held out the charging 'Dytes, ending on 6/110 with Holland again claiming key scalps, finishing with figures of 3/23.

Warrandyte came back from the Christmas break with the two one day games under the new format, and were defeated in both matches.

A loss to Mooroolbark set the team back, in a game they should have won. The Warrandyte bowling attack was not able to defend a solid target of 217, with Ellis top scoring 67 and backing up with 2/9 off 10 overs.

The following week Warrandyte were not able to change their form in the shorter format of the game, and were defeated by Ainslie Park by 112 runs.

After returning to the longer format of the game,

Warrandyte were able to regain the form that they had been missing against the undefeated Chirside Park.

Warrandyte bowled out the ladder leaders for 125, and by the end of the first day they were in a commanding position at 2/60, losing both wickets in the last over of the day. Ellis scored 73 runs in a man of the match performance.

After passing Chirside Park's score the team pushed ahead, finishing with 7/249 declared, and went hunting for a surprise outright.

Warrandyte were unable to bowl out the opposition, falling only three wickets short of securing maximum points.

The Second Eleven are currently on top of the ladder, a game ahead in a congested top four.

The major highlight for the squad was an outright victory against Chirside Park, with Ryan Pascoe destroying the batting order in both innings and Warrandyte bowling Chirside out for 24 in the first innings.

The Third Eleven are sitting comfortably in the top four, assured a finals berth, with Cameron Day searching for his second flag in two years.

The Fourth Eleven are trying to pull back a form slump to ensure that they also will be able to see the finals.

Captain Nathan Croft grabbed a hat-trick highlighted by bowling the last batsman out.

The Fives are sitting well in the top four as well, with captain Greg Warren ensuring his batting order is able to withstand most teams.

Scores:

**First Eleven:**  
Round 6 - Warrandyte 204 (Glenk 50, Holland 39, Mooney 39) d. Kilsyth 61 (Holland 4/16) and 6/110 (Holland 3/23)

Round 7 - Warrandyte 4/217 (Ellis 67, Mooney 45 not out, White 36) lost to Mooroolbark 6/225 (Ellis 2/9, McIntosh 2/29)

Round 8 - Warrandyte 172 (Evans 45) lost to Ainslie Park 6/284 (Holland 2/38, Evans 2/62)

Round 9 - Warrandyte 7/249 (Ellis 73, Sazenis 35) d. Chirside Park 125 (Sazenis 3/26) and 6/88 (Evans 3/8, Sazenis 2/23)

Round 10 - Warrandyte 1/51 vs Heathmont Baptists 125

**Second Eleven:**  
Round 6 - Warrandyte 143 (Haworth 65, Hoiberg 53) and 8/139 (Hoiberg 41, Naughtin 34) d. Kilsyth 142 (McIntosh 5/51, Beardall 3/21)

Round 7 - Warrandyte 8/253 (Haworth 60, Morgan 43, Beardall 38 not out) d Wonga Park 8/251 (Haworth 3/47, Beardall 2/37)

Round 8 - Warrandyte 8/304 (Goddard 88, Brent 69 not out, Lander 49) d. Croydon North 146 (Beardall 3/17, Pascoe 3/36)

Round 9 - Warrandyte 151 (Brent 34) and 0/25 (Hookey

19 not out) d. Chirside Park 24 (Pascoe 6/10, Warr 4/14) and 149 (Warr 4/46, Beardall 3/36)

**Third Eleven:**

Round 8 - Warrandyte 4/217 (Greve 105, Brent 40, Day 34) d. Croydon North 138 (Prangley 3/15)

Round 9 - Warrandyte 5/174 (Mulhall 46, Greve 40) d Croydon Ranges 7/108 (Prangley 2/12, L. Warren 2/15)

Round 10 - Warrandyte 5/286 (Tsaparsaris 139, Naughtin 63, McKellar 50) d. East Ringwood 179 (Prangley 4/32, McKellar 3/32)

Round 11 - Warrandyte 115 (Smead 39) d. Warranwood 100 (Greve 3/24)

Round 12 - Warrandyte 172 (Barry 73, Day 38) and 2/148 (Zach 57 not out, Barry 51 not out) d Boronia 126 (Greve 4/14, Barry 3/15)

**Fourth Eleven:**

Round 8 - Warrandyte 9/131 (Zach 46) d. Croydon North 87 (Lane 4/24, Lincoln 3/23)

Round 9 - Warrandyte 7/127 (Baker 45) d. Montrose 9/119 (Lincoln 3/17, Ellis 3/21)

Round 10 - Warrandyte 77 (Kline 23) lost to Knox City 4/80 (Lincoln 2/32)

Round 11 - Warrandyte 136 (Logan 63 not out) lost to East Ringwood 6/181 (Wright 2/27)

Round 12 - Warrandyte 124 (Baker 30, Kline 30) d. Boronia 10/122 (Bowen 4/9, Croft 3/13)

**Fifth Eleven:**

Round 8 - Warrandyte 8/171 (Baker 60, Aly 30 not out) lost to Wonga Park 8/190 (Steed 2/53)

Round 9 - Warrandyte 6/284 (Aly 59, Revell 57, Hanson 42) d. Boronia 110 (Revell 2/4, Lockie 2/9, Large 2/26)

Round 10 - Warrandyte 174 (Khatry 47, Hartmann 36) lost to South Croydon 8/209 (Rojiwadia 3/32, Hartmann 2/36)



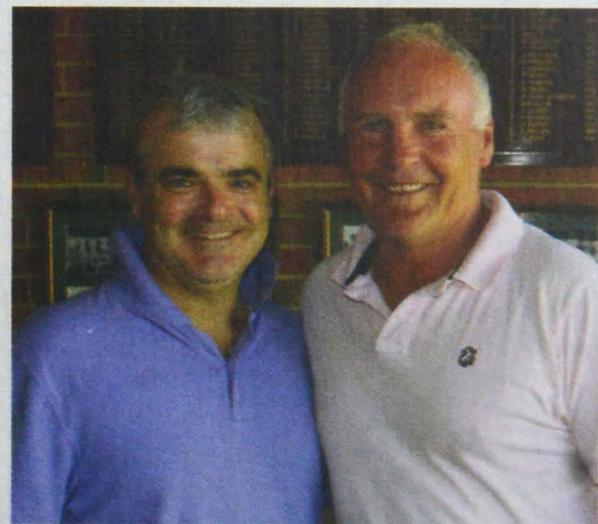
Seventeen-year-old Jack Ellis is having a stellar year opening the batting for Warrandyte's First XI.

Round 11 - Warrandyte 172 (Baker 27) d Croydon Ranges 110 (Thomas 3/2)

Round 12 - Warrandyte 4/160 (Warren 61) and 5/189 (Khatry 47, Hartmann 31) d. Eastfield 10/141 (Warren 3/24) and 195 (Hartmann 7/84)



Warrandyte all-rounder, Lee Evans during a pre-match fielding drill. He will be a key player in coming weeks if the 'Dytes are to make the finals.



Former Australian Test cricketer, Rodney Hogg, right with former Warrandyte cricket captain, John Sharman.

## Hogg meets with former players

Former Australian Test fast bowler, Rodney Hogg, was the special guest at a Warrandyte Cricket Club past players dinner on Saturday.

Hogg played two seasons for Warrandyte in the mid 1990s and told the large group of former players and members that the Grand Final match which Warrandyte won on the first innings and then lost outright to Ainslie Park remained as one of the most memorable matches in which he had ever played.

Hogg was a Warrandyte resident and for many years and ran the fruit shop at the Goldfields Plaza.

# LANDFIELD

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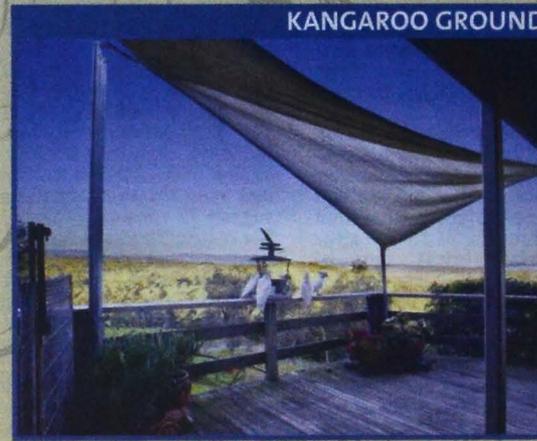
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WARRANDYTE

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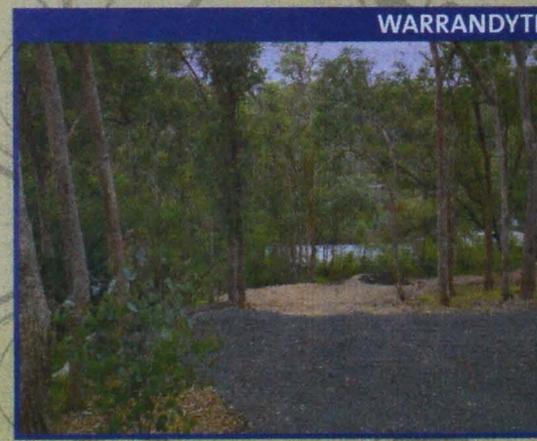
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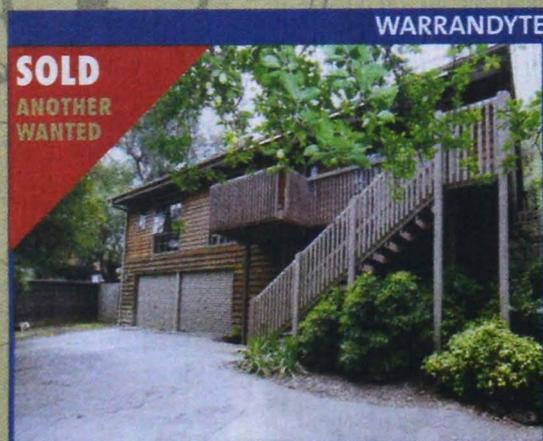
With plans and permits in place for an impressive 3-bedroom + studio home with a spectacular front balcony, all that's left to bring to this quarter acre is your cheque book and your imagination. See beyond the crushed rock driveway to the bushland freedom this property could bring you and your family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

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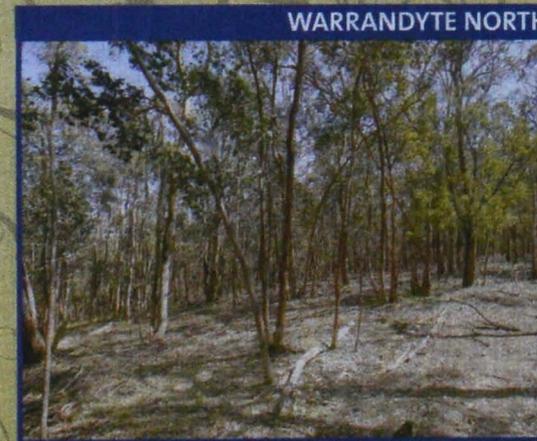
This beautiful timber 3 bedroom home is close to everything, just a short walk to restaurants, cafes and local shopping, in addition to a large living area opening onto your own private rear deck. The master bedroom boasts a spacious walk-in robe and ensuite, and recent carpeting throughout ensures the accompanying bedrooms provide the highest of comfort, along with a separate main bathroom and toilet. Take advantage of the Yarra River across the road and nearby bus stop which takes you to Warrandyte High, The Pines or slip onto the freeway and head to the Melbourne CBD.



WARRANDYTE

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WARRANDYTE NORTH

## Lions Club of Warrandyte Inc.

Awards from two cities ...

Congratulations to Ian Abell, Secretary of the club, honoured with a Menzies Community Australia Day Award by the Hon. Kevin Andrews MP, in recognition of over 40 years service to the community through Lions Clubs. Also from Nillumbik Shire as best service club involved with its community in recognition of service to victims affected by the Black Saturday bushfire disaster.

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