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WARRANDYTE diary

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No 430, May 2010 For the community, by the community

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"Down a lazy river..."

(Picture by STEPHEN REYNOLDS)

Boost to river flow

Not enough, says expert

By TRISTAN MADDOCKS

According to water minister Tim Holding, the seven billion litres of water which began flowing down the stressed Yarra River last month was "the next step towards restoring the health" of the river.

Local resident Ian Penrose—Yarra Riverkeeper and leading advocate for the river—welcomed the addi-

tional water.

However, he said it is still far too little, pointing out that this would return only a small amount of the water extracted from the river in recent years.

"Any water is valuable for the river but it is tiny compared to the amount the state government unwisely took from the river over the last couple of years," Mr Penrose said. "They have taken out, in addition to the normal extraction, 70 to 80 billion litres from a river they knew was going to be stressed."

"The river system is under enormous pressure and fish and populations of semi-aquatic plants are at great risk. We've treated water too

cheaply."

The water boost follows the easing of Melbourne's water restrictions from Stage 3a to Stage 3 in April.

Mr Holding acknowledged the toll that water extraction had taken on the Yarra.

"The Yarra River has been under enormous stress as a result of low flows from 13 years of drought, from additional water being used to boost Melbourne's drinking water supplies and more recently from the impact of the Black Saturday bushfires."

He said the seven billion litres would help the overall health of the river and tied future flow boosts to the easing of water restrictions.

"Further easing of water restric-

tions in Melbourne would see even more water returned to the Yarra River."

Ahead of the 2006 election, the state government promised to provide the Yarra with 17 billion litres in environmental flows each year to attain minimum health. But the promise was tied to household water restriction levels and was never delivered because restrictions increased.

Mr Penrose said that the state government had known since 2005 that the river was desperate for additional environmental flows.

"The government has not met its own responsibilities for providing the river with adequate flows for

its health."

He said the government had been focused on finding short-term solutions to secure Melbourne's drinking water supply but there were two superior long-term strategies that should be pursued.

"Investment in storm water capture and much more investment in water recycling. In both these areas the government has made some steps, but they are very modest steps."

Money spent on two controversial projects, the Wonthaggi desalination plant and the north-south pipeline, could have been used to improve storm water capture and water recycling and reduce the need to extract water from the Yarra, he said.

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— P.K. Shaw

WARRANDYTE diary

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NEXT ISSUE

Next issue of the *Diary* will be published on Wednesday, June 9, 2010. Advertising and editorial copy closes Friday, May 28, 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.

Looking for Love?

Hi, my name is Vivian. I am a young, dark ash blonde two-seater sofa. A little soft around the edges but well structured. I love kids, pets and a night in with a glass of wine and I'm desperate to be cuddled. Come in and see me some time, I could be yours! Meet me at Riveresque Curtains & Accessories. I'll be wearing a cushion...



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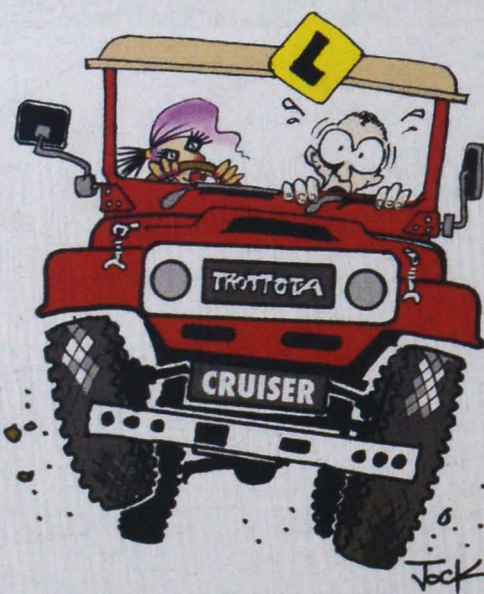
OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



Driving dad to distraction

YOU often see them on a Sunday morning, hopping along KG Road. Hop. Hop. Pause. Hop. Hop. Hop. Stop. "Sorry," said Cinnamon. "I'm a bit nervous." "Of course you are, dear," said Neville, re-attaching the L sticker that had wrenched itself from the windscreen to cower in his lap. "We both are." But he knew it was important to at least appear relaxed for his daughter's first driving lesson. She was so excited she'd talked about practically nothing else since she got her learner's permit. That and how she could get VicRoads to redo the photo. So he was determined to keep his voice calm and reassuring as she restarted the Landcruiser and accelerated, rapidly. "NOT SO FREAKIN'!!!...Um, we need to change gear!" "Sorry," said Cinnamon, and proceeded to move through the gears from first to fourth, though not in strictly arithmetic order. "And turn off the wipers." "Sorry." They were both sweating now. Maybe it was because of the tension. Or maybe because she'd somehow put the heater on. But the road ahead was as clear as the sky above as they swept around the bends, revealing ever more glorious vistas over the ranges, which the growing stream of vehicles behind her were also able to enjoy at a leisurely 35 kilometres an hour. Then they hit a cyclist. "Oh my God!" panicked Cinnamon. "What do I do



now?" "No problem. Just pass him." The smooth-legged, blue-lycra'd sous-chef from Williamstown knew the Land Cruiser was close when he smelled the bird droppings on the front fender. A moment later the passenger-side mirror clipped his stack hat and sent him veering from the bitumen, coming to rest in the fork of a candle-bark sapling. "Perhaps a little more room as you pass," suggested Neville. Cinnamon obliged by crossing the double line to avoid the next cyclist, causing a Volkswagen Golf to drive straight into the rough. "Somewhere between the two," suggested Neville,

which Cinnamon took literally when they encountered the final pair of riders pedalling side by side by somehow driving between them. But gradually she grew more confident and Neville more relaxed and they wound their way out through Kangaroo Ground and Pantton Hill without further incident—apart from the ducks. Even Neville had to admire the way she passed an entire funeral procession in a single manoeuvre, without even knowing what was coming on the other side of the hill. By the time they reached St Andrews, Neville decided the lesson had gone far enough and suggested turning back. "What's his problem?" said Cinnamon, returning the fin-

living with The Trots
 ger to a ute that flashed past blasting its horn at them. "I can't imagine," gulped Neville, extracting his fingernails from the dashboard. "Perhaps indicating left before doing a U-turn gave him the wrong impression." But Cinnamon was heading home with her foot down and her confidence up. So much so she decided a quick cruise down Yarra Street would give her the chance of being seen by some of her friends, so she kept going past Dingley Dell Road, over the bridge and turned right. "STRUTH!!!" screamed Neville. "You're supposed to go around the roundabout!" Now faced with a stream of traffic as well as abuse, Cinnamon decided to do as she was told, even if that meant going the wrong way round. Which quickly presented another problem in the shape of a number 304 bus approaching from a Ringwoody direction. Still, at least she got her wish. On Monday Cinnamon was the talk of the schoolyard. It seemed every kid at Warrandyte High had seen her. The question they asked, constantly, was why was she parked in the middle of the roundabout? "120 hours, Neville. She needs 120 hours of supervised driving," pleaded Narelle as her husband flipped through the Yellow pages. "Fine," said Neville dialling L Passo Driving School, "but not by me."
ALAN CORNELL

Buses: not much for Warrandyte



Wishful thinking: There will be no city express bus from Warrandyte. (Digital image by Stephen Reynolds)

By TRISTAN MADDOCKS

THE long-awaited Manningham bus review has had a mixed reception, with community leaders raising many questions about its recommendations.

The review, released in April and more than one year behind schedule, was aimed at assessing the key restraints of the metropolitan bus network.

Undertaken by consultant

Booz & Company on behalf of the department of transport, it proposes a series of revisions to the current network.

Booz & Company consulted the bus industry, VicRoads, Manningham council, school and community groups to identify concerns and ideas for improvement.

If adopted, the main improvements for Warrandyte bus users would be:

- Route 304 (currently Ring-

wood-Warrandyte-City) to run every seven to 10 minutes during weekday peak hours, and every 15 minutes in off peak hours.

- Route 304 to run every 30 minutes on weekends. It currently runs hourly.

● Route 364 (currently Ringwood-Warrandyte-The Pines-Doncaster Shoppingtown) to run hourly on Sundays. It currently runs every two hours.

But the following service reductions would be made:

- Route 305 (currently City-The Pines-Warrandyte) would start and finish at The Pines. This would remove nine weekday morning services to the city and two weekday afternoon services to Warrandyte.

● Route 304 to no longer extend to Ringwood. This service currently runs to Ringwood on weekdays.

● Route 364 to no longer extend to Doncaster Shoppingtown. Instead, commuters would need to take a connecting bus from The Pines to Shoppingtown.

Warrandyte Community Association's Jonathan Upson said his organisation was most disappointed with the review's failure to recommend an express service between Warrandyte and the city.

"The [Route 304] city bus service will continue via The Pines and Blackburn Road rather than down Springvale Road and immediately onto the Eastern Freeway," he said.

"Therefore, Warrandyte residents will continue to suffer the scheduled one hour and 15 minutes scheduled time to the city, and often longer due to traffic congestion in the CBD."

Manningham councillor David Ellis said the review held nothing for Warrandyte beyond what had already been announced more than one year ago.

"This is basically an expensive, privately outsourced public relations exercise," he said.

"In the case of Route 304, the service will actually be reduced with the deletion of the Warrandyte-Ringwood section. Whatever minor upgrades are made for the remaining section, this will mean reduced options for city-bound travel for [people from] Warrandyte."

Warrandyte MP Ryan Smith said while he didn't believe the review delivered much for residents of Warrandyte and Park Orchards, he would press the minister of transport to adopt its recommendations.

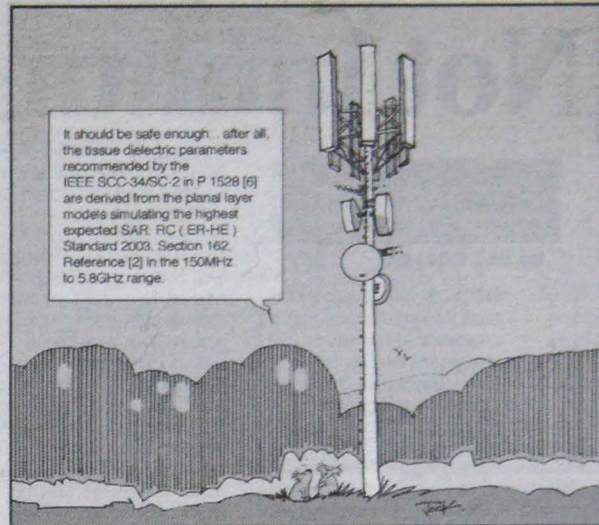
"I also note that there was a fair proportion of the report taken up with changes that had already been made," he said.

"And in the [2010-2011 state budget] I haven't seen anything that indicates there will be any more services in my area in the short term."

Mr Smith said the review had been a lengthy and expensive process that had demanded time and effort of lots of people.

He said while there were too few changes recommended for local services for real improvement, Booz & Company had faithfully listened to the concerns of residents and had made recommendations accordingly.

"[But] the government has not indicated that it will implement any of these changes anytime soon."



Council ticks phone tower

By KARLY HICKMAN

Manningham council has granted a permit for the construction of a controversial mobile phone tower in Warrandyte, despite outrage by many residents.

At their meeting on April 27, council accepted a recommendation from council officers to grant a permit for the construction of a 34 metre tower at Warrandyte Reserve, adjacent to the main oval.

Cr David Ellis described the overall response from Warrandyte as "overwhelmingly opposed to the tower. Any elected representative has to take that sort of community expression very seriously."

A spokesperson from the Warrandyte Resident Action Group who asked to remain unnamed, told the *Diary* that the group was "disillusioned by the whole process".

Of the nine councillors who voted on the proposal, only three turned up to the vocal submitters' meeting: the last chance for community objections to be heard.

"The mayor didn't turn up to any of the meetings. We feel that if the majority of the councillors cannot be present at meetings, they are disrespecting the community and the hours of work that went into the campaign," the spokesperson said.

Speaking against the recommendation, Cr Ellis pointed out that the officers' report was limited to the terms of the state planning policy framework, which does not allow for health impacts to be considered.

He said that state legislation was heavily weighted in favour of mobile phone towers, but councillors had a duty to consider all concerns raised by their community.

"The objectors advanced sound reasons on grounds of visual impact and scale of the tower, but their overriding concern was on the health

impacts. Scientific opinion remains divided—but there is a growing body of reputable evidence giving grounds for concern.

"On matters of community safety, the prudent course for any legislators should be to take no action that will add to the level of community risk. I am sure even those people who welcome extended phone coverage would think twice if they thought the health of their children was likely to be affected," Cr Ellis said.

The Warrandyte Residents Action Group encouraged councillors to reflect on their vision for Manningham stated as being "a healthy, safe and attractive place to live".

"We asked that this decision should be made using common sense, forward thinking, responsibility and respect for the natural beauty of Warrandyte and the voice of the community," the spokesperson said.

At the time of the vote, councillors had received 228 written objection and a petition containing 1225 signatures against the Vodafone tower.

The Warrandyte Residents Action Group is now preparing a VCAT case and is seeking anyone who can contribute financially or with expertise. "We think we have a powerful case, so we feel strongly that we can win."

● The *Diary* believes that some parents of children enrolled at the Tarroona Avenue kindergarten are concerned about electromagnetic radiation from the proposed tower. The tower would be 200m from the kindergarten.

It has been reported that some parents are considering withdrawing their children because of the perceived risk.

For more information email nomobiletowerinwarrandyte@ozemail.com.au.

● Letters: Page 4

Down to earth...



A lot of hot air has been expelled in Warrandyte over the years: public meetings, letters to the *Diary*, passionate barracking at football matches. But the hot air that was expelled over the town early one morning this month bewildered local residents who witnessed the consequences.

A hot air balloon from Global Ballooning came down in Kyrenia Court, off Tindals Road. No one was injured and the balloon was deflated and packed up by the crew and passengers—with a little help from interested, if somewhat bemused local residents.

Diary photographer Stephen Reynolds joined them and took this picture.

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COMMUNITY MINDED
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Not immune to planning takeover

comment

By VAL POLLEY

LOCALS like to think that Warrandyte hasn't changed very much over the years but in actuality there have been times when changes have been quite dramatic. The first was when gold was found in Andersons Creek which led to a large, if temporary, increase in the population. But the gold ran out and most moved on.

In the 1960s when fingers of suburbia started pushing out from the outer fringes towards areas such as Warrandyte, a number of subdivisions changed the face of the township.

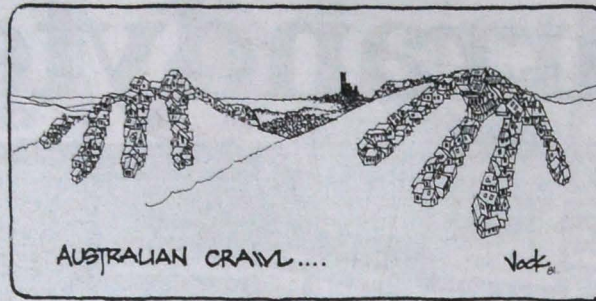
Now it looks like more changeable times are ahead. Predictions are being made of substantial population growth for Australia. Melbourne is under pressure with BIS Shrapnel (a residential property forecaster) recently suggesting Melbourne's population will exceed that of Sydney by 2037. That places enormous pressure on land within the urban growth

boundary. Warrandyte is not immune to this pressure particularly in the residential areas south of the river. Neither is the Green Wedge. Already the state government has signalled it will move the urban growth boundary in the west of Melbourne into that area's green wedge in order to accommodate some of this anticipated extra growth.

So present planning may not provide the protection needed. There is currently a widespread and deep seated cynicism about the planning system, in no small measure due to such issues as the recent Windsor Hotel debacle.

Melbourne University professor Miles Lewis was recently quoted in *The Age* as saying: "If planning is to have significance at all, it means creating a vision for the future and adhering to that vision consistently over time and modifying it only for demonstrably sound reasons rather than short term gain or political expediency".

Melburnians have been urged to think of what sort of city they want to live in over the next 50 years and it is probably a good time for Warrandytians to do the same to provide a strong vision that can help create a framework for the future. Past



Diary, September 1981

generations have always had ideas on how they wanted the town to develop and worked hard to bring these plans to fruition.

So perhaps the first step is to ask questions. What kind of Warrandyte do we want for our children/grandchildren to live in? Are we prepared to work hard to retain the Green Wedge? What road and path network is required?

The RACV wants to see a wider main road through the township and there have been many calls for a 3-lane bridge and better road access following the 2009 bushfires. It may be a case of "be careful what you wish for", if to gain this we lose

the ambience and environment we value.

How can we ensure we retain the essential shops and services we need—we have lost our independent butcher, our petrol station and may soon see the e-library locate elsewhere. Where do we locate infrastructure such as phone towers—if we want our mobile phones these are required, but where can they be safely placed?

Can we do anything about housing accessibility and affordability for our younger residents who have to move away in order to enter the housing market? What services do we want in transport, aged care and youth?

What can we do to accommodate climate change? In short, what can residents do to help plan a viable, active, sustainable township?

Do we want to leave it all to others, such as governments and market forces, to decide or do we want to try and shape our future township for the next 50 years and, if so, how can we ensure our voices are heard?

Plans being formulated now may take many years to come to fruition, so it is important to have a clear vision for Warrandyte in partnership with governments, agencies and departments.

External pressures such as building a ring road link between the Western Ring Road and East Link and the outcomes of the Bushfire Royal Commission due in late August may well have direct, and perhaps detrimental, implications for the development of the township. But no matter what is planned it is to be hoped that an open and transparent planning process is always employed when decisions are being made so that local people can have their say. As in the past there is a need to be vigilant, strong and determined. Otherwise one day all that we value could be gone.

Community ignored on tower protests

I live in Warrandyte and always thought I was so lucky to have a town with so much beauty and uniqueness. But this is soon to be an illusion for we are ruled by Manningham councillors.

I thought we were in a lucky country where your voice mattered. However in Russia they probably have more say and we know they have more rules on mobile towers in community sensitive areas. By this I mean an area near schools, preschools, elderly citizens and more. In Switzerland they also have this ruling. In France they pull down towers near schools.

How can Australian federal law be so behind when vast scientific evidence shows the warning dangers of mobile towers.

I am not against progress, for mobile technology is part of our future. But I am against this type of tower (old, outdated technology) being put in this spot. Do you know, fellow locals, it will only cover a 1km radius? So where is the next one to be put?

When we designed our clinic, we tried to design it to fit

into Warrandyte. I had one objection and had to redesign the whole car park and the landscaping to get council approval. Yet the tower had not only over 220 written objections but 1225 signatures on a petition and 502 on face book against the proposed tower. Not one was listened to. Vodafone will not compromise or work with the community to find a proper solution at all. I have no respect or faith in town planning now.

To make things worse, the voice of Warrandyte has been ignored by the people we trusted in council. The council vision is for "a safe, healthy and attractive place".

So we as a community have no choice. If we want to get a chance to stop the tower now we have to take it to VCAT. If anyone has any legal knowledge to help with this, please contact me or others on the action group.

In my opinion this has not been dealt with at all fairly or responsibly by Vodafone or the council.

Maedy Colenso
Warrandyte

Disappointed on tower decision

I am writing to express the disappointment felt by Warrandyte residents as Manningham council chose to ignore the voice of the community.

In the face of over 200 written objections, a 1200-strong petition and an attendance in excess of 200 passionate objectors at the information evening, councillors voted in favour of a new Vodafone mobile phone tower for Warrandyte.

Indeed, "disappointment" is certainly an understatement as one could easily add "shocked", "dismayed", and "appalled" to the list of words describing the local mood.

Of course the Warrandyte community has not given in and will mount a campaign for VCAT and the press, but

perhaps councillors should remember how, and indeed why they came to be elected.

Community concerns were blatantly ignored as an annual revenue of \$15,000 to council and an improved communication network radius of one kilometre, is all it took to convince councillors that an additional mobile phone tower to be housed adjacent to the main street (which will emit electromagnetic radiation 24 hours a day, close to a kindergarten, primary school and several junior sporting clubs) is in the "public interest".

What is the point of local council if not to hear and act according to the perceptions of the community at large?

Michelle Pini
Lynette Avenue

Last train to Warrandyte

A call about state government's recently released Bus Service Review from one of the *Diary's* young reporters set me thinking. The question was: what did I think of the state government's recently released bus review? The answer was: Not much. But further questions arise. Can buses alone meet Warrandyte's transport needs—and how does that fit with the needs of Melbourne as a whole?

In fairness to government planners there are only limited options for improvement in Warrandyte's bus services. The essential problem is not lack of buses but lack of road-space. The congestion on the narrow sections of Yarra Street and elsewhere restrict both the frequency of buses and travelling times.

In reality, Warrandyte will not have adequate city-bound public transport until heavy rail—that is, a train service—comes to Manningham. Bringing rail through to Warrandyte is not an option, either economically or environmentally. Nor should it be. The absence of a rail link has been the major factor in protecting Warrandyte's semi-rural character, even as suburban sprawl has engulfed neighbouring precincts.

A major service to Doncaster, however, would provide high-volume city-bound service for Manningham's more densely populated areas as well as a connecting point for feeder routes to and from Warrandyte, Park Orchards

and Donvale. The resources currently deployed for city-bound bus services could then be redirected to efficient local feeder routes—and as more commuters take the train, more roadspace will be available for these services as well as for cross-town and orbital bus routes.

In transport planning, trains are a game-changer. Neither buses nor trams can match the capacity of heavy rail—up to five times that of trams and 20 that of a bus. The investment required for a rail line to Manningham will be sub-

In reality, Warrandyte will not have adequate city-bound public transport until heavy rail comes to Manningham.

stantial but it will be essential both for Manningham and Melbourne generally.

The persistent advance of global warming and diminishing world oil supplies means Melbourne will soon need to rapidly reduce dependence on cars and fossil-fuel energy generally. Electric cars and much smaller cars will play a useful role but an efficient city-wide rail system will be essential for any city the size of Melbourne to remain viable.

Melbourne was built around its rail system, the most extensive in the world when it was constructed in the 1890s.

Through the car-dominated postwar decades, public transport was relegated to an auxiliary role. We are now entering an era when it will of necessity be again the principal transport mode.

The idea of a rail line to Doncaster (or East Doncaster in some projections) was always part of those early plans. More recently, it was subject of a detailed plan in 1969 and legislated in 1971 when the Victorian parliament passed the Eastern Railway Construction Act.

Construction began in 1972, but by the end of the decade the government and both major parties seemed to have lost their enthusiasm. Recent decades are a record of indecision. Major earthworks were undertaken in 1972 to link the Clifton Hill track to the median strip of the new Eastern Freeway—only to be filled in just two years later. Several properties were acquired in 1975 only to be sold off in the 1980s. The concept was briefly resurrected by then transport minister Peter Spyker in 1991 but once again the project was shelved. Even now, the current Victorian Transport Plan manages an oblique and fleeting mention of the Doncaster line as "a long term option that needs to be addressed". In other words: still there, still just a mirage on the horizon.

It is easy with the wisdom of hindsight to see the non-existence of Doncaster rail as a failure of vision. What is more important now is to

dear diary

Letters to the *Diary* on local topics are welcome. All letters—including emails—must include the writer's full name, address and phone number, even if not intended for publication. Letters may be edited for reasons of style, length or legality. Letters can be posted to: Warrandyte Diary, PO Box 209, Warrandyte Vic 3113. 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.

recapture the vision without further delay. The game is different now. The exigencies of Peak Oil and Global Warming demand a recalculation of the cost/benefit of high capacity public transport. Granted, energy will still be required to power trains (and buses) but the relative energy efficiencies of public transport make it one of the most significant things a city can do to meet the challenges of what will be a very different world.

Manningham is the only Melbourne municipality without a train service. It is in the interests of both the municipality and the greater city to fill this gap. It will be immediately useful—and ultimately essential.

David Ellis
Tills Drive

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



Pokies are moving out

By SANDY BURGOYNE

Poker machines will be removed from the Grand Hotel in two years time. Warrandyte Football Club, which runs Club Warrandyte at the pub, has decided not to take part in the current auction of entitlements to run the machines from 2012.

"We don't feel we can compete with the big boys," Phil Treeby, president of the football club, told the *Diary*.

The auction process is part of the state government's restructuring of the gaming industry now Tattersalls and Tabcorp have lost their duopoly control.

Venues wanting to continue with their pokies after 2012 must file a monetary bid for each of their machines then wait to see if they have been

successful.

Club Warrandyte considers it is not worth continuing with the 27 machines it has run at the Grand Hotel since 2000.

"They haven't been a success for the club. If the machines were a raging financial success it would be harder to divorce ourselves from them.

"We know they are not a financial success as the community doesn't support them. ... There is a very limited clientele in Warrandyte," Phil Treeby said.

Club Warrandyte now has two years to plan for life without poker machines and pub entertainment may return.

"We will focus on meals and service and become a cosy, semi-rural hotel serving

the community," Mr Treeby said.

"There have been constraints with Club Warrandyte because of the licences associated with the gaming and the sign in/sign out. That has made it more difficult to operate the bistro and ... entertainment."

Former local resident Gabriela Byrne is delighted with Club Warrandyte's decision.

"I would like to congratulate the management for making that decision and I hope that it is the beginning of what a club or hotel should be ... a community hub," she told the *Diary*.

Ms Byrne is the principal of Chrysalis Insight, a not-for-profit organisation that works to lessen the destructive effects of problem gambling.

Poker machines: how the community reacted

The *Diary* has followed the fortunes of poker machines in Warrandyte over the years.

1993 May: Five Tattersall machines open in the public bar at the Grand Hotel, with the remainder of the allocation due later.

1994 May: The remaining 22 machines arrive: five stayed in the public bar and the others are located in the new gaming room next to the bistro.

1998 March: Tattersalls withdraws poker machines from the Grand Hotel because of insufficient patronage.

1998 June: Plans announced for Club Warrandyte, a joint venture between the Grand Hotel and Warrandyte Football Club

1998 October: In a letter to the editor Gabriela Byrne describes her recovery from addiction to poker machine gambling and her dismay at their return to Warrandyte.

1998 December: Report that Club Warrandyte, the joint venture of the Grand Hotel with Warrandyte football club is "a year away".

1999 June: Front page story that 27 Tabaret poker

machines will be installed at the Grand Hotel. Club Warrandyte pledges that other local sporting groups will also benefit from the profits.

1999 August: Story of community backlash on the return of the poker machines. Several negative responses noted including from Warrandyte Community Church and a member of the local basketball club.

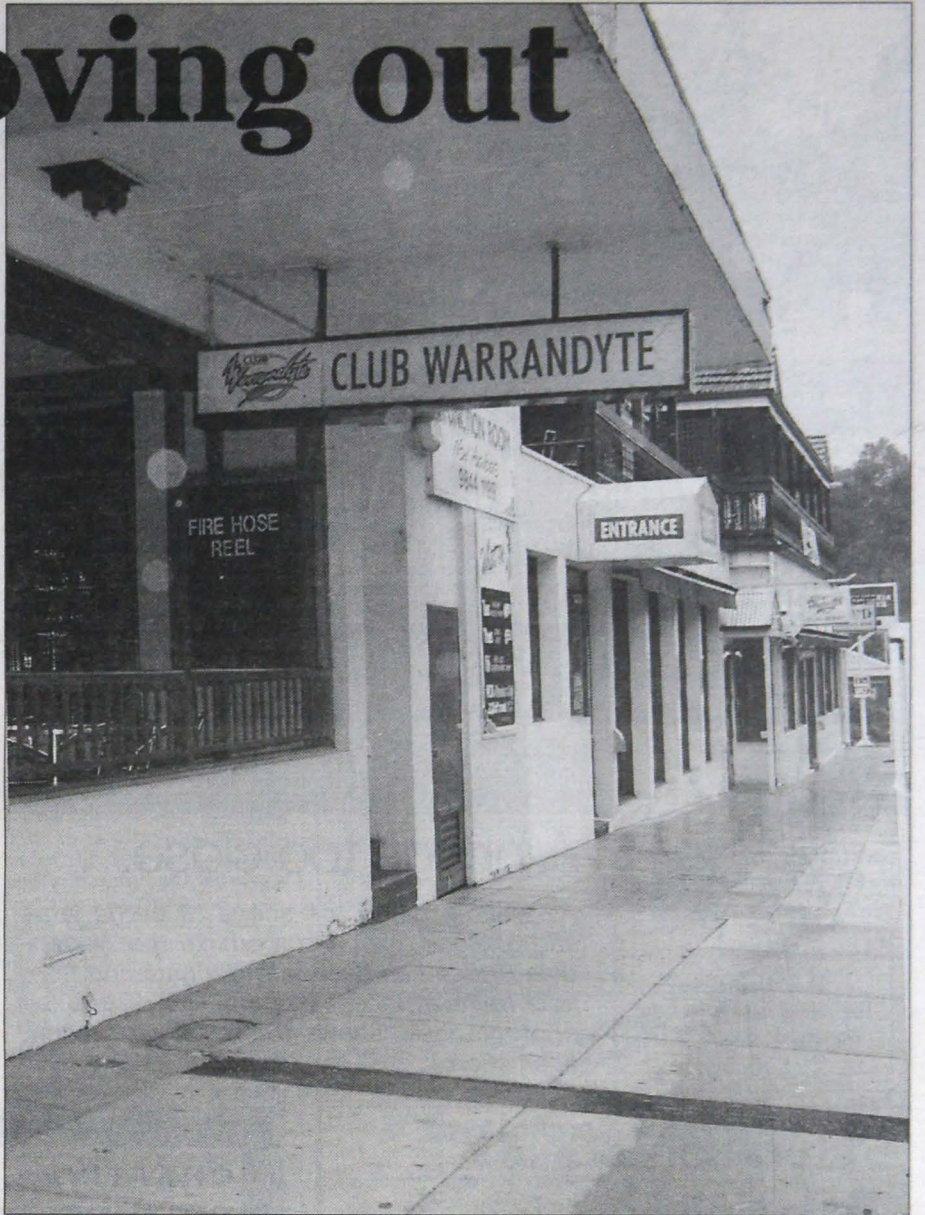
1999 September: Letters to the editor against the return of the poker machines, including a poignant story of gambling addiction and a resulting suicide from Karen Throssell.

1999 October: Report that 500 locals sign a petition to keep poker machines out of Warrandyte. Many local organisations become associates of Club Warrandyte, but the basketball club and junior football club decline the invitation.

2000 February: The return of the poker machines to the pub's gaming room is imminent.

2000 March: A letter to the editor proposing a protest against pokies as part of the Festival parade.

2000 May: The poker machines have returned to the pub and patronage is similar to the previous level.



Not such a grand idea: Pokies are to go from Warrandyte's Grand Hotel. (Picture by Sandy Burgoyne)

Plans for youth activities



By KARLY HICKMAN

New programs for young people are coming to Warrandyte.

Manningham YMCA is extending their youth leadership programs to our area, offering local young people a diverse range of exciting events and activities.

A series of new community based activities will be introduced over the next year including VCE arts, hip-hop and break dancing, surf and snowboarding programs.

"This is an exciting opportunity for young people in Warrandyte to enhance their experiences and build their leadership skills," YMCA Manningham's Heidi Buhner told the *Diary*.

Youth leadership groups will be created in Warrandyte, in which young team members will work with a YMCA youth program worker and group mentors in the development and management of activities.

"This gives young people the chance to develop their leadership skills from go to whoa," Ms Buhner said.

In addition to these activities, Manningham YMCA, with the support of the Warrandyte Community Centre, is launching the Warrandyte Acoustic "Freeza Unplugged" sessions. These sessions aim to provide local youth and bands with an opportunity to perform in front of a live audience and profile the best of local music.

The acoustic "Freeza Unplugged" sessions will provide a forum for like-minded music lovers to connect and showcase their talent in a supportive environment. The first Freeza event will be held on Friday, May 14 from 7pm to 10pm at the Warrandyte Community Centre. It will showcase bands The Miracle Is Now, Nick Anderson and Crasland. The event is for all ages and will be drug and alcohol free.

YMCA Manningham is currently seeking mentors to help lead and facilitate groups of young people, particularly those who have an interest in the above program areas. "YMCA programs give young people the opportunity to expand their horizons, learn new skills through training and education, all the while with a focus on community belonging and participation," said Emily Greco.

Emily has been a youth program coordinator for such bushfire-affected communities as St Andrews and Yarra Glen. She got involved with YMCA when she participated seven years ago in a National Youth Parliament Leadership program on offer in her area. "Since then, I have been involved in countless YMCA programs as a participant, a mentor, and later as a program coordinator, making lifelong friends along the way.

"YMCA programs work so well in rural or semi-rural areas as they have a strong focus on people, families and communities: all the things that are usually the backbone of these towns already." Ms Greco cited working with bushfire-affected people as a highlight of her time with YMCA, as visible outcomes of her work could be seen.

The YMCA mobile youth bus will be a permanent fixture at each month's Warrandyte Market. The bus will be located at the Warrandyte Community Church from 7am to 1pm and will offer a range of fun activities, including Nintendo Wii.

● For more information on the Freeza Acoustic Music sessions contact Lachlan Campbell on 9848 5400 or lachlan.campbell@ymca.org.au or for more information on the youth leadership groups contact Chloe Godau on 9848 5400 or chloe.godau@ymca.org.au.

Reserve projects approved

The Senior Citizens Centre is to be refurbished as part of Manningham council's plan for Warrandyte Reserve.

Following extensive community consultation, council has released its final plan for the reserve.

"We received 20 comments and submissions (on the project) and these assisted in guiding the final plan," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

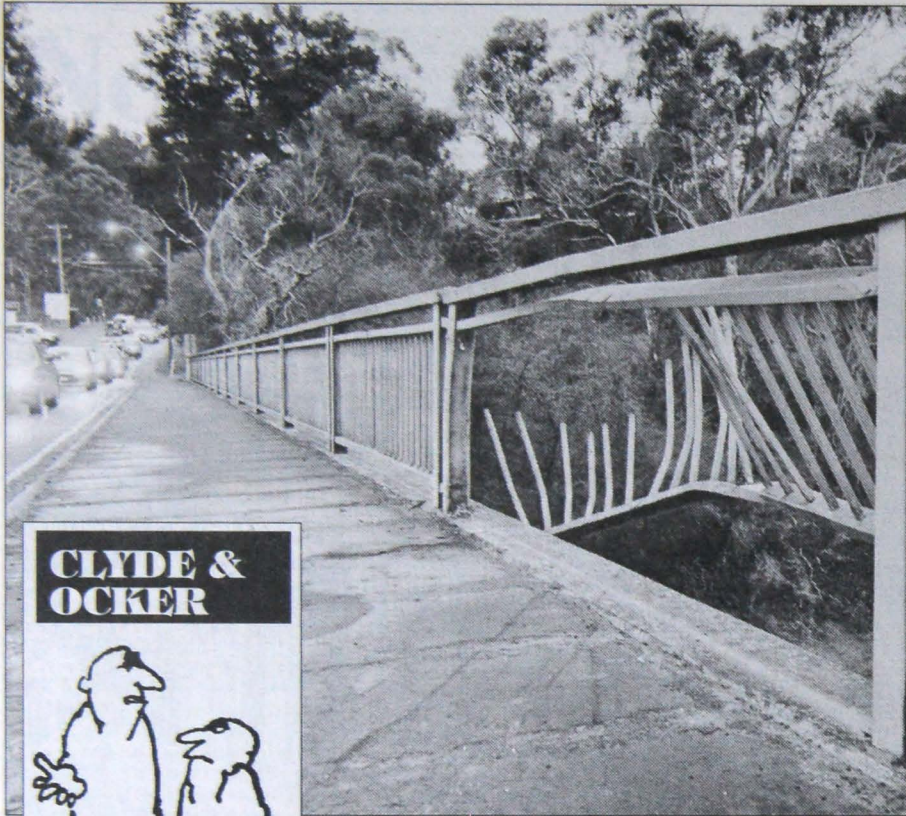
Other key recommendations include the redevelopment of the sports pavilion to accommodate the junior and senior football clubs and the netball and cricket clubs. Floodlighting on both ovals and the netball courts will be upgraded.

The plan specifies supporting the Main Yarra Trail link from Beasleys Nursery to Warrandyte township, using Tarroona Avenue, the installation of a storm-water harvesting system and an emergency storage tank beside the oval.

Also included in the plan is the controversial telecommunications tower "following the necessary planning approvals".

The extension of the small oval, line marking of the car park beside the skatepark and interim planning for the pavilion redevelopment have already taken place.

The total budget for the project is \$2,458,800. "The plan has not (yet) been budgeted for in council's five year capital works program," the spokesperson said.



CLYDE & OCKER



"They're re-routing the Variety Bash across the Warrandyte Bridge, Ock!"

A bridge too close...

As well as being the scene of traffic jams and gridlock night and morning, the Warrandyte Bridge has been taking a battering from irate traffic in recent months. Our picture (by photographski) shows the result of a recent altercation.

Green 'grants'

Local community groups are being invited to apply for grants for small projects thanks to \$10 million being made available through the state government's \$23 million climate communities program.

State MP for Yan Yean, Danielle Green, said the government was committed to assisting grass roots community efforts to meet the challenge of climate change.

"I encourage community groups to work with local networks—including councils, business, schools and service groups—to identify practical sustainable local projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions," Ms Green said.

Projects may include retrofitting a community hall to reduce energy use, establishing a shared transport scheme, such as a bike hire cooperative, or introducing an energy cooperative to trial a new clean technology.

The program will consider new projects that meet one or more of the key objectives: reduce emissions; build community resilience by adaptation to climate change; and trial and/or promote new processes or technologies to help tackle climate change.

● Individual residents and community groups can obtain further information from www.climatecommunities.vic.gov.au/grants.

Cash splash on local projects

Improvements to the streetscape along Yarra Street in Warrandyte are scheduled within the Manningham council capital works draft budget, announced recently.

Council has pledged to spend \$240,000 in Yarra Street in the coming financial year.

Other local projects to benefit include upgrades of Jumping Creek Road in Warrandyte and Wonga Park and Park Road in Park Orchards.

The 100 Acres bushland reserve in Park Orchards will share in \$480,000 allocated to parks and open spaces in the municipality and \$310,000 million will be spent on landscaping, furniture and pathways in Wonga Park.

Following the Black Saturday bushfires, works to reduce fire hazards in local parks and on roadsides have been allocated \$310,000 in the draft budget.

● Manningham's draft budget is now on exhibition for community comment at the civic offices in Doncaster Road, Manningham libraries and on the website: www.manningham.vic.gov.au.

Nillumbik No. 1

An environmental recovery program, activated by Nillumbik council following the disastrous Black Saturday bushfires, has won the Victorian premier's sustainability award in the local government category.

Nillumbik mayor, Cr Ken King, said the award was deserving recognition of the hard work led by a small, dedicated team of officers, working under the most overwhelming of circumstances.

"The impact of the bushfires on the local community and environment was devastating," Cr King told the *Diary*. "The recovery project has been supporting people to rehabilitate their homes and land."

A council spokesperson said that, "in particular, three local Landcare groups at Christmas Hills, Strathewen and St Andrews have been an integral part of the project, offering advice and support to landowners about how to best manage their land following the fires."

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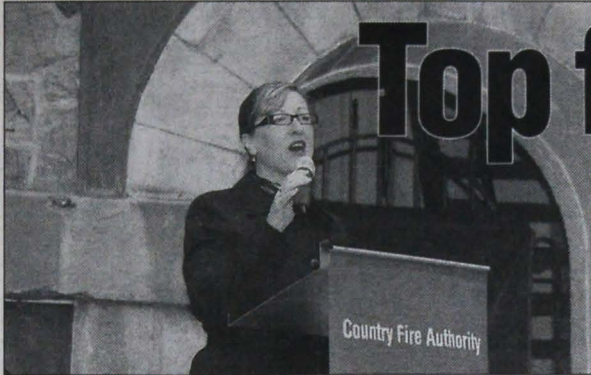
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Top fire lookout



Danielle Green opens the refurbished tower.



Unveiling the plaque.



Firespotters cabin sits atop the tower.

Words and pictures by SANDY BURGOYNE

Fire spotters have used the top of the Tower of Remembrance on Garden Hill at Kangaroo Ground for decades to spot and track bushfires.

State MP for Yan Yean, Danielle Green, officially opened the upgraded fire-spotting facility last month.

"On Black Saturday, the tower operator kept fire crews, the regional emergency coordination centre and incident control centre informed during the Kilmore East fires," Danielle Green told the *Diary*.

"The fire spotter was also one of the first to report the Murrindindi fire on the same day."

"It's here because of the view," Nillumbik mayor Ken King said in his address. He was making the point that, at an elevation of 234 metres, the tower provides not only a panoramic view for tourists, but also an important viewpoint for early detection of bushfire activity.

The municipalities covered by the view from the tower include Nillumbik, Manningham, Banyule, Maroondah, plus parts of Yarra Ranges, Knox, Murrindindi and Whittlesea.

The earliest fire spotters worked from the top of the tower. An enclosed shelter was built there in 1974 and after more than 30 years of service it was in need of a major upgrade.

The architects for the up-

grade had the responsibility of designing a modern workspace for the fire-spotters with an exterior that would harmonise with the 12 metre high memorial tower.

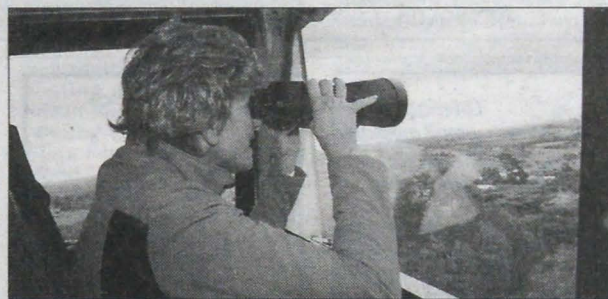
The tower is constructed of brick, basalt blocks and reinforced concrete and is faced with a sandstone rubble veneer and concrete quoins and dressings. The edifice was completed in 1926 after many years of public effort to provide a fitting memorial to the men of Eltham shire who died in World War I.

The upgraded cabin has many improvements on the original fire-spotters' shelter. It is fitted with air-conditioning and has both floor and roof access with a harness point. The new windows are fitted at 13 degrees to the vertical, to prevent reflection. A new VHF radio repeater has been installed to boost radio communications.

This upgrade cost \$294,000. The state government provided the bulk of the money with contributions from neighbouring municipalities.

The Diamond Creek, Hurstbridge and Kinglake community branches of the Bendigo Bank donated \$22,000 for the purchase of a back-up generator.

Representatives from CFA management and local brigades, Manningham and Nillumbik councils, community groups and the memorial tower advisory committee attended the ceremony.



A visitor checks the view.

On guard against fire

By SANDY BURGOYNE

Many new Community Fireguard groups (CFGs) have formed in the district in the past year: eight in Warrandyte, three in North Warrandyte and one in Wonga Park.

"These are not just phone trees," Helen Wositzky, Community Fireguard coordinator for CFA Yarra area, told the *Diary*.

"All new CFG groups must complete the Core Program Topics. This takes at least four meetings with a trained CFG facilitator. It is important for the success of the group that members actively participate in the learning and education about bushfire safety."

Joy Dahl, coordinator of the newly formed Northenders CFG, has been associated with the CFA Fireguard movement for many years and believes that education is an essential part of the process.

"We've had the full core program," she told the *Diary*.

"The (CFG) education process is ... highly interactive. It is not being preached at. It is not a street meeting, where you stand on the corner and discuss generalities. You go into deep detail; about personal safety, about your own specific area around your backyard, and your neighbour's backyard and the six or eight neighbours next to each other."

Members of the Northenders are part of the large Pound Road group that has several telephone trees. Although still associated with that group they wanted to work more closely with their immediate neighbours.

"We wanted to focus more on education and joint efforts with our neighbours, rather than the telephone tree itself. This

is a really important point for Community Fireguard," Ms Dahl said.

The genesis of the new Lorraine Avenue group is quite different to that of the Northenders, as none of the members had experience of the Fireguard process.

"We might be the newest group you speak to," coordinator Gail Wilkinson said.

"We've had the four training sessions and from that we are developing an email system so that anyone interested in being on it can be, so that they can get newsletters and updates from the CFA. In spring we are going to have another meeting and then try to build up the numbers from there."

The Lorraine Avenue group was started from scratch in the wake of last year's disastrous bushfires.

"A few of the neighbours were quite concerned and wanted more information from the CFA about how to prepare their houses. So I just put my hand up to make the initial contact and to start the ball rolling and to have the meetings at our house," Ms Wilkinson said.

"I did a letter drop of about 40 houses inviting them to the first meeting and then for the subsequent meetings I just did a letter drop with the dates of the meetings."

Gail Wilkinson contacted the CFA and a facilitator was appointed to lead the members through the Fireguard core sessions.

"The CFA facilitator was excellent," Ms Wilkinson said.

"There is a set program that they go through. There is an introduction, where

they talk about fire behaviour and show you some videos.

"Another meeting was on personal safety, so on how you might react yourself in an emergency, right down to having cotton clothes not synthetic and boots and putting together clothes at the start of the season for everyone in the household. So that you were quite clear whether you were planning to stay or (if) you accidentally got caught at home when there was a fire you had at hand appropriate clothing to put on," she told the *Diary*.

"Another one of the meetings was on house survival that started from very basic things you can do even if you are not planning to be there. What you can do on bad days and what you can do at the beginning of summer, like moving all your firewood down to the back of the block not under your veranda; simple things from clearing out your gutter to clearing the block."

Northender members, although they were associated with a larger CFG, also gained from the core training program.

"One of the most important things we learned is that we need a backup plan. We need a plan for protecting ourselves in our own house or a neighbour's house in case our first option falls through."

"People who felt they were safe because they knew what they were going to do suddenly had a few question marks on that certainty," Ms Dahl said.

Further information on joining or starting a Community Fireguard group should contact the CFG office for the Yarra Area on 8739 1300, or email: yarra-summerprograms@cfa.vic.gov.au.

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One pot path to heaven

A cookery book created by two locals has hit the market. Entitled *One Pot Screammers* it is just that: a collection of low cost meals that can be cooked in one pot.

Written by Warrandyte mum Dee Dickson, with help from journalist Scott Podmore, the book offers, "fuss free, nutritious, slip into one pot, into one oven, onto many plates, into one dishwasher dinners".

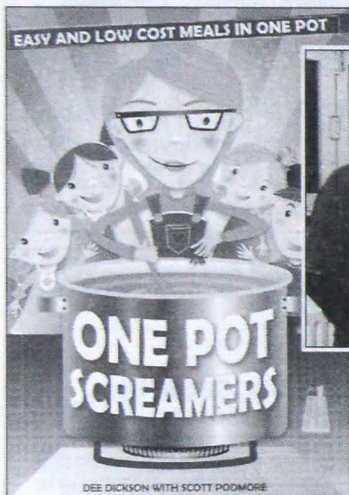
Dee is not a qualified chef, she is a mum with four fussy kids and a hungry husband. She has cooked her way through 100s of one-pot meals to bring you this collection of 40 family and friend-tested recipes in a compact little book of 80 pages.

Long-time friend and fellow Warrandytian, Scott Podmore,

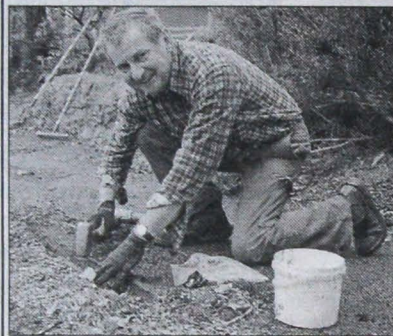
has helped her pull the book together and throws in a few crack-up comments on some of the recipes. He says about Dee's slow cooked lamb shanks: "...as long as it's served at your house, the children may never want to leave home. Ever."

Jan Tindale, the *Diary's* kitchen correspondent, has tested some of these recipes and has declared them easy to prepare, varied and tasty. According to Jan, it's "just what Dee says it is in her introduction".

● *One Pot Screammers* should be available from your favourite bookshop. Call Wilkinson Publishing on 9654 5446 or visit www.wilkinsonpublishing.com.au for further information.



Dee Dickson and Scott Podmore



Toilers in the garden

They worked long and hard, these valiant toilers in the Warrandyte Community Centre garden one Saturday last month, spreading mulch, pruning trees and trimming shrubs. The working bee was organised by the WCC Supporters Group, under the direction of Bev Hanson, who designed the garden in 1991. The day wound up with a barbecue and a few bottles of wine.

Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS



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Music back at RSL

out of the inbox

By JUDY GREEN

Live music is back at the Warrandyte RSL. The season kicks off on Sunday, May 16—4pm to 7.30pm—with the rich sounds of "Aroha". Bar snacks are available. There is no cover charge but donations will be most appreciated. The RSL clubrooms are in Brackenbury Street, just up from Mitchell Avenue.

Information

Information Warrandyte is seeking your help as a volunteer. The group, with its office in the Warrandyte Community Centre in Yarra Street, provides tourist information as well as information about benefits, pensions, concessions, legal matters, tax help, courses, events etc. If anyone can spare three hours a week, either between 10am and 1pm or 1pm and 4pm, it would be most appreciated. Training is available but not compulsory. For more information call 9844 3082 or email contact@inform.ationwarrandyte.org.au.

Conversation

The next Community Conversation at St Stephen's Anglican Church, Stiggant Street, Warrandyte, will deal with access for the physically and mentally disabled. The speaker is psychiatrist Dr David Hickingbotham. Sunday, June 6 is the date, 11.15 the time. All welcome. No charge.

Vaccines

Nillumbik Community Health Service is providing free swine influenza vaccinations for people over six months of age, who live, work or study in Nillumbik. The vaccinations will take place on Saturday, May 29. Appointments are necessary. Call 9430 9138 or 9430 9124.

Unplugged

Manningham YMCA is launching its acoustic "Freeza Unplugged" sessions in Warrandyte on Friday, May 14 between 7pm and 10pm at the Warrandyte Community Centre, corner of Yarra and Webb streets. The sessions will provide local young bands with an opportunity to perform in front of a live audience. Bands will include The Miracle Is Now, Nick Anderson and Crashland. All ages welcome at this drug and alcohol free



Grooving under the Blue Light

Out on the road, flashing blue lights can mean trouble. But at a Blue Light Disco they just mean fun! Warrandyte Police held their first Blue Light Disco for almost five years one Friday last month at the Warrandyte Football Clubrooms. About 150 grade 4 to 6 kids rocked up "and had a great time".

The disco was organised by Warrandyte Police, with the help of local parent volunteers. Sergeant Walker from Warrandyte Police said he was thrilled to see his young staff running the regular disco again and hoped it would continue to grow in its popularity with local children.

The next disco is planned for Friday, May 28 between 7 and 10pm at the same venue. \$6 entry.

● Enquiries through Warrandyte Police Station: 9844 3231.

event. Further information from lachlan.campbell@ymca.org.au or phone 9848 5400.

Singers

The Bellbird Singers—a choir of singers in their 50s and 60s—is seeking more support in their tenor and bass sections. No auditions required, just come along to the Uniting Church in Tarooma Avenue, Warrandyte at 8pm on Mondays and give it a try. For further information call Lise on 9844 2553 or 0403 310 857.

Antarctic

Brett Free will be discussing his expedition to the Antarctic at the next Manningham Environment Seminar to be held at Currawong Bush Park (Melway 34:H6) on Wednesday, June 2. Admission is free, no bookings required, supper provided. For details of time and further information call 9840 4405.

Composting

Following International Composting Awareness Week, Nillumbik Shire Council is running a Composting and Worm Farm workshop at the "Food Farm" in St Andrews (Melway 394:J11) on Saturday, May 15 from 10am to 12 noon. Cost is \$15. Bookings are essential. Call 9433 3744.

Iolanthe

The Diamond Valley Singers and the Eltham Community Orchestra are presenting Gilbert and Sullivan's "Iolanthe" at the Warrandyte High School during July. Evening shows will be at 8pm on Friday, July 2, Saturday, July 3, Wednesday, July 7, Friday, July 9 and Saturday, July 10. Matinees will be presented at 2pm on Saturday, July 3, Sunday, July 4 and Saturday, July 10. Bookings can be made on www.trybooking.com/DRY, or by phone on 9439 7843.



artyfacts

Exhibition

Warrandyte artist Walter Magilton currently has an exhibition at the Chapel on Station Gallery, corner of Station Street and Ellingworth Parade, Box Hill. Walter, winner of the People's Choice award at the 2009 Religious Art Prize has entitled his show "All Things Bright and Beautiful". Gallery hours are Tuesday to Friday: 11.30am to 3pm; Saturday: 1pm to 4pm and Sunday: 4.30pm to 7pm. The exhibition closes on Wednesday, May 19.

Watercolours

"Down the Chute" is the title of an exhibition of watercolours by local artist Tony Northover, currently on display at the Vines Cafe, 11 Chute Street, Diamond Creek. Paintings will be hung until Sunday, May 30.

Birdlife

"The Life of Birds" exhibition by emerging artist John Alexopolous is on at the Eltham Library Community Gallery, commencing with a celebration on Thursday, May 20 from 1pm to 3pm. The gallery is open Tuesday to Thursday 10am to 8.30pm, Friday and Saturday 10am to 5pm and Sunday 1pm to 5pm. Further information on 9433 3359 or artsinfo@nillumbik.vic.gov.au.

Stonehouse

The current exhibition at Stonehouse Gallery—103 Yarra Street, Warrandyte—is entitled "Threads of Diversity". Seven textile artists have united to create a colourful, inspirational exhibition of wearable artworks including wraps, scarves, gloves and handbags, all using felting techniques. Wall paintings and hangings are also on display. The gallery—situated in the former Gospel Chapel—is open daily between 10am and 5pm.

Sale

The Warrandyte Mechanics Institute and Arts Association is conducting a bargain sale of pottery and paintings at the Mechanics Institute Hall, corner Yarra Street and Mitchell Avenue, Warrandyte on Sunday, May 23 from 10am to 4pm.

Prize

Nillumbik Shire Council, in conjunction with Montsalvat, is calling for entries for the 2010 Nillumbik Prize. This prestigious award is a non-acquisitive prize of \$5000 for a work of excellence in any media. Two commendations and a People's Choice award of \$500 each will also be made. The judge for 2010 is Daniel Moynihan. Closing date for entries is Friday, May 21 at 5pm.

Arts

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

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COREY'S COMMUNITY

By SYD & ONA



The gardener from Warrandyte

By CLIFF GREEN

MARK Bence, fifth generation Warrandyte resident, who climbed to the top of the landscaping tree in Australia, has died, following a nine-month struggle with leukaemia. He was 50.

A principal in the firm Semken Landscaping, Mark Bence, with his business partner Martin Semken, took the first Australian garden to the Chelsea Flower Show in London in 2004. Their display garden, Australian Inspiration, won a silver-gilt medal and wide acclaim.

The following year Julian Dowle, doyen of British garden designers, invited the Semken team back to London to construct his last show garden. This garden won a gold medal, best-in-show award and was the BBC people's choice; a record in the 91-year history of the show.

An annual constructor's award was created at this year's Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show in Mark's honour.

Mark Andrew Bence—a direct descendant of Tom Logan, who came to Warrandyte in search of gold in 1852—was born in Box Hill on March 23, 1960. His parents were Bruce and Wilma Bence. Wilma's father, Bill Hussey, ran the horse-drawn drag that was Warrandyte's connection to the world, running to Ringwood and to Templestowe and Heidelberg.

The youngest in his family, Mark lived his entire life in Warrandyte, growing up with his brother Stephen and sister Barbara; enjoying the bush and the river and everything this wonderful place had to offer a boy.

He attended Warrandyte Primary School, just over the road from his home in Brackenbury Street, and went on to Norwood High School. Here he met two knock-about mates—Martin Semken and

Rob Ewart—who were to become closely entwined in the life that followed.

Mark wasn't a top scholar. There was too much happening in the bush and the school ground. But he knew all about hard physical work. His father Bruce Bence had grown up on a dairy farm in South Werribee and spent many weekends working with his father-



Mark Bence

in-law on his rough bush property in South Warrandyte. Mark and his brother Stephen were soon part of this team.

Mark achieved his Higher School Certificate in 1977 and took up a fitting and turning apprenticeship. Meanwhile his mate Martin had become a gardening apprentice with Ringwood council. Martin was quick to seize the opportunity for private weekend work—cutting lawns, lopping trees, mulching gardens—and brought Mark in as a willing and hard-working assistant.

An engineering trade was not for Mark. He joined Telecom as a sales trainee, and was soon managing

their shop in Greensborough. He also trained sales personnel. But Telecom was being privatised, and Mark was becoming increasingly frustrated.

Meantime, Martin Semken had expanded his weekend gardening work into a fulltime business—Semken Landscaping. He had more work than he could handle and invited Mark to join him as a business partner.

Mark began a close relationship with Warrandyte girl Mandy Green while on holiday with mutual friends. They were both 16. They were married at Potters Cottage in 1983. Mark's other best mate—Rob Ewart—had married Mandy's sister Kathy a few weeks before.

Mandy was expecting Claire, their first child, when Martin asked Mark to join him in his fledgling landscaping business. They all knew the risk, Mark had a secure future as a Telecom executive, they had a mortgage, and Telecom was not going to offer Mark a package.

He joined Semken Landscaping as a full partner in 1988. "I sold half of Semken Landscaping to Mark for an old trailer and a slab of beer," Martin said later. "The trailer wasn't much good and Mark drank half the slab!"

In the early days, Mark and Martin took on all the jobs the other landscapers didn't want, often in the rocky hills around Warrandyte. They dug graves by hand at Andersons Creek Cemetery working in places machines couldn't reach. Unable to afford machinery, and wary of taking on debt, they did everything by hand. They didn't even own a concrete mixer for several years, mixing all their "mud" in a wheelbarrow. Mark completed a horticulture certificate at Burnley by night school, and slowly but surely the business grew and prospered. "I ran the jobs, Mark ran the company," Martin said.



Martin Semken (left) and Mark Bence at their second multi-award winning Chelsea show garden.

Mark's favourite work was planning and building the show gardens at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show. They won gold medals galore, and several best-in-show awards. So when someone suggested they take the first Australian garden to Chelsea, Mark jumped at it. Martin was not far behind. The rest is history.

Two more daughters—Veronica and Emma—had been born, Mark and Mandy were developing their property at the end of Anzac Road in South Warrandyte into a family home where everyone was welcome; where Mandy and their girls had their beloved dogs and horses—and life was good.

Mark played football as a young man, cricket as a veteran. He went skiing every year from 1978, in

later years venturing onto slopes in Canada and New Zealand.

He was an enthusiastic tennis player. Always prepared to contribute to his community—something he learned from his parents—he volunteered for the Warrandyte Tennis Club committee in 1993, and was first elected president in 1997 and again in 2006, serving a total of nine years in that position. Granted life membership, he took prime responsibility for the club's centenary celebrations in 2007.

Mark was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukaemia in June 2009. He died on March 26, 2010, three days after his 50th birthday. He is survived by Mandy, daughters Claire, Veronica and Emma, brother Stephen and sister Barbara and their families.

They've been good neighbours for three decades



Jean Chapman in the office of the old co-op.

THE history of the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House *From Mud-bricks to Manuscripts* also illustrates a much broader sweep of history across the decades.

From the feminism of the 1970s to the Kennett era in the 1990s to the present day, the book covers the House's history, its problems, decision making, highlights (and low-lights), together with background of the events that shaped them.

Written by one of the House's volunteers, Cherie Moselen, the book gives a voice and a context to the trials and tribulations faced by the coordinators and volunteers over the decades. The title reflects its diversity, referring to an early workshop in mud brick making to the present day popular writing classes.

Warrandyte's Neighbourhood House grew out of the earlier Warrandyte Workshop Community Cooperative in which two local stalwarts, Jean Chapman and Louise Joy played a major role. The co-op,

review

By VAL POLLEY

located on the old Getson's site (where the Community Centre now stands) rapidly became a major contributor to Warrandyte life, setting up a community child care centre, wood fuel and mud brick businesses.

In the 1980s more businesses were added, a youth coffee shop, Citizen's Advice Bureau and the Old Bakery. Then in 1988 came the first funding for a Neighbourhood House, which operated under the auspices of the co-op until its incorporation in 1990 and a move into the new Community Centre.

Cherie allows the story of the House to be told mainly through the words of the many volunteers and coordinators and gradually builds a picture of an organisation that has seen many changes and achievements over the period of its existence. It has survived a number of major shifts in policy, both internal and external and overcome

difficulties caused by illnesses or bereavement. The impression one is left with is that determination and perseverance have seen the House survive all manner of problems. It has not been afraid to embrace new ideas and trends such as new technology and been willing to adapt.

There have of course been changes in focus as coordinators and committees of management have changed. Today's coordinator Karen Throssell has been instrumental not only in providing services but in increasing the quality and number of classes and courses and providing strong support for a number of causes both local and global.

Supporting and empowering women in particular, widening their horizons and broadening their skills have been ongoing themes. It is a tribute to all the participants, coordinators and volunteers that the House is still going strong after 30 years and is looking forward to even more new challenges in the future.

The book opened with

Louise Joy and Jean Chapman, so it is fitting it ends with them as well. Jean expresses her regret about what she perceives as a less caring and interactive society whereas Louise is more upbeat arguing that the Neighbourhood House will continue to evolve and its core principles continue to provide a strong thread throughout its philosophical fabric.

The book provides a further slice of Warrandyte history with the Neighbourhood House at its centre. It is a handsome presentation with its colour cover and numerous photographs and watermarked pages (though I occasionally wished for a darker font). It is indeed a worthy addition to any Warrandyte bookshelf.

● Copies of the book *From Mud-bricks to Manuscripts: The evolution of the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House* can be obtained from the Neighbourhood House, upstairs in the Community Centre, Yarra Street, Warrandyte or by phoning 9844 1839. Cost is \$15 a copy.

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warrandyte (sms: REN689)

Prime location close to Goldfields Shopping Centre. Western red cedar home comprising lounge/dining, 4 bedrooms (main with ensuite), kitchen/family and separate rumpus room/home office. Expansive rear balcony with uninterrupted views to the east and ample rear garden.

auction



warrandyte north (sms: REN690)

Direct river access and room to expand. Situated on over an acre comprising 3 bedrooms, lounge/dining, kitchen/meals, downstairs family room and double carport.

auction

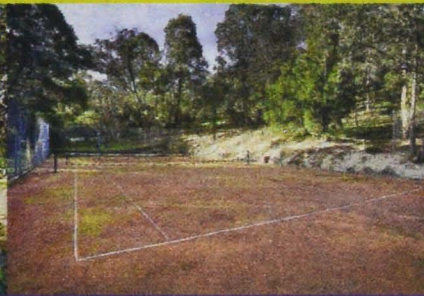
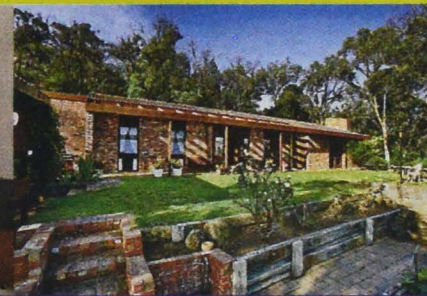


warrandyte north (sms: REN693)

More bedrooms than the 'Hilton', 2 storey timber home with loads of potential. Formal lounge/dining, 6 bedrooms, study and separate family room set on over an acre with expansive views to the east.

private sale

6 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2

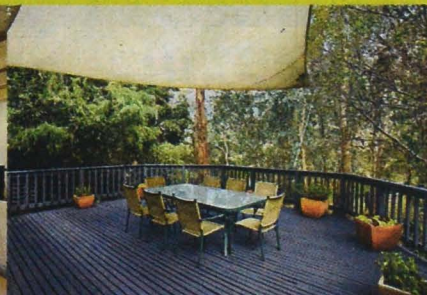


warrandyte north (sms: REN691)

Nestled on 4,542sqm (approx), this single level "homestead" style residence is located walking distance to the Yarra River. Filled with a charming allure and enhanced by Hawthorn bricks and Oregon timber, the home comprises 4 bedrooms plus study (main with ensuite), a lovely big lounge room with fireplace, formal dining, casual meals and traditional family kitchen. Drenched in natural light, the home includes double carport, tennis court and garden shed.

private sale

4 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2



warrandyte north (sms: REN680)

Providing the ultimate lifestyle, this Fasham Johnson built residence inspires a calm and relaxing ambience. Serviced by 5 bedrooms plus open study/parents retreat (master with walk-in-robe and updated ensuite). "Woodlee Dell" features formal and informal living options and is enhanced by an efficiently designed kitchen ideal for entertaining. Opening onto an entertainer's deck and pool, the home is nestled on 1 acre (approx) and is complemented by its natural environment.

private sale

5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0



warrandyte north (sms: REN673)

Positioned on 5385sqm (approx), this 3 bedroom plus study residence is enhanced by a solid mud brick/brick veneer construction. Appointed with an updated kitchen, fireside lounge, meals zone and sitting room with soaring triangular glazing and angled ceilings, the home features a separate billiard room, alarm, hydronic heating, double garage, water tank, wine cellar and pool. Includes expansive patio with glass balustrading, pizza oven and spectacular easterly views.

private sale

3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2



warrandyte north (sms: REN665)

Set on 5 acres (approx) with valley views, this lifestyle alternative is drenched in natural light and is complemented by timber lined ceilings, atrium-style water feature and full length windows. It includes 4 bedrooms, timber kitchen, casual meals and lounge room (coonara). Features inground pool, 4 car garage, ducted heating, polished floors, corner spa and garden water tanks.

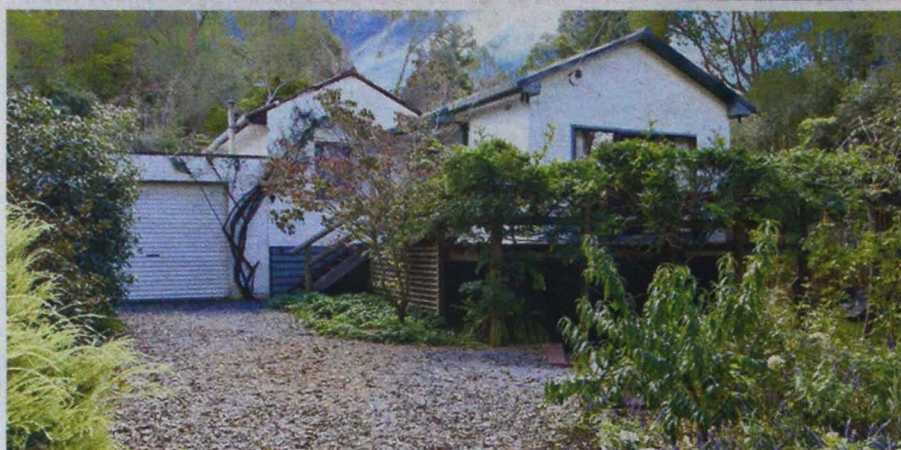
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Would suit buyers in the \$480,000 to \$500,000 range CONTACT: Glenn Martin 0427 852 806

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Nestled behind a high front fence is this three bedroom home situated in a prime location only a short walk to West End Shopping Centre, Andersons Creek Primary School, Warrandyte Football Ground, tennis courts, Yarra River and transport. This home features lounge/dining with door to timber balcony, kitchen/meals/family room with sliding door to covered timber deck and brick paved patio. Bathroom, three bedrooms, ducted heating, as well as a tandem double garage. All this on approx 1030sqm.

Would suit buyers in the \$480,000 to \$500,000 range CONTACT: Glenn Martin 0427 852 806

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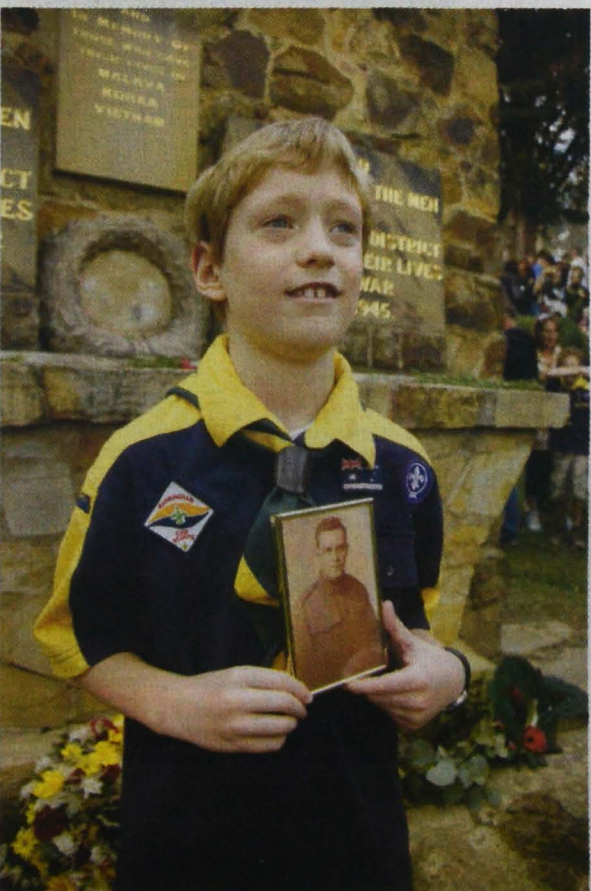
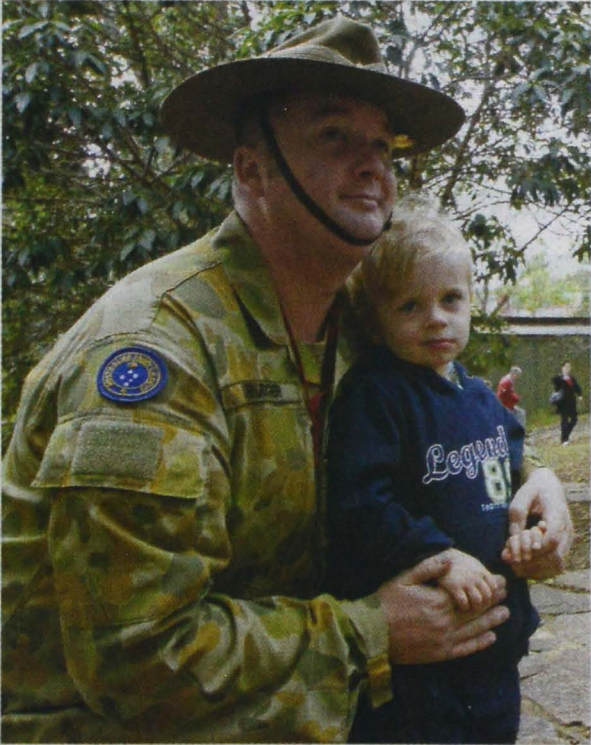
They came in memory

Eager young reinforcements swelled the dwindling ranks of the veterans at Warrandyte's Anzac Day commemoration last month.

A lone piper led the marchers, who made their way through the crisp early morning sunlight, along Yarra Street to the Memorial Grounds above the bridge.

Following a service at the war memorial on the hill, the crowd indulged in memories and enjoyed refreshments at the RSL clubrooms nearby.

Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS





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We became a voice for our community

IN the first months of 1971 the *Warrandyte Diary* continued with Cliff Green doing the editorial and production tasks and his wife Judy looking after the finances. They produced the *Diary* in a free-standing studio at the back of their house. Both Greens worked on the paper without payment — an example of volunteerism that continues in the newspaper today.

“Up until that point, (the *Diary*) had really been a newsletter. It had been a collection of contributions from the various organisations in the town, sort of published more or less as they wrote them with a little bit of editing”. However, that was about to change and the *Warrandyte Diary* would be launched on a career as a newspaper.

The Macquarie Dictionary defines a newsletter as an informal bulletin, as one circulating among people with a common interest, whereas a newspaper is a printed publication issued at regular intervals, usually daily or weekly, and commonly containing news, comment, features, and advertisements.

The National Library of Australia definition of a newspaper includes that the publication is printed on newsprint of A3 or larger; has at least four columns; the front page carries a masthead (the logo that appears at the top of the first page); is a primary source of written information about local, national and/or international current events and public affairs; and is aimed at a general readership.

These are useful pointers to what constitutes a newspaper, but probably the most important difference is the inclusion of hard news items backed by research and investigation.

In early 1971 Peter Lovett, an experienced journalist, knocked on Cliff Green's door and offered to help produce the *Diary*. The Lovett family's two eldest children were then members of the youth club. At that time Peter Lovett was the sports sub-editor with *The Herald*, Melbourne's afternoon daily that ceased production in 1990. He came from a family of journalists — his father Harry had been an editor of *The Argus* (a Melbourne daily that closed in 1957) and his brother (also Harry) went on to become news editor with ABC Radio in Melbourne.

Lovett brought a depth of journalistic knowledge to the *Diary*. At 16 he had started his working life as a copy boy at Australian United Press in Melbourne. While still a teen-

a town and its newspaper

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

ager he joined the Melbourne *Truth* then moved to Brisbane to work in the Sydney *Daily Mirror* office. He returned to Melbourne and soon after relocated to Adelaide with his wife Pat. Technically Lovett was the daily's sports reporter, but as he was the only representative in that city he also filed general news. In 1958 the Lovett family returned to Melbourne so that Peter could take up the position of sports sub-editor at the Melbourne *Herald*. His extensive experience in the newspaper industry had given him both technical and management expertise.

Lovett became the *Diary's* associate editor from the May 1971 issue. Cliff Green remembers the transition from newsletter to newspaper, “Peter said, ‘right now, we've got to do a proper front page, which means we've got to have a go at somebody’.” Peter Lovett believed that the *Diary* should run hard news as well as notifying of coming events and reporting on past community activities. His vision for the *Diary* included a redesign, to increase the page size and to make it look like a newspaper. “When Peter Lovett came on he was very keen that we should make it a newspaper and have real news in it and take positions on things and run front page headlines. And so we went with Willprint (the printer of that time) to the biggest page they could fit on their press,” Green remembers. From the issue of July 1971 the *Diary* increased in dimensions to 240x370mm (close to modern B4).

The change in the *Diary's* editorial direction is apparent in examining the front pages from 1971. The April issue lead story is an invitation to readers to help the meals on wheels scheme that had just commenced in Warrandyte. Whereas the front page of the May issue announces: “We seek our share of council ‘cake’”. The story questions why a rumoured

\$40,000 was to be spent on a sporting reserve in a neighbouring suburb of the Doncaster and Templestowe council, but a similar amount was not forthcoming for Warrandyte's inadequate youth and sporting facilities.

From this point instead of passive reporting of Warrandyte events the *Diary* editorial line changed to an examination of community issues. The appearance of the publication started to alter from issue five as soon as Lovett became associate editor. While Green was editing the *Diary* on his own he had relied upon a combined logo and heading to identify each community group's section in the paper. These logos gave the publication a newsletter appearance and did not fit with Lovett's vision for the fledgling newspaper. He started to replace them with proper headlines and by the December 1971 issue all the logos had gone and the *Diary* started to look like a newspaper.

Peter Lovett was a man of his community and served on the committee of the Warrandyte Football Club. “He was very community minded in getting involved. He wasn't one of these parents who just turned up and opened the door and tossed the kids out and said go and play cricket or footy. He'd want to get involved,” his son Michael remembers. Michael Lovett is also a journalist and is production editor of the *AFL Record* magazine.

Cliff Green was learning from Peter Lovett's method of writing a news story. “He showed me how to write a news story. How you pick up an introduction, a paragraph or sentence out of the real guts of the story. When you quote someone you are validating what you are saying and you go into the body of the story and then on it goes,” he remembers.

Perhaps inspired by his time with the *Truth* newspaper Lovett also brought some colourful tabloid techniques with him. “He certainly wasn't against turning a soft headline into a crisis. I learnt the trade very quickly from him,” Green says. Michael Lovett remembers that his father also used “words that by association would have connotations of drama, or incident, or scandal”.

Three years after he became associate editor Peter Lovett recruited another journalist into the *Diary* — Lee Tindale from North Warrandyte. Tindale worked in the Herald and Weekly Times building on Flinders Street, as the Melbourne representative of Perth's afternoon

THE WARRANDYTE
Diary
NUMBER 15 APRIL 1, 1972 FREE

DON'T HIDE AWAY, KIDS
GET INTO THE WARRANDYTE COMMUNITY YOUTH CLUB

Jock's Warrandyte

Council quiet on White House

* EDITORIAL

WHERE IS OUR COMMUNITY CENTRE?



Local residents are asking, "What has become of Warrandyte's proposed community centre?"

On the surface, so far as Warrandyte Diary can find out, nothing concrete.

It would appear the scheme is in danger of falling flat for want of a few thousand dollars.

The original location of Doncaster and Templestowe Council was to purchase the White House in Tarnora Ave. as temporary headquarters for the Community Youth Club and the

Warrandyte Elderly Citizens Club is still in need of a permanent home after many years of being...
In our sporting community both organisations are serving a need. The youth club, for example, is catering for many young people whose maintenance and being seen by other groups in the area.

Anyone doubting should look at the club's monthly sports night alone.

Compared to other areas in the City of Doncaster and Templestowe, Warrandyte appears to be missing a piece of the puzzle.

Council can not afford that as the district continues to develop, certainly there will be more pressure and property values start to rise.

In the White House proposal to become an other Warrandyte "white elephant"?

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Top jazzmen to play here

A group that has been acclaimed internationally as "one of the world's great jazz bands" is to perform locally.

This group, the *Mokeyville Jazzmen*, is to give a concert in the *Mokeyville Hall* on Sunday, April 26, under the auspices of the *Warrandyte Arts Association*.

"Home base" for the *Victorian Jazz Club* since its formation, the *Mokeyville Jazz* ensemble might very well be one of the most highly-rated Australian jazz ensembles with

seven concerts and TV appearances to their credit.

Together with the group in Warrandyte (under *Donk Tullins*), their 17 LP for W & G, "Mokeyville Warrandyte Jazzmen" received a rave review in the *United States*.

The concert begins at 8.30 pm. Tickets will cost \$1.25 for adults and 50c for children under 14.

April 1972: Championing community causes.

newspaper the *Daily News*. His office was on the same floor as Lovett's and the two became friends. Early in 1974 Lovett invited Tindale to help out with the *Warrandyte Diary*. During an interview in 2002 Lee Tindale remembered the occasion, “(Peter) asked me along one night to meet Cliff, and that was the end of my life as I knew it.” Tindale started to help with writing and layout of pages one and two. After assisting in this way for several months Tindale was asked to write a regular gossip column. “In Red & White”, under the by-line of Smokey Joe, first appeared in the June 1974 issue on page one. The column name and the pen name are puns. At that time Bill Tipping wrote a column for the Melbourne afternoon daily *The Herald* called “Black and White”. Lee's wife Jan suggested “In Red & White” as the title for the new column because they are the colours of the local football club. The pen name came from journalistic slang, where a “smokey” is a piece of false reporting. Tindale continued to write this column until the end of 2005, shortly before his death.

Cliff Green resigned from the editorial team in November 1975, as he had arranged to move with his family to the UK where he had the promise of scriptwriting work. The newspaper continued to appear regularly with Peter Lovett as editor and Tindale writing news stories and the Smokey Joe column. Both journalists contributed to the sports coverage, which was developing from simply

recording club activities to active reporting on games and player performances. The sports news had moved to the outside back page from the July 1971 issue. This pagination was more in keeping with the newspaper format Lovett espoused for the *Diary*. He believed sport was an important part of any community and therefore should have a prominent place in the newspaper.

At the end of 1975 Lovett suddenly withdrew his association with the newspaper. He had warned Tindale for several months that he could not continue with the *Diary*. Lee Tindale said of the resignation, “I didn't believe him, but it happened all right.” Michael Lovett believes the pressure of work had become too much for his father. “He'd have to work from Monday to Friday and Saturdays as well, because in those days you had the Saturday afternoon newspapers.” This left Sunday as the sole day Peter Lovett had to be with his family and the *Diary's* editing and production demands were taking up much of this time. The *Warrandyte Diary* was now without an editor and did not appear for the first four months of 1976. It seemed that Warrandyte's newspaper would go the way of many other community papers and cease publication after only a few years.

(Peter Lovett died in 1996.)

● In next month's issue the *Diary* rises from the ashes and gains new staff members.

The river keepers



We are the river keepers. Not serious men in waders who measure ecoli levels and record platypus sightings.

We keep river memories sewing the flow—droplets of dreams: solemn spirals—Wurrundjeri stories stitched on felt in ochres, tans.

We show glimpses through windows, tiny reminders: a wattle branch trails its fingers scatters gold on gleam of silk; water dimpled like beaten metal;

lone white duck shines through folds of greens, greys; mist-looming ghost trunks fringe sleepy water.

(The mist was difficult—hard to pin down. Strips of net, layer upon layer; puffs of wool trying to hover; or transparent fabric—brown murmur beneath.)

We stitch seasons' stories: Summer—where stones rise while water sinks; Winter—as soft swathes float over river-glass; Spring—when she's urgent, swollen by tumbling hordes.

We have no people in our quilt. No duck-stuffers, dog-shitters or well-dressed joggers ears plugged—deaf to river-song.

We sew a pristine river, a benign river. No despairing dead flowers—Clutched to tree breasts. *The river will keep this friend.*

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calming, cleansing, continuing.

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Pack all your troubles into one suitcase...

“WHAT do you mean you'll just wear thongs!”

I must admit I didn't think it was the sort of comment that required an exclamation mark but when I realised by her tone of voice that Herself had added not one but two, I recognised I was in deep doo-doo.

I have always found packing for travel to be very difficult. I've gone through the process of reducing the range of colours, thinking in layers and only packing every second garment I think of, but whatever I do, I still get it terribly wrong.

Invariably I come home with either half a suitcase full of unused clothes or a suitcase, now crammed with clothes I've had to buy whilst I've been away because the stuff I packed at home was completely inappropriate.

I find it difficult enough when I head off for the one spot with the one set of climatic conditions but I find it miles worse when I intend to be spending time in different places and in different seasons. I've been assured that going to the one destination should mean you just think cold or hot and pack accordingly.

“Just throw in a pair of shorts, a tee shirt and some togs and you'll be fine. They dry overnight and if you need anything else you can buy it over there. I just take a small backpack as hand luggage and usually come back with it still half empty.”



kibbled

“Just throw in a pair of shorts, a tee shirt and some togs and you'll be fine. They dry overnight and if you need anything else you can buy it over there...”

If only! For past trips I have tried to be casually ruthless. I lay out all my possible clothes on the bed and think what a really “cool” traveller would do. I end up with a carefully reasoned set of clothing. I walk away feeling very smug but then I start to worry. “What if it...? Perhaps I should throw in ... I've got the space so perhaps another ...” and on it goes with me adding to the culled pile until it's

almost as big as it was before. And that's just for a trip to one destination.

I do feel slightly less embarrassed about packing for multi seasons and different hemispheres. If we leave here in summer, stop off for a while in another southern hemisphere destination in the same season and then head off to a northern hemisphere winter, that's when I reach for the double scotch and Aspirin. How are you supposed to do that?

Add into the equation the need for some gear for a formal occasion and my packing confidence fractures. I mean, how do you pack for everyday wear plus a suit or sports jacket? And then what about the weight issue with those heavy, formal dress shoes? Which is why I need to raise the sordid issue of thongs.

We are heading off for a holiday overseas. Now it's not the first time we've done this so you'd think we would be able to approach the packing issue with all the confidence of experienced travellers. Well that might be the case if we were comparing apples with apples but we're not. In the past we have both been reasonably fit and able to manage suitcases up stairs, along narrow hotel passages, through souks and heaved onto shoulders to get them onto train racks. But no more.

Both Herself and I have recently discovered that something happens to the body as you get older. Friends have assured us that we are not

Robinson Crusoe in this so we have reluctantly acknowledged that, to minimise potential hassles with stairs and rough terrain, we will only take one suitcase and an overnight bag between us. And we will be stopping in different seasons in different hemispheres and both sets of clothing will need to be fitted into just those two bags.


Now I have to give credit where credit's due. The woman I live with has her act together. She has thought through what she needs to wear and has had it all planned for months. She has bought the odd thing she needs to complement the rest of her clobber and is quite untroubled about the whole affair. So it was my turn.

The other day I bit the bullet and set out all the stuff I thought I'd take away. I carefully considered layers, colours and enough warm clothes given the possibility that we could have snow. Thoughtfully, I weighed the lot and discovered we were just over so I took out some of the really heavy things. On reweighing I found we were just under our limit, so I called Herself to brag.

She perused the pile, riffled through the shirts and jumpers, jocks, socks and slacks and then looked at me. She checked the pile again and then frowned.

“Shoes?”
“I took them out. They're so heavy. I thought I could just wear ...”

ROGER KIBELL

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Ground grub good tucker

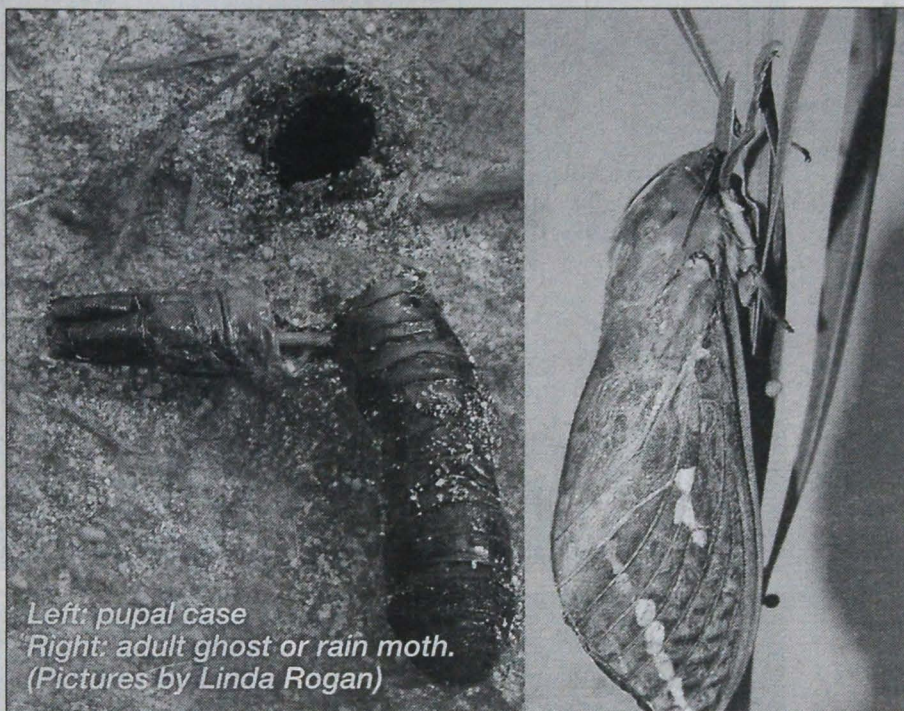
nature

By LINDA ROGAN

FRAGILE golden-brown pupal cases have been popping up in the bush since the autumn rains began. One that my husband gently pried out with the tip of his Leatherman is pictured (left). Finally, I have learned their story.

My granddaughter, Alana, found a large grey moth, "Its wings were folded like a tent over its back and its legs sprawled like spiders," said her mother. Alana took great pleasure in showing it around the FOWSP nursery. Someone said it was a "goat moth". Googling that common name did not lead me to the right moth. The photo of this "well loved" moth did not allow identification to species level by moth expert, Peter Marriott. He said it is from the ghost or rain moth group, also sometimes called swift moths. These are the ones that emerge from the ground in the late autumn or early winter after rain, leaving those pupal cases behind. The larvae may take up to three years to mature and pupate within their ground tunnels. (Perhaps the similarity between "ghost" and "goat" explains the confusion, but goat moth's caterpillars feed in trunks of trees.) Also pictured (right) is a moth found and photographed at the FOWSP nursery later in April. A female of this species holds the record number of eggs from any moth or butterfly with 29,000 eggs recorded. These eggs are usually scattered under or near the original eucalypt tree.

But the story goes on, both goat and ghost (rain) moths have larval stages



Left: pupal case
Right: adult ghost or rain moth.
(Pictures by Linda Rogan)

commonly called bardi grubs (also bardee/badee/bargi/bardy grubs) One aboriginal language Kurna Warra lists "barti" as a grub used for food. At least one more type of larvae shares the common name "bardi". That is the grub of a longicorn beetle. It is interesting to note that the scientific name of this beetle is *Bardistis cibarius*. Was this name based on an aboriginal word? Whatever the source of these names, these grubs were vital food for early people according to chapter 28 of *Oceania: Australia*: "The earliest pursuit of children, under the guidance of their mothers, is a hunt for various kinds of insect larvae ... It is probable that the healthy growth of children in large measure is related to this source of food. Early

nourishment of babies prior to weaning is assisted and the children are kept quiet by the cossid (goat moth) and hepialid (rain/ghost moths) grubs constantly dangling from their mouths. In our society a dummy replaces this early natural food for children."

Bardi grubs are well known to modern day fishermen. A page on the *Marinenews.com* website is devoted to the catching and storing of bardi grubs which are wonderful bait for Murray cod and other fish. Although the use of a spiral wire is described, the purists catch their grubs in the same way as the aboriginals did.

That is, having located a "grub tree", they scrape away the top 5cm of leaf litter and soil until the grub holes are exposed. Using a rush tied

with a knot at the end, or a hooked stick, they poke it down the hole irritating the grub into biting. They then carefully extract the grub from the hole. The aboriginals used them for bait in fish traps or else for food, raw or cooked. In fact not only the grub but also the pupa and adult moth were good tucker.

Whether using traditional or modern methods of collection, it is important that the scraped soil and leaf litter be returned to cover the surface to encourage future bardi grubs and to avoid erosion around the tree.

The rain moth group is sometimes attacked by a fungus in the ground, later producing the "mummified" caterpillar also called "vegetable caterpillar". But that is another story.

Sticky end for a wonderful pud

STICKY date pudding is an old-fashioned dessert that seems to have been around forever. But I only discovered it for the very first time during the spring of 1997.

That year we'd suffered the gloomiest of winters. Intermittent weeks of leaden skies and ceaseless drizzle dragged out into weary months, and a dreary depression slowly settled over everything. The very greyness became suffocating. Would Warrandyte never see blue skies again?

Indoors was no less claustrophobic, with wet washing draped over every conceivable object.

One particularly dismal morning, I carefully peeled open our damp copy of *The Age* and found myself not only reading the ads (a sure symptom of something grossly amiss) but very much attracted to one in particular. Qantas was offering amazingly cheap fares to Brisbane, with free travel for children under 12. Ding! We were on almost the very next plane.

It wasn't our first holiday on Fraser Island, so we understood the BYO food ar-

rangements, and prepared accordingly. Even so, after an energetic week exploring the island's beaches, lakes and walking tracks under the sunniest of blue skies, we finished up amazingly hungry. By the time we rocked up to a certain little café in Montville, back on terra firma, our stomachs were ready for anything.

What a moment to discover sticky date pud! How we savoured the first sight and smell of those huge honey-coloured wedges of delectably moist pudding, simply oozing dates, surrounded by rich pools of liquid butterscotch—substantial by any measure. Fat juicy strawberries, whose exquisite fragrance penetrated even the steaming golden aroma of the pudding, added a splash of entrancing colour. After gazing at this dreamlike prospect for several seconds, we fell hungrily to the task, and were not disappointed. Every mouthful was absolute bliss.

The manager, delighted at our evident enjoyment of her signature dish, was only too happy to oblige with the recipe.

"It's SO easy. You fill a bucket with pitted dates"—and here she indicated a large enamel

our place

By MARILYN MOORE

milking pail—"throw in a handful of bicarb and top it up with boiling water. Next day you add flour ..." "How much flour"? I interrupted.

She didn't exactly know. "Ohhh, just a normal-sized flour bag, I think."

By now the mixture must have been transferred to something the size of a baby's bath. Even the Golden Syrup tin was impossibly large. Blimey! I wasn't expecting such an industrial-strength approach. They obviously did a roaring trade.

Thus the Camphor Cottage Sticky Date Pudding entered the annals of family legend. No other has ever come near it. The wannabes are too small, too hard, too dry, lack dates, lack golden syrup, lack ginger or cinnamon, are too stingy with the sauce, use the wrong flour, use the wrong sugar in the butterscotch ... can nobody get it right? It's not as though we haven't given the market a fair chance to

prove itself.

So imagine the anticipation trickling through our salivary glands when, on an impenetrably soggy day last week, we found ourselves sheltering once more in Montville. Commercial development had altered the little street almost beyond recognition, but we nevertheless made an unerring beeline for a pair of huge camphor laurels halfway down the hill. Yes! Amazingly, the old cottage snuggled into the hill just as I remembered it, the verandah was just as enticing, and the menu still featured sticky date pudding!

And that's where the similarity ended. The new chef, a young chap in his 20s, clearly doesn't recall the halcyon ways of his predecessors. Those dingy cupcakes just didn't do it for us.

I sent an SMS to my Mum: "Sad news from Montville ..." For a few awful moments, she thought somebody had died. Well, she wasn't far wrong. The dream is shattered. How can we ever erase the foetid memory of this gastronomic insult?

Dammit, I'm just going to have to go out and get myself a large pail ...

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A wedding we all remember

“DIMBOOLA” was first performed at La Mama Theatre in 1969. Written by Australian author Jack Hibberd and directed by Graeme Blundell it was a smash hit. Although never a critical success, it has since gone on to become the most performed of all Australian plays.

To the great delight of those who know and love it, the Park Players (a young troupe from Park Orchards), presented two performances at the Mechanics Institute early this month. On the face of it, it is a play about a wedding reception in an isolated country town, where two families exchange barbs. The excessive consumption of alcohol gradually removes all civility from the celebration and chaos eventually reigns.

Maureen (nee Delaney) has just married Morris McAdam. Their immediate and extended family make up most of the 14 guests. A familiar tribal rivalry soon emerges between the two families. Fuelled by copious amounts of beer and unnerving taunts the tension soon turns to intimidation, confrontation and violence.

Uncle Horrie McAdam, (Graham Whiteside), would love to be the master of ceremonies in place of Father Patrick O’Shea (Joel Bat-alha). He is recognisable as the master of cliché, the singing drunk, the long-suffering husband and protective father. Alcohol transforms him into an irrepresible, convivial force that ends up eclipsing the drunken priest. As we warm to Horrie, we recoil from Father O’Shea who is revealed as an ineffective leech. He collapses drunk mid-way through an indecipherable speech.

The veneer is stripped from many of the characters in a similar way. The puritanical cousin Agatha (Dawn Whiteside) proves herself

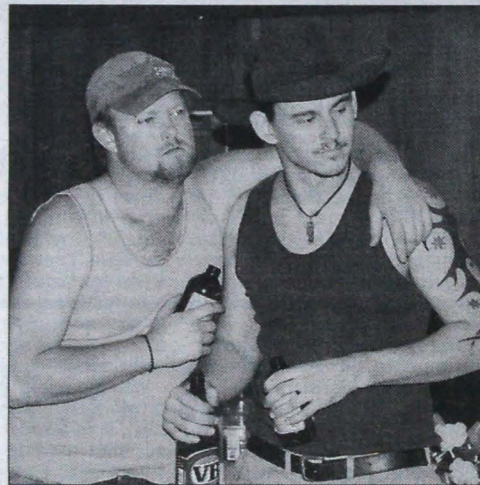
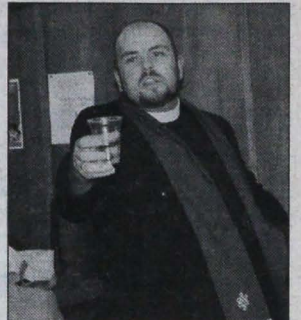
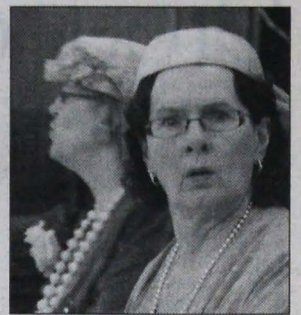
theatre

By JEREMY LOFTUS-HILLS

a closet drinker. By the end of the night she is “anybody’s”. Best man Daryl (Chris Jury), gives a funereal speech in which he mourns the passing into married life of his good mate Morrie even as the warring fathers realise there is more that unites than divides them. Gradually the bride gives voice to her frustrations, (mirroring the entrenched complaints of the older married women at her table) while bridesmaid Shirli (Abbey Jane Jones) curls up on reporter Leo Radish’s lap. As these vignettes unfold the characters reveal the primitive attitudes to sex, marriage, power and religion that lurk within the Australian stereotype.

This is an intimate play, with little if any physical or social distance between player and audience. It challenges the actors to stay in character even as they interact with the audience and mingle during the breaks. It is entirely different from the structured musicals that the Park Players more commonly perform, yet their musical talents were given ample opportunity to shine.

It is deceptively easy to perform with no scene changes, few props, no special audio or lighting design. What it does require is a trouper’s capacity to play the character and the dynamics of the audience at the same time. This is something that the original cast, including Max Gillies and Bruce Spence, were especially good at. While the Warrandyte production provided an excellent rendition of the characters and plot, the comedy could have been strengthened with a more invasive approach to audience participation.



Pictures by JEREMY LOFTUS-HILLS



Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS



A play for today

“BLOOD Wedding”, presented by the Year 11 Theatre Studies class at Warrandyte High School, is a topical play.

Although written in Spain in the 1930s, it is still very relevant, particularly with all the discussion in the media about violence involving knives and laws restricting the carrying of knives.

The play opens with a mother saying to her son, “Knives, knives, a curse on all knives and all those who make them”. By the end of the play this young man and another are both dead. The play does not show the violence on stage and there is no macho posing with knives.

What it shows is the impact on the families and the communities of the tragic action of these young men.

“It is a passionate and poetic play and the team that have been working on it are doing a great job, even

though this is their first production,” a school spokesperson told the *Diary*.

“The students have worked with dedication and enthusiasm throughout Term 1, and in their holidays, to develop both their performance work and their areas of design specialisation. The students developed the set design, costumes, hair and make-up, sound and lighting designs.

“Others worked as stage manager and dramaturge. They responded to their reading of the play, their research about the playwright and the period in Spain when it was written, as well as considering their 2010 audience and how it would be relevant to them.

“They took on performance roles of varying sizes. One of the strengths of the production was the attention to detail each actor brought to developing their role, so that all characters appeared authentic and fully realised,” the spokesperson said.

Warrandyte basketball round-up with Tony Oliver

Big V women keep top four spot

It was somewhat of a defensive arm wrestle but Warrandyte's Big V Womens team came out on top of Hawthorn in a Round 6 clash.

Hawthorn were expected to challenge the Venom, with height and a settled team and for most of the game, neither side could break away.

Good scoring phases in the first and second quarter saw the Venom take a 36-19 lead at the break.

The third quarter is becoming a strong period for the Venom and Warrandyte were able to extend the lead with a 48-24 lead.

The final quarter should have continued on the same way but Hawthorn lifted the pressure outscoring the Venom easily.

There was some tension in the final quarter as the gap closed to less than 10 points.

Warrandyte fell over the line by 52-39.

Caroline Kulikowski top scored with 13 points with some elusive drives in the key with good support from Jennifer Cameron (12 points, nine rebounds).

This consolidates Warrandyte's position in the top four, with six wins with the only slip up so far being an away loss to Mildura in the opening round.

The previous weekend, as part of a double header, the Venom girls had a strong away win over Altona (63 - 57), another likely contender.

The form team this year appears to be Warrnambool who have recruited well and are yet to drop a game.

The two top teams are programmed to play each

other at Warrnambool in late May with the return match in July.

The Men's side is showing some good form but recently have been unable to put it together for four quarters.

A well attended game at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre saw the Venom boys come out strongly against Camberwell to level the game at 49-all at three quarter time.

The exciting final quarter however went Camberwell's way with the visitor's taking out the game by 75-68.

Chris Venderzaag continues to be a high scorer for the Venom, with 12 points with Josh Collins, Andrew Clough and Jake Lugg scoring 14 points each.

Camberwell are in second place on the ladder and the Venom are certainly competitive.

The following week, the Venom travelled to second placed Melton who were potentially vulnerable in this game, having gone down to Pakenham in the previous week.

Warrandyte as expected took the game right up to Melton playing with no fear and putting great pressure at the defensive end throughout the first half to be leading Melton by just three points at half time.

Melton were able to close out the game with strong third and fourth quarters.

Chris Vanderzaag 19 points and 14 rebounds for the Venom was the key player with Josh Collins (16 points) also having a good game.

The Venom are sitting in fifth place and still with a good run, can be part of the finals games.



Warrandyte Redback Under 15 players, Jack Cousens, left, and Matt Killey.

Mason Webb, left, and Jarryd Black helped Warrandyte Redbacks to a win over Nunawading.

Under 15 Redbacks score big win over Nunawading

Round 2 of Saturday basketball resulted in a big win for Warrandyte's Under 15 A/AR boys against Nunawading Vikings.

Warrandyte had gone down to the top Eltham side in the opening round by eight points and were out to prove a point and a 16-8 half time lead turned into a 38-13 win.

"It is shaping up as a good season" said coach Matt Lane after the game.

Scoring was shared around with Michael Delacy top scoring with nine points and Jarryd Black assisting with eight points and Tim Apostolides seven points.

In an earlier game, Warrandyte's C Grade boys had a good win over Nunawading by 45-13.

The Redback boys were never challenged with a 34-5 lead at the half time break. Jack Linney top scored with 16 points, with eight points coming from Glyn Telford and five points each from Oscar Pearson and Tyler Whitnash.

Ryan Holloway's Under 11 BB boys



Jake Martin, left, and Michael DeLacy.

Tim Apostolides, left, and Zac Ratcliffe.

defeated an Eltham side by 25-18 (five points to Brent Gaudion).

Ryan is also coaching the Redback

Under 9s (BA Grade) who defeated Bulleen by 11-8 (four points to Callum Bowers).

Basketball Shorts

Basketball programs to help boost playing skills

Venom in good form

The early rounds in representative basketball are well under way with some good results for Warrandyte Venom sides including the Under 20 VBBL girls defeating Melbourne by 38-33.

In the following game at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre, the Under 20 VJBL4 boys had their first loss of the season, going down to Bellarine.

In an exciting game at Warrandyte High School, Warrandyte's Under 14 Regional girls grabbed a 20-all draw with Broadmeadows.

The Venom led for most of the game but Broadmeadows, in their new playing strip, had their noses in front in the final seconds.

The Venom were able to draw level from the free throw line and a final attack from Broadmeadows was unsuccessful.

The Warrandyte girls are still outside the final four but going by recent form they are still a strong show for finals. In VC games at Warrandyte Sports Centre, the Under 18 girls came from behind to defeat Knox 2 by 43-36.

Knox defeated the Under 14 Venom girls 42-32 and Bulleen defeated the Under 12 boys 61-25.

Warrandyte Basketball Association will run a series of programs aimed at younger basketballers, or those that want to "just try and see".

MiniBall is a mixed-gender introductory non-competitive basketball competition for children in Prep to Grade 3.

Games will be played at Warrandyte Sports Complex on Friday afternoons using the lowered height rings.

Relaxed modified rules will be adopted to ensure all participants can fully enjoy the game while learning the basic rules and principles.

Because the competition is non-competitive no scores or ladders are used. All participants receive

their black/white reversible playing singlet free with season registration. Online fixtures will be available at the WBA website closer to the competition getting started.

AUSSIE HOOPS

Aussie Hoops is an entry level program skills development program for children in Prep to Grade 3 conducted by coaches from the Warrandyte Basketball Association.

The Aussie Hoops program is about children having fun and using a "game sense" approach, while learning the experience of basketball by playing a series of games and activities.

Aussie Hoops is conduct-

ed every Monday of the school term.

SKILLS SESSIONS

The Victorian Junior Basketball League is the top junior basketball competition in the state played on Friday evenings.

Associations from across Victoria select skilled and committed players to represent their club at the highest possible level.

Weekly 45 minute skills sessions will be conducted at WSC on Tuesdays for boys and girls.

One of the attractions is that people who are eligible to play in the Queen's Birthday tournament at Nunawading as a Venom Junior.

FUTURE FORCES

On a slightly more serious side, the Future Forces skills development program will run from 11 May.

All boys and girls born in 2000, 2001 and 2002 are invited to participate in the Future Forces skills development program.

This is a free program conducted by coaches from the junior Venom program aimed at exposing children currently playing domestic (Saturday) basketball to the skills, drills and coaching involved at the next level - VJBL competition.

Enquiries can be made to on any of the programs to Jason Weidemann, WBA operations administrator (0433 029 061).

Netball



Under 11 representative squad members, from left: Nikki Link, Amy Potter, Jessica Graf, Alana Fenton, Jessica Rodwell and Mia Van Gulick.

Netballers get a bold new look

Warrandyte netballers had a bold new look when they opened their new season last Saturday.

The club has introduced a 'Warrandyte inspired' gum leaf netball logo as well as new uniforms.

The club intends to phase in the new uniform over coming years.

There is also a new executive at the club with newly elected president, Sue Rodwell heading a new committee.

She takes over from Sonya Febbo who has retired after an outstanding term at the head of the club.

The outlook for the season looks even brighter for the club with 19 players selected to represent the Doncaster and Districts Netball Association at tournaments throughout Melbourne in 2010.

The club credits these selections to a great blend of enthusiastic and supportive parents around the club.

The following girls have been selected in the representative teams:

Under 11: Nikki Link, Amy Potter, Jessica Graf, Alana Fenton, Jessica Rodwell and Mia Van Gulick.

Under 13: Sam Wilson, Claire Garick, Jessica O'Keefe, Judith Reid and Katie Waugh.

Warrandyte's Under 15, 17 and Open players selected for representative duty are: Corrin Mueller, Zoe Van Gulick,



WARRANDYTE NETBALL CLUB

The new Warrandyte Netball Club logo.

Jasmine Woods, Ysabel Galley, Courtney Rattcliffe, Gabby Ryan, Emma Rohde, Georgia Nichol.

Warrandyte netball games are played each Saturday beginning from 9am for Under 11s at the Doncaster and District Netball Courts in Templestowe.

Training is conducted locally within daylight hours (after school) at the netball courts at the Warrandyte recreation reserve.

For more Warrandyte Netball Club news and information visit www.warrandytenetball.org.au



Under 13 representative squad members, from left: Sam Wilson, Claire Garick, Jessica O'Keefe, Judith Reid and Katie Waugh.

James 'lands' back to school

By TRISTAN MADDOCKS

THREE months after competing in his first Winter Olympic Games, Warrandyte's 15-year-old snowboarding sensation Scott James has resumed a more normal schoolboy routine.

The Southwood Boys Grammar student was the youngest male competitor in the Vancouver games, where he competed in the Men's Halfpipe event.

After failing to 'land' the first of his two qualification runs, James placed 12th in his heat and only narrowly missed advancement to the semi-finals.

Returning home in time for the Easter holidays, he was glad to catch up with his friends, who had keenly supported his Olympic debut.

"It was great to catch up with people," he said.

"They were all pretty

Winter Olympics

happy with me. I had one of my friends over there and he got to enjoy it with me."

Getting back to school was also a nice change, because James had spent the previous five school terms doing distance education as his training load intensified.

"It's better to be back to real school."

While he was disappointed not to have 'landed' his first run at the games, James is confident the experience will set him up for future competitions.

"I wasn't too nervous. I was more nervous on my second run because I was under more pressure because I hadn't landed yet."

"It's good to have (the experience) and it will be

good for next time because I know what I will be coming into."

James was keen to make the most of his time at the Olympic village and was thrilled to meet competitors from all over the world.

"When I was in the village I got to be with people from a lot of other nations. I tried to talk to them and you do this thing called badge trading."

"It's where you get a lot of Aussie badges and trade them with other countries. I got about 50 badges; my favourite was an Irish badge with a clover on it."

After taking some time off, James will head to New Zealand in August to compete in the New Zealand Open.

Cross country season under way

By ED MUNKS

The winter cross country season has started and last week at Kew's Stradbroke park local Under 11 athlete Emily Sharpe ran in her first race of 2000m after recovering from a broken arm.

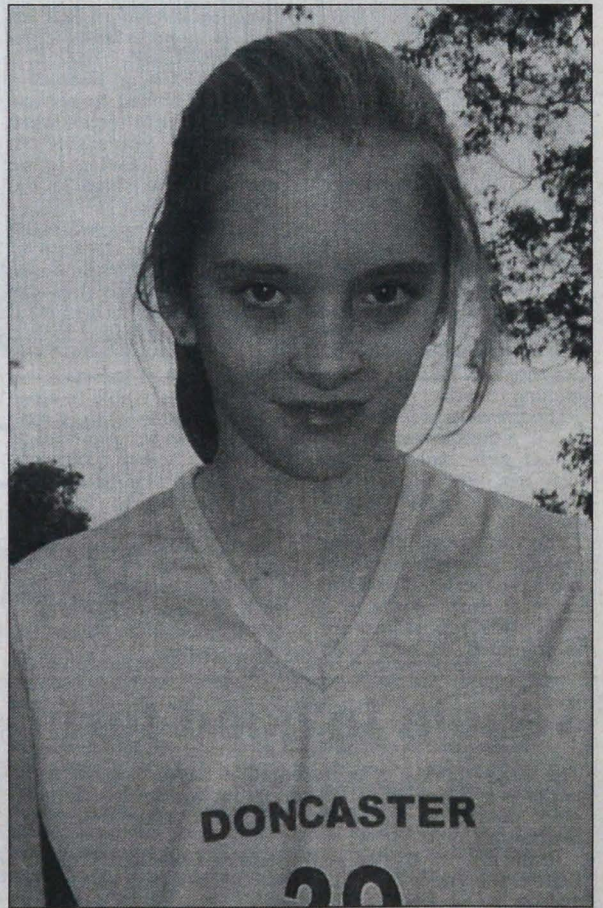
She finished a credible 18th with team mate Ally-Rose Ogden finishing a well deserved third place.

Kimberley Gilling has also had an outstanding start in the Under 7 competition with a first and a third in the opening two races.

The Eastern winter cross country season runs at various venues on Sunday mornings with distances varying from 500m for Under 6 athletes to 3000m for Under 13-16 age groups.

The season culminates with the state championships at Geelong racecourse on 1 August.

Little aths



Emily Sharpe ... returning to little athletics after breaking her arm.

Trophies awarded

With the summer little athletics season just completed the East Doncaster Little Athletics Club held its year-end trophy and awards night.

With more than 100 registered athletes, competition over the season was keen with a number of local Warrandyte athletes winning awards:

Under 9 Boys: Ben Munks, second; Hayden Carruthers, third.

Under 10 Boys: Callum Pynt, first; Nicholas Ward, second.

Under 11 Boys: Joel Carruthers, third.

Under 11 Girls: Nicole Reynolds, first; Eilish Kelly, second.

Under 12 Girls: Caitlyn Sinclair, first; Alexandra Ward, second.

Under 13 Girls: Shaely Pynt, first.

Under 14 Boys: Drew Corke, first; Sean Bowers, third.

Under 15 Boys: Blair Corke, first.

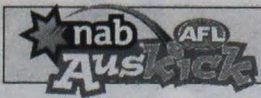
Dominic Lee in the Under 9 Boys and Lydia Phelan in the Under 11 Girls both received encouragement awards in their first season of competing.

Both athletes started slowly but improved rapidly

as the season progressed and are sure to challenge for awards next season.

A special achievement award was made to Tom Phillips on his 2000m steeplechase performance, coming third at the National Championships in Sydney.

For more information on Little Athletics contact Andrew Pynt 0410 478 333.



Auskick round-up with Ed Munks

New season, new coaches, new players

Warrandyte's Auskick is now under way with new coaches and new players.

The season began with 15 new and not so new coaches. The new coaches include Peter Sharpe, Dean Aitken, Buzz Lawson, Travis Reddaway, Sean Smith, Danny McShanag and Ross Snowball.

Auskickers also welcomed a number of young players from outside Warrandyte including Andrew Ogden, Oliver Bain, Adam Williamson and Oliver Wilkinson who is back from a three year sojourn in London.

Young girls to join us this year who have followed their elder brothers into Auskick and who are already showing promise are Ava Simpson and Tamika Brownfield.

Youngsters Hunter Hodgson, Sebastian Lee, Harrison Gruber, Willem Ramak, Lewis Hatch and Daniel Brennan are all our newest and youngest players to join the program.

Improved players so far have been Jack Welch whose high marking on "Tommy the tackleman" has been outstanding

Christopher Risby, Ethan Ward and Oscar Hodgson have improved their kicking; Archer Rostron, Kayden Trayford and Ben McShanag have sharpened their marking and Harrison Nitschinsk and Hayden Taylor have developed their handball skills.

The first week in May saw the much anticipated annual Mother's Day kicking competition being held. A number of inventive kicking styles were observed from the mums, ranging from Naralle Haas' one step kick to the more considered run up of Emily Sharpe.

A child's voice was heard to lament that the mums should come down to the Saturday sessions with the kids to learn how to kick much better.

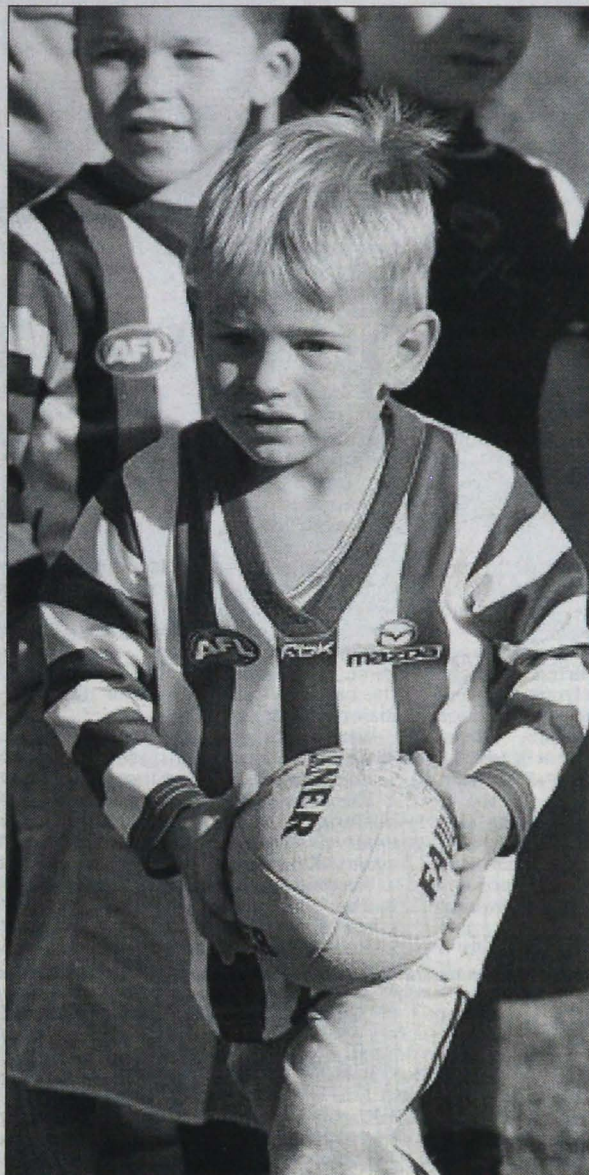
Auskick will also be appearing at a number of half time games at the Warrandyte senior club during the year beginning with this week's family fun day.

We thank James Logan and Phil Treeby from the senior club for their continued support to the town's youngest players.

Regular session times are between 9am and 10.15am on Saturdays at the Warrandyte football ground at Taroona Avenue. Both boys and girls are encouraged to come and participate.

The Warrandyte junior club will also be sponsoring some shirts for all the children enrolled at Auskick this year.

For information on joining Warrandyte Auskick please contact Edward Munks on 0434 020 191 or emunks@gmail.com or Cait Ramsdale on 0408 740 850.



Hunter Hodgson shows plenty of determination during a recent Auskick session. Picture: Scott Pdmore.



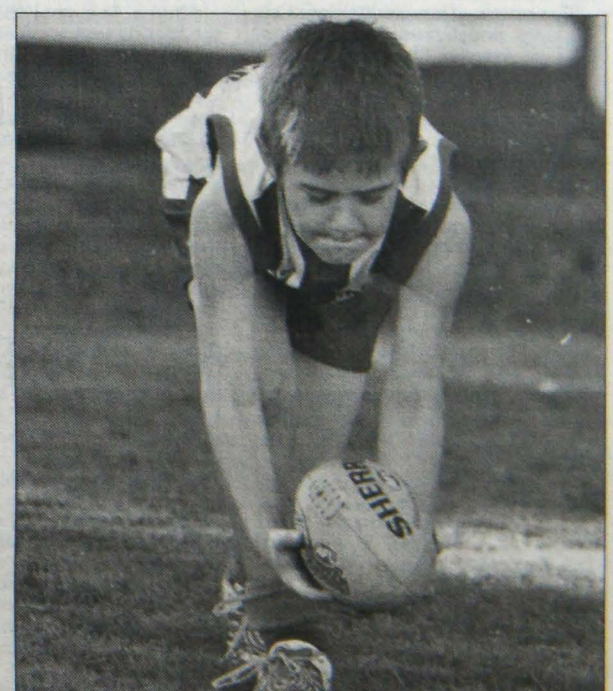
All action as Warrandyte Auskickers go through their latest session.



Michael Greenwood has the ball but he is quickly tackled by Russell Black, left, and Austin Humphris.



One of the more popular parts of an Auskick session is taking on the "tackling dummy" and young Auskickers line up for their turn.



Oscar Hodgson gets down low to cover the ball. Picture: Scott Podmore.



Gotcha Liam Vaughan makes sure this tackle holds in the Under 10 match against Fitzroy.



Members of Warrandyte's Under 10 team line up before the start of their Anzac Day match against Fitzroy.

Anzac tribute from junior footballers

By LANCE NILSSON

Anzac Day meant a trip to the historic Brunswick Street Oval in Fitzroy for Warrandyte Junior Football Club's Under 10 team.

The young Bloods were jumping out of their skins, coming off a hard fought victory the previous week.

After the warm up, the players lined up, linking arm-in-arm for the minute's silence.

The team hit the ground running. Locky Durran showed out with quick hands out of the packs, Ben Dickson presented up forward, Tim Somerwil and Roy Sisson found themselves in and under and Sam Brown always found himself contesting against two and three opposition players and holding the ball in.

During the game you could be forgiven for thinking you were

watching an older age group as there were some exceptional passages of play and teamwork.

Leo Garrick's tackle on the wing to cause a turnover was a highlight with passes hitting Ben Saxone on the chest.

In the third quarter Fitzroy fought back and had all of the play. The game had turned into a rugby scrum which did not suit Warrandyte's game style.

With a bit of tweaking at three quarter time and reinforcement of the team rules, Warrandyte wrestled the ascendancy back.

Darcy Poole shifted into the ruck and took the game by the scruff of the neck and gave Warrandyte first use of the ball, displaying his talent with some breath taking runs and goal kicking.

Two of Warrandyte's smaller players, Elliot Vivekanantham and Blake Reardon produced excellent

second and third efforts at the contest.

It was a good win and very pleasing to see different players standing up each week and doing their job for the team.

Anzac Day also saw the Tackers side journey to Parkside for an early morning game on a ground similar in size to the MCG.

Captain for the day was Harper Oehlmann who started strongly. There was some strong marking from Hudson Rostron, Connor Martin, Finn Swedosh, Oliver Casamento, Max Coutts and a Jonathan Brown type mark from Ben Jackson in the last quarter.

The tackling and spoiling was furious from Angus Phillip Owen, Nick Alexander, Ethan McShanag and Callum Bowers who for his slight statue could bring down an elephant.

Round 3 provided the Colts 1

team with a resounding win. With sunny skies in the morning proving to be misleading, an absolute downpour about 10 minutes before the game changed the game plan.

Right from the start Warrandyte were on a mission to ensure they were working as a team, applying pressure all around the ground.

With complete control of the game, the Bloods were able to lock the ball into their forward for the majority of the game.

Warrandyte won 13.13-91 to 5.3-33 and have made a positive start in defending their 2009 title.

The Colts 2 team have started in blistering fashion with four successive wins and the victory against Kew was outstanding.

Warrandyte dominated the play in the first quarter to score five goals to Kew's one. The first was kicked by James Munks, then Jack

Power, then Jake Wintle and followed by another 'J' in Jacob Ballard. This run was broken by Ryan Exon.

But the second term was a shock as Kew came out to score seven goals to Warrandyte's one goal in the second term.

The third quarter turned into an arm wrestle with neither team giving an inch. Warrandyte refocused in the second half and ran out winners 13.6-78 to Kew 11.7-73.

● The club would like to congratulate the following players who are trying out for representative teams:

Under 14 YJFL squad- Zac Ballard, Jason Castagna, James Appleby, Scott Ternes and Nic McNamara.

Under 15 YJFL squad- Ryan Tester and Daniel Misfud. Under 16 Vic Metro Squad- Jacob Ballard and Ryan Exon

Warrandyte reserves are back to winning form

Warrandyte Reserves recovered from two disappointing losses to beat a determined Upper Gully side on Saturday.

The return of key midfielders Cal Haskings and Jarrod Boyce, in for his first game of 2010, made a difference with some added physicality through the middle of the ground.

Despite a quick start from Upper Gully, who led by 16 points at quarter time, the Bloods proved the stronger side after the first break.

James Logan led the way up forward with four goals, relishing the opportunity to kick goals after spending the majority of his career in the back half of the ground.

In an even spread, Daniel Bryant kicked three, while Kennedy, Brewis and Whitfield kicked two apiece. Warrandyte co-captain Grant Godwin was also among the best for the Bloods, who move to third on the EFL ladder.

Warrandyte 17.11-113 d Upper Gully 11.2-68

Goals: J. Logan 4, D. Bryant 3, C. Kennedy 2, L. Brewis 2, L. Whitfield 2, T. Konrad, J. Bentley, R. Mullett Treloar, D. Hand

Best: G. Godwin, J. Logan, J. Boyce, C. Kennedy, D. Bryant, D. Hand

their opposition to kick three goals in five minutes in a lazy period of the second term. The Bloods trailed by 20 points at half time.

After a five goal third quarter, the Bloods took a seven point lead into the final term, with Chirnside coming home with the wind.

It was Chirnside Park who scored first in the final term but a strong mark and goal to Daniel Bryant into the wind gave Warrandyte the lead again, before some undisciplined play allowed Chirnside Park to goal and regain the lead. Time ran out for the Bloods with Chirnside eight points in front.

Chirnside Park 11.11-77 d

Warrandyte 10.9-69

Goals: C. Kennedy 4, D. Bryant 2, L. Whitfield 2, J. Logan, C. Atkinson

Best: D. Bryant, C. Kennedy, E. Jones, R. Cullen, C. Atkinson, J. O'Mara

ROUND THREE

The Reserves were led onto the field by Geoff Zach, a former Warrandyte player whose brother Brendan had tragically died the previous week. Geoff was granted a transfer from South Yarra Football Club to play one game for the Bloods wearing his brother's Number 20 jumper as a one-off tribute.

Brendan's mum Judy, dad John and sister Cat joined the side for coach Ash Grybas' pre-match address, as Grybas asked his side

to play just the way Brendan played, without fear.

In front of the biggest crowd seen at Warrandyte Reserve for some time, many of whom were there as a tribute to Brendan, the Bloods looked like they might be able to snatch an unlikely victory but in the end, North Ringwood proved the stronger, winning by 14 points.

A Warrandyte Reserves side who had been desperate to sing the club song on a special day for the club were unfortunately not quite good enough.

Warrandyte 10.10-70 lost to Nth Ringwood 12.12-84

Goals: T. Konrad 2, J. Wright 2, A. Gamble 2, B. Jackson 2, D. Bryant, L. Whitfield

Best: D. Bryant, J. Bentley, J. Bowen, J. Wright, C. Haskings, T. Konrad

ROUND TWO

Round two saw a dominant Warrandyte side take apart an out-classed Coldstream Reserves side.

Leading by 46 points at quarter time, the Bloods never looked back, eventually cruising to a 107 point win.

Warrandyte 19.18-132 d Coldstream 4.1-25

Goals: A. Gamble 10, J. Logan 3, L. Whitfield 3, C. Atkinson 2, D. Bryant

Best: A. Gamble, G. Godwin, B. Zach, L. Whitfield, T. Konrad, J. Logan

Under 18s have a big win over highly rated opposition

Warrandyte Under 18s set themselves for a season-defining clash against highly-rated powerhouse Upper Ferntree Gully.

The visitors got away to a strong start, winning clearances with a well-organised centre bounce structure as the Warrandyte boys tried in vain to stem the flow.

Ineffective tackling and some hesitancy gave Upper Gully enough breathing space to slam on consecutive goals and come in at quarter-time a long way ahead.

Quarter-time gave Warrandyte a chance to re-assess their line-up and shift their approach to a more defensive strategy.

Anthony Haikal went forward and provided a strong target as Warrandyte straightened up and looked more capable during a hard-fought second quarter. Chimenton showed dash when switched to defence and Bentley and Tibb were the best of the mid-fielders.

Upper Gully's confidence at the contest was a key factor. Harris was asserting himself around the ground and Jackson showed intelligence in the forward line to set up goals that kept us in the hunt.

Goals to Harris and Haikal seemed to catch the opposition on the back foot early in the last quarter but to their credit, the visitors were able to steady and run out convincing winners while everyone at Warrandyte learned a valuable lesson of giving a good side a head-start.

Warrandyte 9.9-63 lost to Upper Gully 14.10-94

Goals: S. Trenfield 2, A. Haikal 2, C. Tibb, Z. Bentley, J. McKee, J. Harris, J. Nicholls

Best: Bentley, Harris, Haikal, Tibb, Reddie, Chimenton.

ROUND FOUR

Warrandyte 24.27-171 def. Chirnside Park 2.8-20

Goals: S. Biggs 6, T. Peter-Budge 4, T. Campbell 2, Z. Bentley 2, J. Ellis 2, C. Tibb, R. Bowen, M. Chimenton, T. Versteegen, L. Jackson, J. McKee, A. Haikal, A. Sabo

Best: Biggs, Peter-Budge, Campbell, Tibb

ROUND THREE

Warrandyte 9.8-62 lost to North Ringwood 12.12-84

Goals: S. Biggs 2, T. Peter-Budge 2, A. Haikal 2, L. Jackson, J. Harris, P. Heffernan

Best: M. Chimenton, T. Appleby, J. Harris, S. Cardamone, A. Haikal, T. Versteegen

ROUND TWO

Warrandyte 27.15-177 d Coldstream 8.8-56

Goals: J. Ellis 5, S. Biggs 4, A. Haikal 3, T. Denham 3, R. Bowen 2, N. Lilimbakis 2, J. McHardy, N. Buruma, S. Williams, M. Chimenton, T. Appleby, L. Jackson, J. Harris

Best: J. Ellis, S. Biggs, R. Bowen, A. Haikal, T. Denham, T. Appleby

Bloods set up a Gully trap

Report: CHRIS CHAPMAN
Pictures: ROBERT WHITE

Warrandyte held off a fast finishing Upper Ferntree Gully at home on Saturday to record an eight point victory and move to fifth on the EFL ladder.

The Bloods shot out of the blocks with a shell shocked and flat footed Upper Gully side watching helplessly as Warrandyte skipped away to a handy early lead.

It was all one way traffic in the first 12 minutes as Warrandyte repeatedly worked the ball forward with clean hands and precision passes.

Matt Wood delivered lace out to Michael Morello who kicked truly, before Clint Wheatley snapped a clever goal from the pocket. Goals to Tom Roberts and Steve Christopher in quick succession gave the Bloods a valuable head start before Upper Gully could register their first goal.

With Dion Mullett-Treloar given the tough job on Jay Sherlock, and Matt Feben looking after Matt Petracca, the Bloods were wary of the dangerous Upper Gully forward line that did so much damage in the 2009 Semi Final clash.

As both sides settled into the tempo of the game the quarter finished with both sides trading goals, with the Bloods holding a 31 point advantage at quarter time.

It was Upper Gully who kicked the first after the quarter time break but another goal to Morello steadied the Bloods before Upper Gully came again, with some Warrandyte skill errors causing turnovers directly resulting in Upper Gully shots on goal.

Unfortunately for the Bloods, when they did win the ball through the mid-field and deliver into their forward line it was often wasted, with poor kicking in front of goal spreading like the flu from one forward to the next.

Both sides registered six scoring shots in the second term, with Upper Gully's four goals to Warrandyte's wasteful one narrowing the half time margin to 14 points.

The third term had the Warrandyte crowd abuzz with the arrival of Shane Biggs, in his first senior game for Warrandyte after starring in last year's Under 18 side.

Biggs found his feet quickly and looked very much at home in the Warrandyte forward line, swooping on a loose ball 25 metres from goal before calmly goaling a left foot snap.

Perhaps more pleasing, late in the quarter Biggs closed quickly on a fumbling Upper Gully backman before gaining possession and chipping over the top to an unmanned Matt Wood for an easy shot on goal. It is this kind of forward pressure that Warrandyte has sorely lacked in recent weeks.

Also impressive, in his second senior appearance



Tim Beasley is set to pounce on the ball during Warrandyte's win over Upper Ferntree Gully on Saturday.

after debuting in Round Four against Chirside Park, the young Hamish Hoskings began to impose himself in ruck contests around the ground despite some attempted physical intimidation from a more experienced Upper Gully opponent.

With inaccuracy in front of goal a real concern in recent weeks, the Bloods again struggled to convert opportunities in the third term, with four goals and six behinds in comparison the Upper Gully's five goals three.

Despite eight more scoring shots, the Bloods found themselves just 13 points in front at the final break, with Michael Tout telling his side for the second week in a row that they must attack in the final quarter to win the game.

The final term was a bit of a see saw battle with first blood to Upper Gully, before mercurial Warrandyte forward Adam Gamble marked strongly 20 metres out on a slight angle. Gamble's kick sprayed off the side of the boot, before a turnover from the Upper Gully kick-in allowed him to pounce on a loose ball and snap truly from deep within the opposite pocket.

With time ticking and running on tired legs, the Bloods worked hard to get the ball forward, before Morello took a strong contested mark to goal and the Bloods again took the lead after a string of Upper Gully goals.

Biggs settled the result with his fourth goal in an impressive debut, before the siren sounded on a hard fought Warrandyte victory over a highly fancied opposition.

The young Bloods take on undefeated Doncaster

this week.

Warrandyte 16.19-115 d Upper Gully 16.11-107

Goals: S. Biggs 4, M. Morello 3, C. Wheatley 3, A. Gamble 2, M. Wood, L. Evans, T. Roberts, S. Christopher
Best: D. Mullett Treloar, H. Hosking, M. Wood, D. Large, T. Hookey, S. Biggs

ROUND FOUR

Warrandyte got themselves back on the winner's list after a hard fought encounter with Chirside Park in Round Four.

In a nail-biting final term, the Bloods were able to hold onto the lead despite intense pressure from Chirside Park and finished three points in front when the siren finally sounded after an abnormally long fourth quarter.

Warrandyte kicked with the aid of a strong breeze and had most of the play in the first term.

The Bloods unfortunately lost Ben Reid early after a heavy clash of heads. Reid was stretched from the ground to take no further part in the game. After some scrappy early football the Bloods took a 20 point lead into quarter time.

Chirside Park used the breeze more effectively in the second term, while Warrandyte had difficulty converting in front of goal kicking into the strong wind.

Skipper Tom Naughtin seemed to be everywhere, pushing deep into the backline to assist the Warrandyte defenders and also winning a lot of contested ball at stoppages around the ground. In a low scoring match, Warrandyte were one point in front at half time.

The third quarter saw the Bloods again wasteful in front of goal, a problem that has cost them in recent

weeks.

With a 17 point margin at the final break and Chirside Park coming home with the wind, coach Michael Tout told his players not to try and defend the lead, but to keep attacking.

"If you go defensive, they will come over the top of you" said Tout. "You must kick goals this quarter."

After two early goals to Chirside Park, the Bloods responded with two of their own through Evans and Wheatley to open up a 19 point lead.

Two quick goals to Chirside Park reduced the margin to seven points before Morello kicked a clever goal to stretch the margin to two straight kicks.

In a nail-biting finish, Chirside kicked another goal but fell short.

Warrandyte 12.17-89 d Chirside Park 12.14-86

Goals: C. Wheatley 3, L. Evans 2, A. Gamble 2, M. Morello, D. Large, T. Roberts, J. Khouri, M. Wood
Best: D. Mullett Treloar, T. Beasley, D. Large, C. Wheatley, T. Naughtin, T. Hookey

ROUND THREE

Warrandyte 8.9-57 lost to North Ringwood 15.16-106

Goals: M. Morello 2, C. Kennedy, B. Reid, R. Ansaldi, L. Evans, T. Roberts, S. Christopher
Best: T. Beasley, T. Naughtin, C. Vanflorestein, G. McAdam, D. Mullett Treloar, T. Hookey

ROUND TWO

Coldstream 15.7-97 d Warrandyte 11.18-84

Goals: M. Morello 4, L. Evans 2, C. Kennedy, R. Ansaldi, B. Taylor, D. Large, S. Christopher
Best: A. Tsapatsaris, B. Reid, D. Mullett Treloar, T. Naughtin, G. McAdam, T. Beasley



Shane Biggs had an outstanding debut for the Bloods, kicking four goals.



Cam Van Florestein leads in the race for the ball.

Footballers reflect on a tragic loss

The Warrandyte community was shocked to hear of the sudden death of Brendan Zach recently and this brief obituary was written from the perspective of his teammates and friends at the Warrandyte Football Club.

Brendan made his debut with the Warrandyte Football Club in 2006 playing 14 games with the Under 18s.

It was quickly evident that he was a very capable player and seamlessly made the transition to senior football the following year.

Eight games in the Firsts as an 18 year old, Brendan would regularly feature in the top grade but it was in the Reserves that his best football was seen. Early form indicated Zachy was on track to have a break out season in 2010.

Also a key player with Warrandyte Cricket Club, Brendan was the winner of the 2009 WCC - WFC All Rounder Award which was testament to his ability as a sportsman.

Often spending six days a week at Warrandyte Reserve it was Zachy's home away from home. More often than not he would be there to greet you with his cheeky smile.

Off the field Brendan made a lasting impression. Always quick to remind anyone of any shortfalls but also willing to be the brunt of the joke, he was a good natured person that all local clubs need ... happy to help, always with a smile on his face, wherever there was a shortage of volunteers and never complaining about getting his hands dirty.

To know that Brendan will no longer be at his club to greet us is very difficult to comprehend. The mourning process will take some time.

Life can throw up many obstacles and often seemingly untenable situations arise. But there are always options. It might not be an easy road to travel but doesn't need to be a journey taken alone.

Communicate to your friends, family or colleagues. Learn from others and be the best you can be. That is all anyone can ask.

LANDFIELD

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SPECIAL OFFER

*CONDITIONS APPLY

For the months of May and June we will be offering **FREE ADVERTISING*** to all vendors who list their properties with our office during this time.

So if you are thinking of selling, why not take advantage of this fantastic opportunity and list your property while the market is hot!

Reconnect With Nature

Experience the wonder of true Warrandyte living in an environmentally friendly 4BR home, located within minutes walk from the beautiful Yarra River. This solar powered, beautifully landscaped, yet low maintenance property is set on half an acre with rear access to the sustainable organic vegetable garden and orchard, and chicken coop. For serious entertainers, look no further than the inground spa or the vast front decking overlooking spectacular views of the local bushland towards Stony Creek and the Yarra River. Inside, the beautiful master bedroom features an ensuite with double vanity and walk in robe, maintaining peace and quiet from the other bedrooms. The easily accessible kitchen boasts ample storage whilst the cosy lounge room provides for warm winter nights with a slow combustion open fire place and brick finishing.



WARRANDYTE NORTH

Scenic Views From the Treetops

Set at the end of a quiet street yet less than a 10 minute walk to the busy Warrandyte shops, this 3 bedroom home strikes the perfect balance of appreciating Mother Nature and enjoying convenience of location. Feast your eyes upon the enviable views of Warrandyte and Wonga Park from the front deck whilst entertaining friends and family, or relax on the back patio amongst a garden haven. Inside, the quaint kitchen offers a modest area for meals and continuing conversation through to the cosy family/lounge room with timber features. This home is a perfect start for a young family or a couple looking to escape the hustle and bustle of urban suburbia.



WARRANDYTE

The Forefront of Retirement Living

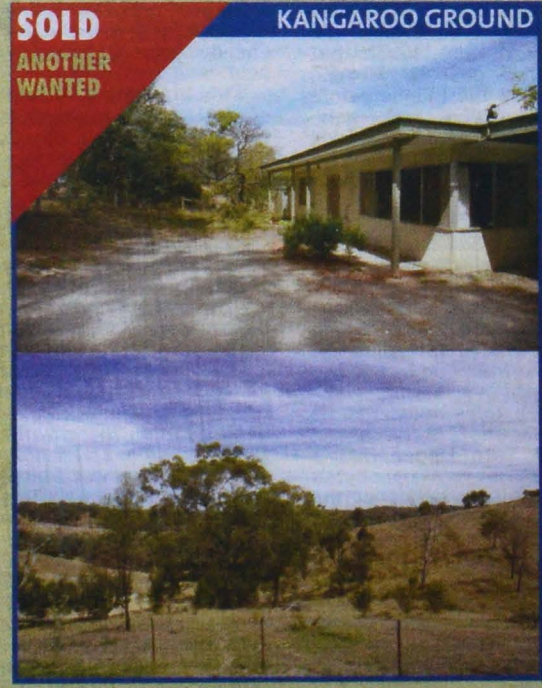
For those seeking a desirable pocket of creek bushland in Warrandyte and the opportunity to be part of a lively and exclusive development in a vibrant community, look no further. This community owned project presents five brand new independent living villas for retirees aged over 65 years. The five villas available all feature two bedrooms and built in wardrobes, with master bedroom including ensuite, separate powder room, spacious family room, meals area and all kitchens are fully fitted and tiled with Caesar stone bench tops and European appliances. An option between single garage with direct entry or single carport with storage space is offered. Continuing outside you will find a quaint entertaining area under the porch and a low maintenance garden. The village is within walking distance to public transport, the recreation reserve and senior citizens club.



3 VILLAS UNDER OFFER WARRANDYTE

Acreage With Views

Rarely does the opportunity arise to secure 3/4 acres (approx.) of cleared land with a superb outlook. Surrounded by large properties, this property is ideal for horse lovers or for anyone who enjoys the freedom of space, tranquility and beautiful surrounds. This impressive land offering also includes a two bedroom home featuring a lounge room with coonara woodfire, kitchen and double carport. From every aspect, this property is worthy of an inspection and more.



SOLD ANOTHER WANTED KANGAROO GROUND

Lions Club of Warrandyte Inc.

supports Victorian Lions Foundation projects including

Lions Crimewatch, Lions Village Licola, Lions Cancer Research Unit, Bionic Ear Service, Lions Eye Donation Services, Lions Rheumatism & Arthritis Medical Research, Baker IDI Heart & Diabetes Institute, National Vision Research Institute, Centre for Eye Research Australia.

Your support is welcomed - contact Garry on 0416 220 650

www.lionsclubwarrandyte.org.au



www.landfield.com.au