



WHOLESALE DIRECT TO PUBLIC

Flywire Mesh

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Editorial & Advertising: 9844 0555 Fax: 9844 4168 Email: warrandytediary@aapt.net.au



Busbaysgob

Indent return being costed

By KARLY HICKMAN and CLIFF GREEN

The recently-elected state government may return bus stops along Yarra Street to their former indented

design.

The changes to the bus stops in Warrandyte fuelled considerable local debate, many residents arguing that the new bus stops, requiring buses to stop on the road, are adding to bumper-to-bumper traffic at

peak times.

Ryan Smith, MP for Warrandyte and minister for the environment and climate change, has requested a full costing from the Department of Transport on returning the stops to their original indented design.

"This is clearly something that is both frustrating and a safety issue for the people of Warrandyte," Mr Smith told the Diary.

He claimed the original decision to change the bus stops was made by the former government "with no community consultation".

"These are real safety issues, particularly on Yarra Street, where sections of the road are so narrow,"

Mr Smith said.

Work on modifying the bus stops began around the middle of last year, when contractors started work, removing the indented nature of a number of sites along the main road, aimed at stopping buses in the traffic lane and forcing traffic to stop behind them.

The Department of Transport in-

The Department of Transport insisted the Warrandyte community had been consulted on this move.

At the time, a departmental spokes-person told the *Diary*: "Bus stops along Yarra Street are being upgrad-ed to SmartBus standards as part of the Doncaster Area Rapid Transport System (DART) project.

"The upgrades are designed to give buses priority while maintaining the traffic flow through Yarra Street. Indented bus bays are removed to allow buses to stop and leave without having to merge with traffic.

"This means buses are not delayed when trying to merge into traffic. As a bus can carry more than 50 people, it helps relieve congestion on the roads.

"The owner or occupier of all properties next to a bus stop were

The owner or occupier of all properties next to a bus stop were consulted in 2009," the spokesperson claimed.

The Warrandyte Community Association argued that the new system would add to congestion.

"Our position is that we are working to reduce gridlock in Warrandyte, not increase it," WCA president Dick Davies said.

Ryan Smith said that once costings

were complete, a decision would be made as to whether rebuilding the bus stops would be cost prohibitive. If not, he will consult with the community to gauge local support for the changes. Full costings are expected in the

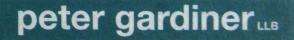
coming weeks.

Meanwhile construction of the modified bus stops was continuing as the *Diary* went to press.

The *Diary* is seeking community comment on this issue.







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"Only dull people are brilliant at breakfast

Oscar Wilde



EMBER

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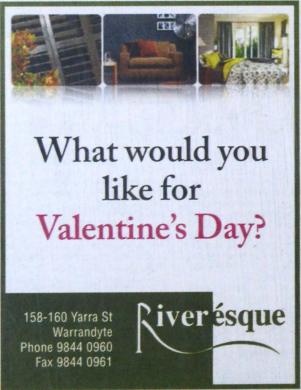
Next issue of the *Diary* will be published on Wednesday, March 9, 2011. Advertising and editorial copy closes Friday, February 25, 2011.

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 yournees with only one ann. to serve its community, interest some problems of the 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

A SPECIAL PLACE

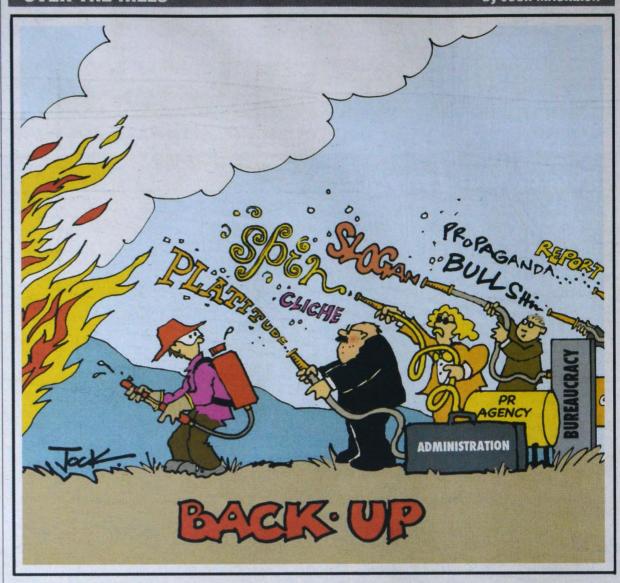
Warrandyte (approximate population 8000) is situated on the Yarra River, some 27km from Melbourne. For countless ages a well-stocked hunting ground of the Wurundjeri people, in 1851 Warrandyte became the site of the first official gold discovery in Victoria. It soon established its character as a small,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





OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



Swedish style evades Narelle

living with The Trotts

ASPER needed a new desk.
"No worries," said Narelle. "I'll just pop in to IKEA and get something."
Alert readers will have immediately spotted the oxymoron in Narelle's simple solution.
The idea of just popping in to IKEA is as inherently

in to IKEA is as inherently contradictory as Matt Preston having a light lunch. Or a brief comment from Rob

a brief comment from Rob Oakeshott.
But, true to her word, the next day found Narelle parking the car at Victoria Gardens, scaling the steps to the IKEA entrance and stepping boldly onto the black stripe. If a straight line is technically defined as the shortest distance between two points, the line on the floor of IKEA is surely the longest.

the line on the floor of IKEA is surely the longest.
And without so much as a water bottle or a pickled herring to sustain her, Narelle plunged into Sweden's answer to the Matrix to run the gamut of ready-to-assemble items with names like Boink, Slag and Fjarding.
She hurried through dinning settings, sofars, stjools

sne nurried through dinning settings, sofars, stjools and storij, took a short cut through fjabriks, went back through sofars, stjools and storij, pressed on to kabjinets, boksjelfes and warddrobs, saw one of those stjuddent lammps that bends five ways, proceeded through gllasysuar. proceeded through gllasvsuar, kutllerii and bjatmats, de-

cided to go back and get the stjuddent lammp that bends five ways, retraced her steps through gllasvsuar, kutllerii and bjatmats, got lost in verk-statyons, took a deep breath in kitseeps struggled on through statyons, took a deep breath in kitssens, struggled on through doar hantles, had a little lie down in matresvsjes, began to sob at tois, smashed through krokkerii, burst through kurtans, practically slid down the stairs to warehaus and ran for the check-out, collecting an old man with an armful of koatanggers on the way knock-

ing everything from arsjehol to brekfasjt.
"Dikkhed!" yelled Narelle and fled for the nearest exit and out into the carpark.
"Thank ABBA!" she gasped and slumped against a pink pillar to catch her breath before heading for the car.
It wasn't there.
"Sfit!" said Narelle.
Up and down the aisles

Up and down the aisles she wandered, getting more frantic by the minute. Maybe she was on the wrong floor. She headed up the ramp,

cars swerving around her in both directions, reached orange level and started again. She searched every inch, twice, before trudging on up to green. One heel was broken, her hair hung in damp strands, she was dripping with sweat and hallucinating that she was trapped on a Volvo assembly line.

Motorists honked her, shoppers swerved their trolleys to one side and mothers dragged their children out of the way of the madwoman dragging a lammp that bent in five places

of the madwonian dragging a lammp that bent in five places crying, "Has anybody seen a car!"

Then, just when she was thinking she'd have to wait till all the other vehicles had left, there it was.

Love is not an emotion usual

there it was.

Love is not an emotion usually bestowed upon a 1996
Toyota LandCruiser but Narelle could not have embraced
Brad Pitt more passionately as she threw her arms around the bullbar, the lammp folding neatly to the side and gouging a thirty centimetre groove along the fender. She clambered in, wound her way down to the exit gate and didn't have enough change to get out.

didn't have enough change to get out.

"So," said Neville when she got home. "Did you get one?"

"Get what?" moaned Narelle, sprawled across the bed like a boxer taking the count.

"A desk."

"Oh krapp!" she moaned and closed her eyes.

ALAN CORNELL



FIRE AND EMERGENCY: 000

CFA Regional Headquarters 8739 1300

Warrandyte CFA 9844 3375

North Warrandyte CFA 9844 0847

South Warrandyte 9844 2861

Wonga Park CFA 9722 1463

VICTORIAN BUSHFIRE INFORMATION LINE: 1800 240 667

Relay for Life relocating

The local community is disappointed that the Warrandyte Relay for Life is to be relocated to East Doncaster and will be renamed the Manningham Relay for Life.

The Warrandyte apparent

The Warrandyte event, staged at the Warrandyte Reserve over the past three

Reserve over the past three years, has become an important weekend on the local calendar.

The first relay, in 2008, raised \$15,000 for the Cancer Council, the second, in 2009, raised \$53,000. Last year the relay raised \$55,000. Many local clubs, organisations and family groups organised teams, secured sponsorships, raised ily groups organised teams, secured sponsorships, raised finance and participated in the all-night relay in honour of survivors of cancer, their carers and friends and loved ones lost to cancer.

According to a spokesperson, "the change of venue comes in response to a numerous propose in response to a numerous sponsor."

son, "the change of venue comes in response to a number of unresolved issues surrounding the Warrandyte Reserve football oval, including participant feedback."

"Sad as it is to see the relay move from Warrandyte, this change will absolutely and totally solve so many of the

Victorian Bushfire Information Line: ph 1800 240 667 (or 1800 122 969 for TTY)

CFA: www.cfa.vic.gov.au

CFA on mobiles: www.cfa.vic.gov.au/mobile

CFA Connect: www.cfaconnect.net.au

Online bushfire safety meetings tinyurl.com/23cn5rb

To book a CFA property assessment: tinyurl.com/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/cfavic

YouTube: www.youtube.com/cfatv

Twitter: twitter.com/cfa_connect

one app: tinyurl.com/

DSE; www.dse.vic.gov.au

Bureau of Meteorology: www.

Emergency broadcasters include: ABC Melbourne 774 AM, commercial AM and FM stations, Plenty Valley 88.6 FM, plus Sky News Television.

CFA District 13 (south of Yarra): ph 8739 1300

2crojxv

Find fire

facts

To report a fire: 000

challenges we faced at our local oval," local committee member Sandi Givens told

"We know the track will be safe to walk on, no matter what the weather. Tents can what the weather. Ients can be pegged into the ground, we'll have wonderful rooms for both the massages and the survivors and carers func-tion, and the toilets will cope with the extra demand," Ms

Givens said.

The organisers believe that reshaping the relay to be a Manningham-wide event provides "a unique opportunity to bring the greater community together to celebrate cancer survivors remember.

nity together to celebrate cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost and fight back against cancer."

The Manningham Relay for Life is scheduled for September. More information from www.relayfor live.org.au or phone 1300 65 65 85.

Prior to the November state elections, local MP Ryan Smith told the Diary that a Baillieu Liberal government, if elected, would provide \$800,000 towards a major redevalonment of the pagilion redevelopment of the pavilion at the Warrandyte Reserve.



They ran for their lives at the 2010 Warrandyte Relay for Life. (Picture by Bill Parry)

CFA brochure confuses



Local CFA volunteers stand ready. (Picture by Sandy Burgoyne)

A CFA mail-out received by many locals last month has caused some confusion in the community. It contained a brochure, specifically in-tended for local residents, entitled "Warrandyte/North Warrandyte Community Pre-

paredness Guide".

The release of this bro-chure followed a meeting, chure followed a meeting, held last November in War-randyte, between the CFA's community safety officer for this area, members of the Warrandyte Community Association, local fireguard groups and some CFA volun-

"There is some praise for this brochure," Dick Davies, WCA president, told the *Di*-

"The fire planning template, fridge magnet and overall material is a remind-er to prepare in advance for the fire season.

"However, residents are critical of much of the con-tent, some of which is down-

right misleading."

Mr Davies believes that fire safety officer Lorraine Kamp "conducted a very professional meeting. There was agreement on key points from all attending.

"But few of our suggestions

"But few of our suggestions have been incorporated by CFA management in this document.

WCA understands that the Township Protection Plan is a work in progress, but this

is now the second document produced in two years—fol-lowing community consul-tation—which CFA central command and control men-tality has seen fit to ignore,' Mr Davies said.

Mr Davies said.

"There are some obvious howlers. Use of Sloan Hill as a descriptor in North Warrandyte is not particularly helpful, and describing the bridge as single lane defies the usual use of that term. "However more impor-

"However, more impor-tantly, it still includes a Fire Risk Assessment map of Warrandyte and North Warrandyte that is actually a CFA operational map and could be positively dangerous if

misinterpreted by residents."
All participants at the November meeting agreed that

this should be removed "but it remains," Mr Davies said.
"Not everyone received a copy of the brochure, as the Department of Justice address list is limited, so alternative distribution through commercial outlets. through commercial outlets. local organisations and Com-munity Fireguard groups is

munity Fireguard groups is necessary.

"WCA is very supportive of the efforts of our local community safety officer to promote fire safety in the area and we hope that in future—third time lucky!—the CFA will finally get the message that local residents can contribute vital information to these plans," Mr Davies

Checklist

- Plan to leave early.
- Reduce fuel around the home—long grass, leaves, bark and twigs should be
- Gutters should be cleaned.
- Move firewood away from the walls of your home.
- Cover vents and crevices with fine wire to prevent sparks and embers entering.
- Make sure under the home is clear of combustible mate-
- Ensure access to adequate static water supplies.
- Check and have your fire-
- Creck and have your fire-fighting equipment serviced.
 Most importantly—make sure you have a practical bush-fire plan in place. Consider who will be home and when. More than one plan may be needed to account for difference sce-
- The CFA is running two ◆ The CFA is running two Fire Ready Victoria meetings in the Wonga Park area during February. The first is at the Wonga Park Community Hall (Mel 24G12) at 8pm on Thursday, February 10 and the second is at 7.30pm at the Yarrunga Community Centre, Croydon Hills Drive, Croydon Hills.

School starting - make use of the Education Tax Refund by keeping all relevant receipts. As from 1 July school uniforms are included. Speak to us now to ensure you are doing it right. We welcome personal and business tax enquiries.

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We know all about floods!

By VAL POLLEY

HE recent devastating floods across much of eastern Australia have focussed a great deal of attention onto flooding, especially its causes and impacts. There has been speculation on how this township would be affected in similar circumstances.

Warrandyte has certainly seen its fair share of floods over the decades. In the early days of European settlement the river flooded frequently. Heavy winter and summer rains or sudden summer storms saw water levels rise unickly with often cavere flooding. quickly with often severe flooding wiping out the infrastructure that had been built.

had been built.

"The Yarra has twice risen to such a height that many families have been washed out of their houses and it has done a lot of damage to crops," so wrote Warrandyte settler Penelope Selby in November 1842. Again she wrote in November 1844: "My old friend the Yarra Yarra has overflowed beyond the calculation or remembrance of any person here and done great damage. Entire houses have been

damage. Entire houses have been washed away."

The local Aborigines warned however that, "this one only piccaninny—big one coming".

The almost annual flooding made

mining the river and creek beds difficult. In 1851 cradles, dishes, tools and everything else were washed away causing many local miners hardship.

But it was the Great Flood of 1863 But it was the Great Flood of 1863 that caused much greater damage along the entire length of the river. Warrandyte was no exception, the new and expensive bridge was swept away, fences lost and roads and culverts damaged. Elsewhere there was extensive flooding and damage. After investigations into causes and effects the lower Yarra's course was altered in 1879 to alleviate flooding in the lower reaches.

reaches.
No such alleviation occurred at No such alleviation occurred at Warrandyte however, and frequent flooding continued with detrimental effects on mining activities. Equipment was continually washed away, crushing machines were unable to work and coffer dams became submerged. In 1891 and 1901 there were record floods though not quite to 1863 levels but still causing significant damage and distress.

However it was in December 1934

However it was in December 1934 that the greatest flood was recorded for the Yarra River. This flood reached unprecedented levels and caused enormous damage over the catchment. It was the most disas trous flood in the history of War-

randyte with more than 40 people made homeless and all the shops and dwellings on the riverside of Yarra Street flooded. One house (Miller's) was swept away, and eight others, a church and the post office were completely submerged or flooded.

At the time the damage was estimated at about \$4000. Mr Miller's house, huge trees, dead sheep, poultry, cattle, a haystack and lots of other debris were swept down the swollen river. Pearson's footbridge at Pound Bend was also swept away and many orchards suffered damage from debris with Till's orchard losing its entire peach crop.

The water rose over the (then) wooden bridge to a depth of two feet and the sides were removed to

wooden bridge to a depth of two feet and the sides were removed to allow for wreckage from upstream to flow over the decking, saving it from collapse. It was the largest flood ever experienced at Warrandyte. Fortunately no loss of life occurred in the township

dyte. Fortunately no loss of life occurred in the township.

Across the catchment region though, more than 6000 people were made homeless and 18 people died. As with previous floods, this one resulted in a board of enquiry that recommended more planned improvements and mitigation works.

The Upper Yarra Dam was built

in 1957. Wise actions from the then Board of Works resulted in setting flood levels below which no build-ings were allowed to be built. As a result there are now parklands and recreational areas all along the river that do occasionally flood, but these events usually have mini-mal effect on infrastructure and

mal effect on infrastructure and buildings.

The last major flood in the township, that cut roads such as Everard Drive, flooded areas such as Glynn's farm and impacted on residents was in November 1971. Some buildings located in lower lying areas such as the old dairy also flooded.

There have been several lesser

There have been several lesser flood events too since that time, when the pathways along the river have gone under water and footbridges and walkways within the State Park have been affected. However the recent long drought has seen river levels at an all-time low for some time.

The flood experiences of recent months leads to reflection on the likelihood of floods affecting the township again. There are surely lessons to be learnt from those in Queensland and Victoria and questions to be asked. There is perhaps wisdom in adhering to the flood levels set in 1934 with 100-year flood levels saying more about lev-

els than actual frequency.

Can it ever be said that "it will never happen again" even with dams further up the catchment? Are flood plains just for flooding and not building, given that no real guarantees can be given there will be no future flood events? Do levees and diversions only move the problems elsewhere?

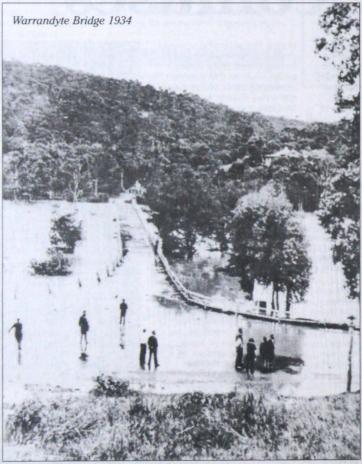
Can dams be the answer given those built for flood mitigation need to be empty and those for water storage full, making it unlikely one dam can fulfill both needs satisfactorily? No doubt there will be an enquiry to try to find answers to these questions but will lessons be learnt? History tends to suggest not.

One thing is for sure, there can

not.
One thing is for sure, there cannot be complacency. Given a similar concurrence of events as that which occurred in the north; full dams, saturated soil and an extreme rainfall event, similar flooding could occur again along the Yarra

flooding could occur again along the Yarra.

There are constant warnings that global warming will lead to more and more extreme events occurring at more frequent intervals. The recent switch from drought to floods has been dramatic. Warrandyte has experienced extreme floods in the past; it should remain prepared to do so again in the future.

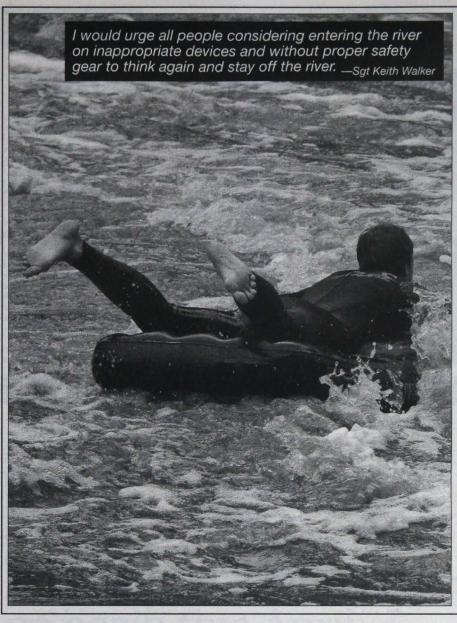




Everard Drive 197.







River dangers

By SANDY BURGOYNE

Heavy downpours during the past couple of months brought welcome inflows to dams and water tanks, but created potentially hazardous conditions in the Yarra.

During the summer months our river is usually a friendly and inviting place to cool

our river is usually a friendly and inviting place to cool off — the level is low, the flow leisurely and the water relatively clear, but not this season. The Yarra is flowing more like a winter river, being higher, broader, swifter and marking than year are and murkier than we are accustomed to at this time of year; and it must be treated

year; and it must be treated with respect.

As the Diary was going to press, it was announced that a young man had died in the Yarra at Eltham.

Last month two 19-year-olds floated down the river on small, inflatable toys and were lucky to escape from the swiftly flowing water. One of the teenagers lost her floatation toy and lost her floatation toy and clutched hold of a tree in the middle of the river near the tunnel entrance. Concerned onlookers called 000 and local police, plus Eltham and Doncaster SES units

responded.
"We had to launch one of our boats and get downstream and we loaded (the teenagers) into the boat and then powered back up the river and offloaded them onto the bank," John Allen, deputy controller SES Doncaster unit told the *Diary*.
In this case the risk-taking

teenagers were rescued, but six years earlier a similar float down the Yarra ended in tragedy. Two men in their 20s tried to cross the swollen and swiftly flowing Yarra just above the tunnel entrance on toy inflatable rafts. One man reached the other side, but the other fell from his plastic float and was swept into the tunnel. His body was found several days later five kilometres downstream from kilometres downstream from

the tunnel exit.

Warrandyte police Sergeant
Keith Walker recalled the
aftermath of that drowning.

"I spent five days with the
parents of the young man who

died in the river after being dragged through the tunnel whilst the river was in flood. I don't want to have to do that again or see other parents have to go through what those people did while many people were out looking for their son. I don't want to see any other young lives taken through reckless behaviour and I would urge all people considering entering the river on inappropriate devices and on inappropriate devices and without proper safety gear to think again and stay off

the river."
The SES also issued a safety

The SES also issued a safety warning about entering a swiftly flowing watercourse. "We have standard advice regarding flood waters, definitely when water levels are up you need to be particularly cautious and we recommend strongly that people don't enter or play in flood waters. You can be in

as little as 60cm of water and be swept off your feet," Mr Allen said.

"One of the indicators is that obviously the strength of the river is significantly higher than usual. There can be a lot of debris that's washed down as well and you may not be aware of it. Obviously the Yarra is a fairly murky river at the best of times and visibility below the top layer is pretty limited, so you don't know what's in the river, what's washing down." Life Saving Victoria research suggests a link between the volume of water flowing into inland waterways and the drowning rate. "One of the indicators is

inland waterways and the drowning rate.

"Prior to the recent significant rainfall events Victoria experienced lower than average annual rainfall totals across a number of years and the average annual drowning rate for inland waters also decreased during this time," Rob Andronaco, Life Saving Victoria's senior risk consultant, said.

"With the recent heavy rainfall, localised hazards will increase dramatically.

will increase dramatically. Some examples of these hazards are deeper water from greater volume, altered local topology, for example steeper banks due to erosion and submerged and floating objects from debrie washed. objects from debris washed downstream and ultimately residing in the water basins.

"Waterways after large rainfall can also become increasingly turbid, reducing visibility."

Town lends a helping hand

By BRIANNA PIAZZA

Warrandyte knows all about natural disasters, and is, as usual, providing generous aid-in-kind, as well as raising thousands of dollars to support Queensland and Victorian communities devastated by the recent floods.

Almost one-quarter of Victoria has been affected by floods, with the clean-up estimated to cost hundreds of millions of dollars. The cost of Queensland's recovery may extend well beyond \$20 billion.

Warrandyte Lions Club is

billion.
Warrandyte Lions Club is supplying 400 Queensland families with mops, buckets, squeegees and other cleaning items to help the clean-up effort. One hundred Horsham families in Victoria have already received clean-up tools from the club. from the club

from the club.
Lions are putting together a fencing trailer for the Chinchilla, Condamine and Miles area in south-east Queensland, providing farmers with the tools to rebuild their fences.

providing farmers with the tools to rebuild their fences. Lions spokesman, Lauri Hilakari, said these results would not have been possible without the involvement of other Lions clubs in the district, the help of staff and volunteers at the Warrandyte op shop and continuing aid from the Warrandyte community. "If we didn't have the generosity of the Warrandyte community, donating goods to the op shop and buying from there, we wouldn't be able to do this," Mr Hilakari said. "The Warrandyte community is fantastic. We couldn't do it without them."

He encouraged people to continue donating and buying goods from the op shop to raise more money for the

flood effort.

The Rotary Club of Warrandyte-Donvale is donating 14 generators to rural areas still awaiting re-connection to the power grid.

The club is holding a major fundraiser in conjunction with the Manningham, Templestowe and Doncaster

Templestowe and Doncaster clubs at the Veneto Club on Wednesday, February 16.

At \$55 a head, 200 guests will enjoy a two-course meal and live entertainment provided by well-known artists.

"It should be a great night,

with good meals and won-derful entertainment," local Rotary club president Tony Mooney told the *Diary*. "We hope to raise thousands of dollars in one night. All pro-ceeds will go to the Victorian flood appeal and we are ask-ing the community to donate auction items or raffle prizes auction items or raffle prizes for the night."

The local SES unit, based at

Doncaster, has sent crews to central and western Victoria where volunteers assisted with sandbagging, rescu-ing people and evacuating

houses and hospitals. The SES will deploy more volunteers throughout Victoria in the coming weeks, depending upon whatever level of assistance is required.

Community support will continue to be needed for the huge recovery process ahead, deputy controller of SES Don-

caster unit, John Allen, said "Obviously it's going to be a long clean-up for peo-ple in northern Victoria and Queensland and they will need the support of others in the community for quite

some time."
Market-goers were able able to donate money to help flood victims at a donations stall at the Warrandyte Market in

February.
Warrandyte Community branch of the Bendigo Bank is accepting donations to help flood victims and people can donate at any Bendigo Bank branch.

 A number of other local organisations are running fundraisers for the flood appeals. See our "Out of the inbox" colum on page 18.

How you can help

 The Lions Club Op Shop is at 168 Yarra Street, Warranis at 168 Yarra Street, Warrandyte, on the corner of Yarra Street and Mitchell Avenue. Hours: Monday to Friday, 1030am to 4.30pm; Saturday and Sunday: 11am to 5pm.

• Anyone interested in attending or donating items for the Rotary Club fundraiser should call Tony Mooney on 0419 352 644.

• The Warrandyte Community Branch of the Bendigo Bank is situated at 144 Yarra Street, Warrandyte, phone 9844 2233.

• The next Warrandyte

9844 2233.

◆ The next Warrandyte Community Market will be held on the riverbank below Stiggants Reserve on Saturday, March 5, between 9am and 1pm. Access from Stiggant Street, Everard Drive or Police Street

◆ Locals wishing to volunteer to help flood victims can

teer to help flood victims can contact Lions through 0419 396 816; or Rotary on 0419



Warrandyte rallies: the kids at Warrandyte High School remembered their friends at Whittlesea Secondary College, Black Saturday, 2009. (Pictures by Stephen Reynolds)



'Forget the past, Ock. There's no future in it!"

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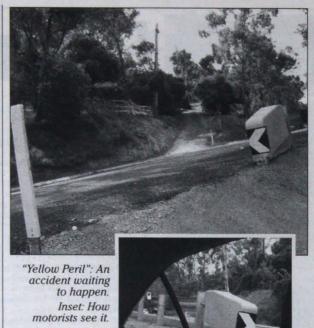
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Unsafe dear diary safety barrier

Manningham council and/or VicRoads (I'm not sure which) are installing safety barriers along the Warrandyte-Ringwood Road.

This seems a good idea—cars do occasionally roll off the edge, particularly on bends.

But it's not always such a good idea as it might seem.

The roadside "safety" barrier at the intersection of Warrandyte-Ringwood Road and Johansons Road in South Warrandyte has made it impossible to see oncoming traffic when turning into the main road. main road.

main road.
Visibility may be alright for 4WD drivers, but in a normal sedan car (Toyota Camry in my case), when turning north from Johansons Road

into Warrandyte-Ringwood Road, it is absolutely impos-sible to see oncoming traffic

travelling north because the barrier and its yellow end totally obstructs vision.

When turning south, the obstruction of vision of south-bound traffic is almost as bad.

There is going to be a seri-

There is going to be a seri-ous accident there some time

ous accident there some time soon.

Both ends of the barrier should be modified before that accident happens. Anyone involved in an accident would quite possibly have a good case against those responsible for installing the "safety" barrier.

By PAUL WILLIAMS

Michael Hubbert Anzac Road

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Australia Day honours for local volunteers

Four local residents were honoured at the Menzies Community Australia Day Awards, presented at the Manningham Function Centre in Doncaster on Australia Day, January 26. The awards are sponsored by Kevin Andrews, federal MP for the Menzies electorate.

Referring to the candidates for the award as a "group of individuals who have distinguished themselves by their active community service," Mr Andrews said, "It is with great pleasure that I congratulate each of the award recipients and thank them for the inspiring work they do for our local community."

Award recipients included Mrs Michelle

Hughes, Ms Ann Ley and Mr Peter Monahan of Warrandyte, and Mr Anthony Wallace of Park Orchards.

Park Orchards.

Mr Andrews also presented an Australian flag—that was flown at Parliament House, Canberra—to the Warrandyte CFA brigade in recognition of the valuable service they provide for the residents of the Warrandyte

■ Brother Sean Keefe, chaplain at White-friars College, has been named Manningham Citizen of the Year, and Stephanie Youseff, recently a student at Koonung Secondary College, is Young Citizen of the Year.

MICHELLE HUGHES

Nominated by the Pound Road Community Fireguard Group, Michelle has provided critical administrative support to the Pound Road Fireguard Group since it was founded in 1996. The group provides local families with practical information and assistance in bushfire survival planning strategies, skills and activities.

Michelle's involvement includes the distribution of informative newsletters to members, arrang-

newsletters to members, arrang-ing survival strategy and planning functions and maintenance of the bushfire warning telephone tree

In addition to her duties as a full-time kindergarten teacher

and mother of three, Michelle is always prepared to cheerfully donate time and effort to the community.

PETER MONAHAN

Peter was nominated for a Menzies Award by Information Warrandyte, where he has been a loyal volunteer for 10 years. His contribution is much appreciated by the committee and the other volunteers

ANN LEY

A long-time resident of War-randyte, Ann was nominated by Information Warrandyte where she has been an invaluable volunteer over the past 10 years. Among other roles, she has been a co-ordinator of Informa-tion Warrandyte and has served on the committee for a number

ANTHONY WALLACE

Nominated by the Park Orchards Primary School, Anthony has been a parent at the school for 10 years. He served on the school council for six years, including four years as treasurer and two as president. He is a member of the master plan sub-committee and has been instrumental in de-veloping and implementing many veloping and implementing many improvements to the school's

WarrandyteCAN expo on again this April



The Warrandyte Sustain-

The Warrandyte Sustainability Expo, organised by WarrandyteCAN (Climate Action Now), returns in early April.

"Warrandyte's community has a strong sense of climate change awareness," CAN president Wayne Rankin told the *Diary*.

"Since 2007, the annual expos have drawn up to 1000 people, eager to learn more about specific solutions to carbon emission re-

duction in their homes and

duction in their homes and businesses and to discover new ways to live sustainably."

This year, WarrandyteCAN is planning to work more closely, across many of its activities, with other likeminded community groups and local schools.

The theme of the 2011 expo is "The Sounds of Change".

"We have invited primary schools to present small

items of music or drama as

items of music or drama as well as contributing to a sculpture competition," Mr Rankin said.

• The WarrandyteCAN Sustainability Expo will be held at the Warrandyte Community Centre, corner of Yarra and Webb streets Warrandyte on Saturday, April 2. Further information from Wayne Rankin on 9844 4438.

Pictured: the town turned out for last year's expo.



Safety for motorbikes

By SANDY BURGOYNE

VicRoads will start remedial work on two major roads link-ing North Warrandyte with Re-search and Kangaroo Ground this month.

this month.
"A total of \$623,000 will be invested to improve motorcycle safety on Kangaroo Ground-Warrandyte Road and on Research-Warrandyte Road. VicRoads will complete works including new Road. VicRoads will complete works including new guardfence, road sealing, additional signage and removal of hazards," Julian Lyngcoln, VicRoads director of safer roads told the *Diary*.

This work is part of the VicRoads "blacklengths" project to identify motorcycle high risk long routes and carry out remedial work on those

out remedial work on those

The aim is to make conditions on these long routes consistent along the length of the road and include clear warnings and road markings. The solution involves cost-effective road treatments applied along the whole length of the road.

Typical treatments to help prevent riders losing control include: clearer delineation, warning and advisory signs, removal of obstructions to rider visibility, smoother road

surfaces, improved edge-lines and removal of debris. "These works are being conducted under Victoria's motorcycle safety program, funded by the TAC and deliv-ered by VicRoads. The works will commence in February 2011 and are expected to be complete by June 2011," Mr

Lyngcoln said.

He said that the motorcycle safety levy, which is included as part of the TAC premium on new motorcycle registrations and registration renewals, has made this investment in motorcycle blacklengths possible

possible.
Since 2002 Victorian motorcyclists have paid this compulsory levy on registration of motorcycles of over 125cc capacity. The motorcycle safety levy has been set at \$61.60 per registration for the current year.
"The levy funds a range of initiatives that address the key issues causing motorcycle

key issues causing motorcycle trauma. Currently \$42.7 mil-lion has been approved for motorcycle safety initiatives across Victoria," Mr Lyngcoln

The upgrades will be progressively carried out on Kangaroo Ground-Warrandyte Road from Warrandyte bridge to Eltham-Yarra Glen Road in Kangaroo Ground, and on Research-Warrandyte Road from the intersection with Kangaroo Ground-Warrandyte Road to Main Road at Research.

"The works are expected to cause minor traffic delays in the area while they are being completed. VicRoads encourages motorists to plan their

ages motorists to plan their journey in advance while the works are being completed," Mr Lyngcoln said.





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Following in their footsteps

Little Amber Gedge, commencing her schooling at Warrandyte Primary School this month, is the third generation of her family to attend the school.

to attend the school.
Her father Robbie Gedge attended the school in the 1970s, and her grandparents—lan and Wendy (formerly Cole) Gedge—were students during the 1950s when most of their primary schooling took place in the old stone building.

Amber's great grandfather—Ken Gedge—was Warrandyte's pharmacist for many years, operating out of the shop on the north side of Yarra Street, most recently occupied by Carter Real Estate. Ken and Dulcie Gedge and their family lived in the residence behind. The pharmacy served as a first aid post during bushfire emergencies. during bushfire emergencies

Let's do lunch!

Most of us have picnicked be-

Most of us have picnicked beside the river at some time or other, sitting on the grass, eating a few sangers, or perhaps fish and chips from a box.

But for the third time in Warrandyte, you can book for the World's Longest Lunch, to be held on the Warrandyte Riverwalk, on the riverbank at the bottom of Webb Street (Melway 23/E11), commencing at 12 noon on Friday, March 4.

Organised by the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival, in conjunction with Manningham council, the Warrandyte Longest Lunch will feature a three-course meal prepared by Box Hill Institute chefs and cookery students, and served

by Box Hill Institute chefs and cookery students, and served by hospitality students.
Wines will come from Kellybrook Winery in Wonga Park.
"Last year's Longest Lunch event was a big success," Manningham CEO Lydia Wilson told the *Diary*. "This is a chance to sample some of our best local wines, fresh produce and gourmet food."
But it will cost you rather more than a sandwich or a box of chips. Tickets are \$105 per person and include the three-course meal, wine and a "complimentary seated massage". Bookings close

massage". Bookings close on Friday, February 25 and can be made through www. manninghambusiness.com. au or by phoning Fiona Khor at 9840 9310.

> Longest Lunch: Sandy Burgoyne images from previous events.







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It's farewell Rob, hello Scott!

The Diary has a new sports editor. After five years of ensuring every sport in the town was given a great run on our pages, Robert White has succumbed to pressure of work in his busy publishing business and regretfully given up his role on the Diary. But not before we found a suitable and willing replacement.

we found a suitable and willing replacement.
Rob White took over as sports editor on a moment's notice when prostate cancer finally forced beloved, long-time Diary co-editor Lee Tindale (aka Smokey Joe) to retire.
As a reporter and ultimately executive on a local newspaper chain,

local newspaper chain, and former editor of the AFL Football Record, Rob brought a wealth of expe-rience to this newspaper.



Robert White

We thank him for his outstanding commitment each month, producing such live-ly and informative pages. His replacement also



Scott Podmore

comes to us with outstanding credentials. Raised in the Murray River town of Echuca, Scott Podmore gained a cadetship at the

Riverine Herald, rising to sports editor of that newspaper. He is resigning after 15 years working for News Ltd to run his own small media company and has agreed to take over the role of sports editor of the Warrandyte Diary.

Scott and his sports-loving family—wife Kerry and kids Billy (8) and Lou (6)—have lived in Warrandyte only three years, but

dyte only three years, but they have slipped easily into the community life of this wonderful place. Scott is looking forward to the friendships and new in-sights that working on the Diary brings.

CLIFF GREEN

 Scott Podmore can be contacted at: scott@octobergrey.com. Phone 9844 4614.

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Duck race at risk

Challenge for new president

By CHERIE MOSELYN

One of Warrandyte Festival's most popular and long-running events, the duck race, may have to be suspended from

this year's program unless an alternative approach can be found to release the plastic ducks into the Yarra.

Usual practice has been to suspend an SES volunteer from a cable, manoeuvre the sack of ducks into the middle of the river and unhook them. However, opening the bar can be a complete contribute to the sack of the plant the bar can be a complete contribute to the sack of the sack ing the bag can be a complex operation and in the interest of ensuring maximum safety, the SES has suggested organisers adopt another method.

safety, the SLS has suggested organisers adopt another method.

Helping overcome this hurdle is just one of many tasks new committee president Adie Courtney will oversee during the lead-up to the festival.

"Co-ordinating the entry of the ducks can be quite tricky," said Ms Courtney, "I know first-hand having been a "Duck Lady" in the past. The race is hugely popular, especially with the children, so the committee will do everything to make sure it goes ahead. To that end, we would welcome any ideas that would enable a suitably spectacular launch. We're after maximum fanfare, with minimum complication!"

Ms Courtney took on the role of festival president after John Boyle retired in Feb-

president after John Boyle retired in Feb-ruary last year. Her capabilities encom-pass several years of managing diverse events at the festival and a familiarity with planning on a large scale that comes from being an architect. She credits the authentic village feel of the festival itself as the impetus that led to a shift from the suburban fringe of Melbourne to



Ducks ahoy: an SES man liberating

Warrandyte 12 years ago.
"Our family experienced the community of Warrandyte for the first time when we fell across the festival one year, and afterwards I just couldn't get the place out of my mind. The solid local commitment that gave the festival its atmosphere epitomised everything I was looking for

that gave the festival its atmosphere epitomised everything I was looking for in a neighbourhood."

With two children eventually attending Warrandyte Primary School, Ms Courtney met local parents, several of whom were on the Festival Committee. An invitation to a post-festival wash-up dinner sparked her initial involvement.

"Before I knew it I was sucked into the vortex of the committee and found myself helping to organise the pre-festival cocktail party for the following year. I

had never done anything like this before but everybody was so inclusive and helpful that it made the transition easy," she said.

she said.

One of the strengths of the organising committee appears to be a willingness to invite its volunteers to try their hand at different projects, so for the last two years Ms Courtney has managed the music on the River Stage together with Maree Burns.

"The committee is very fluid people."

Maree Burns.

"The committee is very fluid, people collaborate and swap jobs, and this is why it works so well. One year, I redecorated the van even though I have no experience as an artist. That's the great thing about a true grass-roots community effort—whatever your level of skill, there is real encouragement to run with something and just have a go."

The festival is organised by a group of 40-plus volunteers who are committed to safeguarding its community focus via a non-commercial approach, a tradition that Adie Courtney says she will continue to embrace.

a non-commercial approach, a tradition that Adie Courtney says she will continue to embrace.

"Following in the footsteps of John Boyle, who has spent 28 years nurturing the festival into the success it is today, is a bit daunting," she told the *Diary*, "but thankfully John will still be an active member of the committee and his support will be invaluable.

In terms of what the public can look forward to this year, Ms Courtney added, "The weekend will still feature many of the usual events. The most constant feedback we get is how much people value the dynamic energy and slightly topsy-turvy nature of our festival compared to other more homogenised council-run affairs.

"So I agree with Mr Boyle, that the eclectic charm of the festival should be retained as much as possible. Yes, there will be some new things on the menu, but don't expect any merry-go-rounds any time soon!"

but don't expect any merry-go-rounds any time soon!"

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The Follies go to town

The Follies are going to town!

most celebrated features is pulling up stumps, aban-doning its home at the Me-chanics Institute Hall and No, that doesn't mean one of Warrandyte Festival's



Last year the Follies folk looked to their wardrobe for inspiration. This year-who knows?

heading for Crown Casino.
But the Follies folk will
be donning their high hats,
pulling on their dancing
shoes and climbing into
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● Bookings—on 0488 333 575—will be open from Tuesday, March 1. More Follies news next issue!



CLYDE &

"Daughter married a bloke from North Warrandyte, Ock.' "Don't believe in mixed marriages meself, Clyde!"

> Tell the Diary your news

Pots along the river

One of Warrandyte's most eagerly anticipated arts events, the Pottery Expo, will be held across the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, February 26 and 27.
Held beside the Yarra River, at the bottom of Webb Street, this expo—now in its 11th year—will feature the work of some 50 ceramic

work of some 50 ceramic artists from around Victoria, New South Wales, France and China.

China.

"Our honoured guest artists this year will be from China," expo organiser Jane Annois told the *Diary*.

"Their visit combines with an exhibition at Manningham Gallery in March. The artists will be at the expo to meet visitors and show examples of their work.

"Expo visitors can discuss TAFE college courses and meet students and Clayworks will present a range

works will present a range of clays, tools and books. They will also be sharing a tent with Manningham pottery classes, where visipottery classes, where visitors—young and old—can get their hands into clay, decorating a tile or creating their own mini artwork," Ms Annois said.

The expo will be open from 10am to 5.30pm each day during the weekend.

Further information from Jane Annois on 0422 942 216 or jane@potteryexpo.com:

or jane@potteryexpo.com; www.potteryexpo.com.





Bridge? What bridge?

On Saturday morning, February 5, one of Warrandyte's most flood-prone areas — the point where Andersons Creek flows beneath Everard Drive — flooded, inundating the bridge and blocking the road.

Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS







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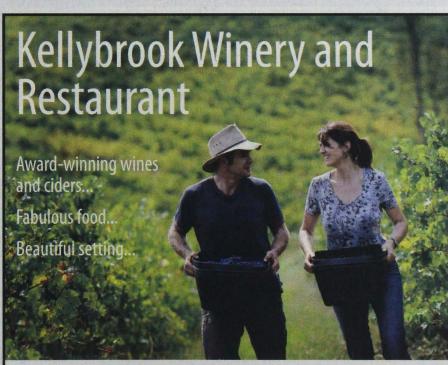
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Warrandyte Community Centre

After a decade of dedicated management by the Warrandyte Community Centre Supporters Group, the management of the Warrandyte Community Centre was returned to Manningham City Council on 31 December 2010.

Council would like to thank and acknowledge the valuable work the Warrandyte Community Centre Supporters Group has undertaken on its behalf over that period of time.

Council also appreciates the support provided by both the Warrandyte Community Centre Supporters Group and the tenants in ensuring a smooth transition to Council management.



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As you pass through the front gate to access this elevated cluster of homes you can already feel the pressures of the city melt away... Spanning more than an acre (4404sqm approx), this north-facing vacant allotment has views towards Kangaroo Ground and a quarter-acre (approx) building envelope - so you'll have plenty of room to build your ideal family home (stca). Gas, water and electricity available. And all just a gentle stroll to the

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warrandyte north (sms: REN741)

Impeccably renovated with an eye for Impeccably renovated with an eye for great design, this elegant four-bedroom home on 1095sqm of family-friendly gardens features a split-level lounge/ dining with polished boards, gleaming kitchen with SS appliances, open-plan meals area overlooking a private merbau deck for entertaining. Four double-bedrooms, main with luxurious ensuite. Pristine family bathroom. Workshop, double-carport & ample parking.

4 = 0 0 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 6



warrandyte north (sms: REN733)

Within walking distance of the Yarra River and framed by cottage gardens, this spacious four-bedroom + study + studio home on 3/4 acre (approx) has tranquil treetop views and a relaxed country atmosphere - there's even potential for a pony paddock! Features open-plan kitchen/meals, separate lounge opening to wide balcony. Single secure carport plus ample parking.

private sale

4 = 1 \$ 2 = 2 = 1 6



warrandyte north (sms: REN742)

With its French provincial feel, this four-bedroom home on 13.8 acres (approx) of pastureland is as elegant today as when it graced the cover of *Home Beautiful* in 1985. Features vast open-plan casual living and dining room with ofp. Country kitchen and family meals area. Separate rumpus/formal lounge. Parents' suite with private balcony. IG pool, terrace and tennis court. Double carport and 40' x 20' garage/workshop.

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Thank you to everyone who visited us at IGA to donate to our annual Christmas Food for Thoughtfulness food appeal. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



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help us build a better community. Visit the branch at 144 Yarra Street, Warrandyte or phone 9844 2233.



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Warrandyte Community Association

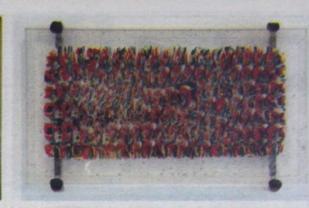
- Promotes all aspects of community life
- Defends the character and heritage of the township
- Protects the environment
- Protects the Green Wedge
- Promotes sporting, educational and cultural activities
- Defends and enhances community assets

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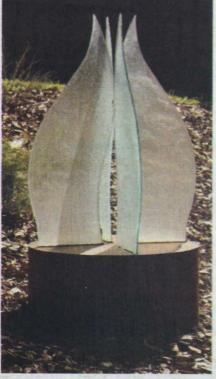
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Trained as a chef, David Corstorphan decided to follow a more creative path and transfer from the heat of the kitchen to that of the glass studio. He completed three years at RMIT then worked for seven years at Peerless Glass in Preston. Last year he opened his own studio/gallery in Brackenbury Street, Warrandyte where he now concentrates on a broad range of architectural and decorative glass fabrication, including feature walls, plates, windows, doors, corporate logos and splashbacks. This is the 12th in an occasional series on local artists by photographer STEPHEN REYNOLDS.









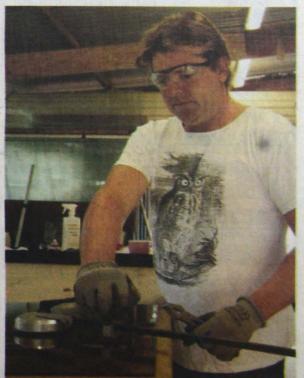














SMALL GRANTS FUNDING PROGRAM

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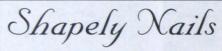
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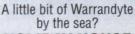


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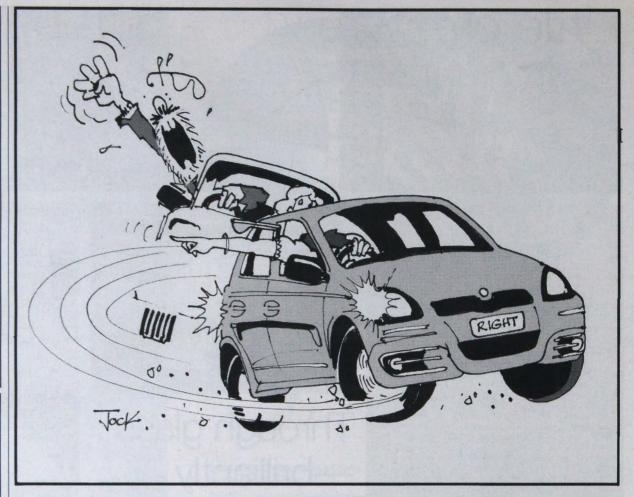


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Wandering along that country road of life.

E were travelling along one of our local roads. Ahead of me was a newish Toyota Echo apparently being driven by an intelligent licensed female driver. ligent, licensed female driver. I use the word "apparently" because what followed was at odds with my first assess-

As we approached a T inter-section, the driver veered to the centre of the road, flicked her indicator to suggest she was turning right and then, without altering either her car's position or indicator, proceeded to turn left.
In an uncharacteristic out-

burst, I expressed my surprise, concern and immediate terror in what might be described as a less-than-controlled fashion.

trolled fashion.

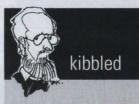
"You stupid, bloody woman! Where did you get your licence? In a Weeties packet? It's people like you who escape accidents but cause others to have them!"

Naturally, the only one to hear my proffered, well-intentioned advice was Herself who was in the process of readjusting her clothing and seat belt after we had come to a screeching halt, centimetres away from the slowly disappearing Echo."

"Well what do you make of that? Can you believe it?" I asked, more in the way of com-

asked, more in the way of comments than questions.

"A bit of an over-reaction don't you think? She obviously realised she needed to go the other way and just didn't have time to make all the necessary changes." the necessary changes



"In an uncharacteristic outburst, I expressed my surprise, concern and immediate terror in what might be described as a less-thancontrolled fashion..."

"A 'bit of an over-reaction'!
Most of our driving is based
on the assumption that you
need to take notice of what
the driver in front is intending to do as well as ensuring that you give the correct advice to the driver behind. If we all behaved like her, the roads would be even more chaotic and the death rate 10 times higher!"

"But life isn't always so

conveniently predictable. You have to learn to be more philosophical about human nature. She probably had a lot on her mind."
"Obviously safety on the road wasn't high on her list

of priorities," I added in the spirit of intelligent conversa-tion. "Now just calm down and get

going. I assume the honking from the man behind indicates that he doesn't want to park

here."
As I drove off, I eliminated, as impractical, the first few methods of driver assassination that sprang to mind and finally got down to thinking about what might have happened had we crashed into the back of her car. No doubt the would have been my word.

pened had we crashed into the back of her car. No doubt it would have been my word for hers that the car's position and indicator were giving the wrong messages and anyway, I should have been far enough away to brake before hitting her. I could already hear the insurance company's response echoing in my mind. On later, more sober reflection, however, I did get to thinking about the role chance plays in our lives.

We had been to see, The King's Speech the day before and had been bowled over by how good it is. On the way home in the car, we had both admitted that we had never heard of Lionel Logue nor of his part in the survival of the monarchy. We have all heard about the abdication of Edward VIII because of his insistence on marrying the divorcee Wallis Simpson but how many of us were aware of the potentially perilous plight of the monarchy had the Queen Mother not stumbled upon Lionel Logue and had he not been the sort of maverick he was, would the English

public have lost confidence in the ability of a stammer-ing monarch to inspire and lead them during the Second World War? None of the above will spoil it for those yet to see the film but it does serve as a perfect example of how

as a perfect example of how chance happenings can affect the course of our lives. What if you'd never had that teacher who suggested you'd be good at accountancy? Or that your now-spouse had been ill and at home in bed, the night you went to that party?

been ill and at home in bed, the night you went to that party?

Not to mention the tip your parents' neighbour gave that there was a ridiculously afordable house coming up for sale in a suburb, until then, you'd never heard of!

And if you could go back and start from scratch would chance prevail or is everything pre-ordained. In Turkish and I think Urdu, kismet means fate. When stuff happens, you just put it down to kismet. Come to think of it, it's not a bad way to approach life. If you go with the flow and just accept that "it was meant to be", then the Echo drivers of the world won't get to you.

Replay. She turns the corner, just slightly later than she otherwise might have done had she not stuffed up her turn. Just then a wheel nut comes off, she veers into a garden fence, the air bags inflate, her new hairdo is ruined, she's late for bridge and the garden owner's dog piddles on her car tyre. Now that's what I call kismet!

ROGER KIBELL



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Little creatures on a hilltop

nature

By LINDA ROGAN

HE early morning air was cool, with little movement of insects; a good time to just enjoy the sight and smell of the Alps. Silky Daisies traced an erratic line through jumbled rocks and moss beds of McKay Creek and led my eye to what appeared to be a glacier blocking the way. I blinked and realised I was seeing the bleached

the way. I blinked and realised I was seeing the bleached skeletons of thousands of snow gums in the hoary glow of early sunlight, reminders of the 2009 fires.

This was a January camp near Falls Creek and in addition to exquisite scenery and wildflowers, two insects stand out from the many.

The first we observed the previous afternoon: Macleay's Swallowtails were hill-topping at Mt McKay. When hill-topping, male butterflies gather at a hilltop. They appear to be sparring for territory and access to females. Darting about in small groups, chasing each cess to females. Darting about in small groups, chasing each other and any encroaching butterflies away. Their beautiful brown and green colours could be appreciated when one was temporarily stuck in some mesh around the trig point tower. Exciting to watch, but I found them impossible to photograph.

but I found them impossible to photograph.

The following day I tried again, but lower down where butterflies feed. In Victoria, Macleay's caterpillars feed on the Southern Sassafras, a nutmeg scented tree found in cool temperate rain forests further down the mountain. The adults will feed on a wide range of plants in bloom.

About midday the sun broke through and I began to see butterflies on the move. Amongst the thickly flowering branches



Christmas Beetles, well protected amongst spiky leaves in Alpine Grevillea. (Picture by Linda Rogan)

(Picture by Linda Rogan)
of native Derwent Speedwell,
a few hungry Macleay's began feeding. It was uncanny
how their apparently brilliant
green and brown wings were
camouflaged by the similarly
coloured leaves and branches. A clear photo would not
be easy to get.

Moving closer, I was alerted
by nips and stings to a very
active ant nest at the base of
the shrubs. Soon the butterflies transferred their attention to the yellow flowers of
weedy dandelions. Here they
stood out like a sore thumb. I
wondered, would those that
restricted themselves to the
native shrubs where their protective colouring would be effective, survive better against
predators in the long run? In
other words, would evolution
favour one group ahead of the
other? I don't suppose I will be favour one group ahead of the other? I don't suppose I will be observing them long enough

to find the answer.
In the afternoon, a more rotund insect grabbed my attention. From Bucketty Plains campground, below the fog line, we had walked down through a natural garden of alpine pea flowers, daisies and a scattering of Pale Vanilla-lilies. We neared Faithfulls Hut, when a large beetle cruised in front of me. It inspected in front of me. It inspected prickly low shrubs and finally came to rest on one extremely spiky plant, (an Alpine Grevilspiky plant, (an Alpine Grevil-lia I later found out). Several identical beetles

had already taken up positions on this plant. There was no apparent interaction and I was puzzled about what made them stop just here. I took time for a close look and noted their golden sheen with hints of green on legs and the edges of the wing covers. Their underparts were

covered with soft white hairs like a sheepskin jacket. The short antennae ended in three leaf-like expansions useful for smell and other senses.

This was my first encounter with numbers of local Christmas Beetles, although I'm told they once used to appear in great abundance in the city. I set out to learn a little more.

great abundance in the city. I set out to learn a little more. Although the adult beetle feeds on Eucalypt leaves, the young or larvae feed on the roots of grasses and other plants for up to two years. Lone eucalypts in the midst of paddocks may be defoliated by the beetle. Although many Eucalypts remain around cities, the grasslands are greatly reduced. This could account for the decrease in beetles.

Once again I ponder human impact on other creatures within earth's complex web of life.

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iving in the teeny-weenies

ROPICAL downpours wash away the dregs of the old decade, while bush-fires, floods and cyfires, floods and cyclones herald the new. Despite a certain level of disaster-related anxiety, we finally have our feet on solid ground. Comfortable ground. Ground that is so green and grassy, incidentally, that the wallabies and wombats haven't had to resort to chomping my garden, such as it is, as they have over recent summers. over recent summers.

den, such as it is, as they have over recent summers.

At last we are back in a decade with a name that rolls easily off the tongue. The "teens". Applicable, but vaguely inappropriate, as there seems nothing teen-like about it. However, unlike the previous decade—which was a mixed bag of "naughties", "two thousands", "twenty-somethings", "the current decade" or, more explicitly, simply "2001-2010"—at least there is a general consensus as to what it should be called.

It's quite surprising really,

called.

It's quite surprising really, that after 500 years or so of adherence to the Gregorian calendar, nobody seems to have come up with an acceptable name for the first decade

of each century.

of each century.
Historical novels don't provide much inspiration. Retired colonials, the sort who delight in entertaining demure light in entertaining demure damsels with their colourful reminiscences, generally refer to the dates of past glories by beginning "Of course, back in the 'eighties when I was riding elephants in Jaipur," or "the millitia removed to Brighton in the summer of 18," or "I believe it was in the third year of our glorious Queen, just after the — campaign, that Dr Lewisham arrived in Little Frogmorton'...

Well, we have another 90 years now to sort out this

well, we have another 90 years now to sort out this dilemma. Maybe by 2101, time will seem to pass so quickly that decades will no longer warrant a name. Instead we'll be talking quarter-centuries or summat or summat.

or summat.

I digress, as usual. Back to the present. This decade began with a big birthday for my mother, the sort of birthday where cards and gilded achievement certificates arrive in the post from politicians who have, overnight, inexplicably become her new best friends. Maybe she met them after we persuaded them after we persuaded her to attend her first rock

our place

By MARILYN MOORE

concert on Boxing Day. There were certainly a few interesting types at that!

On the home front, offspring come and go, but mostly they go. The family car has a habit of going with them. That's OK, we can go and get another one. Can't we?

Replacing your trusty steed

one. Can't we?

Replacing your trusty steed evidently isn't as straightforward as I thought. For one thing, car boots just get smaller and smaller. Then there's the little question of bikes.

"Bike rack?" smiled the nice salesman. "Not on this car, I'm afraid. You'll void the warranty.

But we need a bike rack. Warrandyte isn't exactly the ideal starting point for most

rides.
"The brochure says a towbar can be fitted. Look!"
"Yes, but that's for towing a trailer. If you put a bike rack on it, the towbar will be levered up right through the bottom of the car boot."
"Excuse me? We have a

small 4-cylinder car now, and

it's fine."

"New cars are much more hitech these days. Lighter, more economical, safer..."

"... and more flimsy!"

"I think you'll be hard pressed to find a new car that's designed to carry a heavy bike rack."

"Not even a 6-cylinder modal?"

el?"
"Not even the SUVs."
"You're kidding! Oh, OK, you're not kidding."
Apparently we need a roofrack. And a pod. And lighter bikes. And a more spacious driveway. And a bigger carport with a cathedral ceiling. New decade notwithstanding, there's a limit to how much re-organisation I can

much re-organisation I can handle in one day. "Listen," I said to my equally bemused spouse. "When our daughter said to my equally beinded spouse. "When our daughter said she was moving out again, I didn't expect to have to go out and buy a whole new life!"

So we drove down the road to another dealer and bought a useful little pre-owned model rather like the one we had already.
Even in this new era of ultra-

light technology, some things are just better left clunky.

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Bands at the bridge



out of the inbox By JUDY GREEN

Warrandyte RSL's support for local musicians is back again with "AJ Leonard's Tropical Lounge" featuring on Sunday,

February 20 commencing at 4pm. Bands by the Bridge is a monthly event at the RSL clubrooms in Brackenbury Street (off Mitchell Avenue).

Fire funds

The Juniors Farm Childcare Centre is holding a fundraiser for the CFA at the IGA super-market in Warrandyte on Sat-urday, February 12 between 8.30am and 3pm.

Pancakes

Warrandyte Uniting Church is holding a pancake stall outside the Warrandyte IGA supermarket on Saturday, March 5. Money raised will go to the Share Community Appeal, helping victims of the Queensland floods.

Pastor

Warrandyte Community Church has a newly appoint-ed senior pastor in place of Peter Keep. David Molyneux, who lives in Chirnside Park, was commissioned on January 30.

Orienteering

Twilight park and street ori-enteering will continue until the end of March. Sections are available for runners of all fitness levels and capabilities, with a special event for walk-ers. This form of orienteering starts in a suburban park and traverses local streets, lanes, parklands and reserves. Fur-ther information from www. street.orienteering.com.au or phone Geoff on 9888 8121.

Services

Service times for local churches are: Anglican Church—10am Sunday; Catholic Church—Warrandyte 9am Tuesday and 5pm second Sunday, Park Orchards 10.30am Sunday; Community Church—10am Sunday; Uniting Church—10.15am Sunday.

To market, to market...

The Park Orchards Farmers Market is being held every third Saturday of the month at the corner of Park and Hopetoun Roads, Park Orchards between 9am and 1pm. It is organised by the Park Orchards Ratepayers Association in conjunction with Park Orchards Lions. The next market, on February 19, will also be a fund-raiser for the recent floods.

Carols

Warrandyte's annual Carols at Stiggants was a great success. The Warrandyte and Park Orchards churches wish to thank the community for their support. \$700 was passed on to the Christmas Bowl Appeal

Ensemble

As part of the 2011 Manningham Music Program, the Mehr Ensemble will perform new interpretations of ancient Persian music at the Doncaster Playhouse on Friday, February 18 at 8pm. Tickets (\$18/\$12) are available from www.manningham.vic.gov.au/music or by phoning 9840 9382.

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

Weeds

Manningham council has produced an updated version of its popular Weed Identification booklet. For a copy please call the Economic and Environmental Planning Unit on 9840 9124 or download a copy from the council's website.

Writing
The annual Alan Marshall Short Story competition is on again and the Nillumbik Shire Council, in partnership with the Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service, invites writers from across the country to enter. Categories include Open, Local Writers and Youth sections. Competition details and entry forms are available from www.nillumbik.vic.gov. au. Entries close on Tuesday, May 10.

Novel

North Ringwood author, Nich-North Ringwood author, Nicholas Hastings, has published a novel entitled "A Tree Too Far", set against the disaster of the Black Saturday bushfires. His book is available at www.xlibris.com.au/Atree-TooFar.html, or by phoning 9876 7188.

Environment

The next Manningham Council Environment seminar, to be held at the Warrandyte Community Centre, 168 Yarra

Tell us your news

Street, Warrandyte, will be on Wednesday, March 2 at 7.30pm. The topic will be The Mallard x Pacific Black Duck hybridisation, conducted by Patrick-Jean Guay from Victoria University. Coming Nillumbik environmental events will be a Rabbit Control Information session on Satur-Information session on Saturday February 26 and Trapping Indian Mynahs on Saturday, March 5. For information and bookings call 9433 3316.

artyfacts

Pottery

Warrandyte's annual Pottery Expo will be held on Saturday, February 26 and Sunday, Feb-ruary 27 on the riverbank adruary 27 on the riverbank adjacent to Webb Street. Hours are 10am to 5.30pm. A group of Chinese guest artists will be included this year. There will be ceramics for sale, pottery demonstrations, information on TAFE courses, food and live music live music.

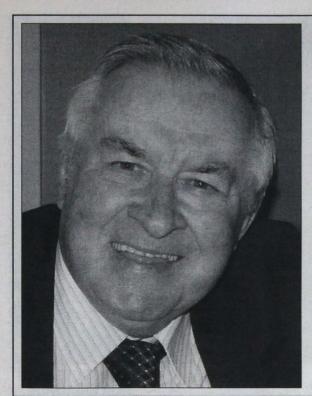
Exhibition

Exhibition
As part of International Womens Day celebrations, an exhibition of local and Chinese works will be held at the Manningham Gallery from March 2 to 19. Melbourne artists include Megan Cadd, Liliana Barbieri, Jane Annois, Dawn Csutoros, Judy Trembath and Denise Keele-Bedford, along with six artists from China. This multicultural and multi media exhibition, devised by Warrandyte artist Denise Keele-Bedford, is supported by a number of organisations including the Manningham City Council and the Warrandyte Community Bank. The official opening is on Wednesday, March 2 at 6pm with artist presentations on Tuesday, March 8 at 2pm and a public forum on Tuesday, March 12 at 2pm.

Recovery
Symbols of Loss and Recov-Symbols of Loss and Recovery is a program exploring feelings following the February 2007 bushfires. Using art, music performances and poetry readings, events will be held across the Nillumbik shire. The first exhibition will be at Lovegroves Winery in Cottles Bridge, opening on January 28, followed by events at Bridges Restaurant in Hurstbridge, Eltham Library, Eltham Courthouse and Montsalvat. The curated exhibition at Montsalvat will open on Thursday, February 3 and on Thursday, February 3 and run until Sunday, April 3. Local poet and *Diary* contributor, Karen Throssell, will be reading her work at the Eltham Courthouse on Thursday, February 17 at 7.30pm.

Award

AWARG
Warrandyte's Stonehouse
Gallery is presenting an Encouragement Award for tertiary ceramics students. Two
students from each Victorian
institution have been selected
to participate. An exhibition
of these works will be open
from February 2 to February
28. The gallery, at 103 Yarra
Street, Warrandyte, is open
daily from 10am to 6pm.



Respected in his community

N 1963, Terry Sloan (pictured) was appointed a member of the Anderson's Creek Cemetery Trust. It was a family thing as his father, Paul, had also been a trustee. Terry remained on the trust until the state government took over in a restructure of cemeteries in March 2010.

It was therefore fathers

2010.
It was therefore fitting that Terry should be buried at Anderson's Creek Cemetery early last month, following his sudden death, aged 73,

his sudden death, aged 73, on January 2.

Terry, one of four children, lived his entire life in Warrandyte. He is survived by his wife, Barbara and children Peter, David and Melisa.

The cemetery trust was just one of Terry's community service roles. He was a member of the Metropolitan

Fire Brigade for 30 years and former and current members formed a guard of honour at his funeral.

He was also a long serving member and committeeman with the Warrandyte Football Club and was rewarded with Life Membership for his service. His work as a volunteer

vice. His work as a volunteer was also recognised by the Australian Football League. But it was the cemetery trust that was Terry's true community love and he took great pride in its development.

when he joined the trust, the cemetery was virtually broke, run down and overgrown. He played a key role in its development to a point where it is now widely regraded as a showness for regarded as a showcase for small, community cemetries on an environmental theme. John Chapman, who was

chairman of the trust when

the government took over control, said Terry was proud of the cemetery and

was always looking at ways and means of improving its appearance.

The respect with which Terry was held within the community was reflected by an overflow attendance at his function.

his funeral service.

Terry grew up in the family home on Pigtail Hill, Warrandyte which was burnt down in the 1939 bushfires and then subsequently rebuilt on the same site.

As a child he had a paper round in Warrandyte and later worked for a short time at one of the town's most celebrated businesses, Jack Moore's store.

After leaving school he worked at Holeproof in Box Hill before joining a local cabinet-making business in Warrandyte.

Terry joined the Metro-politan Fire Brigade in 1962 where he worked until his retirement in December retirement in December 1992. At the time he was also driving taxis part time and continued in that role until he retired in 2008. Terry and his wife, Bar-bara, met in 1962 at a fire

brigade function and were married the following year. Barbara shared Terry's

commitment to the Anderson's Creek Cemetery and was secretary for many

The family home in Hod-son's Rd was the "headquar-ters" of the trust for many years until an office was built on site more than 10

years ago.
Terry's eulogy was read by
Robert Ireland and tributes
were also presented on behalf of Terry's children and
grandchildren.

Dancing the years away

By VAL POLLEY

O you like dancing? Are you strictly ballroom or do you just admire the athleticism of contestants on "So You Think You Can Dance"? A trawl through history reveals that balls and danc-

es once formed a major part of the social glue that helped bind the Warrandyte community together. But are we witnessing the demise of dances in Warrandyte? While many community activities such as the festival, follies and theatrical productions have continued wear

many community activities such as the festival, follies and theatrical productions have continued year after year, dances no longer seem to be on the local agenda.

In the 1880s balls and dances were held frequently in the township "this pretty little town" as it was often described. If the newspaper reports of the day are to be believed these dances were not for the faint-hearted. There could be large numbers of participants (up to 300 being mentioned) who danced vigorously into the small hours or dawn or as one participant more lyrically wrote "the orb of day was either just, or very nearly, peeping above the horizon before we caved in".

The initial Mechanics Institute where these dances were most often held was the old school building taken over when the new stone school was constructed in

often held was the old school building taken over when the new stone school was constructed in Forbes Street. This hall came under much criticism both for its size and appearance, though floral arrangements and other decoration helped make it a more attractive place. Dances often commenced about som with supper served around

make it a more attractive place.
Dances often commenced about
8pm with supper served around
midnight and dancing continuing
until the early hours to music usually supplied by a local pianist.

Many of the balls were in aid of
a good cause such as books and
items for the Mechanics Institute
or for funds for Melbourne hospitals then being established. Others
were organised and held just for
pleasure. One of these, a Bachelor's
Ball held in 1883, was described
as an unqualified success with a
large gathering assembled at the
Mechanics' Institute to dance the
witching hours away.
Indeed these balls and entertainments were of such importance
they were reported in great detail
in the local papers and so today
provide interesting insights into
the lives of the Warrandyte community of the time. Despite a rainy
night, an 1884 ball was reported as
a great success, crowded with holidaymakers and people from many
surrounding areas (such as Panton
Hill) who enjoyed a program containing 24 dances with several of

the set dances being danced the second time in order to give every-

one opportunity.

In these days of private car travel where distance is of little importance, one can only imagine the effort it must have taken in those early days. The roads and tracks were often poor with difficult creek and river crossings and the weath-er could often prove inclement. However the lure of a convivial evening and socialising was enough to overcome all these obstacles and there is little doubt that the dances regularly attracted large numbers

of people.

Sporting clubs often benefited from organised balls and in August 1908 the tennis club organised a Plain and Fancy Mask Ball. This was new and something unusual

was new and something unusual for Warrandyte and the number attending in fancy dress costume was considerably beyond expectation. Perhaps the trophies for the best characters (valued at ten shillings and sixpence each) provided sufficient inducement.

This was followed by another Fancy Dress and Masquerade Ball in November. Then it was reported that everyone worth knowing was there with, "the fluttering of the ladies and the strut of the men made it obvious to the most ordinary onlooker that something of unusual

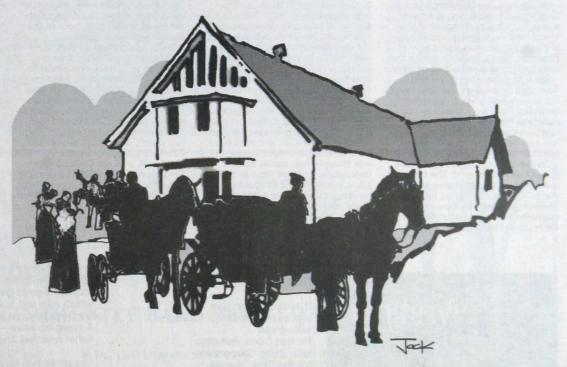
it obvious to the most ordinary onlooker that something of unusual interest was taking place".

After these successes Plain and Fancy Dress Balls became a feature of the local scene well into the 1920s, the only drawback and criticism being that the Mechanics Institute Hall of the day (the one built in 1890 on the corner of Yarra and Webb Streets) was too small to enjoy the display of costumes thoroughly. However everyone seemed to enter the challenge of creating fancy dress with a will.

In the 1930s it was the Lilac Time balls organised by the Women's Hospital Auxiliary that became the dances to be attended. No doubt people were attracted to the occession of the succession of the sum of the su

dances to be attended. No doubt people were attracted to the occasion by flyers which promised the Warrandyte Hall (the current Mechanics Institute Hall opened in 1928) would be the setting for a brilliant scene of festivity with Milne's Orchestra as a guarantee of excellence with a "perfect floor, a 50/50 program, and a series of new novelties added to the pleasure of the night". A bus service from Ringwood railway station enabled patrons from areas further away to attend and there is little doubt that the Lilac Time Ball became a much anticipated and well patronised annual event in the 1930s and beyond.

A sense of the occasion can be



gleaned from a 1937 report which stated that the function had developed into one of the highlights of the year with the hall attractively decorated in white and heliotrope lilac and purple and mauve iris, relieved with delicate green. Nearly 300 dancers were said to have enjoyed the excellent music and delightful supper and the report commented on the happy spirit of the gathering.

Dances continued throughout the war years of World War 2 often as fundraisers to aid many worthy causes such as bushfire relief following the 1939 fires or supporting prisoners of war. There were debutante balls as well as fancy dress events, all of which were highly popular.

Then throughout the 1950s and

popular.

Then throughout the 1950s and early 60s the dance scene shifted to town halls across Melbourne to town halls across Melbourne where Saturday night dances became a regular fixture and there are many couples now celebrating their golden and diamond weddings who can claim to have met at one of these dances. In addition most of the large manufacturing companies held annual formal dress balls. For all these dances the Warrandyte connection was Happy Medium Photography who operated from Yarra Street prem-

ises and who took photos of diners and dancers and became extremely well known for their work.

Then in the 1960s and 70s it was the colonial or bush dance that became the dance of choice in Warrandyte. Many an event was held with hay bales, gingham table-cloths and period dress with often Warrandyte's very own bush band "Paradiddle" playing traditional bush instruments such as the lagerphone. The great thing about these dances was they appealed to dancers of all ages, all valiantly following the instructions for dances such as Strip the Willow, Brown Jug Polka or Pride of Erin.

There were also "Moon" dances held at the White House (located on the Recreation Reserve but now demolished). These were held

on the Recreation Reserve but now demolished). These were held around the time of the full moon and featured more Celtic/Irish music highlighting such Celtic instru-ments as the bodhran drum which provided unusual music for the enthusiastic dancers. There were also intricate dances such as the Waves of Troy that caused great hilarity due to some wrongful ducking and

weaving.

The 1980s bought disco and many disco nights which provided some great opportunities for enthusiasts determined to follow in the

"Saturday Night Fever" tradition.
One such night was held at "Kev's Place" (aka the multi-purpose room at the Andersons Creek Primary School) as a fundraiser for the new school which was attended by enthysicatio descripted. reinthusiastic dancers of all ages.
The Warrandyte Historical Society revived the Lilac Time Ball to celebrate its 10th anniversary in 1986 and the High School held a celebration ball in its new gymnasium and several debutante balls have been

several debutante balls have been held since. But gradually dances and balls have faded from the Warrandyte social scene.

Of course the advent of the home entertainment centre with a plethora of TV channels to choose from, a wide availability of films to watch on DVD, video games and Wii to play, plus many other alternative attractions have no doubt contributed to the demise of the dance as uted to the demise of the dance as it once was. In addition the Mel-bourne dance scene has morphed into a very different mode with into a very different mode with underground music styles and raves which attract large numbers of young people to events with electronic music, light shows and a different style of dancing. So while the dance scene may have largely disappeared from Warrandyte it can still be found, alive and well, elsewhere around the city.

A wonderful dog's life



By DOREEN BURGE

HE black coat is still glossy, showing very little grey to betray her 13 years. Her dark eyes watch us as we move around her, then close into a peaceful sleep. Thank heavens it's a peaceful sleep. We're waiting for the vet to arrive to ease our Beetle from her life—a life which suddenly, just this morning, became too hard

from her life—a life which suddenly, just this morning, became too hard for her or us to endure.

On the last day of December, a 38 degree north wind day, she spent a couple of hours doing what she loved best—retrieving tennis balls in the big dam on our property at Harcourt North, trembling with the anticipation of a swim and retrieve. She was exhausted that night.

Too tired to eat, just needing sleep

She was exhausted that night. Too tired to eat, just needing sleep for her ancient body to gain some recovery from her excitement and exertion. But the innate greed of labradors soon got the better of her and her dinner was devoured between periods of deep sleep. On the first day of 2011, she was remarkably recovered. She went for a walk down the driveway, lay in the mild sunshine flat on her back, and even managed a bow-legged

and even managed a bow-legged canter to greet my sister and me as we returned from a long walk with Buzzie and Beanz. She joined in with the children as they wandered around the house, and waited ea-

around the house, and waited eagerly for her share of dog treats.

That night Beetle wanted to sleep in our bedroom, but I returned her to her bed in the sitting room. I wish I'd let her stay. She was deeply asleep soon after daylight, but just after 8am we found her unable to get up, splayed uncomfortably, and panting. On lifting her to her feet, we discovered she was unable to take her weight at all, and her legs folded under her. This was the sign we'd dreaded, yet hoped for.

sign we'd dreaded, yet hoped for. How do you decide when a loved old dog should be helped on its way? We've faced this four times before. If only they could tell us how they're feeling, but our old dogs have been so stoic, so keen dogs have been so stole, so keen to be involved in their routines, always hungry, and still engaged in their familiar lives. It didn't matter if their legs hardly worked, if their joints were swollen and rock-hard, their hearing and sight failing. Food was there to eat, tennis balls to swim after younger dogs to disciple. swim after, younger dogs to disci-pline, humans to love. But to us it's no longer right when a dog can't stand, can't follow the house-train-ing that's been a family institled ing that's been so firmly instilled since puppyhood and take itself

outside, when it can't engage with its dog family, and barely engage with its humans. Beetle has lived with daily medi-

Beetle has lived with daily medication for epilepsy, has endured three cancer operations, has nearly died from eating compost, has had her neck ripped open by another dog, has suffered severe arthritis in her elbows due to our stupidity in throwing balls for her on hard ground ... but she's always remained devoted to us, hungry, keen for her daily walk, excited to meet new people and dogs, continent and, most of all, boss of the household canine pack.

Being newcomers to Harcourt/Castlemaine, we haven't seen a

Being newcomers to Harcourt/
Castlemaine, we haven't seen a
local vet yet. Derek and Stuart in
Warrandyte have taken such excellent care of our dogs, but here
we are 150 kilometres away from
them on a Sunday. Our neighbours
give us phone numbers and we
find a vet on emergency call. She
has plenty of animals to visit and
Beetle is triaged down the list.
That's OK with us. Graham digs
the grave in the unfamiliar granitic
sandy soil, a welcome change from
the clay and mudstone of four Warrandyte dog graves.
We choose a spot that looks to

We choose a spot that looks to the loved dam, the front gate and

the driveway near the house. Somehow it seems right for Beetle to be here, despite her familiarity with our Warrandyte home and the river she's swum in all her life. She's loved her visits up here over the last six months. The still water of the dam suited her aged legs better than the flowing Yarra, there were no stairs for old unreliable legs to struggle up and down, the grass for rolling and sun-baking on was just a step out the door, and the smell of rabbits was enticing.

So we sit with her tearfully for the kindest injection of all. Such an easy quick death—it brings home the massive issues surrounding the human euthanasia debate. No, we could never drop her at the vet for this final journey. She deserves our presence and comfort, just as she has given us for so long. We sit with her after the vet has gone, noticing the warmth ebbing so quickly from her feet and lips, smelling her familiar doggy smell, trying to accustom ourselves to her loss before putting her in the ground.

Buzzie and Beanz come in. Gentle, bottom-of-the-pecking-order Buzzie sniffs her then moves away.

Buzzie and beanz come in. Ger-tle, bottom-of-the-pecking-order Buzzie sniffs her then moves away. Bouncing young Beanz, who had spent most of the day lying close to Beetle, nearly walks on her in her

excitement at seeing us at ground level. Then she pauses and holds her nose against Beetle's mouth for a few seconds. It's a reaction I've seen before. Buzzie creeps to my side reluctantly, then lies quietly with me while Beanz parades the room with a stuffed toy in her mouth.

Do they both realise the order of things now? With Beetle gone, the dominant one will now be the younger Beanz—not what we would like, but it's not up to us.

What to do with three chicken wings for two dogs' dinners?
Beetle's must go in her grave with her, along with a banana (she loved salad and fruit), flowers and the old stuffed toy. I carry the 28 kilo dog out of the house and across the lawn.

We lower her into the grave and

the lawn.

the lawn.

We lower her into the grave and two black heads peer over the edge. Their puzzlement gives way to indignation when the chicken wing goes in too. They sniff around until all the soil is replaced and we place yellow roses on the top. I curse myself for having forgotten to put a tennis ball in with Beetle—her favourite object with which she could construct endless games to amuse herself. But I'm sure she to amuse herself. But I'm sure she won't mind.



New Year's Eve 2009

It seems these days that summers are for waitingwith dread for that Code Red day, with damp desperation for the Cool Change.

So, this night, we were waitingfor the new year, for respite from heaving heat, whilst the rest in the city waited for fireworks.

But tonight our waiting is an active stateeager, expectant, not like the other kindpassive, uncertain. We could see it coming.

From the verandah we watched the Change, the rain, the new year We sat with our drinks escaping one kind of chaos, part of

Promising grey band stretches, darkens across the horizon. Like time-lapse photography it blossoms, swells towards us.

First, just a lighter line above the dark forming a great grey curve which rolls and builds and rolls towards us. A creeping wave—slow, inexorable, full of promise, and menace.

The air so hot, so still sticks, sucks. Trees poised, waiting. And then our light show-the first pink flash striping distant hills

Then, more light, more sky.
Horizon's eerie golden gleam
pulsing—like the distant threat of Mordor.
Stark contrast with the creeping black. Dark threat shows its teeth

A new stage then, swordsquick slip/slash through the gloom. White knife rips exposes for a moment the world in frozen light. Pink flashes now look friendly.

Again, slash, again. The trees exposed are concerned. From the stillness, their nervous murmurs. For us a waft of sweet, cool air. the calm before...

And we watch the great rolling sky bear down as the trees now warned: distressed. toss their great heads, scatter unwanted chattels.

Our waft of cool turns its back-strokes as small branches fly down. A few fat plops hiss on warm ground deciding still whether to or not.

Then, decision madethat creeping wave's upon us, splitting open over our heads plummeting, pummelling. At last beaten we retreat inside where

furious, it thunders on our shelter. Our sturdy tin roof not at all fazed. Our great cloud howls and hurls, stamps its feet.

Then—gone. Suddenly it's midnight and fireworks Distant city's showers of green, sparking pink splinters, look tired, tawdry

We waited, and she came. She came for us. For us, lightning stripped its hot skin. We were personally drenched, and the earth sighed—thanks. And after all that hot wait—

the rain.

KAREN THROSSELL

Who wants to be a hot shot?

stars may have lucked out at the recent Australian Open, the next generation

Open, the next generation of champions may emerge from the Warrandyte Tennis Club with Tennis Australia's official children's starter program MLC Tennis Hot Shots launching this month. The MLC Tennis Hot Shots program runs weekdays from 4pm to 6.15pm and is for children aged up to age 12. The Tennis Guru's Craig Haslam, pictured with budding hot shots Blake, 6, and Farrah, 3, says the program "provides a fun, friendly environment where children ronment where children can get involved in tennis and emulate their favourite

"It's a great way to introduce kids to tennis"

And he's not the only one who thinks so. Former world No.8 and Australian favourite Alicia Molik has thrown her support behind the MLC Tennis Hot Shots

rogram.
"Using the modified equipment makes it easier for beginners to start playing the game and it's a great way to introduce kids to tennis," Molik says.

For more information contact The Tennis Guru on 0488 722 538, info@thetennisguru.com au or visit www.tennis.com. au/play-tennis/mlc-tennis-





WILL he play or won't he?
That's the big question doing
the rounds regarding last year's
Warrandyte Football Club boom
recruit, Glenn Archer, the former Kangaroos champ and "Shinboner of the century". Word is Archer has retired, but some around the club haven't given up hope just yet of the champ pulling the boots on again for one last tilt with the Bloods.

THE Strawberry Fair Fun Run is on again on Saturday, March 6, at St Anne's Primary School in Park Orchards. Registration is from 7.30am and the run starts at 8.30am sharp. Distances are 2.5km and 5km and entries are open to individuals and family groups. The course is at St. family groups. The course is at St Anne's Domeny Sporting Ground and 100 Acre Reserve. Entry is only \$5 and medals will be awarded to the first in each category and a trophy for the first family to complete the 2.5km run. St Anne's Fun Run is the curtain raise for the Strawberry Fair, so get your runners on and start training. Phone Catherine on 0412 368 803 for more

CARDIO Tennis is a fun group activity starting up at Warrandyte Tennis Club and includes a warmup, cardio workout and cool down featuring tennis drills and games to give players of all abilities an ulti-mate, high energy workout. Taught by a teaching professional, Cardio Tennis is designed for anybody re-gardless of tennis skill level. Locals looking to lose weight may find Cardio Tennis to be a great way to get in shape and have fun doing it. For more info call 0488 722 538 or



Warrandyte Cricket Club

We would like to thank the following sponsors for their support in season 20010-11

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

PLEASE NOTE: Due to important safety issues, the 2011 Warrandyte Cricket Club Business Directory will not be home delivered this year. It will be available for collection at: Warrandyte Post Office, Warrandyte IGA, Warrandyte Information Centre, Landfield Real Estate, Gardiner McInness Real Estate.

Please support the businesses that support your local club

High five for Bloods

WARRANDYTE has suffered its first loss for the season after going down to Warranwood in a tight match at

Quambee Reserve.
The First XI had previously been undefeated after eight rounds under new captain Campbell Holland but, despite the loss, four of the five senior squads appear certain of finals action in March with Warrandyte's First and Third XIs sitting top of the table.

First and Third XIs sitting top of the table.

Warrandyte sent shockwaves through the Wilkins Cup in the pre-Christmas part of the season after dismantling St Andrews in a fear-some display. Set up by Jack Ellis and Adam White with scores of 113 each (youngster Ellis's first century), Warrandyte posted 325 for the loss of only five wickets at the Warrandyte.

Warrandyte posted 325 for the loss of only five wickets at the Warrandyte ground. In reply, St Andrews could manage only 160. Tyson Walshe bowled 20 overs for figures of 3/44. Holland's team faced Chirnside Park in the first game back after the Christmas break with Warrandyte's imposing record holding firm. The premier squad emerged from their first one-day match of the season with a three-wicket win. Warrandyte adapted to the shorter form of the adapted to the shorter form of the game quickly after Chirnside Park opted to bat first on its home ground. The Bloods were able to dismiss them for a paltry 127 by sticking with tight lines to restrict runs and bring about a constant flow of wickets. Spinner Matthew Sazenis finished

Warrandyte's innings had an early setback after losing Ellis for a duck, however, the other batsmen put their

heads down to ensure an easy victory with Ben Taylor (24) and Chris Barry (24) guiding the Bloods home with 21 overs to spare.

In the second restricted overs match of the season, Warrandyte continued its good form against Olinda. Ellis scored 70 and showed maturity beyond his years to guide Warrandyte to a solid total despite the top order crumbling around him the top order crumbling around him before establishing momentum with Barry (27) and Mooney (17) chipping in as a handy support cast. Ellis was

... four of the five squads appear certain of finals action"

eventually dismissed with the score on 149, but some fantastic lower-order hitting by McIntosh (35) and Sazenis (27) ensured Warrandyte had the momentum. Holland took full advantage by dis-

missing the first two batters without a run on the board and set the tone for the innings. Warrandyte's bowlers ripped through the Olinda line-up

and dismissed the team for 75, Adam White starring with 4/13.

In the most recent round, Daniel Barry was promoted from the Second XI after solid all-round performances in the lower grades to join his older brother Chris, therefore becoming the first brothers to play First XI cricket for Warrandyte since 2002. Daniel proved to be the only shining light for the squad in its first loss in what will serve to be a reminder of the level of cricket that needs to be maintained if the premier team is to taste finals victory for the first time in over two decades.

In the other divisions, the Second

If the other divisions, the second XI needs to ensure it wins at least one of the final two games for the year to reach the finals after stumbling in

recent rounds.

The Third XI is sitting on top of the David Beatty Shield ladder with a game buffer from the nearest op-

The Fourth XI is limping to the finish line in what has become a rare season in which the team will not be playing finals after winning the flag last year. The Fifth XI was treated to a batting feast on the weekend with the skills of Khatry (103) on display.

First XI: Round 4 – Warrandyte 5/167 (Holland 42, White 40, Barry 37no) d Montrose 9/164 (Holland 2/39, Sazenis 2/43)

Round 5 – Warrandyte 8/217 (White 55, Barry 36, McIntosh 31) d Eastfield 63 (Sazenis 5/11, Holland 4/31)

Round 6 - Warrandyte 5/325 (Ellis 113, White 113, Sazenis 35) d St Andrews 160 (Walshe 3/44, White 2/15)

3/44, White 2/15)
Round 7 – Warrandyte 7/131 (Taylor 25) d Chirnside Park 127 (Sazenis 4/12, Holland 2/15)
Round 8 – Warrandyte 9/228 (Ellis 70, McIntosh 35) d Olinda 75 (White 4/13, Walshe 3/15)
Round 9 – Warrandyte 132 (D Barry 40) lost to Warranwood 186 (D Barry 4/47)
Second XI: Round 4 – Warrandyte 67 (Rees 15) lost to Heathmont Baptist 2/72 (Gidley 2/15)
Round 5 – Warrandyte 84 (Chapman 20) lost to Wantirna South 104 (Beardall 3/10, Barry 2/21).
Round 6 – Warrandyte 249 (Cleaves 112) d Templeton 180 (Beardall 5/49, Cleaves 2/12)
Round 7 – Warrandyte 6/191 (Barry 47) d Croy-Round 7 – Warrandyte 6/191 (Barry 47) d Croydon North 169 (Pascoe 3/34, Gidley 1/12)

Round 8 – Warrandyte 2/151 (Lander 79, Rees 35) d Scoresby/Ferndale 8/147 (Pascoe 5/18) Round 9 – Warrandyte 140 (Gidley 34no) lost to Warranwood 9/330 (Pascoe 4/79)
Third XI: Round 6 – Warrandyte 5/186 (Greve 46) d Olinda 9/129 (Prangley 4/6) Round 7 – Warrandyte 1/139 (Wellesley 79) d Eastfield 137 (Creber 4/18) Round 8 – Warrandyte 1/139 (Wellesley 79) d Eastfield 137 (Greber 4/18) Round 9 – Warrandyte 7/176 (Prangley 2/24) Round 9 – Warrandyte 5/294 (Zach 97) d Heathmont Baptist 9/153 (Prangley 4/35) Round 10 – Warrandyte 180 (Kline 53) d East Ringwood 7/164 (Gaffiney 4/22) Round 11 – Warrandyte 6/107 (Zach 32) d Montrose 103 (Smead 3/20). Round 12 – Warrandyte 9/279 (Brent 69) d Templeton 44 (Warren 4/14) Fourth XI: Round 6 – Warrandyte 147 (Bowen 44) lost to Chirnside Park 6/164 (Rojiwadia 3/24). Round 7 – Warrandyte 6/88 (Croft 28 not out) lost to Warranwood 4/161 (Lockie 1/15) Round 8 – Warrandyte 4/128 (Baker 38) lost to St Andrews 7/130 (Lane 2/24) Round 9 – Warrandyte 3/160 (Baker 74) d South Croydon 83 (Mifsud 3/29). Round 10 – Warrandyte 8/109 (Croft 25) lost to North Ringwood 9/118 (Bowen 2/7). Round 11 – Warrandyte 8/116 (Rees 21 not out) lost to Knox City

– Warrandyte 8/109 (Croft 20) lost to North Ringwood 9/118 (Bowen 2/7). Round 11 – War-randyte 8/116 (Rees 21 not out) lost to Knox City 8/122 (Rojiwadia 2/4). Round 12 – Warrandyte 118 (Baker 24, Croft 24) lost to Bayswater Park

118 (Baker 24, Croft 24) lost to Bayswater Park 9/292 (Lane 4/30)
Fifth XI: Round 6 — Warrandyte 7/224 (Hartmann 71) d Croydon Ranges 9/158 (Wellesley 2/26). Round 7 — Warrandyte lost on forfeit Round 8 — Warrandyte 7/174 (Hartmann 68) lost to Wonga Park 5/209 (Hartmann 2/29). Round 9 — Warrandyte 80 (Aly 22) lost to Montrose 84 (Oremek 3/24). Round 10 — Warrandyte 5/218 (Wellesley 93) d Croydon North 9/204 (Hartmann 5/46). Round 11 — Warrandyte 165 (Ryan 36) lost to Heathmont Baptist 7/218 (Thomas 3/34). Round 12 — Warrandyte 5/227 (Khatry 3/34). Round 12 – Warrandyte 5/227 (Khatry 103) d South Croydon 113 (Wellesley 5/34).

Hawks push for finals

By FRANS BROUWER
TWO rounds remain in the Ringwood District Cricket Association
season and two South Warrandyte
teams (4ths and 6ths) have booked
a spot for finals action while the
1sts and 2nds have a bit of work
to do to force their way in. Elsewhere, the 5ths will play finals if
results fall their way and only the
3rds are out of the running.
Steve Lindsay and Ben Neagle
(1sts) and Jake Sammartino (U14
Junior in the 6ths) have continued
their excellent pre-Christmas form
while Lachlan McMahon and John
Cleary are also putting in solid

Cleary are also putting in solid performances. The junior teams are graded in Sections 1 or 2 in

are graded in Sections 1 or 2 in their age groups and are finding the going tough. There are, however, some fine individual performances. The Veterans teams are also working hard for their wins. All teams suffered from the usual shortages of players during school holidays and at times even the parents arriving with their Junior players were conscripted and Veterans team members also helped out. Chief selector Tony Biggs spends many hours findhelped out. Chief selector Tony Biggs spends many hours find-ing players while also ensuring enough qualify for finals. Per-severance has paid off with no forfeits given and the 6ths firmly entrenched in the top two with the double chance. On the social front, the Minute to Win It night was a great suc-cess.

Trollope Shield (4th on ladder): Rd 6 Hawks 199 (Steve Lindsay 69no) won outright v Norwood 49 (Steve Garrett 5/26, Kane Hartrup 3/7) and 108; Rd 7 Hawks 7/249 (Josh Barrett

Norwood 49 (Steve Garrett 3/26, Kane Harrrug 91, Lindsay 46no, Ben Neagle 46) d Templeton 138 (Neagle 5/33, Nick Barrett 3/18); Rd 8 Hawks 73 lost to Nth Ringwood 167; Rd 9 Hawks 5/247 (Nathan Willoughby 50, Lindsay 47no, David Hill 42) d Croydon Ranges 108 (Lindsay 3/13, Garrett 3/23) and 2/77.

A Grade (5th): Rd 9 Hawks 115 (Darcy Price 31) lost to Wantirna 8/120 (Hayden Richards 3/34); Rd 10 Hawks 4/185 (Scott Brasher 90no) d Montrose 9/177 (Tim Rule 3/15); Rd 11 Hawks 125 lost to Ainslie Park 6/186; Rd 12 Hawks 169 (Darcy Price 39) lost to Croydon Ranges 8/263 (Scott Brasher 3/37).

D Grade (6th): Rd 9 Hawks 1/88 (Sean McMahon 35no) d Olinda 80 (Michael Sazenis 3/14); Rd 10 Hawks 143 (Johnson 35) d Eastfield 6/142; Rd 11 Hawks 114 lost to Templeton 9/125; Rd 12 Hawks 119 (Tom Chrisfield 39) and 4/72 (Alister Price 33) lost to Montrose

6/142; Rd 11 Hawks 114 lost to Templeton 9/125; Rd 12 Hawks 119 (Tom Chrisfield 39) and 4/72 (Alister Price 33) lost to Montrose 7/284 (Chrisfield 3/88).

H Grade (37d): Rd 9 Hawks 8/141 (Alistair Price 39, Stuart Batten 36) lost to Templeton 7/145 (James Bowen 3/18); Rd 10 Hawks 146 (Tony Biggs 40) lost to Wonga Park 6/149; Rd 11 Hawks 9/153 (Shane Biggs 47) d Montrose 9/140 (Sam Cleary 3/26); Rd 12 Hawks 149 (Andrew Hall 28) lost to Nth Ringwood 6/170.

J Grade 5th): Rd 9 Hawks 7/140 (Jahn Holewa 31, Jackson Cleary 41) beat Eastfield 6/128 (Matt Sheppard 7 overs 2/8); Rd 10 Hawks 6/166 (John Cleary 50, Lachian McMahon 32) d Kilsyth 112 (McMahon 4/9); Rd 11 Hawks drew with St Andrews (ground unplayable); Rd 12 Hawks 6/325 (James Price 108, Brad Palmer 62, John Cleary 60, Barry Williams 45) d Norwood 162 (Matt Sharrock 5/52).

L Grade (1st): Rd 9 Hawks 4/235 (Richard Cutler 102no, Luke Brouwer 59) d Eastfield 7/178 (Jake Sammartino 3/32, Andrew Hall 3/34); Rd 10 Hawks 9/141 (Paul Campbell 45) lost to Warranwood 8/152; Rd 11 Hawks 6/179 (Shane Hansen 58) d St Andrews 8/166 (John Cleary 3/30); Rd 12 Hawks 6/211 (Cutler 62) d Wantirna Sth 10/126 (Russell 4/29).

U18-1 (5th): Rd 6 Hawks 185 (Joel Holewa 55, Sean McMahon 38) lost to Ainslie Park 8/259 (Lachlan Braid 5/21); Rd 7 Hawks 5/124 (Darcy Price 36) lost to Nth Ringwood 4/156.

U16-2 (8th): Rd 6 Hawks 77 and 8/46 lost to Ringwood 3/158 (Josh Exley 17no and 1/14).

U14-1 (10th): Rd 6 Hawks 77 and 8/46 lost to Mooroolbark 7/268; Rd 7 Hawks 5/70 lost to Ringwood 3/158 (Josh Exley 17no and 1/14). U12-1 (10th): Rd 6 Hawks 9/88 and 3/25 lost to Nth Ringwood 9/97; Rd 7 Hawks 7/89 lost to Mooroolbark 3/133 (Adam Johnson 21 and 1/18). U12-2 (10th): Rd 6 Hawks 94 (Mitchell Schafer 30no) lost to North Ringwood 6/139 (Darcy Church 3/14); Rd 7 Hawks 3/55 lost to Templeton 4/83.

Templeton 4/83.

Masters 1 (7th): Rd 6 Hawks 7/176 (Tim Rule 41no, Dale Owen 40no) lost to Croydon 188 (Mick Mulqueen 3/22); Rd 7 abandoned (heat policy). Legends (7th): Rd 6 Hawks 113 lost to Mt Evelyn 6/152 (Russell 4/15); Rd 7 abandoned (heat policy).

Aths kids bag a swag of medals

By ED MUNKS

WARRANDYTE athletes brought home a swag of medals before Christmas at the Doncaster Open Day where little athletes from all over the state competed before a fantastic fireworks display con-

a fantastic fireworks display concluded the event.
In the Under 9 Boys, Nick Scala won silver in the 400m and 800m events and bronze in the 100m, 200m and long jump. Tynan Kontos finished fifth in the high jump. Boys Under 11 Zane Kontos was fourth in high jump and ninth in the 1500m. In the girls section, Under 9 athlete Shea Wischusen-Gibbons won gold in high jump and bronze won gold in high jump and bronze in the 200m. In the Girls Under 12 Nicole Reynolds won silver in the 80m hurdles and came fifth in 100m final.

100m final.

The regional relay championships were held at Ringwood with some great results in the Boys Under 9 when Nick Scala won gold in 4x200m and 4x100m events and bronze in the 800m medley. Jayden Bardrick, also from the Under 9s, ran with the Under 10 team in the 4x100 and 4x200m teams. In the Under 10s Ben Munks was fourth in the final of the mixed age 800m



From left: Jayden Bardrick, George Standish and Nick Scala after a great day at the relay championships

medley, Samuel Martini finished sixth in final of the 4x100m along with Adam Bardrick. Adam also finished fourth in the 4x100m.

In the Boys Under 11s Callum Pynt won silver in the 800m medley and finished fourth in the final of the 4x100m and the final of the mixed age medley. Nicholas Ward sadly was disqualified in heats for the 4x200m but came fifth in the heat of the 4x100m. Zane Kontos also came fourth in the final of the mixed 4x200m and was unfortunately dis-4x200m and was unfortunately dis-

qualified in the heats of the 4x200m despite winning the race easily.

Under 15 athlete Drew Corke won silver in the mixed age medley but overcame the disappointment of another disqualification in the final of the 4x100m to remark and raced raced. of the 4x100m to run a good race to finish sixth in the final of the 4x200m. Under 13s entrant Shaely Pynt won silver in the mixed 4x100m and bronze in the 4x100m and 4x200m

events.
The summer aths season's activities include regional and state relay competitions, centre and state multi events as well as regional, state track and field event com-

state track and field event competition.

The aths are generally held on Saturday mornings with Under 6–8 from 8.30–10am, Under 9-15 from 10am–12.15pm with occasional Friday evening competitions at Reicsheck's Reserve in George St.

For more information on Little Athletics contact East Doncaster LAC vice president Andrew Pynt on 0410 478 333.

Carroll takes charge in season 2011

By CHRIS CHAPMAN

AFTER an extensive search and interview process War-randyte Football Club has welcomed Neale Carroll to

weicomed Neale Carroll to the Bloods as senior coach for 2011.

Carroll has enjoyed a long and decorated playing and coaching career and will bring a fresh approach to the club. The search for a new coach began in earnest at coach began in earnest at the end of last season when Michael Tout stepped down from his senior coaching role due to personal reasons following two years at the

Carroll began his playing



New coach: Neale Carroll.

career at Northcote Park in the Northern Football League (then Diamond Valley Football League) and played in three premierships includ-ing one as captain and a best

and fairest award along the way. He later played in two premierships at Greensborough Football Club, winning two A Grade and four B Grade best and fairest awards. He was also named in Greensborough's Team of the Century.

After hanging up the boots after 24 years, Carroll had played 435 senior games, including 355 A Grade (Division 1) games, a DVFL/NFL record.

After gaining experience in an assistant coaching role at Greensborough from 2000-2002, he took on the senior coaching job at Diamond

Creek Football Club, launching them from cellar dwellars to finalists in 2003 and 2004 before winning an elusive premiership in 2005. He then returned to Greensborough as coach from 2008-2010 and now joins the Bloods with some fresh ideas to take Warrandyte to the next level.

randyte to the next level.
Joining him in an assistant coaching role will be Warrandyte club legend and life member John O'Brien, with two time WFC Premiership player Ash Grybas again appointed as coach of the Reserves. The Bloods also welcome a new Under 18s coach, Gareth Woodcock,

who will join the Red and White after having previously played and coached at Heathmont Football Club at senior and Under 18 levels.

Pre-season training re-

Pre-season training resumed on January 24 and will run on Mondays and Wednesdays at Mullum Mullum Reserve in Donvale until the end of the cricket season. Supporters are encouraged to pop down to watch the Bloods train and meet the coaching staff.

Warrandyte's season kicks off with an away match against 2010 Division Four premiers and traditional rival Templestowe on April 2.

Venom shakes, rattles and rolls



By TONY OLIVER

WARRANDYTE has celebrated its best ever basketball tournament results with six Venom teams winning grand finals at the popular Eltham Australia Day Tournament.

The bonanza further cemented Warrandyte's rise in the region's basketball world as 23 teams took part in the event and as many as 13 teams made finals and 10 reached grand finals. Teams to achieve the top prize included the 14.1, 14.3 and 16.1 girls and the 16.4, 18.1 and 18.2 boys.

"To win six grand finals is an amazing effort. Well done to all of our coaches and players on such a super

coaches and players on such a super performance," club president Justin Nelson said.

"Gerard Leonard and Tiff Hodgson

"Gerard Leonard and Tiff Hodgson recently joined the club as our junior coaching directors and this is a terrific achievement in their first big tournament with Warrandyte Basketball.

"Gerard and Tiff work closely and communicate with the coaches and the success at this tournament highlights the hard work and harmony going on behind the scenes amongst our whole coaching group."

The club also initiated a new policy at the tournament with every Venom player required to shake hands with the two referees after every game – win, lose or draw.

Nelson said the club had been widely acknowledged for the initiative that was dubbed "The Ref Shake".

"In the past some teams have done

'In the past, some teams have done

"In the past, some teams have done it while others haven't. The whole idea of The Ref Shake was to make it a requirement for all Venom players to shake the hand of both referees after each game," Nelson said.
"The impact was amazing, especially visually. I personally received many positive comments from parents and referees, along with the tournament organisers. It's a small gesture, but it is exactly what we gesture, but it is exactly what we should be teaching our kids to do. When the game is done and dusted, thank the opposition, thank the refs

and move on to the next game.
"Sportsmanship is a great thing to teach, but it's even better to see in

practice."

One of the highlights of the tournament was Shawn Sumner's Under 18 boys taking on Eltham at the Bulleen stadium. The Venom had the half-time lead (19-13) but the game was always well contested.

With only two minutes on the clock, Eltham made another surge with a successful field goal and a bonus shot. Some confusion followed as players misheard a referee's call. The decision was to replay the free throw, enabling the Venom to maintain control and stop the Eltham comeback.

comeback.
Eltham pressed hard but the Venom's Matt Tankey was able to get free and accept the ball from Josh James to advance the Venom's lead to eight. It was enough and the three pointer to Eltham with seconds to go



Victorious Venom: Shawn Sumner's Under 18 boys after the grand final victory and (below) coach Gary Sullivan with his Under 16 C4 grand final winners.



was not enough to deny the Venom a

was not enough to deny the venom a well deserved trophy.

For the Venom, top points scorers were Matt Tanley and Lachie Evans with 13 each, with five coming from Poor Petiti

Beau Raiti.
Coach Sumner was happy with the result but said, more importantly, the side had gained confidence and understanding with each game they played throughout the weekend.
"Everybody contributed through

played throughout the weekend. "Everybody contributed throughout the tournament. We can now look forward with confidence to the first of the next grading games this coming weekend," the coach said after the game.

Also on the winners list was Gary Sullivan's Under 16.4 boys, defeating Keilor 30-21.

Keilor 30-21.

What seems a comfortable win on paper was in fact close all the way

with little separating both sides. With just over a minute to go, Keilor scored to close the gap to four

points.
Disciplined play by the Venom gave them the final points and the flag. Shaun Gorrie top scored with 12 with support from Josh Durand.
The Eltham tournament marks the start of the next round of grading for the Friday night competition.
"We may not have come with great.

"We may not have come with great expectation for this weekend," as-sistant coach lan Wood said, "but we

sistant coach lan Wood said, "but we all learnt a lot, especially in defence. As well, good smart discipline at key times was important."

The intensity of a time out helped Peter Anderson's Under 20 A grade girls at a critical point in their semi final against Ringwood. A successful outside shot by Caitlin Hallett with 35

seconds to go gave the Venom side the lead. They hung on for the win by 30-28 when a Ringwood shot hit the ring in the final few seconds.

That victory gave the girls passage to the grand final where they came up against the favourites Altona. In a high standard game Altona clearly.

up against the favourites Altona. In a high standard game, Altona, clearly the form side of the competition, ran out winners 61-42.

Warrandyte was far from disgraced in this game, being down two of their key players for the grand final and giving a 100 per cent effort for the match.

At full street in the grand final and giving a factor of the match.

At full strength in an earlier encoun-er, Warrandyte had pushed Altona to within seven points

within seven points.

Key scorers for the Venom in the grand final were Hallett with 13, Alysia Buzzini (10) and Brianna Ricci and Caitlyn Wilson with six each.

Set to go for Big V season

By TONY OLIVER

WARRANDYTE Venom's Big V program has expanded again during the off-season with a

during the off-season with a third team, Youth League Women, to take to the court this year. After a successful start up with a senior women's team in 2007, the club introduced a senior men's team last year and, ever since, the Venom has never missed a Big V finals series. Club president Justin Nelson says the increase to three Big V teams enhances the development pathway for juniors in Warrandyte, but says the club is firmly focused on completing the "big picture" with a Youth Men's team in the near future.

"The hard work is starting to pay off. When we first started

pay off. When we first started the Big V program in 2007 we really stressed that everyone needed to stay focused, build it strongly and be patient with our progress," Nelson said. "The end result is that our vision is now received completion. We have a nearing completion. We have a fantastic domestic program with Redbacks, the junior Venom teams continue to increase and we are working hard behind the scenes developing players for a Youth Men's team.

"You can't get ahead of yourself, it takes time to develop players and it all starts with a vision. From there you need

self, it takes time to develop players and it all starts with a vision. From there you need good coaches, smart administration, a focused committee and the right culture."

The inaugural Youth women's team will feature 15 Warrandyte Venom juniors, many of whom started out at local domestic clubs such as Redbacks and Park Orchards Steelers.

"To see those young girls progress into senior ranks is fantastic," Nelson said. "That's what a strong junior program should do. We also now have some of these younger players stepping up into the senior women's team as well. "And let's not forget the senior men's team. When you see young guys like Nathan and Michael De Lacy at training and starting out towards a senior career at Venom, that's what makes you appreciate the pathway the club is developing."

Venom's Big V campaign starts with four weeks of practice matches, followed by the popular pre-season tournament and Round 1 on Saturday, March 19.

lar pre-season tournament and Round 1 on Saturday, March 19. The final schedule for the sea-

son is expected in the coming weeks and will be available on the club website: www.warran-dyte.basketball.net.au

dyte.basketball.net.au
"I think all up we will play about 40 home games this year, plus any finals," Nelson said.
"We've set our entry prices and kept them affordable, plus any junior Venom player wearing either their singlet or warm-up top will receive free entry."
Entry to games, including double-headers, will be \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under 18. Family entry (two adults and up to three children) is \$15.
Venom's practice matches included games against Ringwood

Venom's practice matches included games against Ringwood (Youth and Senior Women) and upcoming games will be against Mornington on Saturday, February 26, at 6pm (Senior Women) and 8pm (Senior Men). A double-header will also be played at Park Orchards Primary School on February 20, at the earlier times of 9am (Youth Women) and 11am (Senior Women) against Sunbury. On the road, other practice matches will feature the Senior Men at Craigieburn (February 20) and McKinnon (March 5), while the two women's teams will play at Bulleen from 1pm on Sunday, March 6.



NETBALL BOOM TIME AS HUNDREDS REGISTER

By SUE RODWELL

MAGNIFICENT weather accompanied Warrandyte Netball Club's annual selection and registration day at the end of January in preparation for the start of the competitive season early next month.

The club continues to grow rapidly with more than 200 registered players including about 20 first year players in the Under 9s taking part this season.

Late registrations are welcome and interested parents or players should contact the club president at warrandytenetball@y7mail.com or phone 0419 344 245.



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We welcome our newest addition to the Landfield team...

Glenn has just joined our company, as most of you will know he has been selling and listing properties here in Warrandyte for 39 years. His reputation, knowledge and experience in the Real Estate Industry has always been of great value to both buyers and sellers in Warrandyte and surrounding areas. He is looking forward to continuing his real estate career at Landfield Real Estate and will, as always, give straightforward, honest advice to all his clients.



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