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— Adlai Stevenson

WARRANDYTE diary

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NEXT ISSUE

Next issue of the Diary will be published on Tuesday, March 13, 2012. Advertising and editorial copy closes Friday, March 2, 2012.

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 mostly by volunteers with only one aim: to serve its community. Financed solely through advertising, it guards its not-for-profit, non-commercial status and its independent voice. The Diary carries a strong editorial bias towards the people, environment and character of the place it serves. Its monthly circulation is 4000 copies and it is available in Warrandyte, North Warrandyte, South Warrandyte, Park Orchards, Wonga Park, Waranwood, North Ringwood, Kangaroo Ground and Research.

A SPECIAL PLACE

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

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OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



On course for a great game...

WHAT a day! A cloudless sky. Birds singing. The sweet smell of freshly mown grass. And nowhere to spend it than the golf course.

"A dollar on the first hole," said Neville.

"You're on," said his neighbour Barney, and smote his ball out of sight.

Neville's clubs craned their heads eagerly from the bag. "Pick me! Pick me!"

He drew out a trusty three wood and waggled it in his hands, just to make sure it was limber and ready for the task on hand. Then balanced a pristine Calloway 1 on the tee and commenced his routine.

Head still...lift back...cock the wrists...swing through.

It all seemed to go smoothly enough and Neville turned his gaze up the fairway hoping to see Calloway sailing merrily into the distance. There was no sign of him. Suddenly it struck Neville that something had been missing from his otherwise exemplary routine. Ah yes. Contact. He looked down.

Ready when you are Mr De Mille, the little chap seemed to say.

Fortunately, Barney seemed not to have noticed his practice swing. Calloway is probably having separation issues, thought Neville. He imagined the balls huddled together in the dark, sharing stories of Uncle Silas lying under a tussock for two weeks before being rescued by a schoolboy and sold off to a driving range. Or Cousin Judy left to drown in the water hazard on the fifth.

Neville addressed his ball once more. I expect we're both a bit nervous. But you can't stay with me all afternoon. It's time to face the world and discover what you're made for—flying like a bird, bouncing down the

fairway, racing for the pin. I'll be behind you all the way; just listen for my merry whistle coming up the sward.

Head still...lift back...cock the wrists...swing through.

Maybe not the most resonant thwack he'd ever heard, but at least there'd been contact. He checked the tee, just to be sure. The ball was definitely gone. The only problem was where? Then something caught his eye. Calloway was waving from the edge of the grass. *You can see the ladies tee from here!* This was rather stretching a friendship. There were people watching.



"Tee up again," said Barney, and Neville sheepishly restored Calloway to his elevated starting position.

Swing back...head still...cock wrists...follow through.

Ah, we're away. Nice and straight too, despite Calloway's apparent fear of heights; possibly not a natural flyer, but he bounces well.

Neville slid the driver back into its slot, slipped the little hood over its head to keep the sun off and fell in behind Barney's buggy.

Ah, this is the life! Gentle breeze. Grassy fragrance. Birds singing. Neville whistling.

Calloway was waiting quietly in the middle of the fairway, though not as far away as Neville had imagined. This time he chose a 5 iron, hoping the angle of the club face would encourage Calloway to stretch his wings a bit more.

Neville sniffed and stifled a sneeze. The grass was starting to get up his nose.

Lift back...cock the head...swing the wrists...follow through.

In all the excitement of his first real flight, Calloway failed to watch where he was going. There was a sickening thud as he collided with an inconvenient gum, silencing the birdsong mid-warble. The little fellow slumped to the ground in considerable pain and took refuge under a small shrub.

"Shit!" cursed Neville, hurrying over. But his partner was badly winded and not at all sure he wanted to keep playing. He lay still, catching his breath, while Neville stomped through the surrounding shrubbery becoming more and more agitated. Perhaps he's relieving himself behind a bush, thought Neville, and sure enough there was Calloway, looking decidedly sorry for himself.

Neville was just wondering how he'd swing his club with all this vegetation about when his foot accidentally kicked Calloway into a clearer spot. It was still a difficult lie, but if he made good contact...

Swing low...follow the wrists...cock the back...lift the head...ARCHOO!

Calloway took fright and headed for the other side of the fairway.

"He's never played this course before," observed Neville as he passed Barney, still waiting for his second

living with The Trotts

shot. "Did you see which way he went?"

Barney pointed towards the bunker and chipped onto the green.

"I promised he could play in the sand," explained Neville. "I wonder what a set of clubs goes for on E-bay."

And didn't Calloway have fun in the bunker. Neville lost count of the times he buried himself in the sand, climbed the bank and rolled back down again, showering sand in all directions.

Neville was also losing track of his routine.

Lift the head...cockup the swing...wring the wrists...follow on...swing and a miss...lift the ball...twist the back...fling the club...blow the nose...curse the course...the ruddy heat...the rowdy birds...the so-called professionals who make a simple game so complicated.

"Open your face," offered Barney.

"Shut yours," returned Neville and slammed the club back into the sand.

"Crikey!" said Barney. Neville hurried from the bunker to see what had happened. Barney's ball was just shy of the pin but there was no sign of Calloway.

"Where is the little bastard?"

"In the hole," said Barney.

The sun shone. The birds sang. The nostrils twitched as the neighbours from Dingley Dell Road marched towards the second hole. Neville whistled merrily as he bounced Calloway in his palm and gave his dimples an affectionate tickle.

"Double or nothing," he said.

"You're on," said Barney.

ALAN CORNELL

Pavilion scores bank cash

The sports hub at Warrandyte Reserve has received \$150,000 from the Warrandyte Community Bank enabling work on the extended pavilion to proceed, solving the urgent needs of local football, cricket and netball players.

This was announced when more than \$300,000 was presented to 52 local organisations at the bank's annual general meeting, held towards the end of last year.

The communities of Warrandyte, North Warrandyte, Kangaroo Ground, Park Orchards, Wonga Park and Bend of Islands all benefited.

A range of organisations received grants and sponsorships, including kindergartens and childcare centres, all the primary schools in the area and Warrandyte High School, a range of sporting organisations, environmental and landcare groups, Warrandyte Senior Citizens, 55+ Variety Show, RSL and a number of local arts groups.

The \$150,000 was made available through a major grant to the Warrandyte football, cricket and netball clubs.

David Ure, spokesperson for the clubs benefiting, said the pavilion project could not have proceeded without the \$150,000 from the Community Bank.

He said the grant "will be used to create a community space, as well as improving facilities for the combined

football, cricket and netball clubs.

"The money will be combined with funds from Manningham council to assist in updating the precinct's facilities," Lance Ward from the Netball Club said.

"As one of the hubs of Warrandyte, the sporting precinct has a great need for a multi-purpose space locals can utilise, as the current facility is dated.

"One of our first priorities will be providing female changing rooms," Mr Ward said.

Two further major grants were awarded to the South Warrandyte CFA and the Park Orchards Learning Centre.

Warrandyte CFA received \$20,000 towards the cost of replacing the brigade's forward command vehicle.

"Updating this vehicle will ensure members will have the resources necessary to manage and communicate at an incident," CFA captain Bernie Ebzery said.

Bank chairman Sarah Wrigley told the meeting the financial year saw an overall growth in banking business and improved margins, with the total banking book reaching just over \$130million, "a pleasing result given the global economic climate.

"As conditions continue to improve we expect another strong performance this financial year," she said.



Bank manager Mark Challen and chairman Sarah Wrigley.

Loaded: They shared in the distribution of Community Bank grants.



Mike's CFA friends celebrate

South Warrandyte Fire Brigade recently helped Mike Read celebrate his 30th birthday. Aaron Farr, Anna Chmiel, Nathan McDonald, Rhys Keown from the brigade, together with Mike's sister Fiona, brother Jonno and friend Marcus ensured he arrived in style at his 30th birthday disco—on the brigade's fire tanker (pictured above).

Mike, a local resident, lives with autism and Down syndrome. His inability to communicate verbally

challenges all members to work on their own communication skills and shows what can be achieved if you work as hard as Mike does.

As a child, Mike waited eagerly every year for the South Warrandyte CFA to deliver Santa and a pack of Twisties on the annual Santa run. Mike's mother Rosie, recently received a Menzies Community Australia Day Award recognising her work providing a positive example about what can be achieved.

"As a result of the Santa run, Mike has developed a keen interest in fire trucks," a spokesperson said.

Rosie and father Kelvin brought Mike down to the brigade where he was welcomed by all members. Mike often comes down to Sunday morning training; watches training drills, checks the lights, siren and hoses on each truck to ensure they are working and of course enjoys that important cuppa to round off a busy morning.

Centre plans on track

Preparations for the redevelopment of the Warrandyte Community Centre—incorporating a new municipal library—are now well underway.

An architect has been appointed and the tendering process is now complete, enabling construction work to begin at the centre in August or September this year.

The new library will replace the so-called "virtual" library that has been operating out of shops at the Goldfields Plaza and West End area for many years—little more than a few books, a number of computer screens and a book ordering and delivery service.

The new facility will be a "small town" branch library, operating five or six days a week with a staff of qualified librarians and a collection of between 10,000 and 15,000 units—books, CDs, etc.

Services will include specialist programs, activities and technology "reflecting local demographic and community expectations".

Libraries operated by the Shire of Yarra Ranges at Mt Evelyn and Montrose have been suggested as examples of the sort of library Warrandyte could expect.

Mayor Cr Geoff Gough said that as well as the new library, the \$2.5 million Warrandyte Community Centre refurbishment project will be "an outstanding community focal point

and will offer significant gains to the community" and the building's existing tenants.

"The main focus of the redevelopment is to increase use of the centre and improve access to this very important community asset.

"Relocating the library in the Community Centre will have flow-on effects, by improving activity between existing groups through joint programming and increasing community use, thereby creating a more vibrant centre," he said.

Building works at the centre will generate noise, dust, potential disruption to such services as power and water and restricted access to the building. Community Centre tenants are therefore being asked to relocate during the development.

"Considerable planning and consultation has been undertaken over the past 12 months," Cr Gough said. "Council has been working closely with all the tenants to assist them with finding temporary premises in the Warrandyte area.

"The tenants have been very understanding and everyone realises that the short-term inconvenience is going to bring considerable long-term benefits for all concerned."

It is expected that the redevelopment of the Warrandyte Community Centre will be completed in mid-2013.

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John scores the big gong!

By **CLIFF GREEN**

JOHN BOYLE of Osborne Road, one of Warrandyte's most popular people, received an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) in the Australia Day Honours, announced late last month.

He was awarded this honour for "service to the community, particularly through the Warrandyte Festival".

John was president of the Warrandyte Festival Committee for 27 years until his retirement in February 2010.

He will long be remembered as a laid back and low key festival facilitator, who inspired a large and enthusiastic—and often quite young—committee to re-create each year that well-loved miracle: the Warrandyte Festival.

He will also be remembered as the president who continually battled to find funding, whilst making sure the festival remained free of commercial and bureaucratic control and stayed firmly in the hands of the Warrandyte community.

The festival has been the highlight of the Warrandyte year for more than three decades, and John Boyle has been the heart of the festival and the driving force ensuring its success for 27 of those years.

He has won the respect of the community of Warrandyte for his willing and enthusiastic efforts over many years and for his encouragement of young people to join in this rewarding activity. John's modesty and his openness were key elements in his abil-



No rubbish: Champion festival sulo bin racer.

ity to bring the community with him on all issues and at all times.

John Boyle's community work in Warrandyte has not been confined to the festival. As a young man on the Parish Council of the Uniting Church he helped foster the church's youth group, becoming a leader of that group.

He was a committee member of the amateur canoe club and was involved in Land-Care. He is currently a vice-president of the Warrandyte Lions Club.

And John hasn't walked away from the Warrandyte Festival. On that weekend in late March, you are sure to see him at Stigants Reserve, still fulfilling many of those humble tasks that contribute to this event being our best community show of the year.



Handover: John Boyle and new festival president Adie Courtney at John's "thank you" function, August 2010.



Activist: John Boyle with fellow Lions Ian Abell and Lauri Hilakari at a site for a proposed Yarra footbridge with MP Kevin Andrews, August 2007.



The Royal Boyles: Kerrie and John have always worked together in a loving partnership—and not only at the 2011 festival.

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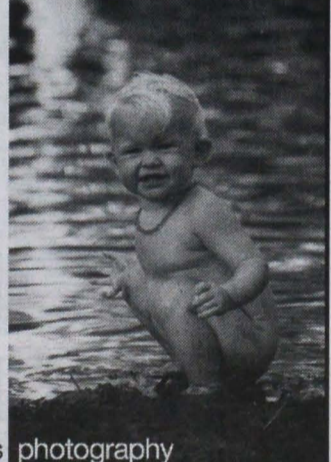
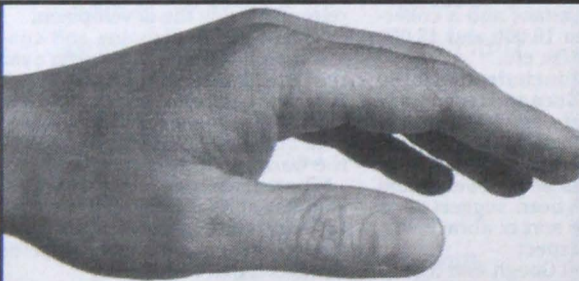
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**Words at the
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Writers! Do you enjoy good food and the company of other writers? The Warrandyte Neighbourhood House is running a series of Sunday lunches/drinks at the Warrandyte Café (cnr Forbes and Yarra Street). This term it will be on Sunday February 12 from 4-6pm. The guest speaker will be Kelly Gardiner, local young adult fiction writer, journalist and editor with many years' experience. Call 9844 1839 for further information.

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Christmas gift we didn't need

By **KARLY HICKMAN**

The clean-up continues following the Christmas Day storms as many Warrandyte residents come to terms with the extent of damage to their properties.

"People are really suffering," North Warrandyte resident Meryl Evans told the *Diary*.

The Nillumbik after-hours emergency line received more than 120 calls in the days following the storm.

"I was being flooded at my house and I'm on the side of a hill. I could only hazard a guess as how others were coping," Nillumbik mayor, Cr Michael Young said.

Reports of damage to private property, amounting to tens of thousands of dollars per property, are being assessed by insurance companies while Nillumbik council maintains that there will be no avenues for compensation.

"DHS is providing Emergency Assistance Relief for affected households as part of their Natural Disaster allocation," a Nillumbik spokesperson stated.

But Ms Evans emphasised that drainage is an ongoing

issue that plagues North Warrandyte residents year-round.

"Council is taking no responsibility for their drainage problems," she said. "Water is inundating private property as a result of insufficient council drains and residents' insurance companies are becoming reluctant to pay for repeated claims."

Cr Young thanked CFA and SES volunteers for their response to residents seeking assistance on Christmas Day and said they continue to work with VicRoads to repair damaged roads.

"A council-led program to clean up roads and drainage will get around to all affected parts of the shire," the spokesperson said.

Nillumbik has advised that while some drainage issues may be alleviated through the sealing of roads, the road-sealing program requires residents to approach council with a petition that indicates support from at least 60 per cent of residents. If approved, the works are paid for by residents.

"We do get a number of requests for road-sealing that are not approved as they

lack majority support of residents, who often quote concerns of increased traffic or changing the character of the area," the Nillumbik spokesperson said.

Warrandyte Community Association (WCA) president Dick Davies, whose property sustained considerable damage, stated that "clearly a number of people have been affected in North Warrandyte, and WCA will be interested in Nillumbik's stance on responsibility."

While some residents have obtained Request for Compensation forms from Nillumbik council, the *Diary* has been advised that this is a legal avenue usually reserved for insurance companies on behalf of individuals.

● If you have concerns around damage to your property, or ongoing drainage issues, please contact Nillumbik Shire Council on 9433 3111.

● DHS has two types of personal hardship grants for those affected by the storms: Emergency Relief Assistance and Emergency Re-establishment Assistance. For more information, please contact DHS on 1800 990 660.



Water, water, everywhere: The Davies' house in Bradleys Lane was inundated.

CFA trio will be Festival monarchs



Heroes: Captains Bernie Ebzery (left), Greg Kennedy and Rohan Thornton. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

By **CHERIE MOSELEN**

Warrandyte Festival's hallmark event, the Grand Parade, will deliver a festival first as three local volunteers are crowned as Kings ahead of this year's procession.

Sharing the honour will be dedicated CFA volunteers, Rohan Thornton, Bernie Ebzery and Greg Kennedy.

The *Diary* spoke to the three men about their participation in the upcoming event.

"I've been a Warrandyte local for 30 years and have been involved with the CFA for all of that time," Greg Kennedy, South Warrandyte's captain said.

"I am thrilled to be taking part in the parade. The Festival is a terrific event, one which unites the entire community, and I'm really honoured to have been asked alongside my other comrades."

All three men observe that maintaining an excellent working relationship is paramount to the job they do. Having served as CFA volunteers in Warrandyte for a number of years the men know each other well, but changes in operational circumstances following Black Saturday have created substantial challenges for the three captains.

"The state government determined that CFA operational boundaries would coincide with other key services, such as the police and state emergency services, and that these boundaries would follow municipal lines," Rohan Thornton, North Warrandyte's captain said.

"This effectively consigned North Warrandyte CFA to a different region from the other two brigades, so we don't even share the same radio frequency."

Mr Thornton said that operationally, the CFA has a mandate to protect the town of Warrandyte and that all three brigades see North Warrandyte as being included in that township.

"It's especially important for the three of us to stay connected," he said. "So we can train together, so we know each other's capabilities and therefore can trust each other's decisions. That's much harder to do now that the natural integration between the brigades has been disrupted."

He described the chance to be one of three Festival Monarchs as both humbling and a great opportunity.

"This couldn't have come at a better time," Rohan said. "It's important to us that the people of Warrandyte think of the three brigades as one,

because we remain committed to acting as a combined unit. Seeing the three of us crowned together will help with that awareness as well as serve to strengthen our ongoing relationship."

Bernie Ebzery, Warrandyte captain and CFA volunteer for 21 years, shares similar feelings.

"I grew up in Manningham and have been coming down to Warrandyte to swim in the river since I was five," he said. "I've lived here for 25 years and initially joined the CFA as a way of meeting people."

"One of the strengths of Warrandyte is its voluntary presence, so although we've been selected as 'the three Kings', I feel that we're representing the CFA, and all the other emergency services and volunteers who, like us, do what they do because they care about this great neighbourhood."

● The Grand Parade starts at 11am Saturday and winds its way from the Community Centre in Yarra Street to Stiggants Reserve. For more information about parade participation, call Jill on 9844 0180 or email parade@warrandytefestival.org.

Trail plans

Nillumbik shire boasts a total of 43 kilometres, forming an integral network that links townships, regional trails and places of interest.

Council has adopted a Trails Strategy, that will guide planning and decision-making over the coming 10 years.

"Our trails are in a range of settings where people can be physically active and enjoy a variety of recreational activities," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

The implementation of the Trails Strategy will see the trail network developed and managed sustainably, while ensuring economic, health and wellbeing benefits are provided to the community.

● To view the Trails Strategy, visit www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au.

CLYDE & OCKER

"I'd be doing hair-raising stunts at the Festival, Ock. If I had any hair!"

SHOP LOCALLY

Melanie is top young citizen

The Manningham Young Citizen of the Year for 2012 is Melanie Adams of the Warrandyte Community Church.

Melanie, 25, is a youth worker at the church, developing and implementing youth-based programs.

She facilitates religious education classes at primary schools across Manningham and runs a breakfast program to make sure young people are given the sustenance they need to ensure they are able to concentrate during the day.

Melanie volunteers her time to visit sick children in hospital and leads church camps during the summer break.

Jim Poulter has been named Manningham Citizen of the Year. Jim, now 70, was a founding member of Doncare and the Manningham Community Health Centre.

He continues to contribute to the community as secretary of Reconciliation Manningham and Neighbourhood Watch.

The awards were presented at an Australia Day ceremony. They are administered by Manningham council, with the actual awards coming from the Australia Day Committee (Victoria).

Young Citizen of the Year: Melanie Adams (front) and friends.



Buses make turn for the better



Eltham buses are now turning at the Taroon Avenue-Yarra Street intersection. (Picture by Alana Phillips)

As retired residents of Everard Drive who were often inconvenienced, and woken early by the Eltham buses squeezing down our part of the street, we're delighted to be able to report that they have returned to their original route.

Thanks to the new overhead light on the corner of Yarra Street and Taroon Avenue they are able to make u-turns safely and we have

our "country lane" back!

We'd like to warmly thank Ryan Smith and all involved in bringing this about. How good it is to be able to give some good bus news for a change.

Robyn and James Bonthorne
Everard Drive



Causing 'avtivation'

This sign is on the pedestrian/traffic lights leading to the Goldfields complex, a very busy intersection. School kids use this crossing, parents, visitors, etc. How will our kids learn to spell if they see mistakes such as this?

Laz Papenfuss
by email

dear diary

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

Dumpers abroad

Is it just plain laziness or are people under such a financial strain that they can't afford the unrealistic dumping fees being charged these days?

I'm afraid it's a sign of the times and we can probably expect more of this careless attitude from people who think it's normal to sneak out under cover of darkness and dump their rubbish along our iconic Gold Memorial Road (pictured below).

I rode my bike along Gold

Memorial Road on Friday, January 27 and the only rubbish I saw was a previous tightarse dumping. This new load must have been dumped late Friday evening as this is what I saw on my Saturday morning ride.

Now, the people who dumped this load have to ask themselves, did I remove everything from the rubbish that could identify me?

Andrew Beck
by email



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Special event: The Anderson garden in Bradleys Lane.



Great garden kicks off Festival

The well-known garden of Pat and John Anderson in Bradleys Lane has been granted "Special Event" status by the Australian Open Garden Scheme.

The first event in the 2012 Warrandyte Festival, the garden will be open to the public on the weekend of March 17 and 18.

The two previous garden openings—in 2008 and 2010—

raised almost \$26,000 for the North Warrandyte CFA.

In the best Warrandyte tradition, many members of the community will be working together for such a good local cause.

They include the Bradleys Lane Fireguard Group, Barry McKimm and his musician friends, Pat and John's Bradleys Lane neighbours and the North Warrandyte CFA.

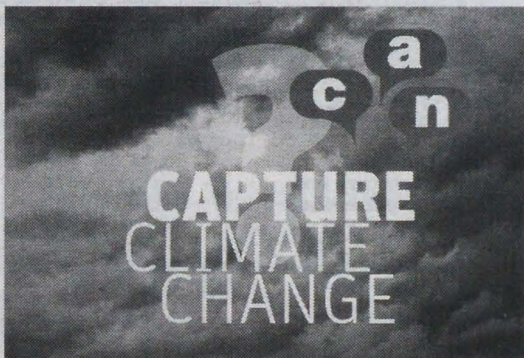
Pat and John Anderson and their gardening club friends have been propagating in excess of 4000 plants for sale during the weekend. Most of the money raised will come from this source, plus the proceeds of a tea, coffee and cake stall.

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

Other features include rose arches, ponds, pergolas a shade house and a "goldfield garden", so named because the rocks, timber and iron-work used in the garden came from old goldfields.

The river flat at the rear of the block hosts a productive vegetable garden.

Live music will be played across the weekend and refreshments will be available.



Student photo contest highlights climate risk

WarrandyteCAN (Climate Action Now) is running a student photo competition as a highlight of their annual Sustainability Expo, to be held this year on Saturday, April 21.

"The aim of the competition is to contribute to students' awareness of climate change and the implications of inaction," CAN president Wayne Rankin told the *Diary*.

"Specifically the competition is designed to encourage students to explore and capture as a photographic image, an idea in their local community, which to them, clearly expresses an example of climate change."

CAN appreciates that the competition will encourage images showing examples of climate change taking place (unusual weather conditions, erosion, etc) and others illustrating action against climate change (such as indigenous gardens, insulation, solar panels, electric bikes).

Selected schools are being asked to promote the project through classroom discussions and through their school newsletter, for example. It is also suggested that the project could be integrated into Term 1 arts or science programs.

Warrandyte and Andersons Creek primary schools and Warrandyte High School have so far agreed to participate.

A digital camera is being offered as the grand prize. Category prizes are yet to be announced.

The topic "Capturing Climate Change" provides broad scope for students to focus on positive or negative images, ranging from the big idea to capturing minute features of climate change," Mr Rankin said.

"Subject matter could range from nature to very specific energy-efficient responses."

• More information from: www.warrandytecan.com.au.

Forum on energy efficient building

Well known for bringing sustainability information nights to the town, WarrandyteCAN (Climate Action Now) is presenting a program on energy efficient house design and building.

Differing views will be offered by three experienced experts, who will discuss the urgent topic of energy efficient building. They will answer questions on how this can be achieved in both new buildings and renovations.

Peter Chandler, mechanical and electrical engineer and local resident, is currently planning his new house in St Andrews, aiming to create an "energy efficient focus so strong it is well above the recognised ratings scale".

He will describe how he went about planning his house, starting with "green"

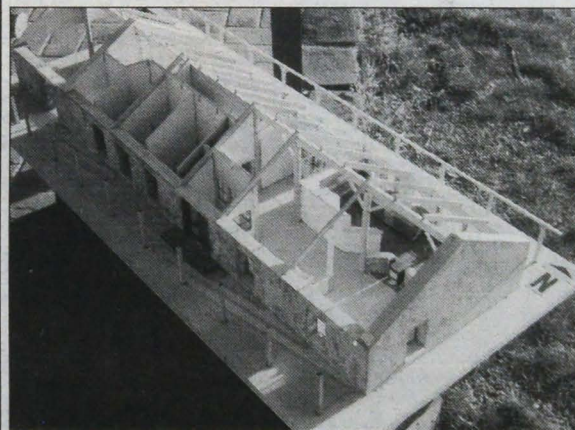
issues, rather than with a design and then attempting to make it green.

Marie Wallan, of Planet Architecture, has been practising sustainable architecture for more than a decade. She has many local sustainable design buildings to her credit and will use these as references to her work.

Peter McArthur, of Australian Double Glazing, will discuss thermal efficiency and other sustainable aspects of window and door materials into the future.

The Energy Efficient Building and Retrofitting information evening will be held at the Mechanics Institute Hall, Yarra Street, Warrandyte between 7.45pm and 10pm on Wednesday, February 22.

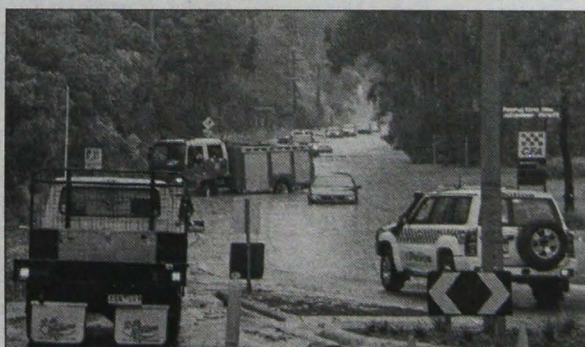
• Further details on www.warrandytecan.com.au, or call 9844 4438.



Sustained: A model of Peter Chandler's house, claiming energy ratings well above the current maximum levels.



Awash: These pictures by Stephen Reynolds of floods in Warrandyte, February 2011, tell their own story of the local effects of climate change.



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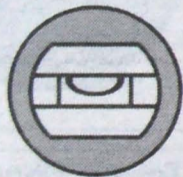
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Concerned: These locals witnessed the plight of abandoned disabled kids in China. From left: Cliff Dawson, Gordon Hoen, David Dawson, Lyndel Clancy and David Molyneux.

Locals visit China to aid abandoned children

Five Warrandyte residents recently travelled to China to visit several cities where International China Concern (ICC) run orphanages for some of China's less fortunate children.

The purpose of the trip was to see first-hand the work of ICC and raise awareness for support from Australia, and in particular the Warrandyte community.

The group consisted of Lyndel Clancy of Keen Avenue, chairperson of the international board of ICC, Gordon Hoen of Hodson Road, also a board member

of ICC, David and Cliff Dawson and David Molyneux, Warrandyte Community Church pastor.

Lyndel is a frequent visitor to China. She told the *Diary* the ICC has been established in China for 20 years, specifically caring for abandoned, disabled children.

"China is experiencing great economic growth and development," she said, "but services for 'special needs' kids are still very limited."

"The group spent several days visiting and showing

love to many kids, who do not receive this kind of love from parents."

It is to be hoped more tours can be organised in the future.

"One thing is for sure. Warrandyte locals care and are not afraid to put action to their words."

Anyone interested in helping ICC in their work for abandoned children can call David Dawson on 0418 700 388, email dmdaws@connexus.net.au or visit www.chinaconcern.org.

Forum gives voice to youth

Young people interested in community life are encouraged to apply for a position on the Manningham Youth Forum.

Comprised of up to 20 young people, the Youth Forum acts as an advisory committee to council and provides opportunities for participating young people to contribute to council's decision-making processes.

The forum meets a minimum of eight times a year.

Each member of the Youth Forum must be aged between 15 and 24 years, and either live, work or study in Manningham.

Nominations close on Friday, February 17.

For nomination forms and additional information go to www.manningham.vic.gov.au or phone Bridget Ruff on 9840 9453.

Church folk raise funds

The Riverflow Peace group at the Warrandyte Uniting Church raised \$2001 at a twilight meeting late last year. The money was sent to the Horn of Africa Appeal to help alleviate poverty in that part of the world.

"Our aim was to raise \$1000 to send to help provide food and aid for the many children living in famine and poverty in Africa," Leanne Keam told the *Diary*, "so the result doubled our expectation."

Items on sale were mainly made from recycled, sustainable materials and many people gave their time and talents to make Christmas gifts.

"A highlight of the night was young buskers, Matilda and Mia from Warrandyte Primary School who entertained the crowd and raised around \$50 for the appeal in a short stint on the microphones," Ms Keam said.



Cash: They raised \$2001 for Africa at the Uniting Church.

Free music at Stiggants

Music is coming to Stiggants Reserve, Warrandyte early next month. No, not the famous festival presentations, but a free concert arranged by Manningham council.

As part of the 2012 Manningham Music Program, council is presenting Riverside Sounds beside the Yarra River.

On Sunday, March 4, between 4pm and 8pm, everyone is invited to sit back and soak up the old time blues of the Dancehall Racketeers, the vintage swing of The Sweet Lowdowns and the masterful soul of Gnarnayarrahe Waitairie.

The Dancehall Racketeers have entertained audiences all over Australia since the 1980s with their repertoire of old-timey blues, hillbilly swing, vintage jazz, Hawaiian hula, and Cajun sounds.

The Sweet Lowdowns will play piping hot jazz, blues and gypsy swing. Gnarnayarrahe Inmurry Waitairie, an elder of the Yindjibarndi people of Western Australia, has been performing country music for more than 30 years.

Everyone is invited to bring a picnic or indulge in one of the healthy treats, ranging from wood-fired pizza, veggie burgers, solar-powered ice cream (!) to the St Andrews chai tent.

Further information from Manningham council on 9840 9381.

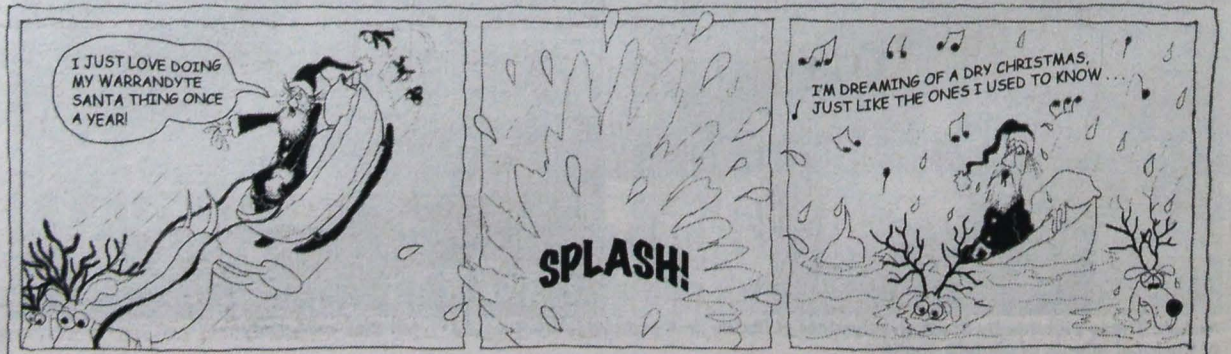


WRONG!

In our tribute to Irving Reid in our December issue, the *Diary* mistakenly published an incorrect date of death. He died on October 31, 2011.

CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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To Dream and Inspire - a Celebration of Talent
WARRANDYTE FESTIVAL 2012

The 2012 festival logo by Jock Macneish.

Grab a festive sausage

By CHERIE MOSELEN

The Warrandyte Festival Committee is launching this year's event with a sausage sizzle on Saturday, March 3 from 12noon to 3pm at Quinton's IGA at Goldfields Plaza in Warrandyte.

"Adults can grab a sausage, festival information, and the program for 2012," a spokesperson said. "For the children there will be duck race ducks on sale and information about other fun things that will be available over the weekend, including the Warrandyte Festival Kids' Market."

The Kids' Market welcomes applications from local children to run a stall selling any

home-made or home-grown goodies. The market is located on the upper section of Stiggants Reserve and will run from 10.30am on Sunday (set-up 10am) until pack-up time at 12noon. The cost is \$10, which includes insurance. Please note that this is an art and craft market and that no manufactured goods will be accepted.

● Application forms for the Kids' Market can be downloaded from the Festival website www.warrandytefestival.org and completed and returned to teachers of participating schools, or individually posted by Friday, March 9 at the latest.

Sounds like a great Festival

By CHERIE MOSELEN

Unique and talented musical acts have always been a cornerstone of the Warrandyte Festival and this year's line-up is no exception.

Ben Dennis of the Festival Committee took us through the line-up.

"Claire Browne and the Bangin' Rackettes are sharp visually as well as vocally, so they really fill up the stage," he said. "Their front-woman, Claire, has a big, soulful voice, and when you harness that as part of a nine-piece rhythm and blues big band with stunning harmonies, you get something truly impressive."

"Their sound is a fusion of northern soul, jump blues, doo-wop, ska and gospel, and Triple J have been giving them a solid ride on the

airwaves of late. They've played at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival and toured nationally with brass virtuosos, the Cat Empire, so their popularity is rising. We're pretty thrilled to be able to showcase such a talented group."

King Gizzard and the Lizard Wizard, a seven-piece band who hail from the bush, from Deniliquin down to Anglesea.

"They have a name that amuses even the most smooth-talking of radio hosts," Ben said.

"But when it comes to their rockin' sound, the lads are pretty serious. They recently earned a nomination for Best New Talent at The Age's high-profile EG Awards, which is a pretty telling accolade."

"Audiences at The Big Day Out will have the privilege of hearing them in late January, but we're sure Warrandyte locals will give this Victorian band a suitably massive welcome come festival time."

"Of course we are always proud to introduce local favourites. The Teskey Brothers, the Thod, newcomers Buck Creek, and the many other bands we select to create Saturday night's musical mania."

Sunday night's finale concert will include the girl band The Sweethearts.

"About 30 members make up this group, which is based at Matthew Flinders Girls Secondary College," Ben said. "But unlike most other school bands, The Sweethearts perform

primarily in professional environments and have been doing that for some 22 years."

"The girls' signature is a 'motown/soul' sound which has earned them appearances at the esteemed Montreux Jazz and Poretta Soul Music festivals."

"Their inclusion will top off one of the most diverse and exciting programs we've put together so far."

Festival music kicks off as always with a Battle of the Bands at 6.30pm on Friday night at the Warrandyte Community Centre. The Main Stage will offer live music from 12.15pm on Saturday right across the weekend until the Sunday night.

● The Warrandyte Village Festival is scheduled for the weekend of March 23, 24, 25.



Pictures by
STEPHEN REYNOLDS

Our community bidding for Fire Ready funding

It is now known that the devastating fires of Black Saturday 2009 came within 15 minutes of sweeping through North Warrandyte and the Warrandyte township beyond.

Only a last minute wind change saved us. Since then, the Warrandyte Community Association—along with the local CFA brigades—have worked hard to bring a greater level of appreciation of the dangers facing this area and an understanding of the safety preparations necessary.

They have organised public meetings and forums and developed a detailed submission to the Bushfire Royal Commission.

WCA aims to continue this work through a community project called "Planning for Bushfire Survival" and has applied to the state government



for a Fire Ready Community Grant to enable this work to continue.

Warrandyte and North Warrandyte have been named among the Victorian towns rated at extreme risk for the 2011-12 fire season.

"Research and best practice shows that effective bushfire survival plans save lives, yet it appears that most Warrandyte residents do not have

effective bushfire survival plans," WCA president Dick Davies told the *Diary*.

The project proposed consists of two stages, an initial survey and a follow-up program guided by the results of the survey.

"The grants program is very competitive and there is no guarantee that funds will be made available."

"However, the proposal has the enthusiastic backing of the Manningham and Nillumbik councils, the local CFA brigades and CFA districts and Ryan Smith, the local MP and minister for conservation."

"A successful outcome for this application will ensure that more Warrandyte households will be better prepared to survive future bushfire issues," Mr Davies said. "This project continues our advocacy of bushfire safety issues."

Bushfire checklist

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



North auxiliary seeks volunteers

The North Warrandyte CFA is looking for volunteers to join their auxiliary.

The auxiliary is a body of North Warrandyte people who have come together to raise funds to support their local CFA brigade.

"The CFA receives funding from a number of areas, mainly insurance company levies and the state government," spokesperson Kerry Bradford told the *Diary*, "but there is still a significant shortfall from what is required to effectively protect our community from harm through the threat of fire. That's where our volunteers come in."

"Our auxiliary meets once a month to discuss ideas and opportunities and to organise activities. We are a small

group and we need more members to help us reach our fundraising goals," Ms Bradford said.

"Our current goal is to purchase a generator to keep the North Warrandyte fire station running during emergencies."

"We know everyone's lives are busy. If you join the auxiliary, you can give as much or as little time as you are able. Or you can give us a donation."

Cheques, postal orders, and money orders should be made payable to the North Warrandyte Fire Brigade, sent with your name and contact details, to 186 Research-Warrandyte Road, North Warrandyte 3113.

● Further information from Jeff Hobbs on 0409 844 049 or bilbyweb@bigpond.com.

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Important Information

This summer, electricity businesses will be modifying their powerline safety settings to reduce the risk of bushfires. This may delay restoring power if a fault occurs. Consider your need for back-up power if you are highly reliant on electricity. Remember power outages can also affect phones, radios and water pumps.

- Have a battery-powered radio and spare batteries or a wind-up radio available to hear alerts and warnings in case power fails;
- Have a landline with a cord, a fully charged mobile phone as backup and a spare battery and;
- Have a non-electric pump available that can be operated from an alternative water supply such as a swimming pool, concrete or metal tank, or dam.

If you lose power, contact your electricity distribution business on the "Faults and Emergencies" number on your most recent electricity bill.

Be prepared. For more information go to www.esv.vic.gov.au

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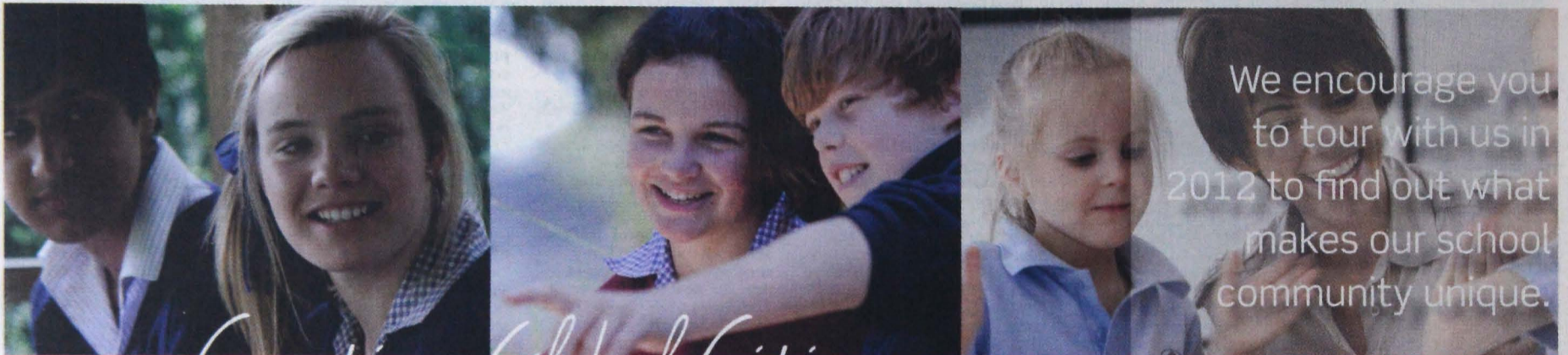


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Bands at the bridge

out of the inbox

By JUDY GREEN

Live music will be back at the Warrandyte RSL when Bands by the Bridge takes off again on Sunday, February 26 from 4.30pm to 8pm. The first band for the year will be the Riffmasters headed by locals Glen and Heather Jameson. The RSL is at 113 Brackenbury Street (just off Mitchell Avenue).

Fair

The Park Orchards Strawberry Fair is on again at the St Anne's Primary School in Knees Road on Saturday, March 3, 9am to 4pm. The day begins with a Fun Run followed by stalls featuring arts and crafts, preserves, strawberry teas, biscuits, cakes toys, secondhand treasures, show bags and face painting. The rides are great and the food court is full of yummy stuff. Raffle drawn at 3pm.

Churches

Service times for local churches each Sunday are: Anglican (9844 2193) 10am; Community (9844 4148) 10am; Uniting (9844 0674) 10.15am and Catholic (9876 1509) Park Orchards 10.30am and Warrandyte second Sunday 5pm.

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. The Christmas Bowl Appeal netted \$1100.

Garden

The Anderson garden at 98 Bradleys Lane, Warrandyte will be open on Saturday, March 17 and Sunday, March 18 as a fundraiser for the



Longest lunch returns to Warrandyte

Warrandyte's picturesque Yarra River will again be one of the featured locations for the World's Longest Lunch with the event taking place on Friday, March 2.

The theme for this year is "Uncork the Past" offering diners the opportunity to explore Warrandyte's colourful history while enjoying

the region's finest produce prepared by the Box Hill Institute chefs and cookery students, and wines from the Yarra Valley. Bookings close on Sunday, February 19. Tickets are \$110 per person. To book or find out more visit www.manningham.gov.au/longestlunch or call 9840 9310.

North Warrandyte CFA. There will be talks on sustainable water use, many native and dry-tolerant plants and a large Salvia collection along with plants for sale, refreshments and live music.

The Blue Strings on Friday, February 17, commencing at 8pm, at 246-250 Yarra Street, Warrandyte (top car park, above shops near bridge). Bookings advised: 9844 5155.

"Controlling Indian Mynahs". These seminars are free with no bookings required.

Music

Manningham Music will present Riverside Sounds at Stiggants Reserve, Yarra Street, Warrandyte on Sunday, March 4 from 4pm to 8pm. Dancehall Racketeers will star with Gnanayarrahe Waitairie and the The Sweet Lowdowns.

Do Care

Volunteers are needed for friendly visiting to reduce social isolation in the Manningham area. Free training and support from Wesley Do Care is provided. If you can help please call Peter Hair on 8706 1700 or peter.hair@wesley.org.au.

Pancakes

Warrandyte Uniting Church will be holding a pancake stall outside Warrandyte IGA on Saturday, February 25. Money raised will go to the Uniting Church Share Appeal.

Seminar

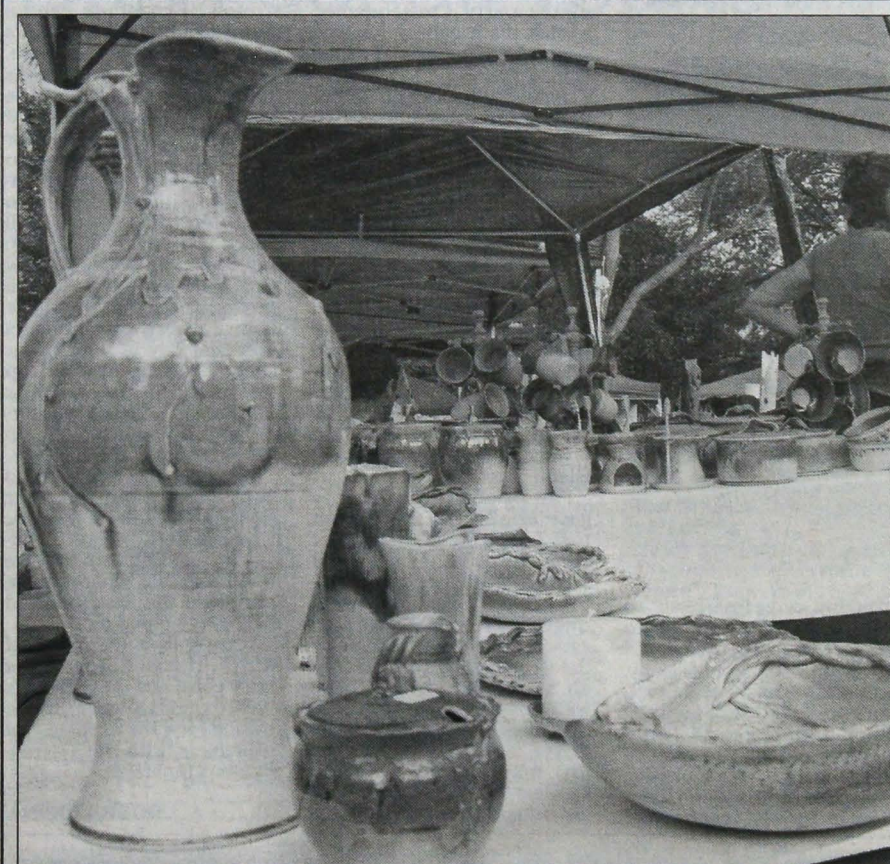
The next Manningham Environment seminar will be at the Warrandyte Community Centre on Wednesday, March 7 at 7.30pm. Max Caithness of the Yarra Indian Mynah Action Group will discuss

Watch

The next monthly meeting of Warrandyte Neighbourhood Watch will be held at the Warrandyte Police Station on Tuesday, February 14 at 7.30pm. Volunteers are needed to help with meetings and activities. If you can help please call Ian Logan on 9844 3062 or Phil Clark on 9844 3091.

Strings

Earth Harmony's Music Café will present Nick Charles and



Pottery Expo comes back to our riverside

Warrandyte's annual Pottery Expo will take place on the banks of the Yarra River on Saturday, February 25 and Sunday, February 26. Fifty ceramic artists from around Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia will come together to present innovative high quality ceramics in the natural amphitheatre opposite the Grand Hotel. Potters will be available to discuss their work and there will be ongoing demonstrations of wheel throwing.

artyfacts

Stonehouse

Stonehouse Gallery's February exhibition will show the work of tertiary ceramic students entered for this year's Encouragement Award. Each institute has selected two students to participate. The awards are adjudicated by Anna Maas, director of the Skepsi gallery. There will be six further awards sponsored by ceramic suppliers. The gallery is open daily from 10am to 5pm at 103 Yarra Street, Warrandyte.

Manningham

Real Nowhere Land is the title of the next exhibition at the Manningham Gallery, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster. The exhibition features the works of four Melbourne artists: Cresside Collette, Marieke Dench, Ann Ferguson and Greg Wood showing tapestries, prints, ceramics and paintings. The gallery is open Tuesday to Friday from 11am to 5pm and Saturday 2pm to 5pm. The exhibition will close on Saturday, March 3.

Pastel

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House is presenting a pastel painting class with local artist Sue Bayre. Classes cater for beginner and more experienced students. Call 0448 337 113 for more details.

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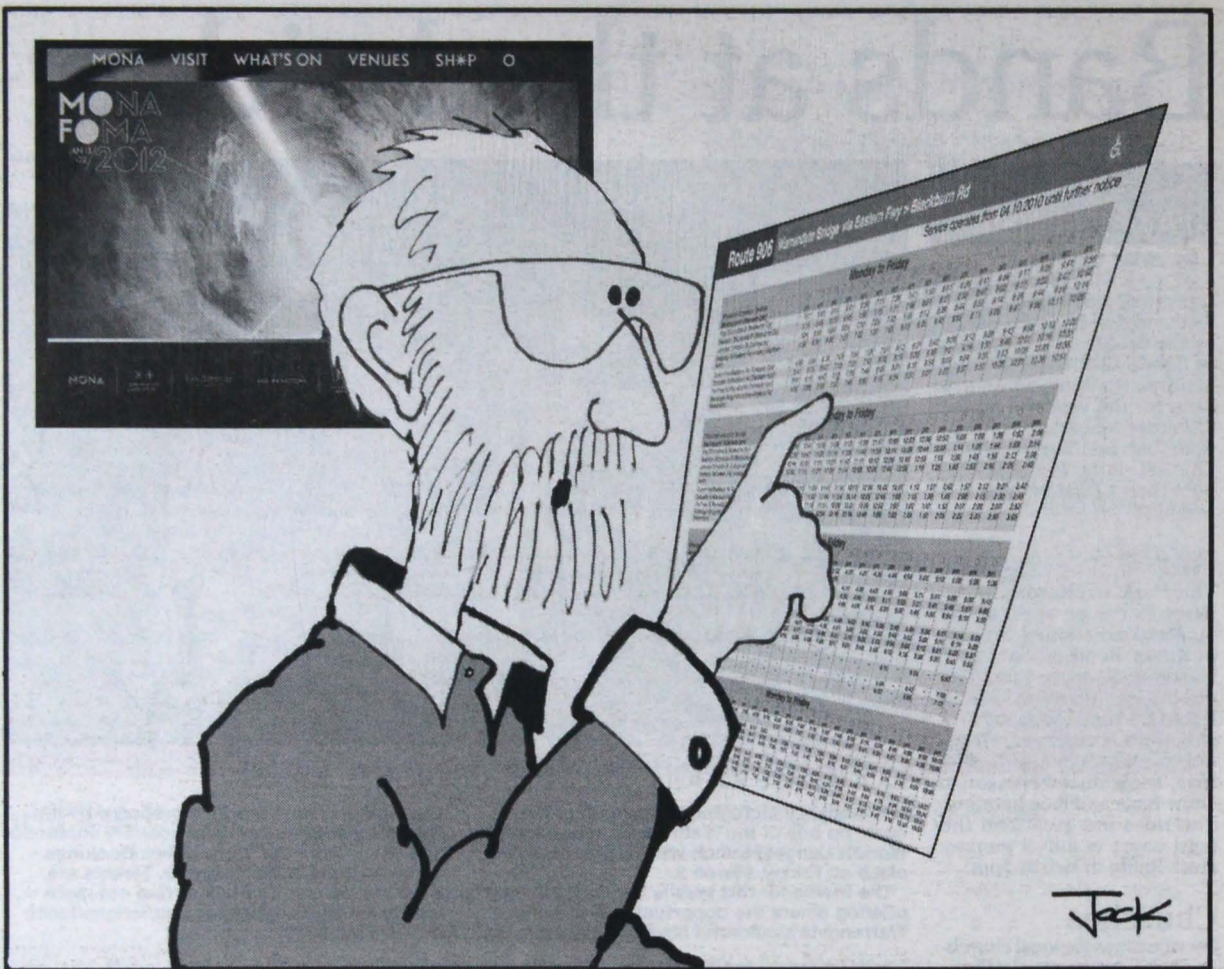
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Warrandyte Community Market

Under the gum trees, on Stiggants Reserve, Yarra Street, Warrandyte

First Saturday of each month – except January, 9am–1pm.

Ample parking. Light refreshments available. Enquiries: 9844 4495


Tassie and the West thrill your wandering scribe

LIKE thousands of others, we decided to head off to Hobart for a few days, primarily to visit MONA. No, MONA is not an aunt but a gallery. In fact, anything less like a lavender and lace aunt I have yet to see.

The Museum of Old and New Art is one of those crowd pullers that proves that cultural tourism is a real money spinner for the local area. For Tasmanians, entrance is free but for all other "foreigners", the charge is \$10 per person. This is hardly the sort of prohibitive cost that puts people off. There are tourist attractions all over the world that have entrance fees so high that it must affect their bottom lines but then, not all attractions are owned by a multi-millionaire professional gambler who has the luxury to spend his money at will and who can play by his own rules.

The gallery site is on a drop-dead gorgeous headland on the Derwent River, a 30 minute ferry ride from Hobart. Because the position is so special and is the site of an historic, Roy Grounds' house, the local planning officers, quite rightly, refused to allow him to build higher than one storey above ground so, not to be deterred, he gave them the bird and decided to build underground. The result is a spectacular, three storey underground gallery, carved from glowing, sandstone rock. The resulting building is worth the visit in itself.

Now, I did mention that MONA is not an aunt and is



kibbled

"MONA is not an aunt and is probably even less likely to be a great aunt. Don't go to MONA if you want pictures of flowers in vases or of dreamy, early Oz bushscapes..."

probably even less likely to be a great aunt. Don't go to MONA if you want pictures of flowers in vases or of dreamy, early Oz bushscapes. In fact, don't go if you want pictures hanging on the wall! There is some "old" in the form of sarcophagi, a corpse or two, flints and coins but that's about it. The rest is edgy stuff,

the sort of exhibits perfect for sniggering teenage boys and for mature, sophisticated adults to pretend not to be fascinated by when they really are. Suffice it to say that Walsh—and all the permanent art works are his own—is intrigued by all the topics that our mothers told us should never be discussed at a polite dinner party. Consequently, I think it's a gallery for "big people" and not primary aged kids.

Herself and I usually suffer gallery-lag after about two hours in any gallery, no matter how illustrious, but we quite happily managed to last four hours in MONA.

And, our trip to the gallery had a multiplier effect. In getting there we helped Mr Branson become richer, the accommodation owners and their associated restaurant earned a few more bucks and because we had a day up our sleeves, we also supported the eco tourism industry by taking a speedy boat trip around spectacular Tasman Island.

The operators probably gave us all a few clues when they issued Sydney to Hobart style wet weather gear and warned those in the front few rows that the seat belts were there for a reason. Those with age-related joint problems or those who tend to throw up on a slippery shower base were advised to sit in the back two rows of seats behind the driver. It only took us to the first, full speed 90 degree turn to alert us to the power of centrifugal force and the soak-

ing power of spray. Surely the Japanese have invented wind-screen wipers for spectacles!

Not all the trip was "hoonish", although the bits that were, were fabulous. The dolphins were wonderful, the seals and bird life prolific but I must admit, however, that I was totally ignorant of the fact that around that stretch of coastline can be found the highest sea cliffs in the Southern Hemisphere. Towering, smooth columns that plummet straight into the sea, the sort of cliff faces that have an irresistible appeal for those mad rock climbers who decide they have nothing better to do with their time than to put on ballet slippers, fill their pockets with chalk dust, fuel their bodies with a few nuts, some jerky and a muesli bar and check that they have made no more appointments after that day in their diary. Their views up and on top are, no doubt, spectacular but there is a certain reassuring appeal about looking up rather than down a cliff face.

The other touristy thing to mention is about our tour around the south-west of WA. It wasn't until we were halfway through the trip that we found out that wherever we had been, the fires followed half a day behind us.

So after the edginess of MONA, the wildness of the Tassy coast and the tinderbox of WA's south-west, we're looking forward to some real excitement with the Warrandyte bus timetable.


ROGER KIBELL

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Nature rises above the floods to bring treasure to gardens



nature
By LINDA ROGAN

FOR us, and many others in Warrandyte, Eltham and Greensborough, Christmas Day finished with an unexpected bit of excitement. The Christmas storm bemused us with hail, a late white Christmas we thought, and then the skies opened up creating a temporary raging river through our back garden and filled our under-house storage area a metre deep.

My husband and I spent the week after Christmas cleaning up. We were so lucky that nothing needed for day-to-day living was affected. Never the less, I was ready for nature to provide something to brighten my mood by mid-January.

I would like to share three things that brightened my summer, without the need to go beyond our back garden.

First I noticed some shy but cheery, mauve pea flowers peeking out amongst flood rubble. Most nearby plants had been uprooted or scoured away. These flowers were of the Variable Glycine, whose taproots and vines had held well against the torrent. By mid-January, many fresh trifoliate leaves had popped up from the bare ground near the roots of the Glycine.

Next, by my rainwater pond, the bright pink flowers of Purple Loosestrife made their appearance; another plant that had held well against the deluge. This gave me hope that there would still be something to attract the Blue Banded Bee to my garden. I watched and listened



Visitor: Musk Lorikeet on the red flowering ficifolia. (Picture by Peter Rogan)

expectantly for a few days until I was rewarded by a distinctive buzzing and the sight of a male Blue Banded Bee who obligingly stopped, clasping onto a bit of grass, long enough for a couple of quick photos.

The brightest spot was yet to come: a tree we had been given as a gift more than 20 years ago was one of few in our garden that is not indigentous to our area. This year,

for the first time, our red flowering gum, the ficifolia, bloomed unashamedly with a profusion of deep fuchsia to peach flowers. This was especially cheering as the tree was easily viewed from my window.

Gazing at this extravaganza, with boughs bouncing about in the breeze, I realised that some of the movement was caused by parrots. They were gaudy Rainbow Lorikeets

greedily gulping the nectar from one bloom after another. I marvelled that such colourful birds were so well camouflaged by the green leaves and bright flowers. It's hard to deny the beauty of the Rainbow Lorikeet even though I've heard some orchardists refer to them as "feathered mice".

I stopped frequently during the day to gaze out the window for another dose of "brightness". Excitedly, I noted a slightly more subdued but still brilliant parrot with blue crown and scarlet patch extending from its forehead over both cheeks. This one was noticeably smaller than the Rainbow and apparently a bit less bossy. It energetically dabbled in each blossom, the pink tip of its beak appearing to be stained by the colour of the blooms.

Neither of these birds is rare locally but I have never had such a box seat, to observe them at my leisure. So enchanted was I by these birds that I set up my camera with a tripod and even washed the windows in an attempt to get a photo. (To be honest, I co-opted Peter's assistance for the outsides) In the end, the photo I have chosen was taken by Peter without a tripod, perhaps credit to his steady hand.

The Musk Lorikeet is less common around Melbourne and it is one of the urban Lorikeets that is of interest to Birds Australia (soon to be Birdlife Australia). They ask: If you see any of these Lorikeets nesting in hollows, or feeding dependent young, please report it. All you need to do is to fill in the Lorikeet Sighting Record and email it to bavic@birdsaustralia.com.au. May this year be full of bright surprises for you.

Don't get off your bike, Marilyn!

TELL me you didn't ride up Mt Buffalo on that old thing!" cried a wiry-looking whippet of a woman on a gleaming white road bike as I cruised past her on a little hill outside Porepunkah. "That must've been hard work!"

Well, yes. And no. My rather plain-looking bike did get me to the top of Mt Buffalo, thank you, but it was a splendid ride. Plenty of comfy gears on a touring bike, even for a sturdily built old chook like meself. Just goes to show, doesn't it, that you shouldn't judge a book by its cover?

I left Whippet Woman spinning madly, going nowhere fast on the long hot hill, while I pedalled steadily into a shimmering mirage that hovered over the fuming bitumen on the long road ahead. The road surface was literally fusing into the heat haze. It was January's final fling at summer.

I fully expected the white bike to catch up with me on the flat—a road bike is a road bike, after all—but I never

saw her again. After surviving an arduous climb through chill mountain cloud, and a heart-stopping 26-kilometre descent, she may have fallen at the last hurdle—the gentle Ovens Valley is a notoriously insidious heat trap.

Taking part in the annual Audax Alpine Classic is a contagion steadily creeping through the ranks of the fit and foolhardy—or in my case, the not-so-fit and not-so-foolhardy. (I mightn't have done much training, but years of riding in these mountains have taught me a thing or two.)

Hundreds of cyclists sign up for each of the event's randonnées—rides where you have to finish within a given time limit before you can lay claim to having "done" it. The shortest ride is a 76-km return trip from Bright to Dingo Dell on Mt Buffalo. The longest is a 250-kilometre epic via Mt Hotham, Omeo and Falls Creek back to Bright. Even the shortest route has a steady 1200-metre climb; the uphill on the longer routes don't bear thinking about. How



our place
By MARILYN MOORE

would you like to ride over the steep-sided Tawonga Gap to Falls Creek AND back again via Dingo Dell before dinner?

There was more than one Warrandytian in Bright for this burgeoning annual event: I kept bumping into people I hadn't seen for years, all tackling impressive routes. A couple of Green Edge riders were reportedly in town, too, and although it's not supposed to be a race, the top riders undoubtedly do vie for line honours, or at least some sort of PB.

Me? I'm just happy to fly through the electronic "arrivée" gate in one piece, spurred on by the applause of the crowd. Ten years ago I was romping in it with more than an hour to spare. This year I scraped home with dodgy knees, a crook back, aching hands and a mere eight minutes left on the clock. Too close for comfort? I

promised myself that next time I'd put in a few more hours of training, but like most New Year's resolutions, the inspiration soon wears off. Galvanising one's brain and body into any sort of meaningful training routine requires a constant niggling fear—like fear of stalling on a Himalayan precipice; or, fear of keeling over in New Zealand's mighty southern alps; or, fear of being left miserably behind in outback Turkey. None of those applies to Mt Buffalo. It's just another enjoyable day out, and I'm so very thankful just to be there.

Hats off to those diehard souls, though, whose competitive spirit drives them to pit themselves against the mountains, the weather, their bodies and even common sense to tackle the 250-kilometre event. The last bloke home, after more than 14 gruelling hours in the saddle, was 69 years old. And what an ovation he got! Good man!

I don't think I'm ever going to be that foolhardy. Or that fit!

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	SUNDAY: Words at the Warrandyte Café (February 12)

EVENTS:
Women's Health Day "Not losing your marbles - strategies for maintaining a healthy brain" (Thursday Feb 23)
The Grand Read - local writers read their work at the Grand Hotel (Tuesday Mar 27)

TERM 2
April 27 - July 1

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On a hilly, bumpy road to Warrandyte

By VAL POLLEY

A WIDE open road. It really seemed true over the Christmas holidays. The traffic was lighter, the cars were fewer, the pace more leisurely, parking spots more available and driving more pleasurable. Quite like old times in fact.

That earlier motoring spirit was what the recent ABC TV documentary *Wide Open Road* commemorated in its history of the car in Australia. The program illustrated how the car has shaped the country, cities and suburbs and become such a part of everyday life. It was a remarkable and enlightening series.

There is little doubt the car has played its part in how Warrandyte has developed over the decades. Cars began to make an appearance in Australia in the late 1890s with the early 1900s the era of the locally made car. As Melbourne expanded outwards in the late 19th century with the development of the railway, Doncaster, Templestowe and Warrandyte remained somewhat isolated without the benefit of a local rail line.

However by 1906 when the Caledonia Mine was opened, cars are starting to feature in photographs of the period. By 1908 a Councillor Speers is voicing his concern about the speed of motors suggesting the Templestowe Shire Council should regulate motor traffic within the shire particularly given the narrow winding roads.

In 1908 there were reports of a young boy being killed and of motorists travelling along winding roads at breakneck speeds regardless of the dangers. Tourists started to motor to Warrandyte in ever increasing numbers. In September 1911, 52 motor cars were reported to be in the township and as there had been several narrow escapes from accidents it was proposed to install danger signs at the worst spots. Indeed congestion increased and there were increasing calls to widen the roads.

In 1913 Warrandyte was becoming recognised as a favoured spot for motor car based picnics and in 1923 it was reported that 1100 cars visited the town on one Sunday in winter despite the bad roads. When the wattle was out it was not unusual to see large numbers of cars in the town.

As cars became more affordable over the next few decades people not only gained a new level of independence but cars quickly became

integral to every aspect of their lives. The car, supported by a free-way network and other infrastructure, enabled the city to expand outwards towards Warrandyte through the orcharded hills and along creek and river valleys.

The suburbs not only extended to the township's perimeter but there was also broad acre subdivision in the late 1960s within the township itself. With only a periodic bus service, the car became an essential item for living in Warrandyte, enabling residents to access work, school and shopping. Families quickly became two (or more) car families and this remains true today. There is little doubt the car has been a decisive element in the development of Warrandyte.

It can fairly be said that cars not only shaped the nation they also gave it national heroes and automotive inventions. The man behind *Wide Open Road*, Paul Clarke, had no hesitation when asked what he thought had been the greatest Australian automotive invention; naming the 1960s Repco Brabham. This world-beating racing car was powered by an engine designed by an engineering genius—Phil Irving—and he lived in Warrandyte. Warrandyte has had its share of individual success stories but many of them are unknown to the wider community so it seems fitting, 20 years after his death, to commemorate the life and work of Phil Irving.

Phil Irving combined a love of motorcycles and motor cars; particularly racing cars. He had a lifetime of involvement that spanned almost the entire history of the motor industry. His early years were spent in country towns where his father practised medicine though his family life was disrupted by parental absence in the Great War.

After attending Wesley College he went on to the Working Men's College (now RMIT) where he gained a thorough and practical grounding in mechanical engineering practices which led to work within the newly developing industry. Meantime he expressed his passion for motorcycles through designing and competing. He was a regular competitor in motorcycle trials and won the 1928 Australian Solo Motorcycle Championship.

In 1930 he grabbed the opportunity to team up with a Yorkshireman, J Gill, who was completing an adventurous round the world trip on a Vincent HRD sidecar outfit. They travelled to the UK via New Zealand and Canada, arriving in the depths of Depression Britain. But

Phil wangled his way into the Velocette motorcycle factory and his international career began.

For nearly 20 years he worked in the UK, eventually joining Vincent HRD as chief designer. His highlights there were the design and construction of the famous V-twin engine for the Vincent Rapide, Black Shadow and Black Lightning motorcycles of the pre- and post-World War 2 period. Having married actress Veranne in Britain and had a son, he returned to Australia in 1949 for personal reasons eventually joining Repco Research who offered him challenging design opportunities.

Repco Research became involved in all kinds of motor sport that led to the development of the engine which powered the Repco-Brabham Formula One car to World Championships in 1966 and 1967 and earned fame for (Sir) Jack Brabham. The Repco board agreed to the idea of developing a new engine provided the work was done in secret and cost no more than \$10,000 for four engines. Phil Irving was the chief design engineer and that this was achieved so successfully and in a very short time-frame demonstrates just how innovative, skilful and technically proficient he was.

In an interview on the ABC *George Negus Tonight* program in 2004, Sir Jack Brabham said that winning the world championships with an Australian designed engine (which he described as very reliable with good torque and lovely to drive) was the pinnacle of his career. Nigel Tait from the Repco Brabham project said how lucky they were to have the basically simple engine designed by Phil Irving. The achievement of the Repco Brabham in world motoring history cannot be understated. When the Repco-Brabham also won the Constructor's Championship, the victory marked the peak of Phil's career as an engine designer and when added to his Vincent HRD record breaking design, gave him a unique double design achievement.

Phil Irving's other achievements are many. Mention his name to vintage motorbike enthusiasts and their eyes light up and they enthuse about his engineering genius and his generosity with his time and knowledge. He wrote eight books on motorcycles that remain renowned for technical excellence and many magazine articles under the pseudonym "Slide Rule" as well as detailed notes and drawing in response to requests from local



Phil Irving (right) featured on the covers of motoring journals.

aficionados. He received many awards including the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport's first CAMS Membership of Honour for long and valuable service to Australian motor sport and an MBE in 1976 for his services to mechanical engineering. CAMS also named their highest engineering award after him to honour his great achievements and a Phil Irving Trophy race is held at the Phillip Island Classic race meeting.

It was 1956 when Phil and Veranne and son Denis moved to Warrandyte, building a home and naming it "Owl's Rest" after the family's nocturnal habits. Veranne had continued working in theatre and in Warrandyte they all became involved in the WAA drama group. After Veranne's death in 1959 Phil and Denis continued with their involvement, Denis going on to become a world renowned theatre consultant and lighting designer. Phil married again in 1976 sharing

an interest in theatre and nature with wife Edith until his death in January 1992; mourned in motor racing and theatrical circles as well as in Warrandyte. Edith Irving continues to live at "Owl's Rest" amongst her friends within the Warrandyte community. Warrandyte has every reason to be proud of Phil Irving who is revered as a great in Australia's motoring history.

Wide Open Road set out the ways motorised transport changed Australia. It opened up the continent's vast inland, connected its widely spaced cities and enabled development in those places such as Warrandyte which are located distant from railways or other mass transit means. It has encouraged innovation and change and produced geniuses like Phil Irving. It is to be hoped that this will not be lost to the nation if the changes to the current car industry being flagged in recent media reports proceed. It would be a loss indeed.

Conversations with Katharine



Spiders?

They're my little sisters—part of my life they catch all the insects, they're saving my books. Watched this one for ages, spinning her magic, but you can take her outside. Granddaughter gets worried.

Television?

Why would I want one, there is so much else. Nasty invader, a shrill outside voice. I choose my companions, to nourish and teach so many books and so little time.

Gifts?

I'm sorry I gave the teapot away. But he admired it so much, he has very little, and it made him so happy. (The red Finnish teapot, I bought it for her saved all my money, but she didn't know.)

Décor?

I know that it worries them, this hole in my wall it came from the earthquake, just our small shudder I like to see it, all crack and crumble I take so much comfort, that I'm still here.

Music?

How insulting to Beethoven, just being noise you must do him justice, sit quiet and listen. In the still of the evening there is nothing better "The Moonlight", a sherry, the Fremantle doctor.

Life?

Fight for what's right, be true to yourself. Don't be beguiled by tinsel and surface. "Sow in the soul of man, one thought that won't die." Make sure you make a difference.

KAREN THROSSELL

Venom big guns ready to roll

by TONY OLIVER

IN the space of five short years Warrandyte Basketball has tripled in size and with its enormous growth has emerged the formation of four senior teams participating in the state-wide Big V competition, the newest being the club's 'Eastside Mitsubishi Youth Men

The Big V 2012 season commences in mid-March, leaving the Venom with the month of February to fine-tune its preparations with a string of practice matches, many of which will be played at Warrandyte Sports Complex (Andersons Creek Primary School).

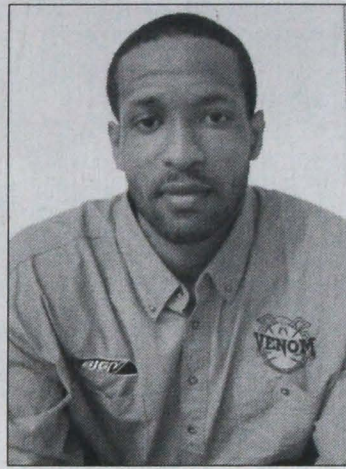
In a major coup for the club, some new recruits have created plenty of excitement among the Venom's quickly growing band of faithful supporters. Key additions to the Rob Cousins Senior Men include former Melbourne Tigers championship-winning guard Gerard Leonard, dual championship-winning small forward Vashon Weaver (Waverley), former Wannambool championship player Sam Burch and Bulleen trio Andrew Oliver, Jarrod O'Shannessy and Shawn Connor, while American sensation and last year's league MVP Tron Smith is returning for a second season.

"There's been a real shift in the team and it's a positive move," said club general manager and senior women's coach Justin Nelson.

"New coach Arnold Giffening has a real focus on Warrandyte continuing its rapid rise in basketball and he has brought together a great group of recruits to complement some key



New leader: Jen Cameron.



Back for more: Tron Smith.

players from recent seasons."

Meanwhile, the Gardiner McInnes Senior Women have welcomed Rachael Wansbrough (Mornington), Lee Wilkins (Western Port), Carmen Weaver (Waverley) and Bec McKay (Hawthorn), a talented quartet Nelson hopes will help deliver his successful team a championship.

"I'm confident we've added the right mix into what is already a very competitive team," Nelson said. "We continue to develop a number of outstanding young players and with the right recruits we continue to build a strong squad. I think the fans will enjoy what they see this season from all four of our teams."

Much of that excitement is sure to

extend to the club's Youth teams, both of which are filled with home-grown talent.

"The club's policy is that the Big V Youth teams must be filled with current or former club players, so it really is a fantastic pathway for our juniors coming through the ranks," Nelson said.

"We want our kids in the junior program to aim for the top and see our senior teams as an opportunity for them. I have no doubt our Youth teams will showcase the club's amazing talent coming through."

The Venom's pre-season schedule started on February 5 against Sherbrooke, with further games coming up over the next few weeks.

Entry to all pre-season and regular season games and finals at Warrandyte Sports Complex (single or double headers) are \$6 adults, \$3 children (U12 free) and \$12 family (2 adults/3 children).

MEANWHILE, third-year forward Jen Cameron will take the reigns of Warrandyte's senior women's team by stepping into the role of captain.

A favorite among the group and highly respected by her teammates, Cameron is the fourth captain of Warrandyte's senior women since the team's inception in 2007.

Joining elite company that has included Jo Metcalfe, Sally Phillips and Jaz Borella, taking the leadership role is a natural step for Cameron after being vice-captain to recently retiring Borella last year.

With Cameron stepping up, the vice-captain's role has been given to 18-year-old Meg Dargan, the team's dynamic point guard who has progressed through the club's junior program and amazingly will enter her fifth senior season this year.

VENOM BIG V PRE-SEASON SCHEDULE:

Sunday Feb 12: Eastside Mitsubishi Youth Men v Coburg at 12.30pm

Sunday Feb 19: Porter Davis Homes Youth Women v Waverley at 12.30pm

Sunday Feb 19: Gardiner McInnes Senior Women v Waverley at 2.30pm

Saturday Feb 25: Eastside Mitsubishi Senior Men v Sothern Peninsula at 8.30pm

Sunday Feb 26: Gardiner McInnes Senior Women v Camberwell at 12.30pm

Sunday Feb 26: Rob Cousins Senior Men v Camberwell at 2.30pm

Australia Day weekend success



A TOTAL of 30 Warrandyte Venom teams took part in the Eltham Dandenong tournament over the Australia Day weekend, arguably the largest junior basketball event in the world. Seven local teams reached grand finals for three premierships and four runners-up.

As usual the weather was hot but not as bad as previous years and many teams used the opportunity to develop their teamwork and fitness.

"We came here for five games and got two bonus games," Warren Heigh said to the Under 20 Girls after their heartbreaking loss in the grand final against the Outlaws.

Warrandyte looked comfortable and in control midway through the final half with a 10-point lead but some excellent outside shooting by the Outlaws changed the momentum of the game.

Warrandyte was in foul trouble and the Outlaws slowly chipped away at the lead, drawing level with 16 seconds to go. A foul with 2.1 seconds on the clock gave the Outlaws the opportunity. The first missed, but the second rolled in.

The Venom only had six players for the final and were exhausted afterwards. All players contributed with Ash Brobbell leading the charge with 11, Hannah Bensch (9) and Casey Taylor (8) the top scorers.

On the adjacent court the Under 20 Men's final was in play between Warrandyte and Eltham. Eltham started strongly and soon opened up a 10-point lead. The Venom challenged at various times but could not close the gap, going down 51-35 at the final whistle.

However, coach Ben Dunn was not disappointed as an overtime win in the semi final against Keilor simply took too much out of the boys.

Warrandyte Venom scored what was perhaps a surprising win in the Under 18C finals defeating the previously undefeated Coburg.

"We watched Coburg's win in the semi final and they looked very impressive," Gavin Eddy said later. "We needed to stick to our game plan and run the game at our pace."

Though on the scoreboard it looked a comfortable 38-25 win, Coburg was always threatening right up to the final minutes.

Conor Gardiner (with 19) was the top scorer in the final with James Eddy scoring 10.

The Venom side, already qualified for the Victorian Championship, were possibly under graded playing in the AR Grade. However, the final against Bulleen was tight with little separating both teams. End-to-end basketball was the name of the game but it was the Bulleen crew who were able to convert more of their chances.

With 50 seconds to go, the Venom closed the gap to one point and while both sides had chances, all Bulleen needed to do was hold the ball and ran out 22-21 winners.

Warrandyte's scoring was shared around with five points coming from Sebastian Reynelle and four from Josh Bates.

Bloods battle for finals spots

FOR the first time in recent memory, Warrandyte's cricket teams are battling to have a team secure a final spot in any competition at the time the Diary went to print.

While Warrandyte's First XI started the year strongly and only lost top spot two weeks before the Christmas break, the team must now fight to break a losing streak that has seen it knocked out of the top four bracket.

The Second XI are charging home thanks to a streak of good form, putting the Bloods only a game and a half out of the top four. Warrandyte's Third XI, arguably one of the more successful squads over the past five years, are anchored to the bottom of the David Beatty Shield, fighting relegation with only two wins for the season while Warrandyte's Fourth XI must continue to win to ensure it remains in the Anne Pascoe Shield.

RYAN HOIBERG

Hawks just hanging on

By FRANS BROUWER

WITH only a few rounds to go, South Warrandyte has one senior team more likely than not to play finals while the Fourth XI is holding its own although top sides Ainslie Park and Norwood are fielding several former First XI players.

The Fifties are less than two games from fourth and still have a chance of finals action with remaining games against Norwood (6th), Knox City (7th) and Ainslie Park (1st). Congratulations to juniors Jakeb Cullen-Hall, Tristan Hansen, and Darcy Church who played during the break for the Ringwood District Cricketers Association U14 and U12 representative teams.

A few Veterans continue to show how much cricketing talent they retain despite the passage of time with some excellent all-rounder performances by Scott Brasher, Tim Rule, John Cleary and "Rocket" Reilly. Trollope Shield (6th on ladder): Rd 6 - Hawks 10/227 (Lindsay 39, Hill 46, Garrett 82, Milne 35) lost to Warranwood 8/228 (Garrett 3/40);

Rd 7 - Hawks 2/115 d East Ringwood 10/111; Rd 8 - Hawks 8/225 (Lindsay 58, McBride 41) d Bayswater Park 10/226 (Kane Hartrup 3/47, Lindsay 2/27).

A Grade (6th): Rd 7 - Hawks 8/153 (McMahon 31, Matthys 63) lost to Croydon Ranges 4/156; Rd 8 - Hawks 10/134 (Robb 25) lost to Ainslie Park 8/169 (Neagle 3/38); Rd 9 - Hawks 10/92 lost to Knox City 8/212 (Neagle 3/42); Rd 10 - Hawks 132 d Wantirna 10/115 (Bowen 4/28); Rd 11 - Hawks 10/120 lost to Montrose 4/123. D Grade (7th): Rd 7 - Hawks 3/194 (Bird 74no, Shane Biggs 99no) lost to Wonga Park 9/205 (Sharrock 2/15); Rd 8 - Hawks 9/108 (Richards 29) d Warranwood 9/105 (Ollie Hansen 2/16, Sam Williams 2/19, Richards 2/25); Rd 9 - Hawks 9/120 (Ollie Hansen 24no) lost to Wantirna 5/129 (Hall 3/17); Rd 10 - Hawks 8/141 (James 29, Lachlan McEvoy 33) d Olinda 8/130; Rd 11 - Hawks 106 (Sam Williams 30) lost to Ainslie Park 5/142 (Sammartino 3/23).

H Grade (3rd): Rd 7 - Hawks 7/169 (Chrisfield 41, Hansen 25no, James Bowen 30no) lost to Wantirna 5/184; Rd 8 - Hawks 4/172 Scott Adams 67, Simon Adams 68no) d Wantirna South 8/153 (James Cullen 3/38); Rd 9 - Hawks 9/107 (Marty Smith 42, Scott Adams 27) lost to Norwood 7/280 (John Cleary 3/67); Rd 10 - Hawks 5/192 (McIlroy 52, Chrisfield 50no, Simon Adams 37) d Croydon North 3/181; Rd 11 - Hawks 3/167 (Simon Adams 71, Andy Exley 36) d South Croydon 10/152 (Sam Cleary 3/32).

J Grade (5th): Rd 7 - Hawks 8/58 lost to Wantirna South 0/68; Rd 8 - Hawks 9/135 (Campbell 51 ret no, James Fasan 20) lost to Eastfield 3/148; Rd 9 forfeit vs Knox City; Rd 10 - Hawks 6/174 (Campbell 45, Cutler 49 ret hurt) d Wonga Park 9/149; Rd 11 - Hawks 6/117 (Jack Hollins 31, McMahon 31no) lost to Norwood 3/120 (Andy Hollins 2/13).

U16-2 (7th): Rd 6 - Hawks 10/142 (Holewa 52) lost to Wonga Park 7/201; Rd 7 - Hawks 9/154 (Kumar 35no) and 8/82 d Lilydale 10/91.

U14-2 (3rd): Rd 6 - Hawks 10/131 (Harris 27, Hansen 39) d Warrandyte 10/90 (Campbell 4/11) and 1/70; Rd 7 - Hawks 10/71 and 3/99 lost to Wantirna South 5/157.

U12-1 (10th): Rd 6 - Hawks 10/57 (Adams 21) lost to Boronia 3/187 and 9/42 (Church 4/2); Rd 7 - Hawks 10/18 and 8/52 lost to Wonga Park 6/215 dec.

U16-1 T20 (11th): Rd 4 - Hawks 8/151 (Holewa 46, Thompson 35 no) lost to Bayswater Park 5/158 (Paterson 3/28, Holewa 2/23).

U14-1 T20: Rd 4 - Hawks 5/70 (Wright 21) lost to Ringwood 5/109.

Masters 1 (3rd): Rd 5 - Hawks 9/166 (Tennant 45 ret no) lost to Lilydale 7/175; Rd 6 - Hawks 8/161 (Brasher 44 ret no, Rule 43) d North Ringwood 10/81 (Rule 4/32, Brasher 3/13 including a hat-trick).

Masters 3 (6th): Rd 5 - Hawks received forfeit from Warranwood; Rd 6 - Hawks 10/113 (Cleary 32) lost to Mooroolbark 7/117 (Cleary 4/14).

Junior cricketers notch first win

By CHRIS JACKSON

THE first game of the season for Warrandyte's rising young cricketers didn't start on the best note for the Under 12s who lost to Croydon South (9/61 to 10/87).

As expected the two veterans, Will Coard and Callum Padfield (4/11), led from the front, but the lads from the Under 10s last year stepped up to "real" cricket with aplomb. Other notable performances were Ben Jackson (2/16), Bailey Bowyers (2/8) and Patrick Grocott and Tom Jackson for their batting efforts. Top scorer was "extras" with 46 runs.

The third round and the second game for the U12s resulted in their first win against Croydon North White - 0/57 to 3/48. It certainly was a momentous occasion for the players and proud parents. The stars of the day were openers Bailey Bowyer (18) and Callum Padfield (8) who carried their bats well. It was a great moment and the pride the boys showed in the win was best summed up by Hudson Rostron, who still hasn't had a chance to use that new

bat in anger - "I don't care I didn't bat because we won!". Other top efforts came from Nathan Stewart (1/3) and Archer "Mr Cricket" Rostron who filled in.

Round 4 saw the young Bloods come up against local rivals Wonga Park, a team filled with many players in their second year at this level. Despite losing 6/104 to 8/56, the boys equipped themselves well and fought out the match. Tom Jackson (4 not out) and Patrick Grocott (9) continued to lead the way with the bat after an early collapse by the top order. Others to do well included Nathan Stewart (1/6), Callum Padfield (2/6), Bailey Bowyers (1/8) and Brennan Holmes (1/16).

The ever-improving U12s came up against a Montrose, a team with some very powerful players and the Warrandyte boys went down 3/121 to 10/48. Max Coutts led the team well and continually encouraged the boys to take it up to the Montrose team. Ben Jackson (12), Hudson Rostron (3), Brennan Holmes (0) and Callum Padfield (4) were the best of

the batsmen, while Will Coard, Ben Jackson and Brennan Holmes picked up a wicket each. Patrick Grocott, the team's resident wicketkeeper, had a run in the field and unfortunately copped a nasty bounce that resulted in 10 stitches above his left eye. Of course, Pat being Pat, he ran back onto the field to bowl the last over after his visit to the Goldfield Medical Centre.

The last game before Christmas and Round 6 saw the team travel up to the 'Pringle' oval at Olinda with a loss to the mountain men - 6/149 to 10/83. Bailey Bowyers (37no) starred and was ably supported by Cate Koppers (7) in her first game. Will Coard (3/8) was the best of the bowlers. The old saying about "catches win matches" was very true in this game and if catches were held the result may have been much different.

The New Year resolution by the team was obviously to reduce the number of extras they bowl. Despite an outstanding bowling performance of only 10 wides in Round 7, it wasn't

enough to restrict Croydon North Maroon (top of ladder) who won 4/85 to 6/41. Cate Koppers (2/13) led the way with the ball and Will Coard (7) was the best of the batsmen. It was a great effort with only seven players available.

Meanwhile, in the Under 14.2 Round 7 match, Warrandyte was triumphant after scoring 3/192 (Jack Poole 37, Bumpstead 43, Killey 53) and bundling Templeton out for 146. Best in the bowling were Killey (3/17), Poole (2/13) and Reardon (1/0).

In other news, two U14 Warrandyte cricketers have represented the Ringwood and District Cricket Association with distinction at the recent inter-league carnival. Opening batsman and team captain, Joel Bumpstead, gained the highest batting average in the team, and Luke Killey proved to be a valuable opening bowler.

Club President Ben Taylor said the club was extremely proud of the boys and he looked forward to welcoming them into senior ranks in the near future.

Bloods are raring to go

By CHRIS CHAPMAN

WARRANDYTE Football Club's pre-season training has recommenced in earnest with several new faces seen on the track over the past month.

Brothers Troy and Jake Ratcliffe join the club from Doncaster East, along with Jarrad Fitzpatrick from Donvale. Aside from the retirement of decorated veteran Matt Wood (who has since joined the WFC committee), most of the senior list from 2011 will return to play this year.

Club insiders say they expect it to be an exciting year with the inclusion of some young talent tipped to rise up from the Under 18 ranks in 2012 and make their presence felt in the senior team.

Club veteran John O'Brien will continue as senior coach, with Ash Grybas also staying on as coach of the Reserves. Justin Hansen has been appointed coach of the Under 19s.

Warrandyte's first match will be against Boronia at Warrandyte Reserve on Saturday, April 14.

For more news, photos and upcoming event information visit www.warrandytefc.com

If you would like to be involved at the Warrandyte footy club, whether as a player, sponsor, volunteer or member, contact Tom Naughtin on 0421 231 419.

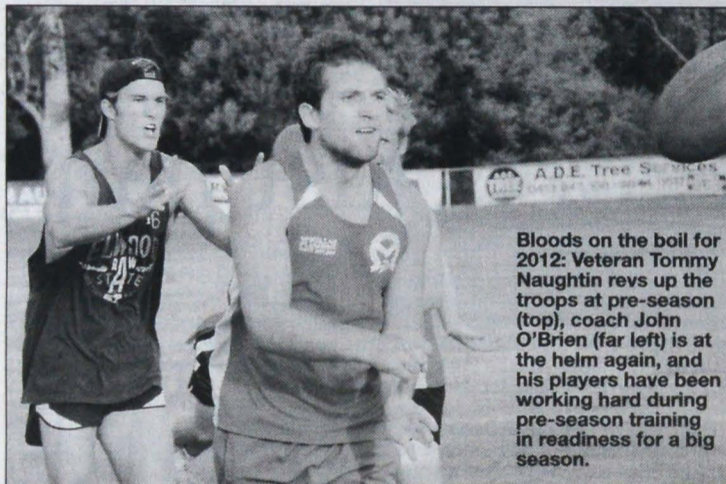
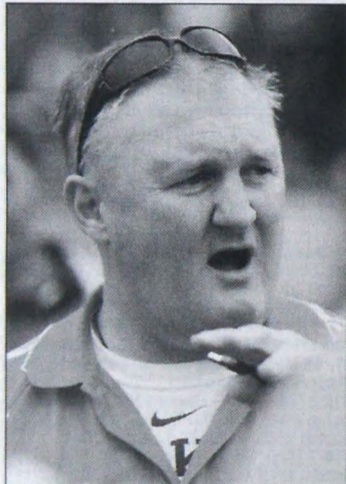
Bloods mourn loss of life member

IN some sad news for the club, Brian Williams, a life member of the WFC and Vice President for the past nine years, died suddenly last Monday morning at his home in Donvale.

In recent times Brian had battled and beaten a cancer located at the rear of his nose and had received the all clear before Christmas for the third consecutive review. He had put on some weight and was feeling stronger every week. He was bright and positive and was undertaking more hours of gardening work than he had been able to do during his treatment and recovery periods so the club was shocked to learn that he had passed away.

Brian became a member of the Warrandyte Football Club when his sons Dean and Brendan played junior football for Warrandyte. During that period Brian coached several teams and joined the committee. He became an avid supporter of the club and continued to support the club when his sons moved on to other activities.

As many would know, Brian was passionate about Fitzroy and was equally passionate about Warrandyte. Accompanied by his great friend Terry Sloan on the boundary line, they would both offer advice to



Bloods on the boil for 2012: Veteran Tommy Naughtin revs up the troops at pre-season (top), coach John O'Brien (far left) is at the helm again, and his players have been working hard during pre-season training in readiness for a big season.

the opposition and umpires along with unrelenting support for the Bloods.

In 2000 Brian joined the committee again. He was instrumental in re-establishing a Warrandyte Under 18 side and also improving the club's relationship with the junior football club, among many other achievements.

Brian took on the responsibility of Vice President after rejoining the committee. He was a tireless worker and ever reliable - picking up things in his ute, running the bar, opening the rooms and providing transport to away games. Brian managed to find a positive in every challenge that confronted the club and, above all, was an avid supporter of the U18s

and interested in the development of all players. He brought humour into the challenge while committing to a large portion of the workload.

A great friend to players, members, sponsors and supporters, he leaves a great legacy behind him and will always be remembered.

PHIL TREEBY



Junior footy is back

THE smell of Sherrin leather is back in the air and the Warrandyte Junior Football Club will hold its registration day for season 2012 at the clubrooms in Taroonia Avenue on Sunday, February 12 from 10am until noon. Parents can save \$20 if they register on the day or prior via the website. New boys and girls are welcome in age groups from Under 9 to Under 17. For more information visit www.warrandytefc.org or contact club registrar Vicky Powell on 0425 856 623.



Back in the saddle

HAVE we mozzed one of our champs? Hot shot local motorbike rider Cameron Donald, who we featured on these sports pages in our What's Your Story? column in December last year, apparently came a gutser on his dirt bike a few weeks ago and did some damage to a few bones and copped some nasty soft tissue injuries. But you can't hold a good man down for too long as we hear Cam jumped right back into the saddle only a week or so ago and is racing again at full throttle.

Biggs is a big hit

Warrandyte Football Club's Shane Biggs has been picked up by the Sydney Swans in the AFL Rookie Draft. After making his senior football debut with the Bloods in 2010, Biggs played at the Bendigo Bombers and Mulgrave in Division 1 of the EFL last year. In 2010 Biggs was named Warrandyte's Best First Year Player after being called up to the senior line-up after dominating in the first three rounds of Under 18 matches. Not many locals may be aware, but three days before the Swans nabbed the youngster with pick 13 in the Rookie Draft he had knocked out a swift 99 not out for the Warrandyte Hawks Third XI in the Ringwood and District Cricket Association.

RISING LITTLE ATHS STARS SIZZLE IN TRACK AND FIELD

By ED MUNKS

WARRANDYTE'S rising athletes produced some great performances at the Doncaster Open Day when young athletes from throughout Victoria and some from interstate competed.

Some of the better results included: Chloe Woollard (U6) 5th in long jump; Alice Golver (U7) 4th in 100m; Marlo Katis (U7) 4th in shotput; Harriette Glover (U9) 7th in high jump; Ashlyn Krakouer (U9) 2nd in 100m; Nick Sharpe (U9) 5th in shotput; Callum Bowers (U10) 1st in long jump; Michael Paul (U10) 6th in 800m; Shea Wischusen-Gibbons (U10) 8th in 100m; Nick Alexander (U11) 8th in 100m; Sebastian Katis (U11) 14th in long jump; Ben Munks (U11) 4th in 1500m; Zane Kontos (U12) 4th in high jump; Callum Pynt (U12) 13th in long jump; Eilish Kelly (U13) 6th in discus; Sam McAuley (U13) 7th in 100m; Ruby McDowell (U13) 4th in 400m; Nicole Reynolds (U13) 1st in 80m hurdles; Emily Sharpe (U13) 1st in 1500m, and Shaely Pynt (U15) 3rd in 100m.

The Multi competition is similar to the decathlon in which five events are con-

tested with points awarded per event on results achieved. Chloe Woollard won the silver medal in the U6 Girls event.

The Victorian State Relay Championships were held last weekend at the new Lakeside Oval facility in South Melbourne and Doncaster was represented well: George Standish won a silver medal in the U10 4 x 200m and came 4th in the final of the 4x100m events, Ruby McDowell and Emily Sharpe formed part of the U13 Girls team which made the final of the 4x200m coming 7th.

Nicole Reynolds was part of the U13 Girls team that made the final of the 4x100 and came 5th. Ashlyn Krakouer was part of the U9 Girls team that made the final of the 4x100m and came 4th after starting as the 16th-fastest team and beat many fancied opponents thanks to some smooth teamwork. Shaely Pynt (U15) made two finals with a 5th in 4x100m and 6th in 4x100m mixed sex.

Little Aths is open to boys and girls in the U6 - U15 age groups.

For more information contact coaching director Peter Sharpe on 0413 777 107.

East Doncaster Little Athletics Club is proudly supported and sponsored by Warrandyte Community Bank.



Ruby McDowell (left) puts her best foot forward in the long jump.

Hot shots a big hit at Rod Laver Arena



Warrandyte kids get a taste of the big time

By CRAIG HASLAM

IF you had to dream up the ideal Australian Open experience for an eight-year-old, it may go a little something like this: have a hit with your friends at Rod Laver Arena, toss the coin for the first match of the tournament, sit in the Presidential Reserve and enjoy being interviewed by a TV network.

And that is exactly what 12 Warrandyte Tennis Club "Hot Shots" experienced on the opening day of the 2012 Australian Open. The children, aged between 7 and 10, were invited to showcase the MLC Tennis Hot Shots program on Rod Laver Arena (RLA) before the start of play on Day 1.

The morning was action packed and "had so much crammed into just few hours", according to parents. From the start it was a buzz for the local kids, even as they waited outside the grounds while ABC reporters interviewed them for the morning news. Tennis Australia staff then gave them special security passes to allow them into the most secure player areas and later onto the court.

Once inside the grounds, the Warrandyte Hot Shot kids were all given a souvenir shirt and cap (look out

for them around Warrandyte!). Once the kids and coaches were ready to go, they were escorted past about 10 security points before arriving at the court tunnel. On their way to the court they passed the player change rooms, restaurant and some of the players themselves including Aussie Jelena Dokic.

The group had to wait until Bernard Tomic and his opponent Fernando Verdasco had finished their practice session and then ran out on court to the cheers of the crowd. Craig Willis announced the group and the kids said they felt like rock stars as they rallied on the special mini nets showing off the skills and concentration they have learnt on the Warrandyte courts.

After a quick photo session, the Warrandyte crew had to clear the court for the Victoria Azarenka (eventual women's champ) versus Heather Watson match. One lucky Hot Shot, Blake, even tossed the coin for the opening match.

If you would like to know how to get involved in the Hot Shots program at Warrandyte Tennis Club please contact The Tennis Guru on 0488 722 538 or info@thetennismguru.com.au.



Hot to trot: The Warrandyte Hot Shots tennis crew enjoyed a big day out at the Australian Open.



Get on your bike and into a spin

PEOPLE looking to lose a few extra kilos or simply improve their fitness are turning to Spin Cycle Warrandyte, the latest sports craze to hit town.

Featuring six state-of-art Wattbikes, the product was developed in conjunction with British Cycling to create an indoor bike that accurately measures watts. It's proven to be such a success that the Wattbike has been endorsed and used by British Cycling and now Cycling Australia.

So, how does it all work? The Wattbike monitors everything about your cycling and helps keep track of your progress as your training develops. The Wattbike is capable of monitoring power output, cadence, heart rate and the effectiveness of your pedalling stroke.

"It's a comfortable bike to ride and offers one of the most realistic indoor cycling experiences available," Warrandyte road warrior and spin cycle enthusiast Gareth Dickson says.

Workouts at Spin Cycle Warrandyte, run by Ross and Wendy Snowball, are designed to challenge your fitness in new ways. Wendy says structured classes will help keep you motivated and coming back for more.

Private and group session times can also be arranged by appointment.

For more info call or text Wendy on 0420 558 411.

To avoid disappointment those interested are advised to book as seats are limited. Individual sessions cost \$20 or you can snap up a 10 pack of classes for \$150.

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THINKING OF SELLING?

There is a strong demand for properties in the Warrandyte area.

If you are thinking of selling please call on 9844 3085.

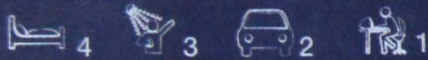
We are highly competitive and won't be beaten on commission (conditions apply).

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WARRANDYTE

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Dynamic 4BR family home approaching 5yo, elevated allotment approx 1176sqm, brilliant views towards Mt Dandenong. Designer kitchen/living/dining, rumpus, study, 4 bedrooms, master with contemporary spa ensuite and WIR, deluxe bathroom. Alarm, air cons, woodburning heater, butler's pantry, alfresco, water tank, double carport, studio.



WARRANDYTE

Prized Position Meets Potential

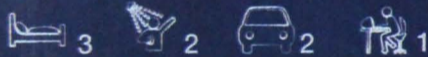
There's no denying the power of position and this property is a winner! Elevated block approx 1004m2 is prime real estate highly sought after and rarely available in this location. This 3 bedroom home offers a basic interior comprising kitchen – living room, central bathroom; casual alfresco overlooks the generous backyard, there's a studio plus a double carport. Calling all DIYers and home renovators as TLC and improvement is certainly required!



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Hidden Family Treasure

An idyllic location in a serene private setting, step inside to fully appreciate the inviting and spacious nature of this terrific family home. Choice of 3 living spaces – the informal zone offering an eye-catching dining room awash with natural light flowing into the family room and kitchen; the living room is nearby. Covered alfresco is accessed from these 2 zones overlooking the terraced garden (approx 1303m2). 3 BRs and contemporary bathroom, downstairs large rumpus/4th BR/home office and 2nd bathroom. GDH, BI aircon, duct vacuum, slate floors, workshop, tandem car accom, osp



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Tapestry of Textures

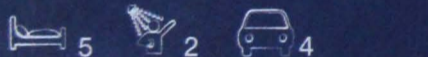
Everything about this serene elevated acre property is extremely visual...rarity of the blue stone exterior, rambling colourful garden, character filled interior showcasing the exposed stone walls, handmade bricks, timber lined ceilings/beams, slate flooring plus stained glass features. Providing a foyer, lounge (woodburning heater), kitchen/breakfast bar/dining, separate family room, 4 bedrooms including zoned master bedroom (WIR, ensuite) and bathroom. Includes r/c heating-cooling, gas heater, covered deck, mudbrick studio, 3 water tanks, 4-car accommodation.



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Design and Alfresco Acre Statement

A lifestyle to savour and packed with features best describes this near level tranquil acre property with the rare white Mt Gambier stone construction. Showcasing the imposing living-dining room, Tasmanian oak kitchen, informal meals/family room, both spilling out onto the covered alfresco deck. 5 bedrooms (main with ensuite) plus contemporary spa bathroom. Highlights: GDH, evaporative ducted cooling, security system, polished boards, gazebo, 4 car accommodation and laneway to the Yarra River.



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"Devoncroft"

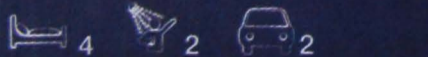
Original distinctive home constructed of stone. Warmth of timber, PFB, stone feature walls, OFP gas log fire and Jarrah benchtops create exceptional individuality. Easy flow between the interior – two alfresco areas – IG pool. Comprising well equipped kitchen – meals – family room, lounge, 4 bedrooms including zoned main bedroom (WIR, ensuite) or flexibility of living room/bedroom, study and Huon pine bathroom. Inclusions: WI pantry, GDH, BI air con, 2 water tanks, 3 car accom, workshop. Views to the Dandenongs, on 7.9 tranquil acres (3.213ha) backs onto Koomong Reserve on the Yarra.



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Expect the Unexpected

"To expect the unexpected shows a thoroughly modern intellect," said Oscar Wilde. With 2 living areas separated by a walkway gallery, here's the perfect family zoning to give parents and kids their own space. Up front, a light-filled kitchen with dishwasher, meals area, gas-heated lounge, 3 spacious bedrooms and main bathroom. At the rear of the property, a family and rumpus room with dramatic cathedral ceilings, leading to master bedroom with ensuite and WIR. Other features include: 2 courtyards, polished floorboards, aircon & gas-fired hydronic floor heating.



Have you tried the revamped restaurant in town?

PASTA MANIA IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Pasta Mania is a Warrandyte icon and has had its fair share of ups and downs over the years, however it has reopened with a **NEW OWNER**, management, staff, chef and swish new décor. Having a Warrandyte local with an endless amount of knowledge and experience in the hospitality field, owning and running the show, and a head chef that trained under Guy Grossi, the restaurant and takeaway will be an enormous success. Currently only serving takeaway, however the restaurant is due to open in the weeks to come.

Lions Club of Warrandyte Inc.

Meets 2nd & 4th Thursday

Social Capital is an element of successful communities. The term "social capital" refers to social cohesion and personal investment in the community. Lions Clubs add to our social capital and you can become a part of it by joining the Warrandyte club.

Phone Jenni on 0401 963 583 to arrange a visit to a meeting of the club.

www.lionsclubwarrandyte.org.au

