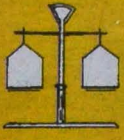


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No 456, September 2012 For the community, by the community

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Threat to Wedge



The kids at Warrandyte High School presented their annual musical production—Disco Inferno—last month.

● More pics on Page 21
(Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

“Why do the people making these claims still live there?”

—Planning Minister

By JILL DIXON

Threats to the Green Wedge through subdivision and dual occupancy in Warrandyte are concerning the community once more.

An early morning gathering of about 60 locals—from both sides of the river—met at the Warrandyte Bridge earlier this month to indicate their disgust and dismay at the latest attack on the local environment by the state government.

Cr David Ellis (Manningham) and Warrick Leeson, (ex Nillumbik mayor and again standing for election) discussed issues with residents and organisers—Warrandyte Community Association—and Ian Penrose from WarrandyteCAN.

The usual traffic congestion at this time of the morning brought forth tooting of horns in support of those who could make it to the protest at 7.45am.

Comments from residents included the incongruity of allowing dual occupancy in a fire prone location, where houses should be built well apart.

Residents were also fearful that if you make exceptions and allow larger blocks, such as five acres, to subdivide and build a second house through subdivision, the exception will gradually become the rule and we will see the district suburbanised.

Residents suspect that the government has capitulated to the development lobby.

According to an Age newspaper report, planning minister Matthew Guy stated: “If Labor, the Greens and their associates have such concern over busfire risk in the Green Wedge, why do the people making these claims still live there?”

Other concerns included the general approach to planning by this government and its lack of consultation, such as allowing hotels in national and state parks.

It is believed that further action is being planned by local groups.

● See Pages 8 & 9

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“He that plants trees loves others beside himself.”

— English proverb

WARRANDYTE diary

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NEXT ISSUE

Next issue of the Diary will be published on Tuesday, October 16, 2012. Advertising and editorial copy closes Friday, October 5, 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.

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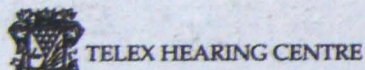
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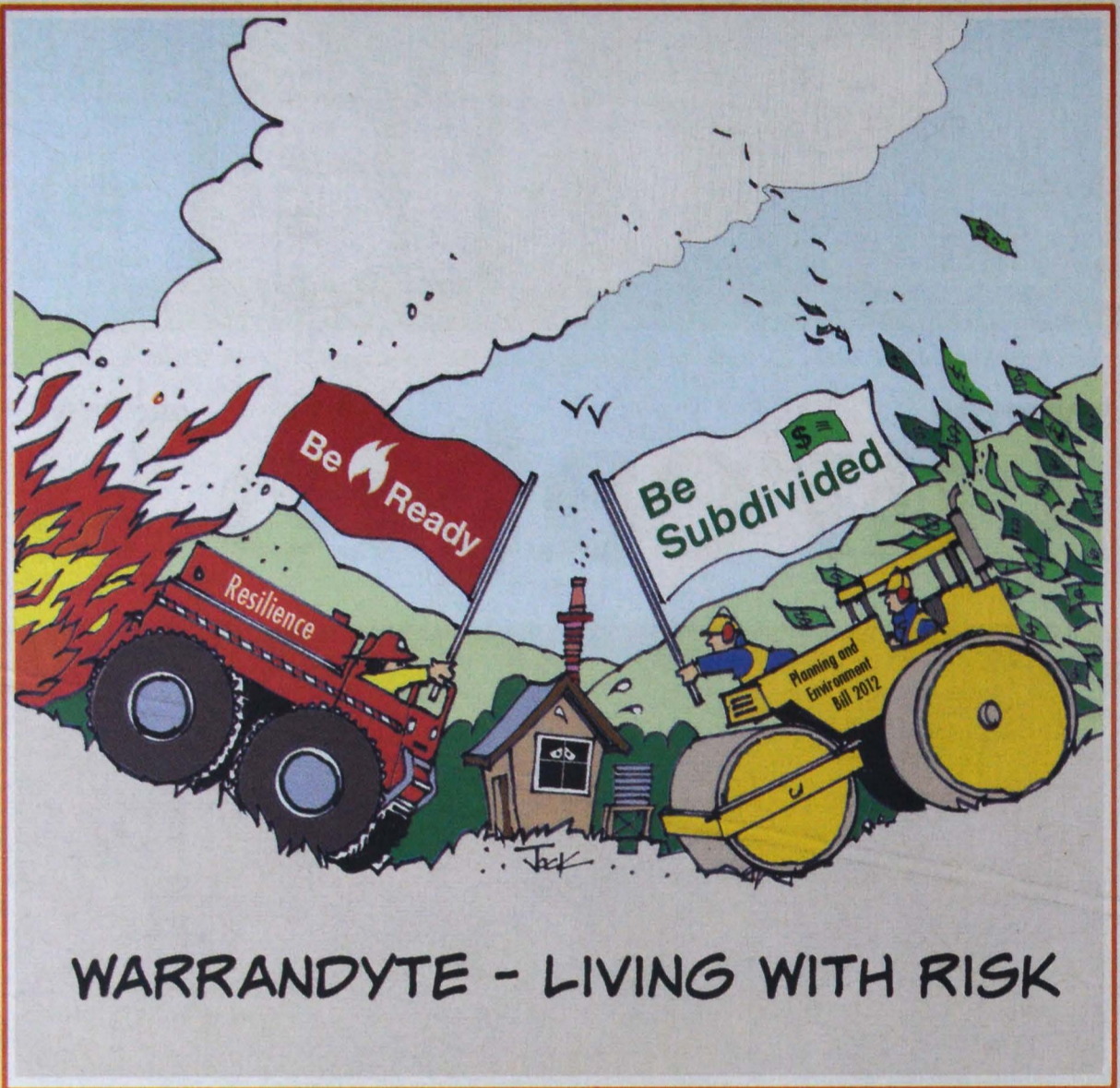
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WARRANDYTE WARRANDYTE

OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



WARRANDYTE - LIVING WITH RISK

That Guy meets our Dolls

A GUY walks into a bar. This particular bar is known as Warrandyte Hotel on account of it being in Warrandyte and the guy is Matthew Guy, one of Big Ted's boys from the top end of Spring Street and the big banana in Planning and Community.

Also in this bar alongside the responsible gamblers and other usual suspects are a couple of local dolls being Incurrable Gran and Natty Narelle though in no way does Natty Narelle's dress sense justify this particular moniker. Natty Narelle starts chewing the guy's ear which she is inclined to do if you give her half a chance or a G and T and if you're silly enough to give her both it's pretty much shut the gate and frankly Nattering Narelle would be a better handle for this particular broad. She bangs on about what a neat place Warrandyte is to live in and the guy listens politely because apparently listening to the community is part of his job description.

After a considerable number of minutes and not a few G and Ts Natty Narelle is still in full flight about peace and quiet and bush environments and birdlife and village atmosphere until the guy says, "Hold your horses, Natty Narelle, you have convinced me that this is a neat place to live and I have a great idea."

"I hope it's better than the last great idea about making everyone stop when someone wants to get off a bus," says Incurrable Gran but the guy says that was the Minister for Roads' idea and my idea is a



good deal better than his. "It has occurred to me that if we put two houses on all the residential blocks around the village and divide all the acre blocks into half-acres, then twice as many citizens will get to appreciate what a neat place Warrandyte is to live in!"

Naturally he expects the dolls to slap him wildly on the back at this and say what a genius he is and looks more than a little disappointed when they do neither of these things, not even so much as a supportive punch to the bicep.

"There are a couple of particulars," says Natty Narelle, "that worry me about the

scheme you have just described." The guy looks as though he maybe does not want to hear these couple of particulars but remembers the bit of his job description about listening to the community.

"I am a simple woman," says Natty Narelle and the guy is inclined to agree with her about this, "but it seems to me that if you wish to construct more houses you will have to destruct more bush, and it's odds-on there will be fewer birds and animals and more people and vehicles and we will become less of a village and more of a suburb."

"Exactly," says the guy. "Making more suburbs is part of my

living with The Trotts

job description. Why only the other day me and the boys worked all through lunch to come up with six new suburbs in such desirable locations as Diggers Rest and Greenvale using only old farmland and bits of Green Wedge."

"But what about the extra traffic," says Natty Narelle. "Have you ever tried to cross the bridge in the morning or drive through town after four in the afternoon?"

"Everyone has traffic," says the guy, "you cannot have progress without traffic."

"But we only have one bridge", says Incurrable Gran.

"Some suburbs don't have any bridges," says the guy who does not like the way Incurrable Gran is looking at his kneecaps.

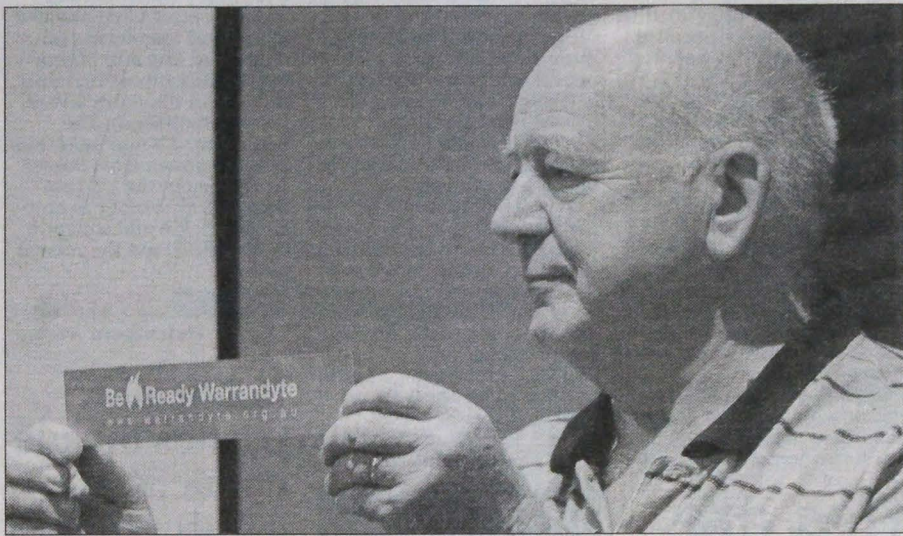
"But allowing new developments and subdivisions in bushfire-prone areas like Warrandyte is exactly what the Bushfire Commission said we should in no way do," persists Natty Narelle.

It is about this point that the guy decides he has already listened more than his job description requires and remarks, "If you have such concern over bushfire risk in the Green Wedge then why do you still live here?"

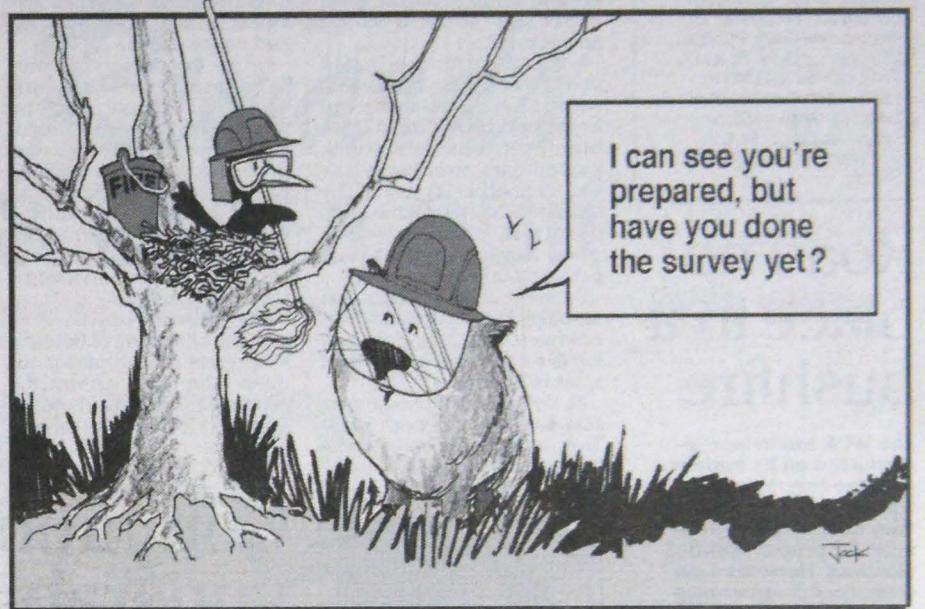
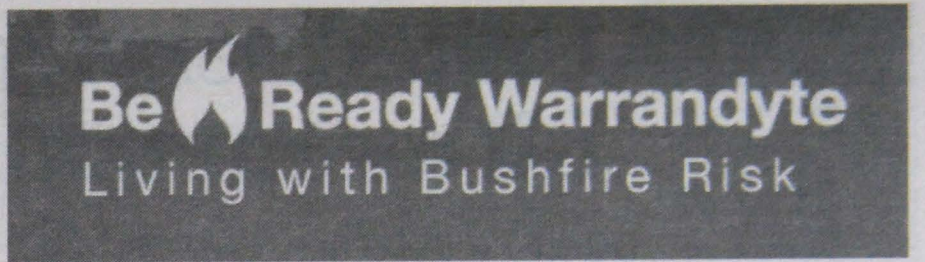
Incurrable Gran turns the colour of stewed rhubarb at this remark and is about to tell the guy exactly what he can do with his great idea when her teeth fall into her vodka gimlet.

ALAN CORNELL

Local groups met to discuss fire quiz



Late last month, local groups and community leaders met at the Grand Hotel to emphasise the importance of the "Be Ready Warrandyte" survey. (Pictures by Stephen Reynolds)



Fire survey to check community preparedness

By **KARLY HICKMAN** and **BRIONY BOTTARELLI**

Warrandyte residents have until Sunday, September 30 to take part in one of the largest community consultations in Warrandyte's history.

In late August the Warrandyte Community Association (WCA) held a meeting to appeal to key community leaders and emphasise the importance of encouraging participation in the "Be Ready Warrandyte" survey.

"Almost 300 surveys completed so far, which is fantastic, but there are still plenty more households in the Greater Warrandyte area we would love to hear from," project manager Jodi Clark told the *Diary*.

The survey is part of the Fire Ready Communities Grant awarded to the WCA by the state government, supplemented by funds from Warrandyte Community Bank, Manningham and Nillumbik councils and the Warrandyte Market Committee to a total of \$100,000.

The project is a self-help, community-led initiative to develop tools and resources

to enable our community to be safer and more prepared to deal with the risk of bushfires.

The project's goal is to increase the number of Warrandyte households with effective bushfire plans.

"We are grateful to those who have embraced the project and carried Be Ready Warrandyte information in their newsletters and on their websites" Ms Clark said.

The event also launched the new look WCA website that provides information, support and tools to help households prepare for the reality of living with bushfire risk.

The Be Ready Warrandyte survey was instigated after figures indicated that only 15 per cent of all residents have a fire plan, coupled with the alarming calculation that it would take at least 12 hours to evacuate North Warrandyte in the event of a bushfire.

WCA has contracted local not-for-profit management specialists The Good Work Group to produce the survey. Jodi Clark from the Good Work Group reinforced the hope that all community groups would come on board and

encourage their members to participate in filling out the survey.

WCA hopes the survey will reach the entire community and educate it on the importance of a fire plan.

They recognise the importance of reaching vulnerable people in Warrandyte and are appealing to community leaders and volunteers to assist in engaging this section of the community.

The association aims to receive 3000 completed surveys, representative of the number of Warrandyte households.

The survey was compiled by local resident Sarah Wrigley of Gundabluay Research Pty Ltd and Blythe McLennan, Research Fellow at the Emergency Management Centre for Risk and Community Safety.

Surveys can be completed online at www.warrandyte.org.au. Hard copy surveys are available at Warrandyte IGA, Warrandyte Post Office or in this issue of the *Warrandyte Diary* (see centre pages). If you would like to receive a copy of the survey, please call 9844 5855.

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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 at the *Diary* office in St Stephen's Hall, Stiggant Street.

Road no place in a bushfire

The WCA has to be congratulated on its initiative with the current survey with the aim of educating Warrandyte residents in the need for proper bushfire planning. However I am concerned that two messages don't seem to come across or be fully canvassed in the survey; hopefully these are points that will be addressed as a result of the survey.

The first point is that the road is no place to be when a bushfire is visible or an actual threat. I am appalled at the attitude of many people I know who still intend to leap in the car to collect their children from school in an emergency, despite the schools now having excellent emergency policies.

Even worse, many of my contemporaries believe they have a "right" to get back to their home when a bushfire is threatening, even to the extent of driving through road blocks.

The second point to note is that we changed our fire plan on CFA advice as a result of the Black Saturday tragedy. We have always been part of the "Stay and Defend" brigade and believe we are reasonably equipped and prepared for this. However now, whilst we will "Stay and Defend" even on Total Fire Ban days, the exception is that we will leave the area on the evening before any "Code Red" days are declared. On Black Saturday, with the mercury reaching 49°, Patty and I looked at each other and said "we should not be here". I was disappointed to see that this CFA-supported option of stay and defend if able, but always evacuate on Code Red days was not included as a specific choice on the question about intentions to leave.

I firmly believe that the road is no place to be in an actual bushfire situation. If you're caught at home, stay there. If you're away, stay away. Let's leave the roads clear for our wonderful CFA volunteers.

And please CFA: either bring back the siren or get the long-promised telephone warning system working quickly.

David Hogg,
North Warrandyte

United service station could fill a community need

Am I the only resident of Warrandyte that considers the present setup at the old Shell petrol site (46 Yarra Street) an eyesore?

If the plans for the United petrol station don't go ahead, what next? The same old hotchpotch of ramshackle buildings, obsolete signs, parked cars awaiting repair etc. for another 20 years? The old sign advertising unleaded petrol is still there. How many years has the original Shell petrol station been closed?

From the artist's impression on page 3 of the August *Warrandyte Diary*, the proposal looks a darn sight better than what is there now.

At times I think people protest just for the heck of it. The naysayers always seem to have the loudest voices.

Have the protesters stopped to consider that some locals might want some other services close by, apart from gift and coffee shops.

I'm all for preserving Warrandyte; however, every proposed change can't be wrong. As a long-time local, I remember the vigorous protest against the building of the Goldfields Shopping Plaza. Imagine Warrandyte now without the supermarket, pharmacy, medical facilities and convenience provided by the Centre.

I also recall, not so long ago, the launching of Bolero's Restaurant spelt doom for our quiet little town, as was the extension of the Warrandyte Cemetery going to cause traffic chaos.

I would find a petrol station

in Warrandyte extremely useful. United sells the economical petrol/ethanol mix which is equivalent in price to the "discounted by 4¢ per litre" unleaded petrol at Safeway and Shell/Coles.

Being the bushy area Warrandyte is fuels, lubricant and supplies for mowers, whipper snippers and chainsaws would be handy.

As to the danger in peak time. What danger? Traffic is often at a standstill from Harris Gully to the bridge roundabout in the evening. You might lose a few car spots if you filled your car with petrol along the way—with even time for a latte.

Cr Ellis mentioned better options for a petrol station elsewhere in Warrandyte. I'm not sure where else is feasible.

Around the carwash possibly, (I can't see any spare space), or at the Harris Gully roundabout—blocks, up for sale at the moment but close to the often flooded creek. I know one thing for sure, wherever it is located, people living close by "wouldn't be happy"!

Surely it would be easier to place a petrol station where one was previously.

Living in Warrandyte means car ownership is a given. It might be seen as hypocritical to expect other suburbs to have the petrol stations to service our fuel needs, while we enjoy our rustic heritage environment.

I'm all for reinstating a petrol station in central Warrandyte.

Anthony Sochacki
Mullens Road

Bellingers did live in the dairy house

I stand corrected! Following the article on the Warrandyte Dairy coolroom last month, I have been assured by several long-term residents that Ray and Margaret Bellingner most certainly did live in the dairy house (now demolished). The coolroom, it's now said, was built by a man from Sussex by the Sea in the UK (not Essex). Oral history is notoriously fickle and it's good to be able to put the record straight.

Val Polley
Hutchinson Avenue

Political parties invade councils

An alarming trend seems to be developing in the upcoming Nillumbik council elections; to date, three wards will be contested by endorsed Greens Party candidates.

My concern is that, for me, council decision-making should be determined by locally-minded community activists, not dictated to by a national political party according to their political agenda.

My concern would be the same regardless of which political party was endorsing candidates; to date, Nillumbik has avoided the political argy-bargy of councils such as Brimbank, Darebin and Whittlesea, to name but a few.

I can only hope that the voters of Darebin see through the strategic games that political parties play, and recognise that local interests will always be best addressed by candidates who have no party endorsement, who are already active within their communities and who owe allegiance only to their local constituency.

Matt Reilly
North Warrandyte



Michelle Pini

Michelle stands for council

I think it was very clear during the many dealings we had with local council over the two years in which we fought the proposed tower, that there was a disconnection between our community and Manningham council. Despite the efforts of Cr Ellis, our voice was not being heard by the majority of councillors.

The tower fight is thankfully behind us, but I am sure areas remain where concerns about our part of Manningham are not being communicated at the local government level.

Primarily for this reason, I have decided to stand for council election as an independent candidate, in October this year. Obviously, I will continue to oppose inappropriate telecommunications facilities. I will also advocate for the preservation of the environmental and heritage values of our part of Manningham and will oppose inappropriate development, such as the service station proposal for Yarra Street.

I am interested to know if you have any areas of concern or issues that you would like communicated and I am happy to be contacted.

Michelle Pini
Lynette Avenue
(phone 0409 175 015)

Communities are vulnerable to govt

It is regrettable that the state government has allowed so little time for councils to make sense of the proposed changes to planning zones, especially since they are so wide-ranging with so much at stake.

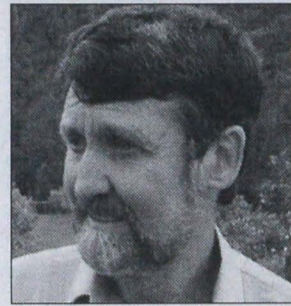
Understandably, the focus of local concern has been on potential dual-occupancy in Warrandyte. Almost four years after Black Saturday there is still no state-sponsored survival strategy for vulnerable communities. The prospect of putting even more people into a high-risk situation in Warrandyte presents a nightmare scenario.

In fact the need to avoid such additional risk is so obvious that I expect the minister to quickly and readily concede on that point. For that reason, while not being complacent on fire-risk, I urge Warrandyte residents not to lose sight of the more intractable threats: reduced lot-sizes and redrafting Green

Wedge provisions to make a mockery of the original purpose of open space.

The proposed changes to the Green Wedge include permitting a range of new constructions: schools, hotels, boarding kennels, caravan parks, retail garden supplies, retirement villages, nursing homes, corrective institutions—plus "any other use" that a council may at any time see fit to approve. Imagine for a moment all of those structures along the length of Harris Gully or Jumping Creek roads or anywhere else in our Green Wedge zone.

Since land prices in the Green Wedge are substantially lower than residential or commercial zones, there will be a positive incentive for such businesses to locate to GW zones. That's the Baillieu government vision for Warrandyte. The current expansion of the On Luck nursing home on Tindals Road will serve as a partial illustration.



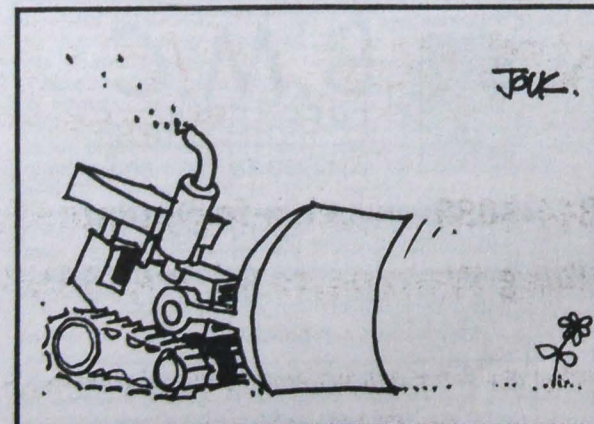
Cr David Ellis

It will be said that the government is only putting power back in the hands of local councils. Nonsense. They know full well what the result of such tampering with zone schedules will be. Councils change every election and despite the theory of democratic representation, they are extremely vulnerable to external pressure and orchestrated campaigns for vested interests. There is no guarantee that future councils will hold the line for their Green Wedge zones. Again, the way Manningham council ultimately voted on On Luck makes the point.

David Ellis
Manningham councillor



Diary: August 1988



Diary: September 1983

Feeding the birds: is it good or harmful?

Both Maxine Rosewall and Linda Rogan tell people not to feed the wild birds. The trouble with that is that people get so much pleasure from doing so. Also, due to the loss of habitat (likely to get worse as Mr Baillieu releases his inner estate agent) and such events as the recent 12-year drought, we may have to feed them if we want to continue to see them around.

In England the policy is to tell people what is the correct food to put out. This sort of information could be provided here surely, via the pages of the *Diary*?

I do admit to feeding lorikeets—on demand. A pair will turn up outside the kitchen window and demand food. They get a freshly cut slice of apple. (They're pretty picky about the quality of apple, too.) The lorikeets chew the apple to bits, sucking the juice out of each bite as they go. Other birds come around

and eat the chewed pieces; surprisingly popular. Nothing is left lying around going bad.

I read somewhere that sunflower seeds are bad for parrots. Yet bags of sunflower seeds for parrots are sold. Are they bad for them, or just too many?

There are always Noisy Miners scavenging around the shops area and ravens seem to be pretty partial to discarded burgers—which can't possibly be good for them. Any suggestions?

The birds I have observed being a real nuisance—apart from Indian Mynas—are the town pigeons. There are more and more of these "flying rats" about. Are some pigeon fanciers being thoroughly irresponsible and just turning them loose when they get bored? I really hope not.

Mrs C. Masiulanis
Naughton Avenue

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Death of a school hero

Warrandyte is mourning the death last month of Des McKenzie, former principal of Andersons Creek Primary School.

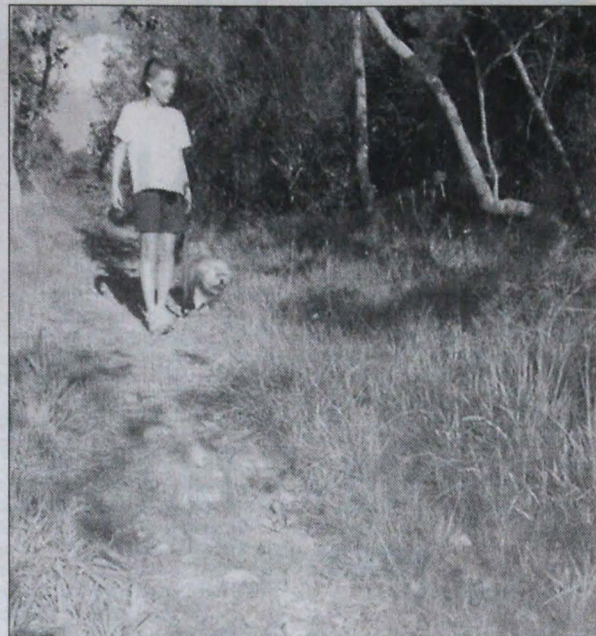
A short statement released by the school says: "Over the coming weeks we will undoubtedly reflect on the contribution of an individual who so positively influenced the lives of so many. But for now we simply want to say that we will terribly miss our colleague, mentor and friend.

"Our thoughts are with Lyn, Des' daughters Tanya and Kylie, their partners Simon and Julian, and his adored grandsons Tom, Ryan and James.

"The open road is occupied by one less Harley motorcycle—our hearts are saddened by a journey ended."

(The *Diary* hopes to publish a detailed obituary in a coming issue.)

Laid back: Des McKenzie and his beloved Harley Davidson.



Goat track: This dangerous footpath along Webb Street has seen no maintenance in 40 years. (Picture by Judy Green)

Council promises new deal for pedestrians

Finding difficulty getting around parts of Warrandyte on foot?

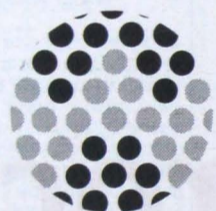
Manningham council has prepared a draft Principal Pedestrian Network Plan (PPN) and is seeking feedback from the community.

"For many years residents indicated that they believe there are opportunities for improvement (for pedestrians) to our roads and footpaths," a council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

"In response, council proposes to initiate the development of approximately 40km of new footpaths across the municipality, to provide a connected

network that will improve access to bus services, larger activity centres, community facilities and schools."

● Documents concerning the PPN can be viewed through the council website. A hard copy of the PPN map has been placed in the door of the former *Diary* office at the Warrandyte Community Centre. Formal submissions are requested via a short survey at www.manningham.vic.gov.au/consultation. Hard copies can be requested through 9840 9129 or by emailing eeadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au.



WARRANDYTE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Quizz the candidates and have your say at WCA's Council Candidate Forums

Manningham Candidates Forum (Mullum Mullum Ward)

Wednesday September 26th @ 7.30pm

Warrandyte Senior Citizens Centre, Taroon Avenue, Warrandyte

Nillumbik Candidates Forum (Sugarloaf Ward)

Thursday September 27th @ 7.30pm

North Warrandyte Community Centre, 184 Research-Warrandyte Road, Warrandyte

Enquiries: please contact WCA vice president Jonathan Upson 0400 501 676 or email jonathan@iprimus.com.au

Local councillors? 'Just the ticket'

By **CHERIE MOSELEN**

Local council elections are on the horizon and given the recent announcement by Warrandyte's Manningham councillor David Ellis that he will not be standing, the Warrandyte community will be hoping that their choice this October will include several local candidates.

Cr Ellis has previously stated his belief that a councillor who lives in Warrandyte and therefore understands its special identity, is best placed to represent the town's interests in Manningham.

Once more, Warrandyte Community Association will provide the community with an opportunity to meet and question candidates at separate council forums for residents on each side of the river. (See advertised details on Page 6.)

"We are pleased to be hosting the forums again this year, and encourage residents to come and ask the hard questions about issues that are important to you," WCA acting president Jonathan Upson told the *Diary*.

Mr Upson believes that issues such as bushfire policies, erosion of the Green Wedge, state government zoning changes—which would enable two houses on many blocks in Warrandyte—and public transport, will be hot topics at the forums. However, he was confident other matters would be raised by concerned residents, citing the United service station proposal as one example of an issue likely to be discussed at the Manningham forum.

He contends that the composition of Manningham and Nillumbik councils will be

significant in the context of the state government's "assault on Melbourne's Green Wedges."

"The Planning Minister has relied on local councils to recommend changes to the Urban Growth Boundary and fortunately both Manningham and Nillumbik councillors voted to maintain the current Green Wedge boundaries last year," Mr Upson said.

"However, the government will ask councils again for their recommendations and it is vital that the new councils do not vote to open up areas of the Green Wedge to residential subdivision or other inappropriate developments."

Candidates for Mullum Mullum and Sugarloaf wards are encouraged to contact Jonathan Upson to confirm their participation at the forums on 0400 501 676.

Nominations for candidates in October's council elections will close at 12 noon on Tuesday, September 25.

Anyone seeking information or needing assistance with a nomination, can contact their local council, the Municipal Association of Victoria or the Victorian Electoral Commission.

Both Nillumbik and Manningham shires are conducting a postal election this October. Voters will have ballot packs mailed to them the week beginning October 8. Ballot papers must be completed and returned by 6pm on Friday, October 26, at which time voting closes.

● For general information about WCA council candidate forums, see advert opposite, or contact Jonathan Upson at: jonathan@primus.com.au or phone 0400 501 676.

Plastic bags leaving town next year

Local climate action group WarrandyteCAN and supporting retailers are giving six months' notice that from March 9, 2013, committed traders will no longer provide shoppers with free plastic carry bags.

Two separate surveys taken over the last 12 months, show that over 90 per cent of people support the town becoming "plastic bag free".

"Quinton's Supa IGA and other members of the Warrandyte Business Association have come on board with a plan to substantially reduce if not entirely eliminate, single use plastic carry bags," WarrandyteCAN president Wayne Rankin told the *Diary*.

A charter will be displayed in shop windows where stores charge a fee for bags.

"The damage to our environment and the direct relevance to climate change are well known. The most obvious demonstration of the impact on our local community is the litter caught up in our streets, walkways, our river and creeks.

"Birds, fish and other creatures suffer horribly from these escapees from our world. Precious oil and dangerous chemicals that remain in the environment are used

in the manufacture of plastic carry bags.

"The useful life of a plastic bag is between seven to 20 minutes, on average. Not long, considering the actual life of a plastic bag is between 400 to 1000 years. We all live in Warrandyte to enjoy the environment, so let's protect it!" Mr Rankin said.

Old habits die hard, but incentives such as avoiding a fee of perhaps 10c or more per bag, will be some inducement for shoppers to remember to keep re-usable bags in the car or near the back door, ready for the shop.

In addition, attractive Warrandyte-designed jute bags are planned to be offered for sale locally, at affordable rates to encourage the changeover.

"Between now and March 9, 2013, WarrandyteCAN will be encouraging all traders to adopt the program and will conduct an education program on the value of this change to our community," Mr Rankin said.

● In the meantime, information on jute bags and the impact of plastic carry bags on the environment is available at the WarrandyteCAN website.



Letterbox at our temporary home

Now you can post your *Diary* news, letters, pictures and discs in our new letterbox, outside our temporary home at St Stephens Anglican Church in Stiggant Street, Warrandyte.

CYRIL

By **PAUL WILLIAMS**



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Resilient: Jeremy Loftus-Hills addresses the forum.

Locals join in resilience talkfest

By JEREMY LOFTUS-HILLS

OVER the last five years natural disasters have cost this country \$17 billion, whereas federal government investment in mitigation since Black Saturday languishes at a mere \$110 million. This is not to take anything away from the loss of life and private property in the floods and fires that have done the bulk of the damage. Rather the imbalance points to a fundamental problem affecting our nation, impacting most perniciously on disaster prone regions like our own.

Happy to spend \$40 million on a royal commission that described cause and effect in minute detail, Victorians have to date been stumped when it comes to doing something substantial to change a cycle in which communities recover from one disaster in time to face the next. There are however forces at work that could make things different in the future.

Drivers for change were on show last month at Rydges on Swanston. It was here that 100 or so academics, "furies", administrators and community activists gathered to discuss the big social, political and psychological forces that sentence individuals and communities to repeat the mistakes of the past.

Leading the way to a new future was a young academic from Macquarie University—Dr Peter Rogers. In a powerful presentation, he described and illustrated how disaster management has been revolutionised in the UK starting in 2006. The thrust of the changes in the UK has advocates in Australia as well, one being ex-chief commissioner of police Neil Comrie, currently charged with implementing the recommendations of the Royal

Commission into the Black Saturday bushfires.

The new wave sweeping the UK and now moving through the United States is focused on the concept of community resilience. Dr Rogers and others made much of the difficulty in defining the term, but by the end of the day its meaning was clear. Amongst these things a resilient community wrests power away from professionals and bureaucrats, establishing its own plans on its own terms. In a new setting, where responsibilities are shared on a genuine basis, disaster planning proceeds in the context of local understanding and experience in dealing with threats, as well as two other sources. One source is the disaster management "system" itself, the other is the evidence-based learning of other communities.

Dr Rogers told how in the UK emergency management organisations had learned to "melt" the barriers that secure their data from the public. Via the Internet he linked us to a vast library of case studies where local communities learn how to begin, what has worked for others, study cases and download templates to help get their planning underway.

In the midst of these inspiring ideas a dozen or so representatives summarised examples of resilience raising projects in their communities. Jeremy Loftus-Hills made a short presentation on behalf of the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House, which will be holding a resilience course in February 2012. This course is designed to increase the resilience of Warrandyte households during each of the warning, coping and recovery stages of disasters in general, bushfires in particular.

In Australia, floods have proved more expensive, although less deadly, than bushfires. In his recently released Floods Report, Neil Comrie has recommended that resilience committees be established in risk prone communities such as ours. While this generated an audible sigh in some quarters ("not another committee!"), forum participants eventually acquiesced, provided it is called a resilience party or barbecue. The state government has accepted Mr Comrie's recommendation. We await its White Paper response with bated breath, as it will contain the detail, and the all-important funding of the initiative.

Diane Haskings, manager social and community services, Manningham council, and member of the municipality's safety committee also attended the forum. She was impressed by its intent, saying it affirmed her long held belief that community safety is founded in good neighbourly relations. She has been instrumental in linking Manningham to the national Neighbour Day movement.

"Resilience really comes down to building and servicing relationships in the community—in other words looking out for your neighbour," was Diane's succinct contribution to the plenary session.

Inquiries about the Neighbourhood House resilience course should be directed to Karen Throssell at the Neighbourhood House. Jeremy's video can be viewed at Warrandyte.tv. There is some reading about resilience available on that site as well. Neighbour Day is held on the last Sunday in March.

● For more about Neighbour Day search the Manningham council website or go to www.neighbour-day.org.

MP calls for politicians to unite for the environment

MP for Yan Yean Danielle Green, whose electorate includes North Warrandyte, has slammed environment minister and local MP Ryan Smith for his failure to attend an event called at Parliament to protect the Green Wedge.

Danielle Green MP said "Ryan Smith had the perfect opportunity to join Lady April Hamer and others from across the community to show his support for Green Wedges in Manningham, Nillumbik and the Yarra Ranges.

"At a time when our way of life is under severe threat from harmful development, it is more important than ever that politicians from all sides work together to retain our Green Wedges.

"Rather than joining the community in standing up for our open spaces like his Liberal predecessor Phil Honeywood, Ryan Smith seems happy to stand by as higher density development is forced upon the community with the

Green Wedge bulldozed.

Ms Green said government support for open slather development had prompted an impassioned plea from the widow of former Liberal Premier Sir Rupert Hamer and former Labor Premier Steve Bracks, for a return to a bipartisan approach on protecting Melbourne's precious Green Wedges.

"The state government had ripped away 4000 hectares from the Green Wedge for development on Melbourne's fringe.

"On top of this, proposed changes to planning zones risk a new wave of house building as the government reduces the minimum lot size, sidestepping rules meant to protect our area," Ms Green told the *Diary*.

Lady April Hamer was appointed patron of the Green Wedges Coalition at the group's annual general meeting held at Parliament House recently.



Making the point: Danielle Green in full flight.

WARRANDYTE
diary

Due to a number of circumstances, the Diary will be published one week later than previously scheduled until the end of this year. The revised dates are as follows:

	COPY CLOSING	PUBLISHED
OCTOBER	Friday 5 Oct	Tuesday 16 Oct
NOVEMBER	Friday 9 Nov	Tuesday 20 Nov
DECEMBER	Friday 7 Dec	Tuesday 18 Dec



Early morning vigil: community folk protest government plans, illustrating evacuation problems due to our one bridge escape route. (Pictures by Wayne Rankin)

State government plans alarm local community

By **KARLY HICKMAN**

The state government is proposing sweeping reforms to the Victorian planning system, which could have enormous impact on the environmental amenity and neighbourhood character of Warrandyte as early as October.

The changes will enable subdivision of one-acre or larger properties, enabling half-acre blocks, once town sewerage is connected. They will also allow two houses on every residential block near Warrandyte Village without any planning notification or opportunity for neighbours to appeal to VCAT.

"These reforms will change Warrandyte forever," Manningham councillor David Ellis told the *Diary*.

Manningham and Nillumbik councils have both voiced serious concerns regarding increased bushfire risk, erosion of residential amenity and threat to the values of the Green Wedge.

"It is obvious to anyone reading the reforms that the planning minister is pushing major changes past councils with indecent haste and full of inconsistencies," Cr Ellis said.

However, Warrandyte MP and minister for environment, Ryan Smith insisted that the "planning zone

reforms will provide for an open, transparent and more accountable planning system".

According to the Warrandyte Community Association vice-president Jonathan Upson, "enabling the subdivision of low density residential areas of Warrandyte, thereby directly contradicting the recommendations of the Bushfire Royal Commission is an indefensible policy".

"There will be no impact on Warrandyte—the bushfire management overlay continues to apply to ensure people are protected from the threat of bushfires," Mr Smith said.

Cr Ellis disagreed, stating, "The proposed reduction in lot sizes and removal of the restriction on dual occupancy clearly run quite contrary to the recommendations of the Bushfire Royal Commission."

"The proposal to legislate to double the number of dwellings in 'low-density' areas is alarming—especially for those bushland blocks north of the river or to the west of Tindals and Pound roads," Cr Ellis said.

The reforms will also significantly expand the type and size of development in the Green Wedge. Currently, there are 23 uses allowed, with all other uses prohib-

ited. The reforms will stipulate only 16 prohibited uses.

"Green Wedges are not stagnant zones, their intention is to be a working agricultural buffer for niche industries; these reforms will provide a much greater ability for the intention of the zone to be fully realised," minister for planning, Matthew Guy said.

But WCA claims the type of development in Melbourne's Green Wedges will now only be limited by the small number of prohibited uses and "the imagination of the dodgiest developer".

"Removing any link between the size of land and intensity of development and allowing many new commercial activities into Green Wedge areas has the potential to significantly change the character of Nillumbik shire and the rural amenity that makes this part of Melbourne so unique," Nillumbik mayor, Cr Michael Young said.

Mr Smith said that council permits will still apply and that "the recommended provisions in the Green Wedge will allow landowners to provide appropriate complementary uses, consistent with the integrity of the zone".

Nillumbik council has expressed their concerns that the number of VCAT

disputes related to Green Wedge development will increase as their decisions are refuted by developers.

"So much of this proposed legislation just has not been thought through," Cr Ellis said.

Warrandyte Village is likely to fall under the new Neighbourhood Residential Zone, which will mean the existing overlay limiting Warrandyte lots to one house would be overridden, with two houses allowed on all blocks.

Most alarmingly, residents could receive no notification and have no appeal rights if their neighbour can claim that part of the land for subdivision is currently used as a "car parking space".

"Every homeowner in the Warrandyte township should seriously contemplate looking out their side windows and seeing a second house in the lot next to them as that is what these changes will enable. The first sign it's happening is when the bulldozers arrive as no planning application notification will occur and no appeal to VCAT is allowed," Mr Upson said.

The new zone will allow council to specify the maximum number of dwellings permitted on a lot; however this must not be less than two dwellings. The proposed provision is contrary

to the existing overlays for these areas, and Manningham council is strongly opposed to this change, citing their concern for the significant impact on the existing neighbourhood character and environmental and landscape values.

It is likely that west of Tindals Road and all of North Warrandyte will fall under the new Low Density Residential Zone, reducing minimum lot sizes from one acre to half an acre where town sewerage is connected.

"The environmental character of Warrandyte will be seriously undermined as a significant loss of mature trees will make room for new houses," Mr Upson said.

"This is not about giving power to councils or communities. It is not 'reform' worthy of the name. This is a softening-up exercise, designed to undermine the very concept of Green Wedge and low density zones," Cr Ellis said.

Questions that have not been addressed include capacity of narrow and unmade roads to cope with increased density as well as sewerage systems, as many existing one acre blocks are provided with narrow-gauge pressure systems rather than the higher capacity mainline gravity systems.

State government claims the release of the zone reform package follows extensive discussions with major stakeholder groups including the Municipal Association of Victoria, the Victorian Farmers Federation and Rural Councils Victoria.

However Manningham council has advised that they are disappointed in the consultation to date and at the timing of the exhibition period, as the consultation runs into council's caretaker and election periods.

"Issues could have been avoided if council, as the primary policy and decision maker for planning matters in Nillumbik Shire, was consulted during the development of the reforms," Cr Young said.

"The new residential zones will be available to councils to apply over a 12 month period via the existing amendment process" Minister Smith said.

● Manningham and Nillumbik councils and WCA have prepared submissions addressing the proposed reforms. Closing dates for submissions is Friday, September 21. Final reforms will then be introduced into Victoria's planning system in October this year. Individual submissions can be made at www.dpcd.vic.gov.au.



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**POSTPONED TO
24 NOVEMBER 2012**

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HOW TO BOOK A HARD WASTE COLLECTION

Nillumbik Shire Council has changed its hard waste collection to a booked collection service.



Residents are entitled to one hard waste collection per household per financial year (July - June). Materials are limited to two cubic metres per household (1m wide x 1m high x 2m long).

For further information or to book your collection contact 9721 1915 or visit www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au

The hard waste service is for items that are broken or cannot be reused.

Visit recyclingnearlyou.com.au for further information on recycling unwanted household goods that are in good condition.

COME WITH ME

Come With Me is a photographic and sculptural exhibition exploring death, vulnerability and physical traces by local artist Jessie Imam.

Come With Me is showing at Eltham Library Community Gallery from 6 September to 1 October.

Official opening: 2pm-4pm, 8 September
Eltham Library Community Gallery
Panther Place, Eltham VIC 3095



New Edendale website launched!

Edendale Community Environment Farm now has its own website!

Visit the new Edendale website to find out about upcoming environmental events, school holiday activities and the indigenous plant nursery. You can also sign up to Edendale's enews to receive all the latest news.

Explore all that Edendale has to offer at www.edendale.vic.gov.au



Celebrating short stories

Congratulations to the winners of the 2012 Alan Marshall Short Story Award!

- First Prize:** Pam Baker
- Second Prize:** Lawrence McMahon
- Youth Prize:** Leticia Parish
- Local Prize:** Keren Heenan
- Commendations:** Carmel Lillis, SJ Finn and Eleanor Garran.



Presented in partnership with the Yarra Plenty Regional Library Service.
www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/arts

SMOKE-FREE PLAYGROUND TRIAL

We would like your feedback on the six-month trial that will see no-smoking areas declared within 10 metres of play equipment at designated Council-owned playgrounds from September.

The trial will take place at:

- Alistair Knox Park, Eltham
- Eltham North Adventure Park, Eltham
- Alan Marshall Reserve, Eltham
- Nillumbik Reserve, Diamond Creek
- Cooks/Weerona Reserve, North Warrandyte.

Signage and cigarette butt bins will be installed at the designated playgrounds.

Provide feedback on the trial to health.services@nillumbik.vic.gov.au or call 9433 3340.

VEGETABLE SEEDLING PROPAGATION

Come along and learn how easy it can be to grow your own vegetables from seed.

This practical workshop aims to develop knowledge, skills and confidence in this most rewarding food gardening skill. BYO gloves.

When: Saturday 22 September 2012
10am - 12noon
Where: Edendale
30 Gastons Road, Eltham
Cost: \$20, includes morning tea
Bookings: Living & Learning Nillumbik on 9433 3744

VICTORIAN SENIORS FESTIVAL

7-14 October 2012 *It's your time*

We're celebrating the 5,000 older residents who call Nillumbik home during the Victorian Seniors Festival. In its 30th year, the Seniors Festival celebrates and recognises the achievements and contribution of over 65s with events held across the Shire. From health and wellbeing forums and live performances to information sessions on technology and road safety, there will be something for everyone!

For the full events program, visit www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au.

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WANTED
Warrandyte residents from all walks of life, to participate in fire readiness video documentary. People of all ages, backgrounds and circumstances welcome. No experience necessary, just a willingness to tell it how it is.
Contact Jeremy on 0402 147 463 or jeremy@warrandyte.tv

DIARY MINI ADS

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MEDITATION & RELAXATION: Classes held in Warrandyte and Templestowe. Come and learn techniques to de-stress and relax and calm the mind and body. Teaching meditation skills to fit into your lifestyle. All welcome. Please call Tracey **0413 211 453** www.lifeunfolding.com.au

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Fuel for thought: The proposed United service station on Yarra Street.

Service station protests go on

By **KARLY HICKMAN**

United Petroleum's plans for Warrandyte have hit a bump in the road, although it is feared they may have not lost momentum.

VicRoads have reviewed United Petroleum's submission for a petrol station on Yarra Street and rejected it on the grounds that the plans do not provide for sufficient

approach sight distance for turning traffic traveling from both directions into the site.

"WCA does see a need for a petrol station in Warrandyte, but objects on the size and scope of what has been proposed," Warrandyte Community Association vice president Jonathan Upson told the *Diary*.

VicRoad's concerns have

been passed onto United Petroleum's contractor Urbis Planning and the proposal must now be resubmitted with amended plans to be reviewed by VicRoads and Manningham council.

"I think Warrandyte needs some fuel stop, but not the size of what is proposed, or even the location," one Warrandyte resident said.

Concerns have also been raised around the size of the 16-seat "convenience restaurant" proposed as part of the plans, as the site does not allow for parking for this number of patrons.

"What has been proposed is at odds with the character of Warrandyte," Mr Upson said. It is likely that due to the fast approach of council elec-

tions and the ensuing "caretaker" period, the amended plans will be taken to a new council.

Some communities have had small wins in fighting inappropriate petrol station development in their area. In 2010, the Mornington Peninsula community of Red Hill was successful at VCAT in their objection to inappropriate

lighting at a new United station in their community.

Red Hill residents claimed the lights were too bright and not in keeping with the village character of the area.

The company was ordered to remove the price board on the road reserve that illuminated prices in LED lights.

● Letter: Page 4

Yogis support charities

Early last month, the Bhava Yoga and Dance Institute in Warrandyte took part in an international 24-hour Yoga Relay.

The local group joined more than 30 countries, 200 events and 20,000 yogis in the relay. "The goal is to create a sense of connectedness, consciousness and global responsibil-

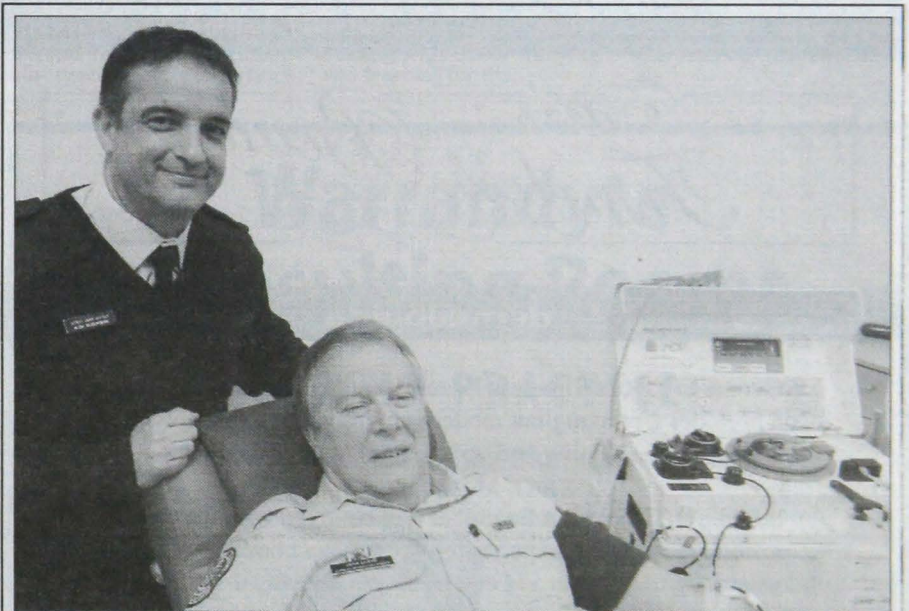
ity—and to raise \$1 million for charity projects around the world," local organiser Gaye Boswell told the *Diary*.

Australian charities, the Nelune Foundation, Barnados and the Black Dog Institute benefited from the efforts of 26 dedicated local yogis.

"I am so proud to be part of an initiative that harnesses

the spirit of yoga to motivate and inspire people to give," Ms Boswell said. "So far, as a community, we have raised over \$2000."

● Welcome financial donations can still be made—up to Tuesday, October 9—at www.yogaaid.com/gayeboswell.



His blood's worth bottling: Deputy Chief Officer Alen Slijepcevic with CFA member John Loyd.

Firies top blood donors

CFA members have been rolling up their sleeves in a good cause.

They were donating blood as part of the National Emergency Services Challenge, run by the Australian Red Cross.

The eight-week challenge, which began at the beginning of July and continued

through August, saw police, firefighters, paramedics and other emergency workers and volunteers compete to see who can "bleed" the most for a good cause.

Blood Service spokesman Shaun Inguanzo told the *Diary* that giving blood takes just an hour of your time.

"Every donation helps save

three lives, he said.

"With one in three Australians needing blood in their lifetime, there's every chance that the lives saved could one day be yours or that of a close friend or family member".

● Call 13 14 95 or visit www.donateblood.com.au to make an appointment.

Beloved alpacas attacked: warning of dog pack

By **GEORGIA WESTGARTH**

Recently, two alpacas were found dead and one maimed where they were being agisted along the Melbourne Water pipeline, behind Harris Gully Road.

The herd of six alpacas were the beloved animals of Paula and her late husband Craig Clements. "All had their own name and special personality", Paula Clements said.

"One was severely mauled and killed, one was found dead with no sign of injury but later found to have internal damage and one was bitten under the front legs and hind area and was later put down.

The three remaining alpacas are recovering."

Warrandyte Police are investigating the incident. Evidence is

pointing towards dogs as the aggressors.

"Nobody witnessed the attack, but three large black and brown dogs were spotted inside the fenced paddock the Sunday night prior to the attack," Ms Clements said.

The dogs were seen to be playing with each other with the alpacas moving away from them

as a pack. All the injuries to the alpacas have been found to be consistent with large dog bites.

CFA members have spotted three large dogs hanging around the top of the fire track, approximately 500 metres from where the alpacas were found dead. Police urge anyone who has lost pets or livestock to report the matter.

A similar incident was reported

12 to 18 months ago, a few doors down from the alpaca's adjustment, where sheep were found dead.

No dogs have been found, nor has anyone witnessed attacks.

"This is just a reminder for dog owners to lock their dogs up and keep them on a leash; we don't want to see any more incidents of this kind," a police member said.

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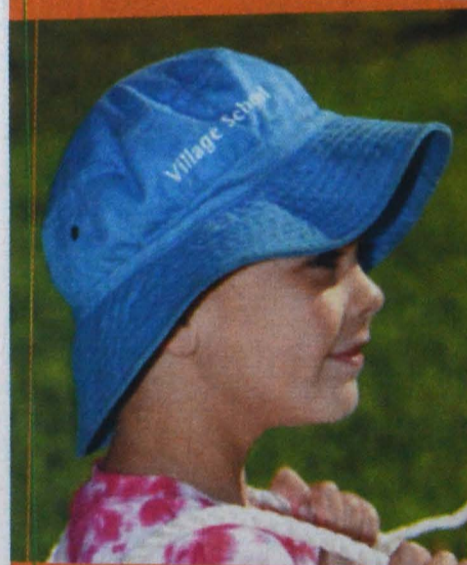


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Kids at Warrandyte High are still celebrating their top grant.

Council plans for roadsides

Nillumbik council has revised its roadside management plan.

A council spokesperson told the *Diary* that the plan "will assist council, the community and other authorities to plan works within road reserves and minimise the impact of works on roadside values".

The report went out to the community and a large number of submissions were in relation to the recreational use of the roadsides.

"It was not the intention of the plan to exclude or prevent recreational users from using roadside trails," the spokesperson said. Therefore the plan has been amended "to ensure greater clarity".

Council intends establishing a working group, and "staff will be trained to ensure compliance with the plan".

MP helps WHS

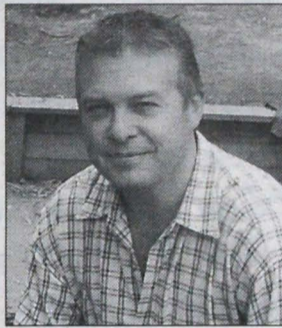
Warrandyte High School has been awarded a \$50,000 grant as part of the Empowering Local Schools initiative, a joint federal and state program.

As reported last issue, the school will use the award to create a Centre for Creativity in Digital Media. It will enable the students to have access to digital studio and multiple video and editing suites.

This specialised field of study has been a feature at the school for many years.

Welcoming the grant, Warrandyte MP Ryan Smith told the *Diary*: "This will benefit students who are clearly seeking a clearly defined tertiary pathway to design and digital media, as well as exposing all students in the earlier years to digital media."

"I commend Warrandyte High School for ensuring that



Ryan Smith

students today are prepared for an increasingly changing world by offering these up-to-date options for learning," Mr Smith said. "Digital media not only gives students options to discover different career pathways, but also enables them to tap into their creativity."

Smoke-free playgrounds

A six-month trial to ban smoking in some of Nillumbik's playgrounds has now begun at five playgrounds across the shire.

These include Cooks/Weerona Reserve in North Warrandyte.

A council spokesperson said research shows that second-hand smoke causes early death and disease in children and in adults who do not smoke.

"The more second-hand smoke someone is exposed to, the higher the risk of disease. There is no known level of exposure to second-hand smoke that is free of risk," the spokesperson said.

"At this stage, smoke-free outdoor areas have not been legislated, so enforcement is not possible, but anecdotal evidence suggests that a well-informed community will largely self-enforce no smoking signage."

"We are keen to hear what our residents think about this trial and anyone with a comment can contact our Environment Health Unit on 9433 3111."



See the results: Youth Theatre in rehearsal. (Picture by Emma Geary, Paper Rose Photography)

Youth theatre debut

Warrandyte Youth Theatre is eager for everyone to buy tickets for their inaugural production, *Three One Act Plays*, to be staged on October 12 and 13.

Sets are built, lines are learned and the team is excited to showcase their first collaboration at the Warrandyte Mechanics Hall.

The group is eager to find more fresh young faces to join the team! "We want to see the WYT grow and would like this

first performance to flow onto our next, more the merrier," a spokesperson said.

Another show is underway at the Warrandyte Theatre Company. Entitled *Bombshells*, it is written by leading Australian playwright, Joanna Murray-Smith. With a cast of six females, the show takes you on a journey through the ups and downs of a woman's life. Hilarious and soulful, this one's not to be missed.

GEORGIA WESTGARTH

College hosts information night

Progressive independent school, Billanook College, is hosting a free information session for parents at the Warrandyte Primary School next month.

"Things have certainly changed since you were at school," a college spokesperson told the *Diary*. "The emergence of technology

and a changing educational landscape can make it difficult for some families to navigate their child's transition into secondary school."

The information session will discuss: preparing children for secondary school; iPads and the use of technology; dealing with cyber bullying; and learning for life.

The evening will be held in the new multi-function facility at the primary school, on Tuesday, October 16 between 7.30 and 9pm. Children are welcome to attend.

● Please register your interest on: 9724 1179 or email: registrar@billanook.vic.edu.au.

In its premier performance, Warrandyte Youth Theatre is proud to present

THREE ONE ACT PLAYS

CLOUDHOPPING <i>by Jonathan Whiteside</i> <small>Rights from Spotlight Publications, UK</small>	REMEMBRANCE <i>by Mark Rees</i> <small>Rights from Spotlight Publications, UK</small>	CAPTIVE AUDIENCE <i>by David Ives</i> <small>Rights from Hal Leonard, Australia</small>
--	--	--

12 OCTOBER 8pm,
13 OCTOBER 2:30pm & 8pm
Warrandyte Mechanics Institute Hall, cr Yarra St & Mitchell Ave

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would like to introduce the following doctors who are now taking new patients

Dr Damneet Sekhon
Dr Sekhon has her special interests in women's health, child health, diabetes, asthma and minor surgery. Shared obstetric care with Mercy Hospital.

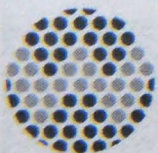
Dr Aman Sekhon
Dr Sekhon has his special interests in diabetes, men's health, occupational health, health assessments and minor surgery.

Be  Ready Warrandyte
 Living with Bushfire Risk

DO THE SURVEY!



www.warrandyte.org.au or call 9844 5855
 and find out how you can help



Warrandyte
Community
Association



NILLUMBIK
THE GREEN WEDGE SHIRE



MANNINGHAM
BALANCE OF CITY AND COUNTRY

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Be Ready Warrandyte

Living with Bushfire Risk

SURVEY

“Be Ready Warrandyte” is a message you’ll be seeing a lot over the coming months. It’s a call to action to the Warrandyte community and our neighbours to be informed, supported and well prepared for our everyday reality of living with bushfire risk.

The “Be Ready Warrandyte” project has a very clear purpose – to increase the number of local households that have a current and practiced Bushfire Survival Plan*.

Our first task is to find out how many households have a fire plan, and to what level of detail. That’s where the Survey comes in. You can complete it online (our preference!) at www.warrandyte.org.au or on paper. It will take about 15 minutes. The information you provide will influence what we do next in terms of developing activities, advice, information and practical support to assist more and more Warrandyte households to prepare for a serious bushfire.

We all live with bushfire risk, but we can manage that risk by being prepared for it. I ask you to support this project, get on line or turn the page to complete the Survey, and be part of this community’s collective, smart and local response to bushfire.

If you have questions, comments or concerns, or would like assistance with the Survey, please call Be Ready Warrandyte on Tel: 9844 5855 or email beready@warrandyte.org.au

Yours sincerely,

Dick Davies
President
Warrandyte Community Association



Please complete this Survey only if you are aged 18 or over, live in North Warrandyte, Warrandyte, South Warrandyte or Park Orchards and to your knowledge, nobody from your household has already completed the Survey. Your information will remain confidential and is collected in accordance with the National Privacy Principles. A copy of the WCA’s Privacy Statement and Complaints and Feedback Policy is available at our website www.warrandyte.org.au

The “Be Ready Warrandyte” project is a local initiative of the Warrandyte Community Association (WCA) and many valued partners, individuals, organisations and agencies. It is a self-help, community-led project to develop tools and resources to help our community be safer and more able to deal with the risk of bushfires. It is supported by Manningham and Nillumbik Councils, emergency services and the Victorian State Government. For more information www.warrandyte.org.au.

* For the purposes of this survey, a Bushfire Survival Plan provides the means for a household to identify what each member of the household will do if a bushfire threatens the area.

SURVEY RETURN

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Community
Association



NILLUMBİK
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Survey

1. Are you male or female?

- Male
- Female

2. To which age group do you belong?

- 18 - 24
- 25 - 34
- 35 - 44
- 45 - 54
- 55 - 64
- 65 - 74
- 75+
- Unwilling to provide

3. What is the composition of your household?

- Couple with children
- Couple without children
- One parent family with children
- Other family
- Single person living alone
- Group household
- Other (please specify)

4. How many people in each age category live in your household?

0-4 years	<input style="width: 40px;" type="text"/>
5-11 years	<input style="width: 40px;" type="text"/>
12-18 years	<input style="width: 40px;" type="text"/>
19-24 years	<input style="width: 40px;" type="text"/>
25-64 years	<input style="width: 40px;" type="text"/>
65+ years	<input style="width: 40px;" type="text"/>

5. IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN LIVING AT HOME:

Do any of the children in your household attend a school, kindergarten or child minding centre?

Tick all items that apply:

	Located in Greater Warrandyte	Not located in Greater Warrandyte
Primary school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secondary school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kindergarten	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child minding centre	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No child from our household attends any of the above	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. How likely do you think it is that a bushfire that threatened people's lives or homes will occur in the Greater Warrandyte area within the next few years?

- Very unlikely
- Unlikely
- Likely
- Very likely
- Don't know

7. How would you rate your level of concern about the risk of bushfire to your family/household?

- Very concerned
- Somewhat concerned
- Not very concerned
- Not at all concerned
- Don't know

8. How easy do you think it will be for the members of your household to safely leave the area where you live if Greater Warrandyte is threatened by bushfire?

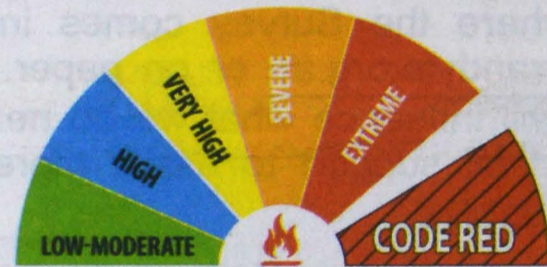
- Very difficult
- Difficult
- Easy
- Very easy
- Don't know
- Don't plan to leave

9. Why did you give the answer you did to question 8?

10. Do you think the members of your household (including children and adults) are aware of and agreed on what each person will do if Greater Warrandyte is threatened by bushfire?

	All aware/ agreed	Some aware/ agreed	None aware/ agreed	Don't know
Aware	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Agreed	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

The Country Fire Authority uses a fire danger rating system to communicate fire risk: Code Red, Extreme, Severe, Very High, High, Low-Moderate.



FIRE DANGER RATING

11. Thinking about yourself personally, how well do you think you understand what the ratings mean?

- Very well
- Quite well
- Not very well
- Not well at all
- Don't know

12. Listed are a number of scenarios that might occur during a bushfire season in Greater Warrandyte. Assuming it was a day when most people in your household were usually at home, please indicate what your action, if any, is most likely to be.

	Leave home the night before	Leave home in the morning	Listen to radio/ watch internet sites for further information	Most likely stay home/some family members may leave	Definitely stay home	Don't know
The day is declared a total fire Ban Day	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The Fire Danger rating is predicted to be Extreme	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The Fire Danger rating is predicted to be Code Red	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

13. And what would be your action if you receive an official notification advising you that there is a fire in the area?

Leave home as soon as possible	Listen to radio/ watch internet sites for further information	Most likely stay home/some family members may leave	Definitely stay home	Don't know
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

14. Does your household have a Bushfire Survival Plan? (if you are not sure or unclear, please answer 'No').

- YES**
- NO**

Survey

Be Ready Warrandyte
Living with Bushfire Risk

Those WITH a Bushfire Survival Plan

These questions should be answered by those people with a Bushfire Survival Plan.

15. IN GENERAL, is it your intention to...(PICK ONE ONLY)

- Stay at home to defend your property
- Have some family members stay to defend the property while others leave early
- Have some family members stay to defend the property while others leave at the first sign of a bushfire
- Have all family members leave early
- Have all family members leave at the first sign of a bushfire
- Don't know
- Other (please specify)

16. Would you consider your Bushfire Survival Plan...

- Very detailed
- Quite detailed
- Not very detailed
- Not detailed at all

17. Do you have pets/other animals included in your plan?

- Yes
- No (and we have pets or other animals)
- We do not have any pets or other animals

18. Is your household's Bushfire Survival Plan written down?

- Yes
- No

19. Does your Bushfire Survival Plan include any of the following?

Tick all those applicable:

- Allowance for a bushfire starting in the Greater Warrandyte area
- Things that must be done before the bushfire season
- Things that must be done during the bushfire season
- Things that must be done on bushfire risk days (eg. A Total Fire Ban day, Fire Danger Rating of Very high or above)
- Things that must be done if unexpected things happen (eg. bridge/gridlock/tree down internet is down, fire starts near our home)
- What you would do differently on a weekend/school holiday/holiday
- Who takes responsibility for different elements of the plan
- What you would do if you had visiting family members (especially children) present



CFA publication - Prepare. Act. Survive.

20. In preparing your household's Bushfire Survival Plan what information sources and resources did you use?

Tick all those applicable:

- The Bushfire Survival Planning Template in the CFA publication Prepare. Act. Survive. (pictured above)
- The Bushfire Survival Planning Template on the CFA Website
- Other CFA information
- Local Government publications
- Red Cross publications
- Friends and Family
- CFA Volunteers
- Community fireguard members
- None
- Other (please specify)

Those WITHOUT a Bushfire Survival Plan

These questions should be answered by those who DON'T HAVE a Bushfire Survival Plan.

21. Have you read any of the following resources or looked at any of the following websites?

Tick all those applicable:

	Yes, in Detail	Yes, Partially	No
The CFA publication Prepare. Act. Survive.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The CFA Website	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Information Guide (Township Protection Plan)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other publications about Bushfire Survival (Please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Publications

22. Which of the following do you think are the main reasons that your household has not prepared a Bushfire Survival Plan?

Tick all those applicable:

- We do not consider it necessary
- It will make no difference
- We are too busy
- We do not know how to prepare a Bushfire Survival Plan
- We need assistance in preparing a Bushfire Survival Plan
- We don't know where to get the information we need to prepare a Bushfire Survival Plan
- Takes too long to prepare
- We have a low fire risk
- Other (please specify)

23. How likely are you to develop a Bushfire Survival Plan in the next 12 months?

- Very unlikely
- Unlikely
- Likely
- Very likely

EVERYONE

The remainder of the survey is for everyone to complete.

24. How would you prefer to find out more information about preparing a Bushfire Survival Plan?

Tick all those applicable:

- I don't need/want to find out more
- In a small, interactive group workshop
- Through a local-oriented webpage
- Via Twitter/Facebook
- Through a meeting of a community group to which I already belong
- At a community meeting with expert guest speakers (eg. from CSIRO, Uni's, CFA)
- Face-to-face with someone knowledgeable from the community who visits me at home
- Other (please specify)

25. If an event (eg. a workshop or information session) was held in your local area to assist households prepare a Bushfire Survival Plan how likely is it that members of your household would attend?

- Very unlikely
- Unlikely
- Likely
- Very likely

Survey

26. The amount of information provided at the workshop to help you prepare a Bushfire Survival Plan would be dependent on the length of the workshop. Assuming the workshop was held in your local area, what length of workshop would you prefer?

Tick all those applicable:

- One x 1 hour
 One x 2 hour
 One x half day
 Two x 2 hour
 Two x half day
 One x full day
 None of the above
 Something else (please specify)

27. And would you prefer this workshop to be on a

Tick all those applicable :

- Weekday evening
 Saturday
 Sunday
 Not applicable

28. Would you prefer these workshops to be run by...

Tick as many as are applicable:

- Fireguard Group
 CFA
 Manningham or Nillumbik Council
 Don't know
 Someone else (please specify)

29. And if a workshop or information session could be accessed online to assist households prepare a Bushfire Survival Plan, how likely is it that members of your household would access this?

- Very unlikely
 Unlikely
 Likely
 Very likely

30. Are there any other comments you would like to make about this topic that has not been covered e.g. bushfire survival, getting information about what to do in a bushfire, etc.

Final info about you & your household

We would like to ask you some questions about yourself and your household to assist us to use the information you have already provided.

31. Does anyone in your household have a disability, illness or condition that might make it difficult for them to respond if a bushfire occurred in the area?

- Yes
 No

32. Does your household rent or own (that includes paying a mortgage) the property?

- Rent
 Own
 Other

33. In which part of Greater Warrandyte do you live?

- Warrandyte
 North Warrandyte
 South Warrandyte
 Park Orchards
 Other (please specify)

34. For how long have you lived in your current property?

- No more than 5 years
 6 - 10 years
 11 - 19 years
 20 years +

35. For how long have you lived in the Greater Warrandyte area?

- No more than 5 years
 6 - 10 years
 11 - 19 years
 20 years +

36. Do you have any of the following insured?

- House
 House and contents
 Contents only
 Neither

37. Has anyone in your household (currently or in the past) been an active member of any of the following?

	Yes, currently	Yes, in the past	No
A CFA Community Fireguard Group	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A registered CFA volunteer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A registered SES volunteer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A registered member of another emergency services agency	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Register Your Interest

If you would like to register interest in any of the following:

- Receiving news and information about the survey
- Participating in any workshops about Living with Bushfire Risk
- Volunteering to assist
- Participating in a follow up survey in six months time
- Receiving an assessment to be placed on the Vulnerable Persons list from a Healthcare Professional

Please do so by :-

- Visiting the website www.warrandyte.org.au
- Or emailing beready@warrandyte.org.au
- Or by phoning 9844 5855

The information you provided in the survey will not be linked to your name or address, will be kept private and not shared.

SURVEY RETURN

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VIC 3113

Drop off :

Return boxes at :

W'dyte Post Office

Quinton's Supa
IGA Warrandyte



Climate change and health

Dr Jane Maxwell of Doctors for the Environment Australia will present a talk on the impact of climate change on health at the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute Hall on Thursday, October 18 commencing at 7.30pm. This evening has been organised by WarrandyteCAN (Climate Action Now). Also on the night, climate group "100% Renewable" will update the community on their new climate action programs for groups around Australia. All invited. Gold coin donation appreciated.

Neighbourhood

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House invites nominations for its Committee of Management. The annual general meeting will be held on Thursday, October 25 at 7.30pm in the Sunshine Room of the Warrandyte Community Church, 57 Yarra Street, Warrandyte. The committee, operating in a friendly and welcoming environment, participates in activities that support the local and wider community. Community members are also invited to attend the next monthly meeting, on Tuesday, September 25 at 10.30am, also in the Sunshine Room of the Community Church.

Sale

St Stephens Anglican Church, Stiggant Street, Warrandyte, is holding a car boot sale at the church on Saturday, October 20. Spaces \$20 each. For bookings call 0430 766 470.

Quilt

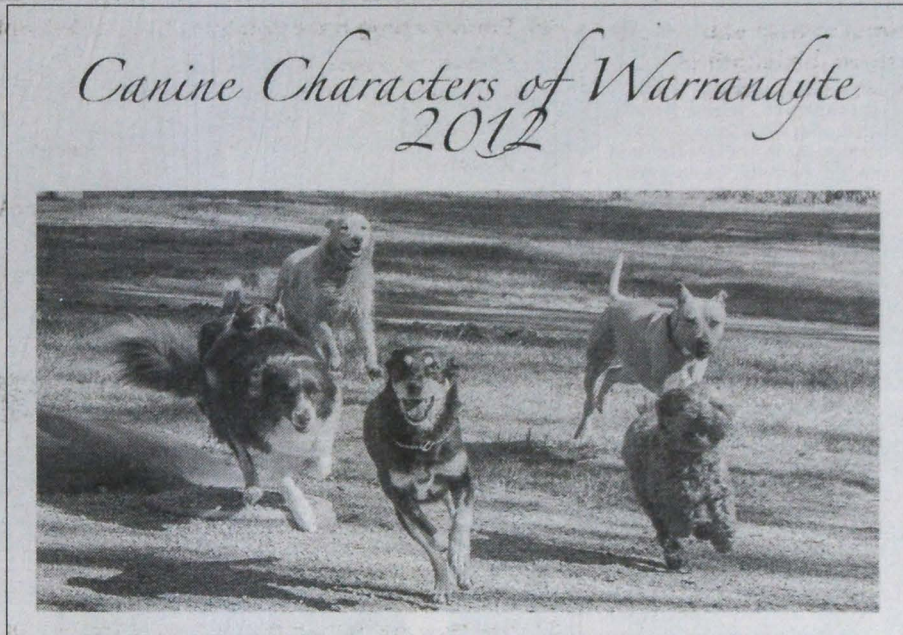
Would you like to be involved in Warrandyte Neighbourhood House's community quilt project? Come to our inaugural lunch at the Community Church—Tuesday, October 16 at 12.30pm. See the design and choose your "patch". Organisers will explain the vision and process and we can start work sewing! Please bring a plate to share. RSVP 9844 1839.

Pre-school

Warrandyte District Pre-school Association are holding their annual general meeting at the kinder in Taroon Avenue, Warrandyte on Monday, October 22 from 7pm. All are welcome.

Music

Manningham Music will present Bob Sedergreen and



Local dogs star in their own photobook

Denise Illing has published a second edition of her wonderful "Canine Characters of Warrandyte", featuring local dogs, photographed in all their colourful, crazy glory. Call Denise on 9844 1583 or 0419 307 653 to find out how to secure your copy.

out of the inbox
By JUDY GREEN

Publicise your coming events. Items for Out of the Inbox are welcome. Include full details of date, place and time and post to: Warrandyte Diary, PO Box 209, Warrandyte Vic 3113; emailed to: warrandytediary@aapt.net.au; or left in the mail box at St Stephen's Anglican Church, 5-7 Stiggants Street, Warrandyte.

Friends at the Doncaster Playhouse, 679 Doncaster Road, Doncaster on Sunday, September 23 at 2pm. (Doors open 1.30pm). This is the third concert for 2012 in the Manningham Music series and it will be a combination of fusion blues, acid jazz and funk hosted by Australian Jazz legend Bob Sedergreen. Cost is \$15 (conc \$12). For bookings and more information call Jennifer Gazzas on 9840 9304.

Bollywood

The Divine Dancing Café will present a Bollywood Night concert, workshop and dance jam on Saturday, October 20 at the Earth Harmony Shop and Well-being Centre, 246-250 Yarra Street, Warrandyte. The café (licenced) will be open from 7.30pm for snacks

and drinks. Tickets at \$20 will be available on the night but booking is highly recommended. Call 9844 5155.

Pottery

Warrandyte Historical Society's new exhibition Potters Plus will open on September 15 at the society's museum at the old post office in Yarra Street. The pots on display have been mainly sourced from members and friends and illustrate the long tradition of hand-made pottery in Warrandyte. Opening hours are 1pm to 4pm on Saturdays and Sundays with this changing to 2pm to 5pm when daylight savings starts. The exhibition will remain until the end of the year. It is being run to complement Potters Cottage—a Tribute currently showing at the Manningham council's new gallery.

Launch

You are invited to the launch of Karen Throssell's latest book of poetry "Chain of Hearts" at the Eltham Courthouse, 728 Main Street, Eltham on Thursday, November 16 at 7.30pm.

Ukulele

The next Ukulele Café Club workshop and open mike will

be on Thursday, October 4 at the Earth Harmony Shop and Well-being Centre, 246-250 Yarra Street, Warrandyte. Two Warrandyte musicians, A.J. Leonard on ukelele and Jenny Rowlands on cello make an unusual and amazing combination. Open mike is free from 8pm with an intermediate workshop from 7pm to 8pm at a cost of \$15. To book for workshop call 9844 5155.

Playhouse

Doncaster Playhouse will present Treasure Island Live on Stage at 679 Doncaster Road, Doncaster on Wednesday, September 17 at 7pm. Tickets \$12. Bookings to www.manningham.vic.gov.au/playhouse or call 9840 9382.

artyfacts

Gallery

Manningham Art Gallery is opening its new premises with a special exhibition entitled Potters Cottage: a tribute. The exhibition curated by Grace Cochrane celebrates the founding members of Potters Cottage and their legacy. Potters Cottage, a prominent feature of Australia's ceramic landscape operated from 1958 until 2004. Accompanying the exhibition is the production of a book by Grace Cochrane, on sale for \$20. The exhibition runs until November 10. The gallery, now at 687 Doncaster Road, Doncaster is open Tuesday to Saturday from 11am to 5pm. Admission is free.

Artist

Diamond Creek artist, Jessie Imam explores death, vulnerability and physical traces in her latest exhibition showing at the Eltham Library Community Gallery from September 6 till October 1. Imam draws on her 2011 residency at Laughing Waters in Eltham.

Arts

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

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in Warrandyte at Goldfields Medical Clinic

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A moving tale

By BRIONY BOTARELLI

COMPARED with the effort required to move Information Warrandyte, Neighbourhood House and in particular, the Op Shop, moving the *Diary* seemed a breeze. All shelves and drawers had been emptied, 42 years of newspapers had been sorted along with years of photos. A few boxes of important paperwork ready to load in my car on departure, was all that remained, plus the furniture.

David Hogg, our ever ready computer man, was lined up for 9am to disconnect computers and phones, prior to removalists arriving at 10am. As I came round the bend at 9.35, to my horror, there was the removals van, half packed except for some furniture on the footpath. I should have been happy they were early, not late, but they had also packed my paperwork, complete with the new office layout!

However, by 10.30 everything was on board. But alas, the truck would not start. Engine turnover, non-existent. Oh well, at least we wouldn't be arriving in the middle of the children's music program at St Stephen's. Another detail I had taken into consideration when organising the removalists!

The young man in charge of the removal requested I bring my Toyota Yaris up onto the

footpath, so that they could charge the truck batteries. Now, if there are any other people out there as silly as me, you don't do this. And of course, it didn't work.

As we realised this, Jan Tindale turned up, the daughter of a bus builder. She promptly informed me that a little car like mine would never be able to charge a big truck like that.

I then approached a Coca Cola truck driver to help with a kick start. No way lady! However, a cautious, but kind, Tram Stop Nursery truck driver, came to the rescue. During our conversation, he informed me that I could have wrecked the electrics in my car, trying to jumpstart a truck. This said to the sister of an auto electrician. I haven't confessed yet.

I now watched the driver of the removals van tie the ropes from truck to truck, thinking to myself that he knew as much about tying knots as he did about mechanics. Sure enough, off they went, a whole two metres—and the ropes broke. The removals van now had its cabin on the bus stop and its body on the footpath. The helpful truck driver had stopped around the corner in Webb Street, causing a bit of chaos with the local traffic. Next a large four wheel drive vehicle pulls up behind him. Not a brawl, please! And there well might have been, as it turned out to be

the truck driver's boss! Talk about unlucky. The boss was on holiday, passing through Warrandyte, when he noticed one of his trucks parked ominously. Hopefully, the kind truck driver still has a job.

The boss sent his employee on his way and then he started trying to help the removalists. He continued trying for about an hour.

During this time I'd had a couple of visits to Cam at Warrandyte Auto Electrics. He probably could have solved the problem straight away, but had no one to man his workshop. However, he kindly lent us a battery pack. But to no avail. I then went back for some heavy-duty jumper leads, but after some time searching, Cam discovered his apprentice had borrowed them, so he asked his mate at South Warrandyte Auto if I could borrow his jumper leads. Still no joy. So the boss went on his way.

At this point, we needed lunch. The removalist boys had been on and off their mobiles throughout this saga, so finally, in the middle of lunch, roadside assistance arrived. All fixed in a matter of minutes. Well, what was the problem? If there are two batteries, they require two sets of jumper leads!

And finally, we're on our way with the removalist boys quite happy to pose for a photo in their logo-laden tops. Good advertising?



Above: Two men and a truck. That wouldn't go!
Right: Journey's end. Finally... (Pictures by Briony Bottarelli)

Lions' pride on successful move

By CHERIE MOSELEN

WARRANDYTE Lions Club shifted its Opportunity Shop last month as part of the Community Centre relocation process. But to say that the Op Shop just moved down the road, is a bit like suggesting a marathon is merely a jog around the block.

Mounds of clothing had to be sorted and packed, along with every last plate, book and child's toy. Teaspoons, Tupperware and seemingly thousands of coat hangers—all stacked onto trailers and shipped to their temporary home. Yes... temporary.

In 12 months the Lions will pack it all up again and "move the mountain" back to the renovated centre!

Recently retired Lions Club president Geoff Taylor told the *Diary* he was one of several club members who had a hand in the

move.

"We thought hard about whether to move the operation or simply close it down for the year, because the substantial rent increase will mean a loss of profit for the Op Shop," Mr Taylor said. However, committee members decided it was vital to maintain the club's profile within the township."

Geoff also acknowledged that a big part of the club's ability to achieve their goal of assisting those in need within the community comes from running the Op Shop.

He described the level of commitment from those who helped move the shop as extraordinary, and said it took the effort of "12 volunteers working almost every day for four weeks," to box up the entire shop and rehouse it.

Fortunately, the new address (the shop formerly known as Bali 2U) has similar dimensions to the

Op Shop's previous space, so fitting it all in was no problem.

The biggest positive is the likelihood of more available space once the shop returns to the redeveloped centre.

This new lease of life will provide the Op Shop with more capacity to offer customers low budget options.

Indeed, skilfully managing large events is familiar territory for Warrandyte Lions.

Recently, in partnership with Eildon Lions and Eildon Boat Club, the club collected a staggering \$74,000 in just one night, proceeds going entirely to CanTeen.

The club is a longstanding advocate of the Australian charity, which offers support to young people living with cancer.

As part of the Warrandyte Lions Club charter, all members are given an opportunity to hold an executive position.

At the board of directors'

changeover recently, Geoff Taylor wished incoming Lions chief David Dobbs every success during his year ahead and thanked all members for their dedicated service to the community.

Geoff stressed the value of working partnerships, thanking Warrandyte Housing Support Service, Eastern Emergency Relief, Park Orchards Lions, Rotary, the Community Bank, and local schools and churches, for their willingness to work to help achieve the club's objectives.

He also reflected on the number of local people the club had managed to help over the past year, either financially or through services provided.

Warrandyte Lions Club currently retains a committee of 35 ordinary members, along with newly elected office bearers—David Dobbs (president), John Boyle (first vice president), David Anglefield (second VP), Pete Moloney

(third VP), Ian Abell (secretary) and David Tapper (treasurer).

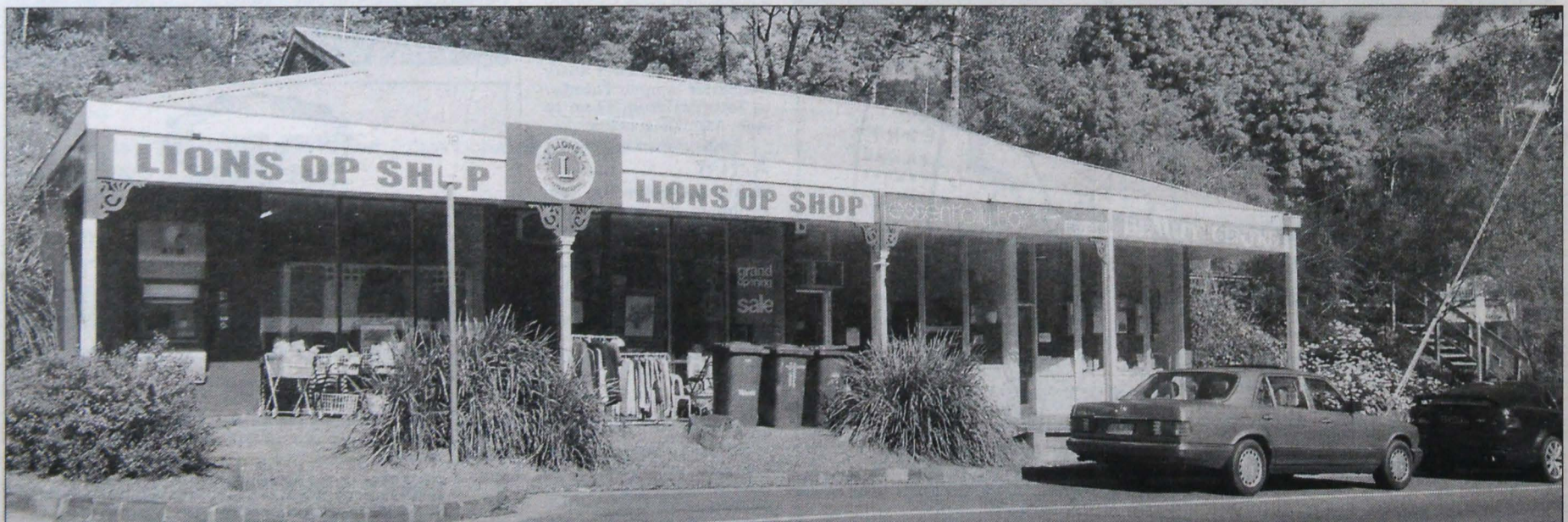
Now that he has retired as president, one could assume Geoff Taylor would have some more free time—a reasonable assumption, except Information Warrandyte just recruited a new Thursday-morning volunteer!

Geoff Taylor's ongoing commitment to Warrandyte Lions is typical of the hundreds of hours contributed each week by the volunteer Lions, right across the Warrandyte community.

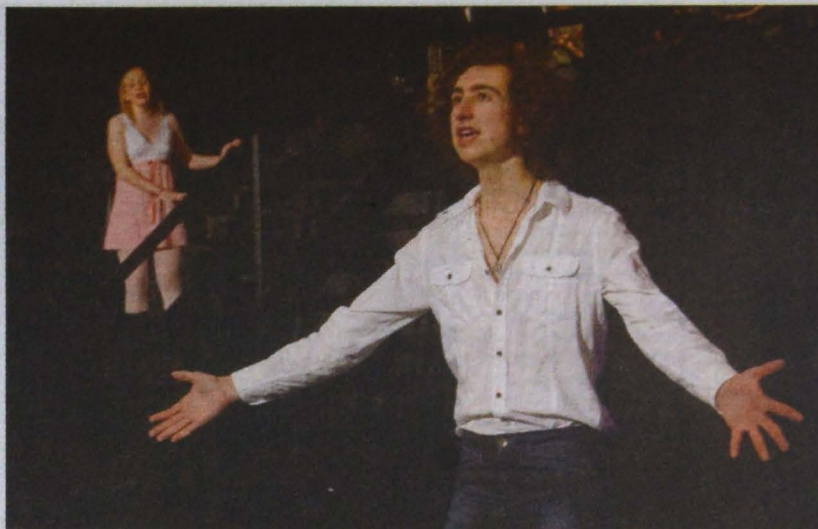
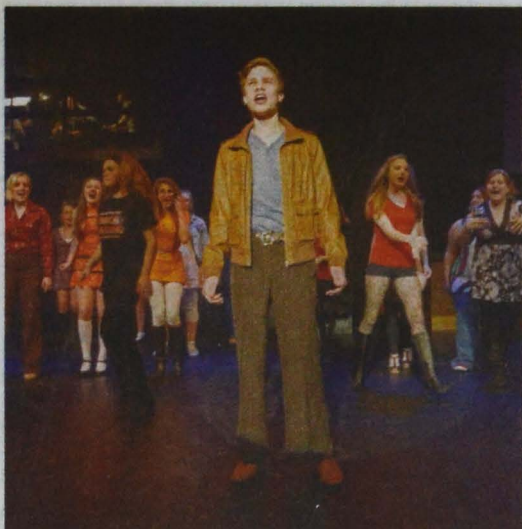
Or about the many hundreds of hours contributed every week by volunteers across the Warrandyte community.

● The Lions Club Opportunity Shop can be contacted by phone on 9844 4392.

● For more information about Warrandyte Lions, go to their website: www.lionsclubwarrandyte.org.au.



Downtown: Lions' new (temporary) Opportunity Shop situated next to the Grand Hotel in Yarra Street. (Picture by Jan Tindale)



Disco Inferno

Last month, Warrandyte High School presented the musical Disco Inferno. The story of Faust was brought to life in an explosion of hit songs, high energy dance routines and glitter-ball spinning action. (Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS)



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Monty led astray by a scheming Jezebel

DELILAH, Eve, Mata Hari, Tokyo Rose; they all had one thing in common. They all led gullible males astray. Not a hard thing to do I hear you say but be that as it may, there has been many a fine, upstanding male who has strayed from the path because of the wiles of a captivating and worldly female. An age-old scenario I know but let me tell you yet another chapter of that sad history.

Monty had always been a good boy. Gentle, affectionate and respectful are all fitting adjectives to describe his normal demeanour. He has never behaved in such a way that he has lost our respect nor has he ever let himself down. In fact, the remorseful look on his face, now, as he searches my face for signs of forgiveness is evidence of the regret he feels for his recent indiscretions.

Monty is only a teenager and some might argue that males stay that way until just before the end when they revert to childhood, skipping mature adulthood altogether. I think this is a bit harsh but I might be biased. Notwithstanding the bad press that some AFL footballers and some elite swimmers give to the male cause, I think it's not unreasonable to assert that most of us on the XY chromosome spectrum, make an effort to "do the right thing", until, of course, we are drawn to the dark side by forces greater than ourselves.

Monty had lived in Para-



"Monty had always been a good boy. Gentle, affectionate and respectful. He has never behaved in such a way that he has lost our respect."

dise for all of his time with us. Food, shelter, exercise, comfort and affection, in fact, he was in clover. And unlike many teenagers in the same situation, he was not surly and difficult but was happy and obviously grateful. You could say, we were the perfect nuclear family, until that black day when Coco appeared.

Coco. I ask you. What sort of name is that? With a name

like Molly, Milli or Mandy you should feel reasonably confident about what to expect but with a "skittish" name like Coco, who knows! In hindsight, we should have been prepared for original sin.

Coco is also a teenager but worldly beyond her years. It's well known that females mature earlier than males and in this case, Coco played Madonna to Monty's Frank Spencer. We had agreed that she could stay with us for a month whilst her parents were away on a holiday. Talk about inviting the viper into the nest!

All went well for the first few days then the first indication we had that everything was not quite right was when we returned after leaving them alone for the afternoon. When we came in the front door, there they were, sitting oh so innocently on the sofa. What was not so innocent was the crumpled state of our bedclothes. When we left we had reminded them to be good but it seems their idea of good and ours were different. When they were asked for an explanation about the dishevelled state of the bedclothes, they both just looked at us, confused and innocent, as if we had just accused them of genocide. We dropped the matter and agreed that our suspicions were probably no more than parental paranoia.

Monty had never been one for loud music or any sort of raucous behaviour, so we were surprised when our neighbours commented on the noises coming from our

house when we were out. Evidently, both Monty and his Jezebel started yelling at passersby, especially if there was another teenager with them. Like all parents, we asked the accused for an explanation but again, we were met with the typical teenager's indifference and hurt innocence. That was until we caught them at it one morning. Of course it was not our Monty who started the noise. He was too easily led astray by the bad company he was with. We tried to reason with them both but she just walked off and Monty just gave us a cursory glance as he followed Coco, like the smitten fool he was.

It was soon after this that we realised we had a situation that called out for a counsellor. They became brazen in their use of our double bed and would verbally accost passing strangers whenever they felt so inclined. Whenever we tried to assert our supposed authority, they sulked and made life so unpleasant that we gave in. And all through this period of infatuation they just smirked.

When she left, Monty moped. I tried to explain that I understood his anguish and that we'd all been smitten like that and that to some extent it wasn't our fault, that we're too easily led but I did warn him that if he didn't improve and revert to the behaviour he used to exhibit, then I would have no alternative than to make an appointment for him to see Dr Hugh Wirth.

ROGER KIBELL

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King of the fishers at home

WE were enjoying an al fresco breakfast beside the Bough Shed Hole at Bladensburg National Park in Queensland. Our mood was mellow. The cold August night had been banished by the sun which warmed our backs. Life was good. The sun also shone on a nearby dead branch low in the canopy. There, a bird with bronzy-red feathers on its back caught Peter's eye. It was a small kingfisher, but it was different from any we knew from Victoria.



My first priority was to get some photos before it disappeared. I needn't have worried. It appeared to be enjoying the sun as much as we were. Feathers fluffed to absorb the sun's warmth; it appeared to be king of all it surveyed. Soon His Highness was startled by a stropo Yellow-throated Miner. It swooped and challenged the kingfisher noisily from the same twig. The kingfisher held its ground (or stick) clacking its formidable shear-like beak. After the second attempt, the miner gave up and left the red-back to complete its morning bask; but not before I caught the action in my camera. Evidently the Yellow-throated Miners have a similar character to Noisy Miners.

While I was trying for another, closer shot, Peter found our bird book and identified the Red-backed Kingfisher. There was no doubt as it is the only Australian kingfisher with a "red rump". From the front, its grey-green streaked crown is also diagnostic. Later, bird-wise friends assured me that sighting this bird is fairly common in drier

nature

By LINDA ROGAN

parts of Queensland. It may also be spotted—as a rare vagrant—in Victoria and it has been seen at least once near Bicheno in Tasmania. However, this was our first good sighting.

Rangers confirmed this species is well known in the Bladensburg National Park and directed us to a nearby road cutting. There, where the track crosses Surprise Creek,

A Yellow-throated Miner confronts a kingfisher in Bladensburg National Park, Queensland. (Picture by Linda Rogan)

we found evidence of nesting holes where four or five white eggs would be laid in warmer months. These kingfishers are also known to nest in termite mounds. Like many other kingfishers, the Red-backed does not depend upon fish but hunts large insects, small reptiles and mice, so it may be found far from water.

With such a start to the day our spirits were high and we shared our story with

other campers nearby. Some were envious. One lady in particular, also a Victorian, was disappointed not to have seen this bird. We promised to let her know should we spot it again.

The next morning, as the sun was catching only the highest branches of the gum trees by the water hole, we were searching for a bright spot for our breakfast table. Peter looked up and spotted the Red-backed Kingfisher. This time there were two sitting on separate twigs less than a metre apart but high amongst the gum leaves. While I ran for my camera, Peter trotted to the next camp to fetch the interested Victorian lady, and any others who wished to see this beautiful sight. Soon a dozen campers had gathered at our camp, mostly people who were not birders and would otherwise not have noticed them. Both birds compliantly posed within good distance for those with a zoom or tele lens. We shared our binoculars with the rest. A lot of excitement and pleasure was generated amongst campers. All agreed it was a beautiful sight to start the day. Our pleasure grew as well.

We wondered would this be an everyday occurrence at this waterhole but on our third and last morning, no kingfishers appeared at all.

This is but one example from this trip of how a small pleasure shared is a pleasure multiplied. For this reason, I must thank *Warrandyte Diary* and all my readers for the opportunity each month to share such pleasures with you.

Goodness me! Memories of Joh

I WAS going to begin this little story by saying "Goodness me!" I've just been dipping into Hugh Lunn's bio of Joh Bjelke-Petersen. A fascinating insight into people and events that could have happened only in Queensland—but also a stark reminder to stop saying "My word!" and "Goodness me!"

Perhaps my favourite example of Joh's characteristic terminology is when he fronted up for inspection by army medical officers during WWII. He aggravated them no end with suggestions for improving their equipment (including ridding themselves of German-made scales) and the examination was thereafter conducted, one gathers, in a spirit of uncooperativeness on both sides.

Having a polio-related disability, Joh subsequently failed the medical, a failure for which he was apparently grateful: "My goodness me I wouldn't like to get into the clutches of those fellows!"

Which brings me to a little café in Sheffield, Tasmania, about 20 years ago. For some inexplicable reason, the walls were thickly decorated with

framed photos of Joh and some dubious mates. I was midstream dishing out a potted history of Criminal Corruption amongst the Ruling Classes to our kids, then of primary school age, when a familiar voice rang out. "My word there's a fine pair of kiddies."

Next thing Joh was shaking their hands, enquiring what they wanted to be when they grew up and urging them to always work hard. Cringe! What had I just said? Had he overheard? We'd unwittingly walked into Flo's flamin' pumpkin scone kitchen!

Now it's "Goodness me!" all over again. This time the café I'd walked into was in Eltham. There are things you just don't do at the breakfast table, are there not?

Waiting for a steaming mug of long black to cool a little, I surveyed the other customers. The adjacent table was a long one. Seven seats were taken by people who seemed to be on their way to work—some in business clothes, others wearing neat customer service shirts with navy skirts. The table was littered with folders, pens, card-

our place

By MARILYN MOORE

board boxes and an untidy scatter of sealed plastic bags. Perhaps this was some sort of before-work staff meeting?

Perhaps not. Somebody fiddled with a stack of cellophane-wrapped items, while somebody else pulled on a pair of white surgical gloves. Another lady scabbled about in a toolbox and fished out some forceps and a large gadget made of surgical steel. There was a lot of excited chatter, and a fair bit of advice for one of the girls, who seemed to have become the focus of attention.

"Where do you think?"

"Just here?"

"Nah, down a bit. We might need to have a second go at it."

"EEEEK!" The prospective patient squealed. "I'm going all sweaty. I don't feel too good." She suddenly didn't look too good either, unfocussed, blanched and grey, almost too weak to fan herself. I had to stop watching. This wasn't

going down too well with my breakfast, either.

"Pass me the whatsit—quick!"

"Alcohol! Alcohol!"

"Hang on!" One of the older women jumped up. "Keep breathing love, keep breathing..."

"Oh dear, see how it's going down a bit? Tilt your head a bit this way..."

"Come on, breathe... breathe... that's it."

By now two women were holding up the fainting patient, and the buzz of chatter gave way to a deadly hush.

"Thunk!"

"Yay!" Excited applause from all concerned. "She didn't even flinch!"

A man in a suit, who had run outside, ran back with something in his hand. A little packet. New earrings! More excited chatter, during which it became evident that a couple of others were queuing up for the same treatment. Somebody's phone rang, and a message got passed back that they'd be a bit late for work.

Definitely time to leave. "My goodness me I wouldn't like to get into the clutches of those fellows!"

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Warrandyte community supports young artists

By VAL POLLEY

If you've admired the graceful, sculptural wrought iron "Warrandyte" signs as you drive into the township, then you've admired the work of Malcolm Laurence, winner of the 1997 Warrandyte Youth Arts Award.

An affirmation, if one was needed, of the success of this community based, long running award program.

Conceived in 1988 as a collaborative project between the Warrandyte Lions Club (the sole sponsor) and the Warrandyte Arts and Education Trust (publishers of the *Diary*), the biennial grant program has gone from strength to strength.

The numbers speak for themselves. There have been 90 applicants, 80 finalists and 13 recipients. Over the decades it has involved some 50 committee members and 260 voluntary assessors, not to mention lots of proud family supporters.

The award is offered to young artists with a Warrandyte connection from across the broadest spectrum of artistic endeavour.

So how does the program work? Applications are called for through the *Warrandyte Diary* and in past years applications have numbered anything between three and 15 and all applicants have a primary

interview. From the earliest time, it had been decided that each candidate would be allotted three assessors who were outstanding artists in their particular field, to judge their work because applicants come from a wide range of disciplines.

After the assessments are received a committee comprising three members each from the Lions Club and the Arts Trust meets so the often difficult decision making can begin. To maintain the integrity of the award the committee looks for both artistic merit and potential while ensuring the award goes to where it can do most good.

So difficult is this process that in the first years the prize was twice split between two candidates but this was not regarded as a good thing so now deliberations continue until a clear winner emerges.

There is little doubt that a major strength of the program is the assessment process with assessors from the highest echelon of their professions being nominated, such as Inge King for sculpture and Michaela Kirkdale for ballet.

Assessors are asked to give really honest responses to two questions about the candidate. Whether they are likely to enjoy success or contribute in a substantial

way to their chosen field in years to come and whether they will benefit from the financial support at that point in their career.

The process may take several months and involves assessors viewing performances, reviewing work or occasionally inviting the candidate to work alongside them. What emerges is the realisation that the journey is just as important as the award.

Jock Macneish, who has been involved with the program since its inception, has seen candidates expand their horizons and come to a greater self-realisation through their interaction with their assessors. He pointed out that it is definitely not just the award winners who have benefitted from the program.

Melissa King, the TV gardening guru, was one candidate who did not win the award but went on to realise her ambition. Likewise pianist Phoebe Briggs who played for her assessors and although did not receive the award found herself at Covent Garden within a few months and has progressed to be a valued repetiteur with Opera Australia.

So what of the winners? Many of them have indeed proceeded to demonstrate outstanding achievements in their field.

The very first recipient of the award was jeweller Bridget Liddell in 1989. Bridget has had a very successful career with both joint and solo exhibitions, awards and now runs her own successful Courthouse Gallery in Broome. Ballet dancer Gabrielle Davidson was a 1991 winner. Described by her assessors as totally dedicated with great dramatic quality she became a Coryphée with the Australian Ballet, dancing in Australia and overseas with many well known dancers including Mao's last dancer Li Cunxin. She now practises as a physiotherapist and teaches classical ballet.

In 1993 it was the turn of Peter Daverington an aerosol artist. Some residents may remember he was commissioned by the Warrandyte Festival Committee to execute a mural on the big column under the Warrandyte Bridge, a work which remained untouched for years.

After travelling widely throughout the world Peter now lives in New York and is a world renowned artist, winning numerous awards and now has his works represented in a number of collections.

James Egglestone, who was the award recipient in 1999 has become well known as one of Australia's finest young tenors. His assessors

were struck by his voice potential, great promise and predicted he was destined for a successful career. He graduated from the Victorian College of the Arts and the Melba Conservatorium of Music and was a recipient of a 2004 Johnston Bequest and a Belcanto Scholarship enabling him to study overseas. He sings with many opera companies including Opera Australia to great acclaim.

Assessors also gave glowing reports of award recipient Liam Gough in 2007. His portfolio ranged from innovative furniture to fine art and one assessor declared if Liam had asked for a job he would have given him one on the spot.

At his award night Liam indicated he intended to travel overseas for postgraduate studies.

Award nights are also one of the strengths of the program. They provide the opportunity for the applicants to get together, to meet with Lion's Club and Arts Trust members and hear a noted speaker give an address. It was a wonderful "full circle" moment when Gabrielle Davidson was welcomed back as guest speaker 18 years after winning the award.

An innovation at the most recent award night was to invite the winner's assessors as well as family and friends

and this turned out to be a brilliant success.

Applications have just closed for the 2012/13 award and it's exciting to wait to see which branches of the arts will be represented this time round. Dance and double bass, glass blowers and graphic artists, fashion and textile designers, singers and sculptors have all been amongst the disciplines represented in the past. The diversity has been breathtaking.

Warrandyte can consider itself a fortunate community to have so many extremely talented young artists in its midst.

Jock Macneish believes that the Youth Arts Award has led to a significant number of young people realising that they live in an exceptional community that wants to support them to achieve their potential in their chosen profession.

At the same time there is little doubt the award has meant the community has been made aware of the exceptional young talent that exists within it.

The Warrandyte Lions Club and the Warrandyte Arts and Education Trust are deserving of thanks and congratulations for carrying on Warrandyte's artistic heritage by investing faith, work and funds into the upcoming generation.

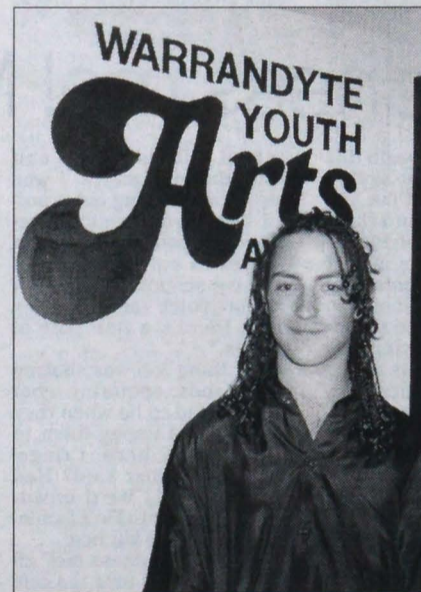


HONOUR ROLL

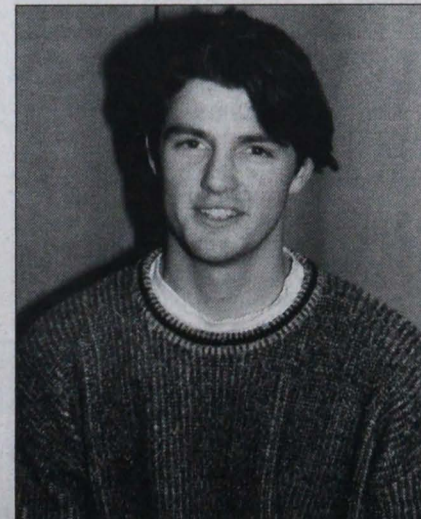
- 1989 Bridget Liddell
Jewellery Design
- 1991 Gabrielle Davidson
Ballet Dancer
- 1991 Andrew Horne
Oil Painter
- 1993 Peter Daverington
Aerosol Artist
- 1993 Kathleen Adcock
Opera Singer
- 1995 Isla Shaw
Theatre Design
- 1997 Malcolm Laurence
Metal Sculpture
- 1999 James Egglestone
Singer
- 2001 Baden Hall
Jewellery
- 2003 Erin McKimm
Computer Generated Music
- 2007 Liam Gough
Industrial Design
- 2009 Domenico de Rosa
Animation and Illustration
- 2011 Vaughan Howard
Architecture and Interior Design



Gabrielle Davidson, Ballet Dancer

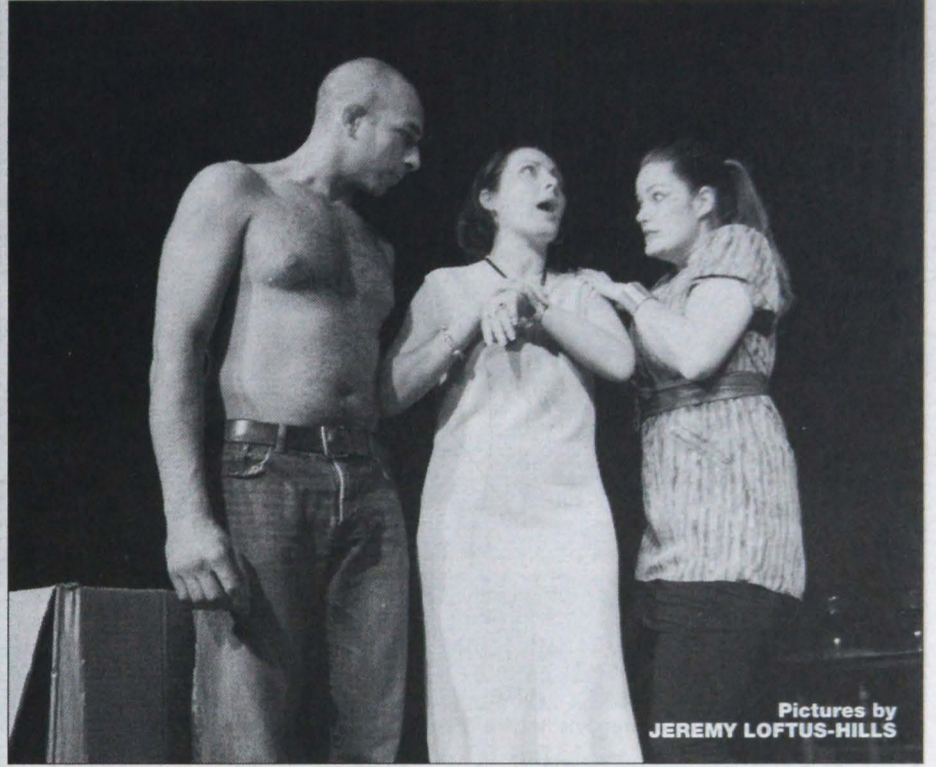


Andrew Horne, Painter



James Egglestone, Opera Singer

One-acters score again



Pictures by JEREMY LOFTUS-HILLS

WARRANDYTE Theatre Company this year treated us to not three but four one-act plays over a two-week season. *Android Upgrade* and *Ferris Wheel* were very short plays—effectively vignettes—while *A Talk in the Park*, being part of a much bigger work, was driven by an obscure theme—story and character were secondary. *Father's Day* occupied the bulk of the first half and was the only truly character driven play.

Ferris Wheel opened the show. The story takes place in the confines of a ferris wheel seat, where strangers Dorie (Amy Johnston) and John (Tony Clayton) share their fears, addictions, life stories and the occasional kiss, all in the space of a few, occasionally manic, revolutions. Dorie is afraid of heights and John is addicted to smoking. Playwright Mary Miller's day job is as health activist and educator in the United States. This helps explain its unusual context, and the ease with which it deals with the Dorie's phobia and John's addiction.

When the ferris wheel's mechanism fails, John and Dorie are suspended high above the fairground where their stress levels reach fever pitch.

theatre
By JEREMY LOFTUS-HILLS

This is part entertainment, part polemic as we witness each enduring what for them is a high pressure situation. He is denying himself a cigarette in her company, her agoraphobia is exacerbated by the mechanical failure. Tony and Amy played well together, although the tension between his romantic interest in, and intermittent paternalism towards Dorie needed further work. Amy's contained hysteria was a study in controlled delivery and undulating moods.

The coming together of strangers was a theme we would meet repeatedly. John and Dorie alight from the repaired ferris wheel, then the fade from black reveals an old man (Peter Muirhead) listening to strains of an Italian Opera, while his daughter keeps house for him in the second play *Father's Day*.

Written by little known Welsh playwright Allan Williams, it is essentially a dramatic two-hander between a lonely old man and a confused young thief. The 35 minute

play is directed by Adrian Rice who quickly establishes the context and central character, and goes on to explore their relationship as well as the script allows. The churning plot and testosterone fuelled violence of the youth contrasts with the slow delivery and arthritic movements of the old man.

Father's Day introduces two new actors to the Warrandyte stage—Peter Muirhead and Farhad Zawala. Through the play's several turning points it's Muirhead who manages the transitions with the kind of nuance a Welshman might imagine, while Zawala turns from aggressive bully to cringing victim a little too suddenly at times. Nevertheless the play proved a tour de force, especially for those who live alone in the Warrandyte hills.

A Talk in the Park opens the second half. It is written by well-known English playwright Alan Ayckbourn, and is the fifth of five acts in his full-length play *Confusions*. It is set in a park, where four individuals sit alone at first, then one by one try dumping their troubles on their unsuspecting neighbours. The domino effect is initiated by Arthur (Peter Muirhead) who is abandoned mid-sentence by Beryl (Meaghan O'Connor) who then tries to dump on Charles (David Creedon) who does the same to Doreen (Noelene Cooper), then it's Ernest (Tony Clayton) who refuses to listen and yes, you guessed it, Ernest tries dumping on Arthur, completing the circle.

While the performances are good, notably Noelene Cooper's, the play lacks context, is predictable and ends in a pitiful anticlimax. In fact it is often not included in *Confusions* for these reasons. Nevertheless it punches home the theme of social alienation loved amongst contemporary playwrights (notwithstanding the fact that it was first performed in 1974), our local theatre group, and was well-matched to the themes already developed in the preceding plays.

The night ends on a bawdy note with NSW writer Vee Malnar's 10-minute quickie *Android Upgrade*. This is a snapshot of a moment in the future, and stars Angela (Amber Little) and Larissa (Peta Owen-Palmer) who unwrap and engage with fully formed male sex toy Wayne (George Iskander). The action focuses on female expressed and repressed sexuality and the ways these energies might play out socially and emotionally, with the prospect of perfect sex from android Wayne.

The four plays were well supported by stage manager Louise Phelan and sound designer and operator David Tynon. Lighting designer Ian Craig solved many of the hall's unique lighting challenges with aplomb, especially evident in *Father's Day* where his design helped amplify the changing moods. Denise Farran did another great job with the costumes and set design. These were simple, functional and supportive of story, mood and action.

Best performance this year goes to Peter Muirhead. While his roles were limited in scope and depth, he brought a presence and focus to bear on a lonely old man that many found moving. We make special mention of Amy Johnston who was able to make something quite hysterical out of not much at all. A great debut by Simone Kiefer who beat the odds, keeping the audience engaged in plays with little or no action.

Some found that the plays themselves were relatively vacuous; leaving one with little to digest afterwards, yet they were well attended and brought new talent to our local company. We look forward to Joanna Murray-Smith's much heralded play *Bombshells* opening in late spring. Adrian Rice has already cast the play and rehearsals are just getting underway. For more about *Bombshells* go to www.warrandytehallarts.asn.au.

For Sheridan (Bajada)



We met because we loved to dance.
You were small, dark and passionate,
and we spoke of Cuba.
You'd been there and loved it—
It had always been my dream.

And you lived your dreams—
Hurling yourself into them, in Cuba—dancing the salsa
picking oranges, with all your joyous enthusiasm.
Even after the shock diagnosis you said,
"I can beat this."

So you still kept dancing
as you faded away.
This wasn't going to slow
you down, "I must get on with life,
of course I can beat this."

So sudden, so random.
One day you no longer could.
And you let go
of it all.

I can't think of Cuba or dancing, now
without thinking of you:

of your house with the special fairy room for your
grandkids;
of your buying Christmas presents
for all your nurses in the oncology ward;
and of the way
you loved to dance...

And I'm far away, and can't say Goodbye—
I want to be home on my soil
to plant a tree for you—
something bright and vital
that lifts everyone's lives—
and dances in the wind.

KAREN THROSSELL



Advice on tap: Information Warrandyte volunteers at their temporary home in the Warrandyte Community Church.

Information, Warrandyte style

Words and picture by MICHELLE PINI

Information Warrandyte's president, John McMahon remembers a visit from two Swiss tourists who came in to book a campsite in Alexander Road: "I didn't know such a place existed and there was no available information on the data base, yet they had heard about it in Switzerland!"

The service provides free information, advice and referral on a plethora of topics including leisure and recreation, tourist information, transport, community services and emergency aid. "Sometimes people ring for directions to historical sites or obscure buildings; others need advice or referral on a variety of social or personal issues," John told the *Diary*.

Of the 3000 enquiries received over the last financial year, approximately 60 per cent originated from visitors to the area, with the remainder coming from Manningham and Nillumbik residents.

With a vision "to provide free, confidential and impartial community information

and support services to the public", Information Warrandyte receives enquiries which range from the mundane to the bizarre.

Coordinator, Kathy Elliott recalls a phone call from someone who purchased a deceased estate and upon moving in, found a skull in a box. Advised to contact the police with a possible additional referral to the Historical Society, the outcome of the enquiry is unknown. As Kathy puts it, "we receive the questions—we rarely discover the upshot of our answers".

Funded by Manningham council and staffed by an army of some 30 dedicated volunteers, the service is a member agency of Community Information and Support Victoria, which is made up of more than 65 agencies providing information to some 330,000 clients throughout Victoria annually.

Volunteers undergo training in areas such as interviewing skills and confidentiality, research skills, record management and emergency situations with an emphasis on confidential and impartial

referral and service.

John explains: "Staff are trained and receive guidance, particularly in dealing with people, sometimes with complex needs, in a non-judgemental and truly impartial way."

Information Warrandyte is the descendant of the Warrandyte Citizens Advice Bureau, which like many services in Warrandyte, was the product of community-minded locals, Jean Chapman and Louise Joy.

Calling to mind its inception, Jean says: "We used to have a Warrandyte Advice Committee, affectionately known as 'the wac' which set up sub-committees to provide various services and as I was always there, people would often come in and enquire about things such as bus timetables or historical points of interest."

Jean doesn't recall who came up with the idea to start a citizen's advice bureau but businesses started providing information about themselves and the need for a dedicated information service grew. Jean, together with Louise Joy

and Ken McKenzie, researched other advice bureaux, took courses in client liaison and records management and obtained the necessary funding and authorisation. The service was born in 1986.

Information Warrandyte is currently housed in the Warrandyte Community Church and the E-library while the Warrandyte Community Centre is upgraded. Pastor David Molyneux described the temporary relocation to the church as "providing a great opportunity to connect with the community in a different way and learn about things of which we were previously unaware".

● Information Warrandyte is at the Community Church, 57 Yarra Street, between 10am and 4pm weekdays and 12.30-3.30pm Sundays. It is also open between 2-4pm on weekdays and 9am-12 noon on Saturdays at the E-library, 100 Melbourne-Hill Road.

● To volunteer or for further information contact Information Warrandyte, phone 9844 3082.

New book by Diary poet

By **CHERIE MOSELEN**

Diary resident poet Karen Throssell's book of poetry, "Chain of Hearts", was launched last month at Melbourne's Collected Works Bookshop.

Introduced by fellow writer and award winning poet John Jenkins, this is Karen Throssell's third published book of verse.

The launch was held at a venue of some significance for emerging and accomplished poets, being the only bookshop in Melbourne dedicated solely to poetry and philosophy, and was attended by Karen's family, friends and fellow poets.

Many of these poems were first published in the *Warrandyte Diary*.

In his affectionate address, Mr Jenkins described some poems as "highly personal and emotionally edgy," while others set in domestic interiors conveyed "an immediate sense of warmth and inclusion".

He said that some of the family poems "register shocks to the soul, as only the surprise loss of loved ones can detonate," yet distinguished the book as "an essay in quiet hope".

In contrast to many of the book's home-centred poems, Mr Jenkins spoke of those about travel and the open road, suggesting these allowed for "wider, humanistic engagement".

Several of the biographical poems create links in a chain of remarkable writers that include Karen's father Ric Throssell (author of some 26 plays and works of non-fiction), and her grandmother Katherine Susannah Prichard, noted Australian novelist, whose works include 13 novels, translated into more than a dozen languages.

Ms Throssell has been writing both non-fiction and poetry for almost three decades and told the *Diary* that for her, writing poetry is a unique way to express both the personal and the political.

"It's satisfying because I can encapsulate an idea or an image in just a few words, whereas it can take an entire page of prose to express the same," she said.

"For some writers, poetry is a competitive sport where the goal is to be as obscure as possible. However, I try to be accessible in my writing because I feel if something is worth saying, then it should be readily understood."

Karen Throssell has spent her working life developing and empowering communities, both locally and globally, and is currently employed as the Co-ordinator of the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House.

● Copies of "Chain of Hearts" can be purchased for \$15 from Karen Throssell by emailing her at karenthrossell@gmail.com.



Karen Throssell with John Hamilton at the launch of her new collection of poems.



Remembering 50 golden years...

Warrandyte Senior Citizens have been performing their annual variety concerts for local audiences for 50 years! Known as "55 Plus", the group (pictured) is marking this occasion with a special program, reintroducing a selection of items from across their 50 Golden Years—a presentation full of singing, dancing, instrumental and comedy, all in colourful costumes. The program—suitable for all ages—is being presented at the Warrandyte Senior Citizens Hall at 1-3 Tarroona

Avenue, Warrandyte in only two performances:

● **CONCERT** Saturday, November 17, at 1pm. \$14 donation includes afternoon tea. To book ring Alan on 9738 2216.

● **CABARET** Friday, November 30 at 7.15pm. \$10 donation includes tea and coffee plus BYO everything else. Includes some additional items. For cabaret bookings ring Allan on 9877 1077.

● Bookings open on Monday, October 1. Please book as early as possible.

Eight is enough for Treeby

By COURTNEY PETALAS

PHIL Treeby, who steps down as Warrandyte Football Club president after eight years at the helm, encourages young adults involved with the club to become more reliant on themselves as "financial and volunteer support just isn't there any more".

"I just cannot understand why more parents do not take the opportunity to be involved as their young men grow up - they don't resent your involvement, and you become very close mates with them," Treeby says.

His work with the club has helped set it up for the future while keeping focus on the relationship with the junior club ensures that U19s will participate in the competition.

"They are the lifeblood of the senior sides," he says.

In Treeby's early days as president, hard decisions were made to encourage and develop a community-based culture within the club, a facet, he says, that the community believed had slipped.

"It took some very mature decisions by players to make the right choices to re-establish the community culture and we are proud to say that it is well recognised that they have achieved this," the outgoing president says.

"We have a community friendly club and a group of committed young players."

One of the club's greatest achievements during Treeby's tenure as president of WJFC was winning the 2006 Division 4 senior grand

final against Whitehorse Pioneers at Mitcham in the centennial year of the club.

"It makes you extremely proud when you see all the young guys grow and develop when they could have easily gone down the wrong track," Treeby says.

Though his time as president was not without its rewards, there were challenges and difficult times with the loss of his close friends and committee members Terry Sloan and Jim Logan in 2011, and the loss of Brian Williams in February this year.

Under Treeby's leadership, the football club, along with Warrandyte Cricket Club, Warrandyte Junior Football Club and the Warrandyte Netball Club have recently teamed

up to form the Warrandyte Sporting Club.

Assistance from the Manningham Council, Member for Warrandyte Ryan Smith and the State Government, will allow the Warrandyte Sporting Club to build a new pavilion with the new change rooms located underneath the function rooms maintaining the current footprint.

Players will be able to run into the rooms directly from the ground and the facilities above will be first-class, designed to also meet the needs of the Warrandyte Netball Club.

Treeby will continue to volunteer his time on the committee, encouraging more parents and others interested in becoming involved with the club and embrace the value of volunteering.



THREE JUNIOR BLOODS TEAMS REACH GRAND FINALS

THEY may not have come home with a flag, but Warrandyte Junior Football Club's U10s, U12s and Colts teams were able to hold their heads high after hard-fought battles in the Yarra Junior Football League's grand finals last month.

The coaches sent in their season wrap to the *Diary*:

Tacklers

By the end of the season all players improved in skill and teamwork, with continued dominant ruck displays and getting kicks off under pressure. There were some aggressive attacks on the ball, hard tackling, good marks and courageous play that developed the players into a strong team.

Under 10s (runners-up)

Coaches were impressed that the boys were all great teammates, all playing for each other and working as one. Each player respected one another and the role they had in the team. A real strength was our competitiveness: we attack the ball hard, tackle hard, shepherd for each other, our opposition always knew they were in for a battle against the spirited Under 10s Bloods. Best and fairest was Finn Swedosh.

Under 11s

Moving into Brown division was a big step. The boys started the season with a strong win, however, injuries and playing against some very good teams resulted in the team struggling for consistency. But the boys never gave up, always battling it out and giving their best until the final siren. The first half of the season resulted in only a couple of wins, the second saw a five-game winning streak against teams higher on the ladder. However, towards the end of the season form dropped a little and the boys missed finals contention on percentage. U11s finished fifth on the ladder with eight wins.

Under 12s (runners-up)

The back end of the season saw U12s finish with seven wins and nine losses, despite strong efforts against some strong opposition. While the team lacked height and sometimes strength, they were a fast and determined bunch who met every challenge. The boys finished on a high, winning their final two games and finishing fifth on the ladder. Best and fairest winner was Quinn Clark, followed by Darcy Poole and Ben Vermeulen-Brown.

Under 13s

The U13s' "train hard, play harder" motto rang true with all 26 players this season. As a result, they sang the club victory song eight times. The boys improved as a team, and individually, showing strong football knowledge and mateship. It was a credit to the boys and parents for committing to training for two nights and an optional third



No, it isn't a "chicken wing": Under 10s player Michael Greenwood shows terrific sportsmanship during the Grand Final by helping an injured opponent. The young Bloods (inset) fought valiantly but were defeated by Kew. The Colts and Under 12s were also runners up. Pictures: GARETH DICKSON

special skills night. Going into the last round of the season, the boys sat third on the ladder, however, having a second bye in the last round resulted in a very disappointing "push" to fifth, therefore stripping the U13s of their chance at finals. Congratulations to all the U13s for an outstanding season and particularly to Liam Taylor for winning the league U13s second Best and Fairest. Club Awards went to: Liam Taylor best and fairest, second Steven Garrick, third Hayden Lennon, coaches Award Ari Kakris, most improved Alex Royal, most determined Caillen Pyke, best team man Callum Pynt.

Under 14s

Short on numbers from the start, the players and coaching group went on a recruiting drive and with the inclusion of Ash, Shamus, Dylan, Callum, Lachie and Shane,

the team was able to get on the park each week. All of a sudden new blood equalled new enthusiasm and, even though wins were hard to come by, the personal development of the group on a team and individual basis was improving weekly. While we wanted the boys to really enjoy their footy, the highlight of the year was some of the gameplans the boys grasped, such as the huddle and centre clearances. This was fantastic as we were rebuilding with our new group of players, not just for this year but also for the future.

Under 15s

Improvement and ability was proven as the year went on. After a slow start, the teamwork and belief in one another was the foundation for the boys heading into finals. As each week went by the confidence in all players grew and the team gelled. The highlight of the year

was that every player kicked a goal during the season. There were not one or two heroes, but 24 committed players who wanted to play for each other.

Colts (runners-up)

The WJFC Colts finished off the year with two critical finals appearances after finishing on top of the Division 2 Colts ladder. The first final against second-placed St Damians, played at Templestowe Reserve, was an opportunity to recover from two losses against the Saints during the home-and-away season.

The Bloods were magnificent and played four great quarters of football to run out winners (15.16.106 to 3.5.23) and headed straight into the Grand Final. A very even team performance was inspired by the dynamic Harry Vogler, Zach Ballard and a powerful midfield group backed up by both a tight defence

and an effective forward line. The Division 2 Grand Final, which was played as a curtain raiser, was a different story with the Bloods going down to the Camberwell Sharks by about 40 points. Our combined bottom and top-age Colts struggled to match the bigger and more physical Sharks, but battled out the game right to the end.

Despite the loss, it was a tremendous season, having moved up a division after three games and finishing on top of the ladder.

Ruby Tuesday Girls

Completing only its second season as a team, the Ruby's are forever improving - the girls' satisfaction coming from being the best they can, and improving skills and structure every week.

The coaches were proud of the girls for what they have achieved throughout the season both individually and as a team.



Smashing form

Super 16 compete in 'Olympics'

By MICHELLE PINI

SIXTEEN Warrandyte Tennis Hot Shots competed in the MLC Tennis Olympics held at the Epping Leisure Centre last month.

More than 100 children aged five to 11 wore coloured T-shirts to identify the country they were chosen to represent. They met new friends and learned to work as part of a team.

As well as tennis, the Hot Shots competitors were involved in Olympic sports including soccer, basketball, European handball, long jump, sprinting relays, javelin (vortex throwing) and discus. All players received an engraved, gold participation medal and tennis showbags.

MLC Tennis Hot Shots is a program for primary school-aged children using smaller courts, lighter racquets and low compression balls.

2012 Supersmashers

The Supersmashers program is in its ninth year at Warrandyte Tennis Club, an ideal program for younger children who have little or no previous tennis experience. Participants are placed in groups according to their age and skill level and every child in the program receives a free Smashpak consisting of a tennis racquet, cap, T-shirt and other giveaways. The program runs on Sundays at 10.30am to noon between



Hot Shot: Kyle Salomons in action. Photos Denise Illing, Craig Haslam.

October 21 and November 25. Cost is \$90.

Holiday Programs

Warrandyte Tennis Club is offering programs for children and adults during the September school holidays, including half and full day junior clinics and adult cardio tennis. There will also be half and full day junior competitions over two days.

For further information on Supersmashers, Tennis Hot Shots or Holiday Programs contact Craig Haslam at info@thetennishotshots.com.au or phone 0488 722 538.

Eastern Region finals update

Despite a winter season plagued with washouts, the Warrandyte teams competed well with three making finals. The Warrandyte Rubbers 6 team beat Doncaster in a close semi-final contest and then went on to beat Manchester Heights in the grand final earlier this month. Hewitt Murray and Campbell Prior kept spectators on the edge of their seats for the duration of the match.

The BSD7 and BSD22 Green teams were beaten in semi finals by Mt Evelyn and Lilydale.

Junior Diamond Valley comp

The spirit of Spring Junior competition was evident in a recent match between the Warrandyte 6 team and Kangaroo Ground. Warrandyte's Tony Honeyborne received a call earlier this month from Kangaroo Ground's Junior Convenor who praised the sportsmanship and conduct of the Warrandyte team. It seems the girls, while waiting for other games to conclude, even teamed up with opposing team members for a friendly doubles game. The convenor said that such friendly competition was rarely seen and described the girls as wonderful ambassadors for Warrandyte and relayed the message that the Kangaroo Ground team "couldn't wait for the re-match in Warrandyte".



Black Caviar an ace down the straight

IN true champion style, Neil Sproat, president of Warrandyte Tennis Club and captain of 'Black Caviar' led his team to an impressive win in the final of section 4 mixed Lilydale and District Night Tennis Association (Wednesday night competition) recently.

Black Caviar took on team POW from Croydon, winning the night in straight sets, 36 games to 16. Team member Sam Dell'Aglio said the game was "very competi-

tive and intense at the start, with both teams bringing out their best power serves and cracking ground shots but then pre-match warm up finished, and the game match started."

Sproat dedicated the win to the late Mark Bence. Winners: Neil Sproat (Captain), Adam Waugh, Nicole Hogan, Pauline Doherty and Sam Dell'aglio.



Athletes run hot in Adelaide

THREE East Doncaster Little Athletics Club members performed well as part of the Victorian state team at the recent National Cross Country Championships in Adelaide.

Abbey Caldwell ran seventh in U11s. Charlie Thompson and Tim Caldwell (U14s) placed 31st and 32nd individually and then scored a fourth in their teams event.

Summer Little Athletics season starts in October for children of all abilities, ages five to 15.

Registration day is September 15 from 9am to noon at Rieshiecks Reserve, George St, Doncaster. Or visit: https://memberdesq.imgstg.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=Registration_0&OrgID=1370

Choose 'Doncaster Centre' and then 'East Doncaster Club'.

For more information: call Margaret Kelly on 0447 693 561 or coaching director Peter Sharpe on 0413 777 107.

Hang time: Eilish Kelly (left) puts her best foot forward in the long jump while Patrick Ward (right) prepares to unleash a monster throw.



Bloods' junior push

By RYAN HOIBERG

WARRANDYTE Cricket Club has signalled its push for youth development with the appointment of Steve Minns as club coach.

Minns, formerly of Blackburn North, worked on junior development at Ringwood and also coached a representative team to victory at last year's inter-association carnival.

The Warrandyte Club's committee, under president Ben Taylor, hopes the youth development will in turn feed into the senior side.

The appointment of Minns across both squads ensures a smooth transition for all juniors wishing to continue their relations with the club.

Minns, with junior administrator Geoff Taylor, will help run and establish this season's junior program, beginning 4.30pm every Wednesday at the Warrandyte cricket nets at Warrandyte Reserve. Taylor will ensure easy registration for all juniors, while Minns uses his experience to ensure the full enjoyment and competitive ability of the junior squads.

Taylor will also be taking control of the U14s and Minns will personally instruct the U16 squad. These squads will continue to nurture fantastic young cricketers from Warrandyte to represent the area on the field, looking to join Junior Club Champion 2011-12, Joel Bumpstead.

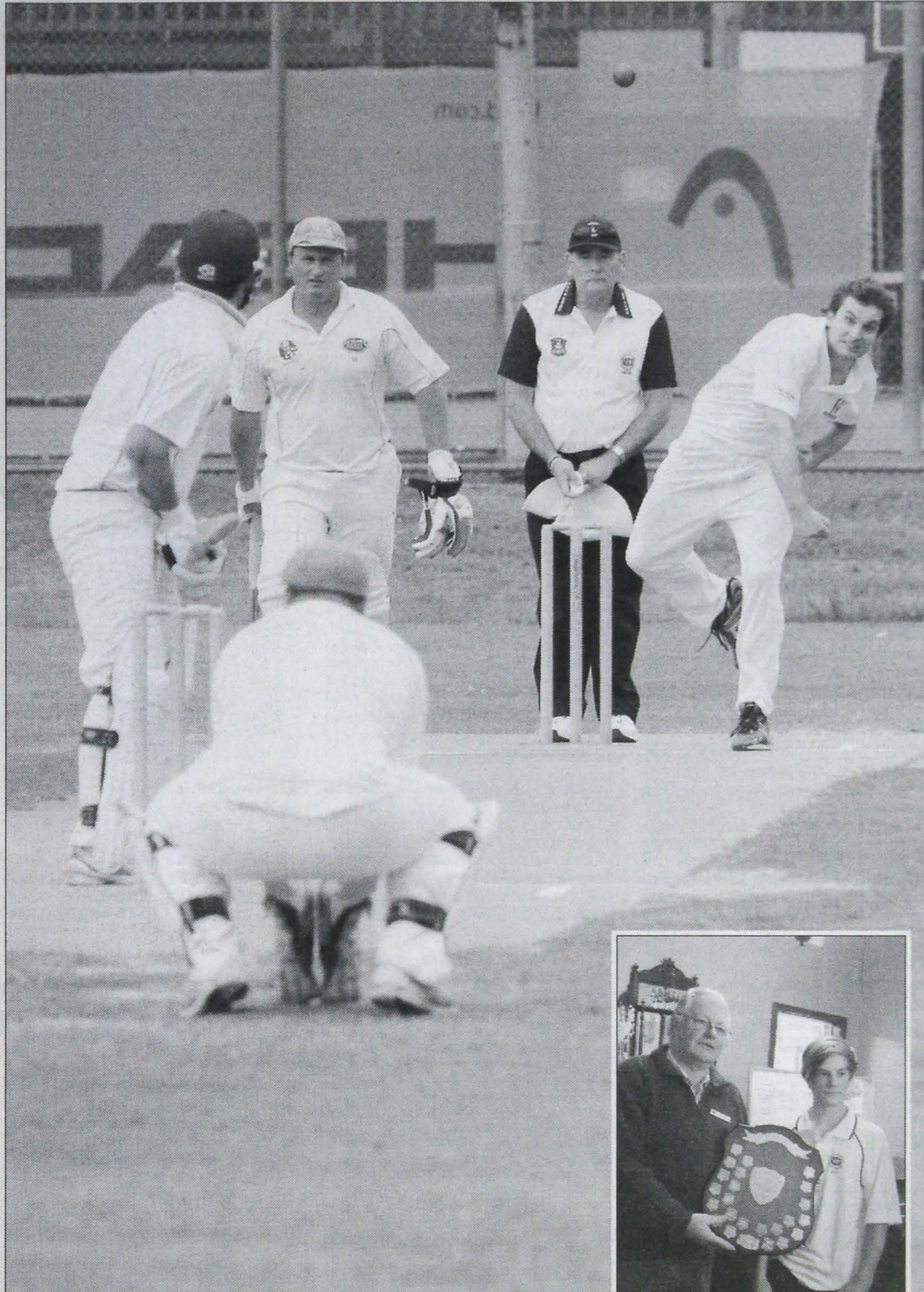
Further pushing the importance of a junior program, the Warrandyte Cricket Club has ensured Milo Cricket will continue under the experienced eye of Steve Pascoe. The Milo Cricket clinics will be for children aged 5 to 9, beginning Friday, November 2 at 5.30pm for a 6pm start. The club has also announced the coaches of other junior sides, with Marty Rostron (U10s) and Chris Jackson (U12s) volunteering to help coach the teams competing on a Friday night.

The club will be holding clinics for preps and Grades 1 and 2 at Andersons Creek Primary School on Monday, October 22 and Warrandyte Primary School, Wednesday, October 24.

The Junior Family Night will be held on Friday, October 19, 7pm at the Warrandyte clubrooms.

In other club news, Warrandyte's senior squad will again field four teams, with the veterans announcing two Over 40 teams, an Over 50 and an Over 60 team.

The senior team will hold its season launch on Thursday, October 4 after training. All players are welcome to attend training and visit the club website for information on the training schedule and track down contact details.



Back in action: Cricket returns for season 2012/13. Inset: Last season's Junior Club Champion, Joel Bumpstead, with keen supporter Ian Shugg.



Wright brothers run hot

WARRANDYTE Primary School students Hugo Wright, 8 (above), and his little brother Archie Wright, 5 (below), are carving their own path in the snowfields after putting in solid performances in the Inter-schools Skiing Championships at Mt Hotham this season. Hugo and Archie both raced in the Alpine Giant Slalom event in the Under 10 category. Archie was the youngest in the field and zoomed down with a solid time of 24 seconds. Hugo scored an impressive second place in the division with a time of 18.06 seconds in a 16-strong field. The word on the street is there are more children skiing in Victoria's snowfields from both Warrandyte Primary School and Andersons Creek than ever before and 2013 could be a big year for Warrandyte in winter sports.



All abilities lawn bowls

PEOPLE of all ages, abilities and bowling experience are invited to an All Abilities Lawn Bowling Tournament in nearby Hurstbridge at 10.30am on Sunday, September 23. Participants can sign up as an individual or a team. Each team of three must include at least one bowler with a disability. The Graham Fraser Lawn Bowling Tournament is an annual event presented by Hurstbridge Bowling Club. The event costs \$15 (including lunch) and those interested should book this week by contacting Steve Odgers on 0418 126 895 or Lorraine Oliver on 0418 373 997.

October b'ball camps

IN the second week of the coming school holidays (October 2 to October 5) Warrandyte Basketball's senior Venom coaches will be running four camps aimed at the Venom program ahead of tryouts, which commence on Sunday, October 7. In particular, Gerard Leonard and Justin Nelson will be taking players through the newly developed Venom offences, which will be introduced across the whole program in season 2012/13. Registrations are now open for the Venom camps and forms are available on the club website at www.warrandyte.basketball.net.au Camp 1 is a Venom Intensity day for all current and new Venom players, Camp 2 is a Shooting and Footwork day for all current and new Venom players, Camp 3 is a day covering the new offences for U12 and U14 Venom boys and girls, while Camp 4 is a day covering the new offences for U16 and U18 Venom boys and girls. Book early as places are limited.

Hawks set to swoop in season 2012/13

By FRANS BROUWER

HAWTHORN'S Hawks may be favourites for this year's AFL premiership, but the cricketing Hawks of South Warrandyte are also preparing for big things after finishing sixth last season.

The May AGM saw a new 17-person committee elected. Barry Williams, Scott Brasher and Alan Duffus (President, VP and Treasurer) continue, but the long-serving Chris Hartrup has moved to the bench (general

committee), and Frans Brouwer will take over as Secretary. Fresh faces include Michael Crosbie, Teena and Kane Hartrup, Paul Foley and Lachlan McMahon.

After many seasons of outstanding service, captain/coach Steve Garrett has accepted an offer from Premier League club Richmond. The Hawks congratulate Steve and wish him well. Among his many achievements was to push the club from Newey (flag 2001/2) through Wilkins (flag

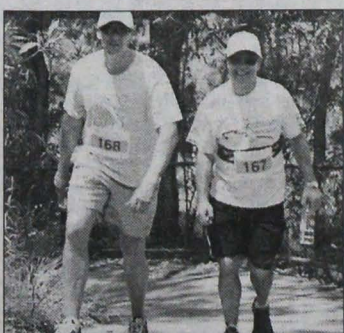
2002/3) to the club's only Chandler flag in 2006/7. Fortunately, a replacement has appeared from within the ranks with Paul Foley keen to expand from the fitness work he has done with players in past seasons.

The club expects to field three veterans teams (O50s and two O40s), five senior, and at least five junior (U16, U14, U12, U10 non-comp and Milo, with possibly a second U12).

Social activities will start early with a Ladies' Day function on

October 20 starting at Black Lime in Ringwood for finger food and drinks, an appointment with a stylist, and then returning for the end of the cricket match. For bookings contact Michael Crosbie: crosbieclimate@ho.tmail.com.

The club also would like to extend its deepest sympathy to Bob and current players Jezza and Ben on the passing of brother and uncle Merv Neagle.



Ready for a challenge: Gordon Hoen (right) and Wayne Darrington.

Locals up for the challenge

WARRANDYTE local and Upstream Foundation chairman Gordon Hoen has signed up for his eighth Upstream 50km Challenge and is encouraging others to register for the annual event.

"We are extremely proud of having raised more than \$1000 since the event began in 2005," Mr Hoen says.

"We are also very pleased that the Warrandyte community has embraced the event so enthusiastically,

with many participants supporting the event each year."

The Upstream Challenge is "a great opportunity to get together, have some fun, and raise much needed funds to support local and international projects".

The 50km Challenge, which you can either walk or run, will be held on Saturday, November 17, starting at Docklands, following the Yarra River and finishing at Donvale.

Participants can enter as an indi-

vidual, as a team or as part of a relay team. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. The event is sponsored by Upstream Print Solutions, meaning 100 per cent of funds raised will be passed on to the supported groups.

The 2012 event is supporting the following projects: Camp Quality, disability sport and recreation and the Entrust Foundation.

To register or for more information: www.upstreamfoundation.org.

Scott's rush at top of the hill

Going to the Olympics at 15 was one of many adrenalin rushes experienced by teenage snowboarding sensation Scott James. Recently he enthralled Andersons Creek Primary School students with stories of his travels and achievements in sport. He also found some time to talk with the *Diary's* BRIANNA PIAZZA.

what's
your
story!

HOW did you get involved with snowboarding and when did you decide you wanted to do it professionally?

I started doing competitions when I was about seven and then at 13 I started travelling around the world with snowboarding. I just kept going and loved it. Then I got the opportunity to go to the Olympics in 2010 when I was 15, so it has been a good journey so far.

How did it feel going to the Olympics when you were so young?

It was pretty awesome. I had a really good time when I was there and being in the village at that age was very overwhelming. I was Australia's youngest male Olympian in 50 years and it was an awesome experience for me when I was so young.

Why snowboarding?

I think snowboarding suits my personality more than any other sport. I think I'm a pretty chilled out person, although now it's getting more serious now the sport's in the Olympics. I like the adrenalin and all the things that come along with it like sponsorship, recognition and competitions.



Basically, I snowboard because I love it and it's what I want to do.

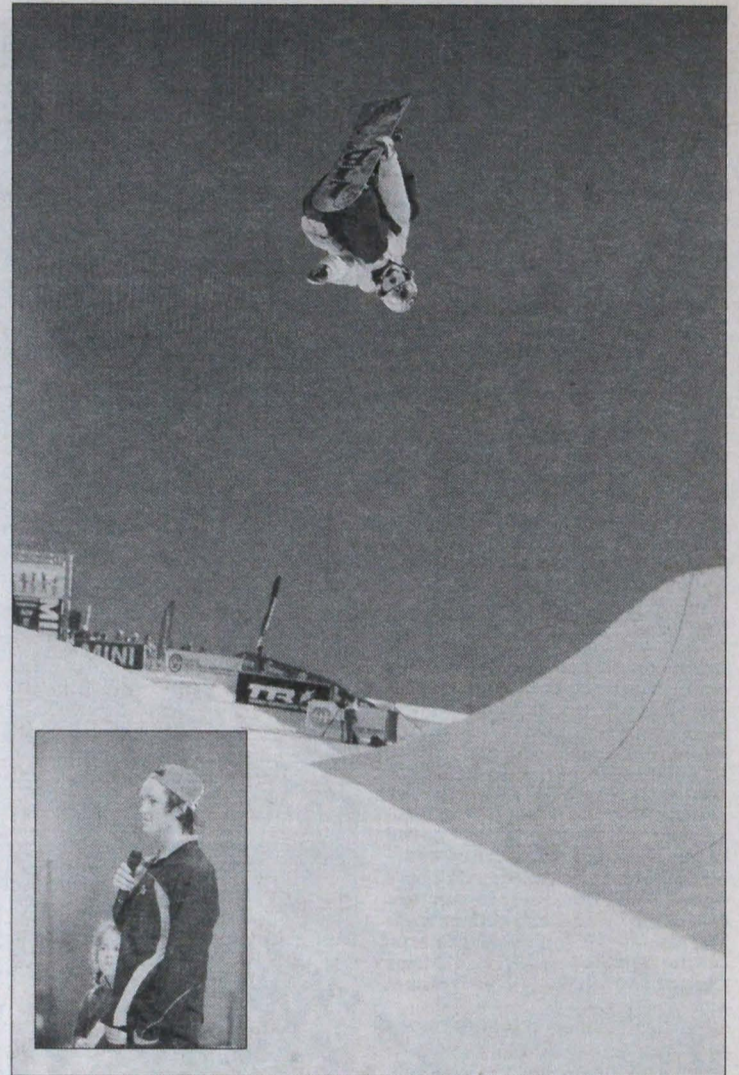
disciplines – half-pipe and slope-style. I pretty much worked my way up to become the best junior snowboarder in the world for my age, so that's an accomplishment I'm quite proud of.

Have you ever met snowboarders that have influenced you?

The snowboarding competitions aren't as strict with security like other sports, so it's cool how at such a young age you have the opportunity to speak with some well-known snowboarders – guys like Danny Davis and Shaun White. I mean, when I was 13, I was able to pretty much hang out with the best snowboarders in the world and it was never an issue. It's pretty cool because when I was younger I used to look up to them and now they are my competition.

Where is your favourite place to snowboard?

I like home best – Warrandyte is my most favourite place in the world, but from a snowboarding perspective I'd have to say probably Breckenridge and all the other resorts in Colorado. There are quite



a few good resorts in Europe as well so it's hard to judge what's best and what's worst.

What are your plans for the next few years?

I always like to plan what I'm going to do and pretty much my plan is to

do the best I can and take what I do as far as I can. I'd like to win a gold medal at either the next Olympics or the one after that. I'm still young, so it might even be the one after that. I'll just see where snowboarding takes me, and hopefully it will work out for me.

Raising the bar for the disabled

By MICHELLE PINI

FOUNDED by Warrandyte's Gail Dick, Doncaster All Abilities Basketball Competition (DAAB) is a competition for those with intellectual disabilities. The initiative began in 2001 when the special education teacher, whose own three children had always been active participants in basketball, decided the time was right the opportunity was offered to those with special needs.

It has since grown into a 200-player, 28-team competition catering for every range of ability and age-groups ranging from five to 45. Many players are unable to communicate and some are disengaged from the community.

"Lots of these kids have a tough time. One player turns up every week and she has nobody outside the competition," explains Gail.

Another 30-year-old participant, who is classified as "non-verbal", has played since the competition began and loves participating so much she can now say "basketball" and "Thursday".

"They just love it," says Gail.

"Although there is currently a big community debate about being inclusive, the fact is these kids can't get a game anywhere else."

The DAAB is sponsored by the Doncaster East Bendigo Bank and Manningham City Council with donations from other community groups such as Rotary, Lions Club and local church and community groups. Games are played at the Donvale Sporting Complex and administered by Doncaster District Community Youth Club (Doncats), who organise courts and referees.

Most players come from Manningham but anyone with a disability can play. Teams are based on age and skill level but also take into account challenges such as physical mobility, transport issues



Community support: Michelle Ellard (Bendigo Bank) presents a sponsorship cheque to Warrandyte's Brent and Lance Nillson and Gail Dick of the Doncaster All Abilities Basketball Competition. Photo: Michael Bottomer.

and social needs.

The competition is run by a steering committee of parents and friends. In many cases it provides the only opportunity for young disabled people to experience team sport in a supportive environment. Participation in sport builds relationships and a sense

of community, lifts spirits and self-esteem and encourages skills development. Some players have gone on to represent Victoria and Australia in mainstream basketball competitions.

"It's really about lifting the bar for people with disabilities and allowing them to reach their full potential.

They get to play with their mates, stay connected and do what their siblings do," Gail says.

According to chairman Lance Nillson, who has been involved with the program for eight years, players are "able to form genuine friendships and, for many, it's their only weekly recreational activity".

Lance coaches his son Brent's team and says it has had a great impact on Brent.

"It has further developed his motor skills, but perhaps more importantly has provided a sense of purpose, improved his self-esteem and helped him develop friendships that he would be unlikely to have made outside the competition."

The multitude of benefits for participants is perhaps evidenced by the high player retention rate and the fact that participants rarely miss a game.

Lance explains: "Most players play as long as they are able and only ever miss a game when it is physically impossible for them to attend."

Manningham council provides funds for operating costs and sponsorship from Bendigo Bank (now in its second year) has facilitated the appointment of a youth worker from the YMCA Youth Services to assist with supervision and administrative tasks such as registration and fixtures. Such tasks have been difficult to maintain given the growth of the competition and the fact that many of the volunteers are also carers of (sometimes multiple) children or adults with special needs and are therefore already under considerable stress.

The YMCA has also instigated a leadership program, which provides mentoring by mainstream players and assists participants in building capacity and practical skills development, such as scoring or refereeing.

"It's so important to ensure that it's sustainable for the future," says Gail, who believes the "big picture" is for each basketball club to have their own team. In the 11 years since its inception, the DAAB has become a viable community organisation.

"I love it — you just meet the best people," Gail says.

Venom's mighty season

By TONY OLIVER

WITH the Victorian Junior Basketball League finals underway, Warrandyte Venom is celebrating its best season ever with seven teams ranked inside the top 20 in Victoria, including four teams ranked inside top 12.

The results mark a landmark season for the club and, coupled with a complete player pathway through to Big V youth and senior teams, firmly places the club among the strongest basketball leagues in Australia.

When you consider that Eltham, Bulleen, Dandenong, Kilsyth, Waverley and Knox, among others, draw players from hundreds of domestic teams, the effort of the Venom program to put 31 rep-ball teams on the floor from a much smaller base of domestic teams is a wonderful achievement.

With finals about to start at Victorian Championship level, the club is proud of all its teams, including the seven that have given the club major status amongst the best in the State. Our top rankings include: Boys 12.1 (ranked 20), 14.1 (ranked 12), 16.1 (ranked 14), and Girls 12.1 (ranked 18), 16.1 (ranked 8), 18.1 (ranked 12), 20.1 (ranked 3)

"When you consider just six short years ago we had one team ranked inside the top 20 in Victoria, it highlights just how far the club has come," said general manager Justin Nelson.

"It is a credit to all the players and especially the coaches and coaching directors. I think we can be far too harsh on coaches at times, but for most coaches it is a passion and these results speak volumes for those who are genuinely there for the players and the club.

"I think these results are due to many key factors, but above all we don't force players to change domestic clubs if they come and join Venom, which means we attract a variety of players from many different domestic clubs and that is seen as a positive.

"We truly believe our growth and success is due to representing the region and by supporting all domestic clubs across the region. It's been great to watch all of our players develop and improve, which of course leads to these sorts of results.

"The committee is very proud of the players and coaches. It's always a great time when you are boasting best ever results, it certainly makes the bumps along the way worth riding."

On court, the U18 Reserve Girls returned to their more customary form and stormed into the preliminary final with a 62-38 win over a Bulleen side.

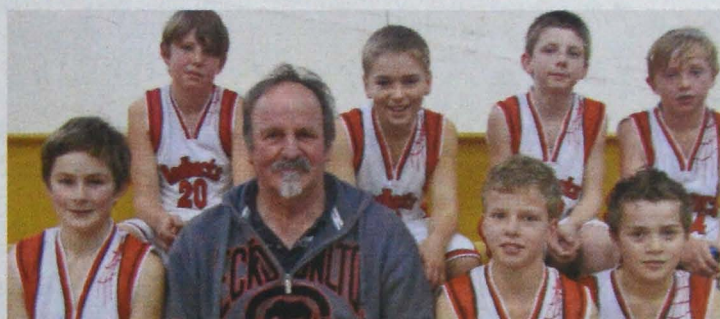
The previous week saw a shock loss to Frankston by 40-29. This time there was no repeat with a strong intensive start in putting on 12 points before their opponents were able to open their account.

In an outstanding performance, Warrandyte's Rachael Watson was dominant on the scoreboard with 28 points. Nine came from Ruby Parson, six from Marg Kershaw and five from the ever-reliable guard, Maddie Hallet.

The challenge will be the next week with Bulleen's top side who went directly into the grand final with a dominant 80-44 win over Melbourne.



Hey big sis, let's show 'em: Siblings Tayah Harris-Allan and Reuben Harris-Allan go on the rampage. Pictures: GARETH DICKSON and ROSS SNOWBALL.



Gerry and the pace makers: Under 11 A/AR Boys with coach Gerry Pearce.

Warrandyte played Bulleen early in the second round of the season and was handed a 71-29 lesson in basketball.

On an adjacent court at the newly completed State Basketball Stadium in Wantirna, Warrandyte's U20 Girls bowed out with a 49-39 loss to a very fit Melbourne Tigers side.

Warrandyte started well in a high intensity game. The tall Melbourne centre with a famous name, Courtney Gaze, got the opening tap, but the Venom came up with the possession to put the first attack in place. Both sides were a little tentative early, but the Venom opened some good scoreboard leads only to have Melbourne come back each time. Ash Rigg drove to the basket with a three-point play to give the Venom a handy 17-11 lead at the first interval.

It was Mollie Burke just on the half time siren with an outside two point

success that gave the Venom a 30-29 lead at the long interval.

The third quarter was a classic arm wrestle with four points each to the sides, but then in the fourth, Melbourne, with two heart-breaking three-point shots in quick succession at the five-minute mark, took the game away.

Meg Dargan was recently announced the winner of this year's Big V Division One 'Golden Hands' Award, presented to the player with the best assists-plus-steals-minus-turnovers ratio.

In other results, the Venom's U16 Boys had a stunning 56-32 win playing at Frankston. This puts them into the Grand Final, taking on minor premiers Doncaster.

Playing at Doncaster, Venom Eastern Qualifying Boys bowed out of the race for the grand final with a 30-23 loss against Melbourne.

Mid-way through the half, the Venom were starting to dominate with its guards controlling the game and the talls holding their own under the basket. Warrandyte maintained a four-point lead but Melbourne responded well late to take the honours at the long break by two points.

The Venom were missing a tall and the longer the game went, the more Melbourne's height under the basket was telling. The critical time was mid-way through the second half. Both sides lifted, but the Venom shots were just missing while Melbourne was able to use the height advantage to good effect and ultimately claim the game.

The Venom's U20 Men had the week off, having defeated minor premiers Craigieburn in the major semi-final by 33-23. They will be playing Craigieburn again in the grand final of the Metro 3 competition.

Also through to the Grand Final are the Venom's U18 Regional Boys.

The U14 Metro 2 Girls ended their run to the GF with a 39-21 loss to Bulleen in the preliminary final.

Saturday finals fever

The final series of the domestic (Saturday) basketball was well underway by the time the *Diary* went to print. The semis were a good result for the Redback teams. The major semi-final saw Warrandyte defeat Eltham 65-37.

In the minor clash, Warrandyte also prevailed over Balwyn 53-26,

setting up a preliminary final clash with Eltham.

In that preliminary final, the sides were close at the long interval with a three-point lead to the Redbacks. The second half belonged to the Redbacks who early in the half had edged ahead. From that position of strength they were able to open up the game, eventually winning 59-39.

Jo Metcalfe's U13 Girls earned the week off with an impressive 42-29 win over Koonung. Leading 16-10 at the break, the Redbacks needed to play well to hold off a determined Koonung in the second half.

Dominant scorers were Ebony Sans with 17 and Abbey Ceh with 15. Kelly Roodhouse and Maggie Aitken scored three each and while Elise Mortimer and Nikki Metcalfe scored two each.

The U11 Girls were not so fortunate, going down 24-27 to Bulleen.

The U11 AR Boys ended a great season after being defeated by Eltham 38-27.

"We were a bit unlucky and the gap only opened up late in the game," coach Gerry Pearce said afterwards.

Liam Appleby scored 10, with eight coming from Benjamin Vermeulen Brown.

In the U17 B Grade match, the Redback girls face up to Banyule after going down to Park Orchards 27-17 in the first semi-final.

Warrandyte was in front until the last 10 minutes when the Redbacks scoring dried up.

Bumper turnout expected for top level tryouts

WARRANDYTE Basketball is expecting another bumper turnout for the annual Venom tryouts with more than 300 players set to push for selection in the 2012/13 junior representative teams.

The club is again set to enter as many as 32 teams in the Victorian Junior Basketball League.

Coming off a successful season that saw the Venom achieve record status among the best in the state, including seven teams in the prestigious State Championship division, the club believes more

records are set to tumble.

"It's an exciting time for the program," general manager Justin Nelson said.

"We have assembled our strongest ever coaching line-up, we continue to see fantastic player development and we are about to introduce specific club offensive plays which are designed to take the whole program to the next level.

"The Venom program is now highly recognised in Victorian junior basketball. Our kids are



improving rapidly and it won't be long before we see more Venom players make State teams and join our Big V teams."

The rise of the Venom's junior teams was evident this year with

as many as 40 current or former Venom juniors playing in the senior teams. Nelson believes the pathway from juniors to seniors is now in place and is an exciting attraction for those who want to reach the top.

"We started building the senior program in 2007 and today we have four teams in the Big V, which highlights a complete pathway for junior players," Nelson says. "It is one of the best achievements in my time at the club and hopefully we continue

to see a high number of Venom juniors make it to the top level at the club.

"When you see the likes of Meg Dargan, Mollie Burke, Casey Taylor, Andy Clough, Josh Collins and Aidan Ceh running around at such a high level, it in turn provides all of our juniors with a goal."

The Venom's try-outs for 2012/13 teams starts Sunday, October 7. Details on times and venues: www.warrandyte.basketball.net.au.

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WARRANDYTE

Bronzewing

Peaceful environment, 5419m² (approx.), lovely garden, natural treed views, captivating family home. Enticing interior: lounge, (wood burning heater), dining room, family room, stunning contemporary kitchen-meals, includes upstairs bedroom suite (WIR/spa bathroom/balcony), 2nd ensuite, WIR, family bathroom. Alfresco deck and delightful studio. GDH, B.I air conditioner, ducted vacuum, S/S appliances, water tanks, auto gates, double carport, OSP.



WARRANDYTE

Double Your Pleasure

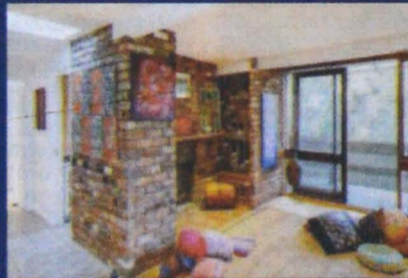
Not one but two homes, 1 1/4 acres (approx 4,907m²) backing onto Yarra River. Larger 4yo family home, dynamic modern interior: foyer, lounge, (wood heater), designer kitchen-dining-family room, 4 BRs incl main (retreat/WIR/ensuite), 2 contemporary bathrooms. Downstairs 49sqm (approx) rumpus/gym, study/office; dble carport; deluxe inclusions. Delightful smaller dwelling: o/p kitchen-dining-living, 2 BRs including master (WIR/ensuite), bathroom; double carport; quality extras. A unique property!



WARRANDYTE

Serene Outlook, Captivating Interior

Experience the serenity and views of this appealing home-wide deck overlooking the natural treed backdrop. 1448m² (approx.). Two spacious living zones incorporating lounge (OFF) and a family room. Well appointed kitchen, main BR (BIRs/modern ensuite). 3 remaining bedrooms including one downstairs. Updated bathroom, utility room, GDH, timber flooring, selected Hawthorn feature brick walls, double carport.



WARRANDYTE

View From the Top

Overlooking the expansive views from THREE alfresco decks-relaxing by the outdoor B.I spa-option to work from home in the air conditioned office/studio! Original owners have enjoyed their immaculate family home 1211m² (approx.) Comprising generous living-dining room (fire place), kitchen/family room, computer room, zoned main (WIR/modern ensuite). Contemporary bathroom; downstairs large rumpus room. Heating-cooling, r/cycle a/conditioner, alarm, polished timber flooring, water tank.



Lions Club of Warrandyte Inc.

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We don't just serve with dedication and passion because we have compassion for others. Lions care about other people. Whenever possible, we lend a hand to those in need - not just through our multitude of service projects, but in our day to day activities.

www.lionsclubwarrandyte.org.au



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