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# WARRANDYTE diary

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No 458, November 2012 For the community, by the community

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Jodi Clark, who helped administer the Be Ready Warrandyte Project, thanked the community for their sterling co-operation.

(Picture by STEPHEN REYNOLDS)

● See story Page 4

Be  Ready Warrandyte  
Living with Bushfire Risk

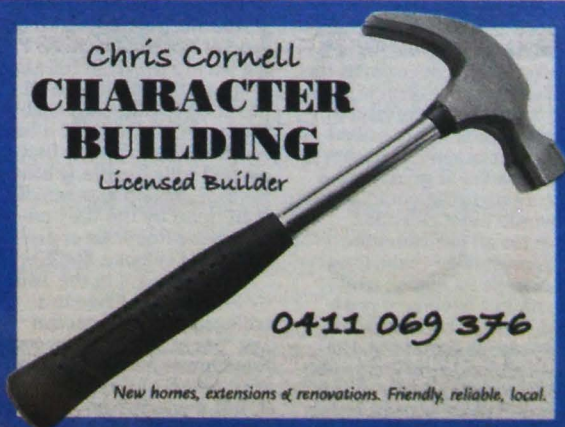
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cessation of expenses."

— Cato the Elder

# WARRANDYTE diary

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### NEXT ISSUE

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### 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, Warranwood, North Ringwood, Kangaroo Ground and Research.

### A SPECIAL PLACE

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

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## OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



"I DUNNO, I CAN'T READ,...BUT IT DOESN'T LOOK TO ME LIKE THE CURRENT OWNERS ARE PLANNING ON LEAVING ANYTIME SOON."

# The Trots family recycled

**"D** OESN'T that look like fun?" Fun was the last

thing Neville was having as he squeezed the Landcruiser past another gaggle of lycracyclists on the bends of Kangaroo Ground Road. But if getting on a bike and pushing it uphill would make his wife happy then what husband would begrudge turning the shed upside down in search of a couple of rusty and forgotten two-wheelers? Exactly, so by the following Sunday, Neville had not only retrieved the Malvern Stars but brushed off the cobwebs, pumped up the tyres and gone through more oil than Seafood by the Yarra.

And as the sun climbed over the treetops, and the tourists compared fern leaves on their skinny lattes, an endless stream of cyclists glided down Yarra Street in the latest lycra fashions from DM Cycles.

And there in a sea of shaved legs and fluorescent helmets was Neville, in cricket whites secured at the ankles by shiny bicycle clips, and a red-faced Narelle with a pair of pink tights pulled high over one-piece bathers in 50 shades of geranium. A picture no artist could paint, or would even consider.

But for all her romantic notions, it didn't take long for Narelle to realise why she hadn't become a postman. The seat was as hard as it was insubstantial, the chain slipped every time she changed gear and for every downhill there was an equal and opposite uphill.



Neville, on the other hand, was quite enjoying himself. He was feeling very Butch Cassidy, an imaginary Katharine Ross balanced prettily across his handlebars to the tune of "Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head". A refrain that sadly surrendered all too soon to a less-agreeable ringing in his head. Of a bell. Ask not for whom the bicycle bell tolls Neville, it tolls for thee. Which was rapidly confirmed by the very un-Katharine-Ross-like cry of, "Neville! I've got a flat!"

Now if you are in the Tour de France, a flat tyre is a trifle, and before you can say "Sacre bleu!" a wiry little Frenchman has whipped off your wheel and replaced it. But if you're outside the Community Church in the

Tour de Warrandyte, wiry little Frenchmen are scarce as poule's teeth. Instead a barely ept Neville had to pull off the road and unbuckle the little repair kit that dangled beneath his saddle. With the little Mecano spanner, he undid the wheel. With the little lever he removed the tube until the telltale bubbles revealed the source of the problem.

This all took time of course and Narelle had by now developed a thirst the size of a camel. I have not expressed that well, but suffice to say that by the time they were ready to remount she had drained three Savvy Blancs and was higher than Lance

### living with The Trots

Armstrong in the Pyrenees. A happy numbness enveloped her as Narelle climbed back on the saddle. She no longer felt the seat disappearing between her cheeks, or the first splatterings of rain, or the disdain of the pedal-pushing zealots around her. She was one of them, racing head down bum up in the pelican. "Leth go Cadel...come on Antonioni..." she cried as she swigged her water bottle and flung it over the fence outside the Community Centre.

And when a barrage of flashing red and blue lights confronted them as they rounded the bend before the bridge, Narelle was not alarmed. She embraced the fight against performance-enhancing substances, embraced the test she was asked to undergo, even embraced the local gendarme who delivered it.

"For goodness sake!" said Neville as they resumed their journey. "Who on Earth has their bicycle impounded?"

The sun had disappeared, the heavens had opened and all thoughts of Butch Cassidy and Katharine Ross had become a distant dream. Instead he struggled home up KG Road, his cricket whites soiled and damp, dinking his inebriated wife as she sang at the top of her voice.

"Raindrops keep falling on my head!"

ALAN CORNELL

# Council election 'debacle'

By **CHERIE MOSELEN**

Manningham council election results for Mullum Mullum ward are under scrutiny following claims that the outcome was tainted due to the inclusion of an ineligible candidate.

Candidate and former Manningham mayor Bob Beynon has lodged an objection with the Melbourne Magistrates' Court claiming the election was not conducted even-handedly.

"In my opinion, the Victorian Electoral

Commission has failed to uphold due process," Mr Beynon told the *Diary*.

"There are clear rules, but a candidate still appeared on the ballot despite the VEC having prior knowledge of circumstances that warranted his disqualification."

It is a matter of public record that opposing candidate David Muscat was convicted last year of assault charges.

The Local Government Act 1989 states that citizens convicted of certain criminal offences—including those that carry

penalties of five years or more imprisonment—are not permitted to contest local council elections for a period of seven years.

The only Warrandyte resident candidate, Michelle Pini, expressed concern over what she described as "a serious oversight by the VEC".

"I will be making my own complaint to the inspectorate investigating this matter, to give weight and credibility to that of Mr Beynon's," Ms Pini said.

"The VEC is paid with ratepayers' money to conduct a fair and lawful election. If the organisation had sufficient warning of the criminal ineligibility of a candidate and did not take that person off the ballot, it has failed voters."

Of the three successful Mullum Mullum candidates, councillor Meg Downie received the lowest number of primary votes but was elected in first position after preferential votes, including those directed by Mr Muscat, were distributed.

Ms Pini said that due to the complexity of the proportional counting system, elected positions could change if an investigation ruled votes for Mr Muscat were invalid and his preferences were subsequently redistributed.

Warrandyte residents were disappointed last month not to see Ms Pini get across the line, especially given the importance previous resident councillor David Ellis played in championing local issues at Manningham.

# Tight voting race

By **CHERIE MOSELEN**

There is only one race in Melbourne that can boast the ability to stop the nation, however it was last month's tightly contested council elections that had many Melbourne residents closer to home struggling to predict a winner.

With a margin of less than two percent separating leading positions after first preference votes had been counted, Cr Meg Downie, Cr Paul McLeish and Cr Sophy Galbally were elected to the three-councillor Manningham council ward of Mullum Mullum.

Cr Ken King was returned in the single-councillor Nillumbik ward of Sugarloaf with a final 12 percent majority over the nearest candidate.

Nillumbik councillors were sworn in at a special meeting late last month, electing Cr Peter Perkins as mayor and Cr Helen Coleman as deputy mayor.

Koonung ward councillor Jennifer Yang became the new mayor of Manningham, and Geoff Gough deputy mayor, when councillors took the oath of office early this month.

The *Diary* spoke to the new appointees from Mullum Mullum and Sugarloaf wards about their vision for community over the next four years.

"We will need to work to-

gether to effect a positive shift towards greater preservation of the Green Wedge, Mullum Mullum councillor Paul McLeish said.

"I believe council needs to take a hard look at planning schemes to ensure development is considered with community in mind and is not just commercially based.

"I also think it critical that council representatives continue to pressure local members over looming state government planning reforms which are singularly unpopular and have been poorly thought through."

Cr McLeish said he hoped the new coalition would deliver "strong community representation" for Manningham and to that end anticipated early days would be spent establishing co-operative relationships with fellow councillors.

Re-elected councillor Meg Downie also believes proposed changes to the Victorian planning system need further consideration.

"I would be better off financially if I could halve my own acre block, but I don't want to. An increase in subdivision in low-density residential zones would encourage population growth, and in high-risk bushfire areas such as Warrandyte, that's potentially dangerous,"

she said.

Cr Downie expressed delight at being back in office and said her goal was to be "as accessible as possible to individuals and community organisations".

Having been a resident in the shire since 1996, Cr Sophy Galbally told the *Diary* she felt "honoured" to be voted in as a council representative for Mullum Mullum.

She advocated support for community services such as sporting clubs and said she appreciated the need for the community to have "sufficient and quality facilities."

Cr Galbally also mentioned the importance of community centres, which she maintains are "vital to providing a focal point for community living and inclusion for all ages and abilities".

On the other side of the river, re-elected councillor Ken King outlined a range of current and emerging issues that will require his focus over the four-year term.

"Nillumbik has become a corridor for traffic, linking the M80 ring road, M31 Hume freeway and growth corridor suburbs to the M3 and suburbs south of the Yarra," he said.

"Also, the condition of most unsealed roads in Nillumbik has deteriorated over the last

few years."

Cr King suggested the state government would determine an overall traffic management plan for Melbourne that would include a solution to the congestion impacting on Warrandyte and its surrounds, and specified council had allocated an additional \$1million to roadwork and drainage in its current budget.

With regard to forthcoming zoning reforms across Victoria, he pointed out that a ministerial advisory committee had been established to review all submissions articulating community concerns in relation to the reforms, and emphasised that Nillumbik council and groups such as WCA had written such submissions.

He added that, as a community, "we need to make sure the minister fully understands the potential impacts of any zoning reforms on the liveability and amenity of our area."

Further information about 2012 council election results is available from the Victorian Electoral Commission website at [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au).

The website also includes a brief slideshow explaining the counting systems used by the VEC to tally votes in both single and multiple-councillor wards.

# They were successful



Cr Ken King: Back in Nillumbik



Cr Paul McLeish: New in Manningham



Cr Meg Downie: Returned in Manningham



Cr Sophy Galbally: A new face at Manningham

# Riverkeeper welcomes new plan



Yarra at Warrandyte: Our treasured river. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

Warrandyte MP and environment minister Ryan Smith has released a plan to spend \$1 billion over the next five years improving the health of the Yarra River and Port Phillip Bay.

"This is a plan that sets out a clear plan of investment, action and responsibility to improve the quality of the Yarra and the bay," Mr Smith told the *Diary*.

Local resident and spokesman for the Yarra Riverkeepers, Ian Penrose, welcomed the announcement.

"Those of us who love the

Yarra thank Minister Smith for taking this initiative," he said.

"The plan has been developed by the government taskforce which I appointed," Mr Smith said. It brings together "the key organisations in managing environmental health. The government will work with council areas, business and the community to deliver a cleaner Yarra and Port Phillip Bay."

Mr Penrose pointed out that, "notwithstanding its important social and environmental values, the Yarra

is polluted with a cocktail of harmful urban wastes. Whilst the joke about it being "the upside-down river" is now rarely heard, the Yarra is still treated as a drain," with street rubbish, sewerage spillages and rural run-off "washed into the river".

"The Yarra River is an important part of Warrandyte which is why more of us should play our part in making these great waterways even better," Mr Smith said.

"The plan outlines the actions we will take to coordinate practical, on-ground

environmental works to deliver significant, tangible and obvious benefits for Yarra and Port Phillip Bay and to help the public and wider community to not only better understand the works being carried out—but also to provide suggestions on how they can also play a role."

Mr Penrose urged Minister Smith to "ensure all these good intentions are fully funded and implemented quickly, and that there is demonstrable improvement in water quality—the only true measure of success."

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# We rallied to bushfire quiz

A Bushfire Readiness survey conducted by the Warrandyte Community Association has revealed that most households in the Greater Warrandyte area do not have an effective bushfire survival plan, despite the significant majority (81 percent) of respondents believing they will face a bushfire threat in the near future.

Dick Davies, president of WCA, who conducted the "Be Ready Warrandyte" bushfire readiness survey, said this was one important finding identified in preliminary results.

"The Be Ready Warrandyte project is a call to action to the Warrandyte community and our neighbours to be informed, supported and well prepared for the everyday reality of living with bushfire risk."

Mr Davies said survey responses were received from 650 out of 2870 households in the Warrandyte, North Warrandyte and South Warrandyte area which is "excellent and above expectations".

"While 61 percent of respondents have a bushfire survival plan at some level of development, around 20 percent had back-up strategies—Plan B, Plan C.

"The data show that residents are responding to the Fire Danger Rating with the number of households intend-

ing to leave early increasing as the forecast of fire threat rises."

Most residents plan to leave on a Code Red day.

Despite the community awareness that it will be difficult to leave the area due to traffic congestion, 63 percent of respondents indicated that they would leave as soon as possible after receiving a notification of a fire in the area.

This suggests that even those who have a plan may not understand the risk of leaving late.

Mr Davies stressed that survey respondents were more likely to be more actively aware than others about the potential bushfire threat.

"If we assume that the 80 per cent or so who did not respond to WCA's bushfire readiness survey are less well prepared than those that did then there is a very large proportion of our community who are not well prepared," Mr Davies said.

"Of concern are the more vulnerable in the community, of households where someone has a disability, only 56 percent have a plan."

Respondents have suggested that the top three barriers to having a bushfire survival plan are:

- They need assistance in preparing one;
- They do not know how to prepare one;

- They are too busy.

The initial survey results point out that people want to find out more information about preparing a bushfire survival plan through:

- A locally-oriented webpage;
- A community meeting with expert guest speakers, preferably CFA;
- Face to face with someone knowledgeable from the community who visits them at home.

Mr Davies said the survey has provided a wealth of information that will inform the community and CFA for years to come.

The full results of the survey will take some time to analyse properly but will be available at the Be Ready Warrandyte website [www.warrandyte.org.au](http://www.warrandyte.org.au).

The project will now move into Stage 2 which is to develop tools to inform and educate residents on bushfire survival planning.

The Be Ready Warrandyte project is funded by a Victorian Government Fire Ready Communities Grant to the WCA from the Department of Planning and Community Development, and supplemented by funds from Manningham and Nillumbik councils, the Warrandyte Community Bank and the Community Market Committee.



Jodi Clark was a key mover in the Be Ready survey. (Picture by STEPHEN REYNOLDS)

## Plastic bags are set to disappear

The campaign by WarrandyteCAN to remove plastic bags from local shops is progressing.

Traders who are not members of the Warrandyte Business Association will soon be contacted by CAN's No Plastic Bags committee, promoting the merits of moving across to more sustainable packaging materials.

The campaign is supported by Warrandyte IGA and the Business Association, who feature in the design of the new environmentally friendly jute bag chosen by the climate group.

"Local traders will be reminded of the opportunity to help make the local environment cleaner for all and safer for wildlife," CAN president Wayne Rankin (who designed the bags) told the *Diary*.

"The abolition of plastic bags will also help make Warrandyte a more distinctive, environmentally friendly place in which to shop and will contribute to reducing carbon emissions through less non-renewable energy, such as oil, used in the production of plastic.

"Jute bags were chosen over the common 'green' bags available in the major grocery chains, because these bags are made from polypropylene, derived from oil," Mr Rankin said.

The CAN team investigated the whole-of-life sustainability of jute



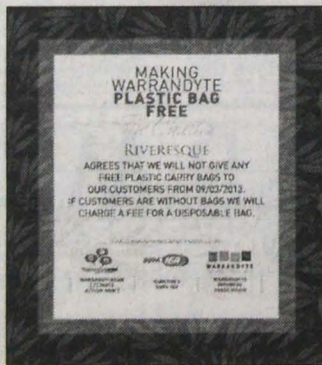
and found it to be a 100% biodegradable plant fibre with very low environmental impact.

The bags are imported and the team confirmed the ethical trade aspects of the sourcing of these bags to ensure workers were not badly treated or unfairly rewarded according to their own local standards.

The bags will be introduced during February next year in local promotions conducted by all involved. From March 9, Warrandyte IGA and other WBA retailers will no longer provide plastic bags free.

From March 9, IGA owner Julie Quinton will be selling the jute bags at the lowest possible price to encourage uptake. A charter has been developed for participating retailers' shop windows to advise customers not familiar with the change.

- More information from Wayne Rankin on 0418 394 494 or Emma Edmonds on 0478 575 893.



Top: WarrandyteCAN's environmentally friendly jute bag.

Below: A charter to be displayed in local shop windows.

## Locals, ministers meet on zoning

By KARLY HICKMAN

The Warrandyte Community Association has met with Planning Minister Matthew Guy to voice its concerns over the proposed zoning changes.

Warrandyte residents in their hundreds have damned the proposed changes, with over 300 comments from concerned residents garnered by the Warrandyte Community Association alone.

"We were encouraged that the ministers indicated they shared the same vision as WCA, namely, one dwelling per lot in Warrandyte township, no reduction in minimum lot sizes for North Warrandyte, and a limited expansion of agriculturally related developments in the Green Wedge. The problem is the current draft planning zone documents enable the exact opposite to occur," WCA Vice President Jonathan Upson said.

"The WCA is very appreciative of Ryan Smith's efforts to obtain a meeting for us with the Planning Minister," Mr Upson told the *Diary*.

The proposed changes would allow dramatically increased size and types of development in the Green Wedge, enable all one-acre blocks with town sewerage to be subdivided into half acre blocks, and allow for two houses on each residential block in the Warrandyte township.

"The WCA heard residents uniformly opposing subdivisions in Warrandyte township and North Warrandyte, as well as the proposed new forms of development in the Green Wedge," Mr Upson said.

Manningham and Nillumbik councils have also lodged submissions to the state government strongly opposing the proposed changes. It is believed they would change the face of Warrandyte and the Green Wedge.

WCA presented legal advice to

the planning minister, indicating that the planning reforms would "trump" bushfire overlays, despite earlier advice from the government that these overlays would remain in place and protect Warrandyte from inappropriate development.

"We are heartened by the number of people from Warrandyte who took the time to respond to the government's proposed planning changes," Mr Upson said.

In their submission to government, WCA has recommended constructive, detailed changes to the draft zoning documents to maintain the unique character of Warrandyte and the Green Wedge.

WCA believes the Planning Minister is slowing down on his reform process. The changes, originally earmarked to be legislated last month, have now been referred to a three-person ministerial advisory committee for further consideration.

Despite residents consenting to having their submission made public, the Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) have not yet published any submissions, nor have they indicated the number of submissions received.

"All submissions are currently with the ministerial advisory committee and more information will be made available after the committee's report, scheduled for the end of November," a departmental spokesperson told the *Diary*.

"We are looking forward to the opportunity to being able to congratulate Ryan Smith and the Planning Minister for listening to the Warrandyte community should the ministerial advisory committee concur with our suggested changes to the draft planning zone documents," Mr Upson said.

# Listening and looking on fire danger days

The bushfire season is almost upon us. Local electronics expert DAVID HOGG has compiled this detailed guide to fire emergency communications.

**W**ELL, we've all completed our fire survey haven't we? Most of us, hopefully, have a written fire plan. But how do we know what is happening around us on fire danger days and when to start putting our disaster plans into effect?

Sure the signs tell us to listen to 774 ABC Melbourne but let's face it, in summer we are busy in the kitchen, lazing around a pool, having a barbecue, locked away in the cool of the house watching TV, or even asleep in bed. We don't carry a radio around at all times, and anyway even if a fire started locally it would be a while before the radio station broadcast it, and even then would we be listening?

Whilst CFA communications to the firefighters are being addressed and there are plans for improvement, one area that has been neglected is the timely provision of realtime incident information to residents in fire-prone areas.

Recent developments (withdrawal of sirens, changes of CFA district) have actually reduced the amount of information available to the community here in Warrandyte. Other initiatives such as digital radio and regional telephone disaster alert systems continue to be further delayed. Fortunately technology in the form of the internet and smart mobile phones is now on our side and this article details some good resources now available to Warrandyte residents, without in any way endorsing these sites. Bear in mind that, as with all technology, whilst these sites work well now, they may not be reliable or necessarily available when a disaster strikes.

A service called 19Fire at <http://www.19fire.com.au/> monitors the CFA pager messages and will send you an SMS message on your mobile phone whenever your local brigade is called out, and an email message with a map showing where the incident is. For privacy reasons the house number is removed from the message.

It is not a free service but works a bit like e-tags or myki, in that you register and pay an amount (say \$25) and they deduct 25¢ from your account each time they send you a message. Occasionally you need to top-up your account using a credit card. You can subscribe to receive messages for as many fire stations in Victoria as you like, but one or two: Warrandyte, South Warrandyte and North Warrandyte should be sufficient.

When setting the stations to monitor you'll find the two former are in CFA District 13, but North War-

randyte is in District 14. You can also subscribe to receive messages when days of Total Fire Ban are declared, or if the Fire Danger Rating (signs near bridge) changes. Subscription choices can be changed at any time, for example you may not want to monitor at all in the winter months. This 19Fire service is particularly useful now that most of the CFA sirens have been decommissioned.

Having been alerted that the brigade has been called to an incident we now need to decide whether we need to act on the information. Most call-outs we can disregard immediately; such as washaway from car accident, rescue, or house fire. But call-outs to "grass and scrub fire" should get our attention and we need to determine whether we are up or downwind of the incident.

This should not be a trigger to leave the area; that decision should have been made when the fire ban or Code Red was declared; rather it should trigger you in moving to the next stage of your fire plan. Those of us in local fireguard groups may have purchased a radio scanner to monitor CFA communications. A list of relevant frequencies is at [http://www.warrandytechat.com/wp-content/uploads/CFG\\_RadioChannels\\_2009.10.pdf](http://www.warrandytechat.com/wp-content/uploads/CFG_RadioChannels_2009.10.pdf). Scanner channels 1 and 2 on this list (CFA Channels 54 and 61) are the main Vic-Fire channels for Districts 13 and 14 respectively. Although frequencies have not yet been determined for the 2012/2013 fire season there are not expected to be any major changes. A point to note is that these scanners will become obsolete in the next 2 or 3 years as the CFA moves to digital transmissions.

Another problem is that with the move of North Warrandyte into CFA District 14 there are numerous dead spots in the Warrandyte area where the Kinglake transmitter for District 14 cannot be received on scanners.

Again the internet comes to the rescue. RadioReference monitors the relevant channels and re-broadcasts them on the internet. The URL <http://www.radioreference.com/apps/audio/?stid=152> will get you to their site, then choose "Eastern Metro" to listen to District 13 or "North & West Metro" for District 14, then click on the little loudspeaker symbol under "Listen".

Remember that most of the time these channels will be silent, so leave it running with the volume turned up. Then perhaps add this final playing URL to your Favourites or Bookmarks, so as to get there in one click in the future. These feeds have a delay of about 40 seconds from the realtime transmission, but that doesn't matter.



This could still happen: Warrandyte CFA brigades, SES and local police stage a fire event exercise in Yarra Street. (Picture by STEPHEN REYNOLDS)

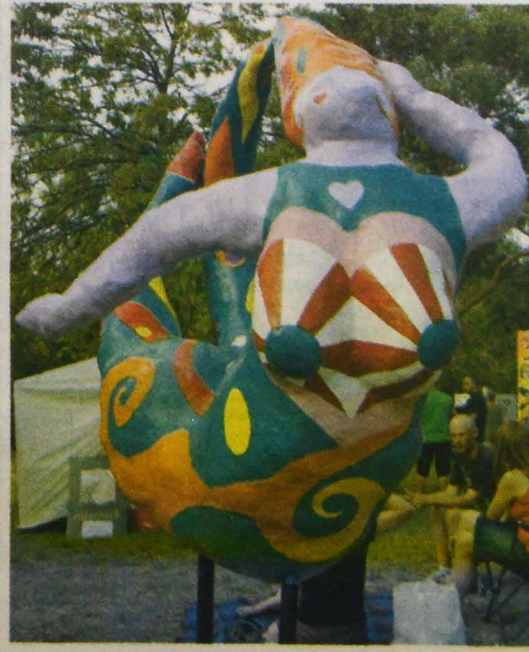
Do also look at the excellent websites for your local CFA: Warrandyte are at <http://www.warrandyte.cfa.org.au/>, South Warrandyte is at <http://www.swfb.org.au/> and North Warrandyte at <http://www.nw.cfa.org.au/>. These have local information for each brigade, details of events and fundraisers, advice on fire prevention and management, details about joining the CFA and links to other useful resources.

And finally the CFA main website <http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/> holds a huge amount of information on all current fires in Victoria, details of fire restrictions by local authority area, contacts for joining your local fireguard group and information on current fire danger ratings and total fire ban status.

In conclusion, here is a summary of some excellent advice being given to local fireguard groups.

A fire that impacts us is most likely to either start in North Warrandyte or travel from our north, still in District 14. It's the residents south of the river who need to be aware of what's happening to the north and monitor the District 14 channel.

We should be pushing the simple message of "Hot Dry and Windy" being the danger signs and the fact that no matter what residents or the authorities do, our road network, the feeder roads to the bridge are not designed to facilitate transfer of large volumes of traffic under normal conditions, let alone under emergency conditions when everyone is stressed and panicked. Our area is perfectly safe to exit prior to a fire starting and that should be the message. Leaving early is the safest option.



## Festival crew inspired...

Readers will remember the wonderful "giant" sculptures that have featured at recent festivals, created by the local "Arty Farty" group. Deciding they needed more expertise, members of the group attended a workshop at BiGfish, a professional sculpture business in Footscray. "It was fabulous, we learned heaps, gained confidence and are well into planning next year's festival art work," organiser Mal Parsons told the *Diary*.

Top: Photographer Stephen Reynolds talked the group into posing inside this work-in-progress—one of May Gibb's Banskia Men. Back row: John Boyle, Tim Ferguson, Jeremy and Diana Loftus-Hills. Front row: Mal Parsons, Judy Harvey, Illona Forlanski.

Left: One of Arty Farty's great festival sculptures.

dear diary

## Thanks for your support

Many of you will know by now that my candidacy for council election was unsuccessful. I wanted to let you all know, however, how much your help, encouragement and support has meant to me and my family through this election period. I have, in fact, been humbled by your assistance, hard work and incredible efforts to help me get elected. Thank you so much.

I believe Warrandyte is a very special place with a genuine, caring and unified community (despite its geographic and electoral division) and I am deeply disappointed that I will not be representing our voice.

I am somewhat heartened that, although they are not Warrandyte residents, Sophy Galbally and Paul McLeish were successful, as I believe they are most closely aligned with our community's values and I congratulate them. Please keep Warrandyte foremost in their minds over the next four years!

Thank you all once again.

Michelle Pini  
Warrandyte



## Fire services levy causes concern

Most Victorians support the abolition of the old Fire Services Levy (FSL) on insurance premiums and its replacement with a property-based charge.

Making the non-insured contribute to the cost of running our fire services is fair.

However, for this change to work insurers must pass the full benefit of abolishing the FSL back to consumers in the form of lower premiums.

Victorians will be worse off if we have to start paying a new tax on our rates, and our insurance premiums do not come down.

The state government has bungled this change by introducing the new tax without properly ensuring that the former FSL was abolished.

At a time when the cost of

living for households continues to rise, the government must ensure that Victorians are not slugged with additional costs.

Many local residents have contacted me to voice their concerns about a dramatic rise in their FSL payments on their most recent insurance bills.

Others are concerned that they may be charged twice—once on their insurance premium and then again on their local government rates—in the same financial year.

Please contact me with your concerns on 03 9432 9782 or at [danielle.green@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:danielle.green@parliament.vic.gov.au).

Danielle Green MP  
State Member  
for Yan Yean

## Michelle angry at VCE confusion

The Victorian Electoral Commission is paid with rate-payers' money to conduct a fair and lawful election—it should not be up to voters or candidates to point out possible criminal records of candidates.

I believe most people in the Mullum Mullum Ward would be shocked to learn that they voted for someone with a serious criminal record, since we were all required to vote for every candidate in order of preference.

The fact that the VEC allowed this candidate to run despite having knowledge of this a full month before the election, however, is inexcusable and has tainted the Manningham council election outcome.

Since the complex system of proportional counting was used, the preferences of this ineligible candidate were distributed, and this affected every single candidate's vote tally and impacted on every single voter.

Although disconcerting that one of the remaining candidates—myself included—might have been elected, this is about upholding our democratic system and ensuring that our votes are valued. Whatever the outcome of a new election, the VEC must ensure that a serious oversight of this nature does not recur.

Michelle Pini  
Mullum Mullum Ward  
candidate



## Believes Greens may not back locals

Betty Russell (October *Diary*) misses the point of my argument.

Certainly, most Greens Party candidates live locally, but their primary concern is to put the interest of the party ahead of those of the community they seek to represent.

At the recent candidates' forum, held in North Warrandyte, the Greens council aspirant was asked a simple question: "If faced with a vote that was in the best interests of your community, but which was contrary to party policy, what would you do?"

The response was, "I'd leave the council chamber," hardly an example of siding with the community.

Not only Greens' candidates have a strong position of opposition to zoning reforms, and proof of that can be found by examining the various submissions made by candidates to the government.

Added to the above was the curious decision by the Greens to preference the pro-development Sugarloaf candidate over the other serious candidates.

I rest my case: Greens candidates are not locally-minded community activists; they are party political activists.

Matthew Reilly  
North Warrandyte

### HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF ELTHAM

Council invites you to comment on the draft vision and key principles for the redevelopment of Precincts 3 and 4 of the Eltham Major Activity Centre.

Precincts 3 and 4 relates to all land in Eltham town centre located west of Main Road between Panther Place and Diamond Street, and includes the public transport hub, a significant retail strip, and a range of community services including Eltham Library.

At the moment, the potential of these areas is not being realised due to a lack of activity, their isolation from the rest of the town centre and a lack of redevelopment.

View the draft vision (the look, feel and operation of this area) and key principles (the outcomes, such as better pedestrian access between Youth Road and the railway station) for the redevelopment of this area at [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/precincts3and4](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/precincts3and4).

**HAVE YOUR SAY**  
Complete the online survey at [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/precincts3and4](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/precincts3and4)

**Write to** Chad Griffiths, Manager Strategic and Economic Planning, Nillumbik Shire Council, PO Box 476, Greensborough VIC 3088

**Email** [nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:nillumbik@nillumbik.vic.gov.au).

**Submissions close 5pm, Friday 21 December 2012.**

#### FIND OUT MORE Drop into an information session

- **Sunday 18 November 10am-1pm**  
Eltham Community Craft and Produce Market, Alistair Knox Park, Main Road, Eltham
- **Sunday 18 November 1pm-3pm**  
Eltham Library, Panther Place, Eltham

Visit [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/precincts3and4](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/precincts3and4)

Contact Paul Fyffe, Strategic Planner, 9433 3218 or Paul. [Fyffe@nillumbik.vic.gov.au](mailto:Fyffe@nillumbik.vic.gov.au).

### FREE GARDEN GREEN WASTE DROP OFF

Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 November > 8am-4pm

To assist with preparing your property for summer, Council is offering Nillumbik residents an opportunity to dispose of garden green waste.

**Recycling & Recovery Centre**  
290 Yan Yean Road, Plenty  
Enquiries: 9433 3555

PLEASE NOTE: Only tree prunings, garden clippings and leaf litter are accepted; commercial loads and food waste are not. Proof of residency is required (rates notice or driver's licence).

### ARTISTS OPEN STUDIOS

The Artists Open Studios Program is celebrating its 25th Anniversary this year. With 38 artists, 25 studios and disciplines including painting, drawing, sculpture, printmaking, ceramics, jewellery, textiles and photography, there's something for everyone.

Studios will be open on **Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 November 2012** as well as **Saturday 24 and Sunday 25 November 2012**. Visit: [www.artistsopenstudios.com.au](http://www.artistsopenstudios.com.au)



Diamond Creek Rotary Town Fair

24 November 2012  
[www.diamondcreektownfair.org.au](http://www.diamondcreektownfair.org.au)

### BOOK YOUR HARD WASTE COLLECTION

Council has changed its annual Hard Waste Collection to a booking system.

Nillumbik residents can ring up and book one Hard Waste Collection per financial year limited to two cubic metres (1m wide x 1m high x 2m long) per household.

The Hard Waste Collection is for items that are broken or cannot be reused. Council encourages residents to donate or sell unwanted household items that are in good condition.

To book your Hard Waste Collection, contact WM Waste Management Services on 9721 1915.



### FINANCE4BUSINESS

Economic Forecast: The big picture and what it means for your business

Facilitated by Rob Gell, join us for this presentation by Australia's best known economist **Professor Ian Harper**, who will deliver an economic forecast combining insight with practical advice for small business.

**Date:** Thursday 29 November 2012

**Time:** 7am-9am

**Cost:** \$44 per person (GST inclusive with gourmet breakfast)

Book at [www.enterprise.nillumbik.com.au](http://www.enterprise.nillumbik.com.au) or call Living & Learning Nillumbik on 9433 3744. Places are strictly limited.



IAN HARPER  
Deloitte Access Economics



United service station and store proposed for Yarra Street.

## Having a service station as a neighbour

We moved into the neighbourhood of the Shell service station in Warrandyte South 16 years ago.

At first the convenience of having access to the newspaper, milk and fuel outweighed the negative aspects of living next to a service station.

Over time the negative aspects became more obvious and irritating to say the least. Not only were new staff not familiar with the alarm system and therefore regularly set it off at 5am but on occasion burglars would break in which set off the alarm as well. This deprived us of the rest of the night's sleep.

After several years of these incidents the owner changed the night lighting to inhibit further break-ins. From that

day on we were able to read without using our bedside lamps due to the new lights at the station.

Communication with such a neighbour is difficult as you will not be able to raise your concerns efficiently due to frequent changes in their workforce.

We complained to the council. It took some time and some of the lighting was changed but not satisfactorily. Of course we were not in direct contact with the service station and so we were not able to give our feedback on the spot. It is an open issue to date because the council employee we previously spoke to has moved on.

Alarms are one noise factor, deliveries after 10pm and before 6am another.

Sunday mornings at 4am and Thursday nights around midnight were the preferred times that LPG was delivered by an old truck with a very high noise level. The requirement for such a complaint at council is that you have to quote the number plate of the vehicle and the time period it happened.

So I would get up at 4am, depending on the season I would walk in pjs or take a coat, take a pen and paper and walk 50m to the station to record the number plate. The truck drivers were kind but surprised because their order was to come at that time due to the rural character of the area.

It took more than three years to have these deliveries shifted to times when they are

actually allowed.

We still get one milk delivery truck entering the station and beeping some mornings at 3am but that is only a short one-minute affair.

Cars nowadays have very powerful audio equipment and owners sometimes want to show off. Saturday nights between 9 and 11pm is the preferred time to let everybody know what your favourite music is. Sitting in our kitchen we sometimes hear someone driving by, but being the neighbour of a service station we have the opportunity to listen to it for much longer.

In addition to the fuel, service stations sell snacks, drinks and fast food, which is their biggest profit maker. As a direct neighbour you will have

to cope with constant rubbish like wrappings, drink containers and cigarette butts.

The station's employees will clean the premises but not the neighbours' street-front where the patrons throw the packaging they have just bought.

Service stations are by nature an industrial site with traffic, noise and fumes and don't belong in built-up areas. Not in Warrandyte and—nowhere else.

The customers are very mobile and come by car to the station. Competition is not eliminated by not having a second fuel station in Warrandyte!

Artur Muchow  
(by email)

## Memories from a distance

For the past nearly two years I have been living an expatriate life in Singapore after 28 years living in Warrandyte. In the last few years I have had the pleasure of spending a week at home and I penned a few words for my Singaporean friends about how I felt.

These are my comments, a view of Warrandyte as a brief returnee.

It has been such a change, little traffic except in the evening rush home across the bridge; mild weather with some decent rain and some pleasant spring sunshine, and of course the lovely gums and river to spend time among as a complete respite from the rush of city Singapore.

Each day as I walked the river I have enjoyed the wonderful sense of space and peace that early morning brings. Few others on the tracks, but those that are, nearly always with a hello, or good morning or perhaps a g'day; so much friendlier than a city walk. And then of course it is spring.

Ducks and tiny ducklings trailing around the banks with mothers mumbling gentle burbles as they lead the brood around in seemingly random paths. Rosellas usually in pairs with their "squ-reeeck" as they flash from budding tree to tree.

In the background the occasional Kookaburra laughs, enjoying their special place in the Australian bush, and the melodies of the Magpies and Curlewongs with their warbling alto songs, and cutting through it all with a blackboard-like scrape, the harsh "squark" call of the Cockatoos.

Those pests the Mynas chase Ibis who fly with gentle flaps as if some lazy puppet-master softly lifts and lowers the strings while they make low calls in the throat against the constant cheep of the chasers.

I wait on the bank as silent as I can be, watching to see if today I will be lucky and the platypus will be out to feed. But no, all week I watch in vain and I will have to cherish the times I have stumbled upon its play. It is spring, but in the still morning air too early for the crawlers and sliders to be out and about, but others tell me the snakes are on the move.

I lie in bed at night and hear the possums growl and then run across the roof with footsteps of an elephant, while cicadas and frogs keep up constant yet comforting sounds as I enjoy a few nights cuddled under a doona; such a luxury after the heat of Singapore.

The rains have given the distant hills the wonderful blue-green of the Australian ranges and King Parrots silently feed on the berries in the garden, the brilliant red of their breast and heads flashing through the window. While riding I see Kangaroos and one Koala, but perhaps I did not look well enough as I push the pedals, because they are certainly around.

And among all this, a lovely coffee at the wood-fired bakery or chat with the new bike shop owner in our little main street, visits to the pottery shops and a delightful meal at the Grand Hotel.

How wonderful to be able to come home to this after the hustle and bustle of a world city.

Chris Coates  
(by email)

## Thank you

Richard and Shelagh Morton thank the members of the Warrandyte community for their kind thoughts and support on the death of their son, Guy.

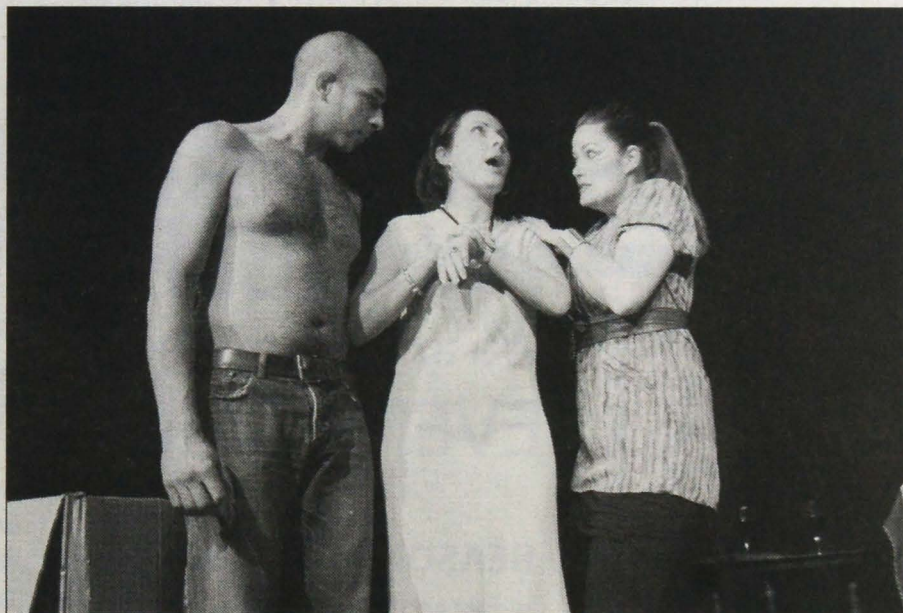
## Thanks again...

Thank you to Sarah, the Good Samaritan, who took time and effort to return my handbag, fully intact and including cash, cards and keepsakes, when I stupidly left it behind at the Harris Gully Road bus stop.

It certainly saved this little old lady considerable expense and worry as well as demonstrating the great community spirit that abounds in Warrandyte.

Thank you Sarah.

Ruth Felton  
(by email)



On stage: Warrandyte Theatre Co productions need all the publicity they can get. (Picture by Jeremy Loftus-Hills)

## Leave our posters alone

Most people know that the Warrandyte Theatre Company is not a commercial organisation, and any income we raise goes to support the Warrandyte Arts Association. Each year, this income barely covers the running of the Mechanics Institute Hall and supporting its activities—Theatre, Pottery, Painting and Craft.

This year we have also started a youth theatre group, which has been great. All this happens with the generous volunteer hours of our members. As in other groups (and we are blessed by many in our lovely town) they do it unselfishly, and from a heartfelt desire to build a strong local and community-focussed or-

ganisation.

Despite all this, we often struggle to fill seats for our shows. As part of our attempt to publicise our productions, the Warrandyte Theatre Company places three corflute signs around town, and one on its noticeboard. Like other organisations (such as WarrandyteCAN) these are placed off roads, and in prominent places to promote our productions. They go up three weeks before a production begins and come down as soon as it finishes.

With all this as background I wanted to express my disappointment at the behaviour of the vigilante who regularly tears down, removes or defaces our signs. They cost

us about \$100 each, and I can only think it is ignorance and pettiness at the heart of this act.

I imagine that this person has some strong view about visual pollution in his/her community. Whilst I have some sympathy with this view, how about factoring in some tolerance for community organisations promoting local events for and by the community? Otherwise it seems to me it is a very small world view.

(This is not an official letter from the Warrandyte Theatre Company—just one of its frustrated members.)

David Tynan  
Warrandyte

## Rubbish mars market pleasure

I attended the Warrandyte Market last Saturday morning (November 3). It was a beautiful day and there were many stalls and lots and lots of people. That evening I walked our dogs along the river and was shocked to see the four wheelie bins overflowing, with much rubbish at the base of them. Further along, the green dog poo bin had a tower of rubbish, including many bags of dog poo, sitting on top of it.

This amount of rubbish on a Saturday evening with Sunday, Monday and Cup Day to follow before (as I understand) the bins are emptied sometime on a Tuesday!

Surely Manningham council needs to take into consideration the amount of rubbish generated on market days, and have extra bins along the length of the market stalls. Currently it seems there are only up to four wheelie bins near the barbecues and no other bins, apart from the tiny dog poo bin, for the remaining market stalls that stretch beyond Police Street.

Perhaps, too, an extra rubbish pickup could somehow be organised for the afternoon on market days. People are trying to do the right thing by putting their rubbish and dog poo in the bin. Let's not discourage them by having insufficient bins for the purpose.

Doreen Burge  
Diane Court

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"You know that the sewage is coming to North Warrandyte, Ock!"  
"That's bad news, Clyde, it's supposed to flow away!"



Spring began brightly for one well known Warrandyte resident.

Lynne Lowther was the lucky winner of our 'Winter in Warrandyte' promotion.

She was presented with a diamond set smoky quartz pendant on a strand of black spinel beads.

Lynne said she was "thrilled and felt honoured to have won such a beautiful piece of jewellery" and was enjoying wearing it to all her social functions



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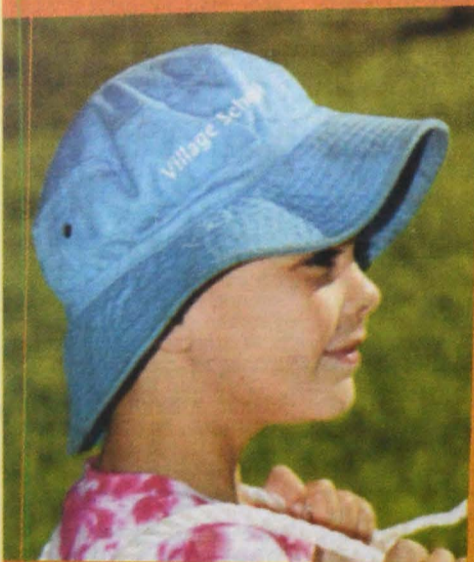


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# Potters history

Anyone interested in pottery and all things Warrandyte should not miss Warrandyte Historical Society's latest exhibition, "Potters Plus", featuring potters, galleries and organisations that have contributed to Warrandyte's long and distinguished pottery tradition over the decades.

Starting even before the establishment of the renowned Potters Cottage, many potters and sculptors chose to make Warrandyte their home and so contributed to the making of a legend. The town has been enriched by their work over the years and although time has seen the demise of some of these iconic institutions, others have survived.

The exhibition also features pottery pieces, sourced mainly from members and friends collections, illustrating the long tradition of hand-made pottery in Warrandyte.

● The exhibition is on at the Old Post Office Museum, 111 Yarra Street, Warrandyte, open Saturday and Sunday afternoons, 2-5pm.

# State Park Friends mark 30 years



By VAL POLLEY

Friends of Warrandyte State Park (FOWSP) commemorated their 30th anniversary with a celebratory barbecue at Pound Bend on Sunday, November 18.

Thirty years is a milestone for any community group, even one as iconic as FOWSP, so it is indeed a major achievement and one worth celebrating.

It would have been impossible to predict from the initial meeting all those years ago that this group would go from strength to strength and become such an influential force. A major asset has been its ability to change and adapt.

From its earliest days when the working bees were physi-

cal and hands-on, to the education and information era and now the digital age, this is a group that has managed to harness the passion and the abilities of its members to become a significant authority over the decades.

It certainly has not been without its difficulties at times. At an early stage it struggled and looked as though it would founder due to lack of members but recovered and thanks to sterling work by committed coordinators and committees and support from Park staff has been able to prosper and grow.

An early article in the *Diary* noted that in its first three years FOWSP estimated it had planted more than 1000



trees, controlled significant erosion, removed tons of rubbish, built and restored tracks, and removed weeds and exotic plants. From then on, under the guidance of its various coordinators and committees, it has extended that work, establishing a plant nursery of repute, supplying plants and being a presence at markets and festivals with its specialised trailer.

FOWSP publishes books, brochures, post cards and planting guides to educate and inform and enjoys a reputation for expertise, enthusiasm and significant and meaningful work.

It has enjoyed support, friendship and assistance from park staff over the years.

Trying to encapsulate 30 years of achievements of FOWSP is difficult.

The impact of its activities in Warrandyte State Park over the years has been immeasurable but it is this primary focus, that of the Warrandyte State Park, that is the major reason for its longevity. FOWSP members remain passionate about the Park, its history and current role and committed to its future.

There is little doubt FOWSP will continue with its efforts while working to protect the Park which is so important to the integrity of Warrandyte and which supports the wide range of plant, bird and animal life we all love and enjoy. The Warrandyte State Park

will continue to provide the major focus for FOWSP while it works alongside Park staff and the local community to ensure the very best outcomes.

Congratulations are due to FOWSP and all Friends, both past and present, for all the hard work, assistance, pleasure, support, fun, joy and achievement in reaching this 30th anniversary.

The Warrandyte community and the Friends look forward to the celebrations of this major milestone.

● FOWSP can be contacted through PO Box 220, Warrandyte 3113, webpage: <http://fowsp.org.au> or their stall at the monthly market.

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**WORRIED** about the United convenience store proposal? Visit <http://keepwarrandyteunique.weebly.com>.

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WARRANDYTE **diary**

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[www.warrandytediary.com.au](http://www.warrandytediary.com.au)



Devil of a job: WPS teacher Yasmin Mines travelled to WA to acquire new environmental know-how. Inset: A "seriously cute" Thorny Devil.



## Teacher brings back the knowledge

Last month, Warrandyte Primary School Grade 5/6 students received science lessons from their teacher, Yasmin Mines, who was on the other side of Australia, at the Charles Darwin Reserve in Western Australia.

Yasmin travelled to rural WA, as part of the EarthWatch TeachLive program, to work alongside environmental scientists assisting in developing a predator control program to support native wildlife in the area.

"Working alongside the scientists has allowed me to understand the demands of their profession and how I can now best prepare my students for possible careers within this field," Yasmin said.

"The expeditions, research and general discussions with the scientists have all contributed to the knowledge and understanding that I will continue to share with my students."

## Renewed courts at the Creek

The kids at Andersons Creek Primary School had an exciting time one week last month, renovating their netball and basketball court.

"Guided by Jason Graff we laid the whole new surface in just two days, with every student laying at least one tile," PE teacher

Meredith Thornton told the *Diary*.

"The product pieces fit together like a jigsaw puzzle and lock into place. The lines are all being painted on the surface."

All school fundraising this year has gone towards installation of the new court.

## Scholarships on again

The Warrandyte Community Bank is continuing its student scholarships program with applications for the 2013 scheme opening next month.

Now in its second year, the Warrandyte scheme enables the educational aspirations of two local students to be pursued, branch chairman Sarah Wrigley told the *Diary*.

"These scholarships will mean that young people will have the chance to become doctors, occupational therapists, IT professionals, dentists, engineers, scientists or whatever they dream to be," Ms Wrigley said.

The inaugural Warrandyte scholarship winners Elisha Cottier and Victoria Downes launched their studies at university earlier this year.

"It was initially a tough transition coming into university with 60,000 students, but I have finally found my feet and I can honestly say that I love life," Victoria Downes said.

Victoria is studying Arts at Melbourne University. "Thank you Warrandyte Community Bank for choosing me! I really can't imagine how I would cope financially without the scholarship. It has just made life that little

bit easier," she said.

Warrandyte High School acting assistant principal Kathy Hooke, commented: "The scholarships provide an amazing opportunity for students to further their studies beyond high school. The financial support at the start of their studies takes the pressure off and allows them to concentrate on their chosen courses."

● For further information contact the Warrandyte Community Bank or visit: [www.bendigoadelaide.com.au/scholarships](http://www.bendigoadelaide.com.au/scholarships).



Winners: L-R—bank chairman Sarah Wrigley, 2012 scholarship recipients Victoria Downie and Elisha Cottier, (then) high school principal Glennis Pitches and branch manager Mark Challen.

## New principal at Warrandyte High

Warrandyte High School has a new principal. Well he's not really new, since he has been vice-principal at the school for 10 years.

When the school council sat down to consider the appointment of a new principal, following the resignation of Glennis Pitches, they decided they could do no better than appoint the vice-principal, Dr Stephen Parkin to the position.

He demonstrates "an unsurpassed passion for student learning and an unrelenting commitment to the see the school develop as a leader in 21st century learning," a school council spokesperson told the *Diary*.

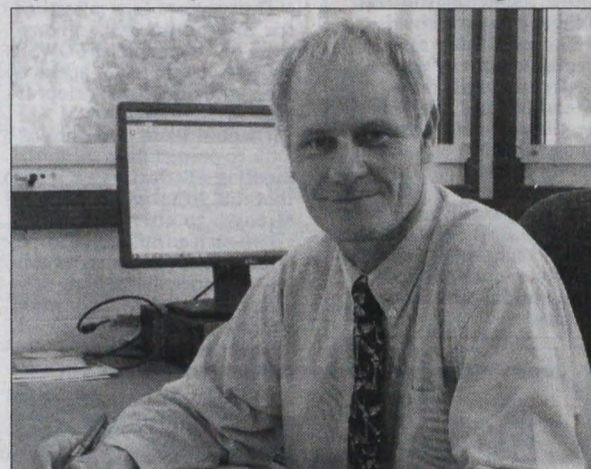
"Dr Parkin was the outstanding candidate in an exceptionally strong field, and his appointment is testament to his vision, passion, leadership capabilities and expertise.

"His focus is to strengthen and improve the learning outcome for students.

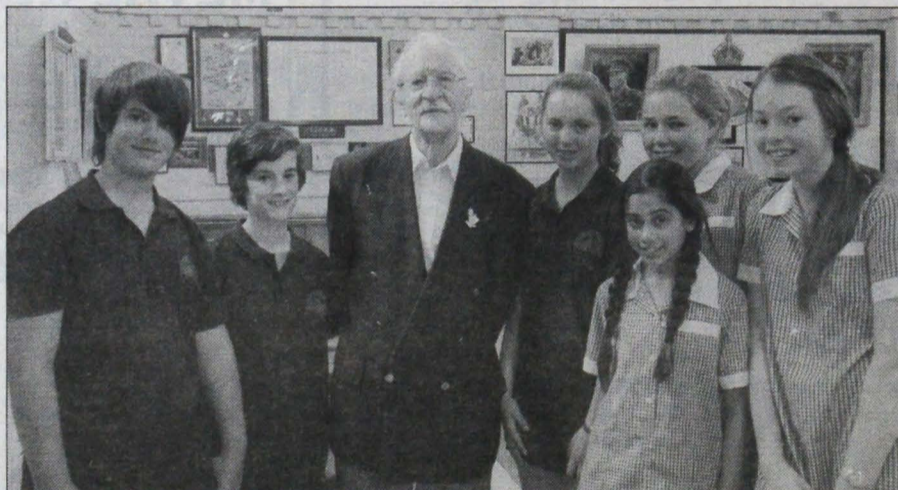
"He is determined to see Warrandyte High School grow and build its standing in the local community and to provide all students with high educational opportunities, which meet their needs and inspire them to challenge themselves in their own goals and aspirations.

"His strategies for taking the school forward are well considered, visionary and achievable," the spokesperson said.

Following his 10 years of service to the school, "Dr Parkin will be able to hit the school running. The school community is fortunate to have secured a new principal with his experience and passion for helping children learn, grow and flourish in this important adolescent life stage."



Dr Stephen Parkin



## Local kids meet Rats

Each year, Grade 6 students at Warrandyte Primary School visit Tobruk House to meet veterans of World War 2. Among those they met was Ron, 93, a veteran of the Siege of Tobruk. He is pictured with his young visitors.

"The events and stories of that time in history are still very clear in his mind," WPS principal Gill Binger told the *Diary*. The men recounted

what life was like during the war; the reason why Tobruk needed to be defended; the special mates they made; the hard life in the trenches and why they were called the Rats of Tobruk.

"This annual visit by WPS students keeps the stories of war alive and recognises the efforts and sacrifices the Diggers made for Australia," Ms Binger said.

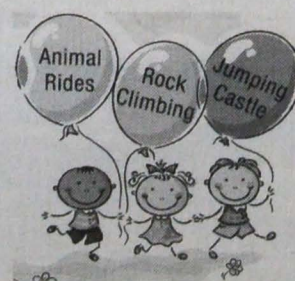
## Village school marks 30 years

The Village School in Croydon North is celebrating its first 30 years with a Birthday Fair on Saturday, December 8. Everyone is welcome.

Founded in 1982 by Carol Glover at a site in Ringwood, the school moved to its present site on Holloway Road, Croydon North in 1985.

The larger site made possible the development of the Brushy Creek Wetlands and the Village Farm.

School parent Lana Bedford told the *Diary*: "Children from Prep to Grade 6 develop responsibility for caring for the wetlands and for the school



animals, including horses, chickens geese, goats and sheep.

"Carol's original goal was to establish a progressive,

independent primary school with small class sizes to allow meaningful educational interactions between child and teachers.

"Over 30 years since its foundation, Village School has provided a relaxed yet stimulating learning environment that allows children to develop as confident and competent adults," Ms Bedford said.

The Fair will run between 10am and 4pm on Saturday, December 8 at 9-11 Holloway Road, Croydon North.

● More information from 9726 4766 or [www.villageschool.vic.edu.au](http://www.villageschool.vic.edu.au).

# Well-remembered cop retires

By BRIANNA PIAZZA

After serving the Warrandyte community for 24 years, Warrandyte's Senior Constable Ross Timms retired from the police force last month.

Since joining the force at the age of 23, he has worked for the police for more than 32 years.

He told the *Diary* that he enjoyed his time as Warrandyte's senior constable because of the interaction with the community.

"I enjoyed working with a number of different people over the years—both officers as well as community members. I was very privileged to work for and with the commu-

nity to get a better result."

Before joining the force, Ross was a carpenter and had never imagined that he would have a career with the police.

More than three decades later, Ross has had a highly successful career with the police force and after retiring he is returning to his original trade as a carpenter.

In 2010, both Ross and his Warrandyte colleague, Sergeant Keith Walker, received a regional commendation award, recognising their exceptional service and performance for their role on Black Saturday.

He said during his time with

the Warrandyte police he enjoyed working with a variety of different officers who have brought to the station new ideas and different ways of policing in the community.

"I enjoyed working in Warrandyte because it felt like I was working in the country, yet it's so close to the city," he said.

"It was a pleasure to work there, and I thoroughly enjoyed serving the Warrandyte community."

Ross officially retired early last month, and has since taken up a full time job as a carpenter.

Ross Timms: Served our community.



# Sew many memories...

By CHERIE MOSELEN

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House members are leading a community project to create a wall hanging that depicts the history of Warrandyte, including much of the area's flora and fauna.

The project—a long-held dream of veteran local activist Jean Chapman—has been in planning stages for 12 months but is now at the point where participants can pick up a needle.

A template designed by *Diary* artist Jock Macneish will guide individuals in choosing one of 84 squares to sew, felt, or embroider.

At a project meeting last month, WNH co-ordinator Karen Throssell expressed her delight in the community's enthusiasm for the venture.

"The response has been wonderful," Ms Throssell told the *Diary*. "Several people were inspired by an earlier *Diary* article and word of mouth did the rest, so most of the 84 squares have now been spoken for."

"We are very grateful to Jock Macneish, for his generosity of time and his gifted visual design. His sketches of Warrandyte's iconic features, flowers and wildlife will translate beautifully into this textile version of our history."

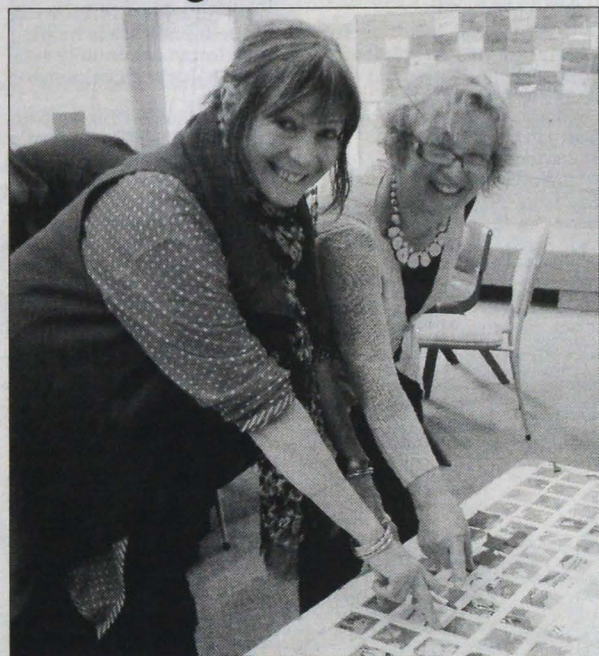
Textile enthusiast and retired art teacher Cathy Price told the *Diary* she welcomes the opportunity to be involved in her community, doing something she loves.

"I travel a bit and can't commit large blocks of time to do educational classes so I'm a first-time visitor to the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House even though I've lived here for 30 years," Mrs Price said.

"Taking part in this project appealed to me because I can work on my square at home, and it's inspiring to think my craftwork will be part of a larger community legacy."

Stitchers can also work on their squares on Tuesday mornings at 10am alongside the program's Busy Needles group, where an experienced project leader will be available.

WNH courses are currently



Selecting squares for the wall hanging.

being held in the Warrandyte Community Church, temporary home of the Neighbourhood House who moved in six months ago as part of the Community Centre relocation process.

This is not the first time WNH have been forced to relocate, the organisation moved into a childcare centre in 1990 for 12 months when its original home at the old Getsons site—now the site of the Warrandyte Community Centre—was earmarked for renovation.

A legitimate concern for community groups that run educational classes and undergo a change of location is the danger that clients may go elsewhere, however Ms Throssell said she is grateful the move hadn't affected enrolments.

"Enrolments have increased for our men's exercise classes, and we have added two more art classes that focus on pastels and watercolours."

"Not only have loyal class members been willing to follow us down the road, they

have also been patient in coping with varying conditions.

"It definitely helps that our landlord, the Community Church, has been friendly and flexible in sharing its space with us," she said.

Mutual collaboration is one of the pathways favoured by

the House in fostering its aim of building community.

Joint ventures also happen to be the subject of this year's United Nations International Year of Co-operatives, which aims to highlight the contribution of "co-operatives" to socio-economic development.

Given the work it does to promote community connectedness, it seems fitting that the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House itself, grew out of a co-operative enterprise.

Established in 1981 as a member-owned community organisation, the Warrandyte Community Workshop Co-operative Ltd was set up to create work for Warrandyte unemployed and ran for almost 10 years.

Jean Chapman was a driving force behind the Co-op and many of its successes, which included a labour exchange, youth coffee shop, childcare centre, and getting the Warrandyte bakery operational again after it had fallen into disrepair.

One of the Co-op's final legacies was to secure funding for Warrandyte's Neighbourhood House in 1987.

For more information about the wall hanging, please call Karen Throssell on 9844 1839 or email [info@warrandyteighbourhoodhouse.org.au](mailto:info@warrandyteighbourhoodhouse.org.au).

## Carols at Reserve

The combined churches of Warrandyte and Park Orchards will present the Warrandyte Community Carols by Candlelight at Stiggants Reserve on Saturday, December 15 at 8pm.

"The special guest artist this year is Silvie Paladino, a regular featured artist at Carols by Candlelight at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl," carols organiser Rick Gordon, told the *Diary*.

"Our local Warrandyte choir, the Bellbird Singers, will lead the singing, accompanied by the 40-piece Eltham Concert Band. Kevin O'Mara and the Warrandyte

Primary Bush Band will open the program, joined by choirs from Kangaroo Ground and Andersons Creek primary schools."

Come early with your picnic tea, or food and drinks can be bought on the night. Pre-event entertainment will be provided by Adam from 7.30pm.

Glo-sticks and candles will be available for purchase, and donations will be accepted during the performance for the annual Christmas Bowl Appeal.

If postponed due to bad weather, it will be held the following night, Sunday, December 16. Enquiries: 9844 4148.

## CYRIL

By PAUL WILLIAMS



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# New bushland controls

The Native Vegetation Management Framework is one of the controls on native vegetation clearance protecting Warrandyte's bushland character. The Department of Sustainability and Environment is currently reviewing this strategy document.

In order to protect our bushland, the Warrandyte Community Association has lodged a submission to this review.

"WCA is concerned that any weakening of the Framework could destroy the partnership between government and local volunteer effort essential for conservation of our native vegetation and habitat," spokesman Doug Seymour said.

"The Kennett government, concerned that Victoria is a national leader in broadscale clearance of native vegetation on private land, introduced vegetation management controls in the late 1980s.

"The centrepiece of these controls is this framework which includes the requirement for 'net gain' to be demonstrated before approval to clear is granted."

The framework's main goal is to achieve a reversal, across the entire landscape, of the

long-term decline in the extent and quality of native vegetation, leading to a net gain. The framework guidelines state: "Net gain will be achieved as a result of landholder and government-assisted efforts to protect and improve native vegetation. Permitted clearing must be offset in a way that adequately addresses the future impacts of such clearing."

Responding to an alert from local Friends and Landcare groups, the WCA wrote to the Minister for Environment, Warrandyte MP Ryan Smith, and has now made a submission in response to the discussion paper circulated by the Department of Sustainability and Environment.

"It is normal practice for regulations to be reviewed every decade or so; in this case there have been calls from rural electorates for the process to be simplified," Mr Seymour said.

"Rural papers claim that the framework is inhibiting investment, raising concern that it will be abolished or weakened."

WCA had direct experience of the framework in practice when it supported a local

Landcare group objecting to a riverfront subdivision in Osborne Road. Locals were concerned that the extent of disturbance proposed would unduly disturb valued native vegetation, contiguous with the reserve along the Yarra River.

This case demonstrated the considerable complexity of net gain calculations, pointing to a need to simplify the process. In discussions Minister Smith indicated there are signs this element of the framework does not work.

Nevertheless, WCA contends that, though complex, the framework in its current state is working. There is clear evidence that clearing on private land is slowing and the framework is helping the Victorian community seriously evaluate development proposals.

The discussion paper proposes that the department's central vegetation database be used to streamline and reduce the need for an expert site specific assessment when a development is planned.

However, WCA's concern is about the veracity of this database and whether such reform will provide adequate

protection. "We are looking for assurances about the resources needed to keep such a database up-to-date, reliable and responsive to the impact of climate change," Mr Seymour said.

WCA has also taken an interest in the department's analysis of the ratio of permit applications to clearance areas. The paper argues that 10 percent of applications are responsible for 76 percent of permitted clearing in "habitat hectares".

A risk management approach is proposed for managing applications and there is a concern that areas like Warrandyte, with its smaller allotments, may be relegated to a less superficial application of the framework.

"Remnant vegetation enriches the fabric of our community and contributes to the integrity of the Warrandyte State Park which is interwoven through the area," Mr Seymour said.

The WCA submission concluded by supporting the paper's call for better enforcement action where non-compliant clearance has taken place.



Award: Creekside in Harris Gully Road. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

## CreekSide takes building award

The board and residents of "CreekSide in Warrandyte" were delighted to learn that the Master Builders Association of Victoria recently awarded its 2012 Excellence in Building award for the Best Multi Unit Development for 4 to 12 units to the builder of the retirement village, Costas Constructions

The citation reads: "This very special development evolved as a solution to the lack of retirement living in the

local area. The design focus of the five individual villas is on spaciousness and open-plan living.

"Other features include hardwood flooring, Caesarstone bench tops, extra large showers and European appliances. A wide range of complementary façade colours and external material ensure that each home harmonises with its setting.

"Energy efficiency has been addressed through the inclusion of double glazing, rainwater tanks and hydronic heating.

Each villa benefits from a courtyard with outdoor paving and a rock and sleeper seat. These features, together with native plants in the landscaping, further enhance the overall quality and appeal of the outdoor space."

Warrandyte architect Adie Courtney, local landscape designer Bev Hanson, builder George Costas and all those

involved with the project deserve the highest praise. This is a prestigious award, which showcases outstanding craftsmanship and is a professional benchmark.

The competition was apparently extremely fierce and the competing projects of high standard, so builder George Costas was very pleased and delighted to receive the award.

VAL POLLEY

## Bombshells will blow you away!

Warrandyte Theatre Company's latest production "Bombshells" is currently running at the Warrandyte Mechanics Hall in Yarra Street. It is described by its author, Australian playwright Joanna Murray-Smith, as being about "women on the edge".

Originally written as a series of monologues for a single performer, director Adrian Rice is staging it with multiple actors. "This enables us as a community-based theatre to meet our needs as a company and to display six talented women," Mr Rice said.

"The monologues that make up this show will resonate with all of you. You will identify with several directly and others indirectly. Whichever it is, this show has something for everyone and is a terrific demonstration of excellent Australian playwriting."

"Bombshells" is being staged on November 23, 24, 29, 30 and December 1 at 8pm. There will be a matinee at 2.30pm on Saturday, December 1.

● To book: trybooking.com/BWOH, or 0488 333 575.

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[www.bendigoadelaide.com.au/scholarships](http://www.bendigoadelaide.com.au/scholarships)

## Talk to us about the new Nillumbik Municipal Fire Management Plan

The Nillumbik Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee is inviting residents to have their say on the draft Nillumbik Municipal Fire Management Plan at a series of community information sessions in November and December.

The draft Plan is a new and collaborative approach to fire management that details the collective efforts of a range of agencies and stakeholders in identifying and managing the risk of fire in the local community.

The Plan is available for review and feedback at [www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/municipalfiremanagementplan](http://www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au/municipalfiremanagementplan) until 21 December 2012.

### CFA's Fire Ready Victoria Bushfire meetings at 7.30pm

As you speak to us on the draft Plan, don't forget to get the latest updates for this fire season at CFAs Fire Ready Victoria meeting at 7.30pm. The hour long session is a must have for information on the essential decisions you and your family must make to be fire ready.

For more information, go to [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au) or call 8746 1400.

### Session details

Nillumbik Municipal Fire Management Plan Community information sessions are scheduled from 6.30pm to 9.30pm at the following venues and dates, with CFA Fire Ready Victoria meetings to run from 7.30pm to 8.30pm:

North Warrandyte Fire Station	Monday 19 Nov 2012	184 Research Road, North Warrandyte	6.30pm to 9.30pm
Panton Hill Hall	Tuesday 4 Dec 2012	580 Kangaroo Ground- St Andrews Road	6.30pm to 9.30pm
Diamond Creek Fire Station	Thursday 6 Dec 2012	83 Main Hurstbridge Road, Diamond Creek	6.30pm to 9.30pm



VICTORIA POLICE

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# It was all in trivial fun!

Bright balloons and colourful table decorations crowded every available space in the Andersons Creek Primary School theatre one Saturday last month when Warrandyte CFA ran their grand gala trivia night.

"The night was a lot of fun," CFA Captain Bernie Ebzery told the *Diary*. "It's been great to hear such positive feedback for our efforts with our trivia night, as well as for our dedication to our township."

The generosity of sponsors in Templestowe, Doncaster East and Warrandyte, all of them located in the brigade's response area, meant a creditable \$5000 was raised on the night.

These proceeds have been allocated to a new "slip-on", a small, heavy-duty, four-wheel drive vehicle, used as first attack in bushfires.

**LYNDA HAMILTON**



Pictures by **RENEE BISSCHEROUX**

## WARRANDYTE FIRE BRIGADE

# TRIVIA NIGHT

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SPORT

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HISTORY

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MUSIC

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# Your junk turns to treasure

Warrandyte Uniting Church, in conjunction with WarrandyteCAN, is holding its next six-monthly recycling day on Sunday, November 24 at the church in Tarooona Avenue, Warrandyte. Items can be dropped off between 10am and 12 noon, and will now include TVs as well as CDs, DVDs, bicycles, computers and parts, ink cartridges, mobile phones, hearing aids, glasses, used stamps, material, lace, buttons and batteries. Enquiries to Ken Kean on 0407 839 718.

## Drivers

Nillumbik council is seeking volunteers who want to be part of a two-month community transport trial taking place between January and March next year. For more information contact Carol Peterson on 9433 3371 or Carol.Peterson@nillumbik.vic.gov.au.

## Launch

Eltham Bookshop, Montsalvat and Text Publishing are presenting a special celebration of the re-publication of All the Green Year written by Don Charlwood. Don was a resident of Warrandyte until his death earlier this year. This new edition carries a revised Afterword written by Don. The book is the story of a boy's journey towards adulthood. The celebration will take place at Montsalvat, Hillcrest Road, Eltham on Wednesday, December 5 at 6pm. Cost is \$22 single, \$32 for couples and includes a copy of the book or another text classic of your choice along with drinks and nibbles. Bookings are essential on 9439 8700.

## Green

Nillumbik council is offering a free garden green waste drop-off weekend, Saturday and Sunday, November 24 and 25, between 8am and 4pm at the Recycling and Recovery Centre, 290 Yan Yean Road, Plenty (Melway 11 D1). For further information call 9433 3111.

## Carols

Manningham Carols by Candlelight will be staged on Friday, December 14 at Ruffey Park Lake Park, Doncaster, commencing with a Family Festival at 6pm, the main stage starting 7.45, with fireworks around 10.15pm, weather permitting. For further information call 9840



## Visit our fires on CFA Sunday

On Sunday, November 25 the Warrandyte CFA will open their doors to the community for CFA Sunday from 10am to 2pm. The Fire Services Commissioner will launch the Greater Warrandyte Community Information Guide. There will be a sausage sizzle, face painting for the kids and a vintage fire truck on display. A show bag of goodies will be given out to those kids who create or decorate their own firefighter's helmet and wear it on the day.

## 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.

9304 or visit [www.manningham.vic.gov.au/carols](http://www.manningham.vic.gov.au/carols).

## Waste

Manningham council is once again offering its green waste program to residents of Wonga Park, Warrandyte, Park Orchards, South Warrandyte and parts of Donvale and Templestowe. Green waste can be left at council's Green Waste Recycle Centre, corner of Blackburn and Websters Road, Templestowe, between 9am and 3pm, on Sundays 2, 9, 16, and 23 December. You will need to collect green waste vouchers from your local CFA brigade or council offices at 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster. Further information from 9840 9333.

## Theatre

Warrandyte Theatre Company's production of Bombshells by Joanna Murray-Smith is currently running at the Mechanics Institute Hall with performances on November 23, 24, 29 30 and December 1 and 2 at 8pm. You can book through [trybooking.com/BWOH](http://trybooking.com/BWOH), or phone 0488 333 575.

## Salvos

The Salvation Army in Doncaster East is organising a Community Christmas Celebration on Sunday, December 2 at 3.30pm at 37 Taunton street, Doncaster East. The program will feature carol singing, school musical groups, Christmas fun and a brass band, followed by a sausage sizzle. Everyone is invited. More information from 9842 4744.

## Citizens

Nillumbik council is seeking nominations for its 2013 Nillumbik Australia Day Awards. Residents can nominate in the following categories: Young Citizen of the Year, Citizen of the Year, Senior Citizen of the Year, Community Group of the Year and Volunteer of the Year. Nominations close at 5pm, Monday, December

10. Further information from Tracey Classon on 9433 3271 or Tracey.Classon@nillumbik.vic.gov.au.

## Need to know

This page is provided to publicise community events. Ensure you tell us: what it is; when it is; where it is; is there a cost? Include a phone number for enquiries.

## artyfacts

Local artist Denise Keele-Bedford is currently a featured artist at both Stonehouse Gallery, 103 Yarra Street, Warrandyte and Ruby Tuesday, 90 Melbourne Hill Road, Warrandyte. Artworks on display derive from Denise's interest in natural forms, architecture and heritage. Her work will be on show in November, followed by those of Walter Magilton in December.

## Exhibition

Niknarmada (Adam Rankin) and Wayne Rankin will present an exhibition of emerging art of movement, colour and texture at the Tin Shed Gallery from December 1 to 22. The gallery is at the Roundabout Café, adjacent to the Warrandyte bridge. The opening will be on December 1 at 4pm with open hours from Thursday to Monday, 10.30am to 5pm.

## Show

Manningham Art Gallery presents "MC Transfer", an interactive installation work by students and staff at the Manningham Art Studios with Artist in Residence, Aleiy Ball. The show opens on Wednesday, November 28 at 6pm and will continue each Tuesday and Saturday, 11am to 5pm, until Saturday, December 29.

## Open

A new exhibition at Eltham Library Community Gallery, 1 Panther Place, Eltham, brings together works from every artist taking part in Nillumbik's 25th Artists' Open Studios program. The exhibition will be on display from November 1 to 26. Opening hours are Monday to Thursday 10am to 8pm, Friday and Saturday 10am to 5pm and Sunday 1pm to 5pm. The artists' studios are open on November 24 and 25 from 11am to 5pm. A free tour booklet is available from <http://artistsopenstudios.com.au>.

## Exhibition

Warrandyte potter, Jane Annois (with Emmy Mavroidis) is presenting an exhibition combining drawing with ceramic forms at Nyora Studio Gallery, 1 Nyora Road, Eltham on Saturdays and Sundays from 11am to 5pm until December 2. Entitled "Drawing with Smoke" this is a collaboration inspired by the artists' common French experience. Jane Annois will also open her own studio, 109 Kangaroo Ground Road, Warrandyte on November 24 and 25 as part of the Nillumbik Open Studios program.

## Stonehouse

Stonehouse Gallery, 103 Yarra Street, Warrandyte will run a VIP night on Thursday, November 22 from 5pm to 8pm.



MANNINGHAM

## GREEN WASTE VOUCHERS

Manningham Council is offering its Green Waste Program again to provide residents living in high fire danger areas with the opportunity to dispose of green waste free of charge thus making their properties safer leading into the fire danger period.

Residents living in the Bushfire Prone Areas of Wonga Park, Warrandyte, Park Orchards, South Warrandyte and parts of Donvale and Templestowe are encouraged to clean up their properties by redeeming their green waste vouchers at Tiklara Park, Websters Road, Templestowe, between 9:00am and 3:00pm on Sundays 2, 9, 16 and 23 December.

Green Waste vouchers are available for collection at the Manningham Civic Centre, 699 Doncaster Road, Doncaster or your local fire brigade. To redeem your voucher free of charge, you must live in the fire danger area of Manningham and provide evidence that you are a resident of Manningham.

For more information, call Council's Health & Local Laws Unit on 9840 9333.

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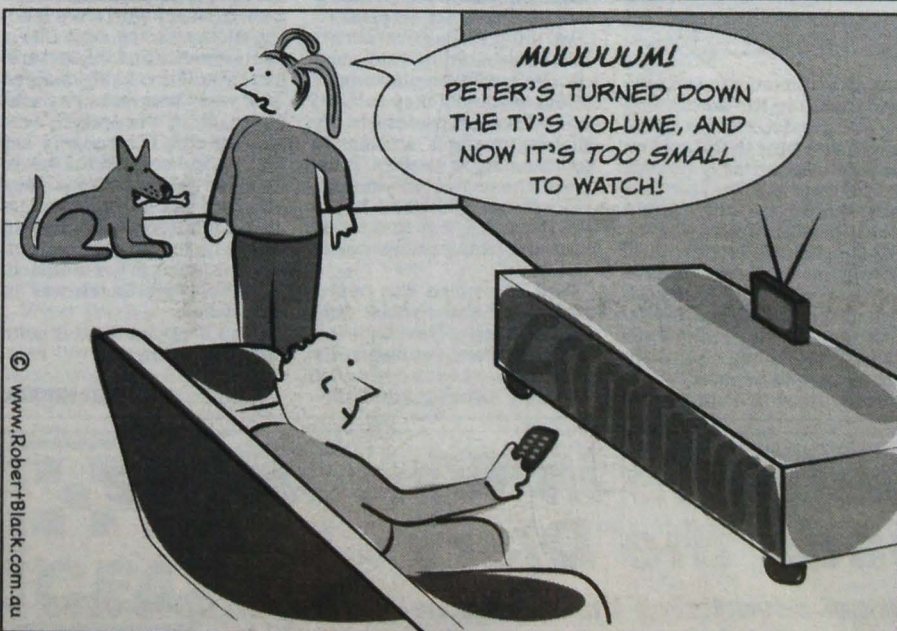
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 Dr Aman Sekhon  
 Dr Olivia Rimington  
 Dr Andrew Perrignon  
 Dr Libby Rochstein

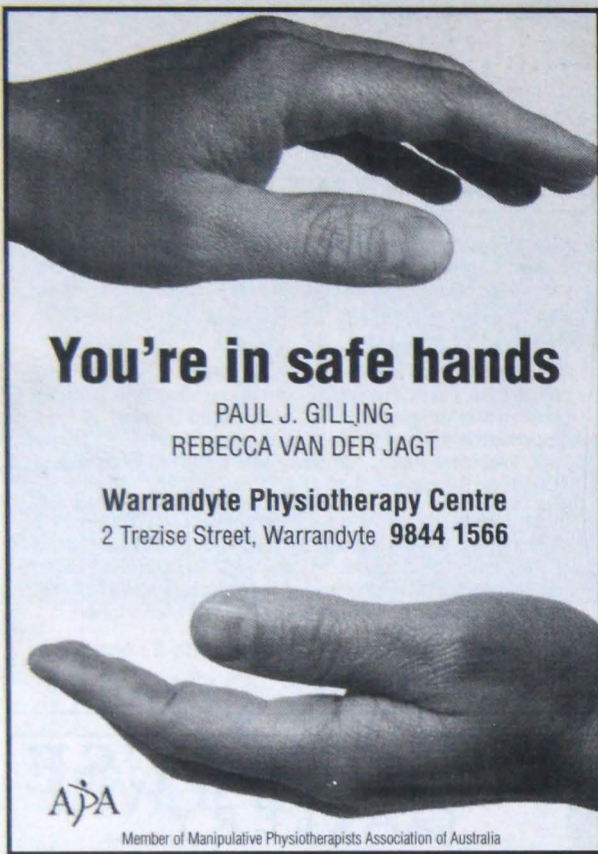
Dr Gail Dixon continues to see her regular patients

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## SOMEWHERE IN WARRANDYTE... By ROBERT BLACK





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# Get the drop on grizzly bears and other hazards

IT seems that at international tourist operator conventions, they always come up with the conclusion that every tourist destination must have something novel to attract the punters.


Now it doesn't really matter what the "it" is, as long as there is one. Fortunately the list of possibilities is endless, ranging from geographical features, cultural activities and heritage. The big winner however, always seems to be wildlife of some sort.

In Scotland they have cornered the market with Nessie, the ever elusive serpent whose job description is, "make an occasional but unseen appearance every time the tourist trade seems to be flagging".

Not to be outdone, the Canadian town of Kelowna, BC, has a serpent in their lake and it looks, for all the world, like Scotland's Nessie. Perhaps, it's the same one and the Scottish and Canadian lakes are joined by an underground tunnel and Nessie works a double shift.

And just in case you don't catch the real one, there is a model of the monster, looking very cartoony and benign, I might add, in the town square. It's designed for all those who need to have themselves photographed next to a fibreglass model of a nonexistent tourist fabrication.

Australia has its kangaroos, wallabies, platypus, koala and bity things but the real "come on in sucker", is the talk of the "drop bears". It seems that we



kibbled

**"Not to be outdone, the Canadian town of Kelowna, BC, has a serpent in their lake and it looks, for all the world, like Scotland's Nessie..."**

are all attracted to the scary and therefore the notion that in the great Oz wilds there might be a bear that drops on you from a tree, is terrifyingly attractive. I've never seen one, but like Nessie, they might work irregular hours.

Given our own fabrication of "drop bears", it's not surprising that other countries push the dangerous animal tourist line as well. So as a gullible tourist, let me tell you of our experience in Canada.

Ever since we made the

decision to go north, Herself has been excited about the possibility of seeing wildlife in the wild. Now by definition, wildlife is wild and lives in the wild so your chances of seeing such creatures in the wild is remote but despite that, there was always the hope that we would chance upon an elk, beaver, moose, deer but most hopefully of all, a bear, grizzly by preference but a black one would do, at a pinch. And the Canadian tourism operators know this and play on it mercilessly.

Wherever we went, be it gondola ride, bus ride through a city park or on a coach tour through the wilderness, we were advised to be on the lookout for goats, deer, elk, moose and perhaps even a bear. I'm sure it will surprise you to learn that we did see what might have been a mountain goat a kilometre away up a scree-covered slope in the Rockies but all the others were on vacation, possibly with the two lake serpents.

We did see two grizzly bears in a large holding enclosure on Grouse Mountain outside Vancouver and they fulfilled every tourist's delight by playing in pools and eating low hanging fir needles. I suppose these two 11-year old ex-orphans fulfilled the hopes we both had, but that didn't stop the desire to see one in the "wild".

And of course, the operators feed the tourist fear of the grizzly. Now this is a well deserved reputation for meanness as with one swipe of their talon-loaded paw

they can remove bits of your head you'd rather had stayed where they were.

So, on a number of occasions we were warned about what to do if we came across a bear. Now the likelihood of this was remote but even so we were advised to hike in groups, preferably yodelling Swiss mountain songs as we go, to frighten off any lurking grizzly with even the slightest taste in music. But evidently, not all tourists heed the warnings and just go out and "do their own thing".

At the commencement of all hiking trails there are warnings, in French and English, about what to do on the trails and of any dangers. Tragically, there was one particular Czech hiker who couldn't or wouldn't heed the warnings and went off, on his own, into an area known to have had a recent sighting of a male and a female bear. Apparently he had hiked a good way into the forest before he startled the pair of bears who were feeding alongside the trail. Their natural reaction followed and the hiker was not only mauled but was dismembered and eaten. Once this tragedy was discovered, the rangers set out to find and kill the bears to avoid further attacks. They did find and kill the female but when they performed an autopsy, they discovered no hiker remains in her stomach; evidently, the Czech was in the male.

Drop bears had better get a better spin doctor!

ROGER KIBELL



**Everyone in Warrandyte reads the Diary**

For local advertising that works call Briony on 9844 0555

# Looking up for rare parrots

**I**N September, I was privileged to see the endangered Carnaby's Black Cockatoo up close and personal

I was volunteering for Bird Life Australia in the south-east Wheatbelt region of Western Australia, working mainly in remnant vegetation on farmers' land (with their permission).

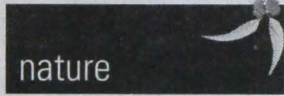
Using the "tap and flush" survey method, we monitored breeding pairs by tapping salmon gums with a stick, hoping that a nesting female would pop out her head to see who was making the ruckus. We checked "known" trees—those recorded having active nesting hollows in previous years. What an incredible buzz to be tapping or looking up, when instead of our chorus of "nothing", we'd see a spikey head suddenly appear at the hollow entrance, and we'd call out "Yes!"

Ideally, the bird would stay perched at the hollow, presenting not only photo opportunities, but more importantly, not flying out and risking damage to the eggs. On the first morning, our first tap was met by a female flying out of the hollow and screeching in alarm. Within seconds, there were about eight pairs of Carnaby's flying in to investigate. Although less than ideal, it did afford a fantastic opportunity to see these beautiful birds—their white tail-feathers obvious in free flight. We waited until the birds had a chance to return to their hollows before surveying further in that area.

We witnessed competition for suitable nesting hollows, the main competitors being galahs and feral bees. The galahs tended to rush out of a hollow as soon as we started tapping (the Carnaby's usually took a while longer), and the bees were obvious once you had got your "eye in". The



Who's that tapping? A Carnaby's Black Cockatoo. (Picture by Gayl O'Connor)



By GAYL O'CONNOR

despondent cries of "galah", or "bees" joined our cries of "nothing" and contrasted sharply with our more jubilant "yes!"

The extent of land under cultivation for crops or grazing is mind-boggling huge, but there is hope for the Carnaby's in the Wheatbelt. Corridors and feeding areas are the key to survival as well as protected nesting sites.

The birds travel from the south coastal plains (where interestingly, they have adapted to eating pine nuts in the plantations there) to inland breeding sites. They are reluctant to fly over large areas of cleared land. The energy

requirements of feeding demand that the males can fly no further than 12km in search of suitable food (generally seeds with hard coats) for nesting females.

There is a well-established recovery plan for the Carnaby's, and this particular study has practical outcomes. Supportive landowners will be informed of areas that would benefit from fencing. These areas would be around critical breeding areas and assist in keeping grazing stock out. It also allows the native vegetation below the salmon gums to regenerate.

Looking up, we also spotted an Elegant Parrot, Regent Parrots, many Ringneck Parrots or "Twenty-eights" as the subspecies is known in WA, two barn owls, a Southern Boobook owl, kestrels, striated pardalotes and two

wedge-tailed eagle nests.

Looking down, there were termite mounds, owl pellets, (collected for evidence of previously released numbats), bobtail blue-tongue lizards, and a Mulga parrot eating seeds—seemingly heedless of our car inching forward for photo opportunities.

It was a great experience taking part in this fieldwork. I learnt a lot about the Carnaby's and also the other birds in this part of Australia. With thanks to BirdLife Australia and to the researchers—Sandra and Deb—who agreed to be accompanied on this trip.

*Thanks to our guest nature writer, Gayl O'Connor for providing this insight into one of the many ways volunteers are helping nature in Victoria.*

LINDA ROGAN

# Speak loudly to foreigners!

**66** **A**CHTUNG! Werner!" A tall thin woman with wispy grey hair scurried anxiously after her husband across the village square. They were both kitted out from head-to-toe in serious wilderness clobber—not pith-helmeted exactly, but that was the impression. Werner, loaded up with a large quantity of camera gear, was making a bee-line for the exact spot we'd just parked our hire car. He was clearly excited about something.

I looked up and saw an amazing network of cave-dwellings carved into the cliffs that towered above the ancient settlement of Çavuin. Definitely the perfect spot for a photo! Werner, anxious not to lose a moment—he'd clearly escaped the clutches of a tour group—planted his tripod right next to our rear bumper. His wife continued to hail him.

"Werner! ACHTUNG!" What Werner was oblivious to was a large tour bus steadily reversing into the narrow space behind our car. The back wall of the bus

was just about to collide with his tripod when Mrs Werner firmly grasped his elbow and steered him to safety. Poor Werner.

He looked dazedly from camera to cave-riddled cliffs, completely crestfallen. Low-angle morning sun was throwing deep shadows onto the strangely pock-marked orange-pink buttresses of the cliff and he'd so nearly captured that fleeting spectacle. But alas! It was not to be. He trailed sadly behind his wife, back across the square, in search of a less dramatic vantage point.

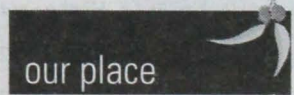
Meanwhile, my own good man was worried that we might have parked in a space reserved for buses. When the bus driver strolled back to see whether he'd left any daylight at all between his bus and our car, we asked:

"Is our car OK there?"

The bus driver, being Turkish, understood only one word. "OK?"

"Oto ... is our oto OK here?" Our Turkish was worse than his English. Typically, assistance arrived in the shape of a local man.

"Is oto OK here?" We tried



By MARILYN MOORE

again.

"Is oto OK? Yes, yes, yes ... verrrry good oto! NEW oto! Very OK. Very, very good oto!"

I did laugh. Only in Turkey, where everybody seems to talk non-stop to six people at once (usually people undertaking repairs or drying seeds on nearby rooftops) would anybody think it perfectly normal to ask a complete stranger whether one's vehicle was any good!

We set off on an all-day hike that turned out to be much longer than intended. We missed a vital signpost (facing the opposite way), and so took a wrong track; our map turned out to be a superseded version (printed before the government, somewhat inexplicably, replaced centuries-old valley names with those of other nearby valleys); the map was barely adequate anyway; and, in taking a short cut back to the intended valley, I decided I'd had enough scree for one

day and bypassed a difficult-looking ridge by going around the long way. Thus, sustained by only a 12-course breakfast, a handful of dried figs and a couple of litres of water, we put in a long, hot and extremely scenic day.

We'd last spotted Werner as we climbed out of Çavuin. He'd got away again and was contentedly crouched over his tripod, photographing an outcrop of vicious-looking thistles. His wife was nowhere in sight. I imagine she was crowded into one of the cave basilicas, peering earnestly at the weary shreds of a dim Byzantine fresco and trying to absorb a barrage of names and dates gushing forth from the tour guide.

By the end of the day, we had the map pretty well sorted. Having taken the wrong track turned out to be a bonus as we saw a lot more than we would have done otherwise, and when we came upon delightfully shaded tea houses in the most extraordinary places, we were more than ready for them. Freshly squeezed grapefruits and pomegranates! It all added up to another wonderful day in Kapadokya.

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VICTORIAN BUSHFIRE INFORMATION LINE: 1800 240 667

# A Grand future...

By VAL POLLEY

**D**ID the appearance of the large For Sale notices that appeared on The Grand Hotel recently cause you any worries about the future role of this splendid old historic building? It has been such a large part of the streetscape for so many decades, we largely take it for granted that it will always be there.

The Grand is the sole survivor of the grog shops, pubs, hotels and wine hall that have formed part of the township's history. Warrandyte was a gold mining town and miners were notoriously thirsty. Perhaps the earliest ale was sold by Mr Ginger described in *The Argus* as "a hearty denizen of the bush, black-bearded and whiskered as a robber in a Sadlers Wells melodrama".

In 1851 he opened a refreshment tent at Anderson Creek, supplying food and drink to the eager miners and stabling for horses. However as mining along the Creek diminished he packed up his business and departed for richer New South Wales goldfields.

Following the history of the various hotels is made more difficult by the frequent change of owners or licensees, change of name, the trend towards calling the hotel by the name of its owner/licensee rather than its title or, worst of all, calling any hotel the Warrandyte hotel. It's confusing to say the least.

However we do know from the map of the first land sales in 1851, a miner, Patrick Geraghty established an inn on the site where the Mechanics Institute Hall now stands. The Union Hotel (changed later to the Warrandyte Hotel) was a substantial 10-room weatherboard hotel with a bar and outhouses.

Geraghty was to sell it on before driving his 400m tunnel into Fourth

Hill in an effort to cut into a quartz reef. While the reef was not found the tunnel was mined profitably. Ewan Cameron bought the hotel in 1857 and later became Member of Parliament for the seat of Evelyn, serving in various parliamentary capacities for over 40 years.

The Union Hotel was not long to remain the only hotel servicing the Anderson Creek settlement however, as by the 1870s the Anderson Creek Hotel, a weatherboard and iron-roofed structure, was built. Lewis Grant, a well-respected resident and mining venturer, was licensee here until the 1880s.

A third hotel, the Marble Hall Hotel was thought to be located somewhere around where the bank now stands. This hotel was operated by Thomas Hosford between 1875 and 1881. Thomas was a successful miner as well as mine host at the hotel, that operated under his name until about 1887. It burnt down around 1895.

The Union Hotel was taken over by Francis (Frank) Trezise in 1884. The story goes, that after arriving from Ireland he lost his way, ending up in Warrandyte where he stayed at the Union Hotel. He lent the publican some money and when both the man and money disappeared found himself with the hotel. A generous and public-spirited man, he went on to become a local councillor. He changed the name from the Union Hotel to the Warrandyte Hotel around 1886 and eventually sold it to Mary and Charles Fritsch in 1906.

These hotels were a vital part of the burgeoning township. They provided a place to socialise, a place to stay or to eat, a place to drink and in many instances a place for meetings, wedding breakfasts; even inquests and a dentist's clinic. Many sporting groups and associations were started at meet-



The Grand Hotel (complete with verandahs)

ings held in hotels; the Warrandyte Cricket Club was one of these, formed at a meeting in the Union Hotel in 1855.

These hotels were not the only part of the story however. There were apparently a number of other places (not well recorded) ranging from McGill's Store, Holloway's Hotel and the Miner's Rest Hotel at Pound Bend that also sold liquor; not to mention the odd sly grog shop.

Overshadowing them all however was the Grand Hotel, built in 1895-6 (according to Ted Rotherham in his book *All Over Bar the Shouting*). This replaced the Anderson Creek Hotel that had stood on the embankment at this point. The Grand, a two-storey brick building with column supported verandah and pitched tile roof with two gables remains an imposing building today in this part of the township. Francis Trezise took over the Grand in 1908 and the Trezise family remained part of the Warrandyte hotel scene until the early 1960s.

Then of course there was the Warrandyte Wine Hall (now Folkart). This property was purchased

by Henry Kruse in the 1890s and converted to a wine hall, which commenced business in 1900. A popular addition to the town, it catered for friends, residents and tourists and operated until 1924 when the license was surrendered and it became a sweet shop and tea-rooms.

So by the early years of the 20th century there were three outlets servicing the growing tourist and resurgent quartz mining industries: the Warrandyte Hotel, The Grand Hotel and the Wine Hall. Advertisements appeared in the Melbourne press encouraging day visitors and tourists to visit Warrandyte, one claiming the Grand Hotel as Melbourne's Greatest Pleasure Resort (with special low rates for visitors).

Gradually the hotels catered more and more for a growing tourist trade but then in 1925 disaster struck the Warrandyte Hotel.

Over time this hotel had become renowned for its hospitality, receiving famous guests such as the Prime Minister Mr W. (Billy) Hughes and his wife and the Sistine Chapel Choir from Rome. Alas, it burnt down in a destructive fire at

night, though fortunately all the occupants of the 15-room hotel escaped. The building was totally destroyed with only a grand piano and a motor car saved. A temporary bar was set up but then there was dissent about rebuilding the hotel.

The Licensing Court considered revoking the licence and the community divided into two camps—in favour and against. There were those who argued that the hotels attracted undesirables and bad language. At the hearing local notable resident Professor Osborne proposed his view that one hotel was ample for community needs. The police witness said that there was another hotel that could provide for the tourist trade and who complained of lack of custom. So by the 1930s Warrandyte found itself with just the one hotel remaining—The Grand.

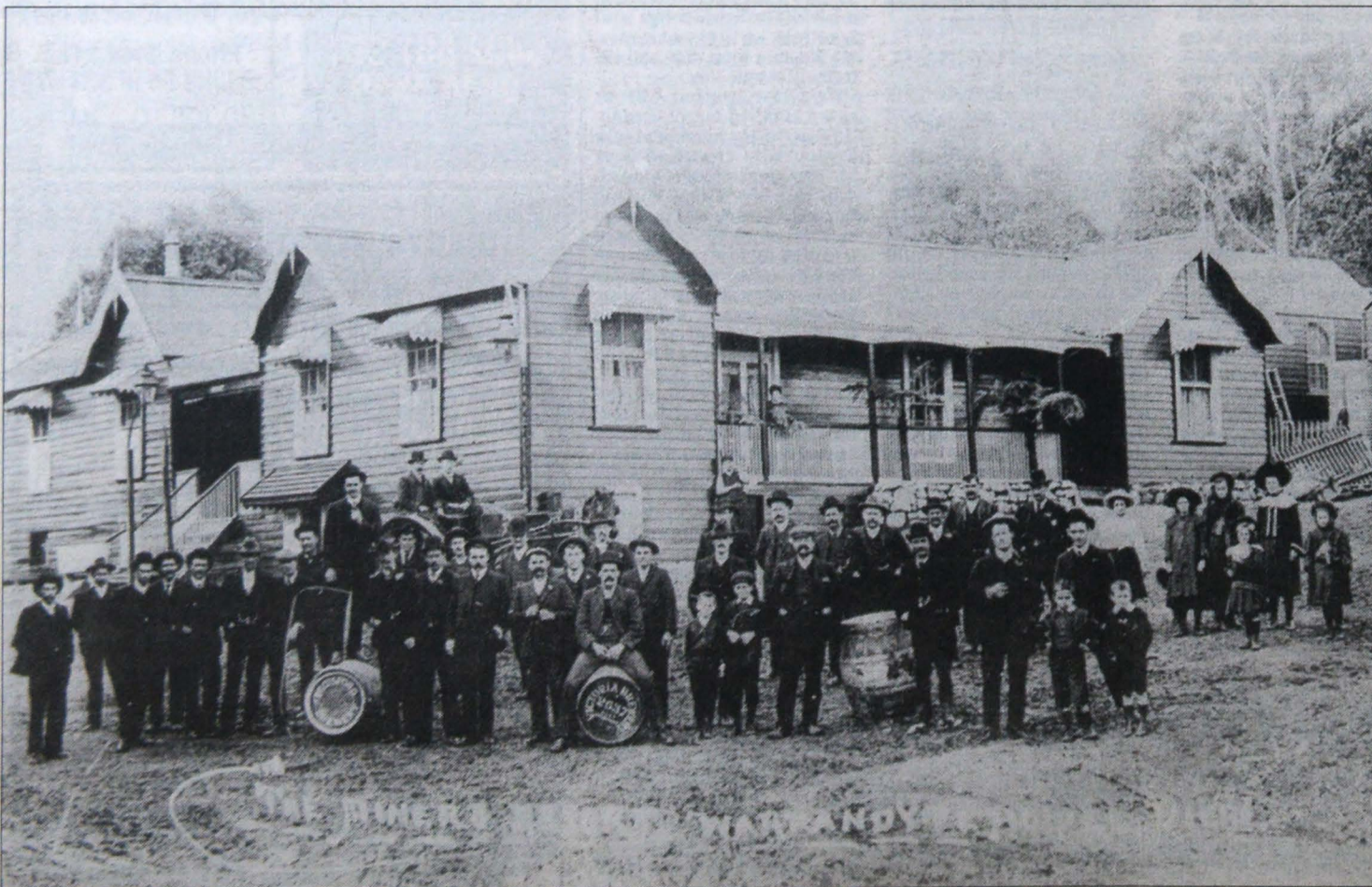
After the Grand was sold in the 1960s it underwent a round of changes, not all of which were appreciated by local residents at the time. In particular the enclosing of the lower verandah was disliked. Dining room and entertainment areas were added to the east end and a drive-in bottle shop built at the western end, the discovery of a gold nugget producing much excitement.

Since then there have been further changes and alterations. A Bull and Bush Theatre restaurant run by local actors Terry and Carole Ann Gill performed in the upstairs area for much of the 1980s. In 1992 a further facelift was undertaken with the introduction of a bistro and detail changes to bring back the turn-of-the-century feel. Pokies and Club Warrandyte have come (and gone) though the PubTab remains. The move to outside dining has seen the installation of outside tables, extendable awnings and heaters for cold nights.

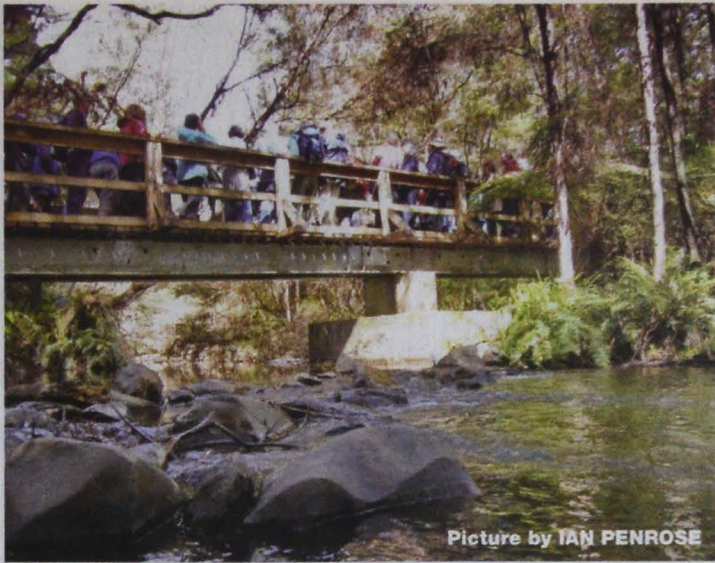
Reviewing the past stories of Warrandyte's hotels highlights their importance to the history of the town, so was it any wonder the For Sale signs caused some apprehension among residents. It now remains to be seen what the new proprietor has in store for the iconic Grand Hotel. Will it be restored to its former graceful historic glory? It would seem another era in the town's hotel history is about to begin.

● *All Over Bar the Shouting*—History of Warrandyte's Licensed Premises by Ted Rotherham is available from the Warrandyte Historical Society. Phone: 9844 4176 or email [whs.secretary@hotmail.com](mailto:whs.secretary@hotmail.com).

(Pictures courtesy Warrandyte Historical Society)



The Warrandyte Hotel (complete with band)



Picture by IAN PENROSE

## A journey upriver

By MICHELLE PINI

THE depths, flows and vagaries of our Yarra River provided cause for celebration late last month at the fifth, annual Yarra Yabber Tour. Organised by the Yarra Riverkeeper Association, the humble Yarra provided the setting for the expertly guided tour, which aims to educate and engage the community in the wonders of the river.

The Yarra Riverkeeper Association is a non-for-profit organisation which aims "to protect and restore the Yarra River and its tributaries, from source to mouth, for current and future generations". Riverkeeper, Ian Penrose succinctly describes the role of the association as "telling the river's story" and the general consensus among guests on the day was that the tale was eloquently told, as the river's unique marvels were discussed at length by a series of expert speakers and illustrated by the natural beauty of the river itself.

The tour explored many familiar tourist spots as well as some hidden treasures of the Yarra including the mighty Upper Yarra Dam and picturesque Maroondah Reservoir Park—the latter of which performed as if on cue, discharging immense quantities of water due to its currently high levels. Along the way, the role of the river as Melbourne's chief source of water supply, the importance of maintaining the river's health and restoring environmental flows as well as the plethora of wildlife it supports

were communicated and explored.

Guests were treated to a ride from Healesville to Tunnel Hill on the historic Yarra Valley Railway, which has been lovingly restored and run by enthusiastic volunteers; lunch was taken against the forested mountain backdrop of the charming town of Warburton. Guest speakers included Melbourne Water's Ian Wilcox, ecology and flows specialist, Dr Simon Treadwell and platypus researcher, Jessica Thomas from Healesville Sanctuary and covered topics from the ongoing health of the river to the spawning behaviours of its inhabitants. Along the way, the rich history of the region, its special wildlife and restoration incentives were featured and, in many cases, witnessed firsthand.

Guest, Steve Pilcher enthused: "It was fantastic—I particularly enjoyed Jess Thomas's anecdotes about the platypus as she was so knowledgeable as well as Simon Treadwell's outstanding talk particularly on the grayling, the spawning patterns of eels and the effects of the Black Saturday bushfires on the health of the river."

According to Steve Pilcher, guests of the Yarra Yabber Tour enjoyed an engaging, great day out guided by Ian Penrose "who was a terrific guide, pointing out areas of interest and sharing his impressive breadth of knowledge on birds and wildlife and, of course, his fascination with the river itself".

Ian Penrose summed up the tour as, "following the adage that people will protect what they love".

# Youth take centre stage

YOUTH is popularly said to be wasted on the young. But not on the Warrandyte Youth Theatre, an earnest group of juvenile thespians who have organised themselves into a brand new company that burst onto the Mechanics stage last month.

For their first outing, they gave us three one act plays that they chose themselves, eschewing easy laughs and frivolous themes for more challenging, gritty fare.

The first offering, *Cloudbopping*, involved a fair bit of heavy lifting. That they tackled it at all was impressive, that they pretty much pulled it off even more so. This was a confusing play about a confused Elenor who loses her mind after losing her teenage sweetheart. It veers alarmingly through time and place, with memories as unreliable as they are unsettling.

The role of Elenor was by far the most demanding of the night and Annie-Emma Italiano's interpretation was a major achievement. Nick Stuyfergen as her lost love Tom and Lawrence Phelan as her husband and friend gave fine support. Not mad about the play but mightily impressed by the confidence and capabilities of the players.

The second piece, *Remembrance*, dealt with the disturbing subject of under-age recruiting in the First World War. It worked a treat, crisply

theatre

By ALAN CORNELL

directed and well staged as the large and lively cast flaunted the bravado of youth and the power of peer-group pressure.

We followed the young man torn between the love of sweetheart and country, the parliamentary posturing that hasn't dated in almost a hundred years, and the inevitably tragic outcomes in a conflict ill-described as the Great War.

Special mention to the impressive Georgina Topp as the voice of reason and her impressionable friend Tegan Wright, and to the warring MPs Lawrence Phelan and Jarryd Black (who surely has a future with the Chasers). And to the skillful direction of Nieta Manser.

By this time we were hanging out for a good laugh and *Captive Audience*, by the absurdly dependable David Ives, got the reception it deserved. Television has consumed us we were told just in case we didn't know already.

The medium became the master as we watched a couple overdose on their addiction until being literally sucked into the

ether for the remaining days of their lives. It was all great fun, with Georgina and Jarryd, in particular, giving us a masterful vision of plasmatic seduction, exercising complete remote control as they turned the couch potatoes into silicone chips. (Or have I gone too far?) A great epilogue to a fine night's viewing.

Many people contributed to the establishment of WYT and their premiere performance. None more so than Lawrence Phelan who had the dream, and the energy to make it happen. His mum, Louise, did what mums do, which is pretty much everything.

Directors Adrian Rice, Nieta Manser and David Tynan took their raw talent to the next stage. And the Warrandyte Theatre Company applied a professional polish to the whole production.

Keeping the torch burning is the next substantial challenge for the group; we hope they manage, because the future looks bright in its glow.

Pictures by DOUGLAS MCMANUS



## Small poems for the Spring holidays

Remember that flawless blue?  
a different sky—bright, clear,  
and new blue,  
Sun warm on bare skin  
First day of Spring

Wake to find wind screaming in the wires  
Rain hurtling itself at the window  
Our customary lead grey sky  
Second day of Spring

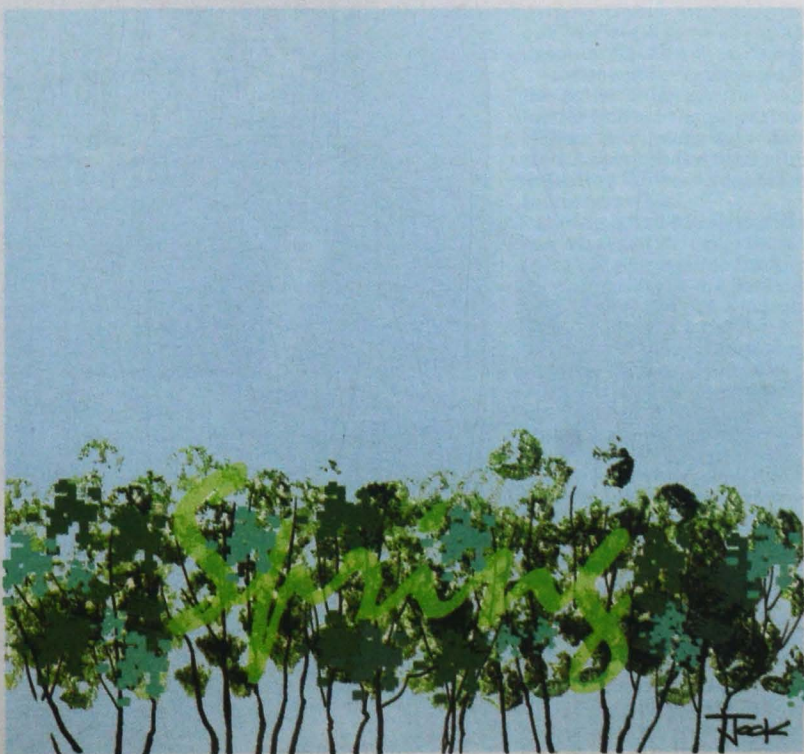
Dozing on warm sand  
Wriggling bare toes  
Because I can  
Dull sap and sleepy whoosh  
Afternoon lullaby

Evening drinks on black lace verandah  
Overlooking treeless road, small square  
houses...  
but whilst it wasn't France  
beside us was Tuscany—  
three lost pencil pines  
swaying and murmuring.  
It is still evening.  
Are they Ents?

Tactile spring celebration  
Hands worm into warm soil  
Feel all that stirring  
Ripping out brash intruders  
And rediscover tiny lost plantings  
Panting with joy at sudden light space

Patting the mulch down like  
Tucking in your babies  
Coverlet to chin  
Slow days sitting amongst it—embedded  
My canopy of trees sways and sighs  
Flickering light playing with my hair  
Cat curls companionably beside me  
The soil freshly cleared  
Just for her

KAREN THROSSELL



# Come and Celebrate Village School's 30th Birthday!



**SATURDAY 8 December**  
**10am – 4pm**

**ALL WELCOME!**



*To Delight and Inspire*

Village School

At 9–13 Holloway Road, Croydon North  
[www.villageschool.vic.edu.au](http://www.villageschool.vic.edu.au)



Three of a kind: The Dusting sisters, Jess, Natalie and Amie, are set to clock up 1000 games for the Warrandyte Netball Club.

# Dusting the record books

By BRIANNA PIAZZA

NATALIE Dusting's hard work and dedication has earned her Warrandyte Netball Club's record of the most played games.

Natalie, 26, clocked up 362 games recently — not including the games she played as a representative player for Doncaster or her night competitions. Amy Green held the previous record of 361 games.

Natalie started playing netball

when she was eight years old and has been playing for 18 years. She says netball has consumed a lot of her time, energy and tears.

"To this day I still enjoy every moment and I have eight brilliant girls that take the court with me each week to thank," Natalie says.

"If they weren't as passionate and enthused, I don't know if I would still be."

Natalie isn't the only netball star

in her family. Her two sisters, Amie (23) and Jess (19), have also been playing netball since they started primary school.

Collectively, the Dusting girls are set to total 1000 netball games by the end of this season.

"I began playing netball when I was eight and before then I would watch my sister and hope that they would ask me to fill in," Amie says.

"I have enjoyed every year that

I have played with Warrandyte since."

Natalie is also an umpire and representative player for the club, and she has been coaching for a number of years.

Amie and Jess have also coached and represented the Doncaster District Netball Association.

With the three girls continuing to play Open grade netball, the Dusting records are set to soar.



## School success

Warrandyte Primary School's boys volleyball team was runners-up in the district schools volleyball championships recently. The boys were pictured after their great effort, from left to right, Callum, Connor, Michael, Jack and Ben. (On the floor) Elliott, Darcy and Aiden. Note: It's WPS policy not to supply surnames.

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## Hot Shots is back

The Warrandyte Tennis Club's progressive Hot Shots is piloting a new community tennis program for Tennis Australia. The Community Play program, played at Tarooona Ave in South Warrandyte, is a chance for kids to learn to play tennis in a fun and supportive environment, according to the club. The focus is on enjoying the game, making friends and learning about sportsmanship. A free MLC Tennis Hot Shots shirt is handed to every new child who takes part. The program is designed for children aged 4 to 12 and costs \$35 for five weeks. For more info contact Craig Haslam on 0488 722 538 or email info@thetenniscguru.com.au.

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## B'ball club awards

Warrandyte Basketball recently announced its club awards and also welcomed two new life members to the association. This year's winners are: Heather Caruana (Club Award), George Demos (Ross McLellan Memorial Award) Chris Dodds (Daryl Valentine Memorial Award), John Ceh (Tom Hay Memorial Award), Beau Bentley (Coach of the Year), Gerry Pearce and Clinton Grybas (Life members). Warrandyte Basketball also made special mention of Julianne Van Veerendaal and Aida Draper who recently were invited to sit for the Level 3 Scoretable examinations. Both passed with flying colours.

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## Bloods fall short

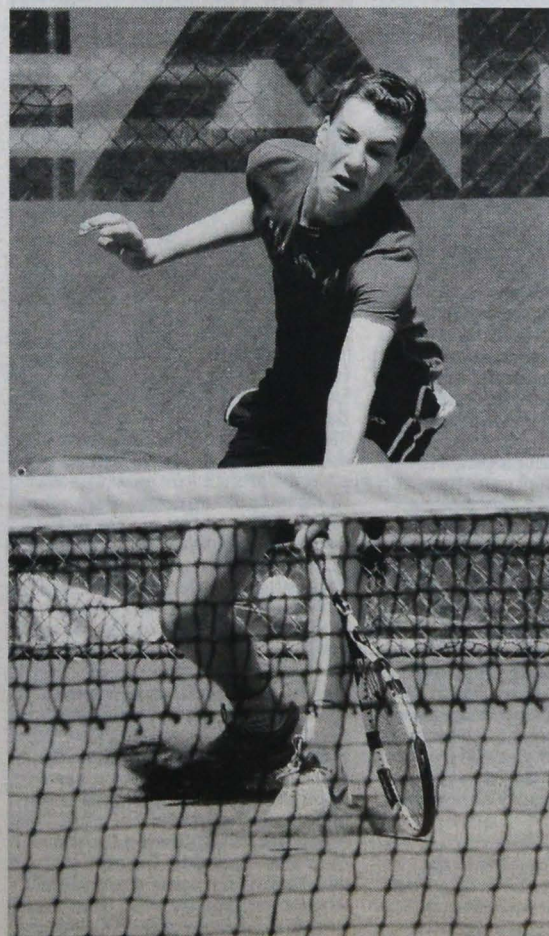
Young cricketers Patrick Grocott, Bailey Bowyer and Ben Jackson represented Warrandyte in the Ringwood District Cricket Association U12s development squad and representative tryouts over the last five Sunday mornings. Unfortunately, the boys missed the final selection, but all managed to make it into the final 40 boys in their age group (which is a great effort given it's such a big association).

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## MILO magic

It was great to see Warrandyte Cricket Club play a part in teaching the Andersons Creek Primary School kids some cricket skills recently. According to the school's PE teacher, Meredith Thornton, lots of students are now keen to get involved in the MILO cricket program at Warrandyte.

# A7 Ladies win elusive tennis flag



You take the low road... Hewitt Murray digs deep.

By MICHELLE PINI

FOLLOWING many narrow grand final losses, the Warrandyte A7 Ladies were victorious late last season to win the premiership flag over Hallam.

An impressive season saw the ladies finish second on the ladder behind the powerful Hallam team, winning their right to play in the final after defeating Whites Lanes team in the semi-final.

During a nail-biting grand final, Warrandyte came back to level the scores after trailing by four games in the first two sets, with the match see-sawing consistently from there. Spectators were treated to a thrilling climax which saw Warrandyte win the final set, eight games to seven, to defeat Hallam by the narrowest of margins, 41 games to 40.

In junior tennis news, the Eastern region summer competition started last month with the Girls Section 9 team undefeated after comfortable wins against Scoresby Blue and Croydon North.

In the Diamond Valley Friday night competition, Section 4 look set to make the finals and Section 2 are locked in a three-way battle with Eltham and UCTC for third and fourth spot on the ladder.

Registration for the 2013 Autumn Season of the competition closes late November. contact Tony Honeyborne 0400 019 078 for more information.



And I'll take the high road: Stuart Langridge fires one back.

# WJFC on a mission

By SCOTT PODMORE

FOOTY may be finished for another season but the Warrandyte Junior Football Club is busy working behind the scenes as a changing of the guard at committee level spells the beginning of a new chapter in 2013.

In fact, many involved at the club believe there's never been a better time to be a part of it.

Among new developments taking place, the club has a new president, a new-look committee, a revamped new website, a rock solid financial position and great excitement surrounding the redevelopment of the clubrooms at Warrandyte Reserve.

While the club farewells popular outgoing president Steve Ballard – who was at the helm since 2009 after a decade on the committee, which also included a stint as Tackers coach – the Warrandyte junior football community is excited about the drive and efficiency that incoming president Ross Snowball brings to the club.

Snowball is a highly respected family man and businessman with great passion for the local community and sport. He has assembled a new committee already making positive steps on improvements with one eye firmly fixed on the future.

"The new committee is made up of a group of really energetic parents who have volunteered their time for the club in 2013," Snowball told the *Diary*.

"Many are new to the committee and are learning things from scratch, but we are all looking forward to helping the club provide a quality environment for our kids to play sport and develop into strong and confident young adults.

"Fortunately, most of the committee are parents who have kids in the younger age brackets and will be with the club for a few years to come."

The new WJFC committee comprises: Dee Dickson (treasurer), Martin Rostron (assistant president and sponsorship), Tanya Stubbs (registrar), Greg Swedosh (footy ops), Craig Robison (footy ops), Kerry McShanag (team management/family nights), Jane Lawson (assistant treasurer), Karen Cookes (property), Michael Nitschinsk (YJFL director), Linda Phillip-Owen (apparel), Peter O'Reilly (risk management), and Michael Canty (financial planning).

Belinda Martin is also providing assistance with the running of the club's website, while David Ure is helping out with the new clubrooms and Shane Garrick is again taking on ground management duties.

"About midway through last year I decided to join the committee with a view to helping out where possible," the new president said.

"It soon became obvious there were going to be some fairly wholesale changes to the committee given so many were stepping down after years of commitment. Towards the end of the season Steve Ballard and I realised that it was important to start filling some roles and I was happy enough to take on the president's role.

"Fortunately, Steve and I had a decent handover period and we continue to talk regularly. Steve has been fantastic in the transfer of knowledge and knows a great deal about the running of a junior football club."

Snowball says he is looking forward to getting to know club members, families and players, and says his day job as a regional director with a large construction company has armed him with the right skills to step into the main role at the club.

"Many of the issues we are dealing with at club level are similar to what I deal with on a much larger scale day to day," he pointed out. "Ultimately, good communication is vital in whatever you do and we will be striving to keep our members fully informed in 2013. Already we've made it easier to communicate via the club website and have established a club facebook page."

"Thanks to the solid leadership from our previous committee and



Changing of the guard: New Warrandyte Junior Football Club president Ross Snowball, outgoing president Steve Ballard, Chairman of the Warrandyte Community Bank Sarah Wrigley, and players Billy, Micaela and Zack.

the generous support from the Warrandyte Community Bank and other major sponsors including Yarra Valley Toyota and IGA among others, the club is in a sound position financially and is well poised to handle the transition to new clubrooms in 2014.

"New assistant president Martin Rostron is overseeing a revitalised sponsorship package for 2013 and will be in touch with local businesses shortly. There are going to be many great opportunities to make a con-



tribution to the club and have your brand recognised around town."

Next year will be a year of transitions for the club in more ways than one, with the new committee overseeing the final phase of the clubroom redevelopment in conjunction with the senior football and netball clubs.

"Our members are going to see a fair amount of change around the place – the good news is that we will be staying in Warrandyte for 2013 with temporary change facilities," Snowball says.

"This is great for our players and excellent for our sponsors as they will continue to get great exposure

within the Warrandyte community.

"We are really excited about the changes happening. The new committee has put together a strategic business plan for next season that should see us capitalise on our strong foundations. We've concentrated on improving communications with our members and creating stronger links with the Auskick fraternity. Our website is fantastic thanks to Belinda Martin and we now also have a facebook page."

The WJFC has also decided to increase its spending on coach and player development and has a goal to see all players at the club reach their full potential. Something, Snowball said, was a priority.

"Not everyone has to be the star of the team – what we want is for our players to live a healthy lifestyle in a competitive football environment and that each child is given the support and encouragement to play football to the best of their ability and grow into confident adults understanding the importance of teamwork.

"Ultimately this will see the club reach its full potential."

Although it's a long way off, the WJFC urges any local families and kids interested in being a part of the Bloods to jot down in their diaries Registration Day, to be held on February 10 next year in conjunction with the Run Warrandyte Fun Run (there will be a range of distances from 2.25km, 4km, 8km and 12km. Visit [www.runwarrandyte.blogspot.com](http://www.runwarrandyte.blogspot.com) for more information or email Rob Clarke at [wrunners@gmail.com](mailto:wrunners@gmail.com)).

The first game of season 2013 kicks off on April 14.

For more information visit [www.warrandytejfc.org](http://www.warrandytejfc.org) and follow the club on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/WarrandyteJuniorFootballClub](http://www.facebook.com/WarrandyteJuniorFootballClub).

## Q&A WITH STEVE BALLARD

**Q: Steve, what have been the most rewarding aspects of your involvement as a committee member and president of the WJFC?**

Steve: "Seeing the improvement in our on field operations - particularly the training and support that we give to our coaches and the development effort that we put into our players. Our recent partnership with Dynamic Football Skills is a great example of this. Through DFS, some of the TAC top level coaches worked directly with our players last year to hone individual skills and improve team performance and this showed in our results. There are very few clubs that give player development this level of priority.

**Q: Speaking of development, you must be proud that your time as president included overseeing the introduction of a girls team at WJFC?**

Steve: "I love the fact that we were one of the first teams in the league to set up a girls team and the girls have been a great addition to our club - not just as players but as young umpires, too! Our focus on the off field development of our boys and girls through the leadership programs we support and the social responsibility seminars that we get involved in also make Warrandyte a standout club.

**Q: You've brought a lot to the club in your role at the top. Can you sign off as president comfortable in the knowledge that the future is looking bright for**



**the WJFC?**

Steve: "You bet. The redevelopment of our clubrooms will make a big difference for the whole Warrandyte sporting community. On top of that we have a great new committee stepping up for 2013. Many are parents with players in Tackers and Under 10s, so they will be around for many years to come - just like I was 10 years ago."

**Q: And are you happy to hand over the reins to the new president?**

Steve: "Ross Snowball is already showing just how much he has to offer as the Junior Bloods new president. I attended the club recent planning session for the 2013 season and Ross and the new team have some great ideas to take the club forward over the next four to five years. It's exciting."





# Juniors in cracking form

By **BILL PRESCOTT** and **CHRIS JACKSON**

THE Warrandyte Under 16 cricket team (above left) has had an impressive start to the season with two wins at the time the *Diary* went to press.

The most recent victory was in a one-day game in which Warrandyte 1/129 defeated Boronia 3/75 with Joel Bumpstead 36 (not out) and Jack Poole 35 (not out). John Stanley and Luke Killey picked up the wickets with Hugh Prescott and Luke Killey combining to achieve a thrilling run-out.

Warrandyte also defeated South Croydon in a two-day match - 4/118 to 9/157 - with Hugh Prescott taking 2/19 and Jack Poole again starring with 62 not out. All the boys contributed in the bowling department with Ben Sproat taking 1/18 and Mark Baker 1/12.

There has been a marked improvement in the boys' fielding with great

catches by Aaron Closs, Ryley Rear-don and John Stanley.

The highlight of the first three rounds so far would have to be John Stanley's 5/29 from nine overs against Wonga Park in Round 2.

Meanwhile, in the Under 12s (above right), there are big changes this year with Friday nights and "pink" cricket balls in vogue. Basketball is always going to be a challenge for cricket in Warrandyte, but it is fair to say the young lads who have signed up for Australia's traditional summer sport are committed to their chosen sport and are destined for great things.

Round 1 saw the Bloods up against Montrose at home, with Aidan Prescott captaining this impressive outfit of second-year veterans in a team complemented by a couple of Under 10s from last year.

Warrandyte won the toss and sent the opposition into bat under trying conditions. The bowlers were obviously a bit rusty with 66 extras

in Montrose's final score of 124, but were admirably led by Brady Poole with four wickets and three assisted run-outs.

Aidan Prescott, Tom Jackson and Dylan Smith chipped in with a wicket each. It seems everybody forgot about the "split innings" set-up with both teams facing 20 overs each in the first week. The coach had to keep assuring his young charges that 5/69 compared to 5/76 had the game evenly poised after the first week.

Batting under what might be the only official junior day/night match in Warrandyte history, Bailey Bowyer (22) and Dylan Smith (2) got the Bloods away to a solid start, not losing a wicket in the first 10 overs in the eventual 40-over innings.

The second week was a ripper with Ethan Ward (28) and Ben Jackson (27) both retiring unbeaten and leading a remarkable batting effort to post a final score of 7/145cc. This score proved too much for Montrose

and the Bloods had their first win for the season by 21 runs.

Round 2 started with a washout after seven overs against Croydon South. Despite the game being abandoned and the statistics ignored, try telling a few boys from Croydon South that they didn't play cricket after they copped a few bruises from a fired up captain Ben Jackson with a couple of searing overs that put a smile on the coach's face.

The second week became a one-day match. The Bloods lost the toss and bowled. That man Brady Poole was in everything again claiming 3/5, along with Bailey Bowyers 2/5, Tom Jackson and normal wicket keeper Patrick Grocott picking up one wicket each. It was a great effort in the field with some excellent catches, with Hudson Rostron (2), Ben Jackson (1), Brady Poole (1) and Patrick Grocott (1).

But the highlight was a direct hit run-out by Jack Welch who had vol-

unteered to back the keeper up. This left South Croydon 8/55cc after its 20 overs - the team was reminded it needs to keep working on its bowling given 44 of those runs came by extras from the Warrandyte bowlers.

In that round the challenge of opening the batting was taken up by Hudson Rostron (15) and Brady Poole (12).

The maturity of those two chasing the total was fantastic and just shows if you can harness those nerves, it makes you perform well. Warrandyte passed the target of 55 with only one wicket down and six overs remaining.

New boy Thomas McKenzie (6) and Max Coutts (2 not out) saw the young Bloods clock up their second victory with a total of 3/77cc.

Two wins from two games means the boys have been promoted to a higher grade by the RDCA in acknowledgement of their efforts and talents.

## Summer of cricket surges on

By **RYAN HOIBERG**

WARRANDYTE'S summer of cricket is in full swing despite some Saturdays being dogged by rain, but that hasn't stopped the First XI who have had a bright start to the season.

Led by skipper Campbell Holland, the team has shown some guts and determination to compete in a new look Bill Wilkins Cup. The Bloods were drawn a rough start to the season in facing two teams who normally would be in a grade higher. Yet, before its latest loss to St Andrews, Warrandyte was 2-0, defeating both East Ringwood and Wonga Park in massive upsets.

Warrandyte can thank its more experienced players for such a strong start to the season. Previously under-used all-rounder Dave Mooney has been thrown the ball and with that simple move Warrandyte has essentially won both games off his bat and ball. Starring with a blistering 56 and supported by Ben Taylor in the first round, Mooney backed it up with the ball by taking 3/20 to finish off East Ringwood, with Holland and young flyer Mitchell Gaffney both taking three top-order wickets.

Mooney showed that it was no fluke the next week, gifting his skipper four wickets with Warrandyte defending its total by only eight runs. Warrandyte set a target of 214 - thanks largely to another strong opening partnership, sensible batting by Tyson Brent and some middle-order security by Holland - and East Ringwood was a big chance as it looked to have locked the game away with the score at 196 after losing its fifth wicket but the last five wickets were taken for just 10 runs, with Mooney's bowling and fielding providing the backbone to the turnaround.

The premier squad then faced St Andrews on the road and after batting first lost wickets consistently on a slow ground and could only post



Getting his eye in: Mick Bowen gets behind the ball recently.

130 before being bowled out early on Day 1. St Andrews didn't have much trouble coasting past the Warrandyte score on Day 2, leading to a long day in the field and the team's first loss.

The Second XI, under new skipper Stewart Smead, has faced a rocky start to the season while the Third XI has had a mixed start winning two matches from four.

### Keeping it in the family

On a lighter note, the family spirit of the club has started to really shine through in lower grades.

In a team that sometimes has to go searching for players, the Bowyers have found that Saturday afternoons are the ideal time for four members of the family - twins David and Richard, Simon and his son Bailey - making up over a third of the Fourth XI that has been turning up each week. On top of the effort to ensure all four members are present on a Saturday, Bailey has been playing Friday nights, and the three older members of the family are backing up to play veterans on the Sunday. And they aren't just making up the numbers, either. Bailey secured three wickets in a man of the match effort in the latest round, while two weeks earlier

Simon guided the team to a victory with a 131-run stand.

**First XI** Round 1: Warrandyte 212 (Mooney 56, Taylor 45) d East Ringwood 195 (Mooney 3/20, Holland 3/42). Round 2: Warrandyte 214 (Brent 47, Holland 44) d Wonga Park 206 (Mooney 4/28, Holland 3/69). Round 3: Warrandyte 130 (Brent 24) lost to St Andrews 262 (unavailable). **Second XI** Round 1: Warrandyte 102 (Smead 34) lost to Warrandyte 8/119 (Ellis 3/28, Prangle 2/10). Round 2: Warrandyte 160 (Ellis 48) lost to East Ringwood 6/232 (Duffel 1/20, Ellis 1/29). Round 3: Warrandyte 128 (Hoiberg 82) lost to St Andrews 206 (Haworth 3/22, Smead 2/22). **Third XI** Round 1: Warrandyte 2/128 (Barry 77, McMellan 34) drew with Wonga Park. Round 2: Warrandyte 119 (Sekhon 31) d Heathmont Baptist 54 (Sekhon 3/6, McMellan 2/7). Round 3: Warrandyte 8/157 (Aly 43) lost to Eastfield 5/211 (Burns 4/36, Gidley 1/16). Round 4: Warrandyte 172 (Canham 77, Zach 30) d Wonga Park 150 (Burns 3/33, Gidley 2/16). Round 5: Warrandyte 195 (Gidley 99) lost to Montrose 7/206.

**Fourth XI** Round One: Warrandyte 1/104 (Khatry 56) drew with Norwood. Round 2: Warrandyte 108 (Aly 33, Baker 30) lost to Wantirna South 5/110 (Warren 3/8). Round 3: Warrandyte 5/232 (S. Bowyer 131) d Wonga Park 3/129 (S. Bowyer 1/14, Rees 1/14). Round 4: Warrandyte 6/149 (Revell 34) d Norwood 136 (Revell 3/29). Round 5: Warrandyte 265 (Warren 83, Grocott 81) lost to Montrose 309 (B. Bowyer 4/20).

## Rough start for Hawks

By **FRANS BROUWER**

INJURIES and overseas travel contributed to a lacklustre first fortnight of the RDCA season with Week 1 almost a washout, and only the Thirds (D grade) managing a win the second week.

The Hawks rebounded in the third week as three sides won.

The First XI (Trollope Shield) posted a competitive 7/243 on the first day against Bayswater Park. That didn't seem enough when Bayswater reached 2/125 at tea the following week and continued on to 162 before Josh Barrett removed both batsmen in successive overs, allowing Captain Ben Neagle to clean up the tail with four wickets in 17 balls without conceding a run. The Fourths (G Grade) and Fifts (I Grade) also posted wins in Week 4, and the Third XI lost by three runs.

That meant all five teams won at least one match in October. The standout performance was 122 (not out) and 4/58 by Third XI captain Darcy Price in the third week, with an honourable mention to his teammate and junior cricketer Tom Hollins for scores of 64, 52 and 34 from Rounds 2 to 4.

Cup Week saw the usual selection problems with more than 20 players unavailable for the first week of two-day matches. The Firsts, Thirds, and Fifts struggled in their matches. The Twos (A Grade) had conceded 3/159 after 62 overs when Captain Dave McBride brought himself back on and took a wicket with his fourth ball. This opened the way for newly elevated Tom Hall to claim 6/9 in 21 balls and restrict Wantirna South to 10/187 - too much for the batsmen (all out for 128).

By contrast, the Fourths were chasing 278, but reached the tar-

get with six overs to spare thanks to Darren (Zep) Johnson with 151 (not out) and acting Captain Tom "Pluggler" Chrisfield with 46.

The juniors have started well. The U16-2 team (8/206, Sofarnos 77, Hollins 44) started with a win against Ainslie Park (5/160, Sammartino 3/10) but with scores of 10/46 and 3/108 succumbed to Wantirna South (8/181dec). The U14-2s (0/161, Johnson 51no, Condon 51no) drew with Olinda (6/41), won (2/174, Condon 50no, Gibbons 30no) against Ringwood (10/140), and won again (6/149, Gibbons 36no) against South Croydon (10/80, Hansen 3/11). The U12-2s are also travelling quite well. Round 1 saw them 7/154 (Mulqueen 32no, Braunthal 32no, Walker 25) win against Norwood (10/72, Bourke 2/10), then again (10/87) against St Andrews (10/83 (Emery 3/1, Mulqueen 2/4).

In the Veterans, Masters 1 (10/169) lost to South Croydon (5/171), with 10/171 (Brasher 44 retired, Johnson 34) lost to Wonga Park 7/224, and then with 4/206 defeated Kilsyth 10/204. Masters 3 (10/130, Little 40 retired) lost to Mooroolbark 2/137, with 10/87 (Braunthal 32) lost to Montrose (6/198, Bourke 3/20), and then with 10/130 lost to Templeton 6/131.

The Legends forfeited the first match (insufficient players), and then (10/132) lost to Croydon Ranges 3/137 and 8/136 to Wonga Park 6/139.

On the social front, Teena Hartrup and Michael Crosbie successfully organised the Ladies' Day in October.

Two other functions are scheduled before Christmas - the Christmas party on December 1 and the iPod Night on December 8.

# Venom to visit storm



Tour of duty: Warrandyte Venom players are heading to America this month for a three week tour, starting with five days in storm-ravaged New York.

By TONY OLIVER

PLAYERS, parents and coaches from Warrandyte Venom will embark on a three-week tour of the United States this December, starting with a five-day visit to storm-damaged New York to play against three local high schools.

The 20-day tour includes the New York visit, along with trips to Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana and California. Speaking about the trip and the visit to New York, tour leader Justin Nelson believes it's a good thing to support a city that has recently taken a battering.

"The boys are really looking forward to seeing New York and to do so after such a low time for the city has its positives," Nelson told the *Diary*.

"The three schools we are visiting will no doubt appreciate the support from a foreign team, plus as a city that revolves around so much tourism it is important people support them during such a big clean-up after hurricane Sandy. Apart from the games, we'll do all the tourist things in New York. For many of these young guys this is their first big trip overseas, so no doubt walking around New York in December will be a real eye-opener.

"I think the locals will enjoy seeing some Aussies and if last year's tour is anything to go by, the players will certainly enjoy the attention."

Included in this year's Venom tour will be NBA games featuring Brooklyn against Oklahoma and Indiana against Cleveland, an NFL game featuring the Indianapolis Colts up against the Tennessee Titans, two college games in Kentucky, an ice hockey game in Cincinnati and trips to shopping outlets.

The Venom tour to the USA departs on Sunday, December 2.

## Big V teams hit the track

THOUGH the 2013 Big V season doesn't fire up until early March, Warrandyte Venom's four senior teams return for pre-season training this month as the club aims to secure an elusive first title.

The 'Porter Davis' Youth Women have been back on court under the leadership of coach Nicole Howard since September and with minimal changes to the line-up, the team enters its third season and is firmly focused on playing finals.

Georgina Werninghaus has been named captain of the team, Molly Booth returns to the club to replace Meg Keppel, while younger players Lauren Robertson and Jade Pieters join the squad.

The 'Eastside Mitsubishi' Youth Men recently completed tryouts that attracted more than 35 players with coach Brent Reid settling on a 17-

## SATURDAY IS IN THE SWING

GRADING games for Saturday basketball returned after the break over the Melbourne Cup weekend with high standard matches held at WSC.

The U16 rivalry between the top two Warrandyte sides seems set to continue with both sides having good wins. Ryan Holloway's U16 Boys had an easy victory against a smaller Balwyn side, winning 44-17. Nathan DeLacy top scored with 14, Zeph Hilton, 6, and Aiden Ceh, 5.

The other Warrandyte U16 side recorded an equally impressive 44-22 win over Nunawading.

The U16 A1 Girls went down to Bulleen by 29-23 while the U18 Boys had a good 39-22 win over Bulleen.

The opening games were two U8 Girls contests with "super coach" Dale Leeson in charge. The opening game saw a 12-4 Warrandyte victory over an Eltham side with Phoebe Collins, 6, and 2 each to Bree Leeson, Jessica McMartin and Chloe Laurie, with the second game being a 6-2 win to Warrandyte over Park Orchards. Eloise Podmore scored 4, Jasmine Callahan, 2, while Jasmine Hamill scored 2 for the visitors.



Gimme a break, Dad ... I mean, coach: Redbacks U8 Girls speedster Talia Leeson takes a little time out on her coach/dad's shoulder before blitzing the opposition with a drive down the Warrandyte Stadium court.



# Wheels of education in motion at ACPS



By MEREDITH THORNTON

ANDERSONS Creek Primary School's Grade Five pupils have been pedalling away on a 10-week Bike Ed program, working through road rules and safe riding practices.

Each week the students take part in different activities, including riding on various surfaces, slow riding, better braking, gears, obstacle course, weaving, endurance riding and formations. Then in the past few weeks they will head down to the river, Pound Bend and Black Flat.

After the 10-week course, all Grade Five students spend a week at Maldon on a Bike Ed camp riding every day.

One day they ride out next to the railway line for the morning then put the bikes on the steam train to head back to town.

In other school news, Grade Five Gemma Potter progressed from the school athletics carnival, district, then regionals - coming first



Gemma Potter with sister Amy and parents Rob and Michelle Potter.

in both 100m and triple jump at each carnival - to qualify for the Victorian Primary School Athletics State Carnival at Albert Park.

Gemma was in the first event for the day, Under 10 Girls 100 metres.

She ran her fastest time in this

heat to qualify for the final in the afternoon. During the morning she also participated in the U10 Girls triple jump.

In the final, Gemma ran her fastest time ever, finishing a very impressive seventh for her age group in the state.

# ravaged Big Apple

player squad that he hopes will see further improvement in the team's second year in the competition.

Two new players headline the 'Gardiner McInnes' Senior Women with coach Justin Nelson landing quality recruits Amanda Hederics (Mildura) and Jess Franke (Kellor) who form a 10-player squad following the departure of Lee Wilkins, Jen Cameron and Marsha Kulikowski.

A few new faces will also figure prominently in the 'Wilson Security' Senior Men's team following coach Arnie Giffening's recruitment of Jonny Lee and Neil Haining from Sherbrooke, along with Brenton Charles (Ringwood) and Wol Wol Ngong (Chelsea).

Practice matches are scheduled for all teams in February before the season starts in mid-March. The club will soon release details on player sponsorships and 2013 memberships at [www.warrandyte.basketball.net.au](http://www.warrandyte.basketball.net.au).

## Venom continues to grow

IS there no stopping the growth of the Venom junior program?

Following another hectic period of tryouts, for a seventh successive year the Venom junior representative basketball program has increased in size, now totalling 33 teams and more than 320 players.

Interestingly, the Venom program also rates at the top of the current league clearance list for players joining the club, highlighting the Venom's growing presence in the Victorian Junior Basketball League.

"It's been another big increase and just the new players joining from other clubs alone is a positive sign that we're doing the right things across the Venom program," said general manager Nelson.

"Gerard Leonard and Tiff Hodgson are doing a terrific job as our coaching directors, while the recent appointment of Jenni James as our Venom coordinator has been a tremendous success."

With an increase in participation comes the need for more coaches and facilities, two key factors that continues to keep Nelson on his toes.

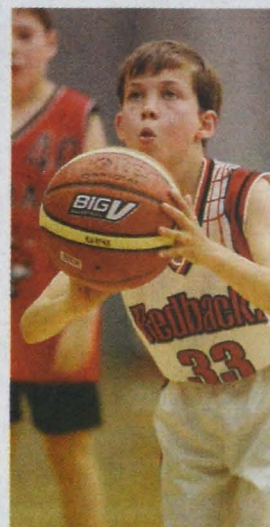
"Thankfully we have once again attracted a number of quality coaches to the program, so we're really happy with our continued progress in that area, but there's no doubt we'd appreciate some new basketball facilities in the area."

"When you consider we've added 33 junior Venom teams and four Big V teams in the last six years, it puts into perspective the enormous growth of basketball in Warrandyte and surrounding suburbs."

"While we have some fantastic single-court facilities, we are the only basketball club in Manningham



Ready to rumble: Under 10s coach Grant Ward fires up his troops for the second half and they don't let him down.



without a two-court home and given our growth and playing numbers of more than 1000, it's probably time the council considers our needs.

Meanwhile, Venom grading matches have officially started, allowing the teams enough time to settle in.

Warrandyte's Under 18 Girls are taking a big step after a successful 2011 in the U16 competition and came up against a slick Bulleen side in their opening match.

Coach Bec McKay was tight-lipped before the game, waiting to see how the girls would perform.

A 10-27 half-time score was not a true reflection of the play. The Venom started slowly but lifted the intensity to get the better of the

girls in blue as the half progressed. The second half was a similar story with Bulleen in control and the Venom showing signs of matching it at time.

"We have so much to look forward to this year," coach McKay said after the game. "We have had three practice games and four training sessions. This will be a great season."

Tayla Sumner played a strong game with 7 points, including two from outside the circle with Jade Pieters scored 6.

Three of the U16 Girls sides were in action at the Doncaster Indoors Sports Centre recently.

The U16-1, under the guidance of coach Nelson, had a strong win

against Whittlesea 36-25, with plenty of players impressing on the court and on the scoreboard. Natalie MacDonald and Ebony Sans scored 6, Abbey Ceh, 5, and Lucie Royal and Maddison Thompson each scored 4.

The U16-2 Girls, coached by Kelvin Taylor, also had a good win, turning an 18-4 margin at the interval into a 34-11 win at the final whistle.

Elyse Lepre and Natasha Graf scored 7, while Madeleine Begley scored 6.

John Mokaraka's girls went down to Waverley, who led from start to finish to take the points 36-21. Adelyn Hoser, 7 and Alyse Dines, 6 were the main contributors for Venom.

## By George, he's a top operator



LESS than two months after leading his Venom U14-1 Boys to a Victorian Championship title, coach George Demos has been selected as assistant coach of the Victorian Metro team at the coming Southern Cross Challenge.

Demos - coaching Venom U16-2 Boys in season 2012/13 - was happy with the appointment and is looking forward to taking the next steps in his coaching career.

"I can't wait to learn and improve my knowledge and bring that back to Venom," he said.

"It's a privilege and honour to be selected for such a position to work along with some very highly respected coaches from Basketball Victoria."

"I am incredibly keen to work with some of the best players the state has to offer and look forward to the challenge of building on my successful year with the U14s," he added.

Venom boys coaching director Gerard Leonard believes Demos's selection is not only a feather in the cap for the young coach, but also a great sign that the development of coaches at Venom is heading in the right direction.

"George has worked extremely hard on his coaching in the past three years I have been involved with Warrandyte and it's a credit to him and his dedication to working with kids that he has been given this opportunity," Leonard said.

"George is going to work with and learn from top coaches in the state and knowing George's work ethic and attitude he will go into the SCC and be a sponge. I have no doubt he will come back to Warrandyte a better coach."

"When I told George of the opportunity for an assistant position in the SCC he jumped at it immediately as he desperately wants to further his knowledge and coaching ability, and that's a great sign."



## Tiny Nicole bold as bronze

NICOLE Reynolds (left) ran a strong final to win a third place medal in the Under 14 80-metre hurdles at the Victorian 2012 Adidas All Schools Track and Field Championship at Lakeside Stadium recently.

The diminutive dynamo had qualified third in her heat time of 12.78 seconds and then took it to 12.16 seconds in the final for her medal victory.

October signalled the start of relay competitions, with the Box Hill Invitational attracting a strong contingent of local athletes for the Sunday competition.

The Under 10 Boys, coached by Peter Sharpe, made several finals, with Nick Sharpe performing strongly for fourth place in the 800m-sprint medley final and sixth in the 4x200m final.

In the Under 10 Girls, Warrandyte netballer Ashlyn Krakouer teamed up with Sophia McDowell for two eighth placings in the finals of the 4x100m final and the 800m sprint medley final, with Ashlyn also plac-



ing eighth in the 4x200m final and Sophia placing fifth in the 4x100m mixed event.

George Standish was the local star of the day in the Under 11 Boys with Gold medals in the 4x200m and 4x100m, followed with a fourth in the 800m sprint medley.

Under 12 Boys, coached by Edward Munks, saw Bloods footy teammates compete with Nick Alexander placing fourth in the 4x200m final and seventh in the 4x100m final.

Ben Munks and Yo Ho Leo placed eighth in the 800m-sprint medley final.

The Under 14 Girls had Ruby McDowell place fifth in the 4x200m final,

Emily Sharpe fourth in the 4x200m final and sixth in the 800m sprint medley, newcomer Julia Corinaldi a fifth in the 4x100m final and Nicole Reynolds with fourth place in the 4x200m final, sixth in the 800m sprint medley and fifth in 4x100m final.

The relay season culminates in the state championships held at the Lakeside Stadium, Albert Park, in early December.

The summer competitions are held on most Saturday mornings and occasionally Friday evenings at Reischicks reserve. There is also a handicap day, multi event day, Centre Championships at the end of the season, as well as the opportunity to compete at other clubs' open days. Opportunities also arise for regional and state competitions, the Stawell Gift competitions at Easter and intensive weekend coaching camps at Crystal Creek.

And, if certain competitive benchmarks are attained, there is the opportunity to participate in the LA Vic Junior Development Squads.

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### WARRANDYTE

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Elegant family residence on prestige landscaped acre (approx). Brilliant zoning, grand living-dining room, family informal meals gourmet kitchen, large rumpus, parents retreat adjoins king size bedroom suite (spa ensuite/WIRs), upstairs children's play area. Guest bedroom, children's bedrooms (study nooks-WIRs-ensuites). Alfresco highlights; pool-spa, flood lit synthetic grass t/court, cabana. Deluxe inclusions: heating-cooling, gas log fire, OFP, office, auto garaging (internal access). Handy to private schools. Terms: 10% deposit, 30-60 day settlement.



### WARRANDYTE

*Art Deco Magic!*

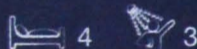
A most engaging home, renovated and brimming with fabulous art deco features showcasing the stunning ornate moulded plaster ceilings! Comprising substantial living room - leadlight French doors into the new contemporary kitchen-meals-family room; generous BRs, classic deco bathroom. Inclusions: covered deck, GDH, evap ducted cooling, hardwood floors, concrete piers, stone bench tops, water tank, auto garaging. Expansive near level allotment approx 1649m2, no through road.



### WARRANDYTE

*Instant Enjoyment, Location Winner*

Nestled in a serene avenue, allotment approx 921m2, picturesque facade with a vibrant, bright, spacious & comfortable interior. Comprising living room (OFP), inviting informal zone: well appointed kitchen-dining-family area. Three bedrooms, 2 ensuites, 3 WCs; separate studio/office/4th BR/ensuite. GDH, B1 air conditioner, Baltic floor boards, feature leadlight, alfresco plus a large shed. Stroll to the village, river, primary schools.



### WARRANDYTE

*In the Tree Tops!*

Upper level of this charismatic home enjoys panoramic views. Second storey kitchen-dining-living room (OFP) looks down from the kitchen onto the lower level family room. Inclusions: 4 BRs, 2 bathrooms, deck, GDH, timber floors, carpet. Known as the Lowen House, visionary architects John & Phyllis Murphy created an elegant, timeless and fresh contemporary design. 2 acres with an acre of vacant land next door for sale.



### WARRANDYTE

*Dramatic, Dynamic, Desirable...*

Strong design focus, organic approach, custom made furniture, modern edge creates a confident interior. Extensively renovated, contrasting timbers and Messmate flooring. Offering a striking kitchen (African plywood doors, S/S appliances/live cooker) adjoining the living-dining room (woodburning heater) opening onto 2 alfresco retreats. Robed bedrooms/ceiling fans and contemporary bathroom. Downstairs study/office/4th bedroom and laundry. Features: solar power, solar hot water, fitted workshop. Allotment 1406m2 (approx)



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