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Warrandyte Community Bank is celebrating its 10th birthday.

● See page 5

Montage by **STEPHEN REYNOLDS**




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— Thomas Dewar

WARRANDYTE diary

EDITOR: Cliff Green, 9844 2096
SPORTS EDITOR: Scott Podmore, 9844 4614
PUBLISHER: Warrandyte Diary Pty Ltd, (ACN 006 886 826 ABN 74 422 669 097) as trustee for the Warrandyte Arts and Education Trust.
POSTAL ADDRESS: P.O. Box 209, Warrandyte 3113.
ADVERTISING & ACCOUNTS: Briony Bottarelli, 9844 0555.
CIRCULATION: Peter Norman, 9844 3268.
DIARY OFFICE: St Stephen's Church Hall, Stiggants Street, Warrandyte, 9844 0555
EMAIL ADDRESS: info@warrandytediary.com.au
EMAIL SPORT: scott@octobergrey.com
INTERNET ADDRESS: http://www.warrandytediary.com.au
PRODUCTION: Rachel Schroeder, 9725 6699.
PRINTING: Streamline Press Pty Ltd, 155 Johnston Street, Fitzroy.
Published on or about the second Wednesday of each month (except January).



ADVERTISING RATES

\$6.40 a column centimetre. Colour: \$800 full page, \$530 half page, \$290 quarter page. B&W: \$660 full page, \$440 half page, \$240 quarter page. \$80 front page "ears". Preferred positions: page one 100%, page two 30%, page three 20%, other nominated pages 10%. Mini-ads: \$5.50 for four lines, then \$1 each additional line. Mini-ads pre-paid unless by prior arrangement. All rates plus 10% GST.

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NEXT ISSUE

Next issue of the *Diary* will be published on Tuesday, July 9, 2013. Advertising and editorial copy closes Friday, June 28, 2013.

OUR NEWSPAPER

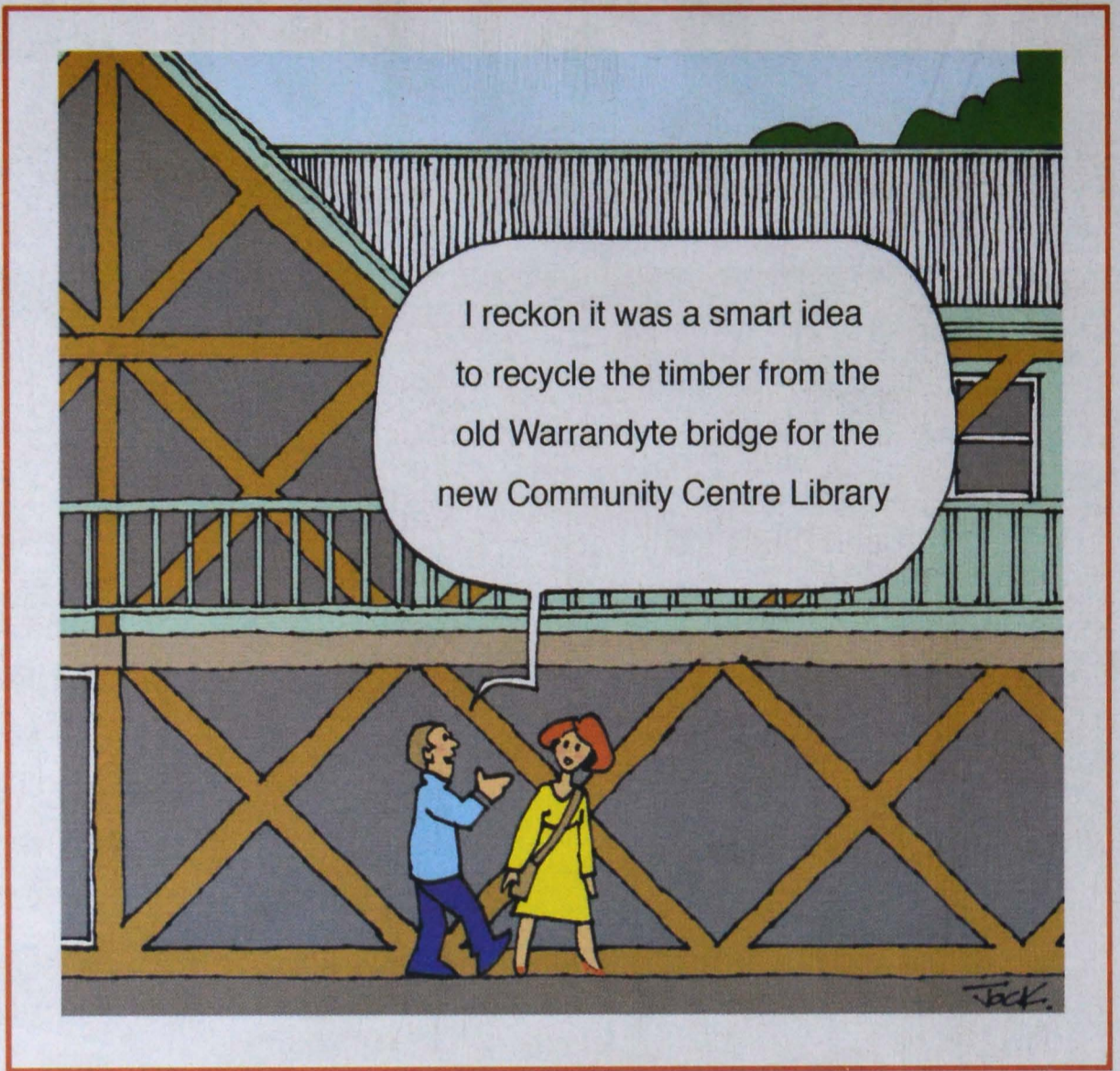
The *Warrandyte Diary* was established in 1970 as a small local newsletter. Although it has developed over the years, it has retained its strong community character, being produced mostly by volunteers with only one aim: to serve its community. Financed solely through advertising, it guards its not-for-profit, 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.

OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



Narelle Troatts exposed...

An occasional glimpse at prominent Warrandyte personalities, this month featuring local fashion queen and Zumba virtuoso, Narelle Troatt.

So Narelle, tell us about your childhood?

My mother came from an old Warrandyte family. So old they're all dead now. She married a defective Hungarian, a marathon runner who came to Melbourne for the 1956 Olympics. He did two laps of the MCG then ran out into Brunton Avenue and hopped on a Number 75 to Vermont South and didn't go back.

Were you close to your siblings?

I had a sister I was close to and a brother I wasn't so close to, mainly because he spent most of his teenage years at the Turana Correctional Centre in Parkville.

Tell us about school?

My favourite things at North Warrandyte kinder were Mrs Manley, playlunch and finger painting. The other kids used paper but I just painted my fingers. But I liked playlunch the best.

I joined the bush band at Warrandyte Primary with my friend Lucy Wong. I played the spoons and she played the chopsticks. When our cat died I took it to school for show and tell but Miss Farran wouldn't let me show the class. I was so cross I went on a hunger strike. The only trouble with hunger strikes is



living with The Troatts

you get hungry, but I decided by lunchtime that I'd made my point.

And what about Warrandyte High? Do you remember those years fondly?

Very fondly. I was fond of Peter Wiltshire, Eliot Bracegirdle, George Agostino, Warren Boffington, David Winckle, David Box, David Broadhead, (I had a thing about Davids). I also wanted to marry Tom McPherson though I wasn't ac-

tually fond of him—I just wanted to be Narelle McPherson.

So when did you meet Neville?

At a church social at St Stephens. Three months later we got married there. The best man lost the ring and we used a curtain ring from the vestry drapes. It was nicer anyway.

And what did you like about Neville? His looks? His prospects? His sense of humour?

No.

Then what made you decide to get married?

My father. He used to keep a 303 on top of the wardrobe.

We took a cruise to Adelaide for our honeymoon, but I vomited most of the way.

Sea sickness?

Morning sickness. Cinnamon was travelling with us.

So what's so special about Neville?

His enthusiasm. His glass isn't half full, it's sloshing over the sides. If he was lost in the desert he'd be excited about making sandcastles.

That's amazing! Yes, it shits me to death. You mentioned your daughter Cinnamon. It's a very new-age sort of name isn't it.

Is it? I came across it in a donut recipe and I just liked it.

And what sort of a child was she?

She was impossible. Untidy. Disobedient. Argumentative. She kept threatening to run away from home. It was the only thing that kept us going.

And Jasper? We took him to a child psychiatrist because he was so lazy and disorganised. She explained that the part of the brain responsible for multi-tasking wasn't fully developed yet, which was strange because he was busy listening to his ipod, watching YouTube and texting at the time.

So to the traditional, final question. If you had to choose your last meal, what would it be?

Food. Narelle Troatt, thank you very much. Are you going to finish that muffin?

ALAN CORNELL

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ACT GLOBALLY — SHOP LOCALLY

Scenario probes local bushfire preparations



A bushfire breaks out in Warrandyte so you just pop down to the school to pick up your child:

- Did you know that the police won't let you back if there's a roadblock?
- Have you enough clothes with you for a 5-day stay away?
- Are you, and your children, aware of the school fire plan?

These were the sorts of questions put to residents to test their fire plans in the Warrandyte Community Association's recent "Be Ready Warrandyte" scenario planning workshop.

CFA's Glenn Cockram took the invited audience through a two-hour grilling, testing their plans from fire breakout to containment.

Glenn is manager of community infrastructure, CFA District 14, Northern and Western Metropolitan Region.

Also in attendance to answer questions were all three local CFA fire captains and other CFA officers, local police, Parks Victoria and Department of Environment and Primary Industry officers.

"This was a pilot workshop with invited participants who had previously responded to

our earlier bushfire survey with a request for more information," WCA president, Dick Davies, told the *Diary*.

"Consequently most had prepared a fire plan and were fire aware. The feedback was resoundingly positive and will be useful for future events.

"Ninety per cent of participants said that their plan helped them through the simulation. They said that, if they couldn't leave early, they now have, or plan to have, a B, C, D contingency plan.

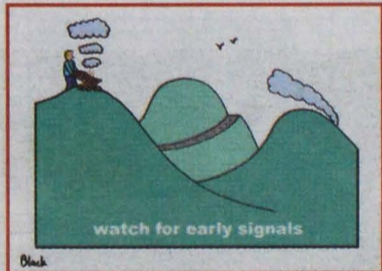
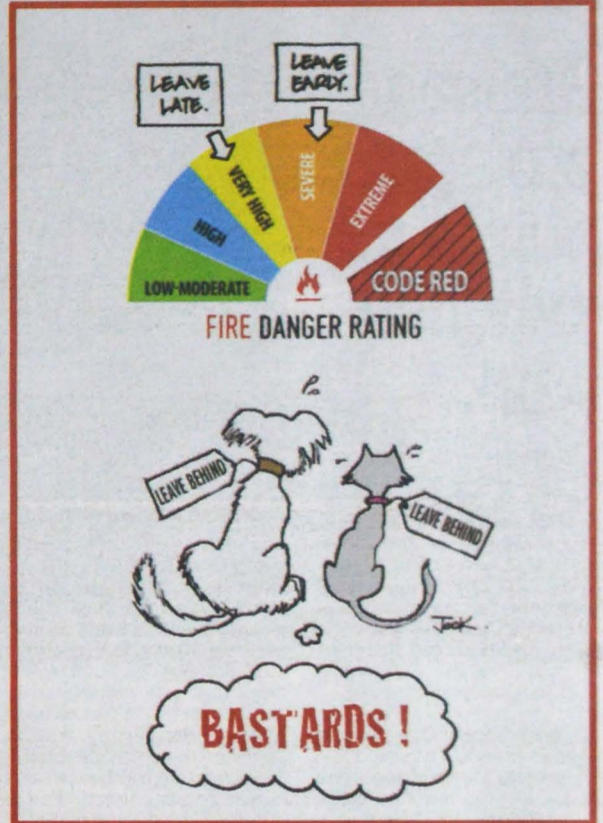
"Most participants said that they would recommend this exercise to friends and neighbours," Mr Davies said.

"Three other issues of concern, which 'Be Ready Warrandyte' will follow up later, include the use of scanners and sprinklers (are they proven?) and school fire plans (who verifies them?)"

Bruce Turner, well known in Warrandyte for his facilitation of bushfire forums, assisted Glenn whilst local cartoonists Jock MacNeish and Robert Black captured key issues in eye-catching style.

A follow-up workshop is planned for later in the year.

● For further information see www.warrandyte.org.au/fire.



watch for early signals



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We've got plenty of time



Don't Over-Rely on Technology?



Hey! You're not due for another 30 minutes!

Bite Me!



Sorry Grandma...you've just become part of my bushfire survival plan

Don't forget Grandma, A large body can protect you from radiant heat.

Cartoonists Jock Macneish and Robert Black contributed to the workshop.

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dear diary

Letters to the Diary on local topics are welcome. All letters — including emails — must include the writer's full name, address and phone number, even if not intended for publication. Letters may be edited for reasons of style, length or legality. Letters can be posted to: Warrandyte Diary, PO Box 209, Warrandyte Vic 3113. They can be emailed to: info@warrandytediary.com.au; or left at the Diary office in St Stephen's Hall, Stiggant Street.

Drainage project points to 'botched' work

In consideration of the impending showdown with residents over council's attempt to shift the responsibility for poor drainage infrastructure planning and maintenance in the Melbourne Hill district back onto ratepayers, it is of interest to get a feel for what might be expected in terms of value for the exorbitant charges that are proposed.

Recent unnecessary drainage works to rebuild a crossing over an open culvert near the Houghton Road-Melbourne Hill Road corner has been



Poor work alleged: 'Rebuilding' this crossing has resulted in this dangerous hole.

completely botched.

Not only was there no issue with the crossing (it has already been rebuilt unnecessarily after the Christmas 2011 downpour), but the new work that was completed in the last fortnight has already become dangerous, and is expected to need to be rebuilt. The short-sighted approach of using a very short piece of

pipe necessitated putting a kink in the pathway. The need for visibility of the "kink" has been accounted for by installing white posts with reflectors on them. This will be useful for cars with headlights driving down the narrow pathway!

The poor quality and planning of the construction has seen that the path has already eroded into the culvert ex-

posing a very dangerous hole into which a person or horse could fall, potentially breaking a leg or worse. Ridiculously, it appears that the only reason the short piece of pipe was installed was because they didn't bring one that was sufficiently long enough that the path could be left as it was—essentially straight!

If this is an example of the

unnecessary use of valuable resources and the quality of construction to be expected for the larger drainage program, residents should shudder to think what the final cost will be, and whether they will be requested to contribute further to fix any botched works.

Ben Boyd
Warrandyte

Koornong school

Our house was part of the prestigious school that closed in 1947. We have read in newspapers, libraries, books and reports about the school and its fame. We have, also, discovered a few unreported items and are trying, with the help of the Historical Society to further the knowledge as much as we can.

It is possible that ex-students and others who remember the school are still in the area or are known by local people; if so, we would be so pleased to be able to talk with you and record your reminiscences of that far-off time.

If you can help us please e-mail us on lizianmap@hotmail.com

Thank you.

Lewis and Louise
(by email)

Sunset glory

One evening I was watching the sunset, as I usually do. It was beautiful—orange, red and gold between purple and black clouds.

Suddenly, almost below the skyline, brilliant gold sparkles, interspersed with bright green appeared. It almost looked as if the tops of the trees were on fire. This then faded, and amongst the sunset above, a vivid green patch emerged, which lasted for some moments.

I have heard of the "green flash" which occasionally occurs, though is rarely seen. But this event lasted for a minute or so.

I would be most interested to know if anyone else witnessed this unusual sunset.

Edith Irving
Brackenbury Street

Aussie garden goes for Chelsea gold

John and I were privileged to attend the centenary of the Chelsea Flower Show this year. We headed straight for the Australian garden, of course, and were impressed with the scale and creativity. It was given the largest site—25m by 13m.

It consisted of a naturalistic billabong with a waterfall splashing over huge rocks, sand beach and rock stepping-stones. The focal point was the huge elevated structure depicting a waratah, which included a sitting area encased in glass.

The whole area was planted with a magnificent collection of Australian plants, from small everlasting daisies to the huge grass trees, and of course, the iconic gum trees.

We personally know the designer, Philip Johnson (who is based in Olinda). He invited us into the garden. He said to impress on people it was a team effort.

He told us about the Queen's

visit. She started to walk in and her minders gasped, "You can't go into the garden, Your Majesty!" to which she replied: "I can walk where I want."

She walked with Phil over the stepping-stones and the sand beach to reach the boardwalk. She asked Phil about the philosophy behind the garden, and he replied that it was reconnecting people with nature.

Sadly, he said, Australian plants are more popular overseas than in Australia. The plants for the garden were grown in Spain, Sicily and other Mediterranean areas.

We spent more than nine hours looking at the many show gardens and exhibits. It is similar in many ways to the Melbourne Garden Show, but on a much grander scale. Winning best of show at Chelsea has put Australia and Australian plants on the world stage.

Bev Hanson
Webb Street



Philip Johnson's prize-winning garden at this year's Chelsea Show.



Philip Johnson (left) with Bev Hanson.

10 years old and \$1million back to the community!

Warrandyte Community Bank is celebrating its 10th anniversary. Chairman SARAH WRIGLEY reviews its highly successful first decade.

IN June 2003, the board and staff of Warrandyte Community Bank Branch declared the branch open for business. The steering committee had put in three years of hard work after the last bank shut its doors in order to get a banking facility back into Warrandyte. Little did they know what a fantastic outcome they would be party to 10 years down the track.

Our thanks go to the first board: John Provan, Meredith Thornton, Andrew Wilson, Ian Cameron, David Wareham, Simon Kearney, Val Polley, Jim Iliopoulos, Ivan Fulton and Walter Dewe, as well as additional steering committee members Colin Davis, Pam White (dec.) and Terry Oakley who put in a huge effort over those first years to build a solid foundation.

Since then, directors have come and gone, staff have come and gone, but the outstanding achievements of the Warrandyte Community Bank speak for themselves:

\$1million has now been returned to over 60 local community groups in the form of sponsorships and grants. We're showcasing some of those projects in this report.

Total business has grown every year to reach over \$140 million of personal and business banking on the books.

Returns to just under 300 local shareholders have so far reached 61c per \$1 share. This is truly an incredible

result. Community banking is all about investing the profits from your banking back into the community rather than lining the pockets of corporate investors. Not only that, the money that we grant to organisations and not-for-profits is also leveraged against money from all levels of Government—monies that would not have been invested in this community in the same timeframe.

We know local and state governments have brought forward their plans for redevelopment and improvement because we have made the commitment to invest in a project.

I wish to thank Mark (also celebrating his 10th birthday at the branch) and his team (Linda, Phun, Nikie, Gavan and Hayley). We continue to grow the business in what is a very small and close community. Without the excellent service they provide, this growth would not be possible.

As a final note in this 10th birthday celebration, I would like to thank the shareholders and the community as a whole for their support of the bank.

Don't forget though: opening an account, a term deposit, taking out some insurance or meeting with our financial planner helps our business grow and ultimately helps our community grow. Pop in and see our friendly staff—your banking will make a difference to this community, and you all have to bank somewhere!



Founding bank chairman John Provan

Warrandyte branch manager Mark Challen

Current bank chairman Sarah Wrigley

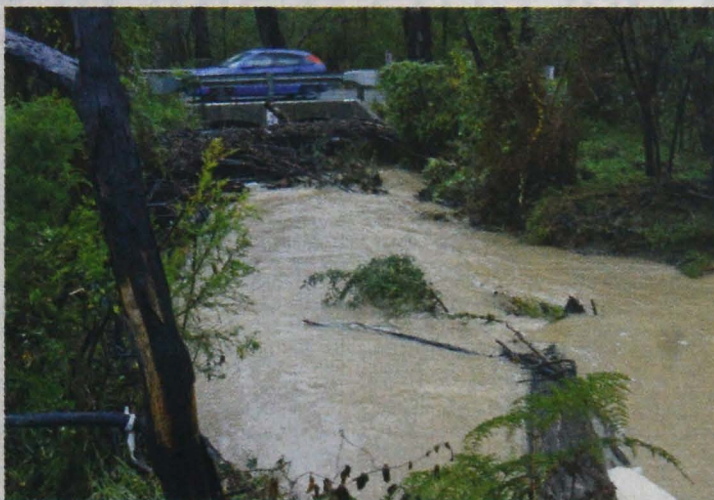


They gathered to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Warrandyte Community Bank. (Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS)

Didn't it rain!

Heavy rain hit the district overnight early last month. Warrandyte market was cancelled (we believe for the first time ever). A few hardy stallholders—and their patrons—turned up anyway (below). Andersons Creek ran a banker (right) and it was gumboot time along the river track.

Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS



Historic building at risk

By MICHELLE PINI

The freehold property that houses long-established retail store, Folk Art—and one of Warrandyte's most significant landmarks—will be auctioned later this month.

The building is protected by a heritage overlay. It is being advertised as having outstanding potential for subdivision, commercial development possibilities. All are subject to council approval.

The property has had only two owners and three business applications in its 123-year history and although many changes have occurred behind the heritage-listed façade of 232 Yarra Street, the character and life of the building has been retained.

The original owners began construction of a wine hall in 1890 and were operating in 1900 when, despite an economic depression affecting much of Victoria, Warrandyte enjoyed a boom period as a popular tourist destination.

The property is described on the Victorian Heritage Database as "significant" from a historical, social and architectural standpoint and symbolic of "the emergence of recreation in community life." It is referred to as "historically important for its ability to express a custom and way of life in 19th century Victoria." The architectural feature of a cantilevered verandah is also noted as "not often seen on 19th century buildings".

As the property is heritage listed, any alterations are subject to approval from Heritage Victoria. This means that demolition would be unlikely and any changes would need to reflect the building's original condition.

Manningham council CEO Joe Carbone advised that any changes would be "generally managed by Heritage Victoria" and that this would apply to both the structure and its landscape setting. An additional council-managed heritage overlay is also applicable.

According to Warrandyte Historical Society president, Margaret Kelly,

the property has a colourful past, as the centre of communal life in the township and anecdotes abound. In its Wine Hall days, New Year's Eve celebrations in Warrandyte were held on the bridge itself. Music was provided courtesy of the Wine Hall and this required the piano to be hand-lifted over the upstairs balcony and carried onto the street where it would take centre place at the festivities.

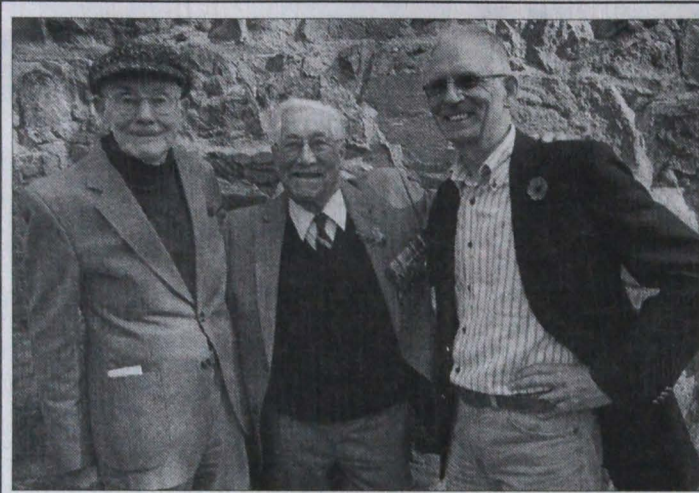
The Wine Hall was sold in 1921 but has remained under the same family ownership, where it continued in variations of a sweet shop/milk bar, with adjoining tea rooms, until the ground floor shopfront was leased in 1975, housing Folk Art until the present day.

Warrandyte resident, Judith Leaney remembers taking weekend trips to Warrandyte from the inner city in the early 1940s. It was in the days before vacuum flasks and people would purchase hot water from the Tea Rooms, which they then took down to the river to make tea. Tubs containing gum leaves were also provided outside the building so that day-trippers could "take a bit of the bush back to the inner suburbs".

Margaret Kelly summarised the building's significance for Warrandyte thus: "It's an iconic, quirky landmark which serves as a focal point on the approach to the town from North Warrandyte. It is also a rare 19th century example of a custom-built building which makes the best use of the existing landscape."

Glenn Martin of Landfield Real Estate told the *Diary*, "The current owners would be pleased to see the essence of the building retained." He also disclosed that the property has enjoyed a high level of buyer attention with several interested parties indicating a desire to restore the iconic property to its original condition.

232 Yarra St Warrandyte will be auctioned on Saturday, 22 June at 11:30 am.



Jack Scott, John Verrall and WCA president Dick Davies celebrating the WCA windfall on Anzac Day.

Windfall for WCA!

It was a challenge for the Warrandyte Community Association when local resident Royna Howell-Naismith noticed that there was a sum of \$6600 in the ASIC unclaimed moneys account.

It was in the name of the "Warrandyte Civic Association" which had not made a transaction since 1994. Hence its transfer from the ANZ bank to ASIC.

Could this be claimed by the WCA which has very similar aims for the benefit of the Warrandyte community?

The only surviving name associated with the ANZ account was Warrandyte identity John Verrall, previously well known in the Warrandyte Arts Association.

John, now 92, always takes part in the annual RSL Anzac Day march at Warrandyte.

The problem was that John had moved out of Warrandyte to Edithvale in the 1980s and no records existed to prove that he was one and the same.

"Anyone who's met John will know that there could only possibly be one John Verrall," WCA president Dick Davies told the *Diary*, "but this was insufficient for the ANZ bank!"

Despite a statutory declaration from John, more evidence was needed.

"After a lot of fluffing about, former Doncaster mayor, Jack Scott, came to the rescue and swore on a stack of bibles that John was indeed John!"

When the money is transferred to the WCA, a major use will be to support the "Be Ready Warrandyte" bushfire program.

Servo proposal still concerns residents

By KARLY HICKMAN

Warrandyte residents are still waiting to hear the outcome of the United Petroleum service station and restaurant or retail space planned for the old servo site on Yarra Street.

In September last year, the *Diary* reported that VicRoads had objected to the application on the grounds of traffic safety.

"The application remains on hold at the request of the applicant", said a Manningham council spokesperson.

Eight months on we seem to be no closer to a decision on a new service station for Warrandyte.

The proposal includes eight bow-sers, 10 parking spaces, a Quickshop, additional retail or restaurant space, and almost eight-metre high canopy on the 44-46 Yarra Street site. Two-thirds of the site would require excavation, including a six-metre retaining wall at the rear of the site.

"VicRoads has objected to the planning application due to potential impacts on Yarra Street traffic that have not been addressed," Sebastian Motta, regional director Metro South East, VicRoads told the *Diary* at the beginning of the year.

The Keep Warrandyte Unique Group, who banded together in opposition to the development, are concerned that the long delays could mean the issue is forgotten by the community.

Representatives from the group have put signage up around Warrandyte protesting the petrol station, but worry that after such a length of time, the campaign's message may be diluted.

Since its inception last year, the proposal has divided the community. In a WCA online poll of 151 self-selected respondents, 66 per cent were

opposed to the proposal.

But many residents welcome the idea of again being able to buy petrol in Warrandyte village.

"While many residents are in favour of a fuel supplier in the town, the impact of this particular proposal has caused disquiet," a WCA submission to Manningham council says.

The Keep Warrandyte Unique group has rejected the idea of a less intrusive petrol station on the site.

"The crux of the group's concern is the fundamental change to the streetscape of Warrandyte," a representative from the group told the *Diary*.

"Do we want closer access to petrol, only to lose our supermarket? Do we want Warrandyte's first fast-food chain outlet?" said a concerned community member.

Some residents welcome any aesthetic change to the existing site. "What is there now is an eyesore, old batteries and empty 44 gallon drums make it look like a derelict site," one online commentator said.

But other residents are concerned that the development could have huge implications on the existing streetscape, with two illuminated 4.2-metre signs proposed, along with light from the expansive canopy persisting from 6am to midnight.

The proposal is within a residential area with heritage, wildfire, design, development and significant landscape overlays. The site is surrounded by mostly single-storey homes. It is situated across the road from Stiggants Reserve.

The *Diary* will keep you informed of the outcome of the proposal.

● For more information on the proposal, see www.keepwarrandyteunique.weebly.com.



Mrs Robertson's tea rooms. (Picture: Warrandyte Historical Society)



Folkart as it appears today. (Picture by Claire Pini)

Ultimatum on drains

By BRIANNA PIAZZA

A public meeting advising residents about the next step in the Melbourne Hill Road drainage proposal was held late last month.

Residents were presented with four drainage options before being told that an amended version of the original drainage proposal—installing underground drainage system and kerbs—appeared to be the most suitable option at this stage.

However, manager engineering and technical services Roger Woodlock stressed it was "still an early stage of the process" and that residents' suggestions and other options would be considered.

At the meeting residents were also asked to finalise a community reference panel within the first two weeks of June.

It would act as an advisory committee, intended to represent the broad range of interests of affected residents. The panel would meet with council officers every four to six weeks to put forward ideas about the development of the design and the apportionment of costs.

However, while the community reference panel would contribute ideas, officers would be the ones making formal recommendations to council on the solution.

Residents voiced concerns about having to pay for nearly half of the cost of the final plan when council had approved the construction of homes on flood prone areas in the catchment years ago.

Residents also raised concerns about the council rarely doing maintenance works on the existing open drains and questioned if the same would happen once a new drainage scheme was implemented.

A council survey sent to 116 residents in the area, with 61 responses saw five respondents report flooding in high intensity storms and only four agree to an area special charge scheme.

Cr Meg Downie, who was meant to attend the meeting, wasn't present on the night.

Cr Paul McLeish told residents there was a possibility that the community reference panel could recommend the council do nothing but stated he thought that was an unlikely scenario.

He said the council would make a decision once recommendations were made.

"It was good to hear from the community and their concerns. In my view we are making progress towards finding a solution," Cr McLeish said.

The formal scheme process is expected to commence early next year.

Pay fire levy to councils

From next month, residents will be paying their fire service levy through their council rates, rather than via their insurance premiums.

A Nillumbik ratepayer with a residential property valued at \$500,000 can expect to pay \$157.50 for the state governments' Fire Services Property Levy in 2013-14, according to figures recently released.

The levy will come into effect on July 1, 2013 to fund the state's fire services—Metropolitan Fire Brigade and the Country Fire Authority.

This property levy will replace the insurance-based levy, meaning that people with insurance against fire will no longer pay through their premiums.

Under this levy, all property owners, including those who are uninsured, will pay the levy at the same time as they pay their council rates.

Eligible pensioners will be entitled to, and automatically receive, a \$50 rebate against the levy for their principal place of residence.

● Further information from: www.dtf.vic.gov.au/firelevy.

Riverkeepers equipped to protect our Yarra

By **CHERIE MOSELEN**

The Yarra Riverkeeper Association—a group credited with being “the voice of the Yarra River”—received several omens last month that suggest the river gods are listening to their message of conservation.

Warrandyte resident and spokesperson for the association, Ian Penrose, spoke to the *Diary* about three recent hallmark events in the Riverkeeper calendar.

We first saw the launch of a new “Yarra Riverkeeper” patrol boat on Friday, May 10.

Melbourne’s Lord Mayor Robert Doyle, in his capacity as president of the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Foundation, launched the boat near Melbourne’s Tennis Centre.

“We are very grateful to the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Foundation for its generous grant of \$40,000 to acquire and maintain a new patrol boat,” Riverkeeper Ian Penrose said.

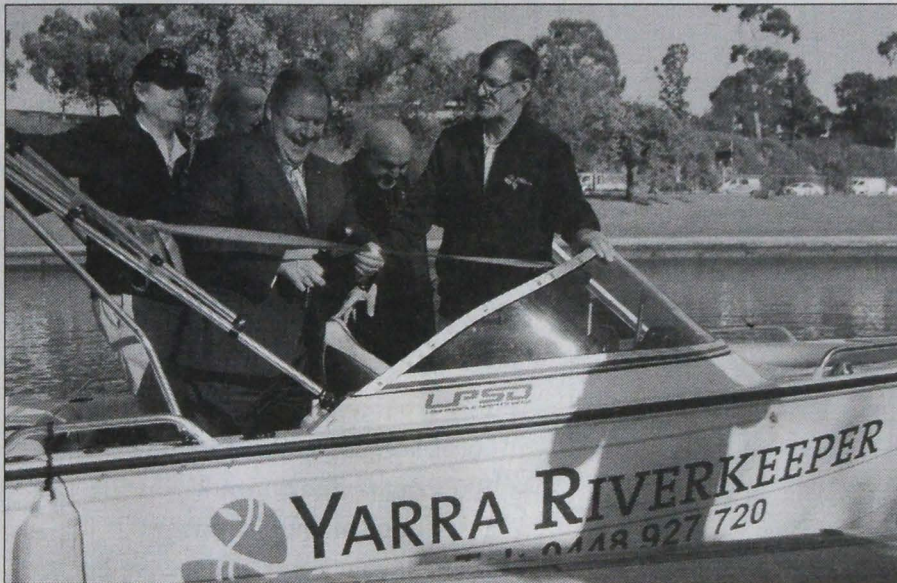
“This launch is an acknowledgement of the importance of the Yarra to all Melburnians and the success of our work in advocating for its care.”

The new boat is larger, and like its forerunner, will be used to take community leaders and people involved in river care out onto the water. It will also be used to monitor the river’s health and with its bold signage, to convey a message of river care to everyone in sight.

Formed in 2004, the Yarra Riverkeeper Association is a community group that has raised awareness about the Yarra River by running educational events, monitoring the river’s condition and advocating for its wellbeing.

Mr Penrose co-founded the association after making a “tree change” from Prahran to Warrandyte that same year, but said his background hadn’t always involved rivers.

“When I retired from Shell Oil Company after 27 years in coalmining and gas shipping, I became involved with the environmental movement, something I have always been interested in,” he said. “In 2001, I was hired in a senior government role to run a project that restored flows to the Snowy River, hence my



Ian Penrose watches as Melbourne Lord Mayor Robert Doyle launches the new patrol boat.

developing knowledge of river systems.”

Ian expressed his concern for the river, acknowledging that although a lot of money had been spent on counteracting pollution there were other more significant threats to its health.

“The river is a vital part of the ecology. It has complex geological features, rich with vegetation and animal species—biodiversity that needs protecting,” he said.

“As long as Melbourne continues to draw its water supply from the Yarra, it will never be safe from over-extraction.”

A good reason then, to celebrate same-day news from Melbourne Water, that it would soon be delivering the largest environmental water release in the Yarra River’s history.

A Melbourne Water bulletin detailed the large release as one of several planned for the Yarra this year, “to trigger the spawning of a threatened native fish species and enhance the river’s health”.

May 10 peaked for the Riverkeeper with the delivery of a VCAT decision to refuse a planning permit for townhouses on the riverbank in Hawthorn.

Ian said he was pleased with the outcome, maintaining the

health of the Yarra and our enjoyment of it depends on the natural habitat of its banks.

“The proposed development was on a heavily vegetated escarpment, a stand-out natural feature of the Lower Yarra. This special section of river provides precious habitat for wildlife, and is a picturesque and popular location for the many Melburnians who walk and cycle along the Main Yarra Trail on the opposite bank,” he said.

“The very prominent location and large size of the development would have severely eroded these important environmental and social values.”

River gods aside, it is the commitment of groups like the Yarra Riverkeeper Association that help safeguard what is arguably Melbourne’s most important natural asset. However, when it comes to ultimate protection, Ian Penrose insists changing laws and making them environmentally friendly has the biggest impact.

“Land use planning rules are made by government. Therefore, I would urge people next time they meet their local councillor or state government politician, to challenge them and ask—what is being done to improve these laws?”

But above all, Ian encouraged Melburnians to spend some time enjoying their river.

“French conservationist Jacques Cousteau once said ‘people protect what they love’, so go down to the Yarra. Take a bushwalk, do some kayaking or fishing.

“Warrandyte is characterised by a beautiful, special river. We should all try to look after it.”

● For more information about the Yarra Riverkeeper Association, go to the website: www.yarrariver.org.au or contact Ian Penrose on 0409 510 766.

Smoke-free trial continues

Nillumbik council has extended its trial of smoke-free zones at local playgrounds until the end of 2013.

Mayor, Cr Peter Perkins, said a six-month trial designating a smoke-free zone within 10 metres of local playgrounds was introduced in October 2012. This includes the Cooks/Weerona Reserve in North Warrandyte.

“During the course of the trial there have been a number of advancements at the state level in relation to smoke-free outdoor areas, with the government proposing to introduce smoking bans at all children’s playgrounds, sporting grounds, public swimming pools and skate parks,” Cr Perkins said.

“We have therefore decided to extend our trial until the end of the year when we believe state government legislation will come into effect,” he said.

“Our experience from the trial is that most people have complied with the signage not to smoke in these play areas and were supportive of the trial. People we spoke to were supportive of expanding the number of smoke-free areas to other playgrounds and outdoor areas.”

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Clyde's Conundrum

Donald works in the deli at IGA. Half his weight in kg multiplied by half his age is equal to the issue number of this edition of the Diary. What does Donald weigh?

Solution next month.

Solution to last month's puzzle:

The buses run to a timetable; not randomly. Where Peter lives, the Warrandyte bus departs on the hour, the City bus at 2 minutes past the hour; then each every 15 minutes thereafter. Unless he goes out during that 2 minute period, the next bus will always take him to Warrandyte.

CYRIL

By **PAUL WILLIAMS**



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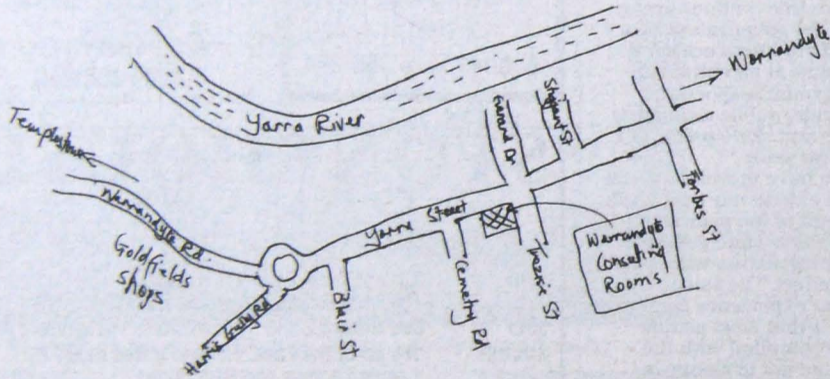
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Student talks about her Rotary Camp Awakenings Experience

"My Life Changing Experience: I was lucky enough to take part in a camp called Camp Awakenings. It was the best thing I could have participated in. I was very nervous about it, I wasn't sure what to expect and I didn't know anyone else who was going. The camp is different to any other school or group camp. The idea of the camp is to give you the skills so you can live your life to its fullest, stay positive and be the best you can be. Little things like dancing in the middle of your dinner and being sprayed with water pistols are just the start of it. The people who run the camp are the most generous and fun loving people I have ever met; they have something about them that makes you want to be your best and do your best. This camp is such a life changing opportunity. The skills I have learnt will stay with me for ever. I would like to thank Rotary for giving me the opportunity to go to Camp Awakenings I really appreciate it."

This is a very typical response from attendees who go to Camp Awakenings which is sponsored by Rotary and occurs once a year. Our club sponsored four local students this year.

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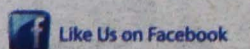


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New park building for FOWSP

By MITCHELL HALL

Those of you who are fond of the great work our Friends of Warrandyte State Park (FOWSP) do each year will be glad to hear that they have a new building.

In 2008, it was brought to FOWSP's attention that perhaps it was time for a new addition to the nursery. A letter from one of their members, Ray Clarke, put forward the idea of a change for the better. FOWSP found themselves agreeing, as they were in need of some extra space due to an influx of new members. Whenever FOWSP got together for a meeting or work, they would have to share the storeroom with an excess of office equipment and garden tools. There was clearly a need for another area, and a way to separate the various roles and tools of their day-to-day activities.

Local Diana Crawford was the architect behind the project. She agreed to assist with the redevelopment, pro bono, while the designs for the building were drawn by Ross Henry, who is also a member of FOWSP.

The building was constructed by the apprentice carpenters at Holmesglen TAFE, who also built the rangers' office. The project was funded entirely by FOWSP from plant and publication sales.

The building is approximately 8x4m, and 4.9m high, and it will act as a multi-purpose



Ready to roll: New FOWSP building at Holmesglen TAFE.

education and resource centre. It will serve as both an office space, and as a storage room for some of the extra equipment and tools that are taking up too much room in the other buildings around the nursery.

The education centre will also provide an area to train new volunteers and provide

general education about the native flora and fauna, and will contain a display that is open to the public.

Members of FOWSP are in the process of organising the building's move from Holmesglen to its new location at the nursery.

They hope that the new addition will arrive by early July,

and if all goes to schedule, then the opening ceremony will happen sometime around the end of August.

● If you wish to learn more about the Friends of Warrandyte State Park and their work in the community, or to become a member, you can visit their website at www.fowsp.org.au.

Old makes way for the new



The pavilion at Warrandyte Recreation Reserve has been partly demolished in preparation for the building of a new pavilion.

The new building will serve the Warrandyte Football clubs (junior and senior), Warrandyte Cricket Club and the Warrandyte Netball Club.

The new pavilion will include change rooms and amenities, first aid and umpires' rooms and club storage on the ground floor, as well as a multipurpose space, kitchen and canteen, netball locker room and storage on the second level.

Demolition day: The old pavilion on its way out. (Picture by Stephen Reynolds)

The Virtue of volunteering

By ALAN CORNELL

Warrandyte is blessed with many things. The river, birdsong and precipitous driveways come to mind. Another is volunteers. I have always had tremendous regard for those exceptional individuals who step up to run the scout troop, or the netball club, or in this case the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute and Arts Association. Because Ken Virtue has done that, not just for a year or two, but for 20 of them.

The Warrandyte Mechanics Institute and the Warrandyte Arts Association amalgamated in 1986 leaving the WMI&AA responsible both for the maintenance and care of the historic Mechanics Institute Hall and the fostering of a range of creative endeavours including theatre, pottery, painting and craft. That it continues to thrive is purely down to a dedicated group of individuals who maintain their enthusiasm through leaks, termites and all the ills old halls are heir to.

Ken Virtue took on the presidency of the WMI&AA in 1992 taking over the baton from Doug Macrae, and has steered the course ever since with a rare balance of drive and diplomacy.

He has overseen an ambitious program of hall improvements that includes re-roofing, renovation of the committee room, asbestos removal, a memorial path and garden, major renovation of the foyer and toilet area, stage replacement, improvements to the pottery studio and a host

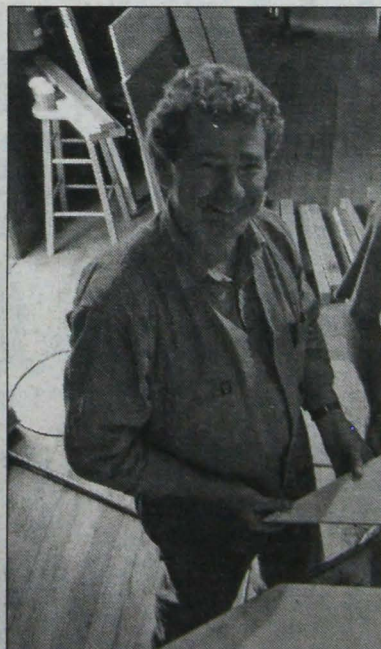
of other equipment and maintenance projects. And, of course, painting.

Ken's career path was rendered almost entirely in paint. He even has a colour named after him. And whatever the project, Ken would always come good with the paint, to the point where Dulux has been one of the association's greatest benefactors. He has painted most parts of the hall, inside and out, some of them several times over. In fact the only thing Ken prefers to a fine glass of red is a tin of Heritage Green Weathershield Semi Gloss.

The doing part of the job has been managed with a seemingly endless energy that typifies most of the things Ken takes on. But it is the manner in which he engages with others that has endeared him to all. He has led a happy team.

With much of his time now spent enjoying (and renovating and painting) a recently acquired beach house at Aireys Inlet, Ken has decided it's time to hand the presidency over to a younger man. Jack Stringer doesn't quite match that particular criteria, but excels in so many others, including playing vice president for many distinguished years, that he will do a fine job. And Ken remains on the committee in various roles as he tries to wean himself altogether off the addiction to community service.

Most men need a shed to satisfy their lust for odd jobs. For Ken Virtue, it took a large hall. Well done Ken, and thank you.



Ken Virtue: Always on the job.

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WNH: Goodbye Karen... Hello Emma

By **CHERIE MOSELEN**

A dinner was held last month in honour of *Diary* resident poet Karen Throssell who has retired as the co-ordinator of Warrandyte's Neighbourhood House.

Friends, colleagues and fellow writers met at Nardee Indian restaurant to take part in a tribute to Karen that acknowledged her service to the local community through the development of its Neighbourhood House.

Looking back over her significant 13-year partnership with the grass-roots community organisation, Ms Throssell told the *Diary* the experience had been challenging at times but overall, "hugely enriching".

"I started in 2001, under quite a lot of pressure actually, because the Neighbourhood House was under performance review. There was even talk of merging with Wonga Park," she said.

Having to submit quarterly reports to Manningham council to show continued viability is not the ideal way to start a job.

"But what kept me going is the notion that the community sector is the real vehicle for change in our society, and I knew with a strong volunteer base the House could have a positive impact here."

Ms Throssell explained that some Neighbourhood Houses employed only paid staff, choosing to do away with their volunteers entirely, but that she believed differently.

"I put a lot of effort into growing our voluntary group. I was determined that at Warrandyte we wouldn't just teach people to do watercolours and make them fitter but



"What retirement?" ask Karen. Life has never been so busy.

would bring the community and volunteers together, with a view to empowering them."

Ms Throssell came to the position from a diverse academic and working background that reflect her political and feminist views. Having lectured in politics and sociology, and later worked in the trade union movement as a research officer, she developed a strong interest in women's employment issues.

"I had a series of jobs which involved setting up women's networks as an equal employment opportunity officer.

"One of the things I am most proud of was to create a bond between women who co-existed in an almost entirely male dominated industry. To do that, I organised a monthly lunch that included a speaker, something that was so

successful I introduced it into the Neighbourhood House program and it is still happening today."

Karen defined other accomplishments as putting Warrandyte's literary arts on the map by running high quality creative writing and poetry classes.

She also mentioned several WNH fundraising achievements for communities in Africa and India that demonstrate her personal philosophy of defining community globally as well as locally.

Karen said she was looking forward to the continued growth of the Neighbourhood House as it transitions to Warrandyte's "new look" community centre.

"I think my biggest achievement was taking the House from the tenuous position it

was seen in by council, to the position of strength it holds today. WNH negotiates with council on an equal footing, which I feel has been validated in the centre renovation process, with the House finally getting much-needed street frontage."

"Having a library in the community centre will create great synergy with the House's literary interests and it may bring in a change of demographics, with young mums and kids exploring library programs," she said.

"Of course, this 'revival' also brings an opportunity for the new coordinator to put her stamp on the House."

An award-winning poet—lately winning third prize in a national Ekphrasic poetry competition run by Nillumbik council—Karen says she enjoys being able to pop into a local café for a few hours most days to indulge in her first love, writing.

"I have three projects on the go: a creative non-fiction course to work on an existing manuscript; a completed book of poetry to get ready for publication; and a grant application for a mentorship to convert some poems into a play."

Karen said her plans for the future would continue to express her interest in community.

"I have always wanted to give back, particularly to communities less privileged than my own, so I'm planning to volunteer with the International Women's Development Association, an Australian organisation that supports positive change for women and their communities in South East Asia and the Pacific."

Warrandyte Neighbourhood House has appointed a new manager upon the retirement last April of long-time co-ordinator Karen Throssell.

Ms Emma Edmonds, a local resident, says she is excited to be the new incumbent and is looking forward particularly to operating the Neighbourhood House from a promising new space once it returns to Warrandyte's redeveloped community centre.

"It will be great to be back in that beautiful building in the heart of Warrandyte," Ms Edmonds told the *Diary*, "but it will only be the heart of Warrandyte if people come along and use it."

"The Neighbourhood House plans to encourage that by having a launch day with some free classes. We will also welcome feedback from visitors as to the types of classes and activities they would like to see offered in the future."

Ms Edmonds said she intends to focus on working partnerships with the other tenants in the hope that the centre will become a "hub", and the Neighbourhood House an agency to facilitate connections between individuals and sections of the community.

"Neighbourhood Houses are all about bringing people together. We now have several men's exercise groups and hope to encourage more young people and families. We aim to look at broadening our program to include such things as playgroups, walking groups for mothers with pushers, and activities that will appeal to teenagers."

Having lived locally for six years, many in Warrandyte will know Ms Edmonds from her

recent role as a civil celebrant and as the mother of two primary-aged girls.

However, some will also recognise her as the face of a recent successful campaign to bring about a change to reusable shopping bags in Warrandyte.

"After finishing a post-graduate certificate in Sustainability I joined WarrandyteCAN and was thrilled to meet a different group of local people with like-minded ideas," Emma said.

"I helped co-ordinate an information campaign aimed at educating about the dangers and cost to the environment in using plastic bags. The local IGA and Warrandyte Business Association embraced the idea and after charging 10 cents for plastic bags, the supermarket has had an incredible 90 per cent reduction in the use of them."

Ms Edmonds said she would encourage the Neighbourhood House to pursue its commitment towards exploring sustainable initiatives and is already looking into an idea to accept batteries and mobile phones for recycling.

CHERIE MOSELEN



Emma has a passion for Neighbourhood Houses.

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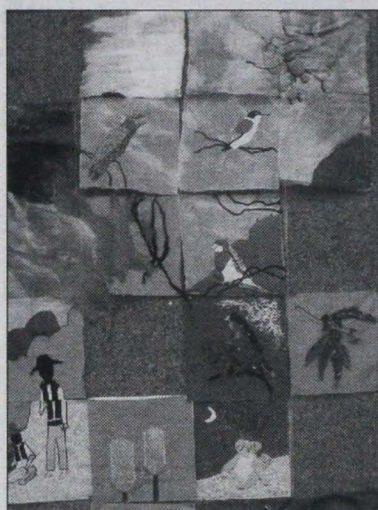
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Quilt holds up the sky

By KAREN THROSSELL

Almost daily they come in. Their arrival has been the highlight of my last few weeks in my job at the Warrandyte Neighbourhood House, and I look forward to each exquisite piece of embroidery, applique, textile collage, felting, or cross-stitch to be put into its place in our almost completed wall hanging.

Amongst the huge range of contributions we have a tawny frogmouth, a spider orchid, rosellas, galahs, ants and wallabies, not to mention the Bridge, the poppet head, and a couple of gold panners—an amazing depiction of Warrandyte's flora and fauna and a bit of history and geography, demonstrating the extraordinary talent within our tiny community.

The contributions also show a huge affection for all that makes Warrandyte. Well, maybe affection is not the right word to use for the spider, snake and bushfire that are all included in the hanging. We all know that you have to take the bad with the good if you live here.

The passion for inclusion by the Neighbourhood House is indicated by the fact that we offered an opportunity to people who wanted to be part of the project but couldn't sew (or "do anything crafty...") We offered free felting

classes to these people so that they could help make the sky!

With funding from a Manningham council small grant program, we ran three basic felting classes, and were fortunate to have an award winning textile artist and felter as the teacher.

Whilst we started off trying to make the sky a realistic Warrandyte colour, with largely grey and pale blue felt, the students couldn't resist including a bit of brilliant deep azure, more reminiscent of the sky over Van Gogh's sunflower fields than our own skies. But one has to allow for artistic licence.

So now we have our felt patched sky—somewhat turbulent but very beautiful.

We still have a few gaps, and we know some people are still beavering away, and others may have forgotten and just need a gentle reminder. (The deadline was the end of March...)

But if there are people who feel like they took it on and now can't possibly finish, and don't know how to tell us, don't worry. Just let us know so we can redistribute the squares.

There were quite a few ardent stitchers who were keen to do more than one square and maybe there are still some people out there who would like to contribute to this fantastic community project.

BRAND NILLUMBİK

Council are about to commence a series of projects to develop a new brand for visitors to the region.

The intention is to raise the profile of the region and increase visitation. This program is divided into three distinct projects:

- Industry consultation and agreement
- Brand development
- Brand implementation.

If you would like to be kept informed or involved with the Brand Nillumbik project then please register your email address by visiting www.enterprisenillumbik.com.au. For further information contact Christine Gibbins, Business Development and Tourism Officer at christine.gibbins@nillumbik.vic.gov.au, phone 9433 3332.

VOLUNTEER POSITION

Do you like spending time with parents and children?

A small group of mums and their young children would love to have you help out with children's activities at the St Andrews Playgroup on Fridays from 9.30am to 12noon. Come and enjoy that chatter of the parents and the excitement of the littlies. Contact: Rachel Birrell 9433 3190

Practically Green Sustainability Awards 2013

Nillumbik Shire Council invites all members of our local community to participate in the 2013 Practically Green Sustainability Awards.

Council is now seeking nominations for outstanding examples of sustainability in the following categories:

- Sustainable Building Award
- Sustainable Home Award
- Sustainable Business Awards
- Sustainable Community Organisation Award
- Sustainable School or Children's Centre Award.

Nominations close 31 July 2013. For nomination forms and further information visit www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au, call in to the Civic Centre at Civic Drive, Greensborough or phone 9433 3211.



GRANDPARENTS PLAYGROUP

- Do you take care of your grandchildren during the week?
- Would you like to meet other grandparents who are like you?
- Would your grandchildren enjoy playing with other children?

We are establishing a playgroup for grandparent carers and their grandchildren. Come along and chat to us over afternoon tea to help plan the details of the group.

Date: Monday 24 June
Time: 1.30pm-2.30pm
Where: Coniston Street Family Centre Diamond Creek (next to the preschool)

Please RSVP to Rachel Birrell on 9433 3190 or Rachel.Birrell@nillumbik.vic.gov.au. If you are interested in attending a grandparents playgroup but can't attend the afternoon tea please contact Rachel Birrell.

HURSTBRIDGE FAMILY CENTRE PROJECT

The extension and upgrade to the existing Hurstbridge Community Centre is due to start in June 2013 and is scheduled for completion in April 2014.

During construction there will be a temporary Community Centre including Maternal Child Health at 36 Graysharps Rd Hurstbridge (adjoining the bowling club). Current users of the Community Centre have been re-located to a number of venues in Hurstbridge. A comprehensive list of user groups and new locations is available on www.nillumbik.vic.gov.au.

For further information please contact Nichole Johnson, Community Strategic Project Coordinator on 9433 3134 or email Nichole.Johnson@nillumbik.vic.gov.au.

Nillumbik Youth Services is now on Facebook!

Like us on Facebook for your chance to win some awesome prizes such as movie tickets, iTunes vouchers and more! Each month Nillumbik Youth Services will be selecting random young people to win prizes. So get on it now for your chance to win!



THE GRAND WARRANDYTE

GRAND NEWS - JUNE 2013



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Warrandyte **Community Bank**® Branch

Invitation

Community Funding Forum

Date: Tuesday 9 July 2013

Time: 7:00pm

Venue: Warrandyte Grand Hotel (upstairs bar)

RSVP: Warrandyte **Community Bank**® Branch on 9844 2233

The Warrandyte Community Grants Program is a management account of Community Enterprise™ Charitable Fund. ABN 12 102 649 968. The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo, VIC. 3550. CEF28 (187472_v1) (31/05/2013)



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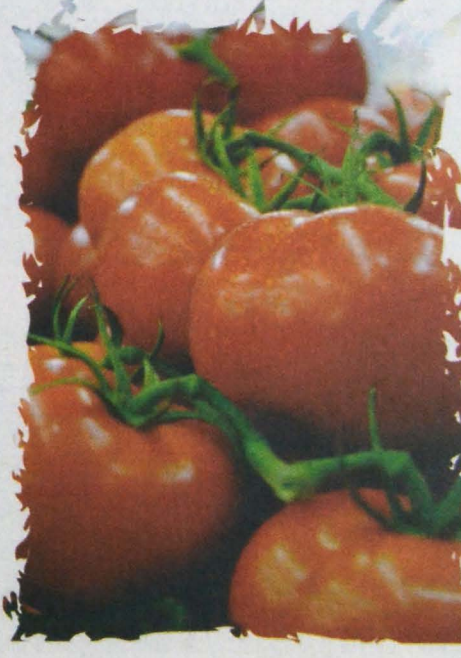
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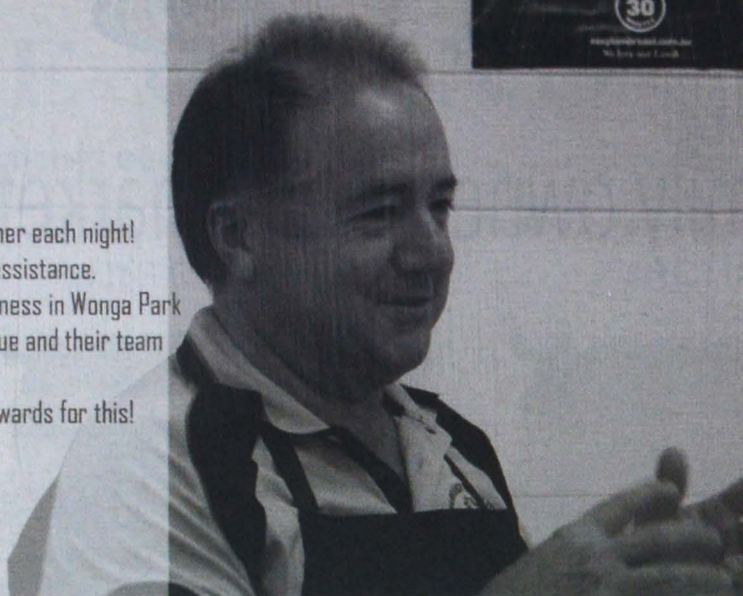
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Shane and Sue are doing a great job making sure we can all make dinner each night! Whenever you go in there you are greeted with a smile and offers of assistance. They have been in Warrandyte for two years after moving from a business in Wonga Park which they had for 20 years. Lots of locals come to see Shane and Sue and their team as well as many familiar faces from Wonga Park. Did you know that they produce their own smallgoods and have won awards for this! Their high quality lamb and beef come from Gippsland. The quality and variety is outstanding. They also have fresh seafood.

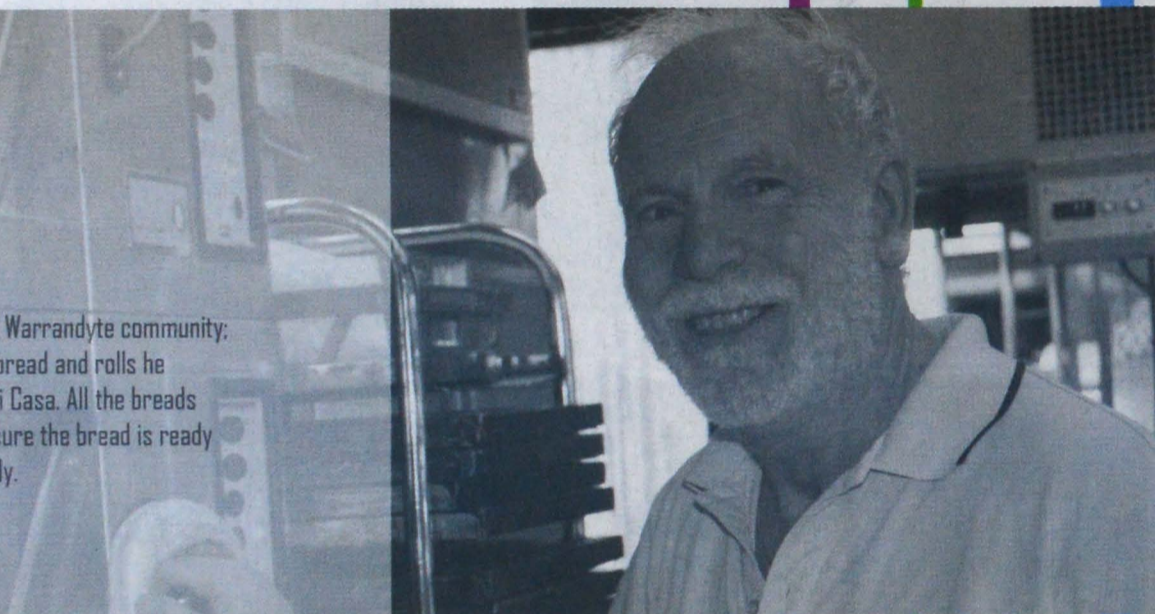


Warrandyte Hot Bread

-Leo

Shop Number 2 Goldfields
Ph 9844 1432

Leo has been baking since 1995 at the Goldfields. He loves the Warrandyte community; his customers are all so friendly. In addition to pies, pasties, bread and rolls he specialises in Italian breads, ciabata, sour dough and Pane di Casa. All the breads are made on the premises. Leo starts work at 3am to make sure the bread is ready for breakfast! Vanilla slices and cream sponges are made daily. This is a traditional bakery offering great quality.



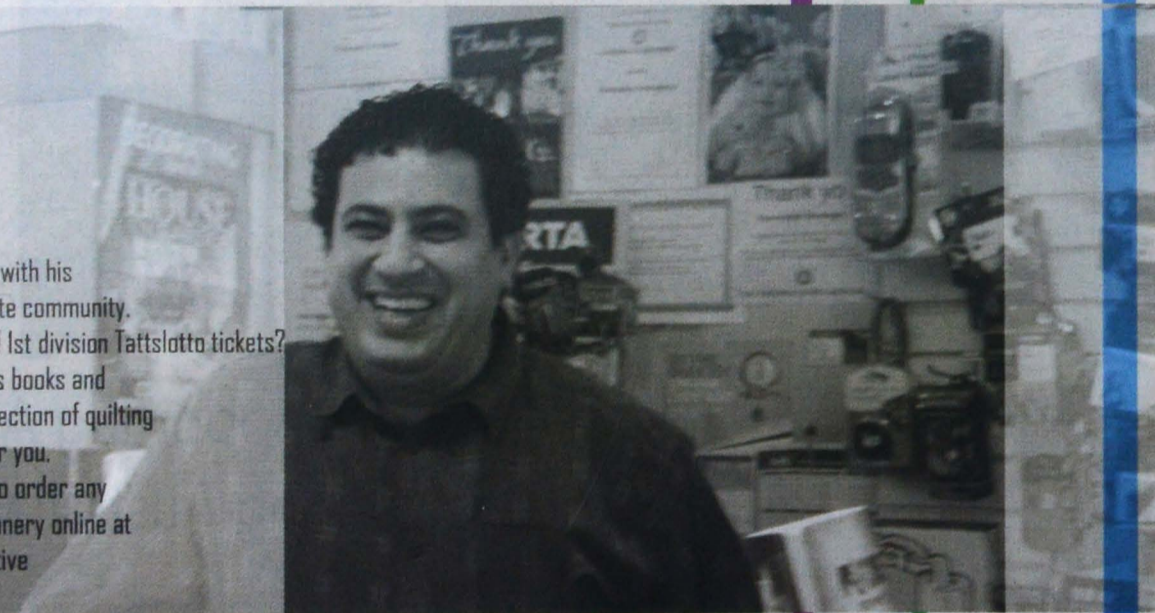
Warrandyte Newsagency

- Wail

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Pop in to visit Wail - he is your local Newsagent.

For the last 5 years Wail has been running our Newsagency, together with his family including his little daughter Emmanuela, he loves the Warrandyte community. Did you know that the Warrandyte Newsagency has sold five years and 1st division Tattsлото tickets? Visit the Newsagency to get your cards, papers, footy cards, children's books and educational books and magazines. Our Newsagency has the biggest collection of quilting and craft magazines. Wail also orders in specialised magazines just for you. Don't forget you can also have your dry cleaning done! Wail is happy to order any stationery you require. You may not be aware but you can order stationery online at warrandytenewsagencyofficegroup.com.au - prices are very competitive and don't forget the convenience of shopping locally!



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Warrandyte landscaper wins awards

By MICHELLE PINI

Warrandyte landscaper Scott Wynd is winning local and international accolades for his garden designs.

His company TLC Design—an acronym for Total Landscaping Construction and a deliberate play on words—specialises in landscape and pool design and construction.

Awarded a gold medal and trophy for best in show at this year's Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show, Scott's designs have received many awards and media acclaim. Representing Australia at the Chelsea Flower Show, London in 2010, Scott took out the prestigious Best Design Gold Medal—achieving further praise when the Queen stopped to admire and chat about his winning design.

"Carbon footprint is a consideration" and TLC source local materials and integrate water tanks into their designs but, Scott says, they are not "in your face about it".

According to Scott, although TLC designs are innovative, they are firmly grounded in the belief that everything that goes into a garden must have a practical use. Attitudes have changed dramatically from what he describes as a "cottage industry" 25 years ago.

"People value the importance of getting back to nature and the interplay between indoor and outdoor living—we get people to go outside and keep them there for the longest time possible."

● For further information contact TLC Design on 9434 0525.



Scott Wynd meets the Queen at Chelsea. (Picture by Leanne Gillies)

Scott's prizewinning garden at the Melbourne International Flower and Garden Show. (Pictures by Jason Zorgutl)



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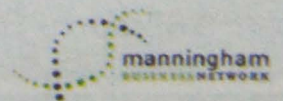
The Business Breakfast will launch the Manningham Business Excellence Awards



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Warrandyte band brings soul music into mix

By BRIANNA PIAZZA

Warrandyte can expect to hear more soul and funk in the years to come.

Keyboardist Monique Boggia is setting up a studio in her new Warrandyte home where her band Deep Street Soul will rehearse and create new tunes for their upcoming album.

Yet a new album isn't all the seven-person band is smiling about.

The group will jet over to England later this month to play in front of thousands of people at the renowned Glastonbury Festival. They will then begin their second tour of Europe.

"It really is living the dream and I love everything about it—everything from having daytime to see the world and night to play music," Monique said.

The Melbourne band formed in 2006. Their journey to international success all began when drummer Ago Soldati was shopping at his regular record store and he started talking to one of the guys there about his funk band. He played one of the Deep Street Soul's songs on his iPod and the man straight away said he wanted to release it.

A few years later the group has an EP, two LPs and four singles. They also covered the MC5 anthem "Kick Out The Jams" which MC5 guitarist Wayne Kramer contacted Deep Street Soul and personally told them it was the "greatest version of the song ever recorded".

Deep Street Soul has enjoyed much success in the UK and Europe, which

the band says is partly due to being released on London-based soul/jazz/funk label Freestyle Records and Europe having a bigger population, enabling smaller music scenes to thrive.

The band seized the opportunity to play Glastonbury after playing at the Australasian World Music Expo last year. Guitarist Mitch Power was outside chatting when a man approached him.

"I had no idea who this guy was and he pulled me aside and said he really loved our set tonight. We were chatting for a few minutes and then he said he was from Glastonbury and wanted to speak to the band manager. I told him not to move, I ran inside and got the others out there straight away!"

When Deep Street Soul returns from Europe at the end of July the plan is to write some new songs and release an album before the end of the year.

Monique said she was really looking forward to playing at the Saint Paul Soul Jazz Festival in the south of France, and hopes the band will be lucky enough to "bring a bit of Glastonbury back to the Warrandyte festival next year".

The band played their farewell show at The Workers Club in Fitzroy on June 8 before leaving for Glastonbury.

● To find out more about the band's upcoming gigs visit www.deepstreetsoul.com.



The lineup: Monique Boggia (keyboardist), May Johnston (vocalist), Ago Soldati (drummer), Mitch Power (guitarist).



May Johnson



Warren Hunter

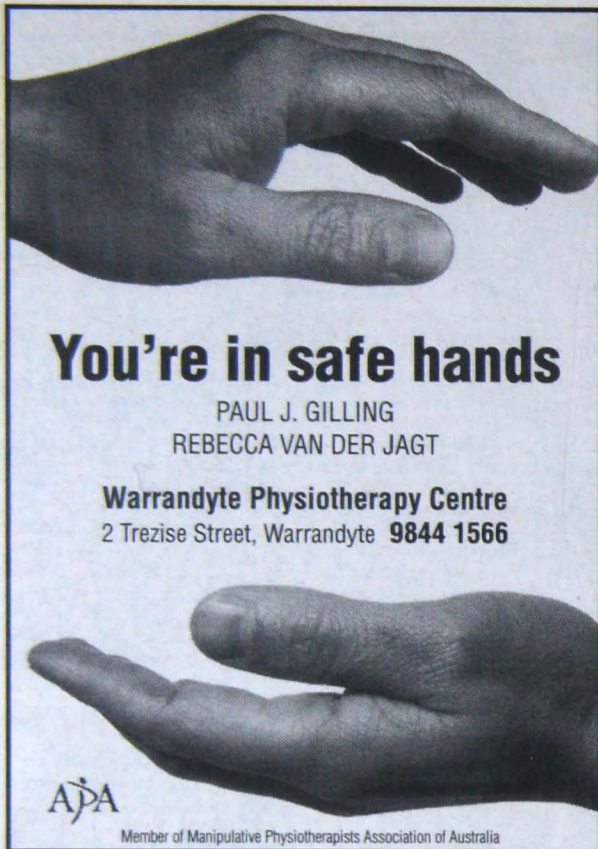


Heritage at hall

The Warrandyte Mechanics Institute and Arts Association marked Heritage Week last month with an exhibition of member's paintings, pottery and craft at their hall in Yarra Street.

Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS





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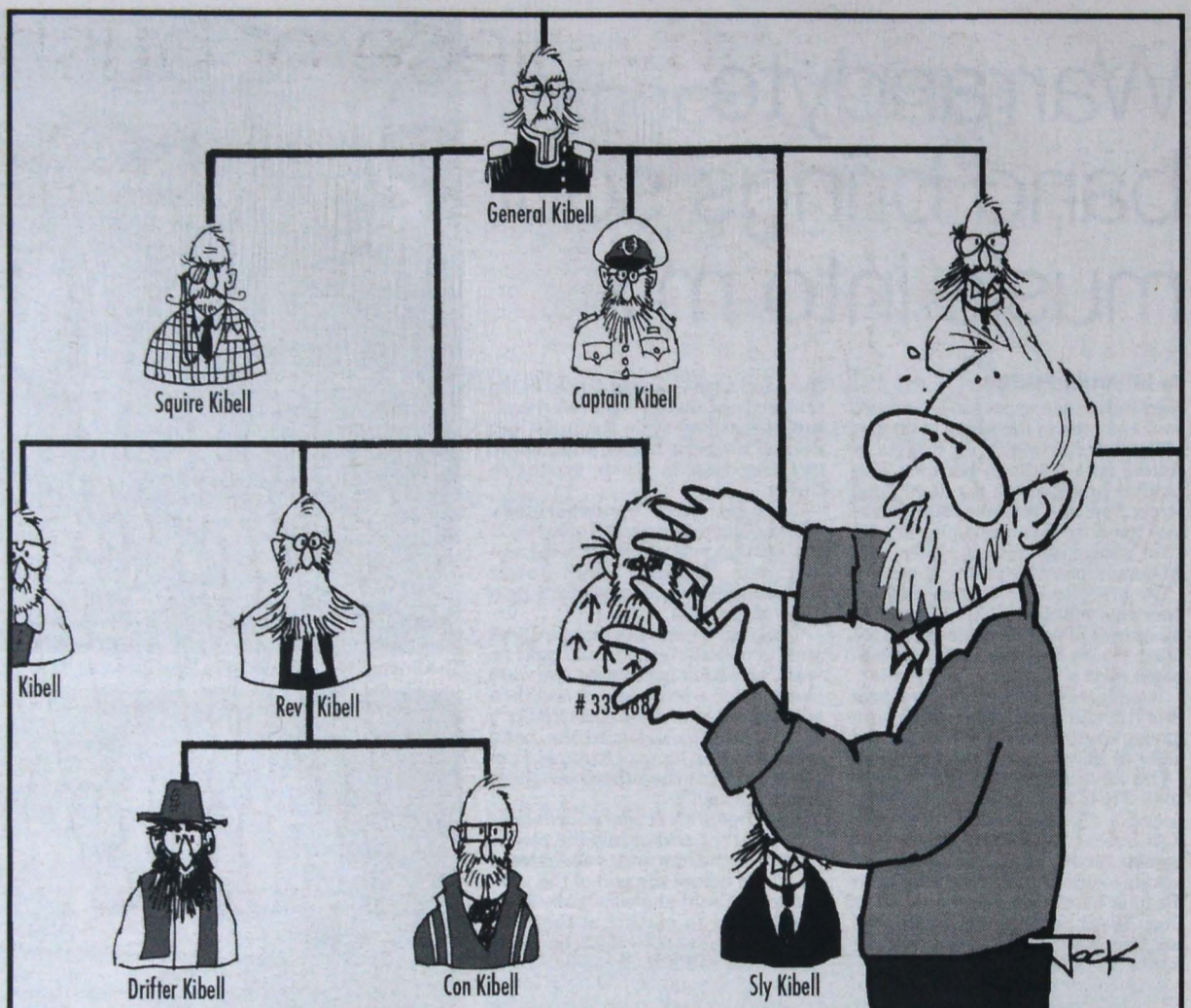
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Why do you need to know who the hell you are?

ONCE upon a time, the only thing that annoyed me about "genealogy" was that most people mispronounced it as "geneology". Now, that Herself has become besotted with family history, mispronunciation is the least of my worries. The whole area has become much more sinister! Let me explain.

The other night, Herself and I were watching, "Who Do You Think You Are?" and the poor sucker who knew he was Anglo-Indian, by the end of the program, was devastated to discover that, on arriving in the sub-continent, that Anglo-Indian didn't just mean that his ancestors were English, born in India but, through intermarriage, were the full Anglo-Indian cocktail of genes. After that revelation, further research uncovered other less-than-kosher facts about the family's goings-on. His biggest shock, however, came when he was told that his Mc Something name wasn't Scottish, as he had always believed but was, in fact, Irish, a fact he was less than excited to discover. The show ended with the guy appearing to be crestfallen and in search of some razor blades and a blood-warm bath.



kibbled

"Now that Herself has become besotted with family history, mispronunciation is the least of my worries..."

Family history can be a bit like that. You may discover that you are descended from Russian royalty, selfless billionaire benefactors and Nobel Peace Prize recipients or you may find that rape, pillage and infidelity are the least problematic aspects of your genetic inheritance. In other words, once you start delving, you may stir up a hornets' nest of facts you would rather had been left unstirred.

For example, for years, I had been led to believe that we had a Welsh great grandmother who, picturesquely, used to sit on the verandah of the ancestral house singing Welsh folk songs. Wrong! We have no Welsh ancestry at all and whoever it was who sat on a verandah singing, she had nothing to do with me. So once one stone of the wall is removed, the whole structure starts to feel crumbly.

There are two sides to any genealogical exploration and after completing a lot of research on her own family, Herself concentrated on the male

side of mine. It was helped by the fact that a relative had already completed a lot of the spadework so she didn't need to waste too much time on the basics.

We are not an old country and with the help of the ever-expanding resource facilities, we easily found that my great grandfather won a fare-free trip to the new colony of Tasmania in 1842. His wife and children were left back in England whilst he went on his government subsidised tour and once he had finished his contracted period of organised work in Van Diemen's Land he had no money for the return fare so it was simpler and common, for him to remarry over here. He then went to Victoria where he set up a small farm in Beechworth. From there the story is very respectable.

Nowadays having "selected ancestors" has now become quite trendy and provides street cred, but it wasn't always so. I was told lots of stories about relatives meeting Ned Kelly's gang in the forest in the middle of the night and the story of how my paternal grandmother died as the result of a leg wound infection, caused when she ran between a brown snake and my teenage father who was trying to shoot it. This was in the house, of course! But, it was not until very recently that the word "convict" was mentioned.

And to make matters worse, or better, Herself has just been working on my mum's

side, only to find two more convicts falling from the tree. It's historically interesting because it was only 1840-ish that the criminal law was changed in England. Until then, the punishment for the crimes that most of the transported convicts committed was the death penalty.

I've since found that I have Irish, Scottish, Maltese, Italian, English but no Welsh in my lineage.

On my mum's side, apart from the few minor larceny and aggravated assault issues, the family has been very proper. All good Anglicans and much as it pains me to write this, there was an Anglican priest. But there is always a truly worrying piece of information that gets unearthed in any genealogical search and because I'm getting reckless in my old age, I'll spill the beans.

Johnny Cash is famous for singing, "A Boy Named Sue". In that he indicated that his son was named Sue so he would grow up tough, having to defend himself against the taunts the name would invariably produce. Interesting psychology and tough on Sue but it's not new. My relatives tried it several generations ago.

I heard a guffaw from Herself as she pointed to a name on my family tree. It wasn't Sue but worse. My great, great, great grandfather had two given names; Octavius Primrose.

Now that is embarrassing!

ROGER KIBELL



Everyone in Warrandyte reads the Diary

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Saving a tiny piece of bush

KNEELING in the blackened soil about 13km north-east of Warrandyte, I counted 15 greenhood spikes, each about 50cm tall and packed with robust buds that would be fully opened in June. I was transported back more than 21 years.

Standing near the same spot, maybe my knees were shaking, certainly my voice shook with fear and passion as I addressed the gathered crowd of about 20 neighbours to this bushland patch. Some of them had been petitioning council for more open play space for their children, perhaps even a footy oval in the area next to new housing blocks.

With the help of a supportive Diamond Valley Shire council member, a couple of sympathetic neighbours, and encouragement from local botanists, I was there to advocate for the preservation of this orchid-rich patch as a bushland reserve.

I was a new chum, less than 10 years in this country, green and relatively "wet behind the ears". Although married to an Aussie, I had not yet been naturalised (or neutralised as my family likes to say). I had joined the Australian Native Orchid Society with the aim of learning more about the intriguing plants that are native terrestrial orchids and involved in a fledgling Orchid Conservation Group.

There I first heard about a special area of native orchids within walking distance of my Greensborough home around 1989. I had no sooner heard of the Tall Greensborough Orchid than I heard of its likely destruction by imminent development. Action was required.

The only photos I had on the day of the meeting were orchid photos cut from a magazine and passed around to let people know what I was talking about. In the end, the



Tall Greenhood Orchid, now called the Emerald-lip Greenhood, a little safer thanks to the efforts of many. (Picture by Linda Rogan)

neighbours were happy to support the bushland reserve so long as a small play area could be included in the most degraded part of the reserve near Scone Close.

A lot of work followed, including distribution of pamphlets, newspaper articles, and shire council and conservation subcommittee meetings. The St Helena Bushland

Reserve was established, including some of the blocks of land previously planned for housing. It was not as large as we had hoped, but it was what we thought would be the minimum space to give the orchids a chance of long-term survival.

Importantly a friends group was established in 1992. Early members included a very

nature

By LINDA ROGAN

keen conservationist, Lawrie Rigg and local naturalist Garry French (now employed by Parks Victoria) who has since become one of the prime authorities on local orchids and their conservation. Both continue as core members of this group.

It was in 1993 that this Tall Greensborough Orchid was recognised as a distinct species and received the new name of Emerald-lip Greenhood, its scientific species name meaning emerald green. Originally there was a large population in the Diamond Valley area with the next nearest population in the Mallee.

Back to 2013. I remember predictions that this reserve would be weedy understorey within 10 years. In fact this patch of bushland is one of the most biodiverse within the Melbourne area with at least 92 indigenous plants including more than 35 species of orchid; many blooming in late autumn and spring.

Early efforts saved this land from development but the endeavours of the friends group and the shire council (now Banyule shire) have persisted. In recent years the Banyule council bushland management crew and the friends group have worked well together. A carefully orchestrated spring burn, coordinated with local fire authorities, in December 2012 has resulted in a good response. The timing of this burn in late spring was critical for the autumn blooming orchids and weed control. The friends and the council teams are attacking the weedy grasses that are springing up in the burnt area; orchid areas are being "GPSed" and hand weeded. With continued and coordinated effort, the outlook for St Helena Bushland Reserve looks bright.

Merrie month of May. Not.

ROLL on June! I'm not a big fan of May. Of all the months in the calendar, it's always seemed to have the least going for it.

Once upon a time, being a child of late April, the advent of May signified not only the dreary prelude to approaching winter but also the beginning of an interminable year's wait until my next birthday. Birthdays aren't so exciting any more, and worse, you realise during May just how quickly the year is slipping by. So much still to do! The termination of daylight saving only accelerates the gloom.

Not that I mind winter—I love the drumming of rain on the roof, crackling cold air, misty gullies, log fires, the incomparable purity of fresh snow and watching my warm breath hang foggily on the air—but it's those dismal thickets of unrelenting grey cloud that blanket the sky for days on end, depriving us mortals of light and shadow, that I find suffocating. Sometimes, after weeks of heavy

cloud, I feel weighed down to the point where I just want to jump in the car and start driving towards the sun.

In the meantime, curled up in front of the fire, I've had a thought or two about wringing the best out of May. Poetry isn't my strong suit, far from it, but it occurs to me that there's a dearth of Maytime sonnets appropriate to the Antipodes. Given the epidemic of odes to May as the epitome of Spring, we've got some serious catching up to do.

None of the lines we dutifully learnt in school matches our own experience. "Darling buds of May"? I hardly think so, even though our corneas and wattles are bulging at the seams. "Fa-la-LA la la la la laaaa—". Not this side of the equator, with or without Morris Dancers. And as for Edwin Teale, who famously wrote "All things seem possible in May" ... well, he'd never been to this neck of the woods, had he?

Early Australian poets wrote quite a lot about the bush and bush characters, but

our place

By MARILYN MOORE

very little about the seasons. "The Springtime it brings on the shearing ..." — but what is there about May? John Shaw Nielson's short poem "May" is the only one I could find that attempted to cover the situation—"... Yellow in all the earth and in the skies / The world would seem / Faint as a widow mourning with soft eyes / And falling into a dream ..."—and that sounds to me as though he's looking at a gentle painting by Turner of late autumn somewhere else. He's not really here. Even David Campbell's "Cocky's Calendar" skips over May, inexplicably jumping from sowing wheat to a winter robin shaking snow off his little wing. If you can find a part of Australia that grows good wheat and regularly gets snow in winter, do let me know.

So there you go, Warrandyte, there's a challenge for you.

There must be *something* good about May, something worth immortalising. Anything more than doggerel is beyond me, and in any case there's not much inspiration to be found in wielding a mattock, which is mostly what's been going on around here lately. The post-Easter planting session is in full swing, getting young seedlings into the ground while there's still a trace of warmth in it, replacing everything that summer's hot winds and the thriving rabbit population took away. Perhaps seasonal produce would be more inspiring.

Last weekend I pulled out my favourite Georgian recipe—at what other time of the year can you get wild duck, Muscat grapes, fresh walnuts and blood oranges? Not that I found any of those things at short notice ...

Speaking of cookery, the generous offers of gnocchi-making lessons are greatly appreciated. Next time I feel I can face giving the kitchen a good head-to-toe scrub, I look forward to giving somebody a call.

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Warrandyte Community Market

Under the gum trees, beside the Yarra on Stiggants Reserve, Yarra Street, Warrandyte First Saturday of each month - except January, 9am-1pm.

Come and join in! Hand-crafted gifts of all kinds, toys, art works, pottery, plants, clothing, gift cards, leatherwork, cakes, jams, honey, fruit, produce.

Ample parking. Light refreshments available. Bring along your family and friends.

Enquiries: 9844 4495



Military mirth extended

The display, "Australian Military Mirth and Mascots" currently running at the Warrandyte RSL in Brackenbury Street, has been extended until mid-July. It is open from 4.30 to 7.30pm every day. Parking is available in Brackenbury Street.



Band
Warrandyte RSL's Bands by the Bridge—Live Music—this month only, Friday night June 28 from 7.30-11pm. Bring your BYO food platter and enjoy a night of great music. "Rust" blues 'n' roots music. Enquiries: RSL clubrooms, 9844 3567.

Seniors
The annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Senior Citizens will be held on August 15 at 12.15pm in their clubrooms in Tarroona Avenue, Warrandyte.

Music
Warrandyte Uniting Church runs a music program for 0 to 5 year-olds every Wednesday at the church in Tarroona Avenue. There is singing, dancing, instruments and relaxation with a professional music therapist. Sessions commence at 9.45am and run until 10am followed by morning tea. Cost is \$12.50 per session. Call Robyn on 0348 804 381.

Grandparents
Late last month Andersons Creek Primary School celebrated Grandparents Day. Grades 1 and 2 played hosts to their grandparents in their classrooms. The children sang and danced in the school theatre and the grandparents enjoyed homemade scones and tea and coffee.

Massage
Warrandyte Neighbourhood House is running a "Learn to Massage" class with tutor Eileen Valentine. It will run over two sessions on Saturdays, June 22 and 29 from 10am to 2pm. You will learn massage techniques for prone supine and seated massage. Call the House on 9844 1839.

Park
The Friends of Warrandyte State Park have received money from Manningham council's small grants program to fund their weekend activity groups. They have planned a range of hands-on

They're not all just mushrooms!

The next Manningham Environmental Seminar will be held in the Chandelier Room of the Grand Hotel, Yarra Street, Warrandyte on Wednesday, July 3. The topic is Fungi and it will be addressed by fungi expert Jurrie Hubregtse. Seminar is free and commences at 7.30pm. On Thursday, July 4 there will be a follow-up fungi field trip to Jumping Creek. Booking is essential for this trip and you must attend the Wednesday seminar to be eligible. Call Lyn Meredith on 9840 9326.

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: info@warrandytediary.com.au; or left in the mail box at St Stephen's Anglican Church, 5-7 Stiggant Street, Warrandyte.

nature based activities within the park, such as maintenance and planting at Boys Road on Saturday, June 22 from 10am to 12pm, a propagation workshop on Saturday, July 6, National Tree Day propagation day on Saturday, July 27 followed by tree planting on National Tree Day on Saturday, July 28. Check out www.fowsp.org.au for what to bring and where to meet. RSVP for catering purposes to friendsofwsp@gmail.com or call 0408 317 327.

Books
The North Warrandyte CFA is

preparing for their inaugural Book Fair to be held on Saturday, July 6 from 9am to 4pm at the Warrandyte Community Church, 57 Yarra Street, Warrandyte. They would be happy to receive donations of pre-loved books, magazines, DVDs, CDs and games. Please phone Suzanne on 0418 825 653 to arrange drop or collection.

Walks
The next Manningham council Thursday nature walk will on June 27 at 9.30am and will be held at Currawong and the Mullum Mullum Creek wilderness. Distance is 6.5 kms over three hours. Rating is moderate. To book call 9840 9124 or email eepadmin@manningham.vic.gov.au

Sausages
Following their very successful barbecue at Quintons IGA in May, North Warrandyte CFA will run a sausage sizzle there on Saturday, September 14. They raised just under \$1000 and would like to thank Quintons for their support and the volunteers who helped on the day.

Nilumbik
Nilumbik Living and Learning run a variety of courses at Eltham, Panton Hill and Diamond Creek. For detailed information go to www.living-learningnilumbik.vic.gov.au

Tell us
The Diary is your newspaper and we're always ready to publish details of your forthcoming events. Give us all the facts and simply drop it into our letterbox at the Anglican Church, post it to PO Box 209, Warrandyte 3113 or email info@warrandytediary.com.au.



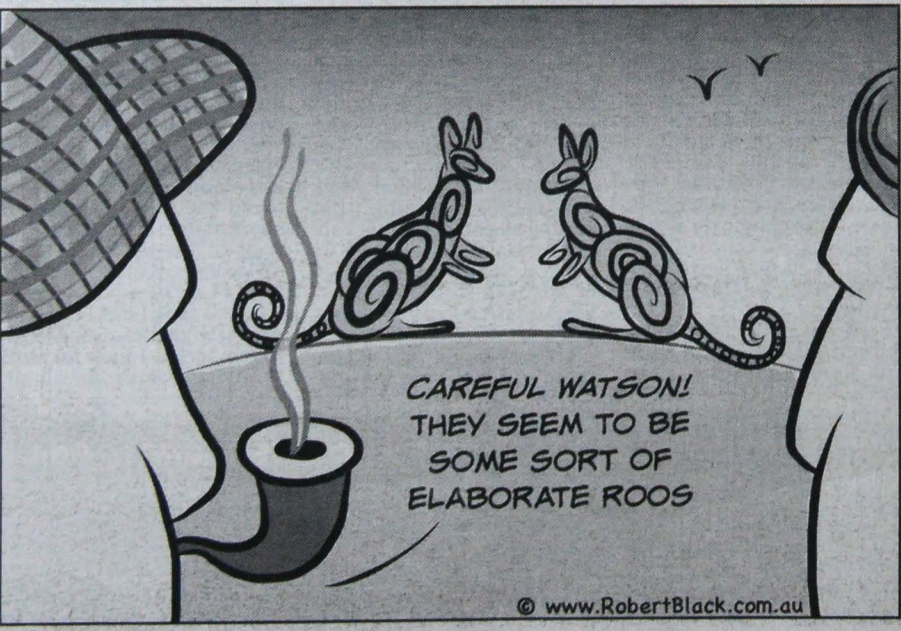
artyfacts

Pots
The current exhibition at Stonehouse Gallery, 103 Yarra Street, Warrandyte runs until June 30. It is entitled "Lots of Pots"—draped, glazed, dipped or glitzy. The Stonehouse potters show a diversity of ceramics, exploring colour, design and various techniques.

Nilumbik
The work of the winner of this year's Nilumbik Prize, announced on June 13, along with other finalists will be on display at the Barn Gallery Monsalvat until August 25. More than 50 finalists have been selected. Monsalvat is at 7 Hillcrest Avenue, Eltham and the gallery will be open from 10am to 5pm.

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

SOMEWHERE IN WARRANDYTE... By ROBERT BLACK



CAREFUL WATSON!
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It's magic!

By MICHELLE PINI

Fifteen year-old Sam Hume has been a practicing magician for five years. He says his interest in magic began in primary school when he entered a Red Faces competition while on school camp and performed a few card tricks.

Sam then joined the Australian Institute of Magic where he met and took instruction from many well-known, professional magicians and has been actively involved in the world of magic ever since. He particularly enjoys the interaction with the audience and thinks "most people like to witness something 'impossible'".

The Warrandyte magician and East Doncaster Secondary student has been crowned Under 18 Champion in the Australian junior championships of magic two years in a row and refers to magic as a "growing art form".

Joining forces with friend Justin Case of Diamond Creek, the teenage duo have created, financed and produced an hour-long, family magic show, "Mesmerised", which is included in the annual Melbourne Magic Festival

line-up. The show is described on the festival's website as a "theatre spectacular combining jaw dropping illusions with dangerous juggling feats and side-splitting comedy". Performed over two nights at the Northcote Town Hall, it also features a particularly challenging feat involving a female assistant who "levitates off the ground and then vanishes into thin air".

Sam, who did not grow up with any magicians in the family, told the *Diary* he watches and learns from many performers and is particularly influenced by Australian contemporary illusionist, Michael Boyd. He practices new tricks in front of his family but remains "true to the traditional magicians' code" and does not share the secrets of illusion, even with family members. Sam has his own website and thriving party business where he performs, usually at children's parties, at least once a week.

● Tickets for "Mesmerised: A theatre Spectacular" are available on line at www.melbournemagicfestival.com or contact Sam Hume via www.samthemagicman.com.



Kevin Bonnett

Wings de-iced

Recently, Sally Dugan launched Kevin Bonnett's poetry book, *De-icing the Wings* at the Warrandyte Mechanics Institute Hall. It is the 14th chapbook to be published by the Melbourne Poets Union. More than 60 family, friends, writers and musicians filled the hall for an afternoon of music and poetry.

Wendy Fleming of the Melbourne Poets Union introduced Marietta Elliot-Kleerkoper who edited the collection. Marietta spoke about the process of preparing Kevin's work for publication and then read *Silver Blooms*, a poem about

the Black Saturday bushfires. Sally Dugan, a journalist and musician with a lifetime of links to the Melbourne poetry scene then launched the collection.

Kevin Bonnett, a Warrandyte resident, read several poems including *Lake Louise* and *Clifford Brown*. Kevin's poetry reflects on world travel, the music world and departed friends.

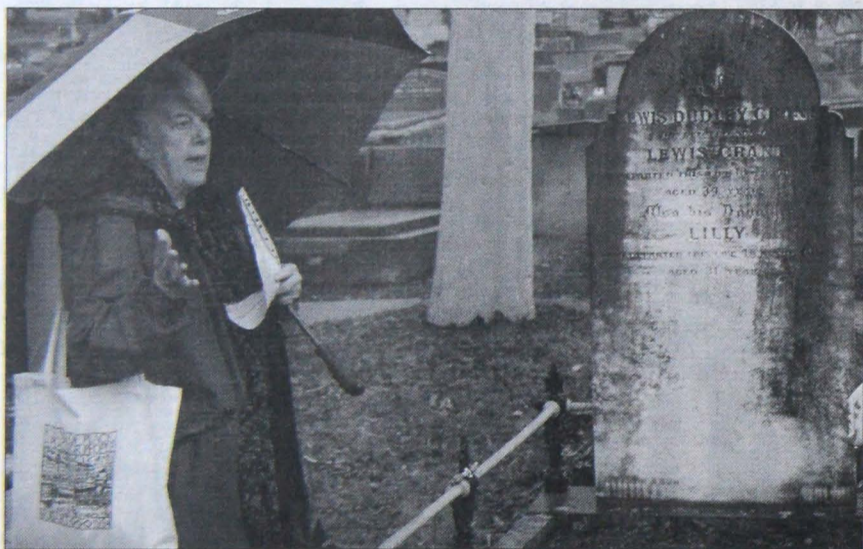
● *De-icing the Wings* can be purchased from the Melbourne Poets Union or the author for \$10.

CATHERINE MORTON

Cemetery tour

Recently the Warrandyte Historical Society ran a tour at Andersons Creek cemetery. The society secretary, Val Polley, led the group around the cemetery, passing on stories, and discussing noted residents who are now buried there. This was immensely popular. The society is planning a repeat performance, possibly in September.

Pictures by STEPHEN REYNOLDS



Prayer to Gaia

(with apologies to Bob Dylan)

May the women buying new sheets each year to suit this Spring's décor begin to see their foolish greed and buy some for the poor.

May the dad who spends his life at work, (he's forgotten his children's names) begin to see what he's missing on and join them in their games.

May the logger who mourns his life-long job hacking the giants down, begin to see that he loves those trees, wants to save them for his sons.

May the men who make the plastic food and the admen with their spiel begin to taste what shit it is and want food that is real.

May the generals—and the bashers—pause with weapons high begin to see what cowards they are and empty their "guns" at the sky.

May all those people addicted to "stuff" who think they need "everything now" begin to see that we don't have much time and we shall reap what we sow.

KAREN THROSSELL



Mixed bag for Venom

By TONY OLIVER

THE Youth League teams were in the spotlight at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre recently while the senior teams travelled to Mildura.

Nicole Howard's girls were expected to take the points against the visiting Southern Peninsula and it was a case of mission accomplished with just a few patches of minor concern.

Quarter points of 12, 12, 14 and 14 show how consistent the Venom girls are. Southern Peninsula only really challenged in the first half.

In the second half, the Venom were dominant in taking out the game 52-33 to now sit in second place. The final four is effectively decided and it will come down to position. The Venom have a hard run ahead and will need to maintain the intensity.

Marg Kershaw had a blinder with 21 points and 11 rebounds with Ashlee Rigg contributing eight.

The Youth Men started well against Keysborough with a 20-14 opening quarter but allowed the visiting Cougars back into the match in the second. A pair of three pointers by Dylan Thoonen just before the break gave the visitors a four-point lead at the long break.

The Venom challenged but were never able to close the gap to go down 63-55 at the final whistle. Jake Lugg top scored with 24, with 11 coming from Taylor Hayton.

The high foul count early on unsettled the Venom structure. At a 7-4 win-loss ratio and with a game in hand the Venom are still very much in the hunt for finals action.

Warrandyte senior teams made the long trip to Mildura on Saturday. Match previews were suggesting that if Mildura's Calvin Henry didn't play the Venom were in with a chance.

Unfortunately for the Venom he did play, clocking up 29 points and 18 rebounds with more than enough assistance from Terrel Bell with 26.

Scoring for the Venom was shared around with 18 to Gerard Leonard, 14 to Vashon Weaver, 13 to Jonathan Lee and 11 to James Hicks.

The Venom can take heart from the 92-77 result.

Making the finals is difficult for the Venom who are sitting bottom on the Watson conference but it is a bunched field and anything is possible with this team.

Playing the early game, the Division 1 Women's team had the game wrapped up by the long break with a 21-point lead. Stefany Thomas continues to settle well, leading the points scoring for the Venom with 25 including 11 rebounds.

The final score in the Venom's favour was 64-56 to make it five wins in a row. They are comfortably sitting in third spot.

Chelsea hits the big 150 milestone
Not only was Chelsea Ransom the first Warrandyte Venom player to play 150 Big V games for the club when she ran out against Sunbury



Picture: Gareth Dickson

last Saturday night, but the local girl holds a unique achievement given she is the only member of the club's first ever Big V team that first played back in 2007.

July school holiday camps

Looking for a fun way to spend your school holidays this July? Pick up a basketball and attend the popular Holiday Basketball Camps run by Gerard Leonard and several of Warrandyte's Big V players. There are camps for boys and girls, domestic players and representative players, from age 5 through to 13 and above. The club is also running a mini-camp in the July holidays for those players looking to join U12 or U14 Venom teams at the next tryouts in October. Bookings are now open so you can download the form from the website.

Double trouble for Ryan

What do you do when you are the coach of two teams and they play each other? That was the dilemma facing Warrandyte's Ryan Holloway as his two Under 17 Boys teams faced

each other in first official match of the winter season.

Both sides had made the A grade competition and all Ryan could do was to stand in the middle and coach both.

The two teams are facing different challenges in 2013.

The "Ones" have been beaten grand finalists for the past two competitions and are hungry to collect some silverware. The "Twos" comprise up and coming players who will be finding their feet in this higher grade competition.

For the record, the Ones won 63-35. The Twos struggled against the press, giving up several turnovers, but were only down by five points with three minutes to go in the first half.

For the winners, Zac Stevenson top scored with 21, with 15 from Justin Ronan-Black and 14 from Conor Gardiner. For the Twos Liam Evans was most effective with 15. Six points came from Julian Moss.

As an interesting aside, and showing no favouritism, the refs for this

good-natured clash were Mandy Ratcliffe and Di Trenfield, each of whom had a son playing in the teams. "I showed no favouritism," said Di afterwards.

"Each of them got two fouls from me".

In a tight game at Croydon Hills Primary School, Bulleen Under 15 Girls took the points over Warrandyte 26-22. Warrandyte will need to show more sustained intensity in future if it is to challenge the top teams.

Ebony Sans top scored with seven points, with six coming from Domino McCathrion.

A highly entertaining Under 13C Boys game took place between Warrandyte and Bulleen.

Bulleen started the better but Warrandyte steadied and took the lead with a few minutes to go.

The game tightened up significantly with Bulleen edging in front by two. Warrandyte's Callum Bowers got the Redbacks back on level pegging with two from the free throw line.

Bulleen went to the line with just under 40 seconds on the clock and

held a two-point lead despite some strong efforts from the Redbacks.

Nicholas Alexander and Hayden Bryant each contributed nine points for Warrandyte.

Beau's Bentley's Under 15 A Boys had a good win against Collingwood 37-24 with Nick Feller contributing 15 and seven from Campbell Graham and six from Liam Taylor.

New referees

Warrandyte Basketball welcomed the competition's latest A grade referees, Ryan Holloway and Rachael Watson. Both Ryan and Rachael are highly respected and will be setting the standard for younger referees.

Big battle at the top

The leader board is crowded in the Friday Night Metro 1 U20 Girls grade after nine rounds. Second played third when the visiting Knox took on Warrandyte Venom girls in the late game at WSC.

Two points separated the teams at the final change with the Venom holding the slight lead.

Warrandyte powered on in the final quarter (18 to 8) and claimed the victory 43-31.

Stand-in coach James Hicks was happy with the efforts and while the Venom are still in third place (on percentage) he said it was important to keep up with the leading group.

Bree Unthank, who joined the team this year, top scored with 16, with nine coming from Olivia Woods and eight from Rachael Watson.

There was another close match in the Metro 1 U16 Girls clash between Warrandyte and Frankston. Again this was a critical game with the loser in danger of dropping off the pace for finals action.

The Venom held a two-point lead but it was Frankston who were playing the better and established a three-point buffer with just over five minutes to go.

At that critical time, in a clash under the ring, the Venom's Natalie MacDonald ended up injured and unable to move on the floor. The game was stopped when the ambulance was called.

Nearly 30 minutes later, the game restarted with Frankston taking the points 33-27.

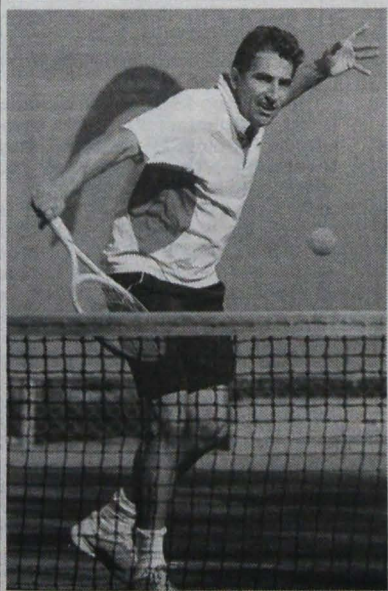
Before her injury Natalie had top-scored with 10. Six came from Lucie Royal. The reports the following day were that Natalie was OK - just sore - which was very good news.

Playing away, Warrandyte's Under 18 Girls maintained second spot on the ladder, in Metro 1, with a 27-21 win over Frankston.

The Metro 4 Under 14 Boys remain in the hunt for finals defeating Bellarine with a solid 29-22 win. Lachlan Smart scored nine and Elliott Purbrick and Dylan MacDonald each scored six.

In the opening game of the night, Warrandyte E6 Boys defeated Eltham 24-23.

HOT SHOT PETER IN TIP-TOP FORM

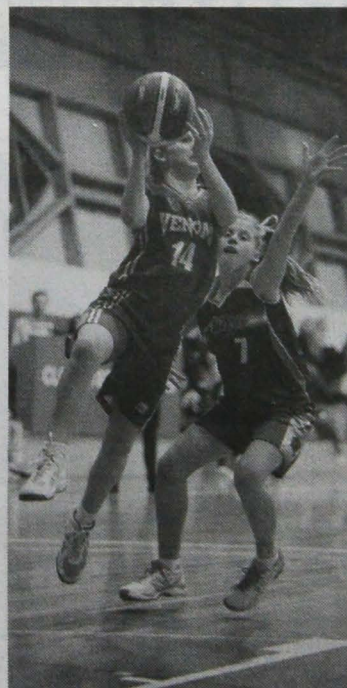


PETER Caruana (pictured) and Warrandyte's resident "tennis guru" Craig Haslam teamed up in a recent match at the Warrandyte tennis courts to win 7-5, 6-2 against a competitive Royal Park combination.

The dynamic duo plays in the Pennant Grade 1 Open Doubles. At the halfway mark of the season the team is undefeated and on top of the ladder.

Clinics and competitions are all set to recommence next month at the Warrandyte Tennis Club with school holiday programs held on July 2, 3, 4, 9, 10 and 11. Students can do one or more sessions. Morning clinics are for ages 5 to 18, afternoon competitions (ages 7 to 18) and full day clinic and competitions (ages 7 to 18).

For information or bookings phone 0488 722 538.



Boxing on in Research

What's your story?

By BRIANNA PIAZZA

TUCKED away in a court off Main Road, Research, you will find a cosy gym with a friendly atmosphere and an inspiring bunch of trainers.

Since opening its doors two years ago, Micky's Fitness in Candlebark Court has steadily grown and attracts clients from places as far away as Kinglake and Epping, and many from Warrandyte and surrounds.

The small gym offers a range of classes including boxfit, cycle, circuit and yoga but owner Micky White and his partner Kate say the gym proudly keeps its client base small to ensure it retains its community feel.

"You can get lost in a big gym, but we take pride in knowing everyone's name here," Kate said.

"It's the little things we do that makes a difference, like trying to keep everyone motivated by encouraging them to set themselves goals and texting people if they haven't been in for a few weeks."

What also makes the gym unique is that Kate and Micky, who are also trainers, both have their sights set on a professional boxing career in Australia.

When Micky was 18 and living in northern England, he started boxing classes with friends to learn how to protect himself. But he soon realised he had a natural gift for the sport and ended up moving from his hometown to chase a professional boxing career.

However, living away from his whole family and friends for several years meant there was little balance between training and leisure. After four years in Manchester he took a break from his professional boxing career and moved to Australia, where he met Kate and started up his gym in 2011.

Micky is currently training about 14 hours a week and is more determined than ever to get back in the ring following his first pro fight against New Zealand's Andrew Robinson in March.

"It was a hard fight for my first time back but I've come back now because I feel I've got a lot more to offer and I want to give it another crack," Micky said.

"I love the challenge and seeing what I'm capable of doing. I also love learning the technical side of it, which I never learnt when I was younger."

Meanwhile, Kate has been training since September and said she can't wait for her first fight this month.



Sharp shooters: Micky and Kate shape up with some great programs at Micky's Fitness in Research. (Pictures: Brianna Piazza)

"It's not just a sport where you just try to knock each other out - you can never know everything because it's so technical and there's so much to think about such as punches, footwork and reading the other person's body language," she said.

Their passion for fitness and boxing means the couple is constantly talking about boxing in their spare time. Even their one and a half year old son Mac is taking after his parents - he loves putting on the boxing gloves and running around the house in the morning while making punching sound effects.

Because the couple wanted to share enthusiasm and knowledge, Micky's Fitness now runs several boxing and fitness programs for kids.

A boxfit and circuit class for 11 to 15 year olds runs on Monday and Thursdays. Meanwhile a five-week program on Monday afternoons called 'Boxing Joeys' is available for five to eight year olds.

In addition, Anderson's Creek Primary School teacher Kristian Bain came up with the idea to start an extra school holiday kids program at

the gym for eight to 13 year olds. For the first time last school holidays, Kristian took kids through a number of activities including boxfit and cycle activities as well as outdoor obstacle courses.

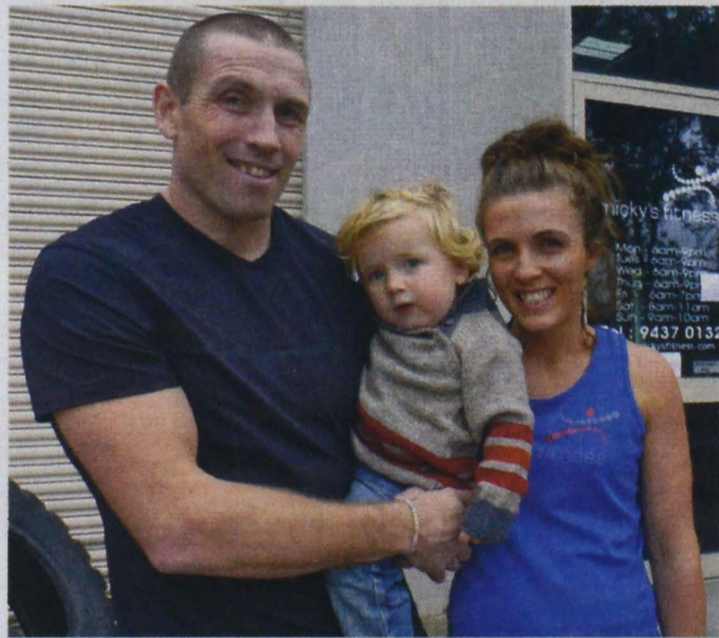
He hopes to run the program again next school holidays due to the positive feedback he received from parents.

"It was a great opportunity for the kids to develop their confidence, get fitter and get outdoors instead of spending all of the holidays on the computer or watching TV," he said.

"You actually feel so much more energized and positive after doing some exercise so it's great to share that with the kids."

Micky said the classes were a great opportunity for parents to fit in some exercise at the gym while kids attended the classes. Parents are also allowed to bring their babies along in prams each day between 1pm and 3pm while they exercise.

Kate and Micky welcomed anybody interested in classes or membership to call 9437 0132 or to stop by the gym.



FOUR TO THE FLOOR FOR GEOQUEST ADVENTURE CHALLENGE



Ready to rumble: Angus Rodwell, Karina Vitiritti, Paul Gruber and Brendan Hills in the lead up to the Mountain Designs GeoQuest 48hr adventure race. Picture: Gareth Dickson.

By SCOTT PODMORE

FOUR local sports enthusiasts were set to tackle Australia's premier adventure race on the Queen's Birthday Weekend in Harrington NSW at the time the *Diary* went to press.

The Mountain Designs GeoQuest 48hr has been described by event organisers as "the ultimate test of your physical and mental limits" and our very own Paul Gruber, Angus Rodwell, Brendan Hills and Karina Vitiritti were revved up and ready for the challenge after months of training for the event. But it hasn't been a dream run in the lead up, according to the foursome.

"We have all had niggling injuries here and there in the lead up, but we are now fit and healthy and ready to go," Karina told the *Diary*. "The mental strength is a major factor with endurance adventure racing, but we all seem to be on top of this. I would say we are more excited than nervous and very much looking forward to the adventure."

Paul agrees: "It's probably fair to

say that due to injuries, our credit cards have probably been getting more of a workout than us! But we're looking forward to it."

The non-stop 48-hour race includes trekking, mountain biking, sea kayaking and roping, as the teams stay together for the entire race and attempt all legs of the course.

Mountain Designs GeoQuest is held in a new location every year but usually in NSW with the location announced in January. The course itself will only be revealed to teams the day before the start of the race, which this year is held in Harrington.

According to the official website: "There is no question, the race is tough and it is real adventure. Your body will be totally exhausted, your brain will be begging you to stop and you'll have had little or no sleep for 48 hours. Then if you are one of the lucky teams, you will crawl across the finish line. This is certainly not your average weekend!"

See next month's *Diary* for a full report of how the team fared.



Terrific trio hit 300 games

By DEB WALTERS

LAST month three Warrandyte Netball Club senior players – Jessica Dusting, Amelia Fraser-McKelvie and Cherise Angelotti-Casey – celebrated the remarkable achievement of playing their 300th games.

Club president Sue Rodwell (pictured near right with the girls) made a presentation at the Templestowe courts to congratulate the girls.

Jessica started playing in Under 11s at the age of seven. She started training as a buddy coach when she was 14 and went on to coach U15/1s when she was 16. Jessica is also a Warrandyte umpire, is the Junior Captain for the club and is a member of the netball club's committee. Jessica played rep netball for DDNA from U11s through to U17s.

Since records have been kept after 1998, she is the youngest player in the club to receive the 300-game milestone.

Cherise and Amelia have been in the same team almost ever since they started playing netball in '98, 13 years ago. Although they haven't won many finals, they say they have "made many friends, love training, enjoy team dinners and have lots of fun".

Amelia has coached over the years and is impressed with how the club has grown.

"It is much larger and more accepted in the community – almost on par with basketball and football clubs. I hope it continues as strongly as it has, and we can celebrate Cherise, Jess and my 600th games in a few years time," Amelia said.



Say hello to the U11s

This month's focus report is on the Under 11s.

Warrandyte Netball Club has four Under 11 teams in a division comprising 23 teams. Under 11 is the first level of netball that is graded with teams chosen at the beginning of each season.

As a result of the grading, Warrandyte has one team in Level 1, the Wrens, two teams in Level 2, the Gems and the Diamonds, while the Demons are in Level 4.

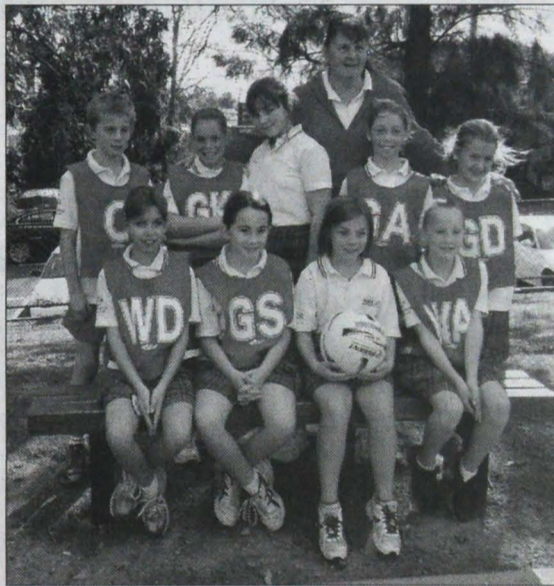
This season has seen all teams

progress well and they are led by a team of dedicated coaches.

The Wrens coach Michelle Gilling said: "One thing about the Wrens Under 11 team is that they are a team of players who are hard to beat, 100 per cent committed to each and every game they play. Win or (the occasional) loss, these girls always put every effort into the game. I took some photos the other week of the girls before a match, and during it, and looking at them made me realise what makes them such a great team – fun, teamwork, lots of laughs and

hard work make them so wonderful to watch every Saturday. Well done to the Wrens who have had another successful month."

From the Diamonds we have a rundown of a recent match – their closest game this year: The Under 11 Warrandyte Diamonds played with zest and vigour, starting off with an early goal which set them up to go on and attain a 6-3 lead at quarter time. Allannah and Molly worked efficiently in the goal circle and kept the lead to one goal at half-time. Devon powered down the court in the centre position



and Ella and Ruby coordinated quick passes to keep it a tight contest. Kit, Oakie and Katelyn made valuable interceptions to keep the opposition at bay.

The girls played their best game yet, delivering accurate passes and showing a lot of pace throughout the game. A quick couple of goals in the final quarter gave the opposition the lead of one goal at the end of the game, but the Diamonds had played their hearts out and earned the cheers and congratulations from their supporters.

After an injury-marred start to the season, The Under 11 Gems finally have their full team in for the first time since Round 1.

With their new members slotting in seamlessly, the girls are improving every week and have already enjoyed some success. Coach Kylie Dunscombe has recently completed a coaching course and has been using this knowledge to implement some new and innovative strategies.

The Gems are all showing their adaptability, each able to play both attacking and defending roles when required.

The Demons have the honour of being the only WNC team with a male player, Devon Pring, who chose to join his sister in the line-up. Under the guidance of their coaches Teresa Knott and Megan Pring, the Demons have progressed well this season and have had one win so far.

The club congratulates all the Under 11 coaches: Kylie Dixon, Julie O'Reilly, Michelle Gilling, Teresa Knott and Megan Pring.



ANYTHING BOYS CAN DO...

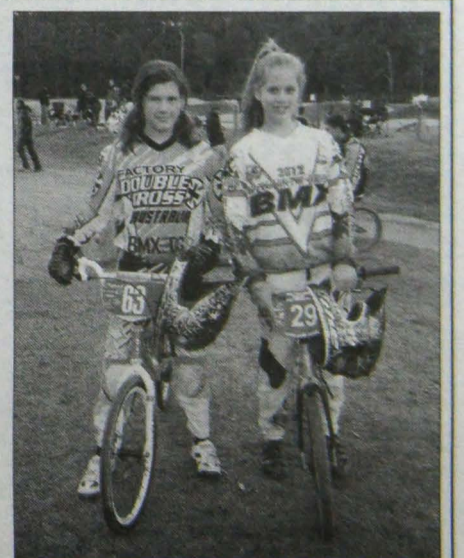
WOMEN'S BMX racing has come a long way since Nicole Kidman starred in *BMX Bandits* in 1983, but the basic premise has not changed – girls can rip it up just like the guys, as you can see from these images.

Park Orchards BMX Club recently hosted a 'Girls Come and Try Day' to support and encourage gender balance in the sport.

Participants came from surrounding suburbs to join in the coaching session, learning some of the basics of navigating the track.

Co-ordinator Erina Wotherspoon says the day was a great success and looks forward to the series of free coaching sessions aimed specifically at women and girls. No previous experience in BMX racing is required to attend these sessions. For more information visit www.popbmx.com.au.

BRIGITTE EASTON





Claws are out: The Bloods had no answers for Tigers forward Steven Pimm who slammed on nine goals. Below, Ben Taylor and Tim Hookey found the going tough against some slippery opponents. Pictures: Scott Podmore

Bloods cop a mauling



By MICHAEL DI PETTA

DESPITE coming in fired up after a gutsy win the previous week, the Warrandyte Bloods suffered a harsh loss at the hands of powerhouse Mitcham, losing by 126 points at Walker Park in slippery conditions recently.

Forcing a contest at every opportunity, the Bloods started strongly but were unable to maintain their level of competitiveness as the tide eventually turned after quarter time. Before last weekend's Queen's Birthday round against Boronia after the *Diary* went to print, the result meant Warrandyte was sitting 11th on the ladder with two wins and six losses after eight rounds.

With clouds looming menacingly over the field, the Bloods ran out energized and with a sense of purpose. Despite being handicapped with injuries (they were missing key ruckman Dave Hand and in-form forwards Luke Dunn and Lee Evans), Warrandyte was able to snatch two quick goals through Mick Morello and Gareth Hitchman to work the scoreboard early.

The visitors looked clinical in the early stages, hitting targets by foot, rebounding intelligently off half back, and Ben Taylor did an excellent job in the ruck to give the midfield first use. Mitcham started sluggishly, but clicked into gear as the quarter progressed, and a four-goal burst gave them a 13-point lead at the first change.

Unfortunately the Bloods were unable to make any inroads after the break, and the second quarter became tough going for the Red and White. Mitcham began winning the clearances and their strong forwards were able to create space, allowing for effective entries that led to goals. Warrandyte, on the other hand, was stagnant offensively, with Morello the only legitimate target. The Bloods wasted the few chances they



had to cut into the Mitcham lead.

Josh Eyre and Norman Large stayed strong in the middle, but a scrappy goal kicked by Adrian Mifsud was all Warrandyte could muster as Mitcham led 9.6 to 3.5 at half-time.

Eager to chip away at the deficit, Warrandyte made a concerted effort to give their forwards a chance and take some marks inside 50. Good work by Adrian Mifsud and Nick Clapham saw the Bloods do just that, with Hitchman kicking his second of the game to bring the Bloods within 30 points. After a quick Mitcham reply, it was Morello's turn to mark and goal inside 50 as the Bloods went goal for goal in the early stages of the term.

However, Mitcham again was able to lift its game, and the Tigers' ability to move the ball well by hand allowed them to advance down the field quickly. Goals began to flow as

Mitcham took total control, flooding the middle to trap the ball in their half, and the Bloods had a slight case of the fumbles as the lead ballooned out to 64 points at the final change.

With the game effectively over, Warrandyte players urged each other on to keep up the intensity and stay competitive. However, Mitcham was not in a charitable mood and continued to run up the score by carrying the ball through the centre corridor in order to expose the Bloods. Warrandyte midfielder Luke Saunders put in a quality second half and a third goal for Hitchman were the only memorable moments of the final quarter. The Bloods had no answer for Mitcham forward Steven Pimm, who finished the game with nine majors, and the game ended with the Tigers thumping Warrandyte 26.12.168 to 6.6.42.

The loss to Mitcham follows three

big losses to Wantirna South, Ringwood and Templestowe respectively, as well as an exciting victory over Whitehorse in which Mick Morello and Ben Taylor performed exceptionally well in the second half to help the Bloods secure the four points.

The Warrandyte reserves have also found the going tough in the past few weeks with disappointing losses to Wantirna South, Templestowe, Whitehorse and Mitcham, but played courageously against Ringwood to secure a one-point victory, and now sits ninth on the ladder with three wins and five losses.

The Under 19s have also struggled to play winning footy over the past month, losing to Wantirna South, Ringwood, Templestowe and Mitcham, as well as having a bye in Round 7. The U19s sit ninth on the ladder having recorded two wins and five losses.

RESULTS

Round 4: Wantirna South 25.10 160 d Warrandyte 9.18 72. Best: T. Naughtin, N. Clapham, L. Saunders, L. Evans, D. Hand, A. Mifsud. Goals: L. Dunn 3, L. Evans 2, A. Mifsud, M. Morello, G. Hitchman, T. Beasley.
Round 5: Warrandyte 12.10 82 d Ringwood 22.9 141. Best: T. Naughtin, L. Saunders, M. Morello, T. Hookey, D. Large, C. Johnstone. Goals: M. Morello 6, J. Ballard 2, H. Vogler 2, D. Hand, L. Dunn.
Round 6: Templestowe 16.8 104 d Warrandyte 8.4 52. Best: D. Hand, J. Eyre, T. Hookey, D. Large, C. Johnstone, T. Beasley. Goals: L. Dunn 3, M. Morello 2, M. Gaffney, C. Johnstone, T. Hookey.
Round 7: Warrandyte 13.16 94 d Whitehorse 12.10 82. Best: B. Taylor, J. Eyre, N. Clapham, D. Large, T. Hookey, T. Naughtin. Goals: M. Morello 4, L. Dunn 4, B. Taylor 3, D. Hand, G. Hitchman.
Round 8: Mitcham 26.12.168 d Warrandyte 6.6.42. Best: D. Large, T. Naughtin, J. Eyre, B. Taylor, L. Saunders, G. Hitchman. Goals: G. Hitchman 3, M. Morello 2, A. Mifsud.

Crash, bang ... it's all action



WITH the Yarra Junior Football League season past the halfway mark, Warrandyte had three teams in the Top 4 of their division ladders leading into the Queen's Birthday Weekend.

The Under 10s, Under 13s and Colts have all performed strongly while the club has several teams, including the Under 11s, Under 12s and Under 14s, sitting just outside the Top 4.

Importantly, according to president Ross Snowball, "all our teams are playing competitive football and improving their skills and teamwork".

In the past month the club has been working closely with Dynamic Footy Skills to improve the skill level of the WJFC players, which coaches have described as being interesting and informative sessions.

"The additional guidance from the DFS sessions is a way in which we (the WJFC players) can all improve our ability, our game and better understand our bodies," club vice captain Michael Bilos says.

"These sessions also add structure and logic around football skills. I hope that all players were able to participate in the sessions and take the opportunity to attend future DFS sessions when their teams offer them at training."

Under 11s coach Owen Humphris agrees: "DFS were great at capturing the attention of our Under 11s. They focused on the boys' intensity at training and game day. DFS highlighted the need for every boy to have their head in the game. They also implemented some creative game sense drills that we have used frequently since and we look forward to them joining us again later this month."

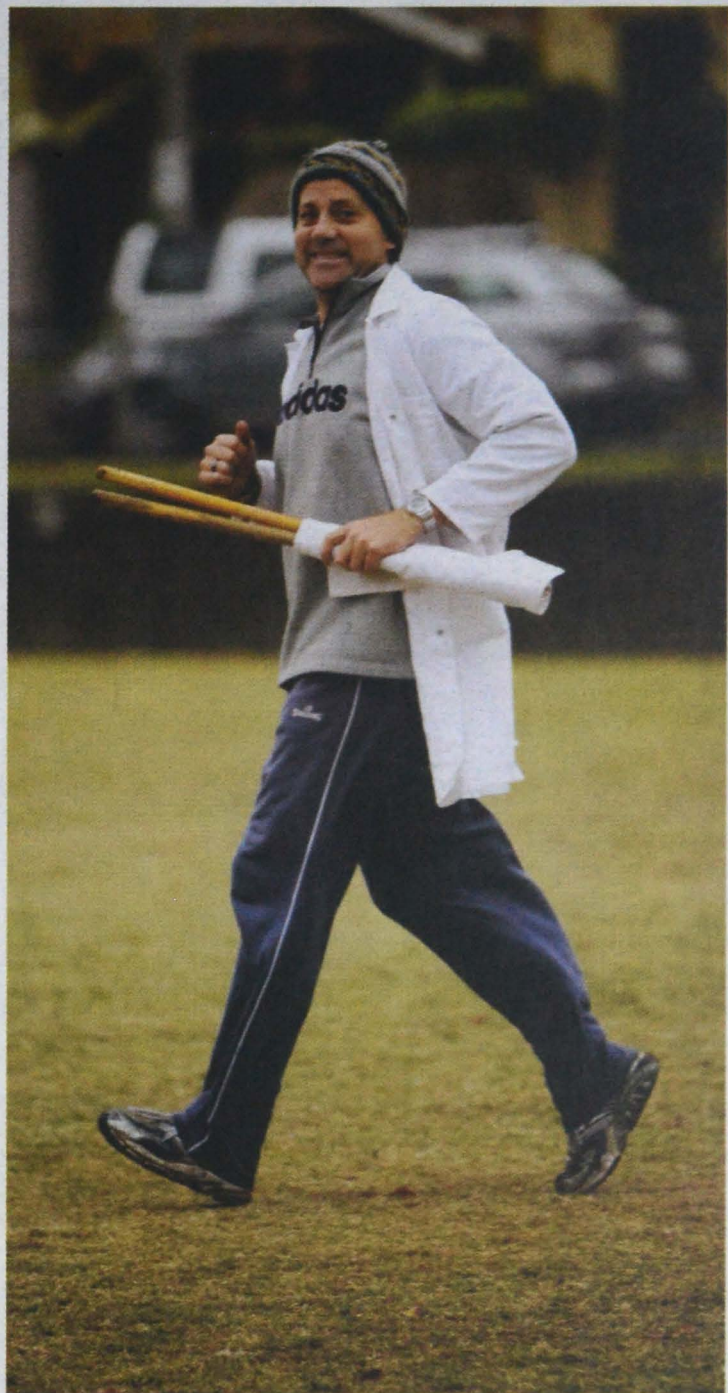
Pop it in your diary

The junior club is hosting an important event that includes an interactive discussion with Michael Colling, from *Who's the Man!*, with boys aged 13-17 and their parents on June 26 from 7.30pm to 9pm at the Warrandyte Senior Citizens building (between the clubrooms and the tennis club).

Offering programs and presentations for boys and men of all ages, *Who's the Man!* holds a mirror up to masculinity in the 21st Century, challenging some of the toxic messages boys and men often get about what exactly it means to be "a man". It's a no-holds barred look at real issues and how to respond in a healthy way in the face of challenge

For more information visit www.whostheman.net.au

Another important date for the club is Sunday, June 23, from 5pm-8.30pm when another Family Night takes place thanks to sponsors A1 Office Fitouts at the Warrandyte Tennis Club. On Saturday, August 3, plans are underway for the WJFC's annual Big Night Out and fundraiser at the Warrandyte Retreat.



Pavilion works begin

There is much excitement around the football and netball clubs as the pavilion upgrade kicked off with a demolition job on the old building recently.

"Again, we really want to thank the people and organizations who have made the project possible, including the Warrandyte Community Bank who have contributed an impressive

\$1million in 10 years to the Warrandyte community, local MP Ryan Smith, and the Manningham City Council as well as the contributing clubs and their members," WJFC president Snowball said.

"While the season in 2013 will continue in our temporary facilities, we can all look forward to a brand new facility for season 2014. It's an exciting time."



Pictures: Ross Snowball, Scott Podmore and Sallyanne Hartnell (www.reflectphotography.com.au)



LANDFIELD

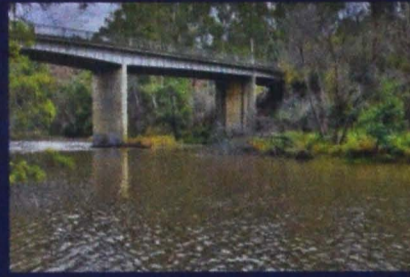
183 – 187 YARRA STREET, WARRANDYTE

Phone: (03) 9844 3085 Fax: (03) 9844 2228 Email: admin@landfield.com.au

WARRANDYTE

Important Landmark on the Market

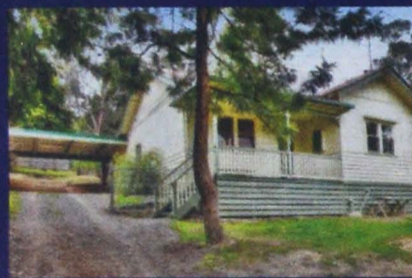
Cherished piece of Warrandyte history, significant landmark. Wine Hall/Cellar commenced business in 1900, upon selling in 1921 ground floor was converted into a sweet shop/milk bar/adjacent tea rooms. As Gilholm's milk bar it continued as a well known attraction until 1975 when Folkart originated. Approx. 1094m2, freehold only for sale protected by a heritage overlay. Outstanding potential for subdivision/commercial/development possibilities (all STCA).



WARRANDYTE

Position, Presentation and Price... Perfect!

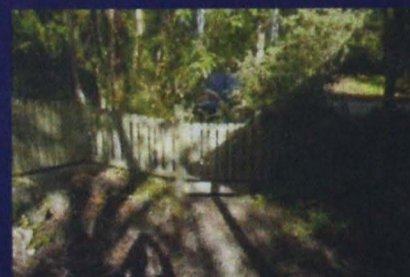
There is no denying the power of position and this property is a winner! Comprising a substantially elevated block that measures approx 1004m2, this prime real estate in a highly sought after and rarely available location. Offering 3 bedrooms, a newly renovated interior with new kitchen-living room, 2 bathrooms, a casual alfresco area, a workshop plus a double carport, you can stroll to the township/cafes and Goldfields Plaza or easily access public transport, don't miss out on this great and rewarding opportunity.



WARRANDYTE

Create Your Own Vision

Build anywhere (STCA) on approx 1130m2. On offer is an exciting opportunity to unleash your creative talents in designing and constructing your dream home in a beautiful natural setting and in close proximity to primary schools and the township. Affordably priced, and with the flexibility of buying now and building later you can turn your dreams into reality with this truly special offering.



WARRANDYTE

Bright Interiors, Alfresco Delights

Totally, tastefully renovated vibrant home designed for today's lifestyle. Comprising new kitchen/meals-family area opening covered alfresco (approx 865m2). Separate living/dining room. Master/modern ensuite/WIR, 2nd bathroom. Rumpus-B.I. bar. Inclusions: stone countertops, S/S appliances, PFB, security system, B.I r/cycle.



RENTAL PROPERTIES NEEDED URGENTLY!

We are urgently in need of rental properties. If you are thinking about renting out your home, please don't hesitate to contact us directly on **9844 3085**, for an obligation and cost free market appraisal.

Our Property Management department is fully computerised and we believe we lead the market in this field providing you with the most efficient service available.

Lions Club of Warrandyte Inc.

Meets Bi-monthly

Warrandyte Youth of the Year Quest - looking to our youth as tomorrow's leaders. Applications close on June 30 for youth ages 16 to 18. For further details and application form go to www.lionsclubwarrandyte.org.au/yoty.php

