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PLAZA



WARRANDYTE

# diary

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# One year reprieve

By KARLY HICKMAN

THE Victorian state government has awarded Nillumbik and Manningham councils a one-year reprieve on the reduction of minimum lot sizes in North Warrandyte and Warrandyte (west of Tindals Road).

The Warrandyte Community Association says it is a "significant win" following earlier announcements that minimum lot sizes in Low Development Residential Zones (LDRZ) would be halved from 0.4 Ha to 0.2 Ha. Planning minister Matthew Guy made the official announcement last week.

"We congratulate the state government for agreeing to Nillumbik and Manningham councils' request to stop the reduction in the minimum

lot size—even for just one year," WCA vice president Jonathan Upson said.

Manningham councillor Paul McLeish told the *Diary*: "This decision is important in preserving the precious habitat in the buffer zone between Manningham and the Green Wedge."

Much of the Warrandyte community was outraged when the reduction in minimum lot sizes was announced last year with residents lodging over 300 submissions to state government in opposition to the proposed changes, together with formal submissions from Manningham and Nillumbik councils and the WCA.

There are over 2800 LDRZ properties in Manningham and more in Nillumbik that would be affected by the changes.

"While this reprieve is welcome, it is important the state government implements a 'Ministerial Amendment', or other means, to maintain the current minimum lot size beyond July of next year," Mr Upson said. The alternative would be to force both Nillumbik and Manningham councils to waste several years and thousands of ratepayers' dollars pursuing a formal planning scheme amendment and fighting proposed subdivisions in VCAT.

Cr McLeish was pleased that Member for Warrandyte Ryan Smith was supportive of council's viewpoint.

"There is a lot of work for council to transition to the new planning zones, but we are prepared to step up and do what is important for the

community," Cr McLeish said.

Manningham council plans to use the next 12 months to do the strategic work necessary to determine what minimum lot sizes would be appropriate for the zone.

Mr Upson said the WCA never understood why the state government would open the door to subdivisions in North Warrandyte and Warrandyte west of Tindals Road.

"Besides the obvious detrimental impact to the neighbourhood character and environment that makes Warrandyte such a special place, enabling subdivisions to occur in an area of extreme bushfire risk can never make sense," Mr Upson said.

The WCA was a strong advocate for councils "opting in" to planning

scheme changes rather than undertaking the significant time and expense of applying for planning scheme amendments.

"A reduction in the minimum lot size—even for a period of a year or two while our councils incur the time and expense to implement a planning scheme amendment to restore the 0.4 hectare lot size—would have significant detrimental impacts on the unique neighbourhood character, environmental values and native vegetation in these areas," WCA president Dick Davies said in a letter to state government.

"Our councils are seeking to be empowered with the ability to maintain the minimum lot size that their citizens desire," Mr Upson said.



## Community spirit rising

What happens when one of our own falls upon tough times? The Warrandyte community bands together and picks them up again, that's what. Find out how our generosity has helped this local family smile again. ● See Page 3.

Picture by Mikaela Smith

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— Anon

# WARRANDYTE diary

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### NEXT ISSUE

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### OUR NEWSPAPER

The *Warrandyte Diary* was established in 1970 as a small local newsletter. Although it has developed over the years, it has retained its strong community character, being produced mostly by volunteers with only one aim: to serve its community. Financed solely through advertising, it guards its not-for-profit, non-commercial status and its independent voice. The *Diary* carries a strong editorial bias towards the people, environment and character of the place it serves. Its monthly circulation is 4000 copies and it is available in Warrandyte, North Warrandyte, South Warrandyte, Park Orchards, Wonga Park, Warranwood, North Ringwood, Kangaroo Ground and Research.

### A SPECIAL PLACE

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

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## OVER THE HILLS

By JOCK MACNEISH



Meanwhile back in the Warrandyte orchard, events were about to take an unexpected turn....

# Dog of a day on Dingley Dell

AT the front door of 48 Dingley Dell Road lay a coir mat. I don't mean one that was more coy than other mats, ones that say WELCOME or HOME SWEET HOME for instance, but the fibrous variety that leave little hairy bits all over your porch every time you wipe your feet on them.

And on that mat lay Charles, the Trotts' large and aristocratic Weimaraner. Usually, the Saturday before last, however, when the family came back from the market, Charles wasn't there. And neither was the mat.

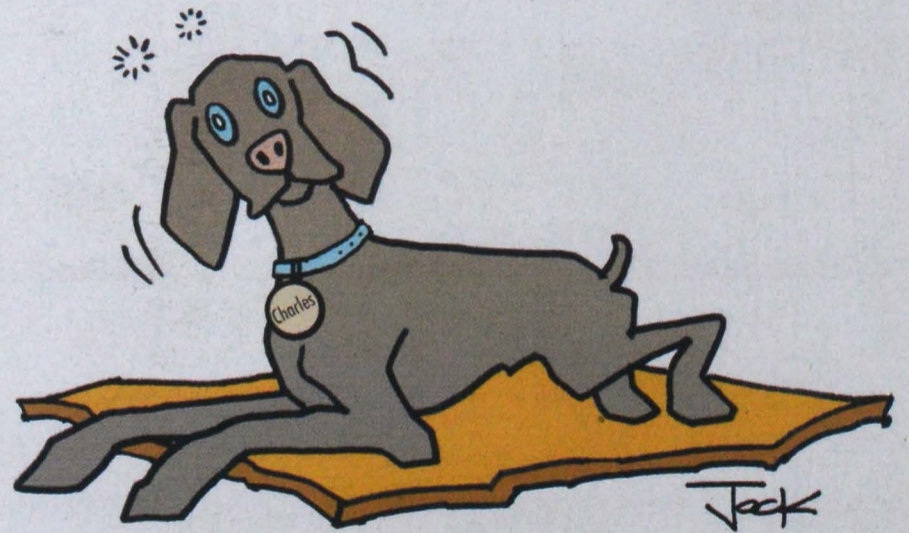
All they found was a mysterious trail of fluff leading along the verandah, around the corner and up to the expensively expansive kennel they bought when Charles was a pup that he'd never used since.

But Charles was there now, ghostly grey and guilty looking, hiccupping. And every time he hiccupped, up came a small piece of fluff to add to the growing pile around his sorry head. Perhaps he expected Gran, as a keen member of the Craft Group at the Mechanics Institute Hall, to weave them back into their former matness.

"You've eaten the doormat, haven't you!" barked Narelle, who always had a strong grasp of the obvious. "Dumb animal," said Neville. "We'll have to take him to the vet."

Charles would not get in the car. Neville tried to lift him. Jasper tried to lift him. Finally Neville and Jasper lifted him together and off they headed to Melbourne Hill Road.

"He's done this sort of thing



### living with The Trotts

before, hasn't he?" noted the nurse.

"Oh, not really," said Neville. "An oven mitt ... a pillow ... a couple of odd shoes."

That would explain why you're wearing a Dunlop Volley on one foot and a boat shoe on the other, thought the nurse.

"Could you put him on the scales, please," she asked and went to call Stuart, who was just putting the finishing touches to his article on goat gout for *Small Ruminants Monthly*.

Charles would not get on the scales. Neville tried lifting him. Jasper tried lifting him. Finally Neville and Jasper stood on the scales together holding

Charles between them, then again without holding Charles between them, and calculated the difference. He weighed a doormat more than the last time he'd been to the vet's.

"Stuart will see him now," said the nurse. "Could you bring him into the surgery, please."

Charles wouldn't go into the surgery. Instead Charles climbed onto the scales.

Neville tried to lift him off the scales. Jasper tried to lift him off the scales. Neville and Jasper tried to lift him off the scales together. Finally Neville and Jasper picked up the scales, with Charles on board, and carried them all into the surgery.

"He does have a history of eating things he shouldn't, doesn't he!" observed Stuart. "Oh, I don't know," said

Neville. "A dressing gown ... a bucket ... and the *Diary* of course. Especially if he's in it."

"I'll have to purge him," said Stuart, "and we'll see what we come up with."

A couple of hours later the nurse rang and asked them to pick Charles up, preferably before he ate any more of their magazines.

And when at last they arrived back home, Charles trotted straight up to the front door, turned around three times and settled down as though he'd forgotten the whole matter, not to mention the whole mat.

"Do you even realise you've been to the vet?" asked Neville. Charles tilted his head, considered the question, and coughed up a rubber glove.

ALAN CORNELL

# Big hearts help out

## Warrandyte community rallies for family in need after fire destroys house

By **CHERIE MOSELEN**

ONE of the brilliant things about community is that it allows us to achieve great results that would be much harder to come by if we sought them on our own.

A devastating electrical fire earlier this year in Watson's Creek left a local mother and her eight-year old daughter homeless.

But a reservoir of goodwill, and a pooling of strength within the Warrandyte community, is helping this family face the difficult task of rebuilding their lives.

Karen Egan was driving home from the city that May evening when she received a message from a friend that flames had been seen in Gills Road.

A tearful call from Ms Egan's oldest daughter—who drove to Watson's Creek to investigate—confirmed the house her mother was renting had been consumed by fire.

Fourteen fire trucks from Kangaroo Ground, Panton Hill, Yarra Glen and Diamond Creek unfortunately proved powerless against the blaze, which completely gutted the hebel-brick home.

"The fire was caused by wiring that arced into the roof insulation somewhere between the kitchen and the dining room," Ms Egan told the *Diary*.

"Investigators believe it may have been the work of rodents, whatever the reason, the fire destroyed everything inside."

Ms Egan said observers described the fire as "fierce" and told of the house imploding just 10 minutes after intense pressure from heat lifted the roof off.

She acknowledged the family was fortunate in that the fire hadn't occurred later, when they would have been sleeping.

The brave action of neighbours Nick and Mike Bell saved a car; otherwise mother and daughter have been left with three small pieces of jewellery and a brass candlestick, after sifting through remaining ashes.

A single mother on a health-care card, now living with friends, Ms Egan is studying photography and had invested in several cameras and lenses, setting up a photographic studio at the rental property.

"It was particularly difficult seeing my ruined cameras because I've been building a

business," she said. "This will be a setback, but it's the emotional cost that is the worst."

"My daughter lost a pet in the fire and we'd also been getting over losing her grandfather who died the day before Christmas – the loss of treasured family photos makes the experience particularly hard."

Within a day of the fire, news had spread among the school community of Warrandyte's Andersons Creek Primary where Ms Egan's daughter Seanna attends Grade 2. Class parent representa-

**Several girls offered Seanna their pocket money and even some of their own birthday presents**

tives decided to co-ordinate a relief effort on behalf of the distressed family.

Grade 2 "school mum" Donna Smith spoke to the *Diary* about the extraordinary local response they received.

"Quinton's IGA immediately offered food, money and other necessities," Mrs Smith said. "The supermarket also donated the profit from several sausage sizzles."

"Once shoppers heard the money was going to assist a family that had suffered a house fire, they were amazingly generous, some giving as much as \$100!"

An initial amount of just over \$1700 was raised and the supermarket again donated bread and sausages over the next three weeks, bringing the fundraising total to around \$2500.

"I'm so proud of how the Warrandyte community has rallied around this family," said IGA owner Julie Quinton.

"We also used our Facebook page to ask for donations, and people responded with offers of washing machines and fridges without even knowing who it was for."

"Locals came forward in droves to man the sausage stand."

Mrs Quinton said it was "heart-warming" to see how much people wanted to be part of the support effort.

Having successfully raised money for Wildlife Victoria during the 2009 bushfires, Donna Smith teamed up with another experienced fund-



All smiles again: Karen Egan with daughter Seanna and their pet dog Ugo. The house fire destroyed almost everything (below), including Karen's Canon cameras (inset).



raiser, Andersons Creek prep mum Leanne Bradford.

As well as working at the sausage stand, the two canvassed the community asking for assistance from local traders.

Mrs Smith said that many businesses and associations had been generous with the offer of money and vouchers.

Although traumatised by

recent events, Ms Egan said the level of support from this caring community has helped ease a heavy load.

"Andersons Creek Primary has been incredible," she said.

"The school gave Seanna a new uniform and school bag, and provided her lunch for weeks after the fire."

"Grade 2 parents especially, and their children, have

given us toys and clothes. Several girls offered Seanna their pocket money and even some of their own birthday presents."

"I am humbled by the compassion we have been shown. Not just school friends but total strangers have gone out of their way to be kind, and I thank them all."

### dear diary

On May 2 this year, fire razed my house to the ground. Within 24 hours the people of Warrandyte and surrounding communities got together to help my family and me, and support us in many ways. The despair and shock that we felt in those first days was lessened to a large extent by the reaction of so many people. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved – Julie Quinton from IGA organised sausage sizzles and donations, fund raising events with various horse associations ATHRA and KGPC, donations from Rotary, vouchers from local shops, Mother's Day lunch for my family at Cocoa Moon, Andersons Creek Primary School supplied new uniforms and lunches for Seanna, and all those generous people who donated toys, books, clothes, furniture. Donna Smith, Kim Dixon, Leanne Bradford are a few of the people who jumped in straight away to help organise donations. My good friends Michelle & David Nuttall have provided a roof over our heads until we can get back on our feet. I cannot list everyone so please forgive me if your name isn't mentioned. The response has just been so overwhelming, and I'm grateful to everyone, including my beautiful kids, Emily, Leah, Michael, Alex and their partners, Robbie and Aiden. It has reinforced my faith in people. Thankyou everyone from the bottom of my heart.

Karen Egan

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# Be Ready funding boost

By **KARLY HICKMAN**

THE Be Ready Warrandyte – Living with Bushfire Risk initiative has secured funding from Manningham and Nillumbik Councils to continue its work in the community.

The Warrandyte Community Association is thrilled the Manningham Council will be contributing \$15,000 and Nillumbik \$10,000 from their 2013-14 budgets.

Manningham Mayor Cr Jennifer Yang said the non-urban areas of Manningham are some of the highest fire risk areas of Victoria and Council understands the importance of educating residents about the specific requirements of living with this risk, while still enjoying the benefits of this beautiful part of our municipality.

"Every year Council works closely with the CFA and the local commu-

nity to educate local residents and ensure the fire preparedness of the Greater Warrandyte area," Cr Yan said.

Manningham's funding of the project falls outside their usual Community Grants Program which has a ceiling of \$10,000. The WCA believed the project merits special consideration by Councillors for funding as it involves a body of work that has extensive broad public benefit well above those usually envisaged for the program.

"We have also been encouraged by the passion and commitment of the WCA to find new and innovative ways to engage the community in a wide range of bushfire awareness programs to help get Warrandyte fire ready," Cr Yang said.

She explained that Manningham council welcomed the opportuni-

ty to work with the WCA and the neighbouring Nillumbik Council to support a range of new fire awareness initiatives for the Greater Warrandyte area.

"Council was aware that the 'Be Ready Warrandyte Project' would have extensive and broad public benefit and in 2012 Manningham council was happy to contribute \$7000 to further the aims of the project and continue to develop and implement new initiatives.

"In 2013-14, council has again agreed to contribute funds to the project providing \$15,000 in funds to assist the WCA to produce a new video aimed at school children, a new residents kit for people moving into the area to help them with their bushfire preparedness and additional visitor signage, which will build on the work undertaken by the WCA

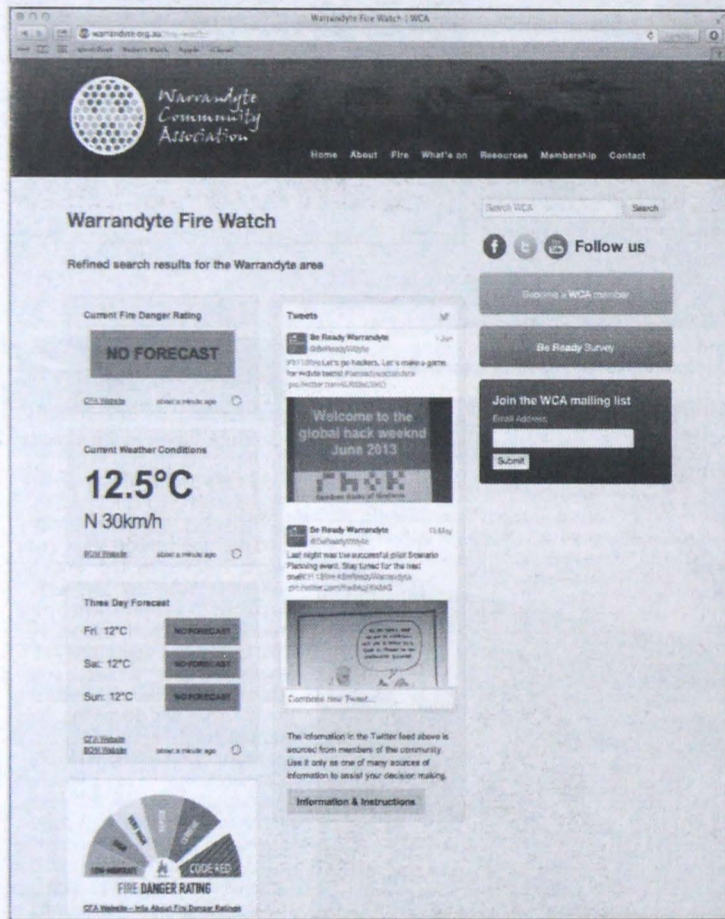
throughout 2012-13 and assist with applications for other disaster grant funding," Cr Yang said.

Be Ready Warrandyte Project manager Jodi Clark said she was excited about the next phase of the Be Ready Warrandyte project and thanked local councils for their valuable contribution.

"As a resident, I also look forward to the community continuing to work together in partnership with council and state agencies to improve our collective bushfire preparedness," Mrs Clark said.

The secured council funding will also support further Disaster Grant applications.

Stay connected with the Be Ready Warrandyte project through Facebook, Twitter or [www.warrandyte.org.au/fire](http://www.warrandyte.org.au/fire).



## Manu's random hack of kindness for our fire safety

By **KARLY HICKMAN**

WARRANDYTE has benefitted from a significant contribution from a most unlikely fellow, Manu Gill, a man who has never stepped foot on Warrandyte soil and until nine months ago had never heard of Australia's bushfire threat.

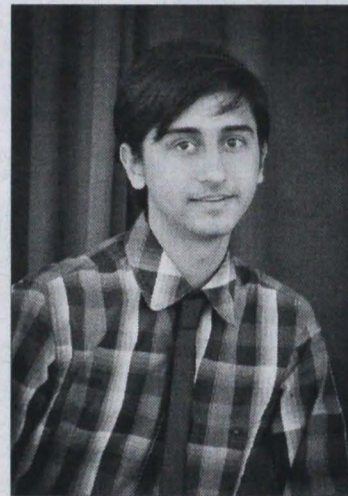
Yet computer science student Mr Gill has generously contributed his time and expertise to the 'Be Ready Warrandyte—Living with Bushfire Risk' project, even if he may not be able to fully comprehend the impact his efforts could make to Warrandyte residents in the event of a bushfire.

The Be Ready Warrandyte project contacted Mr Gill through the 'Random Hacks of Kindness' initiative to help develop a real time bushfire webpage. It can be found at [www.warrandyte.org.au/fire-watch](http://www.warrandyte.org.au/fire-watch)

"I just wanted to help out," Mr Gill told the *Diary*.

The global initiative Random Hacks of Kindness encompasses a community of innovators trying to make the world a better place by developing practical, open source technology solutions to respond to complex community challenges.

Mr Gill came to Australia from India nine months ago and is already onto his second community project. Mr



Generous: Manu Gill.

Gill chose Melbourne for the study and work opportunities, but says he would like to stay thanks to the friendly culture.

"Through the project, I have met people who really care for and are motivated by their community," Mr Gill said.

Before coming to Australia, Mr Gill

hadn't heard of the infamous threat that is the Australian bushfire; but through his work on the Be Ready Warrandyte webpage he has come to appreciate just how important the dissemination of information is to the community in the event of a bushfire.

"I saw it as a chance to make a difference by making it easy for people to find the information they need," Mr Gill said.

The mobile compatible web page brings together data from multiple agencies in one central place, making it much easier and faster for residents to find the information they need.

Users can find refined information pertinent to the greater Warrandyte area that is derived from CFA, VicRoads and the Bureau of Meteorology.

The web page also features a live Twitter feed which utilises user-generated information, where community members can keep each other abreast of current conditions.

Mr Gill is already working on his next project: an online food network that connects farmers with consumers.

The real time Bushfire Be Ready Warrandyte web page is available at [www.warrandyte.org.au/fire-watch](http://www.warrandyte.org.au/fire-watch)

## Warrandyte landmark building going, going...

By **MICHELLE PINI**

INTEREST was high at the auction of Warrandyte's old Wine Hall last month where the freehold property, which houses Folk Art, has had only two owners in its 123-year history and has remained under the same family ownership since 1921.

Despite a good turnout on a sunny day, the property was passed in. However, as the *Diary* was going to print, Glenn Martin of Landfield Real Estate confirmed that two interested parties had sought advice from Manningham Council and Heritage Victoria before finalising offers on the property.

On the day auctioneer Allan Lord gave a detailed account of the considerable history of the building and outlined the environmental and heritage overlays before discussing the property's features, including its location and panoramic views. He said enormous public interest had been shown in the freehold with several people indicating a desire to bid.

Mr Lord then invited those present to "buy a part of the history of Warrandyte". He described the property as "rare and unique" and said it was "a privilege to be entrusted with its sale", which he

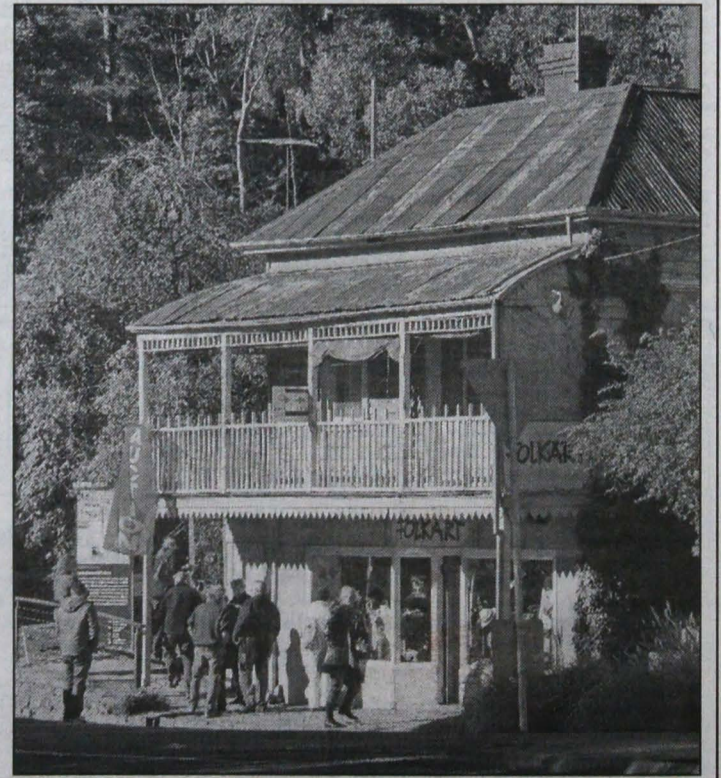


described as being emotional for all involved.

Mr Lord commenced proceedings with a vendor bid of \$750,000 and when no bids were received, then reviewed instructions with the vendor and raised this to \$770,000. However, there were no bids and the property was passed in. Mr Martin said he was amazed with the lack of bidding as "there were several expressions of interest prior to the auction". He added that two offers on the property had subsequently been made, but fell short of the reserve.

Owner Wendy Duncan told the *Diary* she was sad to be parting with the property, which had be-

longed to her grandparents—proprietors of Mrs Robertson's Tea-rooms as it was then known—and at which she had spent every summer of her childhood. Ms Duncan, together with her cousin Brian Chivers, fondly recalled spending long days swimming in the river and seeing in "many New Years" on the bridge. During those occasions their grandmother would play the piano that had been carried by hand over the upstairs verandah for the festivities. Ms Duncan was surprised there had been no bids and indicated she would be "very happy if someone could love it and make it what it used to be".



## Property tipped to remain steady

WARRANDYTE'S property prices are expected to be "steady" for the remainder of this year, according to Landfield Real Estate's Dominic Cruz (pictured), although they are slightly up due to a shortage of properties for sale.



The Reserve Bank left official interest rates on hold last week for the second consecutive month but left the door open for further cuts if needed to stimulate the economy.

"Warrandyte has a very sheltered property market and prices do not fluctuate as much as other areas of Melbourne," Mr Cruz says. "Last year prices dropped slightly but recovered towards the end of the year and have remained steady throughout 2013."

"There is a very good clearance rate in Warrandyte as long as the property is priced correctly and marketed well."

He believes Warrandyte is still "a very undervalued suburb" with what it has to offer in terms of the Yarra River, a tranquil environment, unique real estate, walking tracks, cafes and restaurants, good schools and public transport.

# Worthy recipients

By **CHERIE MOSELEN**

TWO local men were among those who received Order of Australia Medals last month.

The Queen's Birthday honours list for 2013 included Stephen Frederick Coffey of Wonga Park and former Nilumbik mayor and Kangaroo Ground resident Warwick St Clair Leeson.

Mr Coffey received an OAM for "service to the community, particularly children" and he told the *Diary* the medal was a genuine surprise.

"I feel like I won the trifecta," he said.

"My wife Carolyn had earlier received notification of her PHD, our son and his wife gave us our ninth grandchild on the Queen's Birthday Monday, and then of course there was the terrific honour of receiving the medal, which was such a pleasure because I really had no idea about it."

A board member of the Children's Protection Society for 22 years, Mr Coffey was nominated for the award by society president Tim Mulvaney several years earlier.

His family then supported the nomination, providing evidence of his longstanding voluntary efforts across several organisations.

Mr Coffey said the Children's Protection Society, which reinvented itself in the 1980s as a family support agency for children at risk, provided an important service to the community and he was glad to have contributed over the years.

Also a strong supporter of the pony club movement—over a 30-year period that included positions as state president and national treasurer—Stephen praised the association because it teaches children responsibility.

"Pony club teaches life skills in a way that very few youth organisations do. It gives its members real purpose, so you never see these kids on the street—they've got way too



Order of Australia Medals: Stephen Coffey (above) and Warwick Leeson.

much to do!"

Meanwhile, Mr Leeson said he felt "a great sense of honour and pride" in receiving his OAM "for service to the community of St Andrews, particularly in the aftermath of the 2009 Victorian bushfires".

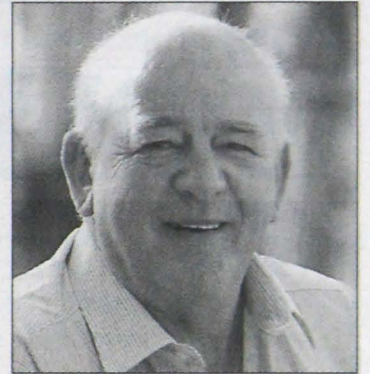
"In the wake of the bushfires, and with the personal experience of a family member losing their home, I committed to helping local people in their struggle to stabilise their lives and rebuild their sense of place," Mr Leeson said.

"I was fortunately situated to be

able to donate my time, energy and experience to this cause and I am proud that my award citation acknowledges this."

Mr Leeson said he has been actively involved with many groups and causes in his neighbourhood for almost 50 years, and believes volunteerism is the key to building healthier and more resilient communities.

He also hopes the awareness this award creates inspires others to consider helping their communities through volunteering.



## It's not a new fire levy, it's a fairer fire levy.

On 1 July 2013, as recommended by the Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission, the Victorian Government is replacing the old fire services levy with a fairer system.

Rather than being added to insurance premiums, the levy will now be collected with council rates. This means all property owners contribute a fair share to the Country Fire Authority or the Metropolitan Fire Brigade.

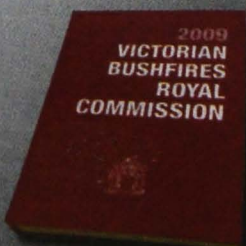
The levy is a fixed charge of \$100 for residential properties and \$200 for non-residential properties, plus a variable charge based on the property's capital improved value.

All funds will go towards supporting Victoria's fire services.

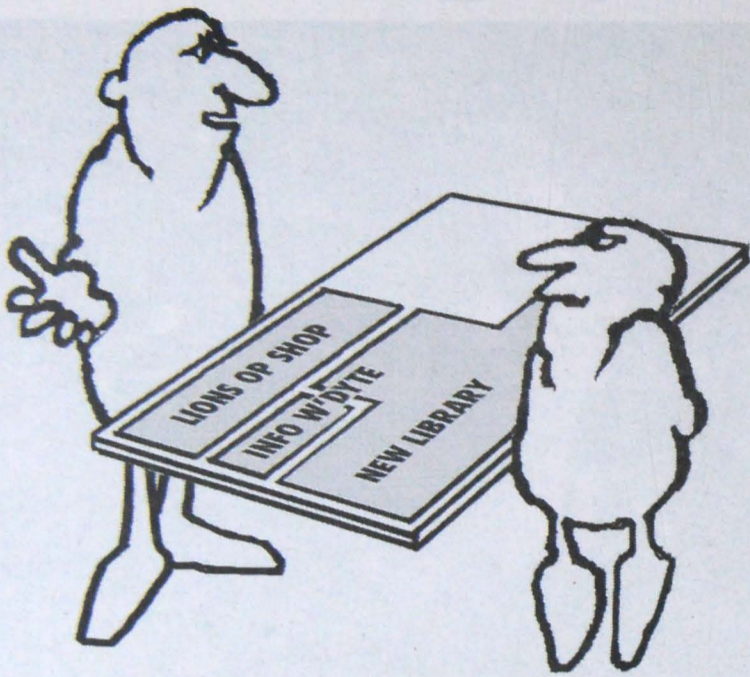
GST and stamp duty charged on the old levy have been removed and, for the first time, eligible pensioners and veterans will receive a \$50 concession. These reforms will save households and business around \$100 million a year.

[firelevy.vic.gov.au](http://firelevy.vic.gov.au)

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# Countdown is on

## New-look community centre almost complete – library to open next month

By MICHELLE PINI

THE opening of the refurbished Warrandyte Community Centre (WCC) is yet to be confirmed but a council spokesperson told the *Diary* renovations are nearing completion and the "official launch is scheduled for September".

The moving process for tenants is planned to commence on August 1 with the new library first cab off the rank and open to the public on August 20.

The much anticipated new library facility will form the centre of the redevelopment and will include collections appealing to a range of tastes and age groups as well as public internet, copying and fax facilities. Space has also been allocated for events, discussion groups, study areas and several library programs for the community.

Manningham mayor Jennifer Yang referred to the new library facility as "a centrepiece in building community life". The Warrandyte Information Centre, Lions Op Shop, Neighbourhood House and *Warrandyte Diary* tenants are expected to move in shortly after August 20 when the library is open to the public.

Member for Warrandyte Ryan Smith says the modernisation of the centre was significant.

"As an important hub for the community, the redevel-

opment of the Warrandyte Community Centre will offer new spaces for Warrandyte residents to gather for education and for social occasions," Mr Ryan said.

Ms Yang described the \$2.65m WCC refurbishment as an outstanding result for the community and a wonderful collaboration between local and state governments, the Warrandyte Community Bank and the Community Centre Reference Group.

The *Diary* was given a behind the scenes tour last week and can confirm the centre, although not complete, looks fantastic and spacious with installations that include solid wooden frames and cladding, eye-catching carpet and light fittings in the new library area, lifts, and beautiful solid bamboo flooring in the function room upstairs among other features.

Pictures: Stephen Reynolds.



# WHSS seeks helpers

By MICHELLE PINI

WARRANDYTE Housing and Support Service (WHSS) has struggled to keep up with the demand for services in the greater Warrandyte area in recent times but the welfare organisation, which has been providing community support services for over 22 years, may have found a way to continue.

"We were very concerned and it looked as though we may have to close our doors," says founder Margory Lapworth, who has continued to operate the service on a voluntary basis since its inception.

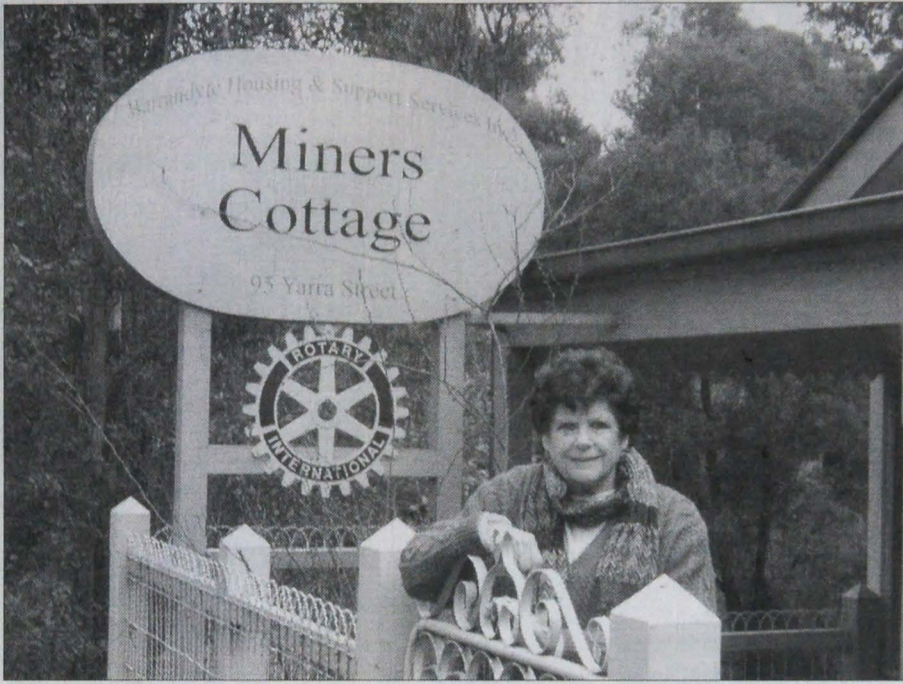
"After investigating many possible funding options, however, a solution appears to have presented itself for WHSS to continue into the future.

"It looks as though a funding opportunity has opened up at the eleventh hour, which is wonderful," Mrs Lapworth says.

Although relieved that the good work of WHSS is set to continue, she says there is more work to be done.

"We are now in urgent need of more compassionate people, who want to make a difference, to join our team."

Mrs Lapworth, who received



an Order of Australia medal for her ongoing community service, has managed WHSS with a dedicated team of volunteers on the simple premise of providing prac-

tical assistance—including housing, financial and emotional support—to anyone in need without borders or judgement.

"It's extremely enjoyable and

rewarding work," she told the *Diary*.

● To volunteer or make a donation, contact Warrandyte Housing Support Service on 9844 4495.

# Melbourne Hill's stormy catchment scheme

By MICHELLE PINI

RESIDENTS of the Melbourne Hill Road stormwater catchment area are awaiting confirmation of a community meeting to discuss progress on council's controversial drainage proposal.

At a recent public meeting residents were asked to finalise a community reference panel to act as an advisory committee. The panel, made up of democratically elected representatives from all sections of the catchment area, is intended to unify diverse interests and put forward ideas to council—although the formal recommendation to council will be made by council officers.

Council engineer Peter Alvaraz told the *Diary* that council had explored and presented to the commu-



nity several possibilities in addition to the initial proposal. He indicated that a further meeting date had "not been confirmed" but would most likely take place in late July. He said

council intended to "explore every avenue together with the task group and the community".

Residents have remained unconvinced that the initial drainage proposal, as well

as subsequent amended versions offered by council, will sufficiently address the complexity of the drainage issues which have affected the area.

They have also voiced concerns that ratepayers would be expected to fund 50 per cent of the scheme, given council had approved affected homes in the flood prone areas.

Similarly, residents believe council's neglect of maintenance works on existing drains raises doubts about the future upkeep of a new scheme.

"We are confident that we can offer successful and viable options that would address all issues and alleviate unnecessary costs to council, ratepayers and residents," said Peter Hookey (pictured), spokesperson for the resident's group.

**Clyde's Conundrum**

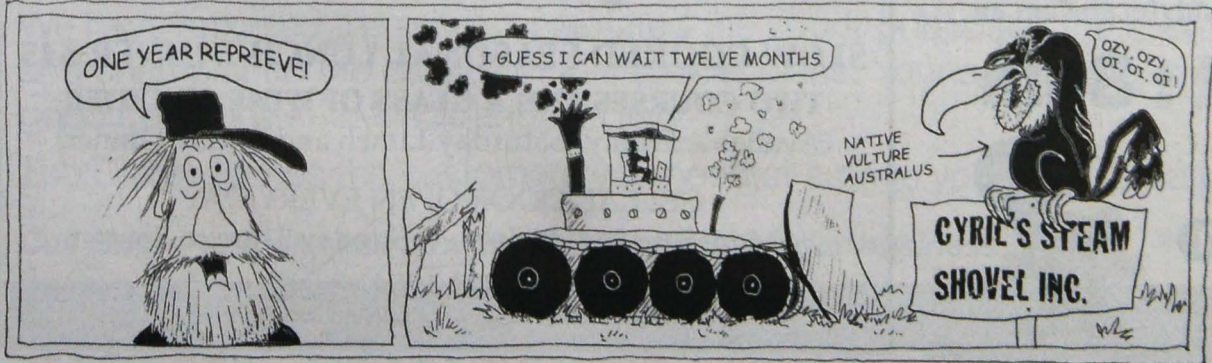
Bill from Brackenbury Street is on a camping expedition and phoned home with the following news. Yesterday he took his morning walk from his tent. He walked 1 km south, then 1 km west, then 1 km north, then ended up back at his tent but couldn't get in because there was a bear outside. What colour was the bear?

*Solution next month.*

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**Warrandyte Youth Arts Award**

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A community based encouragement award for young Warrandyte artists between the ages of 18 and 25. It is open to applicants across a broad spectrum of the arts. It is awarded to the applicant with the greatest potential for outstanding achievement in their field. Applicants are assessed between September 2013 and February 2014 with the Award presentation being made during the Festival in March 2014.

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# Kicking goals on manhood

By MITCHELL HALL

MICHAEL Colling, founder and director of 'Who's the man!', along with youth worker Sam Loy held a presentation for the Warrandyte Junior Football Club's teenagers late last month.

"The Talk", as it is known in the program, is aimed to educate young men about what it means to be a man and challenges the often harmful stereotype that mainstream media portrays, and what much of society expects, that can often damage self-esteem.

'Who's the man!' has a mission to hold a mirror up to the issues that boys and young men face each day and helps in creating strategies and teaching practical lessons in how to handle obstacles that may hold them back.

"I'm not here as a motivational speaker to tell you about my life, trust me, it's not that interesting," Michael said to lighten the mood, pointing out he wasn't there to lecture them. He then tackled issues including the attitude young men have towards women, drink driving, comradeship, and certain behaviours and expectations.

One activity called upon the group to list what attributes they thought society expected of both men and women. Some of the words that came to the boys' minds for what a man represented were "strong", "fearless", "the provider" and "doesn't show emotions".

Michael and Sam spent the evening putting the boys through scenarios and hypothetical situations, asking for their opinions on current matters as well as sharing some statistics about young men of today.

The group was also informed of where they can go for help (such as school support services, youth centres, and help lines) should they ever need it, as well as showing them a short film on drink-driving.

Craig Robison, there with his son Jasper, said he thought the talk was "quite powerful" and that it dealt with relevant issues and "things that can change their decision making later in life".

Thirteen-year-old Ben Dickson said he thought it was a really effective, well thought out discussion.

After the event Michael told the *Diary* he enjoyed talking to the boys.

"I'm really impressed with the Warrandyte Junior Football Club, with their attitudes and engagement," he said. "Some of the conversations that were going on were important, and I hope that they continue with them."

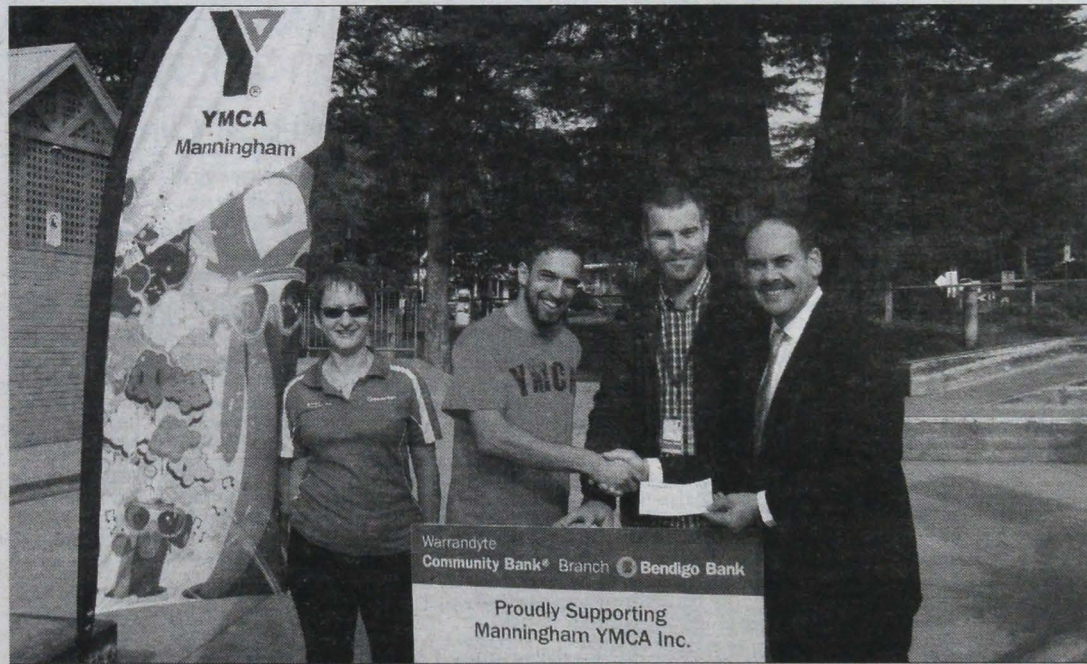
If you'd like to find out more about 'Who's the man!' and the program, visit [www.whostheman.net.au](http://www.whostheman.net.au).

**Some of the conversations that were going on were important and I hope that they continue with them.**

Who's the man?: It's Michael Colling, of course, with Warrandyte Junior Football Club youngsters Liam Vaughan, Jasper Robison and Ben Dickson.



# Youth services return to Warrandyte



WARRANDYTE Community Bank and Manningham YMCA Youth Services have partnered again to provide a new program for youth in Warrandyte.

Called Sundays with Steve, it is a program aimed at the 10-15 age group, but with a twist.

"What we really liked about this program was not just the fact that it was bringing much needed youth services into the area, but it provides a leadership opportunity to the 18 to 25-year-olds keen to assist with youth development in the area," said Sarah Wrigley, chairman of the Warrandyte Community Bank.

"It makes the program a mentoring and leadership program and, to all intents and purposes, a sustainable model that can run for some time and be extended into other communities."

The program will run under the auspices of Manningham YMCA Youth Services by Josh Clarke,

who grew up in Warrandyte and is passionate about the area.

"Initially, we'll have three volunteer youth leaders with about five young people under each leader," Mr Clarke said. "The youth leader will be expected to contact their young people with upcoming event details, ensure that their young people are well supported and amend the program to suit the interests of his or her group."

"We'll have a range of activities like laser tag and movie nights throughout Terms 3 and 4, culminating in a camp in January. It will be a safe environment and give the young people in the area something to do in Warrandyte on a Sunday afternoon."

The program will start in Term 3 and is free for its first term. From Term 4 it will cost \$100 per term. For more information visit: [www.manninghamymcayouthservices.org.au](http://www.manninghamymcayouthservices.org.au) or contact Josh Clarke on 9848 5400.

Sundays with Steve: Warrandyte Community Bank chairman Sarah Wrigley, the YMCA's Josh Clarke and Steven Dupon with branch manager Mark Challen.

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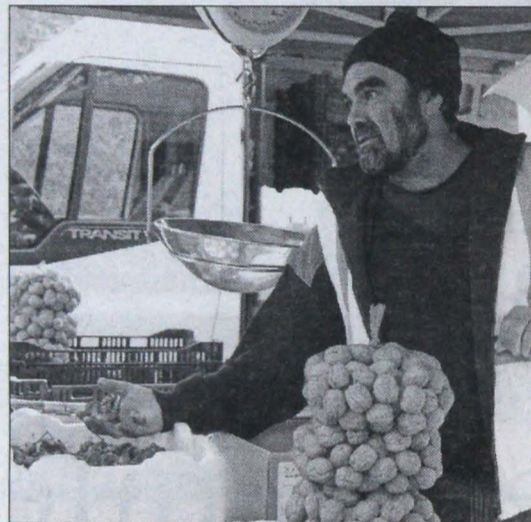
# Warrandyte

THE aromas of freshly baked breads and pastries, hot chocolates and coffee, Dutch poffertjes, curry puffs, Phil's burgers and warm popcorn always lures the masses to the banks of the Yarra River on the first Saturday each month, and July's market was no exception.

The monthly Warrandyte market may have skipped a beat when cancelled in June due to inclement weather, but it was back in full swing last weekend.

The market provides a melting pot of cultural experiences with its diverse offering of buskers, plants, homemade preserves and other goodies, crafts and tasty eats always a hit with locals and visitors ... oh yes, and it's a great morning or afternoon out for our local dog community, too.

Pictures: STEPHEN REYNOLDS



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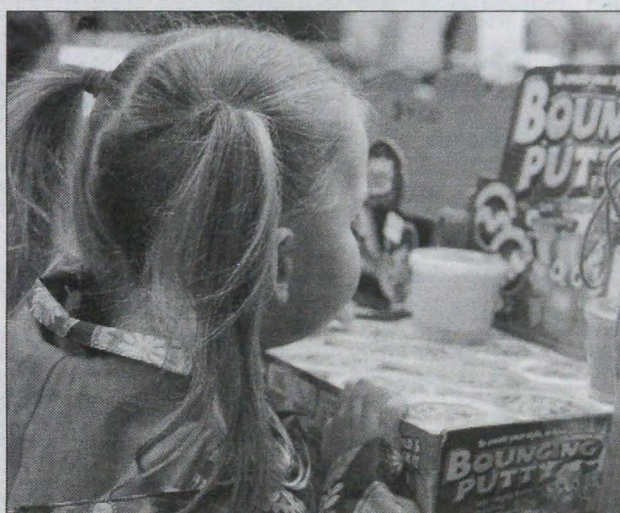
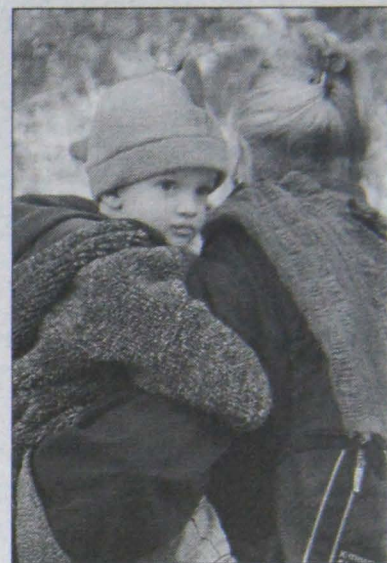
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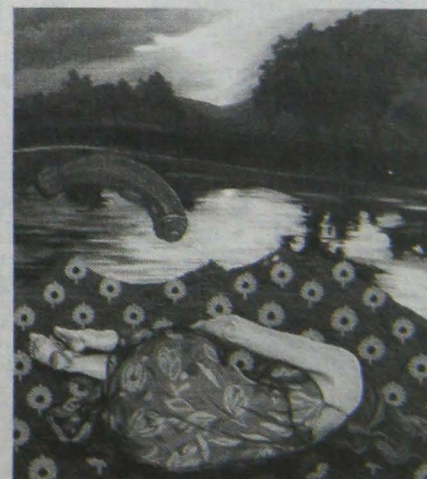


## Attention artists

Applications for the Eltham Library Community Gallery 2014 Exhibition Program open Monday 22 July and close Friday 13 September 2013.

To be eligible to apply artists must live, work or study in Nillumbik or be able to demonstrate strong, ongoing links to the Shire.

For more information or an application form contact Grace Longato, Visual Arts Development Officer - Arts and Cultural Services on 9433 3131 or email grace.longato@nillumbik.vic.gov.au



Debbie ROBINSON, Counterforce 2012 (detail) oil on canvas, 91.5cm x 75.5cm Copyright the artist. Exhibiting October 2013

## Practically Green Sustainability Awards 2013

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

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.



# A golden

## \$10,000 grant is up for grabs for applicants aged 18 to 25

By BRIANNA PIAZZA

THE Warrandyte community has been asked to encourage budding artists not to miss a golden opportunity to boost their career prospects as applications for the Warrandyte Youth Arts Award close this month.

Applicants aged between 18 and 25 are drawn from a wide range of endeavors that are broadly defined as art. Past winners include a jewellery designer, opera singer and metal sculptor.

The biennial award has helped 13 ambitious young grant winners build their careers since it started in 1988, as well as many others who have benefitted from the award's mentoring process.

This year organisers are looking forward to an enthusiastic selection of new applicants with the 2013-14 recipient expected to receive \$10,000 – more than ever before in the history of the award.

"It's an encouragement award, an award to help promote a young person's career as an artist," Warrandyte Arts and Education Trust president Jock Macneish said.

"What the award looks at is 'are you likely to go on and contribute in a significant way to a field of arts in years to come?' The award is given to a young person with that potential and only people who are already professionals in that field can tell if the young adult can do that."

One of the unique features of the biennial award is applicants are assessed by three professionals in their field before a panel decides on a winner. Applicants have the opportunity to take part in choosing who assesses them, often outstanding leaders in their field who they may have thought were inaccessible.

One of the award's early recipients was Gabrielle Davidson who went on to have a career as a professional ballerina in the Australian Ballet Company.

Gabrielle put the prize money towards seeing ballet shows in Europe and coaching from a Soviet-Russian-born prima ballerina Natalia Makarova in London. She said the experience set her a solid foundation and gave her a good start to her professional dancing career.

"The award meant I could get coaching with Natalia. I wouldn't have had that opportunity if I hadn't had money from the youth award. In dancing you're always working on your technique but if you can get as much input as possible, that allows you to develop and grow as a dancer," Gabrielle said.



Success: Recent award winner Vaughan Howard in Denmark.

Applicants don't necessarily have to live in Warrandyte but it is required they have an association with Warrandyte – for example, being involved in the Warrandyte community or previously having lived here.

Past applicant Ben Dennis didn't win the award last time around but says the whole application process was an "invaluable experience".

Ben started volunteering at the Warrandyte Festival from the age of 13, helping out with stage management.

At 16 he started DJing. Despite missing out on the award, he says the entire process meant he was able to meet with influential people in the industry and make important contacts.

"I personally think I was able to have money-can't-buy experiences and of course in this kind of industry 'who you know' is definitely a major plus," Ben said.

"It gave me insight into the different types of jobs in the music industry and provided me with the knowledge of what direction to go in."

The award's most recent recipient, architect and interior designer Vaughan Howard, told the *Diary* although the interview process can be nerve-racking, it's a great way for young artists to make contacts in their industry and connect with people in the Warrandyte community.

As for this year's applicants, Vaughan advises them to think about

## Say hello to the Scrimshaw Four

By BRIANNA PIAZZA

THE Scrimshaw Four amazed Warrandyte locals for the first time when they got together to play their first ever gig at last year's Warrandyte Festival.

Since then the budding bluegrass-indie band has flourished with the release of their first EP, and spending their summer busking at beachside towns and scoring regular gigs around Melbourne.

Tyler Arnold plays the banjo while the group's youngest star, 18-year-old Geordie Schellhorn, plays the double bass. Then there's guitarist Jesse Sheers and his older brother Matt, who has been playing the violin since he was in Grade 3.

Before forming a four-person band, Tyler and Matt had been busking at the Warrandyte market since they were in Year 10 while Jesse and Geordie had also been busking together.

But after being together for more than a year, the Scrimshaw Four has

"I guess it's also really special because both bands have their origins in Warrandyte."

played several birthdays, weddings and parties, and at venues throughout Melbourne.

"Our aim for live music is to just have as much fun as possible," Matt says. "We find that's really important because we've been to a lot of gigs where bands take themselves so seriously. So long as people have fun we're happy."

The boys say one of their highlights so far has been supporting The Teskey Brothers' single launch at the Workers club last month.

"The Teskey Brothers are also a Warrandyte band so that was nice and it was also really special because a little while ago we had our EP launch and they supported

us too," Jesse said. "I guess it's also really special because both bands have their origins in Warrandyte."

The Scrimshaw Four even had the opportunity to record a CD at Sam Teskey's studio in Warrandyte. But they said playing at the Warrandyte Festival this year was one of the band's standout experiences.

"Playing at the Warrandyte Festival this year on the main stage is definitely a highlight – it's something we had wanted to do for a long time," Matt said.

"We love hanging out in Warrandyte and it's great to see that people have been so responsive to our CD and supportive."

The four went to the Steiner School in Warranwood where they say their interest and passion for music really developed.

The group considers Matt as a "younger version of Andrew Bird", a US musician and songwriter who also plays the violin, along with several other instruments.

As for their plans for the future, the group hopes to travel to Byron Bay this summer and do some more busking along the coast. They also plan to make their way to the Woodford Folk Festival for New Year's Eve.

"It's the biggest folk festival in Australia and it would be such a great adventure for the band. We've always been interested in doing it and we've thought for a while about heading there," Tyler, 22, said.

The band is already halfway through working on a new album, which they expect to release at the end of the year. They say people can expect a mix of original and old songs. Those hoping to catch The Scrimshaw Four in action can do so at the Warrandyte market where the group plays on the first Saturday of every month.

● To find out more about the band's upcoming gigs visit their Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/TheScrimshawFour](http://www.facebook.com/TheScrimshawFour).



# chance for our youth



Successful career: Gabrielle Davidson as a ballet dancer (left) and (above) with her family today.

what they would put the money towards and how they would benefit from it.

"I think that having a strong idea of what you want to do with the money from the award, an idea that will really contribute meaningfully to your chosen practice and wouldn't be possible for you to achieve without the award, would be a really important thing to be clear on when applying," he said.

The application process will take six months, with interviews begin-

ning in August before assessment by industry professionals.

"How, when and where assessment takes place is entirely the decision of the applicant and the assessor," Mr Macneish said.

"It's a very gentle, supportive process and over the six months you see a change in the young people who start to realise they live in a community that supports their talents and recognises that working as an artist is as valuable as working as a plumber."

The Warrandyte Arts and Education Trust is hosting the award and this year's sole sponsor is the Warrandyte Community Bank.

However, Mr Macneish said that the award itself was a tribute to the Warrandyte Lions Club, who fostered, sponsored and supported the award over 24 years.

● Applications close July 31. For more info about the award call Jock Macneish on 9844 4164. To apply visit <http://tinyurl.com/wyaa-13>.



Extremely rewarding: Ben Dennis (right) says the award process was invaluable.

## Helping rising stars achieve their goals

### GABRIELLE DAVIDSON

In 1991 Gabrielle Davidson became the second person to receive the Warrandyte Youth Arts Award.

At the time she was a 20-year-old ballet dancer who had been dancing since she was four. She was enjoying her first year with the Australian Ballet Company when she received the award and it gave her the golden opportunity to have a coaching session from prima ballerina Natalia Makarova during her three-week scholarship in Europe.

She also used the prize money to see some spectacular ballet performances in Munich, Stuttgart, Frankfurt and Paris.

"Back then I had only heard about how wonderful the big ballet companies overseas were but to actually see them was really important. It really opened my eyes to the wider world of ballet. It was a wonderful start to my career as a dancer," she said.

Gabrielle spent 10 years with the Australian Ballet Company and during that time she toured internationally.

She also scored some big solo roles, with one of her most memorable performances being *Madame Butterfly* when she played the Suzuki, the second female lead.

Gabrielle retired from dancing in 2001 but continued as a teacher and even studied to become a physiotherapist.

Today she has taken a break from work to look after her two young boys but she says she's looking forward to getting back into the studio and teaching again.

She advised this year's applicants to put themselves out there, not be afraid to ask questions and believe in themselves.

"The award is a really wonderful opportunity for young people and the people of Warrandyte

to get behind them and support them. I think it's really lovely that Warrandyte does this for its youth."

### VAUGHAN HOWARD

Since winning the Warrandyte Youth Arts Award for as a promising 24-year-old architect, Vaughan Howard has gone on to achieve great things in his industry.

Vaughan used his money from winning the 2010-11 award to study architecture for eight months at the Academy of Fine arts in Copenhagen.

During his trip he immersed himself in his studies and witnessed firsthand Europe's unique and interesting structures. He told the *Diary* he would draw on these experiences for inspiration in the years to come.

"I visited and experienced architecture and places that I had only ever seen in books. This is so important because architecture really should be experienced. Viewing images is a poor substitute for experiencing the spaces themselves," he said.

"Perhaps even more than what I learnt at University or my travels, just living and experiencing a city such as Copenhagen for an extended period of time taught me more about how design and architecture and urban planning can contribute to a better quality of life for people."

Since his exchange he also completed his Masters of Architecture at RMIT. He now works at BKK Architects in Melbourne, tutors within the design department at RMIT and undertakes his own design projects.

"I think whatever stage you're at in your career that going through the process of applying for the award would contribute to the development of your practice as an artist, and you also might win!"



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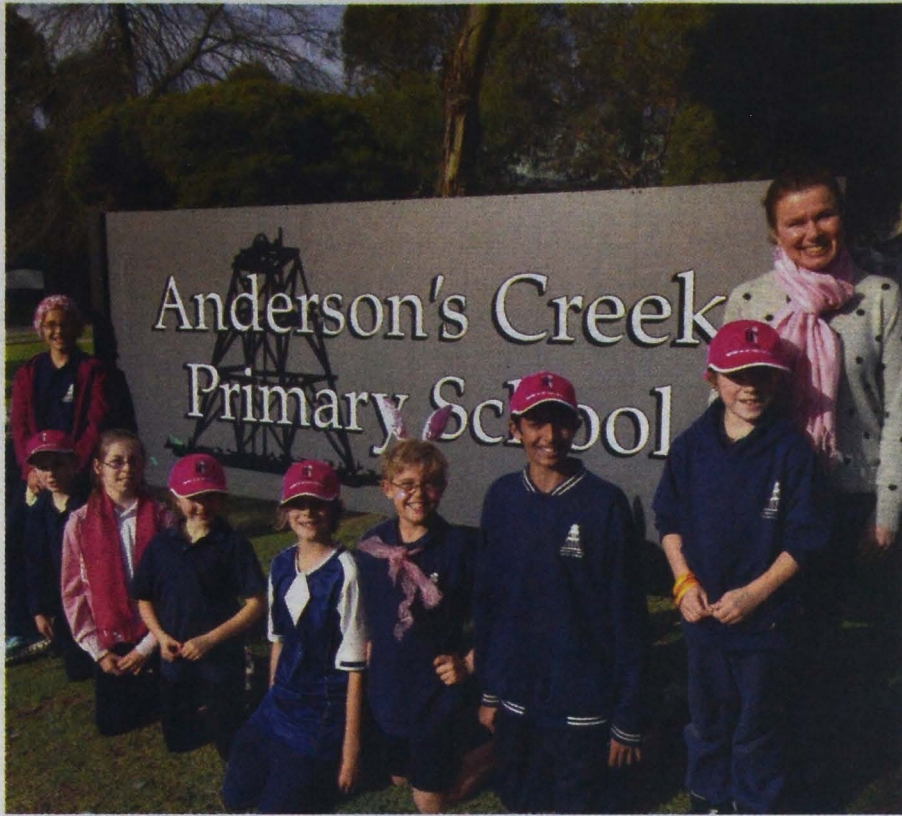
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# A touch of pink and musical magic at ACPS



PINK was on parade at Anderson's Creek Primary School last month (left) when the junior school council organised a fundraising activity to support Breast Cancer Research.

Over \$750 was raised through a sausage sizzle and all children were invited to wear a touch of pink on the day.

As part of this fundraising initiative, the school's staff were involved in Australia's Biggest Morning Tea project where teachers donated money to eat some very tasty cakes.

Meanwhile, music and performing arts are alive and well at ACPS with rehearsals underway for the annual musical production.

In Term 3 all the school children will be involved in each grade level performing an item along with choir, recorder and dance groups.

The school production will be held in the Performing Arts Theatre at ACPS during the week commencing Monday, September 16.

There will be a matinee performance on Wednesday, September 18, followed by a performance that evening and then a second evening



performance is on Thursday, September 19. Tickets will go on sale online for the school community in the middle of Term 3.

Nieta Manser teaches music to children at ACPS from Grades 1 to 6 and principal Trevor Gibbs takes preps for music each week throughout the year.

Mr Gibbs, having been formally trained as a classroom teacher and music teacher, says the highlight of his week is working with the prep children (above).

"They sing, dance, play musical instruments, and are beginning to learn to read and write their own music," Mr Gibbs told the *Diary*.

## Christmas in July at Warrandyte Community Church

The Warrandyte community is invited to come in out of the cold and warm up inside with a special Christmas in July celebration at Warrandyte Community Church later this month.

"Everyone is welcome to join us for some fun as we sing Christmas carols and be entertained with plays, music and more," a church representative said.

Locals are encouraged to come just as they are or are welcome to wear some tinsel and reindeer ears and join in the festivities. Christmas-themed morning tea will follow.

The event will be held at 10am at Warrandyte Community Church, Yarra Street, on Sunday, July 28.

For more info phone 9844 4148 or email [office@wcc.org.au](mailto:office@wcc.org.au).



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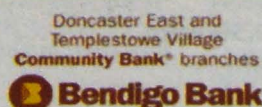


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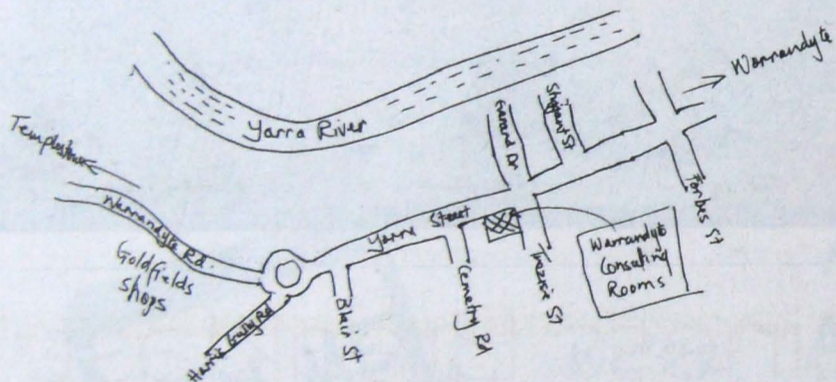
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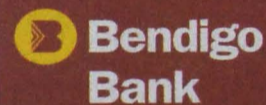


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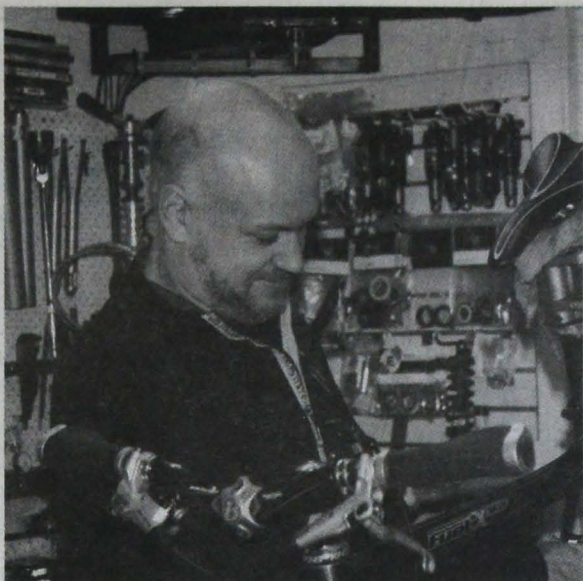
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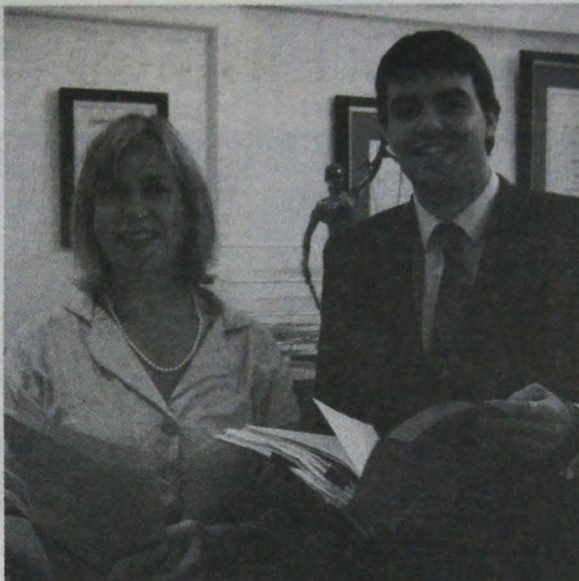
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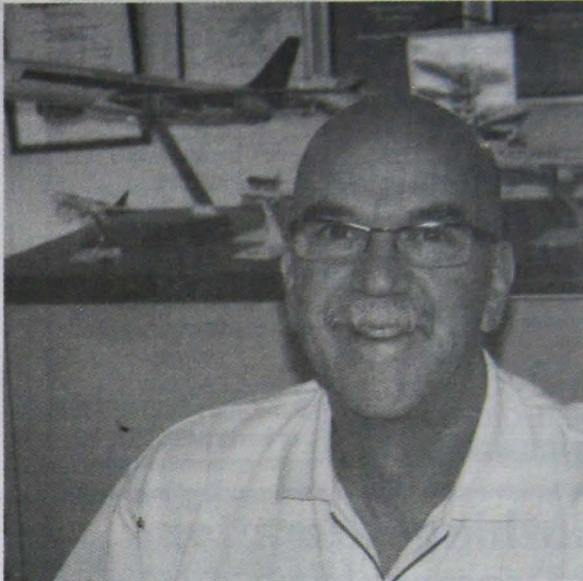
**Derek**  
DM CYCLES  
Ph. 9844 3355

Derek pulled apart his first bike when he was seven and started repairing bikes at age 13. He loves putting bikes back together. Derek's background is in the bike mechanics and engineering field - he is the best bike mechanic around. He can fix any bike. He loves the challenge and finds repairing bikes very rewarding. Derek is a bike enthusiast with a mountain bike riding background as well as a mechanical one. He felt there was a need in Warrandyte for a service such as this. Derek loves the genuine people in Warrandyte and the tight knit local community who enjoy a good ride. He is here for the locals and has a lot of repeat customers. Riders from Broadford and beyond come to Warrandyte to have their bikes repaired before races. Visit the shop to get professional advice, have your bike serviced or purchase a new bike that suits your needs. Derek also has all the accessories a rider could need.



**Geraldine and Aaron**  
Rush and Hampshire Barristers and Solicitors  
Ph. 9844 4646

Rush and Hampshire have been in the legal game for over 30 years. Geraldine and Aaron feel they are in a privileged position of working with and helping local clients. They love the community feel in Warrandyte. They are used to dealing with a wide range of legal issues. A typical day can start with some conveyancing work, communicating with the court re a civil dispute, then dealing with a family law matter and sometimes criminal matters, it can finish with drafting a Will and discussing intentions for Estates. When you step into the office on the banks of the Yarra you find a warm inviting atmosphere with comfy couches to help you relax while dealing with personal issues. A key focus of Rush and Hampshire is family law, including collaborative law, family disputes resolution and mediation. Geraldine and Aaron are available for early morning as well as after hours and Saturday morning appointments. They truly are lawyers for you and your family in good times and bad.



**Paul**  
Warrandyte Travel and Cruise  
Ph. 9844 2477

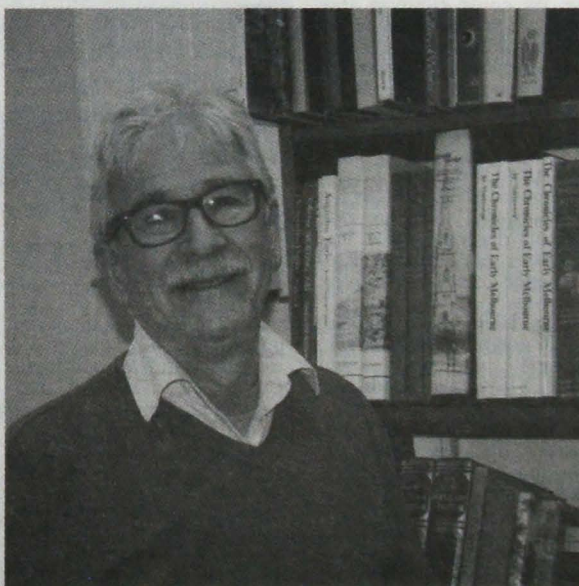
Paul has been in the Webb St Agency for two years and the Travel Agency has been there for 15 years. Paul says it's thanks to the local community that the business has been operating for so long. The Agency gets lots of repeat business. Paul and his team specialise in overseas travel and he finds that his customers want personal service and to hear of the personal experiences of the staff. Paul has travelled extensively as have his staff - they have a passion for travel and they know the best places to visit and can help advise you. Come and have a chat about your travel needs, it helps to make an appointment. Opening hours are Monday to Friday 9.00-5.00pm and Saturday 9.00-1.00pm. The strong relationships with travel industry suppliers provide Warrandyte Travel and Cruise with exceptional buying power and access to an enviable range of quality flight, accommodation, cruise and tour packages. The staff will ensure your holiday is relaxing and as memorable as possible. Warrandyte Travel and Cruise will help you get to where you want to go without the hassles.

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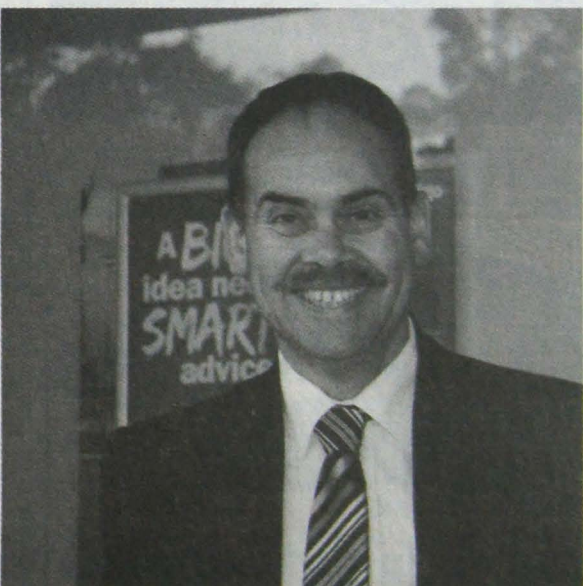
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**Steven**  
The Old Bakery Cottage Bookshop  
Ph. 9844 1744

This is the perfect place to find that book you are looking for. The shop used to be the baker's residence and is the oldest shop in Warrandyte, built in the 1860's. Steve loves the open friendliness of the community in Warrandyte and finds the business community very supportive. Over the four years he has had the shop he has found there are a large number of locals who love a good book and he loves to chat with customers about books, authors and life in general. The shop itself contains a number of rooms where 17,000 books are located with an additional 1200 books available on the website. Some of the more popular books are the art and pottery books, kids books, biographies and novels. Lots of travellers and serious collectors stop by on their way through from overseas, Darwin, Tasmania and other parts of Australia. Come on in and find that book you are searching for. Share Steve's passion for literature.



**Mark**  
Warrandyte Community Bank  
Ph. 9844 2233

Mark Challen has been at the Warrandyte Branch since it opened 10 years ago! He is very proud of the Bank and loves the sense of community in Warrandyte. 3300 locals bank here and \$1 million dollars has been returned to the community. Mark enjoys being involved in local activities including the Sporting Clubs, the Warrandyte Business Association, and other activities in Warrandyte as well as Wonga Park, Park Orchards, Christmas Hills, Warranwood and Bend of Isles. The Bank has been able to make a difference our local communities by actively being involved both financially and physically. What is the Community Bank difference? This bank puts back into our local community. There are lots of partnerships with the Bank. They offer long term viability and it goes without saying that confidentiality is very important. Pop in and visit Mark and the friendly staff - your banking will make a difference to this community.



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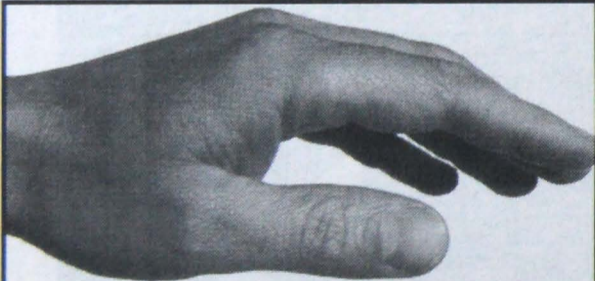
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# Modern twists of fate puts paid to the good old days of play

**W**HEN I was a kid, I used to play across the road with Stewey. He lived in a wonderful, rabbit warren of a house. It was the best version of a cubby house you could imagine. It was a 'handyman's opportunity' but a kid's paradise. We could climb in and out of windows, hide amongst the 'indoor collections', stalk wild animals amongst the outdoor jungle and remain hidden from adults for hours. Then it all came to an end. His parents decided to renovate! After the modernising happened, the house lost its soul and we lost a playground. And this destruction of 'unstructured playgrounds' has proceeded to get worse over the years.

Today, the house blocks are smaller and the houses bigger. Perfectly good houses on largish blocks are bulldozed to be replaced by boundary to boundary, Lego-built town houses. This means that the little space left is no longer available for kids' free-range outdoor play because outdoor space must now be devoted to the ubiquitous water feature, the designer desert or the even more absurd, seldom used outdoor kitchen. By default, the kids are forced to resort to child-safe, risk-averse indoor tinkering. Not like the 'good old days'!

When Stewey or I came over to play, we had whole mornings and afternoons that had to be filled by playing outside. After breakfast and lunch, we



kibbled

**"There were about five of us, all with shovels 'borrowed' from my father's large storage shed..."**

were all told by our mums to "go out and play and don't come back inside until I call you for your next meal". Occasional scraps of food were passed out through the back door but the notion of going inside to play was anathema. Wet days were spent playing in the cramped front hall or in the few square feet between the two single beds in your bedroom.

It was a time when children were loved but knew their place and that, most definitely, was outside. So, if you were outside for all that time, how did you fill it?

It was before the days of political correctness, a sort of kids' Galapagos Island. It was suburban proof of Darwin's theory about the survival of

the fittest. Gangs were big and I well remember the hours we spent working out ways to demean and antagonise the other gangs in the neighbourhood.

Catholicism and Anglicanism were perfectly good reasons for terrorism. The common chant, "Catholic/Proddy dogs stink like frogs, in and out of water" didn't even raise a politically correct arched eyebrow. In our defence, however, all sectarian baiting could be forgotten if a good team game or an even better prey could be found. A physical defect, the wrong hair colour or a "really stupid" or foreign surname could also be good cause for war. Weapons were mostly words or a rude chalk message on the footpath but often taunts were followed by hurled loquats and figs or the very occasional stone or dog turd in a paper bag. When we tired of learning to be adults, we turned to the resources in our back yards—in my case, Dad's very large vegetable garden.

I grew up in the sand belt so digging in the soil was easy. The down side, however, was that holes filled without your say so and any tunnel had a tendency to collapse without warning. Given these realities it was obvious that one of our favourite games was tunnelling. WW2 was not all that far gone and the war films, high-lighting tunnel-escaping soldiers, fired our imaginations.

There were about five of us, all with shovels 'borrowed' from my father's large storage

shed, so it was not long before we had dug two holes, our own height, about two metres apart. All we had to do was to start burrowing sideways until the tunnel connected the two holes. The engineering argument developed about how far below ground level we should begin the tunnel. The considered decision was made when the wrestling match produced a winner. The less bloody and less wounded sapper decided to start the tunnel half way down the hole. And it was to be started from both holes and meet in the middle. The additional consideration was that the tunnel had to be just wide enough for the least assertive amongst us to 'volunteer' to squeeze through.

We had tunnelled about 60cm from each hole when our back door opened and the cry, "Lunch is ready!" rang across the battlefield.

"See you after lunch," and the battlefield fell silent as the troops marched home for a meal.

After lunch, the bottom of the holes were a foot under water and there was a third depression where the earth had collapsed into the tunnels.

The engineers conferred and decided that our tunnels must have been sabotaged by an enemy gang.

Modern kids. Pah! They don't have the opportunity to play safely, responsibly or intelligently.

**ROGER KIBELL**

**CFA**

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**VICTORIAN BUSHFIRE INFORMATION LINE: 1800 240 667**

# Tree-ferns are key to our habitat

nature  
By LINDA ROGAN

ON a bright chilly day in June we walk quickly up Happy Valley Track in the Warrandyte Kinglake Nature Conservation Reserve. Our feet are just starting to feel warm. Distractions are few. Insects are well hidden from us but the small wrens and the jaunty Eastern Yellow Robin seem to be having better luck as they fossick through the shrubs. When we stop to sit a while, we see a Bassian Thrush as well.

Tree-ferns crowd the shady slopes as we near the goldmine. Dead brown fronds from the dry summer are overlaid by fresh green ones brought on by the late May rains. These seem to be Rough Tree-ferns, common in the moist gullies of the Warrandyte area and I've seen them here colonising the entrances of old mining tunnels. Tree-ferns are key to the ecology of this habitat. I have learnt recently native bees from the reed bee group nest inside the dead fronds of both the Soft and Rough Tree-ferns. The colonies of one reed bee species are rarely found elsewhere and their distribution correlates with tree-fern occurrence. I make a mental note to find out later whether the locally rare Soft Tree-ferns grow here as well.

Close to the trackside grows a group of shrubs with long droopy leaves that are woolly white underneath. This woolly character accounts for the name of Blanket Leaf and here it grows as a shrub. The soft blanket-like leaves help me recall the scientific name of *Bedfordia*. Its soft nature is possibly why it has also been dubbed "the bushman's dunny-paper". The yellow daisy flowers are long finished



Native Elderberry plant showing berries and a group of early staged Metallic Shield-bug; an adult (inset) photographed at Morwell State Park in 2009 and entire plant at Happy Valley Track. Photos by Linda and Peter Rogan.

but brown bracts remain and seeds with their "thistle-down" attachments fly off when I touch the branch. Blanket Leaf thrives here in part because the deep, moist, but well-drained soil allows them to maintain a cool root system.

Nearby I notice a low growing shrub with paired bright green divided leaves, rather like plants I knew from the United States. I wonder whether this is a feral escapee from someone's garden. It takes me a moment to recall that this is the Native Elderberry and it is from the same genus, *Sambucus*, as elderberries in Oregon where I grew up.

This is one of two elderberry species that are native to Victoria. Most of the rest of this plant tribe are found in

North America. No wonder my confusion.

Native Elderberry is widespread in distribution and occurrence in southern and eastern Australia but it is rare and localised in the Warrandyte district. In some areas, where the roots are moist all year around, it is evergreen. In other areas, such as Morwell State Park, it dies down to its perennial rootstock in summer and produces annual stems in the spring. It has white fragrant flowers in late spring, early summer and produces yellowish white berries.

These berries are edible and were known to be eaten by Aboriginals. I have been told that they are rather astringent and don't develop the sweetish taste until they are in the very last stages of

ripening. Apparently they do germinate readily from seed, taking about a month.

But there is one more reason for me to be fond of this plant. As I looked back in my photos I found I had photographed the beautiful Metallic Shield bug amongst the flowers and berries of Native Elderberry in 2009.

This colourful bug is a member of the Jewel Bug family and looks either green or gold, depending upon the angle of the light striking it. The young tend to gather together in groups and go through several developmental stages, each stage with its own distinctive markings. I don't know whether they may be found on other native plants but so far I have seen them only on Native Elderberry.

# Disappearing wundergadgets

THREE-fifteen in the afternoon, and finally the ice on the deck has melted.

The carpet of gumleaves and possum droppings, which this morning were frozen solid to the timber decking, can at last be swept away. That's the theory anyhow. In practice some of the possum poo has gone mushy, and I'm certainly not going to spend half the afternoon conducting rigidity tests ahead of the broom! Maybe I'll just leave things to dry out a bit, although that's not going to happen any time soon. Perhaps I'll just leave it...

The bronzing pigeons weren't seeing the joke, either. Standing in the bird bath, pecking in vain at millet seeds clearly visible on the bottom of the dish beneath a thick layer of ice, they were as cross as two sticks, viscerously protecting their treasure even though they couldn't get at it.

I do love cold sunny weather - an early morning ride out to Warburton through a steaming white landscape was par-

ticularly memorable—but the recent run of below-zero nights has given rise to a few unexpected inconveniences. No time for dawdling in bed in the mornings, watching with fascination one's breath hanging foggily on the icy air. It's taking longer to get out the door these days. Apart from the nuisance of an iced-up windscreen, my hair shampoo has been playing hard to get. It takes a lot of encouragement to get even the smallest squeeze into the palm of my hand. The liquid laundry detergent, too, has solidified into thick lumpy goo that doesn't want to come out of the bottle, even though it comes in such a large container that you'd expect it to be climate-proof.

And the olive oil, which probably lives a bit too close to the kitchen window sill, is looking strangely thick and milky... Grrr!

We get a lot more frost here than we used to, mostly because we've gradually lost much of our eucalypt canopy. At sunrise the hillside sparkles with streaks of white;

our place  
By MARILYN MOORE

by mid-afternoon the grasses have grown cold and heavy with condensation. The colour is weird, a creepy blue-green like faded Kodachrome, and I get the feeling I need to turn a light on as the gloomy light of afternoon sucks out all the colour and shrouds the hillside in shades of grey. You can almost watch the condensation freeze over into another crackling white blanket as the cold air settles and intensifies. Even with the warmest of socks and gloves, toes and fingers complain bitterly if I spend too much time weeding up there.

So when the request came after dark the other night to help look for a missing mobile phone "somewhere up the hill", it wasn't going to be a case of just grabbing gumboots and a torch. I'd come in half an hour earlier, cold and wet and dirty, and had a

lovely hot shower (despite a tussle with the hair shampoo); warm and dry once more, I didn't relish the prospect of venturing out again. A much better idea: what if I stayed indoors by the fire, dialling and re-dialling the number of the missing phone? My beloved is very proud of the fact that his Wundergadget works just about anywhere. Well, this would put it to the test. All he need do was stand halfway up the hill with his ears cocked.

Fifteen minutes later, I heard a shout. Hooray! He'd found it? "O! Have you rung that number yet?" At least a dozen times, Your Honour.

Oh dear, the phone must be out there in the damp somewhere, it definitely wasn't ringing in here and he swore black and blue it had been in his pocket.

You can probably guess the rest. The truant came to light indoors, eventually, in a dark corner, on its charger, on "mute". So next time anybody even thinks of giving me a hard time about losing something...

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# Entertaining Warrandyte

## 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.

Come along and enjoy a variety of modern covers and old favourites at the Grand Hotel in Yarra Street with the Indigo Paw Quartet, local boys. A great listen. Friday, July 19 at 8pm.

### Gig

Grab a drink and enjoy the music at the RSL in Brackenbury Street. The Riff Masters will be playing on Sunday, July 28 from 4-8pm. Sausage sizzle available. For enquiries phone 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.

### Historical

The 38th annual general meeting of the Warrandyte Historical Society will be held on Sunday, July 20 at 2pm. For more information phone 9844 4684.

### Music

A music program for 0-5 year olds is held every Wednesday at the Uniting Church in Tarroona Avenue, Warrandyte. Sessions of singing, dancing, instruments and relaxation with a professional music therapist, commences at 9.45am and runs for 45 minutes. Morning tea follows. Cost is \$12.50 per session. Call Robyn on 0438 804 381.

### Exhibition

"Thou Art Mum's" upcoming exhibition, showcased at the Eltham Library Community Gallery, from Thursday, July 4 until Monday, August 5. The exhibition is titled "Iconically Australian", features work by 30 local artists, who are also mothers, expressing their ideas and feelings about Australia.

### Talk

Life Circle Australia—Living well through life-threatening illness supported by locals who have lived through the experience. Are you or someone you are caring for, facing life threatening illness? Have you cared for someone close to you at the end of life? A talk will be given at the Neighbourhood House on Wednesday July 24 at 2pm. Gold coin donation. Bookings essential on 9844 1839.

### Watercolours

An experienced artist and tutor, Dorothy Field will help you learn the techniques of watercolour painting in a creative and friendly environment. View examples of Dorothy's beautiful work on our website. Commencing Tuesday, July 30 for five weeks, 1-3pm, at a cost of \$90 (materials not included). Minimum numbers required. Bookings can be made on 9844 1839.

### Drums

A free trial of African and Arabic group drumming classes will be offered at the Warrandyte Community Church on Saturday, July 20 at 11.30am. Affordable term courses will continue after the free introduction. Drums supplied. Beginners are welcome. Info and bookings call Annie 0407 102 578 or email annie@drum-connection.com.au.

### 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 nature based activities within the park, such as National Tree Day propagation on Saturday, July 27 followed by tree planting on National Tree Day on Sunday, 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.

### Singers

The Bellbird Singers are rehearsing each Monday night at the Uniting Church in Tarroona Avenue commencing at 7.45pm. Feel free to join them. No auditions are required. More information on 9844 3924.



## Marney McQueen at the Mechanics

Marney McQueen returns to Warrandyte...via New York, London and Edinburgh! This very talented young woman is an hilarious comedienne, gifted also with an amazing singing voice. She has performed in over 600 shows of Priscilla Queen of the Desert, played Velma von Tussle in Hairspray and Princess Zeena in Cat Steven's musical, Moonshadow. Marney's cabaret show, "Rump Steak at a Vegan BBQ", was a smash hit at the Melbourne Comedy Festival last year and went on to tour London, Sydney and Perth. She last visited Warrandyte as Rosa Waxoffski, the Russian beautician, a most memorable performance. We can only wonder at what she has in store for us this time. Friday July 19, 8pm at the Mechanics Institute Hall. Tickets \$30 per person are on sale online. Light supper provided, wine can be purchased. Profits go to a development project in India. For more information phone Maxine Chapman on 0400 948 334. Online bookings: www.trybooking.com/CZfV.

### RSL

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.

### 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.

## THE SHARP END...

By ROBERT BLACK

EARL LEARNS THAT SOME WOMEN TAKE IRON SUPPLEMENTS...

Strangely Attractive



© www.RobertBlack.com.au/The-Sharp-End



artyfacts

### Nillumbik

The work of the winner of this year's Nillumbik Prize, 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.

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# The Stiggants family in Warrandyte

## history

Who were the Stiggants, after whom the street and a reserve were named? RICHARD MORTON investigates...

**I**N April 1929 the Melbourne *Argus* published an article by LT Luxton on the early days of the Warrandyte goldfield, then fast receding beyond the recall of living memory. "Red Gold; Prize Fights and Lucky Strikes" was based on a number of interviews with members of an earlier generation. One of these was with 77-year-old Henry Stiggants who described his arrival in the district as an 11 or 12-year-old boy:

*I was a mere boy when we set out on the two-day journey to Warrandyte in 1864, but I still laugh when I think of that journey. Bullock wagons were the usual means of transport, but at that time bullocks were scarce, and we were fortunate in securing a team. On the way we met a less fortunate party travelling in a light cart which had been forced to use a lazy old rascal of a horse called "Snookems" as leader with a dehorned bullock, a "poley" as they used to call them, behind it. We travelled with them for quite a long time. Up hill and down dale they went with their strange team, the bullock violently butting the horse every time it dozed off in the shafts, which was pretty frequently.*

Henry was accompanying his father, also Henry Stiggants, and both were to settle permanently in Warrandyte. Although the name is now almost forgotten, the Stiggants family was to have a significant impact on Warrandyte history. Through family records and the archives of the Warrandyte Historical Society it is possible to piece together some of this history. One of the main sources of information on the Stiggants family is the transcript of an interview with the late Mrs Grace Fall, Henry jnr's grand-daughter, recorded on November 8, 1986 and conducted by the late Jo Laurence, erstwhile president of the WHS.



Rose postcard: Panorama of Warrandyte from Pound Road c. 1920s with the township in the distance and the remnants of Stiggants Pomona Orchard in the foreground. (Picture courtesy Warrandyte Historical Society.)

According to Grace Fall's interview, the earliest members of the Stiggants family, Henry Stiggants snr and his wife, Miriam, emigrated from England to South Australia in 1849. Henry snr would have been then about 24. Henry and Miriam had married in England (Isle of Wight) in 1848. Henry Stiggants snr died on April 22, 1905 aged 80 years, suggesting he was born in 1824 or 1825.

Henry jnr was the eldest child of Henry snr and Miriam, born in Adelaide on December 29, 1852. Henry jnr married Amelia (or Emilia) Maria Wilson from Healsville. They were to have five children who survived infancy: Gracie Anne, who married J.H. Victor at the Anglican Church on 14 September 1898, Gertrude Ruth who married Ebenezer Burton of Lilydale on December 23, 1903, and three sons, Henry Ernest Albert, John Harold and George Edwin.

Grace was born October 30, 1912 only child of (John) Harold Stiggants, son of Henry jnr, and Mabel Crooks. She was the last descendant of Henry Stiggants and his three sons to carry the family name.

Apart from these family recollections, the main sources of information about the Stiggants family in the WHS archives are the newspaper and journal records collected and

collated by Murray Houghton. These are now available as searchable computer files. A search of these records covering the period 1845 to 1940 under "Stiggants" produces 1051 hits. The earliest mention of the name comes, not in reference to an individual but to a location, "Stiggants Flat", in 1865. Where Stiggants Flat was is not clear from these reports but later references (1873) have Stiggants and Party working on a line of reef "between the river and the road". By 1874, this enterprise has become "Stiggants and Holloway" and by 1875 the site of their endeavours is described as "a claim where Parson's Gully enters Elliott's freehold". This makes it fairly easy to locate; Parson's Gully is one of the ephemeral creeks that flows north into the Yarra between the village and Jumping Creek, and Elliott's freehold is Thompson's pre-emptive right, part of the original Dawson and Selby cattle station taken up in the early 1840s. This places it close to the site of the later Caledonia mine at the end of Tills Drive (or Selby Avenue) that was to achieve some prosperity in the early 1900s.

The mining activities of Henry snr and his partners appear to have been moderately successful. Numerous reports appeared in the press of re-

munerative returns from quartz and diorite crushing on the company's Pig Tail leases between 1874 and the early 1880s. It is probable that Henry jnr had joined his father early in this period; the list of ratepayers for the Shire of Bulleen shows Henry jnr as a householder in August 1875 and gives his occupation as miner.

Most of the 1051 hits in Murray's records refer to the activities of Henry jnr in local government. He was first elected to the Bulleen Shire Council in 1883, when he would have been about 30 years of age, and continued as a councillor (with short breaks) until his retirement from the Templestowe Shire Council in 1906. (His name appears as early as 1876 as attending council meetings although it is not clear if he was an elected representative at this early stage.)

Some time in the late 1870s or early 1880s it would appear that the Stiggants, father and son, began to diversify from mining, acquiring—as did many of their peers—land adjacent to the township. There was considerable speculation in land in Victoria in the 1880s—a time of spectacular land boom—and it is probable that much of the land purchased around Warrandyte was taken up with the prospect of financial gain, although some was certainly put to productive

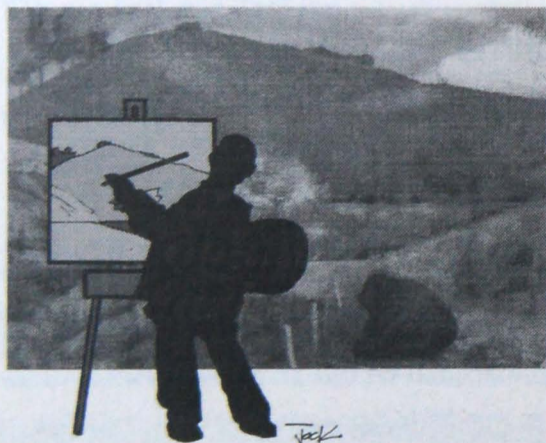
use in fruit growing. An 1888 map of the Parish of Nillumbik in the State Library of Victoria shows blocks sold about this time to residents of Warrandyte. Family names include Sloan, Speers and Stiggants. Henry Stiggants' name appears on a large swath of property running from the bottom of what is now the Research Road at Stony Creek due north to Weller's on the Eltham to Kangaroo Ground Road. What use was made of this land, or how long the Stiggants's held it is unclear.

Stiggants property south of the river is better documented. Cr Stiggants is reported as holding land adjacent to the Pound Road in 1883 and much of his activity in council was concerned with improving access and road maintenance in this area. Grace Fall remembers the extent of this Stiggants property, later owned by her father Harold, as being bounded by the old main road (the line from Melbourne Hill via Houghton Road to the Golden Gate and Andersons Creek) to the south, the Recreation Reserve to the east, the river to the north and Pound Road to the west. Henry jnr passed this property to his son Harold in about 1910.

In June 1919, J.H. (Harold) Stiggants sold this land to the Closer Settlement Board, an initiative of the Victorian government designed to make more land available for agricultural settlement, for £3100. Then known as Stiggants Pomona Orchard, it had an area of 109 acres and, together with the adjacent Pound Bend Reserve, was subdivided into approximately 30-acre lots for soldier settlers.

With the sale of the Pomona Orchard in 1919 and the removal of the Harold Stiggants family to Shepparton, the Stiggants family name virtually disappeared from Warrandyte. The name of course lives on in various street and place names, often with the final "s" carelessly omitted. The title deed for the block of land next to the Anglican Church lists Miriam Stiggants as the first owner but the street address is now Stiggant Street. The late Mrs Grace Fall, Miriam's great-granddaughter, petitioned Manningham council to have the street sign changed, but without success.

## Diary's Karen wins ekphrastic poetry comp



NOT wasting any time in her retirement, *Diary* poet Karen Throssell was recently presented with third prize in the Nillumbik Councils' national ekphrastic poetry competition. Ekphrasis, (in case you didn't know) is the practice of defining one art form with another. So you could compose music to describe a painting, or paint a picture about a poem, or in this instance write a poem about a piece of art.

Nillumbik council has an impressive art collection which it rarely

has the opportunity (or the space) to exhibit, so for this competition it displayed twelve pieces from its collection and invited poets around Australia to write a 12 line poem about that which inspired them. They made it extra complicated by insisting that each poem include the elements: earth, fire water and air...

They chose the best poem for each work of art and awarded monetary prizes for the best three. All of the works and the accompanying poems have been reproduced in sets

of postcards, to be found in cafes, and public places all over Nillumbik (and in Warrandyte too...)

Karen's poem *The Artist's Muse* was written about a painting (*The Domain*) by former Warrandyte resident and now prominent Australian artist Rick Amor. As she is familiar with both the artist (who is bald...) and his work (which is famous for its brooding intensity and sense of threat) she decided to include the artist and his normal painting style in the poem.

### Black Bull (The Domain Rick Amor)

#### The Artist's Muse

Ah Taurus, surveying your domain:  
your distant stream, your rolling 'English' hills  
that rusty slash of desert memory.

Big, black, implacable.  
your fat back turned, contemptuous—  
This bald man with his easel

does not phase you.  
If anything, he should feel worried.  
Despite his harmless green, frothy blossom,

we know he's obsessed by 'threat':  
frail fence, dusty ancient hills – decadent somehow.  
Sky and bull looming.

#### Ominous

I was chased by a bull once, but being young, fast  
and near a fence, I escaped, knowing  
with all that cape flapping (red for passion, red for blood)  
they're volatile.

So of course even a reclining bull, contained, cat-like  
quietly surveying his domain  
back turned, indifferent—  
seems threatening.

Why? Because he is large, black, powerful?  
Is incensed by having his least favourite colour flapped  
in his face?  
Or is he like snakes, sharks, and spiders just going  
about their business—  
always ominous?

#### Not John Bull

Poor Taurus, you inhabit  
an erased English landscape:  
earth mainly bald, yes, but for a defiant line  
of trees, marching single file up a slope.

Hills rolling, yes, but disrupted by a surprise slash  
of Kimberley rust, surrounded by eroded folds.  
No babbling brook, but there is water—  
a brown glimpse. Not enough.

Green, yes, but even the green is wrong—  
like dusty parchment from an older place.  
And this black bull, implacable, surveying his domain.  
Thinkin.

# Good call, umpire Tez

what's your story!

OVER the years Terry Pieper has heavily involved himself in several different areas of the Warrandyte community, from being on school councils to junior footy, to organising activities at the Warrandyte Festival.

But one of his great loves is netball umpiring and training those who want to become umpires. He has been an accredited netball trainer for more than 15 years and also tests trainee umpires for their badges.

Terry believes that during this time he has trained hundreds of budding umpires.

It's a passion that requires fitness, a willingness to learn and dedication and contrary to what many might think, he says training umpires can be more rewarding than playing the game.

"I love umpiring but training umpires is the most rewarding because you see them really grow and develop their skills and I get to pass my knowledge onto kids. I feel like the luckiest bloke in the world," Terry said.

"You've got to be motivated, that's for sure. You have to keep going and as an umpire you're always learning new things. It's no different to any other sport when you play a good game - you get the same sort of sense of satisfaction when you umpire well."

Although many of the umpires in training are about 14 years old and are usually players, Terry told the *Diary* he is living proof that anybody of any age can become a netball umpire - so long as they are physically capable and interested in the game.

"Fitness is quite important because it's a very fast game," he said. "It's just like any sport, you have to work really hard and I work harder than a centre player."

Terry was in his 30s when he started umpiring and says he is always learning something new. He was first introduced to netball when his daughter started playing in her younger years, yet she stopped playing and he was the one that continued on.

"I was one of those dads on the sideline who used to question things



Umpires in the making: Terry Pieper with some up and coming umpires.

and one day one of the ladies from Warrandyte told me if I wanted to know more then I should sign up as an umpire, and as a joke I said yes. Then the next week I signed up and I've never looked back. If I can do it, anyone can do it."

Terry says umpiring isn't only a great way to get young people experiencing social or family issues to focus on something positive, but it gives them work and life skills, such as confidence, management and decision-making skills.

"You have parents on the sideline who don't understand the game or an umpire's decision and even coaches challenge it," he explained. "We have zero tolerance for any abuse towards umpires but I guess that's the underlying fear. The young ones are often afraid of making a mistake but we give them the confidence to overcome those issues."

"Umpiring is all about giving them the skills to make a decision and interpret situations on a court to keep the game flowing. They also must

be able to withstand any potential criticism."

Umpire trainees spend six to eight weeks with a mentor, learning the ropes before having a go at umpiring independently for a couple of weeks.

Terry said umpiring is a great way for young people to earn an income, while it can even be a great part time job for parents.

When he's not umpiring or training umpires, you will find Terry is at the Blue Tongue Café in Warrandyte. He's owned the popular café at Goldfields

Shopping Centre for two and a half years and he says there's no place he'd rather be than Warrandyte.

"I love Warrandyte. We are the luckiest people in Melbourne because we are a very strong community. My family and I actually moved to Donvale for a couple of years but then we came back because we missed it so much."

He encourages anybody interested in netball umpiring to contact Warrandyte Netball Club president Sue Rodwell on 0419 344 245.

## Grand final fever for Warrandyte tennis girls



By MICHELLE PINI

SINCE the autumn 2012 return to the Diamond Valley Tennis Association Friday night competition, Warrandyte Tennis Club has been long waiting for its first grand final appearance and it finally came to fruition last month when the Section 6 team of Kelsey Horton, Imogen Maillardet, Zoe Stafford and Katie Waugh (pictured right) defeated Diamond Creek United Church Red team in the semi-final at Taroona Avenue.

The girls were catapulted into the grand final after a convincing victory over Diamond Creek Red 41 games to 30.

On grand final day, however, in a tough and robust contest against top-of-the-ladder team Diamond Creek United Church Blue, the Warrandyte girls were not able to secure the flag and the top ranked team proved too formidable, defeating Warrandyte 46 - 21.

Meanwhile, Warrandyte brought home a winning pennant after the Fernree Gully and District Ladies Tennis Association Thursday grand final was played earlier this month. The Section 9 team was undefeated all season, but were not taking any chances as they went into the grand final.

The team comprised Nanette Cur-



ruthers, Lois Windridge (captain), Mandy Bence, Pat Allgood and Angela Dziedzic (pictured left) and they had defeated Monbulk by only nine games the last time the teams met.

But the Warrandyte aces were much more comfortable in the grand final defeating Monbulk 45 games to 23 games, winning five of the six sets.

Our 'guru' recognised

WARRANDYTE coach Craig Haslam was a finalist at the Victoria Tennis Awards in the Coaching Excellence at a Club or Centre category. The prestigious awards evening was held at the

Melbourne Cricket Club Dining Room late last month and attended by Craig together with WTC president Neil Sproat and junior convenor Tony Honeyborne and partners.

Although Craig did not take home the award, he described the club's inclusion and nomination in this awards event as "much appreciated" and said "it is an added incentive for us all to strive for excellence at WTC".

Flood of juniors

WARRANDYTE Coach Craig Haslam welcomed changes to junior tennis coaching and competition formats that he says will attract a "flood of new junior players". Improvements to junior tennis include shorter formats and earlier starts as well as modified conditions including racquets and balls commensurate with physical size and ability, allowing children as young as seven to play competition tennis.

The changes are attracting many junior participants with 30 new members signed up and more expected.

In-house competitions as well as inter-club tournaments are offered on Friday nights and Saturday and Sunday mornings.

Contact Craig Haslam on 0488 722538 or info@thetennisinguru.com.au for further information.

AS previewed in last month's *Diary*, a local team comprising Paul Gruber, Karina Vitiritti, Angus Rodwell and Brendan Hills competed in the Mountain Designs Geoquest 48hr adventure race held in Harrington.

The event is a non-stop 48-hour adventure race that includes disciplines of trekking, mountain biking, sea kayaking and swimming. All teammates stay together for the entire race and attempt all legs of the course.

The course this year included 45km kayaking, 56km trekking, a 500m swim and 108km mountain bike. Teams use navigation skills to find checkpoints hidden in the bush along the way and choose the fastest route based on the maps provided to them. The terrain is generally rough and hilly, with 6000m of vertical gain covered over the course. The team faced impenetrable vegetation, swamps, leeches, cliffs, and a swim across a tidal river. A shark was even spotted by a few teams during the ocean kayak.

Adding to the challenges, sleep is generally not considered in an adventure race of this length.

"If you are sleeping," says team Topgear Cycles captain Paul Gruber, "then you are not moving forwards, and you are probably losing your position on the leaderboard. It's a sport that really tests your limits, both physically and mentally. I am continually amazed at seeing what our bodies are capable of doing."

"Overall, we were extremely pleased with our race."

Topgear Cycles finished the course in 39 hours and 25 minutes, placing an impressive 12th position overall, and eighth in the premier mixed category in what is regarded as Australia's premier adventure race.

# All for one, and one for all



Adventure seekers: Angus Rodwell, Karina Vitiritti, Brendan Hills and Paul Gruber (below) represented team Topgear Cycles. Pictures: James Pitman.

## TWO DAYS IN THE LIFE OF A GEOQUEST ADVENTURE RACE SURVIVOR

THE *Warrandyte Diary* asked Angus Rodwell to provide a first-hand account of the team's experience. This is his report on the challenging event:

It all sounded like a great Queen's birthday long weekend challenge to compete in Australia's premier adventure race when Paul Gruber pitched the idea to me. A few weeks before the race, however, two questions still puzzled me.

Can you really race non-stop for 48 hours without sleep? And how long before we'd begin battling with the dreaded "sleep monsters"? These questions stuck unnervingly in the back of my mind as the team travelled the 1200km together from Melbourne to Harrington NSW (Just below Port Macquarie) by car to reach the start line.

Our team comprised three Warrandyte residents, Paul Gruber, Karina Vitiritti and me, along with Brendan Hills (a previous racing partner of Paul's). We were joined in Harrington by a gun support crew of fellow adventurers—Phillipa Birch and Gary Angee. We would all join forces to take on the "Geo".

Between them my teammates had adventure racing experience in various locations across Australia and overseas. This race was to be my introduction to the sport. Nothing like jumping in the deep end, eh? What was I doing here? I may have been low on race experience, but I made up for it through many hours of YouTube research. It made me confident that, if nothing else, I knew previous races inside out, what teams we needed to beat, and I could talk the talk. So I felt a degree of comfort as we walked into the Geoquest HQ to register.

Adventure race organisers deliberately don't disclose the actual course until the night before the race starts. This ensures everyone is kept guessing and can't pre-plan. All we really knew was that the disciplines would require continual compass navigation (No GPS or mobile phones permitted) and involve sea kayaking, river kayaking, trekking, swimming and mountain biking over approximately 200km. Until we received the maps and 30 orienteering checkpoint locations, we didn't know what order or how far each stage would be. We didn't even know where we would start from!

The excitement levels inside the Harrington Hotel built as the organisers finally gave the pre-race briefing and handed out the maps. Into the evening, we highlighted tracks and possible routes, applied contact to protect the maps from water and packed our copious quantities of energy bars, gels and



powders supplied by our very generous sponsor Topgear Cycles.

With only several hours before the starter's gun, we settled in for our last sleep of the weekend before an early rise to a dark drizzling Saturday morning. Race day had finally arrived.

### Stage 1: 16km ocean paddle.

After a quick run from the start at Crowdy Heads lighthouse to get our hearts racing, we started paddling from headland to headland off the coast in some large and tricky swells. While others battled with capsize and the cold, Team Topgear Cycles stayed upright (just) and reached the safety of the beach. So far so good.

### Stage 2: 19km trek with a 500m swim in the middle.

"Look after your feet" my YouTube research had told me, so keeping dry shoes and socks was a priority. But after only 3km of trekking, the lovely coastal tracks turned to knee-deep swamps that lasted several kilometres. All I could think of were the horror stories I had heard about severe blisters! After a freezing cold mid-hike large tidal river crossing, we battled barbed wire and leech-filled swamps, then scaled a small mountain before we descended quickly back to sea level ready for another kayak.

### Stage 3: 16km upstream river paddle.

Setting off at Laurieton against the tide and over the mud flats, we paddled our arms off zigzagging across the map

locating our checkpoints before finally arriving just after dusk at Ross Glen.

### Stage 4: 15km trek.

After changing into warm dry clothes, but wet shoes, we quickly devoured a banana roll and some raisin bread. Eager to warm up we then set off into the night with backpacks and head torches for a hilly 15km. After six hours of hill climbing and bush bashing through vines and over waterfalls without a break (do we ever get a break?!) we arrived at transition to our support crew's gourmet feast of braised chicken, vegies and rice and some very nice strong coffee.

### Stage 5: 50km MTB ride.

It was midnight by now and we were still all going strong with no talk of sleep. (Although, admittedly, it had very briefly crossed my mind!) The night ride started badly with our control card left at the transition that was back on top of the hill we had just descended. We lost a few places, so put down the hammer to recover the lost time. The ride was full of big steep hills and deep creek crossings, lots of mud and many overgrown tracks that were not even rideable (affectionately known as "hike-a-bike" sections). As dawn finally arrived we cruised into our next transition at a popular campground to the sound of a snoring tent city and timed our run beautifully for our breakfast. We grabbed Weet-Bix, milk and banana in a snaplock bag (we were now really racing!) and more beautiful strong coffee. Then it was a quick change out of our bike shoes and into the trekking gear

ready for Stage 6, only 18km long. This would be nice! Or so we thought...

### Stage 6: trek 18km.

As the sun came up, we found ourselves on riverside walking tracks that definitely hadn't had a customer in over a decade and Lantana vines that were out to trip your every move. We climbed (at times on hands and knees) up steep peaks and searched valleys for a few sneakily placed checkpoints. A navigational glitch trying to find CP18 added some extra distance, but we quickly recovered, cracked a few jokes and after a quick blister treatment stop-jogged the last 8km into Comboyne where our support crew had made fresh pikelets. What a welcome sight after a seven-hour stage in the bush.

### Stage 7: MTB 38km.

After close to three hours of grinding uphill tracks we were rewarded by some spectacular views over the valley (yes, we took the time for a quick photo) and breathtaking fast descents that kept the eyes wide open and the team morale high. But as the sun went down again I realised we still had three stages to go. More water, bars and gels and definitely some more caffeine was required, however, we wouldn't see our support crew until the start of the final stage! I'd have to dig deep now.

### Stage 8: trek 5km.

This stage sounded so easy. A quick 5km and we'd be back on the bike. The stage involved splitting into pairs to test

the entire team's navigation skills. All was going well until Paul and I found ourselves climbing down a steep gully over a field of fallen logging trees. After following a creek bed for some time, we then found ourselves assisting an exhausted fellow competitor who had become totally disorientated. Luckily he recovered quickly and we finished the stage together.

### Stage 9: MTB 25km.

At 9.30pm we set off down the hill on our second last mission. More checkpoints, with numerous track junctions to select from and several deep creek crossings, we ended up wading across while carrying the bikes. We were getting tired but kept pushing until we finally reached the river banks for our final stage.

### Stage 10: kayak 16km.

Fuelled by yet another strong coffee (or a can of Coke in Paul's case) and geared up with bright headlights, our final test was in front of us. We fought the sleep monsters by paddling hard, splashing Karina with water, and dodging jumping fish who were dazzled by our bright headlamps. I was sure there was another team chasing us the whole way to the finish but it could well have been sleep-deprived hallucinations. Either way we were not going to get passed at this late stage.

### Finally, the finish line!

We crossed the finish line after a 1km run from the boats with only our super dedicated sleep deprived support team cheering all the way down the main street. It was 11.40pm and no one in Harrington was awake.

Cheering crowd or not, what a feeling it was to cross that finish line after almost 40 hours non-stop on the go. We were so happy to finish as a team, relieved to be in one piece and absolutely stoked to finish over eight hours faster than we expected. Who would have thought beforehand that we could push for so long and still be smiling and laughing all the way to the end. We ended up the 8<sup>th</sup> premier mixed team across the line, in a strong field of experienced teams.

A big thank you to our support team, Phillipa and Gary, Pete from Topgear Cycles and, of course, our families and friends who were able to track our every move on their computers from the warmth of home.

Stay tuned for the next challenge, XPD, a 10-day expedition adventure race being held in the Flinders Ranges in September. Visit [www.XPD.com.au](http://www.XPD.com.au) for more.



# Venom fires up at home

By **TONY OLIVER**

IT was a big weekend recently for Big V basketball when all four Warrandyte Venom teams played in front of big crowds at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre.

The men lined up on the Saturday and the women turned up on the Sunday.

First on court were the Youth League men who looked to have found their way in the past few weeks with a two-game winning streak but who were yet to score a win over the Southern Peninsula Sharks in the two years they have been in the competition. Second versus ninth suggested the Venom should win, but the Sharks had stolen some good wins in recent times.

The opening to the game was frustrating with both sides missing what they should have scored at both ends of the court but midway through the Venom were able to get a free-flowing game going with Joel Rimes scoring heavily in the key.

The quarter-time score favoured the home side 21-13 and things were going to plan. However, someone forgot to tell Southern Peninsula as they started the second quarter well, closing the gap to one point before the Venom were able to re-establish some control to share the points.

The Sharks won the third quarter and when they put pressure on the Venom in the final quarter, an upset was on the cards with the margin down to five.

A three-point swish to Jessie Aitchison with just over three minutes to go was the game breaker with the Venom able to close out the game 71-56.

With Camberwell having probably sewn up top spot and four teams including the Venom chasing the remaining three finals spots, no one can slip up in remaining games.

Leading scorers for the Venom were Joel Rimes and Harry Minifle with 17 points each.

"The game was not as free flowing as it could have been but any win at this stage is a good win," coach Brent Reid said. "We are chasing finals."

The Senior men were next on court, also up against Southern Peninsula.

With two talented sides and a scoreline of 32-29 to the Sharks at the long break, the game was well and truly alive. Neither side was able to put together any flow and players were missing what they normally should get.

However, it was still any team's game with a four-point margin to the visitors at the final break.

A three-point swish to the Venom's Brenton Charles closed the gap to one point but the Sharks replied almost immediately and re-established the four-point margin. Joel Rimes, backing up from the Youth League game, closed the gap to two.

While the Venom were trying valiantly, the game slowly slipped away in the Sharks' favour. Brenton



Charles put the final points on the board for the game with a three but the Sharks took the honours 72-64.

Leading scorers for the Venom were Brenton Charles and Chris Van der Zaag with 16 each, James Hicks with 14 and Vashon Weaver with 10.

Sunday was the girls' turn with Warrandyte taking on Whittlesea in both grades.

The Youth Girls are going through a purple patch with five wins on the trot but the visitors had put two together and the game was expected to be a lot closer than the positions on the ladder suggested.

The first two quarters were dominated by the Venom who held a 33-16 lead at the long break. But early on in the third quarter, the Venom struggled to score any points while Whittlesea closed the gap to single figures. A late burst to the Venom re-established a bigger lead with Whittlesea just taking the points in the period.

Again the Venom seemed to struggle in the fourth quarter but did enough to kick away (61-50) and keep their winning streak going.

Bree Waugh, at point guard, had a blinder for the Venom with 21 points,

with 11 to Maddie Taylor.

The weekend rounded out with third playing fourth in the D1W competition. This was classed as the game of the round but the Venom were in control early leading 23-9 at the first break.

The visitors upped the tempo in the second quarter to take the points and close the gap to 10. However, the Venom were able to close out the game 72-49. Leading scorers for the Venom were Stefany Thomas, Meg Dargan and Rachael Wansbrough with 15 points each.

Moving into the finals in September, the Venom should have three sides in action with both women's teams and the Youth Men.

### Casey hits the ton

AT just 19, Warrandyte Venom's Casey Taylor stepped out for game No.100 recently against Whittlesea, further highlighting the club's large number of young players coming through the women's program.

Already in her sixth season at Big V level, the emerging forward continues to impress and is set to join the likes of Mollie Burke, Meg Dargan and Georgina Werninghaus as long-term

Venom stars over the next decade.

Having coached her since a senior debut back in 2008 as a then 14-year old, Justin Nelson rates Taylor's basketball smarts as a key strength that will ensure longevity in the game at such a high level.

"Casey reads the game so well, she knows how to use her body and is incredibly strong for such a young player," Nelson said. "The fact that she has already reached this milestone and still continues to play in our junior program shows how much she has already developed."

### Friday night domination

WITH about four rounds to go in the Friday night representative basketball competition, Warrandyte Venom could have at least 16 teams in finals action with a couple more with a good chance of scraping in.

One of the teams highly likely to be in finals action is the Under 14 Boys VC side, currently sitting in second place. They took on Werribee, who were sitting sixth and with a need to put some wins together to sneak into the finals.

Werribee opened the game at Warrandyte Community Sports Centre

well but the Venom came back late to trail by 7-10 at the first break.

The Venom were down two players and were struggling against the height of the Werribee side.

The damage was done in the second quarter with Werribee taking the points to lead 24-12 at the long break.

The Venom lifted in the second half and effectively shared the points but Werribee took out the win 37-24.

For the Venom Tyler Robertson with 21, Anthony Hantzipaulis with 7 and Matthew Baynon with 6 were the main contributors.

The following game was the Under 18 Regional Boys, coached by Ian Wood, taking on second-placed Craigieburn. "It's a massive challenge, we are sitting second-bottom," said the coach before the game.

But challenge they did as the Venom took control early and were never seriously challenged. A scoreline of 13-7 at the first break, then 24-10 at the long break didn't reflect the ladder positions of both sides.

A challenge from Craigieburn in the final term put a scare through the Venom camp, especially given they had been run over in the last quarter following solid leads in previous games. But they held on.

Tyler Witnish scored 12, Darcy Trenfield 11 and Lachlan Kershaw 9.

Earlier in the night Warrandyte's Under 16 Girls (playing in Eastern qualifying) recorded a 33-28 win over Melbourne. Top scorers for the Venom were Georgia Aitchison (9), Madeleine Begley (8) and Elyse Lepre (4). Warrandyte welcomed the Melbourne coach - and former Venom player - Jo Metcalfe and her daughter Nikki. Nikki contributed 4 for the losing side.

In the opening match the Under 16 Boys could not overcome a slow start and went down to Kilsyth 27-25 with Mason Witnish scoring 8.

### Saturday teams take a break

THE mid-year break arrived for Saturday basketball with the final games rolling out this month.

Casey Taylor's Under A Grade Girls were down on players with Hayley MacIntyre and Natalie MacDonald having to come up from the Under 15s. Sara Deacon was carrying an ankle injury from her Friday night game.

However, Warrandyte had enough to defeat a Bulleen side 38-27 after leading 24-10 at the break. Natalie MacDonald contributed 13 with 10 to Hayley MacIntyre and 7 to Zoe MacDonald.

At the Croydon Hills home court, the Under 11 A Grade Girls, coached by new coach Damien Nicks, had a good win over Ivanhoe 36-12 to maintain their second place position in the competition.

Meg Dargan, captain of the Senior Women's Big V side, was the referee and commented positively on the skill level of the girls after the game.

Ruby Nicks scored 11, Alicia Callahan (10) and Tilly Hodgson (8) were the main contributors. Lucy Royal's Under 9 D Grade Girls had a terrific win over a visiting Balwyn side 16-1.

## Little aths crew running off the winter chills

WINTER cross country competition continued last month and several young athletes have been achieving some great results including Sam McAuley in the Under 14s, Warrandyte netballer Jessica O'Keefe, Emily Sharpe (pictured right), Emma and Kate McQueeney, and Harriette and Alice Glover.

The Under 15 Girls team ran well at the recent prestigious Box Hill Open Day and collected the teams gold medal with Jessica O'Keefe running a great race with tough competition to win the individual gold medal.

Emily Sharpe has carried on

with her strong summer season of middle distance running highlighted by a first place at Gardiners Creek and a second at the Ringwood cross country day.

In the recent Eastern metropolitan regional competition the Under 8 age group led by Emma and Kate McQueeney ran well with Kate winning a hard-fought teams silver medal.

East Doncaster Little Athletics Club is proudly sponsored by the Warrandyte Community Bank and the parents of participants. For more information contact Margaret Kelly on 0447 693 561 or Peter Sharpe on 0413 777 107.





# Pavilion is on the way

THE demolition is complete and the noise has well and truly begun as Warrandyte Reserve will soon be home to a new, upgraded sporting pavilion to accommodate the Warrandyte Football Club, Warrandyte Junior Football Club, Warrandyte Cricket Club, and Warrandyte Netball Club.

Despite a late start to the works all is on track for a fantastic addition to the sports community come early 2014.

"We are being told that the facility will be completed late January dependant on weather, rock and other variables," Phil Treeby told the *Diary*.

"It would be safer to say it will be opened prior to the end of Cricket Season or for the start of next year's football season."

The existing sporting pavilion at Warrandyte Reserve was demolished last month and is being prepared for the construction of a new two storey pavilion as seen in these artist impressions.

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/canteen, netball locker room and netball club storage on the second level.

A \$2.3 million project, the redevelopment is being funded by Manningham Council (\$1.2 million), Sport and Recreation Victoria (\$800,000), and the Warrandyte Sporting Group incorporating the Warrandyte Junior

Football Club and Warrandyte Netball Club (totaling \$320,000), which includes funding assistance from the Warrandyte Community Bank.

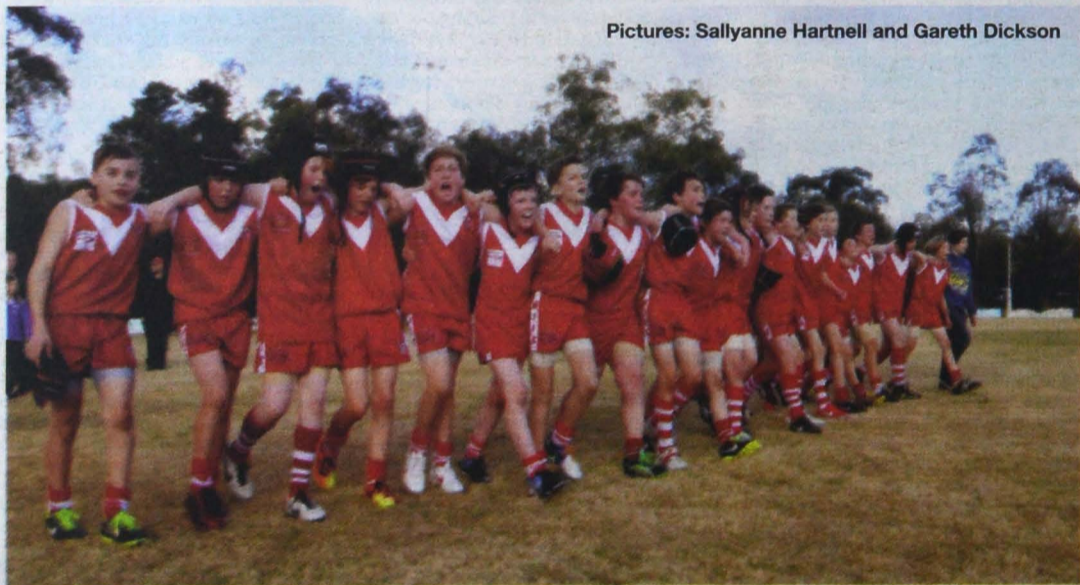
Stay tuned for more updates and photographs in coming months.

## Party time for WJFC

THE Warrandyte Junior Football Club is set to unleash some hair-raising fun at The Retreat on August 3 with their annual function, fundraiser and auction night.

This year's theme is Wigorama and all comers are encouraged to "wear the hair that you've always wanted". The night will feature a live band, finger food, raffles and several items up for auction.

Visit [www.warrandytejfc.org](http://www.warrandytejfc.org) for more info. Meanwhile, the players have been getting down to some serious business on the field as we head towards finals.



Pictures: Sallyanne Hartnell and Gareth Dickson



### Andersons Creek kids in finals

ANDERSONS Creek Primary School has had a fantastic term in the sports arena, according to PE teacher Meredith Thornton.

"All our Grade 5 and 6 students competed in the Templestowe District Inter-school sports competition and the netball team and football team made the finals," she reports.

"Following our school cross country several of our students went on to compete at district, division and then regional level as well," Meredith said.

"Our Grade 1 and 2 students all took part in a full day mini ball incursion.

"The day started in small groups rotating through several skill sessions and then a competition round robin in the afternoon. All Prep to Grade 4 students have also spent four weeks refining their gymnastics skills."

### Subsidies for clubs

SUBSIDIES are being offered to sporting clubs for lifesaving defibrillator units thanks to St John Ambulance Victoria.

St John's Ambulance spokesperson Stephen Horton is calling on sponsors to assist in their goal to equip 2300 Victorian sports clubs with the defibrillator units as part of its Heart Start Program.

Interested clubs should call 8588 8300 or go to [defibssavelives.com.au](http://defibssavelives.com.au).

# Bloods battered and bruised

By MICHAEL DI PETTA

IT was a day to forget for the Bloods at H.E Parker Reserve recently as Heathmont put them to the sword in a game that never really got going for Warrandyte.

Still missing players due to injuries, the Bloods certainly looked undermanned as Heathmont took total control, leading at every change and running out comfortable 82-point winners. The result was the latest in a string of sub-par performances by Warrandyte, which included losses to Boronia and Chirnside Park, leaving the Red and White 11th on the EFL ladder with two wins and nine losses from 11 rounds.

In chilly conditions that were perfect for playing football, the game began superbly for Heathmont with the team's foot skills proving a class above.

Spreading all over the ground with precise passing, the home side was able to score three rapid goals before the Bloods were able to muster a meaningful attempt.

Despite excellent tap work by Warrandyte ruckman Dave Hand giving the midfielders good opportunities, the Bloods were unable to make use of them and disposed of the ball wastefully when entering the forward 50. Heathmont, on the other hand, continued to effectively run and carry the ball down the field and if not for strong efforts by Bloods hard nut Daniel Large would have scored more. However, the home side still went into quarter time leading by 35 points, with Warrandyte yet to record a major.

Left with harsh words from coach John O'Brien still ringing in their ears, the Bloods came out looking like a different side in the second quarter. With an emphasis on raising their effort level and competing at every contest, the Warrandyte players began to hit their straps and started



Catch me if you can: Mitch Gaffney breaks free and slams through a goal against Boronia.

emulating Heathmont's kicking display from the first quarter, pinging accurate passes all over the ground.

Looking dangerous when moving the ball with pace, Mitchell Gaffney finally booted the Bloods' first goal of the game with a kick from the right forward flank. Minutes later, Warrandyte had another major with Dave Hand adding to an already excellent game with a magnificent long bomb. When Gaffney added another from the same position on the ground, the Bloods looked up for the fight, however, Heathmont regained composure to restore its

six-goal advantage and leading 9.9 to Warrandyte's 3.6 at half-time.

Although showing signs of promise in the second quarter, Warrandyte was unfortunately unable to build on it in the third. Despite carving out many chances, the Bloods were extremely wasteful in front of goal and with their ball use, missing shots for goal and leading targets too often to give themselves any hope of making a comeback. This was made more frustrating for the Warrandyte faithful by Heathmont's excellent conversion rate at the other end of the ground, as the home side was able

to trouble the scoreboard on almost every one of the limited occasions they went inside 50. Heathmont held a 60-point lead at the final change.

With little more then pride to play for in the final term, Warrandyte did manage to limit Heathmont's scoring, with Josh Eyre and Dave Hand in particular finishing the game strongly. In what had become a common theme throughout the game, Warrandyte was unable to reap the full reward for their ruck dominance and didn't manage to trouble the scoreboard in any meaningful way. As a spectacle, the contest had become a slightly

scrappy affair, and when the final siren sounded it was Heathmont who ran out a comfortable winner 15.12.102 to Warrandyte 3.12.30.

### Reserves do it tough

The results for the Warrandyte Reserves mirrored those of the senior side in rounds 9-11, suffering a 78-point loss at the hands of Boronia and losing by 41 and 49 points to Chirnside Park and Heathmont respectively. That being said, the Reserves still have plenty to play for and will look to improve their ladder position in the back half of the season, currently sitting 11th after recording three wins and eight losses.

### U19s bring some joy

In contrast to the other two Warrandyte sides, the Under 19s were able to provide their fans with some winning footy, responding well to a 58-point loss to Boronia to win by 68 points against Chirnside Park. More impressively, the U19s demolished Heathmont by 131 points, conceding only one goal in four quarters of football. Those results see the U19s sitting in seventh place, with four wins and six losses.

At the time the *Diary* went to print the Bloods were set to host Wantirna South at Warrandyte Reserve.

### RESULTS

**Round 9:** Warrandyte 6.6.42 lost to Boronia 14.15.99. Goals: M. Gaffney 2, G. Hitchman, D. Hand, B. Taylor, M. Morello. Best: C. Johnstone, J. Eyre, M. Gaffney, D. Hand, D. Large, A. White.  
**Round 10:** Warrandyte 6.11.47 lost to Chirnside Park 21.13.139. Goals: T. Hookey 2, M. Morello 2, S. Patroni, R. Pascoe. Best: D. Large, L. Saunders, D. Hand, M. Gaffney, M. Chimenton, J. Eyre.

**Round 11:** Heathmont 15.12.102 d Warrandyte 3.12.30. Goals: M. Gaffney 2, D. Hand. Best: M. Gaffney, D. Hand, J. Eyre, M. Morello, D. Large, T. Beasley.

# Warrandyte laces up for a cause

By MICHAEL DI PETTA and SCOTT PODMORE

TO the Warrandyte Football Club faithful, coaches, players and community, Round 9's clash last month against Boronia was more than just a football game. It was a similar situation over at the Templestowe netball courts as our netballers also played their part in the fight against street violence.

On an emotional day at Warrandyte Reserve, Warrandyte Football Club players wore orange laces in a show of support for the 'Step Back. THINK' lace up campaign. For the home club, it was particularly significant in honouring the memory of a well-known Bloods supporter and former Warrandyte High School student David Cassai, who tragically lost his life after a being assaulted in an incident in Rye.

The club became one of 400 across the nation to support Step Back THINK to raise awareness about street violence. Cassai, who was only 22, was a close friend of many Warrandyte players, and the club saw the campaign as a way to not only to take a stand against street violence, but also honor and make a statement on behalf of David.

Gareth Hitchman, a key member of the senior side and a close personal friend of David's, talked of the club's motivations for backing the campaign.

"For most of us, it's just good to raise awareness, because it's something that can happen to anyone," he said.

The day was seen as a way to send a message to some of the young players at the club.



"I guess it shows some of the younger lads that it only takes one punch, and it can have serious consequences, not just affecting the family but also the whole community," Hitchman said. "David's mum was really excellent, she came to join us after the game and gave us all a hug, the whole thing really meant a lot to

us," Hitchman said. Warrandyte and many other local based football clubs hope that by giving their support to the campaign they can encourage young people to think more about the aftermath and repercussions of their actions, and hopefully see street violence wiped out. Nearby at Templestowe, Warran-



dyte Netball Club's senior players (Open and Under 17) also "laced up" with orange laces to support the Step Back THINK campaign. "We had just under 70 girls lace up," president Sue Rodwell said. "The campaign was also supported by other local sporting clubs to create awareness to stop street violence.

"It was great to see so many willing young girls to help participate in spreading the critical message, by wearing the laces and sharing their photos on social media to help spread the message further. "The more people are aware, hopefully the more incidents we can all help prevent."



# LANDFIELD

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## 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 Gilholms milkbar it continued as a well known attraction until 1975 when Folkart originated. Approx. 1094m<sup>2</sup>, freehold only for sale protected by a heritage overlay. Outstanding potential for subdivision/commercial/development possibilities (all STCA).

3 1 0



## WARRANDYTE

### Style, Space, Views in Abundance!

Immediately appealing—solid clinker, approx 1100m<sup>2</sup>. Panoramic Mt Dandenong/Yarra Valley views, quality court, entertain family and friends by the impressive lounge/dining, OFP, wide balcony reveals magnificent outlook! Well equipped Blackwood kitchen/meals/family area. Study. 3 robed bedrooms including main/modern ensuite/WIR, bathroom, 2 powder rooms. Down stairs independent accommodation, living room/2nd main bedroom-ensuite. Quality inclusions. Near Goldfields Plaza, schools, National Park.

4 3 2



## WARRANDYTE

### Bright Interiors, Alfresco Delights

Fabulous family home complemented by outstanding alfresco living. Everything completed, comprising multi-function open living room, contemporary cooks kitchen-dining, zoned master suite/retreat/WIR/upgraded ensuite, refurbished bathroom, office, rumpus/5th bedroom. Private entertaining area, large IG pool/spa/decking, storage, GDH, Ilve appliances, Tas oak floors. Bamboo terrace, S/S balustrades, workshop, new fencing, roof sprinklers and pump, bitumen OSP. Useable allotment approx 2605m<sup>2</sup>.

4 2 2



## Lions Club of Warrandyte Inc.

Meets Bi-monthly

**Support Lions!** Lions are about giving back to their communities and supporting medical research, people with disabilities, emergency relief and leadership development through its projects and activities. But we cannot do it alone - we need you to help. Visit our web site to learn more.

[www.lionsclubwarrandyte.org.au](http://www.lionsclubwarrandyte.org.au)

