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# **The WARRANDYTE STORY**

**1855-1955**



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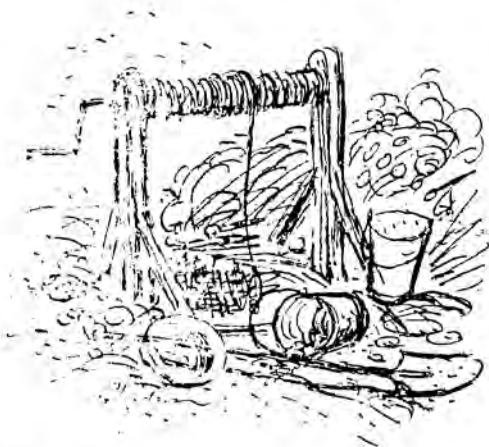


LOUIS MICHEL

*who found the first gold in Victoria  
at Warrandyte.*

The  
WARRANDYTE  
STORY  
1855-1955

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Compiled by  
LOUIS CRANFIELD

Written and Illustrated by  
HARRY HUDSON



# JACK McAULEY

President Warrandyte Cricket Club 1955.  
Mr. McAuley has played for and supported  
the Club since his boyhood.

The  
WARRANDYTE  
STORY

is published by

WARRANDYTE  
CRICKET  
CLUB

on the occasion

of its

CENTENARY

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## FOREWORD

Warrandyte's history has been contemplated by many writers at various times, but for one reason or another has remained suspended in contemplation.

For the past three years, however, Louis Cranfield has dug, delved and immersed himself in masses of old papers, files, and records connected with Warrandyte and surrounding districts. His object has been a full-length book on Victoria's first goldfield.

Obviously, in this short volume, it was necessary that much of his material should be condensed. Consequently, without detracting in any way from our story, some material has been omitted to allow for the highlights. The Chronology makes up for, and fills in, the gaps.

It is with pride, therefore, that we take advantage of the Warrandyte Cricket Club Centenary—one of the oldest clubs in the State—to pay tribute to our pioneers and tell something of Warrandyte's past. At the same time, we feel we are making a contribution towards the recorded history of Victoria. Up to now Australians have not been noted for their historic-mindedness, but it must be admitted that one cannot *make* history and record it at the same time. With over 150 years behind us, we are rapidly becoming interested in our past, with its cause and effect. Thus, we begin to achieve the maturity needed for nationhood.

And it is fitting that cricket should form part of the theme of this book, for it has played its part in developing the democratic social life of this district.

The committee have been greatly heartened at the support given it by so many members of our community, and trust this little book may give some quiet enjoyment for many years to come. In publishing it, we are conscious of the fact that we are again contributing to history, without the gold which began it all, over 100 years ago.

HARRY E. HUDSON.

TRANS-AUSTRALIA AIRLINES

*in its 10th year*

*congratulates*

WARRANTYTE

*on its 100 years of progress*

"Fly **TAA** -the friendly way"

## CHAPTER ONE

### GOLD

The Warrandyte Story begins on May 26, 1851, with an almost obscure paragraph in the Melbourne Daily News.

Gold had been discovered at Bathurst, New South Wales.

Within a week, Melbourne's whole future was threatened as people left their jobs and deserted the city in a mass. The gold rush was on. Edward Hargreaves, later recognised as the first discoverer of gold in Australia, had unearthed a few specks at Bathurst on February 12 of that year.

With Melbourne almost paralysed by the mass desertion to New South Wales, the Mayor, Ald. William Nicholson, acted fast. He formed a Gold Discovery Committee of leading citizens, offering £200 reward for gold discovered within 100 miles of the capital.

Almost immediately after the Committee's announcement, two parties set out to search the area around the Upper Yarra and Plenty Ranges.

One party, led by Henry Frencham, a reporter from the Melbourne Times, caused excitement when the Argus, on June 13, 1851, with more enthusiasm than fact, announced gold in the Plenty Ranges. Unfortunately, the assays were negative. In fairness to Frencham, however, the well-known historian, Isaac Selby, in his "Pioneers Memorial History of Melbourne", makes the point that his "find" was made on the exact spot later occupied by the Caledonian Mine at Warrandyte.

The second party, led by Louis Michel, proprietor of the Rainbow Hotel, Swanston Street, Melbourne, was more fortunate. With a companion, William Habberlin, Michel made camp at a spot where the main road now crosses Anderson's Creek, on June 29, 1851.

Next morning, working their way a short distance up creek, they saw rock formation with a vein of quartz running through it. In great excitement they began digging and soon bottomed. Scraping earth into a dish

they panned off—one can imagine with what frantic care—and revealed specks of gold. The first gold discovered in Victoria!

How he "struck it rich", is best told in Louis Michel's own words:

"In company with Mr. Habberlin, I left my hotel about 4 a.m., in order to elude any prospectors who had inclination to follow. We made direct to the Ranges by way of Barkers Road (now Whitehorse Road or Maroondah Highway). After trying the creeks and gullies for several days, our stock of supplies was running low. There being no chance of replenishing them, we were forced to face about for town. Not knowing exactly our position, we determined to follow some creek down to the Yarra, and in doing so, a particular bend, under a steep bank, led me to think that the creek had not always run on its present course. If gold were to be found it seemed a likely place. Taking a spade and pick, I crossed the creek into the bend. Habberlin, in the meantime, lit a fire, and slung the billy. I proceeded to remove the surface for about four feet square, having got into the second spit. I called to Habberlin to bring the dish and gave him strict instructions to wash the earth carefully away until the last few grains were left in the dish.

"Do you see anything, Bill?" said I.

After once or twice saying 'No', he suddenly exclaimed, 'Your Worship, here's the clickety!'

Eagerly examining the residue we found it contained ten small grains of gold."

Michel reported to the Gold Discovery Committee on July 16, who had three chemists make separate tests. Each testified to its being gold. Two days later Michel advertised in the "Argus" and the "Herald" for a person interested in exploiting the newly found goldfield.

On August 6, a Wednesday, Michel and the Commissioner of Crown Lands, M. A. Fenwick, with 40 prospectors, set off for Anderson's Creek. Although the hole dug by Michel was full of water, all were satisfied by tests that the area was auriferous. So the creek was dammed and within the first three hours, despite in-

sufficient equipment, more than 40 pieces of gold—some as large as peas—were found.

By Friday more than 150 miners were at work, over an area of 3 miles from Jumping Creek to Harris Gully, with Michel camped a short distance down-creek from the present Memorial Cairn. The State's first goldfield was called "Victoria", after the newly-named colony, which became an autonomous State on July 1, 1851.

A "black-bearded and bewhiskered demon" by the name of Mr. Ginger became Victoria's first goldfield storekeeper that day. This woodcutter whose appearance belied his name, was apparently a most enterprising individual. He opened a store, served hot and cold joints with home-made bread at an open-air cafe and erected commodious huts for horses. A much surer way of acquiring gold than digging for it. Ginger had already met Michel's party a month earlier. Mistaking them for run-away sailors, he had advised them to make for Brighton where a certain market-gardener would give them employment.

At a meeting that night, it was agreed to allot 10 yards of creek to each man as his claim, so that all should have an equal chance of success. Australia's first Miners' Rights were thus established at Anderson's Creek.

When Commissioner Fenwick returned to the field on August 14, licences were issued at 30/- each. Although Michel, after consultation with the diggers suggested 10/-, Fenwick was adamant in his demand for 30/-. There was nothing else for it but to pay up or get out—a not uncommon procedure by government officials in those days.

Rain interfered with work on the field during this period, causing the prospectors to lose heart. The weather picture has not changed much, as we who live here know. So it was not surprising that the flooded goldfield should be all but abandoned before the end of the year. Even the enterprising Mr. Ginger cleared off to Mount Alexander. However, two men and three gold Commissioners stayed on, which was fair proof that *someone* had faith in the field. In all, 386 miners visited the field between August and December.

The spiritual side was not forgotten during the scramble for gold. The Rev. J. H. Gregory and Rev. Cheyne held

divine services in the tents of Michel and Habberlin. So in some ways Warrandyte got off to a good start.

Although Michel received the reward of £200 and later, in 1854, £1,000 from the Legislative Council, he gleaned very little on the actual goldfield, and had his tent and belongings destroyed by fire.

Louis J. Michel, the father of Warrandyte, was of French descent, his ancestors having migrated to Surrey, England, some time prior to the French Revolution. In 1839, in company with his uncle, he landed in Melbourne at the age of 14 years, where he began life in the Colony as an assistant to a Collins Street grocer. He must have lived rather frugally and saved his money, for, on October 21, 1844, he married a Miss Alicia Ball in old St. James' Cathedral, and shortly afterwards became proprietor of the Rainbow Hotel, Swanston Street. Later he took over the Ship Inn, Williamstown—one of Victoria's earliest hotels. Retiring from the hotel business in 1881, he became Rates Collector for Melbourne City Council. Towards the end of the century Michel was a wealthy property owner in and around Melbourne—a "solid citizen". He lost heavily in the Land Boom during the eighties, but managed to live fairly comfortably at Lygon Street, Carlton, until his death on September 21, 1904. So passed Louis Michel, the founder of Victoria's first goldfield at Anderson's Creek—later to be known as Warrandyte.

On November 9, 1935, a commemorative Cairn was unveiled by the late W. Everard, M.L.A., bearing the words, "Gold found here, January, 1851, by Louis Michel and Party. Rewarded by Government as discoverer of the first goldfield in Victoria."

## CHAPTER TWO

### BEGINNINGS

Warrandyte, only 18 road miles from Melbourne—or 112 miles by the twisting, convolutions of the Yarra River—has retained the charm and old world qualities which have made it one of the city's nearer beauty spots. In the hurly-burly of modern life it is still the retreat of artists, writers, craftsmen and craftswomen who need quiet to think and work.

Like most mining towns there was roystering jollity during its boom days. Then came the slump, causing a settling into "sleepy hollow". Now it has entered the new era of closer settlement. City workers have made their homes here, gradually creating a Warrandyte of permanence, a community with a sense of civic pride—even though they are modern bush-dwellers.

Except for stories and legends in abundance, almost nothing remains of the old days. Fire, flood and the hand of man have destroyed old buildings and all things historical. The water-wheels have gone. Now the wooden bridge, which has spanned the Yarra on its high trestle legs for 80 years, has been replaced by a modern concrete structure. All this is regretted by some, but in the scheme of things it is inevitable if Warrandyte is to survive.

The bush-clad cliffs bordering the Yarra, the wooded hills, the distant mountain vistas and the massed wattle-blossom in spring—these cannot change.

It was back in February, 1836, that the first exploration party, led by J. T. Gellibrand, came to the area now known as Warrandyte. Among the party was Richard Buckley—"the wild white man"—who had lived for years with the blacks around Port Phillip Bay. Having re-learned his native tongue, he was invaluable as interpreter and "go-between" on Gellibrand's goodwill tour among the aboriginal tribes at Geelong and Ballarine Peninsula.

Returning to the west of Port Phillip, along the banks of the Salt Water River through Ballan to Sugarloaf Mountain, the party came upon a fast-flowing stream 10 miles to the south east, which they named Plenty River.



Continuing in an easterly direction across the Plenty they hoped to find the upper reaches of the Yarra Yarra River. After following a high ridge—more than likely what is now the Research Road from Eltham to Warrandyte—they crossed what must now be Stony Creek, although it was pretty boggy just then, to make camp on the hills now known as Huntingford's Hill. The party then returned to Batman's Settlement at Port Phillip, a distance of about 17 miles.

When James Anderson, in 1839, took up a selection to the east of the Yarra Yarra, on the banks of the creek which has since borne his name, it seems fairly certain there were no other white settlers in the area. His nearest neighbour was John Bell, dairying at Research about 6 miles distant.

Anderson, who sprang from a well-known Tasmanian family—his father was one of the original free settlers at Norfolk Island until it was requisitioned as a penal settlement in 1809—came to Melbourne in 1838. For a time he worked as messenger at the Bank of Australasia until he decided to spend £10 on a squatting licence, and unwittingly became the founder of Warrandyte. A widower without family, Anderson was one of the few Port Phillip settlers to drive stock overland from Sydney. His station homestead, surrounded by gum trees and wattles, consisted of slab huts with earthen floors, in one of which he slept. He always took meals with his hired men, however.

Of more than passing interest to Australians is the fact that Anderson engaged Samuel Furphy and his wife on their arrival from Scotland, March 31, 1841. Mrs. Furphy, only 21 years of age, was the first white woman to live and work among ticket-of-leave men, in a locality around the upper Yarra, where uncivilised blacks were numerous.

Warrandyte can take some small credit from the fact that the Furphys were the parents of Joseph Furphy—the celebrated "Tom Collins" who wrote "Such is Life". Although Joseph was not born until 1843 at Yering, we like to think of the courageous Scots woman at Anderson's Creek going about her tasks with the smell of wood-smoke and wattle in her nostrils, and the blue sky casting purple

shadows along the creek. A courageous and worthy mother for a great Australian writer.

In 1843, Anderson moved to a large holding at Werribee, after a survey of the Anderson's Creek area had reduced his holding there to only 390 acres. In 1855, Anderson was convicted and sentenced to 8 years' imprisonment for cattle-stealing. During this period, in 1857, he was one of 15 convicts charged with the murder of one John Price at Williamstown Hulks. He was the only one acquitted, after a trial lasting three weeks. Nothing more is known of James Anderson, but Anderson's Creek—now Warrandyte—stands as a memorial to a man who apparently had more than his share of misfortune.

In 1845, the Anderson Creek run was taken over by Major Charles Newman, formerly an officer in the 51st Native Bengal Infantry. His property extended from Anderson's Creek to Finn's Hotel, Templestowe. Resigning his commission in the East India Service on September 1st, 1834, Newman came to Tasmania in order to obtain a Government land grant. Governor Gipps refused his applications in 1837 and 1839 on the grounds that he had failed to lodge his application within the specified time. Major Newman then took out a squatting licence and later built his famous homestead, "Pontville", at Templestowe. The house remained intact until about 1950, and was one of the last of many built in the 1840's with 14 inch walls, for protection against convicts and aboriginals. Major Newman was once forced to ford the Yarra with a bush-ranger pointing a gun at his head.

About a mile to the east of Anderson's Creek was the property of James Dawson, who with G. W. Selby and a Mr. Mitchell as partners, opened the Warrandyte Station in 1843 at the foot of what is now known as Pigtail Hill. It would appear that the surrounding hills were known as the Warrandyte Ranges, prior to the founding of Warrandyte Station. In 1856, this property became known as "Thompson's Pre-emptive Right", and still later, Elliot Freehold. G. W. Selby was the father of Artemus Selby, a well known figure in early Melbourne Banking. James Dawson was born at Bonnington, near Linlithgow,

Scotland, and came to Melbourne in May, 1840. In 1844, he purchased a 30,000 acre property on the banks of the Moyne River, Port Fairy. Losing this property under the Duffy Land Act of 1862, he retired to live at Camperdown. His book, "Australian Aborigines", published by George Robertson in 1881, is still regarded as one of the foremost authoritative works on the subject.

Under the original survey of 1841, 1,103 acres were reserved at the Pound Bend for aborigines, who were placed under the care of the Presbyterian Church, and 397 acres for a township. No houses then existed on the site, but there were a number of wattlebark-strippers working in adjoining areas.

Warrantyte was at least on the Survey Map prior to Louis Michel's gold-seeking expedition in 1851.

## CHAPTER THREE

### DEVELOPMENT

The second half of 1851 brought to light gold-bearing areas one after another throughout Victoria.

ANDERSON'S CREEK, on June 30, won the prize by a narrow margin; but there was CLUNES on July 1; BUNINYONG, August 8; BALLARAT, August 25; ALEXANDER, September 1; and BENDIGO, December 8. In fact, between 1851 and 1880, one-third of the world's gold production was found in Victoria.

When bad weather disheartened the prospectors at Anderson's Creek, leaving it deserted towards the end of 1851, and the enormous deposits of immensely payable gold were found at Ballarat, it was not surprising that Lieut. Governor La Trobe, writing to the Secretary of State for Colonies, on November 15, should state, that:

"Counter attractions of other fields and the flooded state of the Yarra have caused a complete, but probably only temporary, abandonment of Anderson's Creek goldfield."

As was mentioned earlier, three Gold Commissioners stayed on at Anderson's Creek—so someone had faith in the field. This, allied to the publishing, in 1854, of the Legislative Council's decision in favour of Louis Michel's claim and payment to him of £1,000; set the final seal on Victoria's first goldfield. Due to the publicity accorded the Committee's decision, miners were induced to return to Anderson's Creek towards the end of 1854.

At the beginning of 1855, Warrandyte really got going. Two stores had been established, and true to goldfield tradition, the commercial flags of Mr. Trice and Mr. Theis were flying gaily over their tents. Theis' store going by the high-sounding name of Diamond Accommodation Store.

On February 24, John Pascoe Fawkner and the Premier, Mr. J. O'Shannassy, toured the field, to investigate miners' grievances following the nation-shaking incidents of

Eureka Stockade at Ballarat. The population of Anderson's Creek at this time was estimated at between 700 and 800.

William Westgarth, who accompanied these two gentlemen on their tour, has written a most enlightening and enlivening account of the new settlement.

Westgarth records that the road out from Melbourne was cut at the sides with an occasional slight attempt at levelling. He described Templestowe as a village containing a hotel, a blacksmith, a few houses with gardens, indulging in the rather unfarmlike practice of trees growing in the midst of the ploughed fields. Three or four miles from Templestowe they came upon a well turned-up valley which had been quite recently deserted. Following the descent of the valley, which had been badly disfigured by bush fire, they came upon the digging population, who were scattered over about a mile of the river's length. The search for gold was on a different plan from anything Mr. Westgarth had previously seen. Trials in treating auriferous materials from the valley above had not been completed owing to lack of water—this was probably Anderson's Creek, which had dried up owing to the long dry summer. The miners had moved directly into the bed of the Yarra, and were obtaining gold by spanning the river with coffer dams. That is, by driving piles close together so as to form a square in the river, and then bailing out the water, in order to puddle the mud and scrape the rock formation on the bottom. The holdings were most precarious, as a rise of one foot in the Yarra would probably wash them all away. Everyone seemed very quiet and there were several Stores quite well stocked. However, rewards appeared poor, one party spoke of 20 ozs. of gold a week among four of them, but as there was no Commissioner on the field they had no licence fees to pay.

We would like to think that Mr. Theis made a "golden" turnover with his Diamond Accommodation Stores before he sold out to E. W. Cameron at the end of 1895. Cameron proved to be a particularly public-spirited person. Politics, cricket and trade, all bear his mark. As a member of State Parliament, representing Evelyn for 30

years, he proved as great a humanitarian as pioneer-trader.

There are many Warrandytonians whose forbears were at Anderson's Creek in 1855. Lack of space prevents us mentioning all of them, but they are not forgotten. What they did for the district—even if only in helping create legends—lives on.

As early as October, 1856, the first coach service from Melbourne began operations. It was a great day, worthy of celebration, when a large crowd gathered at Cameron's Store to welcome the first Ford & Co. Coach. Although the coach, which became bogged at Deep Creek, never arrived, the celebrations went on—disappointment acting as an extra spur to the gaiety. Several weeks later the service—which started from the corner of Bourke and Stephen Streets (now Exhibition Street) commenced regular operations, which continued thrice weekly each way throughout the Summer. The journey took the best part of a day. This, apart from gold, was probably the main single factor which contributed towards the rapid growth of the district.

It was not all work during that first year. Cricket was, apparently, the main social relaxation, for the Club came into existence before New Year's Eve. Thus, 1856 "bowed in" with great expectations.

The first election campaign at Anderson's Creek, June, 1856, was contested by Captain W. A. C. Anderson, Commissioner of Public Works, and William Pender, of St. Kilda. The shadow of Eureka Stockade was cast over the election when fervent appeals from all over the State were made for electors to vote against Captain Anderson, who was described as a civil servant and a Eureka Stockader. It was alleged that he dealt harshly with employees in the Public Works Department, besides which, he had served with the Military at Eureka Stockade. Although Anderson's Creek was regarded as a key centre because of the number of Miners with voting rights, Captain Anderson was elected with an overwhelming majority.

Gold was still the main industry at Anderson's Creek, the Gold Circular stating a rush was in full swing and up to 100 ozs. to the ton being obtained. One reliable source quoted a Scot as earning more than £400 by breaking

quartz with a sledge hammer. But James Sloan caused the biggest stir in Melbourne when he got 12 ozs. from a single bucket of quartz.

Within a month Dransfield Dowlings Company erected the first quartz-crusher on the field. Importing a 20 h.p. crusher—the first of its kind in the Colony, and which was also equipped for flour-milling—the Company exploited the goldfield outrageously, by charging the unheard of rate of £5 per ton for crushing. The dearest rate in Victoria, at that time, was Castlemaine at £1 per ton. This monopolistic exploitation not only put the Company out of business within two years, but caused a developmental setback in the area, from which it took years to recover.

Those were the days of “get-rich-quick-Johnny-let-development-go-hang”. But, there was always cricket.

## CHAPTER FOUR

### CONSOLIDATION

After the first "rush" and frantic scramble for gold, came the lull of settling-in, and 1856 to 1870 was a quiet period of consolidation. It was obvious that the locality, so close to Melbourne, needed development of a permanent nature. The settlement had attracted many families which needed more than the bare essentials.

Communications, that bugbear of all pioneering ventures, came first. Portion of the road was metalled, overcoming the bogging-down after rain, and a punt was established across the Yarra in 1856, behind the site of the present Post Office. It is amusing to note that human beings were classed somewhere between cattle and pigs—the toll rate being 9d. each for bullocks and horses, 6d. each for cattle and 1d. each for sheep or pigs. Humans got a day return for 3d. per person.

This move by the Government provided communications to the north of the river and played an important part in opening up the area around the Upper Yarra. Within five years, Lilydale, Healesville, St. Andrew's and Eltham were within reach, by road, of Anderson's Creek.

Warrandyte's first death occurred during October, 1856. Three-year-old Patrick Halfpenny was drowned in a water hole, and although Dr. Short—there was a doctor in residence very early in the piece, on Melbourne Hill—tried artificial respiration for over an hour, young Patrick failed to respond. The first tragedy, but not the last.

During the same month Walter Charles Brackenbury transferred from Creswick as first Magistrate and Gold-field Warden at Anderson's Creek. His salary was £750 a year. Two years previously he had been suspended on charges brought against him by David Armstrong, a Police Inspector at Bendigo. Brackenbury, in an action for slander against the policeman, was awarded £300 damages by a Supreme Court Jury. He was reinstated in the Public Service with £170 compensation for loss of wages. Towards the middle of the year 1858, F. C. Armstrong, of the Treasury, wrote to the Chief Secretary



complaining that Brackenbury's returns for Gold Licences were not only late and incomplete, but showed a deficiency of £29. Brackenbury was dismissed on June 9th, presumably without a hearing.

Brackenbury, who was very popular with the miners and a keen cricketer, was active in helping form the Cricket Club at Anderson's Creek. As a prominent member of the Melbourne Cricket Club he travelled regularly to Heidelberg each Saturday to play with the Yarra Yarra Club. His enthusiasm for cricket in the surrounding districts of Queenstown, Yarra Glen, and St. Andrew's helped establish the sport on a firm basis, both competitively and socially. His journeyings in the cause of cricket must have entailed much hard riding over rough bush tracks, particularly when it is realised that most of the districts were almost unheard of in Melbourne.

Brackenbury's dismissal from the Public Service did not seem to harm him socially, for he was selected by Melbourne to play for the "Gentlemen of Victoria" against "Gentlemen of New South Wales" in 1859. Brackenbury Street in Warrandyte perpetuates his memory.

Charles Warburton Carr succeeded Brackenbury until 1863. After that time the Warrandyte Court was presided over by Honorary Justices.

Early in 1857 Warrandyte showed signs of growing up. The first land sales were held in January, when 25 blocks went at prices ranging from £5 to £8 each, and during February, storekeeper Cameron was appointed first Postmaster at £20 a year, when a twice weekly mail service with Melbourne was inaugurated.

Quartz-mining gave way to alluvial-mining through lack of crushing machinery. Thus, when J. Murphy, the new Mining Surveyor, arrived in 1859, he found abandoned reefs and tons of untreated quartz everywhere, and few miners on the field.

An Irishman, named Patrick Geraghty, who pegged a claim measuring 600 yards by 200 yards on Fourth Hill in June, 1859, made the first attempt at organised mining in the district. In an endeavour to find the main lode, he drove a tunnel from the eastern side. In eight months

the tunnelling had advanced to a distance of 400 feet, and was equipped with a light tramway. There is no record of Geraghty ever getting any return from his expensive enterprise. It is known, however, that Chatty and Smith worked it with some success later.

Geraghty, with five Warrandyte miners, prospected successfully in the Dandenongs where the Emerald Nicholson and Britannia Goldfields were established. The party was rewarded by the Government to the extent of £500. Geraghty owned the most lucrative goldmine of all in later years, as proprietor of Rowena Hotel, Richmond.

Many attempts were made to uncover the gold-bearing lode, but all seemed doomed to failure during the "lull years".

Messrs. Clark and Brown made the cutting at Thompson's Bend—now known as The Island—in an endeavour to uncover about a quarter mile of river bed. £7,000 was expended on the project, which employed 56 men, but the result was only an expensive island which is still argued over.

Dr. Owen, Bendigo's first Member of Parliament, formed the Yarra Yarra Steam Puddling Co., with a plant capable of pumping 7,700 gallons of river water an hour, to treat gold-bearing soil in Whipstick Gully. Bad drainage caused this project to fail.

John Capper opened a crusher on Sloan's Hill, treating quartz at £1 a ton. Inefficient machinery caused too much wastage, so another project broke down until Grants' Battery, worked by water power, was constructed in 1868.

There does not appear to have been much interest in anything other than mining around Warrandyte, although the rest of the district found farming, and later, fruit-growing profitable.

Despite the inactivity, there was a community social life born of pioneering. Someone had a French-horn which competed with the bell-birds and magpies as it echoed throughout the bush-clad hills. Cricket continued as relaxation, between the men of the district. Picnics made the game a happy family affair while the kookaburras "laughed to see such fun".

Apparently the Punt had outworn its usefulness by 1860. In October of that year, William Elliot, of East Melbourne, contracted to build a bridge over the Yarra on the same crossing used by the Punt. Within a year it was completed at a cost of £880 against the contract price of £1,200.

Warrandyte's communications were improving, as the balance of the contract price was spent in making a metal road between Warrandyte and Deep Creek, a distance of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles.

The new bridge served the district well until a phenomenal flood in December, 1863, swept it away. It was never rebuilt on that site.

## CHAPTER FIVE

### GROWING UP

During the early years, the settlement at Anderson's Creek was very much a "canvas town", similar in appearance to all gold-rush towns. Tents were pitched wherever claims were pegged, while larger tents acted as stores. The desire to tear wealth from the quartz did not allow for the finer things of life. The only semblance to permanent dwellings was on Major Newman's property, originally the slab huts of James Anderson.

Often during those early years the settlement was washed out when the river rose, flooding Anderson's Creek. One can imagine the scene as the miners rowed boats over the diggings, fetching up with someone's tent across the prow amidst boisterous laughter, and possibly much horseplay as they probed the mud for their lost rum.

The good humour of our pioneer families in the face of the most appalling conditions is well known. Without their humorous outlook, the pioneers, to whom we pay tribute, could not have survived. Throughout Australia, the spirit of the early settlers was nothing short of miraculous as they wrestled with the problems of taming this new land, so very different from overcrowded Britain. The summer heat blazing from the incredibly blue sky turned the settlement of canvas into a veritable oven, so that the river was a haven of refreshment after work. No doubt the rum bottle, on a string, lay cooling in the river's depths, much as fishermen of today cool a bottle of ale.

Gradually, however, during the "settling in" year, tents gave way to huts of wattle and daub, then houses with shingle roofs and later still the ubiquitous corrugated iron.

It was during the sixties that Warrandyte had a visit from its only recorded bushranger. Some years earlier Major Newman had been forced to cross the river by a bushranger holding a pistol at his head, but there is no record of the reason for this strange exercise.

The bushranger to whom we refer, however, was Robert Bourke, a young Irishman of 19 years. His short-lived adventure began boastfully at Scoresby, near Dandenong, and ended at Hurstbridge, whence he had gone via Warrandyte. Apparently he had done a bit of highwayman stuff in New South Wales, according to his own boasting.

One bleak and wet October night in 1866 Mrs. Russell, in answer to a knock, opened her door to the well-spoken young braggart who was wearing a poncho or riding cloak. The Russell home was at Thompson's Gully, Warrandyte. Realising he was weary and hungry, Mrs. Russell gave the young visitor food and a bed in a hut belonging to her husband's partner. Before daybreak next morning Bourke was on his way to Hurstbridge after getting Harry Houghton to row him across the river.

At Hurstbridge some hours later, he was eating breakfast given him by Miss Ellen Hurst, whose suspicions were aroused when she noticed a pistol in his pocket. Hastily she informed her brother, who picked up a shot gun and went to talk with Bourke. He asked the usual casual questions, "Where have you come from? Where are you going?" Bourke replied that he was travelling from Cape Shank to Kilmore. "Then you are a long way off your course," said Hurst. Bourke jumped to his feet shouting, "Do you doubt my word! You insult me; don't you know I'm a bushranger?" at the same time drawing his pistol. Hurst fired his shotgun, but missed. He then jumped the bushranger. During the ensuing struggle, Hurst was shot in the chest. Bourke was overpowered by some station hands and placed under arrest. Hurst, unfortunately, died later that day.

Poor young boastful Bourke. He was found guilty of murder and hanged, despite a strong recommendation for mercy and a large petition signed by Melbourne citizens. Apart from this incident in the district, there is little on record of real lawlessness.

The early promise of prosperity in Warrandyte flowered during the 1870's. Shops were established. Four hotels, "The Warrandyte", "Anderson's Creek", "Bell Chambers" and "The Union", were endeavouring to cope

with the flow of business. A branch of the Commercial Bank was opened, there was a Police Station, Courthouse and a School. During this period a new bridge was also built, which had taken 10 years of continuous agitation and petitioning the government, before the combined efforts of representatives from Doncaster and Eltham Shires succeeded. Since the flood had swept away the first bridge in 1863, much inconvenience had been caused by the return to primitive means of crossing the river.

On October 7, 1875, the bridge was completed at a cost of £1,419, paid for by the Shires of Doncaster and Eltham with a government grant of £700. It was designed and built by C. S. Wingrove, Shire Clerk, Engineer and Surveyor to the Eltham Council. The bridge is a magnificent monument to the engineering skill and workmanship of our pioneers.

Eighty years have passed since our bridge, which is regarded with great affection by all residents of Warrandyte, was constructed of yellow box timber from the forests around Stony Creek.

With an overall length of 311 feet and a width of 11 feet, it rests on 47 piles of 14 in. diameter. It has withstood flood and fire all these years; including a terrific battering in 1934, when it was completely submerged, the flood waters on that occasion rising more than four feet over the decking. There have been other occasions when it has been covered, but never so completely as in 1934. Now, in the last months of 1955, the old bridge is about to be—we hope—decently interred and the new modern structure, higher and much wider, which has taken 3 years to build, will cope with the ever-increasing traffic through the district.

The old bridge has been the setting for all New Year Eve celebrations for many years, when the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and the exploding of firecrackers, accompanied by the skirl of bagpipes, has ushered in the tender hours of each year.

Although Warrandyte's first school opened towards the end of 1856, with Thomas Downward as headmaster, it was not until 1864 that it was made a National School with Mrs. Rosa Mary Pretty in charge. The original





Picnic Cricket Match around the 1870's.

building was a small shingle-roof building at the corner of Forbes and Yarra Streets. When the State School system was introduced in 1873, Warrandyte School was listed number 12, giving rise to the erroneous idea that it was the twelfth school in the State. It was the system, however, to number schools in alphabetical order, so that Anderson's Creek came near the top of the list. It retained its number when, in 1908, it was altered officially to Warrandyte. In 1877 the school was shifted to its present site. Warrandyte owes a debt of gratitude to its school teachers who have guided the learning of so many of its young citizens. At the end of the Chronology we have added a list of head teachers whom we honour.

It is known that Henry Kingsley, author of "Geoffrey Hamlyn", endeavoured to make his fortune on the diggings. He camped on a site adjoining the Warrandyte Cemetery. The Rev. J. Campbell, a school chum of Kingsley, in 1931, at the age of 94 years, told how on arriving at Melbourne in 1857 he went to see his friend, Dr. Irving, a University professor. It was on Dr. Irving's advice that he left for the Caledonian Goldfields to join Kingsley, where he toiled and moiled and helped with the rough cooking. The result of their digging was very disappointing but Kingsley was working on his book, "Geoffrey Hamlyn", throughout that period. Rev. Campbell finished his account of the period with Kingsley by remarking, "I believe there is a town there now called Warrandyte, where Melbourne trippers go for their picnics".

The religious life of Warrandyte, as stated earlier, began in 1851 when Rev. J. H. Gregory and Rev. Cheyne held services in the tents of Louis Michel and Habberlin. From these rough beginnings sprang our present churches.

The first Anglican Church was erected in 1870, on land granted by the Crown at the present site of St. Stephen. It was only a small room which was replaced by a larger church in December, 1906. The present church of St. Stephen was built after the destructive bush fire of 1939 through the energetic efforts of parishioners.

The first Roman Catholic Priest to visit Warrandyte was Rev. Father William Finn, of Heidelberg. In 1865



he held mass and baptized three children. From then on a Priest visited the settlement, usually from Heidelberg, every six months. It was 1907 before the first Catholic Church was built.

Gold mining began to boom in Warrandyte from 1870, after Grants Water Battery was installed in 1868. This was the first big lift given to quartz mining in the district since crushing and carting prices were reduced. By the end of 1870, from the crushing of 38 tons of quartz, a yield of 153 fine ounces of gold was shown.

The Yarra Tunnel Tribute Co., working a claim under the river 50 yards upstream from The Island, was highly successful from 1870 to 1874 when the reef petered. Ten years later it was rediscovered.

The old Pigtail Co. produced 1,500 ounces of gold in two years between 1874 and 1876. It was discovered by H. Stiggins.

There were numerous Chinese in Warrandyte in those days, from which derives the name Pigtail Hill.

Diorite Dykes also proved successful around 1878, on the old Thompson Estate. So, what began with Louis Michel at one end of Warrandyte, showed profits at the other end. The Dykes were a mass of small quartz leaders running in decomposed rock. This proved easy crushing for the new Elliott Freehold Co., which employed 30 men on a stamp-crusher. Of 22,114 tons of material treated from the Dykes, 1,726 ounces of gold was yielded.

A venture, unique in the history of gold mining in Victoria, was carried out by David Mitchell, father of the world-renowned singer, Dame Nellie Melba. He formed the Evelyn Tunnel Gold Mining Company, for the purpose of constructing a dam across the bed of the River Yarra, to divert the flow through a tunnel constructed at Pound Bend. It was hoped to puddle the bed of the Yarra for more than three miles. A large party of mining financiers and other gentlemen assembled at the mouth of the tunnel on July 3, 1890, to watch the Yarra take on its new course.

Originally estimated to cost £10,000 and twelve months to complete, the work was carried out in three and a half

months at a cost of £2,100 by the application of a new American method of construction.

The tunnel, which was 634 feet long, 18 feet wide and 14 feet deep, proved quite a success after several false starts. Despite the overburden of mud, which had to be scraped to a depth of 50 feet without suitable machinery, £8,000 worth of gold was recovered in twelve months.

With successes such as these, the prosperity of Warrandyte seemed assured for years to come, but after the turn of the century there was a gradual falling off in gold production. Then came new gleams, including the discovery of the Caledonian Mine in 1904, but the halcyon days of Warrandyte were dwindling.

The booming days towards the end of last century, made it imperative that faster communications should be installed. So in 1900 the first telephone was installed at Warrandyte Hotel, and connected with Kangaroo Ground Exchange. This, together with the faster mail services from Heidelberg and Ringwood by coach, brought the town within "cooee" of Melbourne. Warrandyte was no longer a settlement lost in the bush, but a Town with representation on the Council at Doncaster.

## CHAPTER SIX

### BUSH LEGENDS

In the life of any community work must give way to play, and in small settlements entertainment is home-spun. Folk songs and folklore spring from such beginnings, although in Australia we do not admit such things. Nonetheless there is a wealth of material which, beginning as a piece of boisterous fun, is embroidered in the telling until fact and fiction merge and a legend is born. There are many stories in Warrandyte, garnished and spiced with the wit of retelling. Some day they will be collected, as they should be, for posterity, but space permits us only a few appetisers.

What became known as "The Chatty Incident," and caused a sensation in the English press under the heading "Ghouls at Warrandyte", was one of those high-spirited larks indulged in after a session with the grog, when egos are shifted and inhibitions discarded. The lads were utterly consumed with uproarious fun—but the authorities "were not amused".

John Chatty, a respected Chinese citizen, early miner and inveterate gambler lived in a three-roomed cottage near Forbes and Yarra Streets. In 1893 he fell ill — some said it was consumption — and could not leave his bed. Although he consistently refused to have a doctor, various good friends attended him and watched over his welfare for three months. As he approached his end, he insisted on the presence of the local policeman, in order to help him prepare his last will and testament. Constable Wade called at Chatty's house on Saturday evening, only to find the Chinaman dead. The policeman arranged, at 11 p.m., for Joe Shortland to take charge of the corpse until burial could be arranged on Monday. This meant Shortland would stay at the Chatty house. All went well until Shortland awoke on Monday morning to find the door off its hinges and the corpse missing. After a mighty hullabaloo, the body was found under a culvert close to the river. From then on things not only got confused, but decidedly complicated.

It appears that Shortland had two visitors on Sunday night—John Mullens and Bill Atkins—with whom he shared a half-gallon of beer, some bottled ale and whisky. Towards midnight, a miner named Blair, heard Mullens chuckling and suggesting it would be a lark to “pinch” the corpse. It was later suggested that Blair had made the proposition himself. In the meantime Shortland had apparently “taken the knock”, after so much grog.

There was great excitement when Mullens and Atkins were arrested for offensive behaviour, and Eltham police, aided by a plainclothes constable from Brighton, arrived at Warrandyte to investigate an alleged attempt to “spirit away” a witness. In due course Mullens and Atkins appeared at Warrandyte Court House, but the Honorary Justices and police were reluctant to open the doors to the noisy crowd outside. In a fatuous endeavour to make a show, the police hastily arrested Mullens’s three brothers, Joe, Pat and Sylvester, along with Joe Bernstein and John Sloan for riotous behaviour.

Mullens and Atkins were committed for trial at Melbourne where, instead of standing charged with body-snatching, the accused were tried for “indecent behaviour towards a corpse”—a most unusual charge since they were originally accused of offensive behaviour. It is said the Court was convulsed, when one witness told of a young man, at the house during the night of the incident, who seated himself beside the body of the Chinaman and sympathised with his soul. There seems to have been much coming and going of visitors to the Chatty house during that particular night. The accused were found not guilty.

The riotous behaviour charge did not stand against the others, and they were discharged also. By this time everyone was thoroughly confused by the stories of the police, the hotel-keeper and the men charged.

The police had obviously panicked about the whole affair, drawing inferences of secret meetings, connected with “spiriting away of witnesses”, simply because people were seen entering and leaving the hotel. It is not necessary to enlighten anyone as to the reasons why people come and go at any hotel. The whole affair was nothing but a heavy-handed joke at a time when people worked hard,

played hard and lived hard in a hard new land, and John Mullens was well-known for his attempts at "livening-up" the old town. He would often ride through the town in the middle of the night cracking his whip and shouting, for no other reason than "to wake the place up".

While on the subject of corpses, there is the story of the conscientious grave-digger and the sympathetic mourners. It has always been contended that the lost reefs passed through the Warrandyte Cemetery, consequently there was never a dearth of grave-diggers. Graves were dug slowly and with great care in an endeavour to "unload the lode". It is said the grave-digger and his mates also washed the earth taken from graves before all burials. So far no "gleam" has glimmered, but for years there was always hope—even in death. On one occasion a reef of rock, believed to contain gold, is said to have been left undisturbed across an open grave so that the coffin had to be lowered by an endwise manoeuvre under the barrier. Many a bereaved family has wondered at the crowds of male mourners who followed their loved ones for the last time. Arrived at the grave, these gentlemen, dressed in Sunday best, and with their most lugubrious faces, would scan the walls of the grave with practised eye for the lost lode, taking no further part in the funeral proceedings. One wonders what desecration may have taken place had gold been located in our Cemetery!

A cricket story that lives on, concerns "Diver" Logan. The scene was the cricket ground near Anderson's Creek with Warrandyte in the field. The sun shone and all was green and lush. The Yarra had recently flooded the surrounding country but was now abating. Anderson's Creek nearby was still fairly full, but the cricket pitch was unaffected. Players were spread around, although the outfield was a bit heavy. Excitement was intense. There was a hush as Logan, smartly attired in white togs, hovered in the vicinity of the boundary. This was the decisive Over! Down went the ball! Crack, fair in the middle of the bat, and the ball took wing, soaring towards the sky—an easy catch for the dependable Logan who, measuring it with his eye, trotted, then raced to intercept its fall just inside the boundary. A last

magnificent leap and the innings would be over. With everyone on tiptoe, the batsmen ran with backward glance hoping for a sixer. Suddenly there was a gasp as Logan made his dive—an easy catch surely—and disappeared head first with a mighty splash. Anderson's Creek, deceptive and soggy had swallowed the immaculate cricketer. There was a long drawn-out sigh of relaxed tension, then laughter most uproarious echoed through the hills. Birds rose querulously into the protective air as Logan reappeared, soaked and muddy, holding the ball high. No one remembers whether he was credited with the catch, but the game broke up in a great burst of hilarity. Someone shouted, "Diver Logan, Hoorah!" and the name stuck.

Around Warrandyte are many disused mine shafts, a number of which have recently been filled in, but most are overgrown and a permanent source of danger. In fact there has been more than one tragedy through children falling into them during play, and old people treading in the wrong places.

The story of Joe Blow (that is not his real name), while concerned with mineshafts, did not end in tragedy, although it has been said that humour is tragedy at a distance. Joe had spent a very "heavy" Saturday at the "local", where he consumed more than his quota of cheap wine. At the end of the day he lurched towards the road, pointed in the right direction and zig-zagged for home. His progress down the main street was reminiscent of a ship avoiding submarines in wartime. As he left the pub, armed with several bottles of cheap muscat, someone told him, in jest, to steer clear of mineshafts. As he staggered on his way he kept muttering over and over, "Minesharfs—mus'n go near minesharfs. Mus' go straight bed—good thing. No minesharfs there". It grew dark and Joe sank down wearily to sleep it off, his bottles of muscat cradled in his arms.

Towards morning he awoke, mussy-headed, without a clue as to where he was. He looked around. It was dark, very dark, and smelled dank—anyway that is what he thought. Then in a nightmare panic, mineshafts popped into his mind and he looked up. High above was a small square of light—the night sky. That did it! He

had fallen down a mineshaft without a doubt, despite all the warnings. Joe felt himself all over. No bones broken, no blood, even his bottles intact. He could not understand it so he shouted, but only a hollow echo came back. Frightened and convinced he would never be found, the poor fellow took a good swig from one of the muscat bottles and decided to climb out—a tough proposition, but one that an old sailor could manage. Bracing his back on one side and knees on the other, Joe began to work his way, like a crab, up the straight sides. It was a slow and thirsty business, but he made progress. After a long time he reached the top where he grasped the edge and heaved himself into the blessed night air.

All Joe knew after that, was being picked up in daylight, his arm broken and his thirst terrific. The raucous laughter bewildered him, for these were neighbours, and he was outside his own home. He began muttering about mineshafts and tried to tell the story of his epic climb, only to send his friends into further peels of laughter. It was a long time before he understood what really occurred.

Joe had arrived home, fallen down in front of his cold fireplace and gone to sleep with his head in the ashes. When he awoke he could see the sky. Assuming he was in a mineshaft he began to climb—*his own chimney!* The last heave sent him toppling headfirst to the ground outside, breaking his arm. Then oblivion claimed him.

Stories such as these abound in Australia wherever "two or three are gathered together". May they continue to brighten our lives. Anyhow they may concern us next.

## CHAPTER SEVEN.

### ABORIGINALS AND PIONEER WOMEN.

As the town of Warrandyte grew—at one time there was a population of some thousands—the aboriginal tribes moved away, died out or finished in government reservations. This is part of the tragedy of Progress referred to by the late Very Rev. John Flynn, of Flying Doctor fame. His observation was made of the tribes in Central and Northern Australia, but it applies equally to Warrandyte and district. The very name Warrandyte is aboriginal in origin, although there is some doubt as to its precise meaning. C. H. Nutt, who first surveyed the parish in 1841, took the existing name of Warrandyte Ranges and wrote it into his map.

An aboriginal reserve of 1,103 acres was established at Pound Bend in 1841 for members of the Yarra Yarra tribe; Chief at that time being Billbolary who reliably assisted the Government in forming a Native Constabulary. Appointed Chief on February 17th, 1842, he died on August 10th, 1846 and was succeeded by Yarram Yarram. The last Chief of the Yarra Yarra tribe, Barak, died at Cooranderk Aboriginal Mission at Healesville in 1903. The Yarra Yarra tribe was, on the whole, of peaceful disposition causing less trouble than other tribes, and co-operating intelligently in the recording of anthropological matters relating to them.

In the year 1852, there occurred a violent outbreak on the Pound Bend Reserve where some Westernport natives returning from walkabout to Gippsland, brought ten Warragul natives with them. The Protector of Aborigines, W. Thomas, tried to remove them, but these masters of procrastination, stayed on. In the meantime, the word was passed to other members of the Yarra Yarra and Westernport tribes, and within a few days, three encampments had been established in the locality. They begged to be allowed to remain—vowing they would leave in three week's time and would not go near the town—as they wanted to stay and have corroboree together. Finally Thomas succeeded in getting them all on to the Pound



Bend Reserve, where for a fortnight relationships were generally harmonious. It was too much for one man, however, and the natives began to infiltrate the white settlement. Scenes of degradation followed, with drunkenness day after day, until finally three of the natives were found dead and two others were known to have been murdered. Eventually with police aid Thomas sorted out the Yarra Yarra, Goulburn, Warragul and Gippsland tribes, and packed the visitors off. The operation had taken almost six months to carry out.

There were a few outrages by aborigines against settlers in the Yarra Valley, one of which took place near Warrandyte. The first teacher at the Kangaroo Grounds School in 1856, followed some dray tracks through densely timbered country behind Anderson's Creek, where he came upon a burnt homestead. Returning to the Creek, he learned that the homestead had belonged to an old friend of his, named Robinson, the first Chief Protector of Aborigines in Victoria, who had been murdered by aborigines several years before.

The remnants of the Yarra Yarra tribe, final victims of the Tragedy of Progress, were transferred first to the Cooranderk Mission Station at Healesville in 1860, and finally in 1934 to the Lake Country, East Gippsland.

So another completely white settlement was added to the British Crown.

The women of Warrandyte have played a magnificent part over the years. A natural corollary to the aboriginal story, is the bravery, courage and endurance of our pioneer-women. There could be nothing more frightening for a woman with children—or without, for that matter—than to be alone in the bush, with the knowledge that hostile eyes may be spying on her. No one could be sure of the "blacks" at that time, least of all the women. As they came to know them, it was different, but there was the bush itself—always frightening and hostile—a strange, new land. Snakes, lizards and wild dogs were always lurking nearby, while the first mad laughter of kookaburras had its devastating effect. The strange night sounds,

in particular, the opossums' eerie chuckle, alarmed the children, and those brave women must not show their fear. This, probably, was the greatest hardship of all, hiding fear, and always pretending to be gay and strong for the childrens' peace of mind. They bore their children in primitive conditions and stood behind their men—the very foundation of our community as we know it today. Such was the part our pioneer women played, and we pay special tribute to them. Hats off to the ladies!



## CHAPTER EIGHT

### CRICKET

Australia can look back on more than 150 years of cricket, the first match being attributed to the officers of H.M.S. "Calcutta," which visited Sydney in December, 1803. The first complete score sheet known to exist is dated October 17, 1830, of a game played on the present site of Hyde Park, Sydney, between an Australian team and Marylebone Club, for a wager of £50. Victoria's first cricket match was played between "Military" and "Civilians" of the settlement of Port Phillip, November 22, 1838, on the slope of Batman Hill, close to where Spencer Street Station now stands. The scores are not known, but it is known that the "Civilians" won by a fairly wide margin. Melbourne Cricket Club was formed a few days later.

Warrandyte Cricket Club shares the honour with a few select Clubs in Victoria, of having been in continuous existence for one hundred years, since it was established in 1855. The present site of the Recreation Ground is shown on Hodgkinson's Warrandyte Survey Map of 1856, as a ground used for cricket. In 1865 the site was granted in perpetuity to Warrandyte, by Government Lands Department, as a Recreation Ground. Without this grant of land our Cricket Club would have been in great difficulties owing to the promiscuous pegging of mining claims.

It is well-known that claims may be pegged anywhere—and have been so pegged—but when attempts were made in 1864 to obtain mining leases on the unofficial sports ground at Anderson's Creek, residents were roused to fury. Instead of resorting to violence, as so often happened on the diggings throughout Australia, these wise people petitioned the Government for a land grant—in effect asking to make official what had been for nearly ten years an unofficial Cricket Ground. This long view has given Warrandyte its present Recreation Ground, on which the Cricket Club's Centenary Celebrations took place.



JAMES SPEERS, one of the early presidents.

The petition, drawn up by T. Porteous and W. Pretty, bore 58 signatures and was presented to the Mining Warden, C. Warburton Carr, in his capacity as Commissioner for Crown Lands. The petition, with its signatures, is of such historic value that we print it in its entirety.

Anderson's Creek,

15th June, 1864.

Sir,

We, the under-signed inhabitants of Anderson's Creek, being desirous of obtaining a portion of land to be set aside for public amusements, etc., beg you respectfully as a Commissioner of Lands and Works, to have a certain portion of Crown Land set apart for Cricket and Recreation purposes, and we further beg to state that a suitable site which would be requisite is situated on the West side of Anderson's Creek . . . (Note: The petition is here undecipherable.)

Signed: William Hastings, William Self, Norman Ely, John Story, George Perry, Richard Wortefs, Thomas Falconer, George Furmiston, William Locke, William Logans, John Chatty, Benjamin Logan, J. B. Courtland, David Porteus, John Masterton, E. D. Frencham, Henry Squires, Henry Frencham, William Frencham, Owen McAuley, William Cargill, William Tunn, William Masterton, Simon Ross, Thomas Leper, William Leper, G. R. Meremen, George Laurie, Alfred Bayley, John Raft, Robert Watson, Henry Hunter, H. Reynolds, J. Anderson, Ewan Cameron, Charles Newman, T. Porteous, George Squires, Arthur Liddlelow, John Elm, Janet Raft, Daniel Doyle, Thomas Colman, James Sloan, Alex. McDonald, James McArthur, J. Lewis Self, James Harnott, David Cargill, Henry Stiggents, James Russell . . .

On the 29th August, the Board of Land Works approved the petition; but later William Watkins, M.L.A., wrote to the Board seeking more definite tenancy. This was accompanied by another petition. This final petition had the desired effect and the grant of land for recreational purposes was finally gazetted by the Government in 1865.

With the arrival of the Government Gazette, the good news spread rapidly throughout the settlement. A public meeting was called at which the news was announced officially, to the accompaniment, no doubt, of much back-slapping, cheering and calls for making a night of it. One can imagine this victory of sport over commercial interests making the Settlement ring with song, inspired by the usual libations. Congratulations continued far into the night, and proved as good an excuse as any for celebrations.

In those early days, manners, dress and customs were very different to our present mode of living. The white garments which we now associate with cricket, were unknown, being then individual and varied. Flowing beards, of course, were the order of the day. Travel, by horseback, buggy or coach, was as rough as the cricket pitches and fields on which the game was played, and cricketers invariably belonged to the upper crust, with a certain degree of leisure in which to take part in gentlemanly sports. In short, cricket was no game for the working man—a condition which, to some extent, still prevails today. Under these conditions, it is of singular importance to our story that cricket was a democratic social game at Warrandyte from the beginning. There were almost no matches between different Clubs, except on special occasions. Teams were made up locally—"married" versus "single"; "whiskers" versus "clean-shaven", and so on. In this way, anyone who wished to play cricket was included in a team at some time. There were no class barriers, therefore, when Warrandyte's Club was formed.

Bearing all this in mind, it speaks volumes for the character of Walter Brackenbury—Gentleman, Senior Public Servant, Magistrate and Member of Melbourne Cricket Club—that he should step outside his class and join the rough, gruff and tough mining lads in the game of cricket at Warrandyte. He took a leading part in the formation of the Club, and it is not surprising that he should have been popular and well-liked by all in the Such men were all too rare in the early days of Australia; when class and privilege were all-important.

Another stalwart of the Club from its beginning was storekeeper (later Postmaster and Member of Parliament) Cameron. For fifteen years he was keenly interested in the Club as player and executive. In later years he donated the trophy which formed the basis of the Cameron Trophy Association, and was keenly contested throughout the district for many years.

It is to be regretted that many of the records of the Warrandyte Cricket Club were destroyed in the disastrous bush fire of 1939. We have tried, with what little is available, to give some sort of picture of the Club throughout its first one hundred years.

A Mr. Henderson is believed to have brought the first cricket team to Warrandyte from the "Age" office, Melbourne, in the 1860's, and the first match at Warrandyte, of which scores are in existence, took place at the Recreation Ground on New Year's Day, 1864, when Anderson's Creek played Caledonia and won by an innings and 52 runs. William Collins captained for Anderson's Creek, with E. H. Cameron captain of Caledonia.

The ground must have been pretty soggy, for only a fortnight prior to this match the Yarra Valley suffered the worst floods on record, at which time the Anderson's Road bridge was destroyed.

## ANDERSON'S CREEK

### FIRST INNINGS

Porteous, b. Cameron .. .. .	4
Collins, b. Cameron .. .. .	9
Johnson, b. Purcell .. .. .	35
Masterton, b. Baker .. .. .	3
Collins, b. Hopkinson .. .. .	10
Stiggarts, b. Hopkinson .. .. .	10
Porteous, hit wicket .. .. .	5
Squires, b. Purcell .. .. .	1
Ely, b. Hopkinson .. .. .	13
Squires, not out .. .. .	9
Ross, b. Hopkinson .. .. .	0
Byes 10, Leg Byes 2, Wides 3 .. .. .	15

TOTAL .. .. . 114

Bowling: Cameron, 2 wickets; Purcell, 2; Baker, 1; Hopkinson, 4.

# CALEDONIA FIRST INNINGS

R. Smith, b. Masterton .. . . .	9
Baker, b. Porteous .. . . .	1
Thomas, b. Masterton .. . . .	2
Bunker, run out .. . . .	1
Purcell, b. Masterton .. . . .	0
Hopkinson, b. Johnson .. . . .	2
J. Smith, b. Masterton .. . . .	4
Band, b. Masterton .. . . .	0
Cameron, run out .. . . .	0
Young, b. Johnson .. . . .	2
Gowman, not out .. . . .	0
Byes 4, Leg Byes 1 .. . . .	5
<b>TOTAL .. . . .</b>	<b>26</b>

Bowling: Masterton, 5 wickets; Porteous, 1; Johnson, 2.

## SECOND INNINGS

R. Smith, c. Johnson .. . . .	3
Baker, b. Masterton .. . . .	2
Thomas, b. Johnson .. . . .	1
Bunker, b. Johnson .. . . .	3
Purcell, ——— .. . . .	—
Hopkinson, not out .. . . .	14
J. Smith, b. Masterton .. . . .	3
Band, c. Masterton .. . . .	3
Cameron, c. Masterton .. . . .	1
Young, b. Masterton .. . . .	2
Gowman, l.b.w., b. Johnson .. . . .	0
Byes .. . . .	5
<b>TOTAL .. . . .</b>	<b>36</b>

Bowling: Masterton, 5 wickets; Porteous, 0; Johnson, 3.

Once the Recreation Ground was officially recognised in 1864, the first Trustees were appointed—Dr. John Elms, Walter Pretty, Arthur Liddlelow, Thomas Porteous and William Collins. Much energetic work was put into improvements over the next 10 years, and in 1874 the Trustees presented an ambitious proposal to the Lands Department in the hope that a really fine recreational ground would be constructed. Unfortunately their fine hopes were never realised owing to lack of funds. Then, as now, the Government had no money for de-



velopmental work, and we can only assume that the local community was not wealthy enough to carry out the scheme envisaged.

The plan, which is in the possession of the Lands Department, shows a layout incorporating oval, bowling-green, and croquet court. At a spot where the present kiosk stands, a greenkeeper's house is shown, adjoining which is a decorative fish pond. Willows were to supplant scrub and a rustic bridge was to have spanned Anderson's Creek. A fine dream! But although the Trustees stated in their request for £150 grant that over £100 had been spent on the ground during ten years, nothing eventuated. That beautiful plan found a niche in a pigeon-hole in Melbourne, gathering dust alongside so many others neatly tied with red tape.

In February, 1883, P. G. H. Leslie, the famous Surrey (England) opening batsman, who was touring Australia with a team from Marylebone Cricket Club, paid a surprise visit to Warrandyte, in the company of J. Hare, P.M. Magistrate Hare combined business with pleasure by presiding over the local Court, and imposing fines of 10/- each on several of the locals for cutting wood on Crown Land. After this impressive chore, he took the English cricketer on a "comprehensive" tour of the village. There is no record of any cricket that day, but one can be sure the Cricket Club entertained the eminent visitor in a manner worthy of his position in the cricketing world.

Teams from Ringwood, Lilydale, Eltham, Kangaroo Grounds, Panton Hills, Christmas Hills, Croydon and others in the surrounding district, all visited Warrandyte between 1880 and 1900, although there was no organised inter-club cricket. Of course, Warrandyte's Club journeyed to these districts for return matches, spreading the social life of cricket over a wide area.

St. Patrick's Day, 1887, must have been one of gay exuberance in the town, when 40 employees from West End Brewery visited Warrandyte. A cricket match arranged with a team of 15 from the Brewery, attracted almost the entire local population to the Recreation Ground. It is fairly certain a grand picnic was the

result, for the score board got out of hand and shows the home eleven as winning 67 to 60, whereas a later check gives the game to the Brewery, 54 to 53.

Scoring arithmetic at the end of the day must have been somewhat casual—no doubt the Brewery visitors had induced all and sundry to sample their wares throughout the day, to the detriment of scoring records. Who cares, anyway!—it must have been good fun, and the homage to St. Patrick rollicking.

One match, which had a happy ending, was played between the Councillors of Bulleen and Nunawading Shires in 1888. Warrandyte's representatives were: Councillors Andrews, Stiggants and Hutchinson. A certain amount of ill-feeling which existed between the two Shires melted in the friendly atmosphere of the game. Once again the social advantages of cricket became evident and a more harmonious relationship grew up between the Shires.

A most unforgivable incident took place during 1892—at least, the Croydon cricketers thought so. Riding into town with gay abandon, the Croydon lads dismounted at the Recreation Ground, to find themselves in splendid isolation. Seeking out the Secretary of the home team, they learned to their dismay that that embarrassed gentleman had forgotten to inform Club members of the day's arrangements. In an effort to placate the disgruntled visitors, Warrandyte's Secretary endeavoured to fix a match for the following week, but the Croydonians would have none of it. Nor would they wash the dust from out of their throats with a friendly glass. In a great huff, and hugging insult to their bosom, they mounted their ponies and galloped off in a cloud of dust. It was twenty years before a Croydon team returned.

In 1905, Warrandyte entered the Cameron Trophy Association and played regular Club cricket from then on. An exceptionally fine team took the field during 1907, for at the end of the season they not only carried off the Trophy unbeaten, but had on only one occasion—Yarra Glen—failed to win every match by an innings. A remarkable achievement, and most gratifying to the town

where the donor of the trophy had begun his business and public life.

It was in 1906, after a match against Carlton Cricket Club at the local ground on A.N.A. Day that a ladies' team took the field for the first time, to beat Carlton ladies, 29 to 19.

Around 1908 the Cameron Trophy Association gave way to the Reporter Association, sponsored by the Box Hill Reporter newspaper. Warrandyte's nomination was refused because of transport difficulties, which seems to have been common among Clubs in the Association. When, in 1909, Warrandyte did enter the competition, there was so much discontent among other Clubs over transport problems, that it withdrew after a few games. All these difficulties were overcome during the next few years, and Warrandyte gradually improved its position until 1915, when World War I put a stop to competitive sport.

Between the wars, Warrandyte's cricket "form" was consistently good—good enough, in fact, to graduate from the Reporter Association to Ringwood Association, in which competition the Club won the Chandler Memorial Shield three times in succession, 1944 to 1947. This was the first time any Club had performed the "hat trick" since the Shield was first put up for competition in 1927.

At the end of the book is a list of Club records, compiled as near as can be ascertained from existing data, memories and scraps from newspapers.

In 1930, with the help of voluntary labour, three acres of land were cleared, graded and prepared for cricket at South Warrandyte. Two Warrandyte Cricket Club playing members, Tom Woolley and John Colman, were instrumental in forming the new Club, which won the "C" Grade Premiership of Ringwood District in its first year.

The interest in cricket is now assured and will, it is hoped, continue with renewed vigour into succeeding generations.

# TRUSTEES OF WARRANTYTE RECREATION GROUND

## CRICKET CLUB RECORDS

Dr. John Elms	1866	—
William Collins	1866	1892
Walter Pretty	1866	1892
William Liddlelow	1866	—
Thomas Porteus	1866	1873
Alex McDonald	1873	1876
Thomas Colman	1873	1880
William Hastings	1876	1892
Henry Stiggarts	1880	1890
James Walker	1880	1890
W. Hutchinson	1880	1890
Henry Squires	1890	1921
C. Blair	1890	1938
John Sloan	1890	1921
John Mullens	1892	1914
M. Keen	1914	1937
J. J. Moore	1921	1949
John Coleman	1921	—
Harry Haughton	1921	1929
George Houghton	1929	1937
Frederick Topping	1929	1934
C. R. Hemsworth	1934	1949
J. Walsh	1937	1949
W. D. Moore	1938	1947
J. T. Jones	1937	1941
William Betton	1941	1944
J. B. Hutchinson	1941	1950
W. Norman	1947	1950
W. McCulloch*	1947	—
H. A. Bates*	1950	—
J. Pike*	1950	—
W. Campbell		
Rush*	1950	—
J. Emery*	1950	—
H. Andrews*	1950	—
L. F. Adams*	1950	—

\* Present Trustees

## CHAPTER NINE

### CLOSE OF AN ERA

Warrandyte never really recovered its prosperity after collapse of the workings at Elliott Freehold on Pigtail Hill in 1881. Most miners in the town were thrown out of employment and, as the Company was unable to recoup its losses, drifted away. All this coincided with the Land Boom, which can only be paralleled with the depression years of the 1930's, but even that is a fading bitter memory which means nothing to the people of the last decade.

The power and glamour of gold has overshadowed all else in Warrandyte, but while conceding that gold helped start our town, it has never been so important as many would have us believe. Of those who pioneered the more solid industries, such as fruit-growing, pig-farming, sheep and cattle, little is recorded. The unspectacular side of Warrandyte's economics was "born to blush unseen".

Although an item such as tobacco never made any great contribution to the district's economy, it is worth noting that the first tobacco grown in Victoria came from the property of Mrs. Ellis on Kangaroo Ground Road. This worthy woman also produced the first ton of honey ever exported from Victoria. Small items, no doubt, but ones which helped form a solid core behind the gold glamour, and help dispel the pessimistic and disparaging criticism of the value of the local soil. In parts the soil is unarable—but only in parts.

At Kangaroo Ground the Stephenson's raised sheep and produced the first wine in the vicinity of Melbourne. It was from these vineyards that wine was supplied to Government House for many years, until the blight from which they never recovered, attacked the vines. The same blight ruined vineyards at Lilydale.

Vegetables in quantity have been grown in the district, and at Pound Bend there is a market-garden of quite large acreage. Stony Creek is another arable area where there is a herb farm. The cultivation of flowers

has been, and still is, a favourite pastime — in some instances quite profitable. These are but a few instances of the real work of our pioneers, and should never be forgotten.

The impression so far given, is that Warrandyte, because of gold, was huddled around Anderson's Creek or scattered for a few miles along the river. At first that was the picture which presented itself, but after 1900 when the "drifters" had drifted, the solid settlers established themselves over a wide area, carving a future out of the bush, far from the river and the original goldfield.

A note of interest should be added here regarding the hangover from gold and miner's rights. All property transfers carry a clause stating that the land purchased becomes the property of the purchaser to only 50 feet below the surface. This could well be reviewed by the Lands Department and expunged from the Act.

With the erection of a Mechanics Institute — now known as The Hall — Warrandyte's social life gained a new focus. Dances, concerts, public meetings and later a cinema drew the inhabitants together regularly. Clubs and associations were formed with a view to establishing cultural as well as sporting interests, most of which have been short-lived, but the intention has always been there.

The introduction of motor buses between Melbourne and Warrandyte, put "paid" to horse-drawn coaches and encouraged a new generation to seek work in and around the City. Many of us look back with nostalgia on those friendly family motor buses. Our daily journeyings were watched over by those drivers, with the same concern as a fowl with chicks. Although he would never start until everyone was aboard, we were never late on the job. Considerable latitude was given to late-comers, and it was always with regret and a certain amount of disquiet, that the driver started without any member of the bus-family. One example, among many, was the occasion on which the bus stopped outside the home of a "regular", on the way to Templestowe. Mother was waiting at the gate; the house about 100 yards from

the road. "Rosy's a bit late this morning", said Mum. "She's just getting a bite of breakfast. Don't mind waiting, do you?" "She's right. How're the apples coming along?" said the driver, "It's a good year for tomatoes." The conversation drifted on for more than five minutes before Rosy burst from the house at a gallop. In one hand swung a small suitcase, in the other a last piece of toast. "Well, s'long, see you tomorrow," called the driver starting his motor. Mother strolled to the gate, watching the bus and its family round the bend. Some say, "those were the days" — perhaps they were; perhaps it is but the memory of youth, but the Tragedy of Progress has made the bus service impersonal—a slave to rush and bustle and increasing population en route. It is all so inevitable!

Warrandyte has played its part in two World Wars, its young men and women sacrificing their lives and bodies in the cause of freedom. They are not forgotten. A fine memorial opposite the Bridge, erected in local stone, stands as a permanent reminder of their loyal achievements. A branch of the R.S.S.L. has now grown out of service to the Country that bore them.

Floods and fires have swept through the district many times during the past, but nothing has surpassed Black Friday — January 13, 1939. Starting to the north and fanned by a searing north wind, the fire consumed all before it. Leaping the river in a mighty blast, it raced up the hills beyond Brackenbury Street — the inhabitants powerless to stop it. At Melbourne Hill an attempt was made to turn the fire, but to no avail. The Township, completely cut off when all telephone communication failed, was left to its fate. Even Ringwood was ignorant of the tragic drama being enacted only seven miles away, until a courier arrived with the news. Melbourne rallied a large force of volunteer fire-fighters — at one stage there were 600 men on the job — who, after a hard fight brought the fire under control, but not before more than 160 dwellings and shops and both churches had been destroyed and many families left homeless. Tents, blankets, clothing and food were distributed by Red Cross workers. Donations of money for rehabilitation, sub-

scribed by sympathetic people everywhere, helped the grateful victims. But the scar on our peoples' souls bit deep and remained. Out of this disaster arose the splendid Volunteer Fire Service now in existence.

Cricket remained the first social sport in the district for many years, and was the beginning of Club life. In 1906, a Football Club was formed and a branch of the Masonic Lodge. There was also a Public Library. The latter have both gone out of existence long since.

A Mothers' Club and branch of the Country Women's Association, Baby Health Centre and Pre-school continue to play their part and a Tennis Club helps spread interest in community life.

The cultural life of Warrandyte has never completely penetrated the community, despite the presence, as residents, of many artists, writers, sculptors, potters and musicians. Perhaps, to some extent, this has been due to a slight aloofness on the part of the artists. No Art Society has ever got on a solid footing, although many exhibitions of Art have been held in the district. Perhaps the proximity to the City has diverted local interest. Whatever the reason, it is hoped that these things will all eventuate in the fullness of time. Amateur theatricals may come into existence soon. There is a nucleus in the Country Womens' Association, which has stimulated interest by winning the Dramatic Contest of Victoria's C.W.A.

In very recent times, Warrandyte has gained its own troop of Boy Scouts, thanks to the energetic endeavours of Commissioner Ken Gedge, who came to the town in 1952. This is the first troop of Boy Scouts ever formed in the district and is going great guns, and its example has inspired Doncaster to formation of a troop.

Among the most important bodies formed in Warrandyte is the Progress Association, which keeps a wary eye on all improvements throughout the district. Its record of achievement is first class, ranging as it does from beautification to improved sewage. A major ambition is a really fine Swimming Pool, with car park and other amenities. A National Park on Fourth Hill, near the fire-watcher's tower, is also planned.



Politically, Warrandyte is not backward either, for there are branches of Australian Labour Party and Liberal Party carrying out their tasks.

Looking at Warrandyte from Melbourne Hill is an inspiring sight and the Town's growth is obvious. A drive through the district is full of surprises. Homes are growing out of the bush as fast as human endeavour will allow. This is the new era upon which we are entering, and most of our new pioneers—for they are pioneers—are creating and building their homes with their own hands, skilfully and with imagination. It promises well for the future, as this story stops at the end of our first one hundred years. We cannot, therefore, write The End. Indeed, it is only the beginning.



## CHRONOLOGY

- 1836 J. I. Gellibrand and party explores Plenty District to Stony Creek.
- 1839 James Anderson takes up land on site now known as Anderson Creek.
- 1840 Samuel Furphy employed by Anderson.
- 1841 G. H. Nutt makes first survey of Warrandyte Parish.
- 1843 James Anderson sells out to Major Charles Newman. James Dawson, in association with G. W. Selby and Mitchel, open Warrandyte Station. "Pigtail Hill."
- 1851 June 30—Louis Michel discovers first gold in Victoria at Anderson's Creek.  
 Aug. 6—N. A. Fenwick, Com. of Crown Lands; Michel and prospectors arrive at Anderson Creek.  
 Aug. 8—First goldfield store opened. Meeting by miners establishes first Miners Rights in Australia.  
 Sept. 1—Licences issued. Officially proclaimed First Goldfield in Victoria.
- 1852 February—Corroboree by Aborigines of the Yarra Yarra and Warragul Tribes at Pound Bend Aboriginal Reserve.
- 1853 November—Louis Michel and William Habberlin testify before gold discovery committee.
- 1854 April—Michel and Habbelin receive £1,000 Government Gold Discovery Award. Return of Prospectors to Anderson's Creek.
- 1855 January—Two stores established.  
 February—Visit by Gold Complaints Commission.  
 November—W. C. Brackenbury, first Gold Warden and Magistrate. Cricket Club formed.
- 1856 June—Herald announces phenomenal finds of gold at Anderson's Creek.  
 June—First election campaign, Capt. W. A. D. Anderson elected to State Parliament.  
 October—Dransfeld Dowling & Co. established first steam crushing battery on field.  
 November—Punt installed across Yarra.  
 December—Anderson's Creek school opened.
- 1857 January—First land sale.
- 1858 June—Charles Warburton Carr succeeds W. Brackenbury as Magistrate.
- 1859 Commencement of Fourth Hill Tunnel.
- 1860 January—River Yarra diverted through cutting at Thompson's Bend for puddling operations by Messrs. Clarke and Browne.  
 January—Dr. Oram instals pump to treat gold bearing earth, in Whipstick Gully.  
 February—Fourth Hill Tunnel completed.
- 1861 February—Anderson's Road Bridge over Yarra (rear of present Post Office) completed.

- 1863 December—Disastrous floods. Anderson's Road Bridge destroyed. G. W. Smith makes unsuccessful claim for reward for the first discovery of gold at Anderson's Creek. Charles Warburton Carr transferred. Court of Petty Sessions closed.
- 1864 January—First cricket match played on Recreation Ground.  
March—National school opened under Mrs. Rosa Mary Pretty.  
August—Warrandyte receives land grant for Recreation Ground.
- 1866 October—Warrandyte Recreation Ground Gazetted.  
Warrandyte Cemetery Gazetted.
- 1868 Grants crushing battery operated by water from Yarra erected behind present Post Office.
- 1865 October—E. H. Cameron leads deputation to Minister for Justice for re-opening Anderson's Creek Court of Petty Sessions. Request granted.
- 1869 November—Site for St. Stephen's Church of England Gazetted.
- 1870 July—David Mitchell diverts River Yarra by means of Tunnel at Pound Bend.
- 1871 State School site Gazetted.
- 1873 December—Warrandyte residents call meeting to protest against delay in erecting new bridge.
- 1874 November—Proposals for improvement to Recreation Ground. Legislative Council directs Eltham to build new bridge over Yarra within 12 months. Maximum subsidy set at £500.
- 1875 October—New Warrandyte bridge on present site completed.
- 1877 July—Present State School opened.  
Lewis Grant v. Pigtail Mining Lease dispute, taken to the Supreme Court for Miners.
- 1878 Discovery of Diorite Dykes. Elliott Freehold Co. formed. Warrandyte Cricket Club joins forces with Ringwood and other district clubs to send a representative team to play the Melbourne Cricket Club on the M.C.G.
- 1881 July—Diorite Dykes collapse.
- 1882 December—Cricket match between Anderson's Creek and Ringwood.
- 1883 March—Elliott Freehold property purchased by Capt. Selby.  
March—South Warrandyte Cricket Club beaten by Mooroolbark.
- 1884 February—Telegraph Office established at Kangaroo Grounds.
- 1885 Cricket match against Lilydale.
- 1887 February—West End Brewery fifteen plays at Anderson's Creek.
- 1888 Yarra Tunnel Mining Co. receives £500 Government Grant.  
Capt. Selby introduces trout fish into Yarra River.

- 1890 Royal Mail Line Coaches to Heidelberg started by Mr. William Lewis.
- 1892 Grand Hotel (then known as the Anderson's Creek) opened.
- 1893 John Chatty incident.
- 1895 Efforts to place W.C.C. on a more substantial footing.
- 1896 Phenomenal returns by Victory Mine.
- 1900 First telephone installed at Warrandyte Hotel, connected with Kangaroo Ground Exchange.
- 1904 August—Caledonian Mine discovered.
- 1905 Warrandyte Cricket Club affiliates with Cameron Association.
- 1906 Warrandyte Football Club formed.  
Warrandyte Masonic Lodge.  
Mine Managers' Association formed.  
St. Stephen's Church of England erected.
- 1907 Catholic Church erected.
- 1908 State School officially changed from Anderson's Creek to Warrandyte.
- 1909 Warrandyte Cricket Club joins Box Hill Reporter Association.
- 1910 Recreation Ground Pavilion built with iron, salvaged from the South Caledonia Mine. Government subsidy of £20 granted for purpose. Concrete wicket laid.
- 1911 Pioneer motor coaches make first trip to Warrandyte.
- 1919 Bitumen laid on Warrandyte Main Street.
- 1920 Death of Mr. John Bevan Thomas, aged 95.
- 1921 March—Warrandyte C.C. B grade premiers in Box Hill Reporter District Cricket Association.
- 1925 May—Warrandyte Hotel destroyed by fire.  
October—Pioneer Coaches establish regular bus service between Melbourne and Warrandyte.  
Frederick Jopping celebrated his 50th year of cricket—a Victorian record..
- 1926 March—Warrandyte Cricket Club defeated by 12 runs in a thrilling semi-final match with Box Hill A.N.A. at Canterbury.  
J. J. Moore broke both Association records with 9 wickets for 46 runs.
- 1928 Water Wheel and Battery transferred to Queenstown.
- 1931 December—W. Harding makes 159 not out. Record score for Warrandyte Cricket Club.
- 1933 Warrandyte Cricket Club second eleven premiers for the first time in Ringwood Association D Grade.
- 1934 December—Disastrous floods; worst on record, rising to four feet over bridge decking.
- 1935 Electricity installed at Warrandyte. Gold Memorial unveiled.
- 1937 Warrandyte Cricket Club B Grade premiers Ringwood District Cricket Association.
- 1939 January—Township almost wiped out by devastating bush fire. Two lives lost, 163 homes and 2 churches destroyed in less than one hour.

- 1940 March—Double premiership by W.C.C. 1st and 2nd's in B and D Grade.  
 1941 Church of England and Catholic Churches re-built.  
 1946 Warrandyte Cricket Club B Grade premiers.  
 1951 Floods again rise to decking of old wooden bridge.  
 1952 October—Concrete poured for pillars of new bridge.  
 1955 October—New concrete bridge completed.  
 November—Demolition of old wooden bridge commenced.  
 December—Centenary of Warrandyte and Cricket Club.

#### HEADMASTERS OF WARRANDYTE SCHOOL.

Mr. Thomas		Mr. Webster	1908-1909
Downward	1856-1864	Mr. T. S. Book	1909-1920
Mrs. Rosa Mary		Mr. F. Quick	1921-1923
Pretty	1864-1866	Mr. H. P. Paul	1924-1927
Mr. Walter Pretty	1866-1868	Mr. Hartup	1927-1929
Mr. Thomas Tutton	1868-1872	Mr. Roy Mitchell	1929-1936
Mr. Hurley	1872-1873	Mr. M. Isaacs	1937-1940
Mr. James Eccleston		Mr. Thomas	1940-1941
Walker	1873-1882	Mr. P. Fraher	1941-1945
Mr. Simondson	1882-1890	Mr. McCord	1945-1950
Mr. George Quick	1890-1908	Mr. E. R. McClean	1951—

#### PREMIERSHIPS

- 1906-07—Cameron Trophy, Association. This season the team was undefeated in Open Competition.  
 1920-21—Box Hill Reporter, District Cricket Association. "B" Grade.  
 1936-37—Ringwood District Cricket Association. "B" Grade.  
 1939-40—Ringwood District Cricket Association. "B" Grade.  
 1946-47—Ringwood District Cricket Association. "B" Grade.  
 Warrandyte scored 300 runs or more on the following occasions:  
 1912 At Wonga Park on March 1st, 5 wickets for 369 runs, declared.  
 1927 At Doncaster Heights on April 2nd, 329 runs.  
 1931 At Box Hill on December 19th, 8 wickets for 303 runs, declared.  
 Warrandyte Second Eleven won Premierships on the following occasions:  
 1933-34 Ringwood District Association.  
 1939-40 Ringwood District Association.  
 In addition, South Warrandyte, which was formed by Warrandyte players, won Premierships in Ringwood District Association, 1931-32, 1940-41, 1947-48 seasons.

#### FIRST LIFE MEMBER

JOHN JAMES MOORE, associated with the Cricket Club for more than 35 years, was made a Life Member in 1929 for his outstanding ability as player and supporter of local cricket. A fast bowler, he topped the Club average for 10 seasons, and holds several Reporter Association records. Members of the Centenary Committee offer their congratulations and thanks to Jack as the Club's first Life Member.

# OUTSTANDING BATSMEN, WITH SCORES AND AVERAGES.

Year	Name	Innings	Runs	Average
1905-06	J. Till			
1906-07	J. Till			
1910-11	G. Speers			
1911-12	G. Speers			
1912-13	A. Binnie			
1913-14	J. Coleman			
1919-20	L. Till .. .. .	8	189	35.0
1920-21	L. McCulloch .. ..	14	254	21.2
1921-22	J. Coleman .. .. .	16	383	33.2
1922-23	J. Coleman .. .. .	12	463	57.9
1923-24	W. Coleman .. .. .	—	—	—
1924-25	J. Schubert .. .. .	9	214	30.5
1925-26	J. Till .. .. .	14	356	25.4
1926-27	J. Schubert .. .. .	—	683	37.9
1927-28	J. Schubert .. .. .	17	362	21.3
1928-29	J. Schubert .. .. .	9	—	—
1929-30	J. Schubert .. .. .	8	—	—
1930-31	R. Mitchell .. .. .	—	—	—
1931-32	W. Harding .. .. .	12	346	34.6

## BOWLERS.

Year	Name	Innings	Runs	Average
1905-06	J. Till			
1906-07	J. Till			
1912-13	P. Prendagast .. ..	43	491	11.4
1913-14	G. Houghton .. ..	17	149	8.7
1914-15	G. Houghton .. ..	21	181	8.6
1919-20	J. Schubert .. .. .	44	355	8.6
1920-21	W. Coleman .. .. .	47	406	8.6
1921-22	J. Schubert .. .. .	57	375	6.5
1922-23	J. Coleman .. .. .	60	461	7.6
1923-24	L. McCulloch .. ..	46	261	5.4
1924-25	J. Schubert .. .. .	28	239	8.4
1925-26	L. McCulloch .. ..	44	344	7.8
1926-27	J. J. Moore .. .. .	64	594	9.3
1927-28	J. Schubert .. .. .	31	361	11.6
1928-29	J. J. Moore .. .. .	24	168	7.0
1929-30	L. J. Till .. .. .	21	225	10.8
1930-31	J. J. Moore .. .. .	35	243	7.0
1931-32	L. J. Till .. .. .	45	—	—



