

HEYDAY

I lift my cap to Veteran Time, who let me live throughout the years when
Lordly Batsmen cut and drove, surrounded by a ring of cheers!

My youth was mellowed in the sun of Giants never equalled since,
As Clement Hill, the Classic Gunn, the Cambridge-Sussex-Indian Prince.

How often the last became a ruthless tyrant, and controlled, at heavy cost,
Whatever ball the flabbergasted bowler bowled. I felt my cricket driven
blood make legs and arms and shoulders tense, excited by the hammering thud
Of leather on the boundary fence!

Imperial Cricket lived with us when Ranjitsinhji, swift and slim, defended
England at the crease and Victor Trumper countered him. Their single
hope, their single quest, was room in Cricket Book of gold, and he that saw
The brilliant best is finely paid for being old.

I touch my cap to Veteran Time, who gave me those electric years when
Glittering demi-gods provoked volleys of superhuman cheers, it was then
I mellowed in the sun of Batsmen never equalled since, the Southland Pride,
The Greatest Gunn, the Cambridge-Sussex-Indian Prince.

STATE LIBRARY

OF VICTORIA

- 7 NOV 1986

SOURCE

CALL No.

NORMAN GALE

LD \$3.00

LTP

796.35806

C85C

By. LOUIS R. CRANFIELD

with foreword by

BOB PARISH

Chairman of Australian Cricket Board

CONTENTS

Foreword	3
1st IX W.C.C. 1979-80 — Recreation Ground	4
CHAPTER 1, Pioneers Did Not Lack Enthusiasm	5
CHAPTER 2, The Club Comes of Age	8
CHAPTER 3, Cricket At Its Best	11
Club Stalwarts of By-gone Years	16
Warrandyte Cricket Club Life Members	17
CHAPTER 4, The Post War Years	18
W.C.C. 1st Under 16 Team — W.C.C. Ladies Cricket Team	21
W.C.C. Second XI 1970-1971 — Players outside pavillion	22
Action Pictures	23
Pound Bend Tunnel — View of Yarra River	24
CHAPTER 5, From Strength to Strength	25
APPENDIX	27

Published by the Committee of the Warrandyte Cricket Club
to commemorate 125 years
of the playing of the Summer Game at Warrandyte

EPICS FROM VICTORIAN HISTORY
CENTURY OF CRICKET
GOLDEN HISTORY OF WARRANDYTE

WARRANDYTE CRICKET CLUB

1979/1980 COMMITTEE

GEOFF DAY	President
SANDY HODGE	Secretary
GEORGE STURESTEPS	Treasurer
MARIA McGHEE	Social Secretary
TERESA PRINCE	Publicity Officer
ALLAN BELLINGER	Grounds Committee Chairman
STEVE PASCOE	Match Committee Chairman
BRUCE KLINE	Junior Administrator
BARRY JOHNSTON	Registration Secretary.

TEAM CAPTAINS

1st ELEVEN	C. STAN DAVIS	V.C. STEVE PASCOE
2nd ELEVEN	C. JOHN McCARTIN	V.C. IAN DAVIES
3rd ELEVEN	C. IAN WORLD	V.C. GEOFF EDWARDS
4th ELEVEN	C. GEOFF DAY	V.C. ALLAN BELLINGER
5th ELEVEN	C. WAYNE MOORE	V.C. DOUG BASHFORD
WOMENS ELEVEN	C. MARIA McGHEE	V.C. JENNY McLAWS

100 yards upstream.

Photograph by courtesy of Mrs. Hugh Robinson.

FOREWORD

Official statistics show that more Australians play cricket than any other sport.

Cricket can be likened to a tree. Its roots are club cricket and the champion players that the game produce the fruit of the tree.

The game began in Australia because people got together to form a team. Teams developed into clubs. Clubs into Associations and so on.

So the origin of a Club that has a history extending over 125 years is important.

Louis Cranfield's history of the Warrandyte Cricket Club is an important and intensely interesting document.

Originally formed in 1855 and known as Andersons Creek the Club played its first match against another miners' team "Caledonia".

The name was changed to Warrandyte Cricket Club in 1908 and the Club celebrated its centenary with a match against a Victorian Cricket Association team in 1956.

It will celebrate its 125th year with a match against the M.C.C. "29ers" in February, 1980.

Congratulations and best wishes for the future.

BOB PARISH
Chairman of the
Australian Cricket Board

CHAPTER 1

PIONEERS DID NOT LACK ENTHUSIASM

In February 1855 the noted early Victorian Politician William Westgarth paid a visit to Warrandyte or Anderson Creek as the town was then frequently called. He described the village as a small mining camp stretched along about a mile of the riverbank. The number of miners did not exceed two hundred in all. The following year saw big changes to the riverside village. A punt was established across this river, a Post Office was established, a Mining Warden was appointed, and the Lands Department has also got a map which shows a ground used for cricket on the present site of the Recreation Ground.

A number of Pioneers of Warrandyte took a keen interest in Cricket, but two in particular, Walter Charles Brackenbury the Mining Warden who played both for the Melbourne Cricket Club and the Yarra Yarra Club at Heidelberg and William Collins who was foundation Secretary of the Yarra Yarra Cricket Club when it was established in 1857, stand out as founders of the game in Warrandyte.

Unfortunately records are sparse and little can be said as to the date a Club was established. But on January 9 — 1864 "Bells Life in Victoria" printed the complete scores of a match between Anderson Creek and Caledonia (now St. Andrews), and many noted early residents took part including James Masterton who got five wickets in each innings. Unfortunately the exact figures cannot be given because in those days the Bowling analysis was only kept in International matches. Masterton owned a rich mining claim almost opposite the Old Catholic Church in Brackenbury Street. In 1856 he caused quite a stir in the Melbourne Argus when he found 12oz. of gold in a tub of quartz. Others who took part were the Squires brothers who ran the Grocers Shop in the Main Street for 40 years and it is now the Foodlands Store. Stiggants the Pioneer Orchardist on Pound Road. While Ewen Hugh Cameron who later represented the District in Parliament for 40 years took two wickets for Caledonia.

Anderson Creek won a brilliant victory scoring 114 to their opponents 26 and 36.

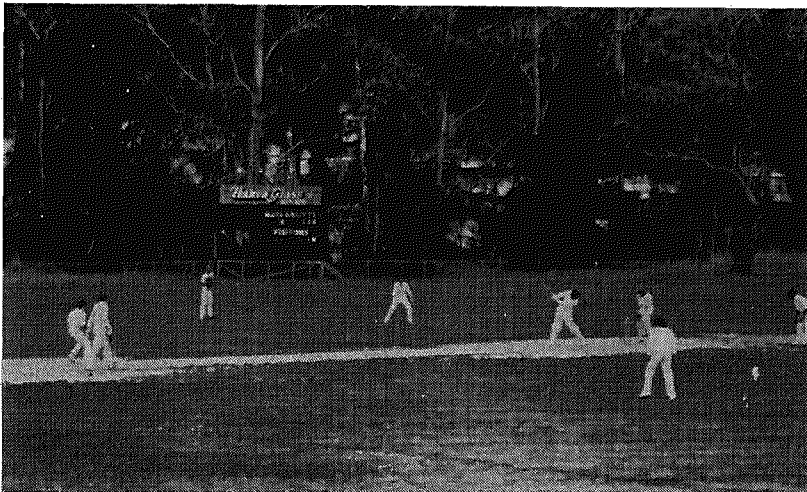
Conditions could not have been too pleasant as the Yarra River had been inundated by the worst flood in its history the week before and the first bridge which stood behind the old Post Office had been washed away. It seems likely that the Caledonian team was rowed across the River in a Pulley Boat. Also worthy of mention is the fact that the second all England Eleven to visit Australia was playing a Victorian 11 on the same day, 1st 1864 on the M.C.G. before 15,000 people.

The Club's next move came on 15 June 1864 when they applied to the



WARRANDYTE CRICKET CLUB FIRST ELEVEN

Standing: Brian Chapman, Geoff Taylor, Richard Bowen, Barry Johnson, Steve Peake, Wayne Moore, Fred Junwirth, Bob McDonald. Front: Peter James, Steven Pascoe (V.C.), Stan Davis (Capt.), Bruce Kline, Mark Davis, John Chapman.



A delightful view of the Warrandyte Recreation Ground with Andersons Creek in background.

Government for a permanent recreation ground. Their petition was presented by the then Mining Warden Charles Warburton Carr, and the club was granted permissive occupancy but this was not very suitable as they were worried that the ground might be used for building purposes, and a second petition was presented on behalf of the Club by Mr. W. Watkins M.L.A. in 1866. A permanent recreation ground was then gazetted and the first Trustees were appointed on September 10 — 1866. They comprised of Dr. John Elmes, Walter Pretty, William Collins, Arthur Liddlelow and Thomas Porteus. William Collins who was a landscape gardener offered to give his services to beautify the ground and in the early 1870's the club had a somewhat ambitious scheme to build a pavillion, fence and level the ground and also build a bowling green. They applied to the Government for 150 Pounds towards the cost but they got no more than a letter of acknowledgement. So their hopes were short lived.

During the years 1875 and 1876 the Trustees spent the sum of 7 Pounds 3 Shillings and 9 Pence on fencing and other improvements to the ground but there is nothing to suggest that anything in the line of a permanent pavillion had been erected.

The Club had a difficult time in the early 1880's due mostly to problems on the Gold Fields. Writing in the "Booroondarra Standard" on January 12 — 1882, the Anderson Creek correspondent said, "Last year, 1881, was probably the first year, since there has been a diggings that a cricket match has not taken place on the recreation ground."

The reason for the lack of interest was probably more due to the distressing conditions that were prevailing in the town than lack of interest in the game itself. Many of the Miners had a short time previously been non-suited in a costly Supreme Court action over the Elliott Freehold claim in the Selby Estate. The town was also badly hit by Typhoid Fever during the year.

During the 1880's and 1890's the Club played only occasionally, but the matches were always picturesque and a great deal of preparation went into them. A match which was spoken of for many years after was played against the West End Brewery on St. Patrick's Day March 17 — 1887. The Following account from the local correspondent in the "Evelyn Observer" giving a good description of the style of cricket that was then played. About 40 employees of the celebrated West End Brewery visited on the above day, and I think I can safely say they had a good time of it and a cricket match was played between 15 of them and 15 of the Creek, resulting in a win for the Creek by Seven runs. Hopson and Patterson for the visitors did good service. The catering was everything that could be desired, and it is likely that the visit will become a yearly one."

Masterton who played so well in the match 25 year before top scored for the Creek with 13 runs and Frank Trezise who had recently taken over the Licence of the Warrandyte Hotel opened for the Creek but was unfortunate

to be out for a duck. Other players who took part in the match included H. and E. Squires, E. and J. Blair, J. Mullins and Thomas White and Harris. The scores were Anderson Creek 67 and West End Brewery 60.

In other matches about this time the "Creek" does not appear to have done so well. On April 3 — 1886 Lilydale journeyed to Anderson Creek to play the local club and were easy victors 79 to 22. For the local lads May 8, Logan 3 and Mullins and White 2 each did best with the bat. While for Lilydale Hooper 27, Hill 11, and the sundries at 23 suggest that the Anderson Creek keeper couldn't have been getting enough practice. In the following match on February 12 — 1887, against Eltham at Eltham, Anderson Creek were again easily beaten. Eltham scoring 70 to the riverside village's 36, but they did better when they met Templestowe at Anderson Creek on November 15 — 1890. It was stated that there had been heavy rain and the ground was rough. Anderson Creek scored 50 to Templestowe's 23. M. Mullins top scoring for the locals with 9 and Speers and J. Mullins each scoring 8. The School Master George Symington captaining for the Creek and made 3.

An interesting discussion which took place in the files of the local newspaper "The Evelyn Observer" in 1889, led to the discovery of the world record for the throwing of a Cricket Ball. A short time previously an American Baseball player Harold Crane had thrown a Cricket Ball 128 yards on the Melbourne Cricket Ground, and as there was some doubt as to whether it was a World Record the sporting goods firm of Boyce and Scott wrote to the editor of the Peak Downs Telegram at Claremont in Queensland and the latter stated in reply that on December 19 — 1872 a Queensland Aboriginal named "Billy the Blackfellow" had thrown a ball 140½ yards while playing in a local cricket match and that it was the acknowledged World Record. The death of Willima Collins in 1891 removed an outstanding Pioneer of the game in the Upper Yarra District he had been the moving light in the Club for 34 years. He resided in a small cottage which stood on the present site of the recreation ground kiosk. He kept the equipment and generally organised the matches when the Club had no Committee.

The finding of good Gold in the Mines could sometimes cause the Club to renege on their obligations. On one occasion in the 1890's a party of gentlemen from the Croydon Club came riding into town and claimed that they had arranged a match against the Warrandyte Club and there was no one to play them. They rode off in a huff. The Warrandyte Club apologised to them in the local press but they never came back.

CHAPTER 2

THE CLUB COMES OF AGE

October 14 — 1905 was a red letter day in the history of the Warrandyte Club. At a meeting called by Edward Kruse it was decided to reorganise the Club and to field a team in the Cameron Trophy Association. Previous to this three Warrandyte players, Fred Topping and J. & R. Speers were playing for Kangaroo Ground in the Association. Now Warrandyte was going to have its own team and they were going to play regular fixtures.

They commenced quietly in their new venture. They played Kangaroo Ground on November 16 and lost 57 to 46. But in a match against Caledonia the following month the Creek won convincingly 82 to Caledonia 31 and 9. Their win was largely due to the fine effort of their Captain John Till who scored 45 with the bat and took 4 for 14 and 5 for 3 with the ball. Other players who took part included, the School Teacher G. Quick, Constable G. Wyatt, A. Stiggants and E. Mahony, and the same month they scored another convincing win over Kangaroo Ground with John Till scoring 49.

On A.N.A. Day, January 26 — 1906, the celebrated Carlton Club came to Warrandyte and won fairly easily 81 to the locals 52 and 43. At the conclusion of the match the Warrandyte Ladies played the Carlton Ladies and won 29 to 19. It was the first match of a fairly successful ladies team which existed in Warrandyte for a few years. Carlton returned to Warrandyte on A.N.A. Day the following year when the locals nearly got home against them. The scores being Carlton 114, Warrandyte 97. The Ladies played a team from Coldstream but were not so successful scoring 19 to their opponent's 82. Miss R. Binnie taking 6 wickets for the locals.

On February 2 — 1906 Warrandyte continued their successful run for the Cameron Trophy when they again played Kangaroo Ground and won 155 to 26, J. Till 58. The match marked the first appearance of his son Les Till who scored 8. Les was a fast bowler and middle order batsman, his association with the Club lasted until the Second World War.

It was becoming almost a one man game at Warrandyte when John Till made 107 of Warrandyte's 280 to Kangaroo Ground's 62 and 45 but on this occasion the latter played 3 men short. The match reports were often bad but Warrandyte appears to have played Kangaroo Ground four times in one season.

In the last match Warrandyte lost to Caledonia by scoring 32 and 54 to the latter and 2 for 38. Caledonia went on to beat Christmas Hills and take the Trophy.

The following year opened with a hard-fought game against Yarra Glen. The

locals had scored 110 and 7 for 63 to Yarra Glen's 120 when the time ran out, and as there were no draws the match had to be completed at a later date. John Till was again showing remarkable form when he scored 82 of Warrandyte's 185 in the next match against Christmas Hills. The latter could only manage 99 and 45. He then scored 136 n.o. of a Warrandyte total of 280 against Caledonia. On February 6 — 1907 he scored 49 n.o. against Panton Hills and 42 against Caledonia on the 16th of the month.

As Warrandyte was almost level pegging with Yarra Glen at the conclusion of the season the match committee ordered them to complete their first match against Yarra Glen. Warrandyte had a difficult task as their lead was only 53 runs and they only had three wickets standing but on the big day they succeeded in lifting their score to 84 and they then disposed of Yarra Glen for 67 giving Warrandyte a seven run win. The tribute paid to the team in the "Evelyn Observer" of the 22 March 1907 is well worth recording.

"There was a large attendance on the Warrandyte ground on Saturday last to witness the conclusion of the match Warrandyte v Yarra Glen. Great interest was centered in the match as it was Yarra Glen's only chance of having a say for the Cameron Trophy. The Warrandyte team have been playing in consistent form and hold an unbeaten record, but with the scores Warrandyte 110 and 7 for 63 v Yarra Glen 120. Yarra Glen seemingly had the match won on paper, but the uncertainties of cricket were again manifest and after a hard tussle Warrandyte won by Seven runs — a truly meritorious performance, and in only their second year they have won the much coveted Cameron Trophy without a defeat. Strange to say in every match played in the Association excepting against Yarra Glen, Warrandyte has won with an innings to spare."

John Till crowned his magnificent season by being elected Captain and scoring 42 runs for the Cameron Trophy Association in their Annual Representative Match against the Evelyn Bourke Association.

The presentation of the Trophies was made at a concert in the Panton Hills Mechanic Institute on May 24th in which John Till was presented with a clock by E.H. Cameron, Minister for Public Works. In responding on behalf of his Club Till said "That never in his 28 years of Cricket experience had he met a more sportsmanlike lot of men, than those competing in the Cameron Association."

The Warrandyte Ladies did much to add to the success of the evening by rendering several items at the Concert but on the return journey there was a tragedy when one of the coaches crashed into a tree. Several were thrown out and the coach was badly damaged, but no one was seriously hurt. In the year after Warrandyte's win, none of the teams in the Diamond Valley showed any interest in playing for the Cameron Trophy, so Warrandyte sought admission to the Box Hill Reporter Association, they however met with considerable opposition from the other clubs, chiefly because Warran-

dyte was out of their locality. They were finally admitted to the Association on October 2 — 1908 on the understanding that they played all their first round matches away, or that they met the wishes of the opposing team in this regard. Their first match in the city Association was against Canterbury Methodists in the B Grade. They played three men short and were beaten 102 to 203. Though John Till and G. Speers struggled hard with both bat and ball to avoid defeat. In their first year with the Box Hill Association Warrandyte won only two of their ten matches and were second last in the competition. The Association was expanding rapidly and a C Grade was added shortly after. Warrandyte held their place in the B Grade but they were usually running close to the end. They however battled hard. On one occasion they were 6 for 30 in reply to their opponents over 200, so there was no appearance from the locals the following week but there was no thought of withdrawing from the Association.

As the years went by several young players came to the Club and in the last year before the Great War the team comprised of G. and J. Speers, H. March, J. Colman, L. Till, K. & L. McCulloch, S. McAuley, G. Houghton, R. Binnie and J. Forden.

CHAPTER 3

STATE LIBRARY OF VICTORIA

CRICKET AT IT'S BEST

"Cricket at it's Best" would be an apt description of the efforts of the Warrandyte Cricket Club in the 1920's and 1930's. Year after year the Club played the game, not always winning, but always putting up a good fight and if they went down they went down fighting.

Cricket in the Post War era did not return immediately to its previous eminence. The Box Hill Reporter Association reformed with two Grades and in 1922-23 a third Grade was added.

Warrandyte played in the B Grade and were successful in winning the premiership in 1920-21 when they beat Blackburn in the final. Owing to the final match being interrupted badly by rain, the scores are not available but the premiership team comprised of L. Till, J. Colman, R. Sloan, R. McCulloch, W. Moore, L. McCulloch, J. Schubert, W. Colman, J. White, A. Aumann and W. McCulloch.

The following season the Club again played successfully and with 20 points were equal top with Doncaster Heights and in the Semi Final they beat Blackburn by an innings and 63 runs. Their good win being mainly due to the fine effort of J. Colman with 83 n.o. and J. Schubert 42. But when they faced East Doncaster in the final they were all out for 24. The score being Warrandyte 24 and 74 — East Doncaster 111 and 73.

The Club again commenced brilliantly in the 1922-23 season, beating Templestowe by 90 runs in the first match and followed that by beating Blackburn by an innings and 14 runs and in the third match they scored 175 to East Doncaster's 6 for 16. In the fourth match they beat Doncaster Heights by 7 wickets. It was not surprising that Warrandyte again finished top of the ladder with 23 points, but as so often in the past they went down to East Doncaster in the Semi-Finals.

In 1923-24 the Warrandyte Club came back even stronger than they did in the previous season. In the first match they beat Blackburn by an innings and 4 runs. In the second match they topped the 300 mark for the first time in a match against Doncaster Heights. The scores were Warrandyte 313 R. McCulloch 80, L. McCulloch 73, W Moore 56. Doncaster Heights 79 and 33. In the third match Warrandyte beat Templestowe by an innings and 39 runs and in the fourth match they again beat the East Doncaster Junior side by 105 runs.

The fifth match was against the East Doncaster Seniors and as both teams had an unbeaten record quite a good crowd turned up to witness the contest

which was played on the Warrandyte ground on 1st December, 1923. This match was slow and hard fought right from the beginning and in the end Warrandyte went down by 17 runs. The scores being East Doncaster 93 and 74, Warrandyte 112 and 38.

The 1924-25 season did not produce any great highlights from the Warrandyte Club, but saw the welcome return of Fred Topping, who had not played for the Club since pre War days. The 1925-26 season was probably one of the most important in the history of the Club as it fielded a second Eleven for the first time. The players in this team included F. and G. Adams, E. Aumann, M. and R. Smith, E. Hornidge, G. Dillon, T. Wooley, L. Belzer, H. Tortice, and L. Hemsworth. The team was usually fairly well down in the competition but succeeded in making the Finals in 1927-28. The Senior Team again played their way into the Finals and the Semi-Final against the Box Hill A.N.A. producing one of the most exciting games the Club had played for many years. The Box Hill A.N.A. in their first innings made 112. Jack Moore broke the Box Hill Association record with 9 for 46. Warrandyte replied with 87 and the Box Hill A.N.A. scored 134 in their second innings, Jack Colman taking 6 for 28 and Warrandyte needing 160 to win were all out for 148. The Box Hill Reporter gives a good idea of the hard fight which took place. "This match was concluded on Saturday last at Canterbury, Warrandyte requiring 160 to win, and after a close finish were defeated by a small margin of 12 runs. Warrandyte was unfortunate in having to bat a man short, as Paul who was 22 n.o. on the previous Saturday failed to appear. L. McCulloch and L. Till made a good stand and looked to be gradually wearing their opponents down, when Linden caught Till off Aumann. McCulloch was bowled a few balls later, when McAuley the last man went to the wicket 30 runs were required, and this lad, who has been showing good promise this season, quickly ran into double figures, but after making 15 was splendidly caught by Aumann off Bullen."

The following season again saw some very fine cricket from the Warrandyte Club. On March 5 — 1927 F. Houghton scores one of the few centuries that had then been scored by the Club when he made 116 in a match against St. Andrews, but even a better treat was in store, Warrandyte topped the points table and in their semi-final against Doncaster Heights they scored 329. J. Schubert 108, L. Till 58 n.o., E. Houghton 51, J. Colman 44 and J. McAuley 22. Doncaster Heights replied with 125 and 115 J. Moore taking 4 for 47 and 6 for 46 with the ball.

It was unfortunate after such a brilliant display that Warrandyte should once again drop their bundle in the final when Blackburn beat them by 3 wickets; Jack Moore headed the Box Hill Association bowling averages that season when he took 64 wickets at an average of 9.28.

In view of their fine record the Association promoted Warrandyte to the A Grade the following season but they were not successful and ran close to last on the points table. The junior side however came to the rescue of some

of Warrandyte's lost prestige. The team played consistently through the year and beat Box Hill Wattles in the Semi-final by 2 runs. F. Adams scoring 26 n.o. and 16 n.o. and G. Houghton made 20 and 14. Warrandyte scores were 107 and 75, but the team was beaten by Doncaster Central in the final.

In 1928-29 the Warrandyte Junior side was unable to reform and the Senior Team was dropped back to the B Grade. To a certain extent the Association had not been fair to Warrandyte. The Club had played some wonderful cricket, but being in the B Grade their players were usually not eligible for the inter — Association matches. In 1928-29 the Club was not placed in the finals, but in the following year they ran third only to be surely beaten by Mitcham. The scores being Warrandyte 63 and 178, Mitcham 153 and 404 J. Graham 178, W. Kennedy 100.

In 1930 the Club received a valuable accession when Roy Mitchell was appointed head teacher of the Warrandyte State School. He remained at the school until 1936 and was an outstanding wicket keeper and opening batsman. In 1919 he toured England as a reserve wicket keeper with the A.I.F. team but was unfortunate not to play in a match.

In the 1930-31 season Warrandyte again fought their way through to the finals only to be eliminated by Box Hill, by this time dissatisfaction with the Box Hill Association was being felt and when the second eleven was re-established the following year it was affiliated with the Ringwood District Cricket Association. Strange to say both the Senior team in the Box Hill and the Junior team in Ringwood were runners up in their respective associations. Another difficulty with the Warrandyte Club was its out of the way locality. For a few years prior to the Great War and for some time after players had to ride bicycles to the matches, cars slowly came into use in the twenties, but few people in Warrandyte could afford to own one and the games were too far for horse transport, but the fact that several of the players were orchardists proved a big help to the Club as they owned trucks in connection with their business and they made them available to the other players at the weekends.

In 1931 the South Warrandyte Cricket Club was established almost through the sole initiative of John V. Colman, who had been a Warrandyte Stalwart for more than 20 years and he was destined to lead South Warrandyte for another 30 years. He did a great deal of voluntary work in making the South Warrandyte School ground suitable for a Senior Club. In matters other than sport he was a public spirited man and represented the Warrandyte riding in the Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe from 1926 to 1953.

As the District was progressing rapidly the formation of the South Warrandyte Club made little or no difference to Warrandyte and by 1934 both teams were fielding two elevens in the Ringwood Association. As South Warrandyte were Premiers in their first year they were promoted to the A Grade and Warrandyte stayed in the B Grade, but in the following season South Warran-

dyte ran second last in the Senior Grade and Warrandyte were again finalists in the B Grade.

In the 1936-37 season Jack Moore took over as Captain of the Senior Team, they remained unbeaten until well into February when they were beaten by Wonga Park. The side then went on to beat Heathmont in the final by 75 runs. The scores were Warrandyte 53 and 122, Heathmont 50 and 50.

The club was promoted to the A Grade the following year, a privilege they had enjoyed on only one previous occasion.

In 1937-38 the club beat Kilsyth by 3 wickets in the semi-finals but lost by 8 wickets to North Ringwood in the final. A dark cloud however was hanging over the club. On January 13 — 1939 a disastrous bushfire commenced near Eltham, it jumped the river and ravaged the town of Warrandyte in less than an hour. 168 houses were destroyed and the club didn't fare any better than the rest of the town. To quote the Ringwood Mail of January 19 "the Football and Cricket Pavilions went in a few moments and now the cricket club has not a bat or stump left to play the game."

Fred Topping was the only Warrandyte victim of the halicost and the Ringwood Mail gives a good description of the high regard in which the Warrandyte people hold him. "On Friday afternoon when it became known that Fred Topping was missing much concern was felt, and when he was found dead among the ruins of his home on Saturday morning genuine regret was expressed by everybody".

In the weeks that followed the big fire the Warrandyte Club had a difficult time. The Kilsyth Club kindly loaned their equipment in the first match and various Melbourne sporting goods firms donated equipment to them, and with the aid of several appeals by the Ringwood Mail the Club survived for the remainder of the year.

The next season started auspiciously when it was announced that the Victorian Cricket Association in response to an appeal from the Ringwood Association had donated 50 Pounds worth of equipment to the Warrandyte and South Warrandyte clubs. As the Warrandyte Club had been assisted in various ways before they received a new set of matting, but the South Warrandyte Club received a new set of matting, 6 bats, 2 pairs of wicket-keepers gloves, 2 pairs of wicket-keepers pads and 6 pairs of batting pads, while the Ringwood Association donated wickets and balls.

The Warrandyte club fielded two teams in the B and C Grade of the Ringwood Association that year, and they had an exceptional season. Though neither side was on top during the year, they both finished third in the points table and won their respective semi-finals outright. The seniors went on to beat North Bayswater by 63 runs in the final. The scores were Warrandyte 205, J. McAuley 55, F. Houghton 37, W. McAuley 36, L. Till 27 n.o. and 153.

D. Leheny 39, C. Houghton 35 and J. McAuley 24, to North Bayswater's 129 and 166. In the C Grade Warrandyte won by 9 wickets scoring 116, Smith 42, McCulloch 16 and 1 for 38 to Ringwood's 58 and 94.

The double Premiership came as a fitting reward considering the loss the Club had experienced the previous year and Prof. W.A. Osborne bestowed his patronage on their Premiership gathering at the Recreation Ground Kiosk.

The Ringwood Association was divided into three zones in 1941-42 to save the necessity for travel during war time. Warrandyte withdrew in 1942, but South Warrandyte was one of the few Clubs that played through the War.

CHAPTER 4

THE POST WAR YEARS WERE DIFFICULT

The Post War years proved a difficult time for many organisations and the Warrandyte Cricket Club was no exception to the rule. In 1945-46 the Club fielded one team in the B Grade. They were defeated in the final by East Ringwood 68 and 136 to Warrandyte's 49 and 45. The following year they fielded two teams in the A and C Grades. The teams failed to make the final and in the last match there appears to be an unhappy difference of opinion, Boronia scored 203 and Warrandyte replied the following Saturday with 85. As it was unlikely that the team would have taken all the afternoon to score 85 the question was asked why didn't Warrandyte take the field again.

The 1947-48 season proved a successful year for the Club largely due to the efforts of the Chapman brothers. In the semi-finals against Bayswater, Warrandyte scored 310 with Arthur Chapman 156 n.o. S. Houghton 48 and Allan Chapman 38. The club then went on to defeat Y.C.W. in the final and take the Shield. As it was the third occasion it became the property of the Club.

Considering their good win in the 47-48 season the opening of the following season was eagerly awaited, but it proved a big disappointment as the players could not agree upon the appointment of the Captain and it was agreed not to play at all. The following year the Club returned to the Box Hill Reporter Association under the title of West Warrandyte. Some very difficult years followed and both teams were often last in the competition. Some new players however were recruited including J. Bradbury a distinguished Lancashire League player and together with Alan Chapman, Les Adams and W. Morrison were showing consistent form and 1953-54 the club again made the four but were beaten by Templestowe in the final. Templestowe scoring 266 and 183 to Warrandyte's 83 and 99. Warrandyte again went down to the Doncaster Footballers in the Semi-final the following year. 1956 proved a great year for the club as it marked the visit of the Victorian Cricket Association Team to celebrate the club's centenary. It is safe to say that seldom has such a Gala occasion been witnessed in the District. The rise next to the Pavillion was covered with Bunting and streamers together with many Beach umbrellas and canvas chairs etc.

Clive Fairbairn, Captain of the visitors won the toss and sent Warrandyte to bat. The highlight of the innings of 88 was a fine display by 17 year old Terry Leheny who twice hooked Iverson over the square leg boundary for 6 in a score of 27. The visitors began their innings badly when the Test Cricketer Colin McDonald was caught by B. Chapman off his brother Alan Chapman for 1. The visitors then lost Stevens and Maddocks quickly and they were 3 for 5. Huntington then joined Ponsford and they closed their ranks. With the score at 36 Doug Fry caught Huntington off the bowling of his brother Brian. Ponsford continued to play on slowly and was finally bowled by Harris for 31. Fairbairn closed the V.C.A. innings with the score

at 7 for 102 and at the suggestion of the Cr. W.F. Betton the visitors sportingly took the field for a match against the seconds who scored 42. The Captain O'Dove top scoring with 11. It was then well past 6 o'clock and it was agreed to call it a day. The attendance was well over a thousand and the Hon. G. O. Reid M.L.A. expressed the sentiments of all present when he congratulated the Warrandyte Club on attaining its 100th year and said the occasion had been a truly memorable one which would be remembered for a long time to come.

On the following Saturday after the match the W.C.C. Centenary Ball was held in the Warrandyte Mechanic Institute and it proved another fine success. The members went to considerable trouble to decorate the hall in the Club colours, green and gold and at the rear of the hall was the Club Birthday Cake with 100 blazing candles. The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the Life Membership medalion to J. J. Moore by Cr. W. F. Betton who paid a tribute to the fine services rendered by Jack Moore to the people of Warrandyte both on and off the sporting field. It was during the difficult days of the depression and after the Great Fire that he will be remembered for his fine public spirit said Cr. Betton. In responding Jack Moore said that he considered himself fortunate to be favoured with life membership as his efforts had only been akin to those of all young men who sought a fair contest on the sportsfield.

J. J. Moore was the outstanding player for the Club in the years between the Great Wars and as the proprietor of a successful Grocery business he did much to help the club in other ways during the hard years of the depression. As visitors to the historic match have since played a valued role in building the club into one of the strongest cricket bodies in the Upper Yarra District it is fitting to say something of their work before we pass on to the last section of the history.

The master of ceremonies was Cr. W.F. Betton who has now been a resident of Warrandyte for more than 60 years. He was Warrandyte's riding Councillor in the Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe from 1953 to 1962 and was Shire President in 1957-58. He showed a keen interest in politics and was deeply concerned for the under privileged. He unsuccessfully stood for Parliament on the Labor nomination in 1957. Though not a Cricketer himself he made good use of the many opportunities he had to advance the game. He is a past President of the Club. The Club President in the Centenary Year was John McAuley. His playing career extended from the 1921-22 season until 1975 and he shares with the late J.V. Colman the record for the longest playing career. He states that cricket did not come easy to him and he never scored the coveted century and he often had to retrace his steps after scoring a duck, but he is still a regular attendant at all the matches.

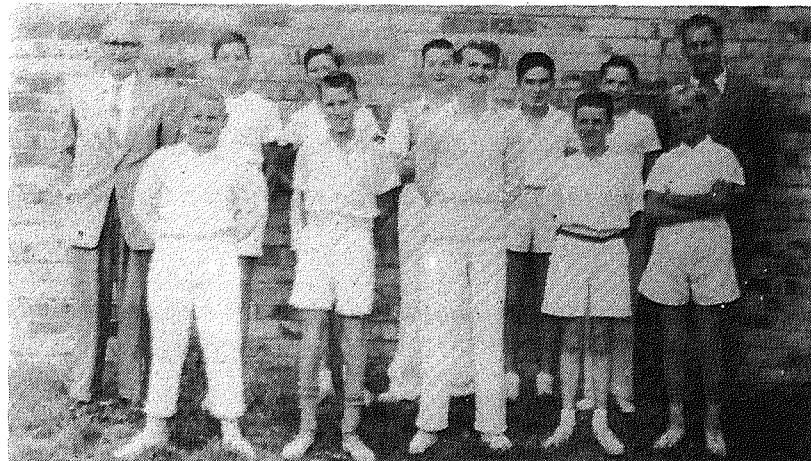
Les Adams is a life member of the club and played in the centenary match, he was Secretary and President of the club for 25 years. He was a member of an early deep Creek orchard family, but he did not follow in their footsteps

and attended the Working Man's College in the early 1930's. He has since a succesful career in Administration within the Education Department. His Uncle Harold George Adams was a Warrandyte Riding Councillor in the Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe from 1934 to 1955. His father Frank Adams was a Club stalwart in the 1920's. Les was principally a bowler but he was also good enough to score a century with the bat. He is also a life member of the club. Alan Chapman has been closely associated with the club for more than 40 years. He first made the Senior team in 1938, and in the early Post War years the four Chapman brothers virtually carried the club. In his 35 years of playing experience he made at least 10,000 runs and scored 10 centuries. Several other members of his family have also been closely associated with the game. His father Arthur Chapman umpired for many years in both the Box Hill Reporter Association and the Ringwood District Association. His son John captained the Warrandyte Senior Team for several seasons and was a successful wicket-keeper and batsman. His eldest daughter Susane recently toured India with the Australian Women Cricket Team, while his younger daughter Jenny played with the Victorian under 21 Team. Alan is a life member of the club.

William McCulloch is a member of a family who played a similar role for Warrandyte in the 1920's as to what the Chapman brothers did for the Club in the Post War years. Bill was a member of the famous 1920-21 Premiership Team which was captained by his brother Richard. Later in the 20's his brother Les took over as Captain and he also played many fine innings for the club. Bill was an orchardist in pre-war days, but after the War he became famous as Victoria's only Postman on Horseback. Bill played most of his cricket with the second eleven but he played occasionally for the Seniors.

One often hears the question asked: "Are the cricketers of today as good as they were in the early years of the Century" which is of course a matter of opinion. But when we look through the remarkable feats of the Club in the 1920's, we must admit that they take a great deal of beating. There was the occasion when John Till made a brief return to the Club in 1926 and though he was nearly 60 years of age he scored 140 in a match against East Doncaster on February 5 of that year. On another occasion his son Les Till made 120 of the club's only score of over 400. On October 16 — 1929 Jim Schubert made 111 not out in a match against the Box Hill A.N.A. his innings included 8 sixes and 6 fours and when the A.N.A. turn came to bat they only made seven runs. Jack Moore took 5 wickets for 2 and Jack McAuley 3 for 5.

Another interesting question which could be considered was "who was the greatest player in the history of the club", and though several have a valid claim for consideration, two stand out, "John Till and Alan Chapman". John Till would appear to be the finest cricketer who ever played for the Club, but as he only played for a few years and as Alan Chapman represented Warrandyte for at least 35 years he could well be considered the greatest cricketer to play for the Warrandyte Cricket Club.

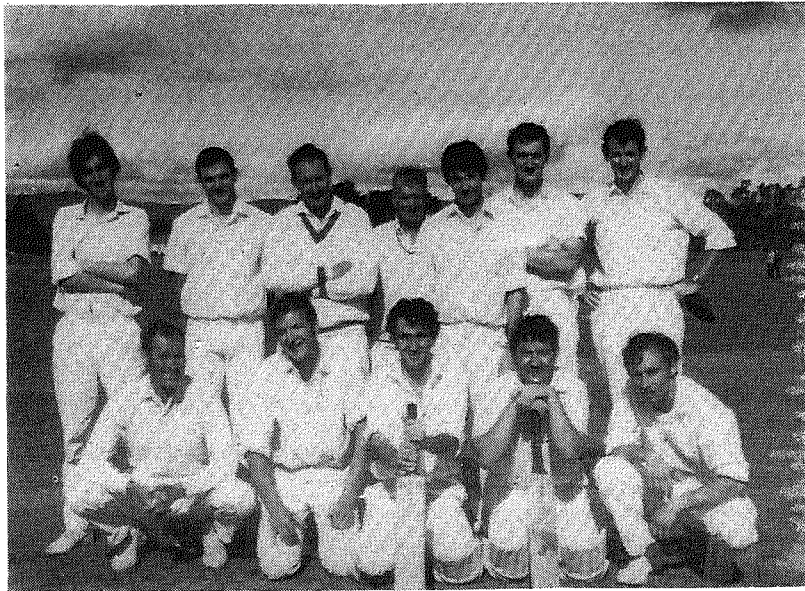


Councillor W.F. Betton (extreme left) and Les Adams (Right) with the Club's First Under 16 Team, Season 1958-59

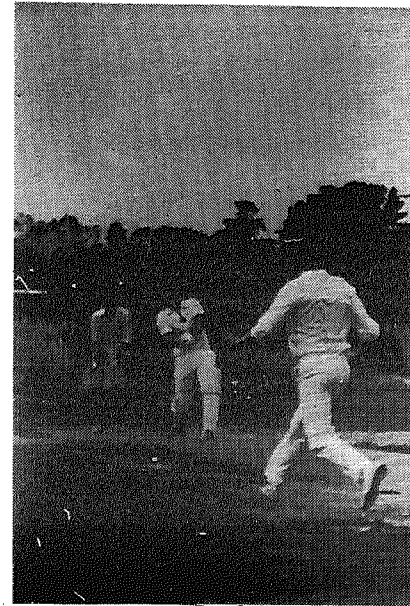


Warrandyte's First Women's Cricket Team.
Premiers 1975-76.

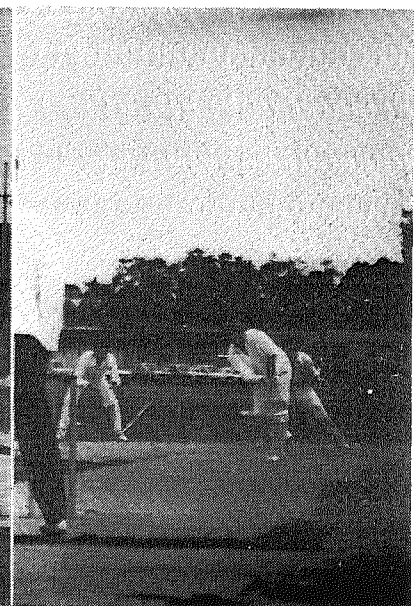
From left: Back - Sandy Hodge, Debbie Lamb, Maria McGhee, Marg. World, Robin Dalli, Teresa Prince. Front - Sandra Jeffs, Jenny Chapman, Suzanne Chapman, Jenny McCaws, Judith Davis.



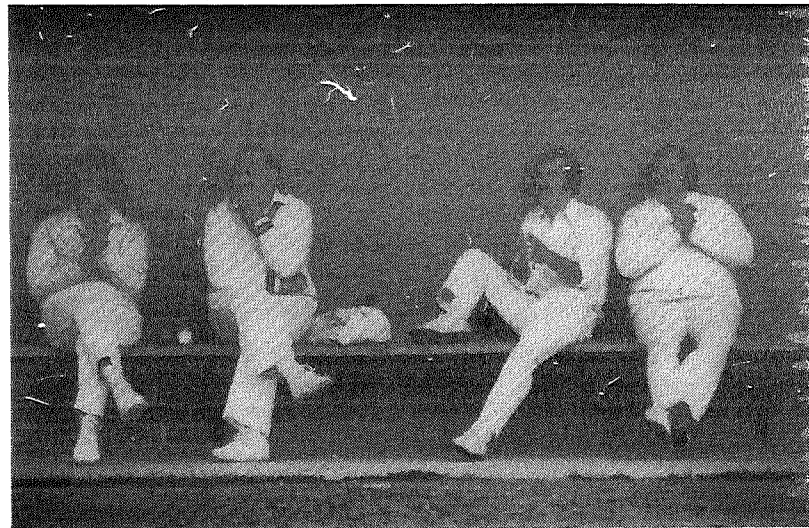
Warrandyte Cricket Club Second XI 1970-71.



Steve Peake hits out.



Steve Pascoe in action.



Bruce Kline, Stan Davis, John Chapman and Bob McDonald awaiting their turn to bat.



John Chapman defends a tricky one — Steve Pascoe at the bowlers end.

CHAPTER 5

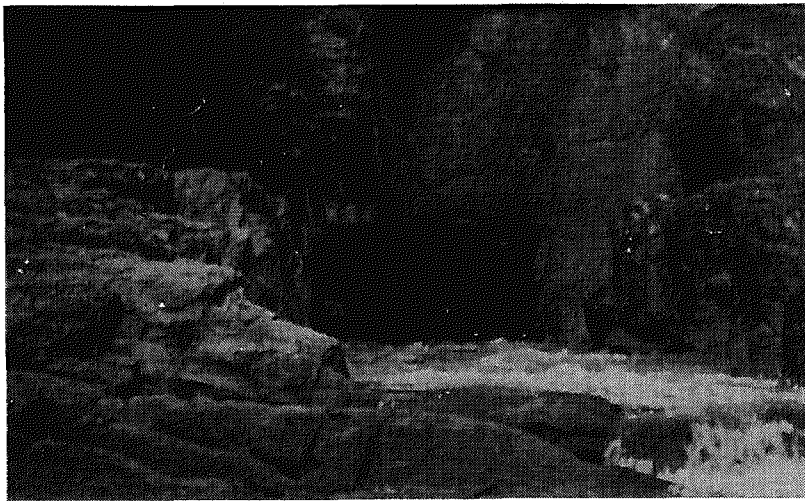
FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

Just as the players in the 1920's were so aptly described as playing the game at its best, so the general progress of the club both on and off the field since the famous centenary match could justly as aptly be described as going from STRENGTH TO STRENGTH.

In 1956 two cricket organisations were commenced in Warrandyte at the suggestion of the author. One being the North Warrandyte Cricket Club and the other an Under-16 Team which played in a Junior Cricket Competition conducted by the Age Newspaper. This team which was captained by Laurie Sloan was the first Junior Cricket side raised in Warrandyte and it played throughout one season with some success.

The North Warrandyte Cricket Club had Morrie Bennett as President and G. Day as Secretary. It played for several seasons and appeared to have a promising future, but was forced to finally close due largely to the fact that the Eltham Council was unable to build the club a ground due to the hilly terrain of the area.

These two Cricket Organisations introduced a number of people to cricket who would not normally have been interested, but they also placed a strain on the Parent Club which had extensive commitments owing to the Centenary Match. At the suggestion of Les Adams Cr. Betton who had not previously held a position in sport, undertook the Presidency, he carried out considerable reorganisation and for several years the club played as the Warrandyte Footballers Cricket Club. One of his first actions was to improve the Club's financial position and to do this he organised a shopping day Tradesmen's Directory. The advertisements for the first one were only obtained after considerable difficulty, but in the course of a few years it became a good financial proposition and proved a great money spinner for the club. The next step made by the club was to form an Under-16 Team which was established in the year 1958-59 and by 1962 the club succeeded in raising a third Senior Team and by this time the organisation was well on the way to success. In 1969 the City of Doncaster and Templestowe took over the administration of the Warrandyte Recreation Ground from the Trustees and the oval was no longer let to the Melbourne Business Firms for their Annual Picnics and though many Warrandyte people could well have been glad to see the last of these revellers there is equally no doubt that the thousands of furniture wagons which came to the town every weekend since even before the turn of the century must have brought great enjoyment to many Melbourne people and their matches were often of a good standard. The 1970's have brought much progress to the club and high on the list of



The Evelyn Tunnel, Pound Bend, Warrandyte.
The tunnel was the scene of a considerable mining enterprise in the early 1870's, when the Yarra River was diverted through it in order to work the bed of the river for gold.



A rugged view of the Yarra River near Warrandyte.

STATE LIBRARY OF VICTORIA

their successes is the Warrandyte Women's Cricket Team which was established by Susane Chapman with the aid of her younger sister Jenny Chapman. The Team in their first season — 1975-76 were the C Grade Premiers in the Victorian Women's Cricket Association Competition and until the 1979-80 season the Team went up a grade each year in the competition. This year they fell back from the Pennant Reserve Grade to the A Grade. The Capatin Maria McGhee and Vice Captain Jenny McLaws are both foundation members of the team and worthy of mention is the fact that two members of the team Susanne Chapman and Sandra Jeffs both scored centuries in the team's first year which is a rare feat in women's cricket. The organisation which is now in its fifth season has proved itself a worthy successor to the original Warrandyte Women's Cricket Club which was established by the Till family in the early years of the century.

In recent years the club has continued to make solid progress. Two Senior and one Junior Team have beed added in the past two years making a total of ten teams in all. Comprising of 5 Senior and 4 Junior and 1 Women's team, The Junior teams are under 16, Under 14, and 2 Under 12 sides. Among the new players who have joined the club recently are Steve Pascoe who came from the Norwood Club five years ago. He is Secretary of the Ringwood District Cricket Association and 3 years ago he was made Ringwood Mail "Sportsman of the Year". Stan Davis, Captain of the Senior Team had a notable career with the Footscray first Eleven before coming to Warrandyte. Bruce Kline also had a noted career with the Melbourne Cricket Club, before he came to reside at the town. His brother Lindsay Kline played for the V.C.A. in the club's centenary match and he later played for the Australian Eleven while Bob McDonald also had a successful career in sub-District Cricket before joining Warrandyte.

In all the Club has won six Senior Premierships. In 1906-07 The Cameron Trophy (Diamond Valley) Association. In 1920-21 and 1958-59 for the Box Hill Reporter Association and 1936-37, 1939-40 and 1947-48 for the Ringwood District Crickst Association.

We have traced as well as we may the activities of the Cricket Club from the days when Warrandyte was a small mining community, through the many years when the township was almost too poor to support a Cricket Club, and we have seen the Club become properly established and finally to become a strong Cricketing Organisation and while we recognise the achievements of those who were successful, we should at the same time remember those who were not so successful. The ones who were unfortunate to score a duck also did their best for the game of cricket and that is all that matters.

APPENDIX

CENTURY MATCH INNINGS — 8th JANUARY 1956 WARRANDYTE

A. CHAPMAN	Run out	7
J. HARRIS	L.B.W. B.J. Danials	9
G. CHAPMAN	S.G. Longley V. Iverson	6
B. CHAPMAN	S. G. Longley B. Iverson	0
T. LEHENY	B. Fairbairn	27
W. AUMANN	L.B.W. Iverson	5
W. FRY	B. McDonald	6
B. FRY	B. Iverson	0
J. SMITH	B. Danials	12
L. ADAMS	L.B. B. Stevens	4
G. DAY	B. Stevens	1
H. SMITH	N.O.	5
	Sundries	6
		88

C. McDONALD	C.B. Chapman B. A. Chapman	1
W. PONSFORD	B. J. Harris	31
B. STEVENS	C. D. FRY B. B Fry	1
D. MADDOCKS	C. W. AUMANN B. Bery	0
I. HUNTINGTON	C. D. Fry B. B Fry	21
J. DANIALS	B. L. Adams	13
C. FAIRBAIRN	C. H. Smith B. W. Aumann	18
K. KLINE	N.O.	2
G. LONGLEY	N.O. 11	
	Sundries	4
	7 for	102

BOWLING V.C.A.

Daniels	2/5
Iverson	4/22
McDonald	1/3
Maddocks	1/3

WARRANDYTE

Chapman	2/35
Fry	2/9
Adams	1/14
Aumann	1/37
Harris	1/4

CLUB STALWARTS OF BY GONE YEARS



LES TILL



BILL McCULLOCH



JOHN V. COLMAN



ROY MITCHELL

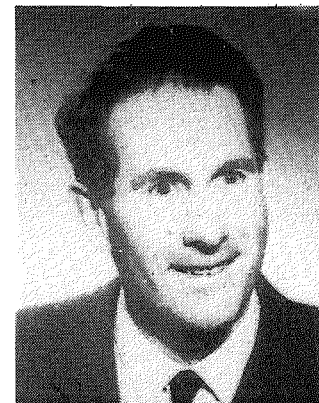


CHARLES HEMSWORTH

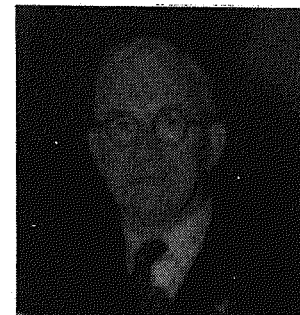
WARRANTYTE CRICKET CLUB LIFE MEMBERS



JACK McAULEY

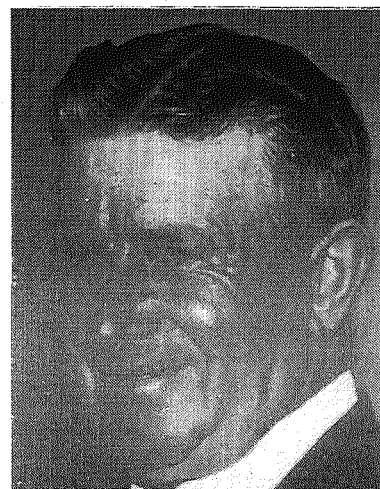


LES ADAMS



JOHN J. MOORE

STATE LIBRARY OF VICTORIA



HORACE SMITH



ALAN CHAPMAN

