

VC 2345

TELEPHONES 87-6616, 87-6617, 87-8326

City of



Ringwood

—
ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO BE
ADDRESSED TO THE TOWN CLERK
IN YOUR REPLY PLEASE REFER TO THE
FOLLOWING REFERENCE SYMBOLS

*Town Hall,
Ringwood*

S/4/4

23rd February, 1961.

Aged Persons Hostel - Public Meeting.

I desire to bring to your notice that His Worship the Mayor, Cr. R.C. Horman, has convened a public meeting to be held in the Town Hall on Tuesday, 14th March, 1961 at 8 p.m. to give consideration to the manner in which the aged citizens in this Municipality can be assisted.

The Council is prepared to make available a site to erect a home for the Aged and the Mayor is desirous that citizens from the whole of the community be present at the meeting when the proposal will be discussed.

It will be appreciated if you can see your way clear to be present at this meeting so that the best possible views can be brought before the public.

Yours faithfully,

F.P. DWERRYHOUSE.
Town Clerk.

A G E N D A

PUBLIC MEETING CALLED BY MAYOR OF RINGWOOD (Cr. R.C. HORMAN, J.P.)
TO DISCUSS PROPOSAL TO BUILD AGED PEOPLE'S HOSTEL.

RINGWOOD TOWN HALL - 14th March, 1961.

I T E M

N O T E S

- 1. Welcome by Mayor.
- 2. Cr. L.H. McLeod outlines proposal.
- 3. Address by Miss Johnson.
(Hospital and Charities Commission)
- 4. Address by Mr. Randal White.
(Elderly Persons Welfare Council)
- 5. Questions.
- 6. Appointment of Provisional Committee.
- 7. General Business.
- 8. Date and Place of next Meeting of
Provisional Committee.

25/1/61

R E M A R K S

TELEPHONES 87-6616, 87-6617, 87-8326

City of



Ringwood

Town Hall,

28th February, 1961 *Ringwood*

—
ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO BE
ADDRESSED TO THE TOWN CLERK
IN YOUR REPLY PLEASE REFER TO THE
FOLLOWING REFERENCE SYMBOLS

A/1/6a

Dear Sir/Madam,

At a well represented meeting of citizens held at the Town Hall on Tuesday, 14th February, 1961, His Worship the Mayor advised those present, that exercising his prerogative as Mayor, he would not be having a Mayoral Ball during his term of office, but was desirous of having a Charity Ball to assist a local charity.

A Committee was elected - of which Cr. Horman is Chairman, V.L. Faravoni Hon. Secretary, W.P.J. Pentin Hon. Treasurer - and it was resolved that a Charity Ball be held and the net proceeds be donated towards a fund to erect a home for the aged in Ringwood.

The Ball which will be known as the "Ringwood Mayor's Charity Ball" will be held in the Town Hall, Ringwood, on Friday, 24th March, 1961, and this Ball will take the place of the Mayoral and Return Balls usually held. Subscription of £3.3.0 per double ticket - dancing commencing at 8.30 p.m. and concluding at 1.30 a.m.

Tickets of admission are available to ALL CITIZENS OF RINGWOOD, and may be purchased at the TOWN HALL, RINGWOOD. As previous Mayors have extended an invitation to you for past functions, and anticipating your co-operation and interest in assisting a worthy cause, two tickets are enclosed herewith.

If acceptable, it is requested you send your remittance for the tickets to the Hon. Secretary, c/o Town Hall, Ringwood, not later than 17th March, 1961, to ascertain a reasonably firm estimate of numbers attending, so that the caterer can make suitable arrangements for adequate catering.

Yours faithfully,

F.P. DWERRYHOUSE.
Town Clerk.

Encl.

4

VC 3845

TELEPHONES 87-6616, 87-6617, 87-8326

City of



Ringwood

—
ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO BE
ADDRESSED TO THE TOWN CLERK
IN YOUR REPLY PLEASE REFER TO THE
FOLLOWING REFERENCE SYMBOLS

*Town Hall,
Ringwood*

A/1/6A

17th March, 1961.

Dear Sir or Madam,

With further reference to the letter of the Ball Committee enclosing tickets to the Mayor's Charity Ball to be held at the Town Hall on Friday, 24th March.

As catering arrangements have to be finalised by Tuesday, 21st March, notification of your intention to be present would be appreciated.

If it is not your desire to attend, would you kindly return the tickets immediately.

By arranging a party you will enjoy a wonderful evening and at the same time assist the Proposed Aged Persons Hostel Appeal. Any extra tickets required will be delivered on receipt of a telephone call.

Your co-operation in this matter would be appreciated by the Ball Committee.

Yours faithfully,

F.P. DWERRYHOUSE.
Town Clerk.

*I did not attend Ball,
returned tickets
with contribution*

—
ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO BE
ADDRESSED TO THE TOWN CLERK
IN YOUR REPLY PLEASE REFER TO THE
FOLLOWING REFERENCE SYMBOLS

City of



Ringwood

*Town Hall,
Ringwood*

27th March, 1961.

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the Mayor and Mayoress and the members of the Mayor's Charity Ball Committee I would like to thank you for the donation made for the Ringwood Aged Persons' Hostel to which the net proceeds of the Ball are to be applied.

It is regretted that you are unable to attend and your generous donation is greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

F.P. DWERRYHOUSE.
Town Clerk.

Mr. J. McCaskill,
2 Illoura Avenue,
RINGWOOD EAST.

31. Haig St
 Ringwood
 18-5-64

Dear Mr. Mc Baskill,

I hope this report is what you desire.
 No. Wedg.

An enjoyable afternoon for elderly people, who in most cases cannot usually get out, was given by the Ringwood Methodist Ladies Guild in the Fellowship Block, on Wednesday afternoon May 13.

For the fourth year in succession, members of the Guild visited these people and invited them to the afternoon, then called for them in cars and later took them home.

Any denomination was welcome.

The musical programme was given by the Baulfield C. W. A. quartette and was greatly enjoyed.

Afternoon tea, ~~tea~~ was served to a total of eighty people and a posy was presented to each guest.

Account 18/5/64

7

VC 2825



City of Ringwood

Elderly Citizens' Clubrooms

Greenwood Park

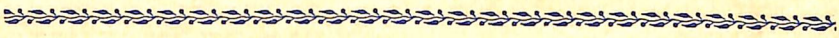
OFFICIAL OPENING

BY

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF THE
CITY OF RINGWOOD

Cr. PETER VERGERS J. P.

Saturday 2nd May, 1964



PROGRAMME

NATIONAL ANTHEM

*

APOLOGIES - TOWN CLERK

*

ELDERLY CITIZENS' CLUBS - WHY?

Miss Sybil H. Irving, M.B.E.

Clubs' Consultant - The Old People's Welfare Council.

*

PRESENTATION OF KEY OF CLUBROOMS.

Cr. A.K. Lines, O.B.E., F.R.A.I.A., M.A.P.I.

A.K. Lines, MacFarlane and Marshall, Architects

*

OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE CLUBROOMS.

Cr. Peter Vergers, J.P.

Mayor of the City of Ringwood.

*

LIAISON BETWEEN RINGWOOD CITY COUNCIL
AND THE ELDERLY CITIZENS' CLUB.

Mr. F.C. Penny - President,

City of Ringwood Elderly Citizens'
Welfare Committee.

*

CITY OF RINGWOOD ELDERLY CITIZENS' CLUB.

Mrs. N. Shaw - President - Provisional Committee.

*

UNVEILING COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE.

Mrs. Peter Vergers - Mayoress of the City of Ringwood.

*

BLESSING OF THE CLUBROOMS.

Rev. D.B. Warner, B. Comm., Th.L.,

Vicar of St. Paul's Church of England, Ringwood.

Chaplain to the Council of the City of Ringwood.

*

At the conclusion of the ceremony, afternoon tea will be served in the Clubrooms.



The Council gratefully acknowledges the financial and other assistance it has received from the many individuals and organisations throughout the Municipality and elsewhere, which has culminated in the erection of the Clubrooms for those worthy members of the Community - The Elderly Citizens.



* * * * *

Post 31/2/61

Work Begins Next Year On £80,000 Home For Aged

WORK is expected to begin in February, 1962, on the £80,000 Home for the Aged in Kirk St., Ringwood. Land for the Home has been given by the Ringwood Council and negotiations completed between the Richmond Lions Club and the Ringwood Elderly Citizens' Residences Appeal Committee for the distribution of funds.

News of the project was announced in a special Press statement on Tuesday by the Ringwood Town Clerk, Mr. F. P. Dwerryhouse.

He said that the first stage of the project—15 units costing approximately £40,000—would be commenced in February.

The project will eventually consist of 30 units, with 75 per cent. of the accommodation available initially reserved for Richmond pensioners.

Refused Land

A foundation member of the Richmond Lions Club Mr. B. Alexander, said that the club had been trying for the past two years—without success—to obtain suitable land in Richmond, but had been refused land by the Richmond City Council.

The club had been forced to look in the outer suburbs for suitable land, and had found Ringwood

residents were interested in the same project.

Mr. Alexander said that he believed the £80,000 Home would be the largest privately built project in Australia.

All funds raised would be subsidised 2-1 by the Government, he said.

The Lions Club would give initially £15,000.

Negotiations as to funds were completed be-

with grateful thanks by members of the recently formed Appeals Committee.

The co-operation would also mean that a much bigger Home that had been planned previously could be built.

He said that much work had yet to be done in the planning of the building, to meet both the needs of Richmond and Ringwood.

Mr. McLeod said that there still remained the sum of £5,000 to be raised by the Ringwood Appeal Committee in order that they might do their share.

He asked the Ringwood people to actively support all fund raising activities, or send donations either to himself or Mr. G. Petrie.

31/8/61

A Phone Call Started Project

A SHOT in the dark—a phone call—started the ball rolling.

Richmond Lions Club desperately wanted land on which to erect a home for needy Richmond pensioners.

Their own local Council would not give or lease them any land, so they decided to look for land in the outer suburbs.

Chairman of the Club's sub-committee, Mr. J. A. Brady of Crestnit Industries phoned the Mayor of Ringwood, (Cr. Horman.)

By some lucky quirk, Ringwood were engaged on a project to erect homes for aged people in Ringwood.

They had formed the Ringwood Elderly Citizens Residences Appeal Committee in April, and the phone call was made in June.

And that was how it all started—almost like a fairy story with a happy ending.

tween the Lions Club and the Appeal Committee at a special meeting held last Wednesday week.

Chairman of the Appeals Committee, Mr. L. McLeod of Ringwood, said yesterday that the news of co-operation by the Richmond Lions Club toward the building of an Aged Pensioner's Home in Ringwood had been received

"Don't Put Elderly in Homes to Rust"

Elderly people like to feel that they mean something in the community, and should not be put aside in homes and left to rust.

age 23/10/63

The chairman of the Hospitals and Charities Commission (Dr. J. H. Lindell) said this yesterday at the opening of the Geriatric conference in the Exhibition Building.

Dr. Lindell said a survey

of the wants of old people conducted in Richmond last year by Dr. J. Collings and associates had found that condition of health was not their major consideration.

Apart from some joint and muscular pains, these old people found the worst thing they suffered was confinement—they wanted to get out of their houses.

The survey showed that one half the pensioners in this area lived in their own houses, 17 per cent. in rooms, and the remainder in rented houses.

Main Needs

The major needs of pensioners were set out as:—

- Cheap laundry service.
- Home help.
- Assistance with meal preparation.
- A mobile shopping service—a shop on wheels would be ideal.

The survey also showed that pensioners needed another 10/ a week allowance.

Dr. Lindell urged councils to develop home services for old people, particularly since there was a State Government subsidy for these services.

More care should be exercised on the admission of old people to homes, he said, because, for their own good, it was better to keep them in the community and give them some mental and physical responsibility.

The two-day conference will cover lectures, displays of aids to elderly and invalid persons, specialised furniture and other equipment.

23.10.63

R11

3845

You'll Be Old Yourself

FOR kindness, worldly wisdom and stark realism it would be difficult to find an equal to Father Tucker of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence. In a brief talk to the councillors of Lillydale Council this wonderful old man may have kindled a spark which will warm many aged folk by establishing in the Shire the first outside scheme for housing the aged, based on the pattern of the original at Carrum Downs.

Father Tucker is tall, lean and obviously an old man physically, but it only takes minutes of listening to him to perceive a whipcord resilience of mind and a youthful drive and determination.

He was supported in his address to the Lillydale councillors by his assistant Mr. Walton, a young man with flashing eyes.

With a realism which struck with the force of a physical blow, and made more startling because it was said by an elderly man, Father Tucker did not hesitate to say that a lot of old people would be better dead. Dispassionately he referred to them as 'cluttering up hospitals and taking space needed for those really ill.'

He didn't hesitate to make the point that most people would one day be old and if they didn't appreciate the problems of the aged at their present stage of life they certainly would later on.

Father Tucker spoke to the councillors as one businessman to other. There were no emotional appeals and no harrowing stories of the plight of the aged.

In simple lucid terms he described the problem of the aged as being three-fold.

'The needs of the aged,' said Father Tucker, 'are somewhere to live, something to do and someone to care.'

It was obvious that after a lifetime of work a person should have a corner of their own, with small independence, a pet if desired and in company that didn't fuss but did give the feeling of caring.

It was Father Tucker's contention that most elderly people were in hospital because they were unhappy.

The solution with elderly people was to keep them interested and that kept them happy and healthy.

It is no good offering the aged a communal garden and saying 'You can potter in that,' said Father Tucker, 'they must have individual gardens and they must feel that it is theirs.'

Pension economies were dealt with briefly by Father Tucker saying that it took a capital of between £8000 and £10,000 invested at 5 per cent to provide what was now being provided by the Age Pensions, and yet it was not enough. 'You'll be old yourself' was the moral, and clearly very few of the community can save or acquire the capital to provide for old age.

Father Tucker stated as a simple fact that sooner or later councils would have to assume the task of looking after the increasing numbers of old people within their boundaries. The suggestion made by the Brotherhood of St. Laurence was that villages for the elderly be established with council sponsorship.

Father Tucker was clear on the point that there existed a great number of old folk who had the means to pay for a little home for themselves but even after doing so they lacked the essential amenity of a service block where they could eat if they were not up to temporarily looking after themselves and a small hospital if they were ill.

The village would provide all these things and could be self supporting after the initial provision of a service block

initial provision of a service block

Father Tucker stated that initial building should be one with about 30 apartments, and have a sick bay and facilities for meals and a small administrative staff.

With this start those who have the money should be encouraged to live on plots around the central building.

When Cr. Millard asked how much these individual houses would cost he was told £850 for a single man, £950 for a single woman and £1400 for a couple.

Each building would be self contained with kitchen, bathroom, etc. Father Tucker pointed out that the Federal Government gave £1 for £1 for housing and the State Government gave £1 for £1 for amenities. It remained to councils to give the initiative.

An area of 20 acres of reasonable to good soil that was easily worked was all that was needed apart from the will to do something about the problem of the aged. Lillydale councillors were very interested and asked many questions.

The president, Cr. Jeeves, closely questioned Father Tucker about what other councils had done and learnt that if Lillydale sponsored a scheme, at this stage, it would be the first to do so outside of what has been done at Carrum Downs.

4/4/1955

Mail 1/3/95 p. 3.

Hospital boards look set to merge

MAROONDAH Hospital is considering merging with one of a number of inner and outer-eastern hospitals in response to State Government moves to streamline the public hospital system.

The hospital was seeking a solution that would optimise services to the outer east, Maroondah's chief executive, John Lightfoot, said this week.

The move follows the call for submissions to the State Government's newly formed Metropolitan Hospital Planning Board.

While Maroondah refused to identify the hospitals it was negotiating with, Box Hill Hospital's chief executive, Chris Fox, confirmed that his hospital had held talks with Maroondah, St George's Hospital at

by JODI PINE

Kew, the Angliss at Ferntree Gully, Eastern Suburbs Geriatric and the Burwood Hospital.

Maroondah is also likely to involve Healesville Hospital, with which it has close ties.

Mr Lightfoot said any joint submission to the board negotiated as a result of current talks would be supported by the hospital's own submission pushing its preferred option for a merger.

Most practical cluster

"That way we would be suggesting what the board should comprise as a most practical cluster to optimise service level for the outer east," Mr Lightfoot said.

"We will probably suggest in our submission that the cost of patient treatment could be benchmarked on

Maroondah, which has one of the lowest in the state."

Mr Lightfoot said part of the hospital's submission would involve making sure money raised by auxiliaries was spent on the site it was raised for.

Maroondah Hospital board president John Caffyn said the hospital was looking at several options.

"It is a bit premature to mention what other hospitals we are looking at as we still have to work with them and have a submission which is agreed by all within the group," he said.

"The submission we will put together will provide the best for the client. It is not a matter of cutting any hospital services, it is just a matter of merging the boards."

The hospitals are under pressure to reach agreements quickly with submissions to the board closing on March 10.

NEWS

Mail 19-9-95 p. 13

Care unit gets OK

by LEONORA ELLIOTT-BRUCE

PLANNING Minister Rob Maclellan has approved a Maroondah City Council planning scheme amendment allowing a \$1.5 million psychiatric unit to be built in East Ringwood.

The amendment rezones 1.33 ha of land at 56 to 63 Patterson St and 64 Bona St, East Ringwood from special use and residential to Reserved Land — Hospital.

Maroondah Hospital plans to manage a community care unit for 20 people suffering psychiatric illnesses and facilities for community assessment and mobile treatment teams.

The treatment teams, currently based in Mitcham, will be housed on the former primary school at the site, St Francis De Sales.

The amendment also provides "as of right" use and development potential for the Maroondah Social and Community Health Centre.

Maroondah Hospital acting chief executive Ian Bowering said the hospital was looking forward to beginning the project.

The community care units will be built first.

Mr Bowering said the facility would enable people with mental illnesses to be treated in their own community and give them a better quality of life.

Maroondah Hospital had been planning the facility for three years, he said.

But East Ringwood resident Alison Beswick, speaking for about 60 residents who opposed the plan, said residents would seek conditions on the development, including security measures for the people in the units and the area.

She said residents would still try to restrict the services planned for the former school building.

Ms Beswick said a community mental health centre servicing Healesville, Warburton, Sherbrooke and Nunawading was planned.

Aged Care 3845

ACUTE BED SHORTAGE

by LEONORA ELLIOTT-BRUCE

THE City of Maroondah is experiencing an acute shortage of aged care hostel accommodation, according to a local hostel worker.

Lionsbrae Elderly Citizens Hostel supervisor Sharon Johnson said she was turning away six people a day seeking urgent hostel or dementia-specific care.

The situation had worsened during the past 12 months and it was now at crisis level, she said.

The Ringwood hostel's waiting list could be up to 24 months and for dementia care beds it was longer, Ms Johnson said.

"It really is a big issue, I just see it on a daily

basis, people who are desperate - where else do they go - some are placed prematurely in nursing homes because there are not enough dementia beds," she said.

Families were placed under unnatural strain, forced to care for elderly relatives who needed hostel care, Ms Johnson said.

"Too many people are competing for too few resources," she said.

Workers will petition the Federal Government to increase hostel places in the area and to highlight community concerns, she said.

"People are upset and really angry," she said.

At two other Ringwood hostels, the situation was similar.

At Marlborough Gardens, co-ordinator Joan Crowther said she would turn away about three people a week.

At Olivet Aged Persons Home, administrator Julian Simpkins said a "healthy waiting list" existed and people requiring care were regularly turned away. He said it could take up to nine months for a place to become available.

Liberal candidate for Deakin Phillip Barresi said he was not surprised at the acute shortage of hostel places, given the area's ageing population. "It is a problem particularly in Ringwood," he said.

Mr Barresi said figures released from the Department of Human Services and Health elec-

torate profile last year showed 36.4 hostel places were available in the Deakin electorate per 1000 residents over 70, compared with 38.6 places across Victoria and 40.8 places throughout Australia.

But the department's area manager for the east Peter Knuppel said the Federal Government aimed to provide 50 hostel places per 1000 people over 70.

He said that in Ringwood, there were 133 hostel beds, with another 45-bed hostel being built next year. Mr Knuppel could not disclose the hostel location. He said when the extra 45 beds were added to Ringwood, the Federal Government's quota would be met.

14-11-95 mail pi

VC 3845

These 40 loved their night-life

Paul
2-11-94
p3

FORTY elderly Ringwood citizens took in the sights of night-time Melbourne recently, the first time in decades for some.

Ringwood Aged Service staff and volunteers conducted a Melbourne By Night tour last week for frail and isolated elderly people.

The evening began with a restaurant dinner, then headed over Westgate Bridge and into Melbourne City Centre.

The highlight of the evening was a wander through Fitzroy Gardens where, equipped with torches and bread, every-

one enjoyed feeding the famous possums.

Their visit coincided with the launch of the Melbourne Festival, which put on a great fireworks display for all.

"Everyone had a wonderful night and the letters are still coming in," Officer for the Aged, Maree Jeffs said.

"Companionship and socialisation are essential if elderly people are to remain in their own homes."

The event was so successful Ms Jeffs is looking at providing similiar events in the future.

"AGE" 5/12/1963

Councils Fall Short in Helping Aged, Says Hospital Body

NO municipal council in Victoria is doing enough to help the aged, according to the Hospitals and Charities Commission.

The commission yesterday appealed to councils and to voluntary organisations to interest themselves in this work, or to continue their activities.

"We must, in the interests of the old people themselves, and of the community, see the gap is closed between institutional care on the one hand, and a community life on the other," the commission said in its annual report to Parliament.

"It would be a tragedy if we failed to meet this challenge."

The commission said the best place for old people was at home, preferably in their own. Not enough was being done to sustain the old person in the community.

This was shown by recent survey, sponsored by the commission, of 400 pensioners in the Richmond district.

The old people said they

needed a little more money — about half the basic wage — for clothing, food and house maintenance.

They needed medical and nursing care, but such that could be mostly provided in the home. They needed help with their shopping and daily chores. They were lonely and sought company.

More Services

"The plain fact before us is that if these old people are to be maintained in their homes, where they should be, supportive services must be provided for these simple needs," the report said.

"Countries all over the world recognise that the right body to undertake this work is the council or other local authority, assisted by voluntary agencies.

"Some councils are aware of the problem, and are doing something to meet it; others give it only token acknowledgement, generally on financial grounds, and largely avoid the responsibility.

"None is doing enough to meet the need. If we as a community allow this situation to develop, the only course before us is to create more institutional beds.

Expensive

"This is a course which old people themselves do not seek. It is not in their best interest, and it is very much more expensive.

"The commission therefore enters a plea to councils and voluntary agencies to interest themselves in this work, or if they are already engaged, to extend their work and to undertake it on a continuing basis.

"Institutions themselves have expressed their readiness to co-operate with councils and voluntary agencies in developing programmes.

"They would be helped immeasurably if they knew that old people in the community, either before admission to or after discharge from an institution, were cared for adequately."

The commission said day hospitals were filling a vital need in relieving institutions and the community, but they could go only part of the way towards their objective unless supportive services were available in the home to help the old person or the family.

5/12/63

ELDERLY CITIZENS.

VALUE OF PREPARATION

How to Avoid Pitfalls of Retirement

11/10/63

THE value of early preparedness to secure comfort and happiness in one's later years now has world-wide recognition. When people retire they are much better able to help themselves if they give retirement serious thought before it comes upon them.

Financial provision was once regarded as the only real problem.

But that thinking belongs to the days when people worked for as long as they were able and then gave up to spend a relatively few years in decreasing activity and lessening interest in life.

That has all been changed.

Whereas in 1871 the percentage of those over 65 to the entire population of Australia was 1.74, the 1961 census showed it had risen to 8.75 and it has gone up since.

It may surprise many to know that those of pensionable age in 1961 formed more than 17 per cent. of the adult population of Australia. Here again it may safely be assumed that the proportion has increased, because the life span is still being progressively lengthened.

On the assumption that most people when they retire will have some money, the main consideration under this heading becomes a realistic assessment of likely incomings and outgoings.

This can and should be made some years before retirement — with due allowance, of course, for a possible further deterioration in the value of money.

One's expected income may be fixed, but outgoings can be regulated by forward

UNLESS one is assured that he will never need to "go on the pension" — and how many of us can be sure of that? — it would be wise to study and understand the means test.

Knowledge of what possessions or income are likely to affect one's entitlement to pension can be quite an important factor in early planning for the later years.

Lossing is an important factor in the post-retirement budget and this, too, requires forward thinking.

A questionnaire circulated by the Old People's Welfare Council amongst members of elderly citizens' clubs, virtually all retired people, revealed that they thought housing and home-help services to enable them to continue to live in their own homes were top priorities.

There is no assurance that one can retain or arrange housing in the later years, inquiries might be made from the State Housing Commission regarding purchase or rental of flats, from the social services department regarding other accommodation.

Some voluntary organisations, notably church bodies, are providing a limited number of flats for elderly people, in some of which security of tenure can be assured by a capital payment.

Efforts are being made, notably in Great Britain and America, for a wider recognition of the principle that people should be permitted and even encouraged, to retain their employment as long as they are able and willing to carry on.

However much people may realise that retirement must come, its actual impact is often unexpectedly sharp and upsetting.

A man wakes one morning to a realisation that he has time on his hands. He soon finds that working companionship and status have gone the way of the regular pay packet.

The incentive to mental and physical activity is missing. Often he feels it is unwanted.

Forward thinking can ease the change into retirement and often make it the dawn of a happier life.

Something must be ready to replace what is missing. A hobby may be developed against the time when more attention can be given to it. Interest in sport and games should be retained or modified to suit the additional leisure. Voluntary social work can be a satisfying activity.



SOME people will find it essential to have an income-earning activity when their time is their own.

That, too, should be considered long before the necessity for it arises. Often the hobby can be turned to profitable account.

Congenial part-time work can often be found, particularly if preparation for it is made before retirement.

Though this preparation for later years is essentially an individual matter, an increasing number are finding it made easier and more effective by group effort.

Recommended reading, as well as lectures and seminars, with occasional social gatherings in which wives and families take part, have been organised by workers' groups. They have been encouraged and sometimes initiated by employers.

Some industries have provided facilities for meetings and time off for group discussions. A pilot plan is being developed by at least one large South Australian industry, and a big Victorian undertaking has a personnel department which makes a special study of advising and educating its staff members, in groups and individually.

Some universities here and abroad have already included education for retirement in their social study planning. The movement is snowballing.

All these activities are being followed, and results collected and exchanged by organisations in different countries working for the older section of the community.

Such a body in Victoria is the Old People's Welfare Council, comprising representatives of more than a hundred statutory and voluntary bodies all active in the interests of the great and growing army of "senior citizens."

Maintenance Subsidy

9/7/64

The Minister for Health has advised the Hon. G. L. Chandler, MLC, that the application of the Council of the City of Ringwood for the payment of a maintenance subsidy not to exceed £800 per annum on the basis of four-fifths of the net cost to the Council, of the Ringwood Elderly Citizens' Club, Greenwood Ave., Ringwood, has been approved. Payment of this subsidy will operate from 1st March, 1964.

Mark

9.7.64

By
Sir Giles Chippindall,
Chairman, Old People's Welfare Council

planning. For instance, hire purchase should be so arranged that payments will be completed before retiring age.

Medical contingencies can largely be provided for by health insurance, such as hospital and medical benefit schemes. Most importantly, consideration should be given to appropriate diet and exercise.

