

City of Ringwood



Ringwood Council's
Annual Report
to the Ratepayers

December, 1966

The year of 1966 has now all but reached its end, and again it has been an eventful one for the Municipality and its citizens. The Council is pleased to bring before you a brief review of the major activities affecting the municipality since its report of last year. In previous reports, the Council has endeavoured to bring to its citizens its responsibilities and functions as provided by the Local Government Act for the good governing of the Municipality.

However, for all those new citizens who have come to live in the City of Ringwood over recent years, and to whom the Council gives a sincere welcome, a brief resume of Local Government will, I am sure, not be amiss. "Government is by the people for the people" so said Abraham Lincoln many years ago, and this is still true today.

Local Government is the most democratic form of Government, and it is closest to the people. It inculcates the idea of local affairs being handled at a local level by local men or women, who are elected to the Council, and who serve the ratepayers and residents in an honorary capacity. The charter for Local Government is given by State Parliament, and although there is a high degree of local autonomy, the powers and responsibilities of individual Councils are clearly defined and strictly limited by the various Statutes of this State.

As explained earlier, a Council's responsibilities and functions are as laid down by the Local Government Act and other various Statutes.

Within the framework of this Charter, your Council is governing the City and providing you, the ratepayer, with Municipal services, and in addition, has been laying a solid foundation for the future needs of this Municipality. The Council expresses the hope that this summary of Municipal activities will once again be of interest and informative to you.

FINANCE

All thinking people will realise that to keep up with development, difficulties are encountered, the predominant one being that of limited finance. Sufficient money has not, and possibly never will be available to give all the services demanded by ratepayers. To provide adequate roads, footpaths, drainage, street lighting, recreational areas, health and social services and the like, requires a great deal of planning, and expenditure must be carefully allocated over the various phases of Councils activities.

Increasing costs continue to cause concern, not only to the Council, but to the ratepayers themselves, and the recent basic wage and margin increases will have the effect of costs spiralling still higher. The problem of keeping a reasonable balance between the Rate revenue and the growing requirements of a Municipality is a real one.

With ever increasing responsibility a Council can follow one of two policies:

- (a) maintain rates at existing levels and because of spiralling costs, reduce services—or
- (b) Continue and expand the services people expect to be provided and additional expense of which can be met only by ratepayers.

When considering the Estimates each year, much time is devoted to the numerous items included therein; some are approved, others pruned, whilst it may be many are somewhat reluctantly passed over. The final budget is a compromise between the natural desire to keep the rate as low as practicable, yet at the same time be realistic in our efforts to continue to develop and improve the City.

Paramount in the Council's deliberations is the ability of its ratepayers to meet the financial demands made of them, and only after many hours of study and debate is the Council satisfied that its budget is a realistic one.

The Council concluded the year 1965-6 with a surplus in its Revenue Account of almost \$36,000. At the commencement of that year the Council had budgeted to finish the year with a balanced budget — neither a surplus nor a deficit — but because of buoyant revenue, actual expenditure being less than estimated, the net result was a surplus as described above.

The main items contributing to this, were — an increase in the rate revenue of \$12,000 due to supplementary valuations on subdivisions, the valuations of which were previously based on broad acres. As a result of these subdivisions having been approved and sealed by the Council, and allotments being sold, they are now valued as residential sites, consistent with that placed on similar properties. Other increased revenue amounted to \$8,500 comprising building fees, tipping fees, refund on the Local Sewerage scheme initiated by the Council about eight years ago, and interest on investments, while expenditure on some items, namely, road and footpath maintenance, planned lighting schemes and other items were under-expended. At the same time, however, some items of expenditure were higher than estimated. For example, the Council's contribution to the Country Roads Board for main road construction was over \$3,000 more than was estimated, and the amount paid to the Metropolitan Fire Brigade Board was over \$1,000 more than estimated.

The sum total of increased revenue — under expended expenditure on some items and increased expenditure on a number of items — amounted to a surplus of \$35,928 which was taken into account when the Council fixed its rate.

After arriving at the total estimated expenditure for the year which amounts to over \$890,000, the difference between the sum available from sources other than rates being \$280,000, including the surplus referred to above, there remained \$610,000 to be raised to bridge the gap. To do this, the Council struck a rate of 2.34 cents in the \$ on the U.C.V. This will be an increase of .2c in the \$ on last year.

The increase in the rate will be used for work of benefit to ratepayers — some of these works are road and footpath construction and maintenance, which will increase from an expenditure of \$94,000 to \$109,000; Channelling almost \$1,000; Council's proportion to Country Roads Board and Private Street construction \$3,500; Street lighting \$5,000 and Redemption of loans, \$22,000, without which the Council would not be able to carry out works of a capital nature.

Sanitary Service Charge. This charge borne by only a section of ratepayers in the municipality who have neither septic sewerage or facilities provided by the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, has been increased to \$15.60 per annum. This is an increase of \$1.30 above last year, and has been brought about by the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works increasing its charge payable by this and other Councils for tipping pans at its depot at Burwood. Although the increased charge by the Board for this service is a steep one, the amount charged is still less than the cost to the Board. The contractor responsible to the Council for providing the service of removing nightsoil, still has one year before his contract expires. All owners of property within the Municipality who have the Board's facilities for sewerage their properties, are urged to take advantage of these without delay, for failure to do so involves them in paying a sanitary charge to the Council and also to the Board, because once the sewer mains are available for connection, the Board's rates increase.

PLANNING SCHEME

After many frustrations and delays, the Council is pleased to report that tenders for leasing the area encompassed by the Planning Scheme were invited, and subsequently the tender of Eastland Shopping Centre Pty. Ltd. was accepted. This company, which is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Myer Emporium, paid the Council a premium of \$600,000 to obtain the site, and will pay a rental of \$51,500

annually for a period of seventy-five years — the duration of the lease. The rental shall be subject to periodic review in accordance with rise or fall of the purchasing power of the currency.

At the termination of the lease, the property which includes all buildings and improvements on the land leased shall be and remain the property of the Council.

In addition to the above monetary transactions, the Council will receive from the Company, the sum of \$50,000 as a contribution towards the establishment of some form of community service centre adjacent to the Centre. This will be further enlarged on under the heading "Library Service".

The Company will also be responsible for the cost of erection of an Infant Welfare Centre to replace that at present fronting Civic Place at the rear of the Town Hall, which is estimated to cost in the vicinity of \$16,000. The new centre will be located in Miles Avenue adjacent to the Ringwood Bowling Club and Ringwood Baths.

\$120,000 will also be contributed by the Company, subject to certain conditions, towards a number of road works which will be required in the areas adjoining the site on which the Centre is being erected.

Last, but by no means least, the Company will be responsible for the payment of municipal and M.M.B.W. rates levied on the property.

The Centre, when opened for business — for which a date early in March 1968 is planned — will contain, as well as a Myer department store, a Woolworths Supermarket and variety store and smaller shops for 45 other tenants. It will be totally enclosed, fully air-conditioned and complete with lifts and escalators. Parking facilities for over 1200 cars will be provided.

The Centre when fully developed will cost approximately \$13,000,000 and will be one of the finest regional shopping centres established in the Melbourne metropolitan area by the parent company — Myers.

The Council can well feel proud that it has been instrumental in obtaining this excellent development within the Municipality, which will be a boon to all residents and those living beyond the City's boundaries.

The construction of the Centre is well under way as a visit to the site will reveal.

The Planning Scheme and subsequent development is the first of its kind implemented in Victoria — if not Australia — by a municipal Council.

MUNICIPAL LIBRARY

The Council has for a number of years been allocating to a Library Reserve Fund a sum towards the establishment — at the appropriate time — of a free lending library for the Citizens of the Municipality. The establishment and maintenance of such a facility is an expensive, but wholly justifiable one, and, naturally the Council has been most anxious that when such a facility was established it would be one of which its citizens would get the maximum of use, and they would be able to afford it, in the way of an increase in rates.

The Council, after giving the Library quite a deal of consideration, concluded that it should participate in a regional library scheme. This is a scheme set up which would include a number of municipal participants. Regional Library Services are referred to in the Report of the Board of Inquiry into Library Services of Victoria — better known as the Jungwirth Report — which states "The proposed Victorian Library Authority should promote an Advisory Council in each of the thirteen Victorian Planning Regions to advise the Authority and the Minister on the best means of achieving viable regional library services in their respective areas." Regionalisation is not new nor is it untried. Of the 118 municipalities providing library service

in Victoria, 72 are participating in regional activities. As a result the Council is discussing the proposal with two municipal Councils at the present time, and the Council confidently hopes that a free library service will be available to its citizens towards the latter end of 1968.

The service will be financed out of the Reserve Fund established by the Council which has accumulated funds amounting to over \$24,000; the General Fund — the Municipal Fund — of the Municipality, and the contribution by Eastland Shopping Centre Pty. Ltd. of \$50,000 which will be used to partly finance the cost of erecting a library building.

In addition, an application has been made to the Library Council of Victoria for a subsidy. This application is considered on the basis that the Council places on its Estimates for next year 1967-8 an amount of not less than 40 cents per head of population of the Municipality. The Library Council of Victoria contributes a like amount as subsidy.

The decision by the Council to defer the implementation of a Library service was due to the fact that the Council desired to see the service proceeded with and financed with the minimum of personal hardship to its ratepayers.

The Council knows generally of the ratepayers' commitments — purchasing homes, paying for the construction of their street, and, in a number of cases, installation of sewerage, education of their children, etc., and it was because of the matters mentioned in the early part of the report concerning finance and its Library Reserve Fund, and contribution by Eastland Shopping Centre Pty. Ltd., that this year is the one when the decision should and was made.

MEMORIAL CLOCK TOWER

As a result of a decision by the Ringwood Sub-Branch of the R.S.S.A.I.L.A. the Memorial will be re-erected on the site offered the Sub-Branch by the Council, namely, corner Maroondah Highway and Wantirna Road which is sown down in grass. The Country Roads Board has requested the Council to arrange for the re-erection of the Memorial on the site decided upon, at the Board's cost.

In this regard, the Council has commissioned its Architects, Messrs. Lines, McFarlane and Marshall, to prepare plans and specifications for the re-erection of the Memorial in its present form in the terms of the Sub-Branch's letter to the Council, following upon its decision.

The removal of the Memorial from its present location — the intersection of Maroondah Highway and Warrandyte Road — will increase capacity of the intersection to handle safely the projected traffic volume in the immediate future. It is proposed the intersection will be signalled when the channelisation of same is modified by the Country Roads Board which is expected to be 1967.

RESERVES

The Council is continuing with its purchase of land, south of Canterbury Road to the Dandenong Creek, between Wantirna Road and east of Belgrave Road for the establishment of a Golf Course. In all, the area will contain 112 acres for recreational purposes, and there is the possibility of the first nine holes being operative within approximately five years. Ultimately, the course will be 18 holes, with a par 71, the completion of the centre providing recreation for many thousands of people.

Other reserves and children's playgrounds are continually being maintained and improved by the provision of new ovals, etc.

CIVIC CENTRE

The activities and functions of the Council over the years have outgrown the facilities available at the present Civic Centre, and the Council has decided to have

prepared by its Architects, reports with schematic drawings for the erection of a new Civic Centre. Initially it is envisaged that administrative offices and Council Chamber will be erected, and ultimately Town Hall and ancillary buildings will comprise stage two of the project. The two sites which the Council has under consideration, and on which the architects will report and advise, are the Ringwood Park Lake Reserve having a total area, including lake, of approximately 19 acres, and the Antimony Mine Reserve, of approximately 10 acres, north of Mt. Dandenong Road, with a frontage to Maroondah Highway, and almost opposite the Council Depot.

PRIVATE STREET CONSTRUCTION

Despite continued difficulties encountered in raising finance for the construction of private streets, a considerable number of streets was constructed since the report of last year.

The Loughnan Hill scheme is proceeding, and the Council, after overcoming objections to the levels proposed to be fixed for the streets in the scheme, encountered difficulty in the obtaining of easement rights for drainage purposes through a property in private ownership in the adjoining Municipality. Despite negotiations with the owners which have been unsuccessful, the Council had no alternative but to ask the Minister of Local Government to request the Governor-in-Council to consent to the Council taking action to compulsorily acquire easement rights.

The Council has been advised that the Governor-in-Council will be recommended to consent, provided the Council of the adjoining municipality—the Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe—offers no objection. It is understood that that Council approves the compulsory acquisition, subject to its ratepayer's rights being preserved. The Council is proceeding with the acquisition. It is hoped that before long the legal difficulties will be overcome and the Council will be in the position to serve notices as required by the Local Government Act, invite tenders for construction and to actually commence the physical work of construction of the streets which the residents so urgently want and have patiently waited for a considerable time.

Loans are being raised for this scheme and the Council confidently expects that sufficient funds will be in hand to ensure the commencement and completion of the scheme.

The Council has instructed the City Engineer to have prepared schemes for the construction of the following streets:—

SOUTH WARD.

1. Maidstone Street (Canterbury Road to Sylvia Grove).
2. Gordon Road.
3. The Outlook.

EAST WARD.

1. Howship Avenue Group comprising Howship Court, Rosedale Crescent and Federal Road (part).
2. Vista Avenue, first 650 ft. from Alexandra Road.
3. Grand View Street.

NORTH WARD.

Other than the Loughnan Hill area, only three minor private streets still remain to be constructed, of which the Council has not as yet given a priority.

The order of priority of construction of the abovementioned streets shall be as shown for the respective Wards, but not necessarily the South or the East Ward first, but, in due course, a combination of the two.

The actual construction of the above streets, however, is not imminent, and it could be a number of years before construction commences. This is dependent on

the construction of streets for which schemes have been ordered some years ago and the availability of finance.

The construction of the streets referred to above does not take priority over streets for which schemes have been ordered by the Council previously.

In previous reports to ratepayers, information has been given in respect to the Council authorising the preparation of schemes to ensure continuity of construction, subject to availability of finance, and each year the Council considers the remainder of private streets and resolves accordingly, and the ratepayers are so advised. Despite the fact that previous priorities are not referred to again in later reports, this does not mean these schemes have lost their priority. They retain their priority over later schemes ordered by the Council.

MAROONDAH HIGHWAY RECONSTRUCTION

Work is well advanced on the duplication of the Highway east of Mt. Dandenong Road to beyond the municipal boundary. The Highway — when completed — will consist of a 6-lane highway three for east-bound and three for west-bound traffic separated by a median strip. In parts, the Highway will be of two levels, that is the western or northern portion of the highway will be lower than the eastern or southern side. North of Oban Road, because of the wider road reserve, there will be, in addition, a service road adjacent to the east and west traffic lanes.

The sowing of grass and planting of trees on the median will again be carried out similarly as for other parts of the Highway previously constructed. The Council will also maintain the median, which is greatly admired and it can be confidently stated, is second to no other in the metropolitan area.

OTHER ROAD WORKS

The Council proposes to carry out the following major road works from Country Roads Board and Loan funds:

Warrandyte Road extension to Bedford Road, which has become possible by the purchase by the Council of two houses, one in Pitt Street and one in Bedford Road, to provide a direct link to Warrandyte Road and the Maroondah Highway thus overcoming the cross road intersection at Greenwood Avenue.

Extension of the reconstruction of Mullum Road from Byron Street to Jeffrey Drive.

Widening Warrandyte Road north of Oban Road to Hans Avenue.

Widening Warrandyte Road, south of Oban Road.

Widening Ringwood Street from Civic Place to south of Nelson Street.

Widening of Mt. Dandenong Road from Bona Street to Dublin Road.

Widening Railway bridge, Heathmont.

Widening Canterbury Road generally from Heatherdale Road to Bedford Road.

BUILDING ACTIVITY AND DEVELOPMENT

Almost 1000 building permits were issued by the Council during the last financial year for all types of buildings, alterations, etc., for a total value of over \$8,000,000.

Education. Yarra Valley Church of England School in Kalinda Road, corner Plymouth Road, erected on a site having an area of 72 acres on which site works began on 6th January, 1965. A tender for construction of Stage 1 of the School building for \$187,000 was let in May, 1965. The first stage of the buildings had to be completed by December, 1965. On the 2nd October, 1965, a plaque commemorating the commencement of building was unveiled by the Governor of Victoria — Sir Rohan Delacombe — the building themselves blessed, and a short ceremony conducted by the Archbishop of Melbourne, Dr. Woods. The School commenced its work on 8th February, 1966, when 135 boys attended the first assembly. The official life of the

school began on 26th February, 1966, when the official opening ceremony was conducted by the Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria, Sir Edmund Herring.

The School opened with a Junior School and the 1st form of the senior school. In 1967, the 2nd form of the senior school will commence and each year further forms will be added until matriculation standard is reached.

AQUINAS COLLEGE until now a regional secondary school for boys conducted by the Christian Brothers and in which five parishes are involved in the administration and sharing of costs — is now to be enlarged by erection of a separate building for admittance of girl students.

The girls College will be conducted on the same principles as the boys' college. The first stage will be the erection of three classrooms to cost \$20,000 plus cost of equipment. Enrolments are being accepted for girls for admittance to the first form for 1967 of which there will be initially three classrooms to accommodate 60 girls. Each year, further extensions will be made, and it is expected within six years there will be sufficient accommodation for 6th form (Matriculation) students. Eventually the College will be co-educational.

The Croydon West High School which is within the Municipality but on the Boundary of the Shire of Croydon was opened in October last — previously it had had temporary premises. It contains forms 1 and 2, consisting of five classes, having 120 pupils. Next year — 1967 — it will have accommodation for an extra 220 pupils in eight classes.

In due course, it will have facilities for education to Matriculation.

The Council is represented on this School's Advisory Council by Councillor S. C. Morris of the East Ward.

MacRobertson Pty. Ltd. The construction of the \$6,000,000 plant for the manufacture of chocolate and confectionery by MacRobertson Pty. Ltd. is now practically complete. Manufacturing process equipment is being installed at the present time for progressive operations early in 1967.

This modern plant, of which any Municipality could well be proud to have among its industries — and which your Council welcomes — is another important phase in the industrial development of the municipality.

Travellers' Facilities. The second stage of the construction of the bus terminal and taxi rank at the Ringwood Station will be implemented next year as a tender has been accepted by the Council for the erection of a brick toilet block and bus terminal building costing almost \$23,000, and work is expected to commence early in the New Year.

APPRECIATION — DECIMAL CURRENCY CONVERSION

The Council thanks its ratepayers for their co-operation in acceding to its request in the report of last year that payment of rates be made before decimal currency became operative in February last. Because of the planning and assistance by the ratepayers the changeover from sterling to decimal currency was achieved smoothly and without any inconvenience to all concerned. The Council appreciates this and other actions by its ratepayers.

ANNUAL SPECIAL CLEARANCE OF REFUSE

The Council annually has a special clearance of refuse — inorganic and non-combustible material — which is not removed with household garbage. The clearance usually takes place during the Autumn months, but ratepayers will be advised details in connection with the service at a later date.

GARBAGE REMOVAL

The maximum quantity of refuse to be collected from each premises is three (3) cubic feet per week. This refuse is to be placed in a receptacle with a capacity of not more than three (3) cubic feet, which is to be constructed of galvanised iron not more than 24-gauge — or other material approved by the Council — and to have a close-fitting lid with a flange overlapping the top of the receptacle and be so constructed as to be easily carried by one man by two side handles. It is essential to the health of the community that the garbage container be of sound construction and comply with the above requirements. The "other material" approved by the Council includes the "Multi Wall Paper Sack" which may be used if desired. These sacks are on display at the Town Hall and further information can be obtained on request.

FLY CONTROL

The Council is again contributing financially to a campaign being organised by the Municipal Association of Victoria with a view to reducing the incidence of flies during the summer months, and in this regard you can assist by observing and taking appropriate action as set out below:—

Always wrap garbage in newspaper before placing in garbage can.

Be sure your garbage can is in sound condition and has a tight-fitting lid.

Always wash your garbage can thoroughly each time it is emptied.

Don't let your incinerator become an open garbage can. Always burn each charge of waste material completely.

Store manure in a covered container. Do not pile it in heaps.

Sprinkle manure lightly on your garden so it will dry out quickly.

Compost heaps should be constructed so as to promote rapid decomposition.

Remove manure from stables and battery poultry laying cages daily.

Keep poultry pens clean and allow fowls to run in an enclosed yard.

Keep grease traps clean.

Protect lavatory pans from flies.

FINALLY, have all doors, windows and chimneys in your home screened with fly wire and when necessary use a recognised fly spray.

REMEMBER! Flies breed in filth and decaying matter, and ratepayers can prevent this happening by observing that set out above.

IMMUNIZATIONS

The Council continues to make immunization against poliomyelitis, diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough for infants available to residents throughout the year without charge, the Council's Health Office staff under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. B. Widmer, will be on duty at the Town Hall on the first Thursday in each month — excepting January — from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., to administer injections to all adults and children, excluding pre-school children.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

The Council conducts three infant welfare centres at:—

Ringwood—rear Town Hall, which centre in the near future will be relocated, as mentioned earlier. Further advice will be given as to the operation of the Centre at a later date.

Ringwood East — Laurence Grove, rear of shops in Railway Avenue.

Heathmont — Viviani Crescent.

which are attended by fully-trained and qualified Sisters. The Council encourages all mothers of babies to avail themselves of this service, which is free of cost to them. The Sisters may be contacted either personally or by telephone — 870-4311 — during the hours they are in attendance at the Centres.

RETENTION OF NATIVE FLORA

The Council again brings to the attention of its citizens that the natural flora of the district is gradually being destroyed by the inroads of subdivision of country which has remained in its natural state until the building of homes. The Council itself has been responsible — when constructing streets or creating firebreaks — for the removal of this flora, but it has, whenever possible planted suitable trees to replace the trees removed. Every effort is made to retain existing native trees, but in a number of cases this is not possible.

The Council asks its citizens to retain as much as possible of the native flora, and to plan the home to be built in such a way so as to avoid destroying trees which can add to the charm of your home. Remember "Don't Ringbark Ringwood," and if you must cut one tree down, plant two more in its stead.

Each year the Council plants in the nature strips of streets over 1000 trees. The Council to the best of its ability cares and tends to these trees, but this is one way in which the residents themselves can assist the Council in making the streets more attractive by giving attention to the street trees whilst they are tending and watering their gardens.

HOME HELP SERVICE

This is a service provided by the Council and for which a charge, based on the recipient's ability to pay only, is made. The Council employs skilled women to give household assistance to residents temporarily in need of same, due to sickness, etc. Supervisor of this service is available at the Town Hall.

DOGS

Drives through the district by employees of the Lost Dogs Home, under the supervision of the Council's Dog Registration Officer, reveal that at least 90% of the dogs impounded are unregistered. The Council is determined that dogs shall not roam the streets, and these collections will continue. Remember that it pays to register your dog. In the event of a registered dog being collected, its owner can be notified to claim it, whereas in the case of an unregistered dog, not only is this impossible, but the owner is liable for a penalty. It is your duty to see that your dog is controlled. Dogs outside their owners' premises and not controlled by a leash, are liable to be impounded.

Alsatian dogs and greyhounds, when not on the premises of the owner, shall be muzzled or fitted with a choker chain to prevent the dog from causing injury by biting, and shall be under the effective control of a person by means of a proper leash. The owner of such dog shall be liable to a penalty up to forty dollars (\$40) for failure to observe this provision of the Dog Act. It is an offence for a dog to be on school premises or in or about any railway station. The owner of any dog which is found between sunset and sunrise wandering is liable to a penalty of up to \$40.

If you think anything of your dog, keep it safe on your premises, and when taking it for a walk, have it under your control by means of a proper leash.

HORSE RIDING

The owners of horses, ponies, etc., are reminded it is an offence to ride their animals on footpaths and on Council Reserves. The riding of such animals on footpaths is a dangerous practice and as well as being liable for prosecution under Council By-law, offenders are also liable for prosecution by the police.

FIRE HAZARDS AND BURNING OFF

It is the owner's responsibility to see that his land is not left in a fire hazardous condition. The Council Officer is very active in examining properties with long grass and undergrowth thereon, and experience has shown the average vacant allotment requires clearing at least once each year. Property owners are requested to act on their own initiative in this matter and not wait for the Council's ultimatum. When burning off, the Fire Brigade and the Town Clerk must be advised of your intention so to do. Burning off is not allowed on Sundays or Mondays.

DO YOU ALSO KNOW?

A grant by the Council of \$50 is made to each of the following secondary schools in the Municipality:—

Aquinas College,
Croydon West High School,
Norwood High School,
Ringwood High School,
Ringwood Technical School,

to assist in the purchase of reference books for inclusion in the School's Library for use by students attending the school.

Rubbish dumpers are severely dealt with. Council has prosecuted a number of offenders who have dumped rubbish on vacant land and private streets to the disgust and annoyance of people resident in the streets. Help us to help you by notifying details regarding dumpers.

Vandalism to trees, buildings on reserves and equipment cost YOU — the rate-payers — money each year? This money could be better spent on productive works—not replacement and repairs.

There are now over 1500 street lights throughout the municipality. Each 2 x 20 watt fluorescent unit costs the Council \$10.80 per year and each 4 x 40 watt fluorescent unit costs the Council \$32.70 per year. Council plans, over the next three years, to improve the level of street lighting on main roads throughout the municipality—these are being implemented as quickly as possible with the continued co-operation of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria.

Your co-operation in all matters pertaining to Local Government is sought by the Council. Help the Council to make Ringwood a better place for its citizens.

REMEMBER

The Council is at your service within the limits of its resources and powers. The various Departments and Officers of the Council are available, and anxious, to assist you in your civic and communal problems. Make use of them at the appropriate times. If in doubt on any matter, telephone 870-4311 for friendly service.

YOU can complete the chain of co-operation in many ways:—

Continue to beautify your premises.

Keep dogs off the streets — unless on leash.

Keep your premises clean and tidy.

Destroy rats and vermin.

Prevent trees and hedges from overhanging footpaths.

Display conspicuously your house number.

Use off-street parking areas where possible and comply with all parking notices.

Assist the Council in the prevention of damage by vandals by reporting any case which comes to your notice.

Report any breakdown of Sanitary or Garbage Service so that the Contractors can be notified immediately.

If you have a Municipal problem regarding which you have been unable to obtain satisfaction through the normal channels, write to the Town Clerk, who will assist you as far as possible or will place the matter before the Council.

Make suggestions which you feel are of value, AND IN ALL WAYS TAKE AN ACTIVE INTEREST IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF YOUR COMMUNITY.

YOUR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Mayor — Cr. Elizabeth Penny, J.P.

NORTH WARD

Cr. B. J. Hubbard, J.P.

Cr. D. J. Baxter

Cr. N. Aus

SOUTH WARD

Cr. A. G. Lavis, J.P.

Cr. M. D. Deuter

Cr. B. G. Clarke, J.P.

EAST WARD

Cr. Peter Vergers, J.P.

Cr. Elizabeth Penny, J.P.

Cr. S. C. Morris.

Authorised by the Council of the City of Ringwood.

F. P. DWERRYHOUSE,
Town Clerk and Treasurer.