

CITY OF RINGWOOD



RINGWOOD COUNCIL'S

Annual Report to the Ratepayers

DECEMBER, 1968



DEAR RATEPAYER:

The past year has been a significant one for the Council and the ratepayers of our City for a number of major projects has now passed from the planning to the action stages.

The new Civic Centre and the new Swimming Pool complex have been awaiting finance pending the finalisation of the Ringwood Planning Scheme 1960 (Eastland project). The Library is proceeding as quickly as practicable and building works will commence in the early part of 1969. Press reports on these major projects will be issued from time to time.

The past year has also been a significant one from a planning point of view, as your Council has led the way in the field of Flat Control through its Interim Development Order. Details of this important planning measure are mentioned later on in this report.

In other spheres of activity, development has continued at a pace consistent to what the Council believes is financially practical to permit, and ratepayers may be assured the Council will continue to plan for the development of the City using the imagination and enterprise which it has in the past.

The Council trusts the following report will be of interest to the people of the Municipality and will give some idea of what the Council is doing.

S. C. MORRIS (Cr.) MAYOR.

FINANCE:

Last year total expenditure on the general municipal fund of the Council amounted to \$954,034 as against this year's estimate of \$1,011,149. The majority of the money required for this expenditure is provided by the general rate which this year is estimated to yield \$748,735 whereas last year it provided \$667,359.

Expenditure on capital works such as buildings, land purchase, construction of Government roads etc. for which the funds are, in the main, obtained by loan raising (the loans are repaid from the general fund) or Country Roads Board grants, but excluding private street construction for which property owners have to bear the cost, amounted to some \$450,000.

This year the figure could well approach the \$1,000,000 mark with the new civic centre and library buildings.

In addition private street construction — for which the cost is met by owners — to the amount of over \$700,000 was carried out last year (see post).

GENERAL VALUATION:

The Council is required by the Local Government Act to carry out a general revaluation of the Municipality every four years, and a new valuation has taken effect from the 1st October last.

The valuation was carried out by an independent qualified Valuer — Mr. B. Heslop — a Sworn Valuer and a Fellow of the Commonwealth Institute of Valuers. The valuation resulted in an overall increase in the Unimproved Capital Value — on which the rates are levied, by 43 per cent. As a result, the Council has been able to reduce the rate in the \$ from 2.39 cents to 1.87 cents in the \$. This does not necessarily mean that all rates will be reduced. There will be an overall increase of just over \$81,000 in the rate revenue — which compares more than favorably with other metropolitan municipalities — and will affect property owners according to the new valuations placed upon their properties.

In some cases there will be rises in rates, in many instances the rise will be comparatively small, and in a number of cases will be reduced. It should be noted that no extra charge is made for garbage removal as is in a number of municipalities.

GENERAL RATE PAYMENT BY INSTALMENTS:

During the year the Local Government Act was amended to permit rates to be paid by four near equal instalments without interest, provided that the following conditions were strictly adhered to:—

A ratepayer electing to pay by instalments is required to lodge a written application, together with the complete rate notice and a payment of one quarter of the assessment.

These must be lodged with the Council within 14 days from the date that the rate notice was posted.

The rate notice, receipted accordingly, will be returned together with three perforated payment slips, being instalment notices No. 2, payable no later than 28th February — No. 3, payable by 31st May, and No. 4 by 31st August.

Unless each instalment is received by the due date, 8% per annum interest becomes payable on any late instalment. The Council is required to print a copy of the relevant section of the amended Local Government Act which will be found on the reverse side of the rate notice. The foregoing, however, is an explanation of this Section which should assist in a ready understanding.

CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF PROPERTIES:

A further amendment of the Local Government Act refers to the liability of a vendor to supply a more comprehensive notification of a sale. (Penalty \$4).

The relevant details are set out in Schedule 32a — a copy of which is obtainable at the Town Hall.

REFUSE OTHER THAN HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE:

Once in every year, householders are advised that on a certain day, refuse which is of inorganic and non-combustible material, will be removed free of charge. Such refuse is deposited on the nature strip for collection. This special clearance usually takes place during May to August.

SANITARY SERVICES:

The sanitary service charge for properties which are unsewered or do not possess a septic tank, has been increased from \$20.80 to \$22.00. This has been solely due to the fact that the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works increased its tipping charges at its Burwood sanitary depot.

The Contracting Company responsible to the Council for the removal of nightsoil and garbage is A. E. Kinman Hygiene Contracting Co. Pty. Ltd. In some cases of failure by the Company's employees to remove the pan from the closet, the Managing Director (Mr. Smith) has personally attended to the complaint. If any person has any complaint to make in respect to these services, ring Mr. Smith at 870.5727 for immediate attention. If you do not receive satisfaction — but the Council is sure you will — either ring or write the Town Clerk. The Council is extremely proud of the very excellent service it receives from the contracting Company for the carrying out of these two essential services.

SEWERAGE CONNECTIONS TO M.M.B.W. MAIN:

With the rapid expansion of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works' sewerage facilities, and extension of mains into new areas, this amenity is now available to an

ever increasing number of Ringwood's residents, and it is strongly urged in the interests of health that where it is available, ratepayers avail themselves of this very essential and desirable service. By so doing they will save at least the amount of the sanitary service charge. Once the mains are installed, the Board commences to rate for this facility, whether it is used or not.

Where a property has had a septic tank and is connected to the Board's sewerage main, the septic tank must first be desludged, a hole broken in the bottom of the tank, and the tank back filled with earth or sand.

THE DANDENONG VALLEY AUTHORITY:

This Authority was constituted in March '64 to carry out river improvement, drainage and flood protection works together with powers to control pollution in the catchment areas of the Dandenong Creek. Most of the south and portion of the east Wards of the Municipality — approximately 40% of the municipality — is under the control of the Dandenong Valley Authority, and as a result the owners of such property do not contribute to the drainage rate levied by the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, but are subject to a rate paid to the Dandenong Valley Authority which is collected by the Council on behalf of the Authority.

Cr. B. J. Hubbard, J.P. is the Council's representative on the Authority, and has been so since December 1965 and following each meeting he regularly reports to Council what has transpired. The ratepayers he represents in the East and South Wards can rest assured that their interests are well protected by their representative.

FLAT CONTROL PLANNING SCHEME:

RINGWOOD INTERIM DEVELOPMENT ORDER 1968

The Council had been concerned with indiscriminate erection of flats throughout the Municipality. The only Legislative control which the Council had been able to obtain was under the provisions of the Uniform Building Regulations where, through a By-Law, any one site was limited to the erection of four flats. This meant that providing there was vacant land, or an old property ready for re-development, of sufficient size, there was a possibility of four units being erected.

The Council believes that the erection of flats is a Planning matter and should be controlled under the provisions of a planning scheme. Council recognises the need for flats as over 20% of the housing in recent years has been in the form of flats. It is believed this tendency is due to a number of factors including higher land costs; the fact that some people just do not want a conventional allotment, particularly in the case of young married couples or retired couples looking after a large front and rear garden etc.

After over twelve months' discussion with the Town and Country Planning Board and the Minister for Local Government, on 23rd April 1968 an Interim Development Order was approved, covering the whole Municipality, which provides that where land is to be developed for the erection of or construction of flats a Planning Permit is required. Over the last six months, since approval of the Interim Development Order, Council has considered each application for flats on its merits.

It is envisaged that provision will be made in the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works' Planning Scheme to control erection of flats on a metropolitan basis, but pending provision of this control the Council will continue to operate under its Interim Development Order.

The Council has now clarified in broad terms its thinking in relation to flat control and, at this stage, envisages four Zones:

Residential 1 Zone — where flats will be prohibited, which will cover the greater part of the Municipality.

Residential 2 Zone — which are areas in close proximity to the Heathmont and Ringwood East Railway Stations, where two flats per site of 8,000 sq. ft. would be permitted.

Residential 3 Zone — generally in close proximity to the Ringwood Railway Station, and also a small area on the south side of Mt. Dandenong Road, west of Dublin Road, where the equivalent of three flats could be erected on a block of 8,000 sq. ft.

The limit to the number of flats on any one site in this Zone depends on the size of the allotment.

Residential 4 Zone — in the vicinity of Pratt Street, where a slightly higher density is envisaged.

Details are yet to be finalised, but location of the flats has generally been on the basis that this type of housing should be close to transport and close to public amenities, shopping etc.

The Council believes that there should be some areas where everyone is aware that no flats can be built.

Standards which the Council has adopted form the basis on which any application will be planned, is aimed at providing a reasonable standard of amenity, including provision of open space, car parking provision, storage, landscaping, sound insulation, day-lighting, amongst other requirements. The minimum size allotment within the Residential 2 and 3 Zones shall be 8,000 sq. ft. with a frontage of 60 ft. In special cases, Council may consent to a slightly smaller frontage. Sewerage and drainage shall be available.

For the present at least, and probably until an amended Planning Scheme goes on public exhibition, the Council will require applicants to advertise the proposed use by notice on the allotment and by notice to the adjoining property owners so that those affected or interested will have the opportunity to comment on the application. It will be recognised that although three areas are to be available for flat development, within these areas there is probably only a limited number of properties which are either vacant, old and ready for re-development, or where extensions are possible.

The Council believes that the standards it has drawn up will ensure the minimum, adverse effect on the amenity of an area and ensure a good type of development.

Your Council in the interests of its ratepayers has pioneered this method of controlling erection of flats, as it also pioneered development of the Eastland project under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act. Likewise your Council was the means of the Local Government Act being amended to provide that before allotments of land in subdivisions could be sold, the streets had to be constructed by the owners of such land to a standard laid down by the Council.

IMMUNIZATION:

The immunization of babies continues apace whereby sabin vaccine immunization against poliomyelitis is now administered orally — merely a case of popping a pleasant tasting liquid in a spoon into the baby's mouth.

Tetanus, whooping cough and diphtheria immunization is still done by means of injection by needle.

Smallpox vaccinations are also carried out.

All persons should receive a new course of sabin vaccine against polio even though they previously had salk injections — this should be available to school children and adults in the New Year.

HOME HELP SERVICE:

This is a service at reasonable cost and is available to citizens where illness or confinement necessitates a housekeeper to carry out the normal household chores for the husband whilst he is at work and young children are at home. In some cases housekeepers live in. Application forms are obtainable by contacting the Supervisor, Home Help Service at the Town Hall.

ADDITIONAL ELDERLY CITIZENS' CLUBROOMS:

Recently the Council erected Clubrooms in Laurence Grove, Ringwood East, which are in addition to the already existing Clubrooms at Greenwood Park, which are now being extended due to their popularity at a cost of \$7,500.

The cost of the new Clubrooms amounted to almost \$40,000 of which the Government contributed \$10,000. A Committee of public spirited people look after the affairs of the elderly people, and a great deal of enjoyment is derived by members using the amenities provided. If any elderly citizen is desirous of becoming a member he or she need only attend the Clubroom nearest them, and will be most welcome. No elderly person of Ringwood need be lonely for by joining the Club they meet and make many friends and enjoy companionship. Social meetings and outings to various places of interest are conducted. Chiropody services are available at the Clubrooms at a most nominal charge.

LIBRARY:

Sketch plans have been approved for an 85 square library building and attached public meeting room, and the Architects have been instructed to prepare working drawings to enable tenders to be invited for the erection of same early in 1969. The Library will be situate in Warrandyte Road, adjacent to the Mullum Creek, and opposite the Ringwood Bowling Club. Providing no unforeseen difficulties arise, it is confidently expected that the free library service will be available for use by April/May 1970. Quite a deal of preparatory work is required to be carried out before a Library is opened and books can be borrowed — work such as processing and cataloguing and covering of the books

which is quite a large task, and is now well under way. It is expected that there would be an initial book stock of 20,000 books. This, of course, would be added to from time to time. 7,000 books have already been processed.

CIVIC CENTRE:

As previously advised by means of a brochure delivered to every home in the Municipality last June, a new Civic Centre consisting of initially municipal offices, Council Chamber, Mayoral suite and associated rooms, together with a public meeting room, is to be erected on 10 acres of land bounded by Maroondah Highway, Braeside Avenue, Wilson Street and Mines Road.

Tenders were invited to build the Civic Centre and that of a local Company, P. M. Versteegen & Son Pty. Limited for the sum of \$422,386 has been accepted.

It is expected that work of construction will commence early in 1969 and be completed by November 1969.

GOLF COURSE:

Approximately 112 acres of land adjoining the Dandenong Creek with a frontage to Canterbury Road west of Wantirna Road have been purchased for the purpose of a golf course. An 18 hole course has been designed, and at present the land is being filled by the sanitary land fill method of garbage disposal. It is anticipated the first nine holes could be ready for play in four years' time.

SALE OF LAND:

The Council has for some years owned 28 acres of land fronting Canterbury and Heatherdale Roads. Portion of the land has been used as the depot for the housing of equipment used by the Contracting Company employed for the removal of nightsoil and household refuse. The Council recently subdivided the land and one allotment has been retained by the Council for use as a depot, whilst the remaining allotment, having an area of 24½ acres at the corner of Canterbury and Heatherdale Roads was recently sold for the sum of \$191,000 to a development company.

The amount received from this sale is to be used to reimburse the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works for the purchase on behalf of the Council of the majority of the land to be used for the Golf Course.

SWIMMING CENTRE:

Associated with the Council's plans for financing the Civic Centre is the financing of a proposed new Swimming Centre. The Swimming Centre is to be constructed in Jubilee Park, and a sub-Committee of the Council, comprising Crs. Aus, Smart and Palmer, has been formed to go into matters of detail in connection with the Centre, and discussions have taken place with Messrs. Scott and Furphy, Consulting Engineers, who have been appointed Consultants for the project. It is confidently hoped that the

new Swimming Centre, estimated to cost up to \$360,000, will be available for the 1970/71 swimming season. As with the Civic Centre, the Council proposes to finance the necessary loan raising for the project from the annual rental it is receiving from the Eastland Shopping Centre.

HOLIDAY PLAY CENTRE:

The Council is, for the first time, sponsoring a holiday play Centre to be conducted by the National Fitness Council over the Christmas school vacation period and which will be held at the Ringwood High School from 6th to 24th January, 1969.

The Council believes this Centre will provide healthy activity for many who might otherwise find the holidays dragging. The Centre will be open to all children of the Municipality from approximately 5 to 14 years of age and will be appropriately advertised.

CIVIC WEEK:

The Council has decided to form a Committee with the view to re-inaugurating Civic Week which was discontinued some 10 years ago. It may take the form of a school choir night; schools participating in a junior Council meeting; school debate of which the participants would be from secondary schools, with prizes being awarded and a Challenge

Shield to the most successful school. In addition, the secondary schools would display various projects undertaken with perhaps school orchestras participating. Details have yet to be decided upon.

IMPROVEMENTS TO LAKE RESERVE:

The popular asset which the Council has at the Lake Reserve is to be improved by the Council by means of the erection of a new sewered toilet block, to cost approximately \$14,000. This amenity is scheduled for erection in the early part of 1939. Consideration is being given to the ultimate overall improvement of this beauty spot, with a view to various improvements being progressively carried out.

RUBBISH DUMPING:

Unfortunately dumping of rubbish continues throughout the Municipality despite the fact that the Council's tip, to which the entrance is from Belgrave Road — off the south side of Canterbury Road, near Heatherdale Road — is open each Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. where refuse can be deposited for a nominal charge. The collection of indiscriminate dumping of rubbish is an added expense to the Council, which is in fact a charge to the ratepayers through their rates. There is a penalty of \$10 for anyone throwing articles — of any description — from cars traversing the streets of any Municipality. This penalty may be imposed in the

same manner as "on the spot" fines. The Council has in the past apprehended persons who have dumped rubbish on road or recreation reserves, and legal action taken against them has been successful; therefore, dump your rubbish at the tip where proper provision has been made for it. When legal action is taken by the Council, it is against any person who deposits litter, unwanted material, or article, without authority to do so, in a public place, or on any land owned, occupied or under the control of any person or authority. Where the Court is satisfied that the offence was committed wilfully, or the quantity of material or litter was substantial, or was wilfully dropped from a moving vehicle, the offender is liable to a penalty of up to \$200. Any person who deposits or breaks any glass in any public place, is similarly liable.

STREET TREES:

The planting of street trees continues and in all areas where streets are in course of construction, at the appropriate time, young trees of different types are planted. Last summer the Council greatly appreciated the efforts of its citizens in assisting the Council in the watering of the trees. Without such assistance the mortality rate would have been severe. Unfortunately, in some cases the citizens watered the trees, and the Council's employees — unknowingly — also watered the trees. However, it would be quite safe to say that no trees died last summer through wet feet. The greatest loss to street trees is caused by careless drivers and vandals. It is most disheartening for a citizen who has carefully looked after the tree in front of his property to find it dismem-

bered by acts of vandalism, and replacement takes time and unnecessary cost to the ratepayers. Should any ratepayers notice a street tree which has died, kindly advise the Town Clerk who will take action to have a replacement made at the appropriate season of the year.

VANDALISM:

Acts of vandalism to street signs, seats in streets and reserves and the various items of playground equipment and buildings on reserves etc. are numerous and wanton and are the cause of expenditure which could be put to better use. Remember it is your property which is being damaged or destroyed.

WHITE ANTS:

Recently it has come to the notice of the Council that in some areas of the Municipality, white ants have been found, and although this Municipality is not considered to be a prevalent area for white ants, the Council recommends that builders and/or owners give consideration to the taking of precautions against possible white ant attack to buildings. Precautions which can be taken are outlined in Australian Standard CA.43-1966 Soil Treatment against Subterranean Termites, and CA.50-1968 Ant Caps and Ant Strips.

The Council has decided to insist that land with new buildings of Slab on ground construction must have soil treatment for Subterranean Termites (White Ants) in accordance with Uniform Building Regulations, Victoria. An inspection is required on site while treatment is taking place; 24 hours' notice to be given to the Building Surveyor. If you have any fears in this respect, consult a pest control firm.

STREET CONSTRUCTION:

The much publicised Loughnan Hill scheme of street construction is now nearing completion, four months ahead of schedule. Private Street construction works to the value of almost \$714,000 were carried out last year, on the following streets including all those Neville Street, Heather Grove, Albert Street, Thanet Street, Catherine Street, Inez streets in the Loughnan Hill Group. Pump Street, Aumann Street, Sunbeam Avenue, Avenue, Right-of-way rear of properties fronting Railway Avenue from Dublin Road to Lois Street.

The following streets, of which the estimated cost is approximately \$400,000 are either in course of construction at the present time or construction will be put well underway during this current year, namely: The Boulevard group, Norfolk Avenue, Sussex Street. The Heathwood Street Group comprising Heathwood Street, Maple Court, Fernwood Avenue, Pinewood Avenue, Rotherwood Avenue, Braewood Avenue, Lynwood Avenue, Isabel Avenue and portion of Alexandra Road.

There is a probability that Barnic Road, Phillip and Lorient Streets and Harriet Street may also be constructed during the current year.

By the above, it can be readily seen that the previously referred to "heart-ache" streets are now almost a thing of the past — the end of a bad dream!

There remains only one large group of private streets to be constructed, namely, the streets in the Light Industrial area of the Municipality, near the Heatherdale Railway Station comprising: Molan, Newman, Madden, and Crosswell Streets, and Yallourn Parade.

This work will be put in hand as soon as funds permit and the Council has the ability to complete the plans and carry out the necessary administrative work.

FIRE HAZARDS:

Once again it is necessary to bring to the notice of owners of vacant land that it is their responsibility to ensure any fire hazard caused by long grass etc. is removed. Grass and undergrowth grows prolificly in the Ringwood district during the Spring months and dries out very quickly. If it is left much after November, it is sure to become a fire hazard which must be removed. If it is cut too early in the season it will regrow and will have to be cut a second time before the fire danger period has passed. The Council therefore makes an all out effort in the months of November and December to ensure all possible fire hazards on vacant allotments are attended to.

DOG NUISANCE:

From time to time the Council has trouble with wandering dogs — there are times when they follow kiddies to school and subsequently become a regular nuisance, and often times they are a nuisance to shopkeepers, and of necessity the Dog Registration

Officer has to seize them. As a result, owners are inconvenienced and become upset when their pet does not return home. Ratepayers in their own interests are asked not to let their dog roam the streets or accompany their children to school.

Ninety per cent of the Ringwood dogs impounded are unregistered as drives through the streets reveal. However, the Council has determined that dogs must not roam the streets, and despite efforts by employees of the Lost Dogs Home which regularly makes an intensive search to collect stray dogs, and the Council's Dog Registration Officer, there are still far too many dogs wandering the streets. It pays to register your dog because if it is picked up you can be notified where you can claim the dog. If un-registered, this is impossible, and the dog may be sold or destroyed by the Lost Dogs Home at the expiration of a period of time.

HOUSE NUMBERING:

Despite efforts by the Council officers, there are still far too many houses which do not display house numbers. This is an inconvenience to tradesmen and others. There is a penalty of \$4.00 for failure to have your number displayed. Nothing is more frustrating than to be looking for a certain numbered house in the dark, when the street number is not displayed in a conspicuous spot.

WINDS OF CHANGE:

In the Council's report of last year ratepayers were advised that Mrs. Elizabeth Penny of the East Ward had resigned due to ill-health but her position on the Council had not been filled when the report went to press.

At the Extraordinary election held to elect a Councillor to fill Mrs. Penny's place on the Council, there were three candidates, one of whom was a woman. At the close of poll when the votes were counted, Mrs. Patricia Palmer was declared elected with an outright majority over her two male opponents. Cr. Palmer has been a Councillor since December of last year, and is a representative of the East Ward. She is a member of the Planning, Parks and Gardens, Officers and Servants Committee, and Committee of Whole Council, and represents the Council on the Croydon West High School Advisory Council, Ringwood Highland Gathering Committee, Civic Week Sub-Committee, New Swimming Pool sub-committee.

Mr. Doug Baxter — a Councillor of 12 years — did not seek re-election to the Council when he retired through effluxion of his term of office in August last, because of added commitments in his profession.

Ex. Cr. Baxter had played a leading role in the Council almost from the time of his election in 1956. He was most prominent in the initiation of the Ringwood Planning Scheme 1960; the raising in status of the Municipality from a Borough to a City; the

granting of the Freedom of Entry to the City of Ringwood upon the 3rd Division of the Royal Australian Engineers — the local Unit in the Municipality having its Headquarters in Dublin Road, Ringwood East; the Ringwood Planning Scheme 1968 — Flat Development; the Regional Library, and the establishment of a new Civic Centre. He followed Cr. Hubbard as President of the Ringwood Henley Carnival Committee after Cr. Hubbard retired, which over the years raised thousands of dollars to be used for equipping children's playgrounds with equipment. Mr. Baxter was ably supported by his wife and a loyal band of hard working people. Mr. Baxter was not content to be a figurehead — he toiled physically and mentally to make the Carnival a success.

Mr. Baxter's position as a representative of the North Ward on the Council has been taken by Cr. R. J. Martin who was elected unopposed to the Council in August last. Cr. Martin is a Sergeant of Police, and is in charge of the Ringwood Police Station.

— Cr. Martin is on the Finance, Hall and Baths, Health, Buildings, Traffic, Lighting and Legislative Committee. He represents the Council on the Ringwood Technical School Advisory Council, North Ringwood Pavilion Committee of Management, Ringwood Highland Gathering Committee, Civic Week sub-committee.

RINGWOOD CITIZENS' ADVISORY SERVICE:

Also in the last report, mention was made of the Ringwood Citizens' Advisory Service which has now been in existence for approximately 18 months. It is a voluntary organisation which has trained helpers and provides FREE information in respect to community organisations and facilities. Its aims are to refer enquiries to those organisations which may be able to meet a particular need.

The organisation can be contacted either by phoning 870.3233 or by writing and addressing the request to the Hon. Secretary, Ringwood Citizens' Advisory Service, P.O. Box 171, Ringwood. If you have any problems of which the Council is not able to help you, ring or write the Ringwood Citizens' Advisory Service. **REMEMBER —**

ALL CALLS ARE TREATED AS CONFIDENTIAL AND ADVICE GIVEN IS FREE.

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS:

REMEMBER:

The Council is at your service within the limits of its resources.

The Council's aim is to continue to raise the service given you, and is anxious to assist you in your civic and community problems.

The Council is a business and has to pay current prices for goods purchased and labor employed, and at all times when it is dealing with its estimates — budget — it takes into account the ability of the people to pay.

RAT EXTERMINATION. The Council employs a contractor to bait areas where it has been reported rats exist. Ratepayers can obtain rat bait free at the Town Hall.

FIREWOOD. If you are an old age Pensioner you can have a half ton of firewood delivered free to your home during May or June.

ENSURE that trees and hedges don't overhang footpaths — this is dangerous and could involve you in litigation and payment of damages.

SPOUSES VOTING RIGHTS — COUNCIL ELECTIONS. Voting rights exist for the spouse (husband or wife) as well as the owner of any marital domicile, provided claim for same is lodged prior to 10th June. Claim forms and information are obtainable from the Town Hall.

If you have any suggestions which you feel are of value, let the Council know and in **ALL WAYS TAKE AN INTEREST IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF YOUR CITY.**

RINGWOOD CITIZENS' ADVISORY SERVICE:

Your Council representatives are:

MAYOR

Cr. S. C. Morris, J.P.

NORTH WARD

Cr. N. Aus, J.P.

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

Cr. R. J. Martin

SOUTH WARD

Cr. B. G. Clarke

Cr. G. R. G. Smart

Cr. J. M. McRae

EAST WARD

Cr. S. C. Morris, J.P.

Cr. P. E. Palmer

Cr. P. Vergers, J.P.

REMEMBER:

The Council is at your service within the limits of its resources. The Council's aim is to continue to assist you in your business and to pay current prices for goods purchased and labor employed and at all times to deal with its estimates — budget — it takes account of the people to pay. —

Elected **Retires**

(1963)	Aug. 1969
(1945)	" 1970
(1968)	" 1971

— ENSURE that your home during the summer is safe and free from fire and burglarious and could involve you in litigation and damage to your property. —

Spouses (husband or wife) as well as the owner of any marital domicile, provided claim for same is lodged prior to 10th June and information are obtainable from the Town Hall.

If you have any questions you feel are of interest to the Council know and in ALL WAYS TAKE AN INTEREST IN THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF YOUR CITY.

HERE'S USEFUL INFORMATION AND EASY REFERENCE: PRINCIPAL OFFICERS:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| Town Clerk | — | — |
| City Engineer | — | A. C. Robertson, C.E., A.M.I.E. (Aust.) |
| Deputy Town Clerk | — | J. N. Webster, A.A.S.A., A.I.M.A. |
| Deputy City Engineer | — | B. V. Gilpin, C.E., A.M.I.E. (Aust.) |
| Rate Collector and Interim Valuer | — | L. B. Ewart |
| Accountant | — | G. E. Johnston, A.A.S.A. |
| Building Surveyor | — | K. J. Clark, M.B.S., M.S.I. |
| Senior Health Inspector | — | D. G. Potts, Cert.R.S.H. |
| Medical Officer of Health | — | Blair Widmer, M.B., B.S. (Melb.) |

The Municipal Offices are open to the Public from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday. Telephone No. 870.4311.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

Ringwood

— Miles Avenue

Sister-in-charge — Sister E. Ahlston

Hours:

Monday 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Tuesday 9 a.m. to 12 noon, 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Wednesday 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Thursday 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Friday 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Ringwood East

— Laurence Grove

Sister-in-charge — Sister L. M. Turnley

Hours:

Monday 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Wednesday 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Friday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Heathmont

— Viviani Crescent

Sister-in-charge — Sister L. M. Turnley

Hours:

Tuesday 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Thursday 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Friday 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

HERE'S USEFUL INFORMATION FOR YOUR QUICK AND EASY REFERENCE:

City of Ringwood offices, Maroondah Highway, Ringwood. P.O. Box 156.
Phone 870.4311.

Emergency calls for Fire Brigade, Police and Ambulance — Dial 000 and ask the operator to connect you to the service required.

Burst water mains and supply complaints. Phone 870.1086.

Electrical troubles. Phone 870.2022.

Victorian Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Phone 41.4040.

Garbage Removal Trouble. Phone 870.5727.

Sanitary Clearance. Phone 870.5727.

Ringwood Police. Phone 870.6377 and 870.7137.

C.I.B. Phone 870.8631.

Lost Dogs Home. Phone 30.2471.

Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Phone 41.4138.

HERE'S USEFUL INFORMATION FOR YOUR QUICK AND EASY REFERENCE:

City of Ringwood offices, Main Road, Ringwood, P.O. Box 156, Phone 870.4311.

Emergency calls for Fire Brigade, Police and Ambulance — Dial 000 and ask the operator to connect you to the service required.

Burst water mains and supply complaints. Phone 870.1088.

Electrical troubles. Phone 870.2022.

Victorian Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Phone 41.4040.

Garbage Removal Trouble. Phone 870.5727.

Sanitary Clearance. Phone 870.5727.

Ringwood Police. Phone 870.8377 and 870.7137.

C.I.B. Phone 870.8831.

Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Phone 41.4138.

Monday to Friday 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.
 Saturday 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.
 Sunday 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m.

OBITUARY

The year 1968 closes on a very sad note for the Council. Mr. F. P. Dwerryhouse, Town Clerk for the past 9½ years passed away on 6th December after a short illness. The late Fred Dwerryhouse was an untiring and devoted officer of the Council and one who has played a large part in the rapid and sound development of the Municipality.