



City of Ringwood

Report
to
Ratepayers
1977-1978

Mayor's Message

Local Government in Ringwood is assuming a changing role—from the traditional emphasis on construction of roads, drains and footpaths—to that of Community Welfare.

This year's information booklet contains in greater detail, some of the extensive number of community, leisure and support organisations that operate in our City.

Although we are proud of the reputation Ringwood has as a garden city, we must accept that today many of our residents have changing needs and life styles and require our assistance in other areas. Your Council is now more closely investigating these needs.

Our most important step has been to employ ACCESS Regional Planning Pty. Ltd. to provide Council with an informed analysis of the requirements of the residents.

From this information we will be better able to plan our future community services and facilities.

It is my hope that Ringwood also will become known as a City where people care about each other, in fact, "A People Community."

Residents of Ringwood should not regard the paying of their rates as the only contact they have with their Council.

If you have an opportunity, we would like to see you at the regular Council meetings. The public gallery is open and you are free to come and observe Council in operation.

These meetings of necessity are formally conducted, but you will find them interesting and the opportunity will be there to meet your Councillors and Senior Council staff.

I trust we have the opportunity to meet,

Yours sincerely,



A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cr. Lawrie Lawrenson".

CR. LAWRIE LAWRENSON,
Mayor.

Your Council Representatives 1977/78

Mayor: Councillor B. L. Lawrenson, J.P.

NORTH WARD

Retires

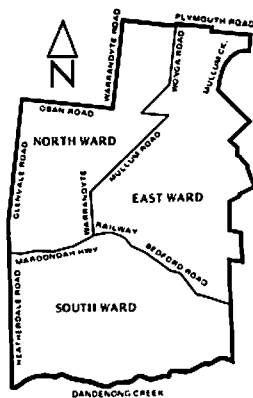
| | | |
|----------------------------|----------|------|
| Councillor R. GARDINI | 879 3874 | 1978 |
| Councillor A. B. HENDERSON | 870 7518 | 1979 |
| Councillor D. M. RICHARDS | 870 2657 | 1980 |

SOUTH WARD

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------|------|
| Councillor P. GOTLIB | 870 7573 | 1978 |
| Councillor G. R. G. SMART, J.P. | 870 4351 | 1979 |
| Councillor J. M. McRAE | 729 5060 | 1980 |

EAST WARD

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|------|
| Councillor F. J. CORR | 876 2084 | 1978 |
| Councillor B. L. LAWRENSON, J.P. | 870 0819 | 1979 |
| Councillor W. R. WILKINS | 870 2016 | 1980 |



Chief Executive Officers of the Council

TOWN CLERK—A. W. HALL, A.A.S.A., F.I.M.A.
 CITY ENGINEER—A. C. ROBERTSON, C.E.,
 F.I.E.(Aust.), DIP. T. & R.P.

AT YOUR SERVICE

The administration of the City of Ringwood is centralised at the Civic Centre, Corner Braeside Avenue and Maroonah Highway, Ringwood.

NORMAL OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday 9.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

EXTENDED OFFICE HOURS

In order to provide a higher level of service to the Community, the Council offices are open until 8.00 p.m. on Monday evenings except on Public Holidays and during January.

TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Civic Centre | 870 4311 |
| Council Depot | 870 4311 |
| (Emergency After Hours) | 870 6636 |
| Pound | 870 4311 |
| (After Hours) | 870 6286 |
| Golf Course, Canterbury Rd., Heathmont | 870 7496 |
| Ranger (After Hours) | 725 6992 |
| Swimming Centre, Jubilee Park | 870 0519 |
| Ringwood Library, Warrandyte Road | 870 0177 |
| Ringwood Croydon Advisory Service | 870 3233 |
| | or 725 7920 |
| Red Cross Social Worker | 870 3550 |
| Lighting Complaints (S.E.C.) | 870 2022 |

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Miles Avenue, Ringwood | 870 6478 |
| Laurence Grove, Ringwood East | 870 6479 |
| Viviani Crescent, Heathmont | 870 6480 |
| Oban Road, North Ringwood | 876 3307 |

ELDERLY CITIZENS' CLUBS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Greenwood Avenue, Ringwood | 870 1884 |
| Laurence Grove, Ringwood East | 870 0289 |
| Uniting Church Hall, Dixon Crescent | 870 1209 |

MEALS ON WHEELS

| | |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Supervisor — Mrs. M. Reinsch | 560 3302 |
|------------------------------|----------|

HOME HELP

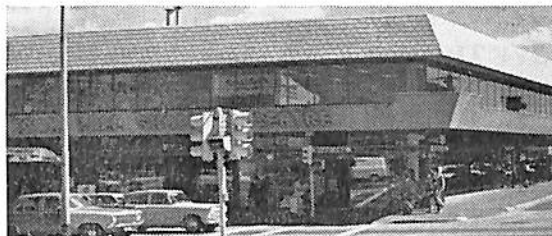
| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Welfare Supervisor — Mrs. M. Harvey | 870 4311 |
|-------------------------------------|----------|

All correspondence should be forwarded to P.O. Box 156, Ringwood.

MAJOR WORKS 1977/78

Some of the more specific items included in this year's works programme include:

- Live Theatre and Functions Room complex.
- Completion of the duplication of the road pavement in Canterbury Road between Sunset Drive and Dickasons Road.
- Extension of road pavement in Oban Road westerly to service the Christian Life Centre.
- Completion of the new bridge at Eastfield Road over the East Ringwood/Croydon railway line.
- Extension of the service road on Old Lilydale Road from Everard Road to Holland Road.
- Widening of Railway Avenue in association with the development of the East Ringwood railway terminal.
- Reconstruction of Heatherdale Road south from Maroondah Highway.
- Asphalt overlay to strengthen the pavement and improve riding qualities in Wenwood Street, Laurence Grove, Stanley Avenue, Lois Street, Victoria Street, east end of Bourke Street, north end of New Street.
- Reconstruction of Arlington and Albert Streets.
- Footpaths (parts only) in Illoura Avenue, Canterbury Road, Oban Road and Mt. Dandenong Road.
- Carparks at the East Ringwood and North Ringwood Shopping Centres.
- Completion of the No. 2 Oval at Wonga Reserve.
- Stage 2 of the Ringwood Lake development which will include car park, footpaths and landscaping.
- Netball/basketball centre at H. E. Parker Reserve.
- The levelling and grading of the J. W. Manson Reserve on the south side of the Dandenong Creek off Selkirk Avenue.



Ringwood Business Centre

PLANNING — RINGWOOD CENTRE

After many frustrating delays, three alternate strategies have been prepared for the future growth of Ringwood. These alternatives will be discussed with the Community at public meetings during November/December.

Each of these has advantages and disadvantages and community reaction will be taken into account by the Council before a decision is made. Overall, an extension of approximately 180,000 sq. ft. for retail and office development is contemplated. The extent of the growth is limited by the capacity of the road network to handle the additional traffic. It has been agreed with the relevant public authorities that this should be limited to 1,000 additional car parking spaces. Deficiencies to be met by the expansion will include additional shops for clothing, hardware and small household goods.



Ringwood Business Centre

RECREATION

LIVE THEATRE AND FUNCTIONS ROOM

Consultants to the Council have confirmed that there is a need in the Ringwood region for a live theatre and functions room to serve the rapidly growing catchment which at present is in excess of 200,000 people and will grow to at least 400,000 people. Because the City of Croydon also has plans for a live theatre, the two municipalities are involved in discussions to resolve where the theatre should be located.

MAROONDAH HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE AND HALL

The Council has agreed to contribute \$70,000 toward the proposed hall and theatre complex to be built at Maroondah High School, to ensure that the facilities will be available for community use. The hall will be large enough to accommodate a full size indoor netball/basketball court and the theatre will accommodate 204 people. It is envisaged that the theatre particularly will be in great demand by a wide range of groups throughout the municipality. The project is estimated to cost \$640,000.

NETBALL COMPLEX

Land is being purchased from the Country Roads Board on the east side of H. E. Parker Reserve between the railway line and the creek for the development of an outdoor netball/basketball complex. There will be 10 courts, together with an amenities building and provision for off-street car parking for 120 cars—courts will be lit. The estimated cost of the project is \$150,000 and work is scheduled to commence towards the end of 1977.

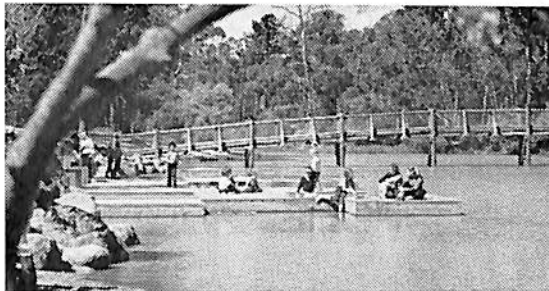
WONGA RESERVE

The first stage of Wonga Reserve, located on 23 acres on the west side of Wonga Road just south of Plymouth Road, is now operating and includes a soccer pitch and a full size cricket oval which will be used for three junior soccer pitches in the Winter, together with two pairs of changing rooms. A further cricket oval will be constructed during the current year. The Council has recently purchased a further 8 acres which will be progressively filled with rubbish over the next two years and will provide additional recreational facilities.

RECREATION

J. W. MANSON RESERVE

The Council has agreed with the Country Roads Board on the purchase price for approximately 34 acres on the south side of the Dandenong Creek east of Selkirk Avenue for development of active open space. The site is relatively flat and so only limited earth work will be involved to bring the site into useable condition. The site will be used to make provision for the recreational interests of both the existing and future residents as the population grows towards 50,000 people. The design of the reserve is flexible so that the uses can change with changing demand.



Ringwood Lake Reserve

GOLF COURSE

Now that the 18 holes are fully operative, attendances at the course continue to grow. In the first year, there were 68,000 9-hole rounds played. This year it is anticipated that the use will be in the order of 130,000 9-hole rounds. Play is permitted during daylight hours.

Charges will be unchanged at:

| | | |
|---------|----------------|---|
| Adults | Nine holes | 90 cents |
| | Eighteen holes | \$1.60 |
| Juniors | Nine holes | 50 cents weekdays 90 cents weekends and public holidays |
| | Eighteen holes | \$1.00 weekdays \$1.60 weekends and public holidays. |

LITTER — KEEP RINGWOOD BEAUTIFUL

The Council has formed a Sub-committee to consider all possible ways of implementing the thrust of the Keep Australia Beautiful policy in Ringwood. The careless discarding of litter in streets and reserves is one of the problems. Are we short of litter bins? The City Engineer would be pleased to hear from you if you know of a location where a bin would be well used.

Council has instructed its officers to enforce the provisions of the Litter Act—the penalty is to be increased to \$50 for “on the spot” fines and to a maximum of \$500 for dropping, throwing or depositing litter.

Council is considering a scheme for encouraging domestic composting of household garbage so that the weekly garbage service would have the capacity to collect other rubbish on a weekly basis.

RUBBISH TIP

For a trial this year, it will be possible to exchange each of the two attached free tipping vouchers (see page 19) for an all-day pass (weekends only) for domestic use. The pass will not be transferable. All that is required is that when you take your first load to the tip indicate to the tip attendant that you would like an all-day pass and this will be issued with the date and the registration number of your vehicle. The objective is to encourage residents to keep their properties clean and tidy.

GREENWAY/DICKASONS ROAD GROUP OF PRIVATE STREETS

Council is nearing the end of its programme for the construction of unmade residential streets within the municipality. The final touches are being made to the Greenway and adjoining streets where it was possible to save many of the trees which are greatly valued by the residents by varying the alignment of the streets.

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES LIBRARY — EASTERN METROPOLITAN REGIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE

This service provides Library facilities to the Cities of Ringwood, Knox, Croydon and the Shires of Healesville and Sherbrooke.

The Ringwood Library is located on the east side of Warrandyte Road just south of the Mullum Creek and is open at the following times:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday —
10.00 a.m. - 9.00 p.m.
Saturday 9.00 a.m. - 11.45 a.m.

The Library is closed on Wednesdays to permit library staff to re-stock bookshelves and carry out cataloguing of new bookstock.

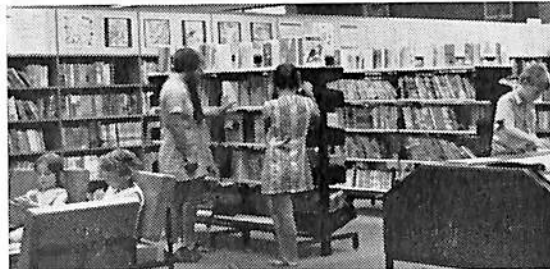
Membership is free to any person who:

- lives in or pays rates to the municipalities which are members of the service.
- is employed in the area.
- is in receipt of a Government pension but not otherwise eligible for free membership.
- is recommended to use the Service by another Library to which they are entitled to belong.

Activities of Special Interest

- Audio visual collection is currently being established.
- Introduction of holiday activities for children.
- Special displays by Community Groups.
- Collection of “Hear a Book” cassettes for persons who are unable to read a standard book.

Further details on the Library Service can be obtained by phoning 870 0177 or 870 0377.



Ringwood Library

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

LIBRARY SERVICE FOR HOUSEBOUND AND/OR ELDERLY PERSONS

In April 1976 the Council commenced a new library service for housebound and/or elderly persons. With the kind assistance of local volunteer drivers, interested persons are collected from their homes and taken to the Ringwood Library once per fortnight on a Friday between 11.00 a.m. and 1.00 p.m. They are able to borrow books from the Library and are served refreshments by the Ringwood Red Cross Society. The scheme is administered by the Council's Welfare Supervisor, Mrs. May Harvey and any persons interested in either participating in the scheme or prepared to act as a driver should contact her at the Civic Centre — 870 4311.



Library Service for Housebound Persons

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

The Council conducts four Infant Welfare Centres which are staffed by highly qualified and trained nursing sisters. The Centres are located at Ringwood, Ringwood East, Heathmont and North Ringwood.

Hours of operation vary at each Centre and these can be ascertained by contacting the Sister-In-Charge.

The service is provided free of charge and all mothers and expectant mothers are encouraged to avail themselves of the facilities.

IMMUNIZATIONS:

BE WISE — BE IMMUNIZED

Free protection is available against Diphtheria, Tetanus, Whooping Cough, Measles (Ordinary), Rubella (German Measles), Smallpox and Polio.

Regular monthly sessions (January excepted) are conducted at various locations — further details can be obtained from the Senior Health Inspector Mr. D. Potts — 870 4311.

RINGWOOD CROYDON ADVISORY SERVICE

Help Available. Free and Confidential.

Referral Information and a Listening Ear.

Phone: 870 3233 — Hours: 9.30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m.
Monday to Friday

Phone: 725 7920 — Hours: 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Monday to Friday

Saturday: 10.00 a.m. to 12 noon
or call into: 210 Mt. Dandenong Road, Croydon.
Public Holidays excepted.

Services

- The Service can help
- provide information about organisations or services which can help people or families in any situation.
- provide a point of first contact to discuss problems.

HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

MEALS ON WHEELS

Council provides an extensive meals on wheels service for persons unable to cook for themselves. The service is available Monday to Friday for lunch only. Currently 50 meals per day are being delivered to residents by 180 volunteers, who operate on a roster basis. Council's Meals on Wheels Supervisor, Mrs. Marian Reinsch can be contacted for further details — 560 3302.



Meals on Wheels

HOME HELP

Council provides home help for the elderly and in situations where pressures are placed on families whether it be through illness or even where through confinement the mother is temporarily unable to attend to household duties and care of the family.

Also incorporated under the Home Help Scheme is a service for parents and families of mentally and physically handicapped children.

Families who wish to avail themselves of these services should contact Council's Welfare Supervisor, Mrs. May Harvey at the Civic Centre — 870 4311.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Council Elections in Ringwood are now compulsory and failure to vote may result in a fine being imposed on those persons enrolled on the voters' roll.

The date for the 1978 Annual Election will be Saturday, 12th August, which is prior to the second term school holidays.

VOTERS' ROLL

Persons entitled to be enrolled on Council Voters' Rolls must have attained the age of 18 years, and have one of the following qualifications:

- owner or occupier in respect of property within the municipality of Ringwood;
- spouse of resident owner-occupier and nominated by owner-occupier;
- nominee of owner-occupier corporation.

The closing date for enrolment is 20th May, 1978, and only those persons enrolled will be able to vote.

RATES REMISSION FOR PENSIONERS:

Ratepayers who are in receipt of a full pension and are holders of a Pensioner's Concession Card are now eligible for a remission of up to one half (50%) of the municipal and water and sewerage rates levied on their sole or principal residence.

Pensioners who received a rebate on their rates for the year ending 30/9/77 and who are still eligible will automatically have the remission amount deducted from their Valuation and General Rate Notice. In these cases it is therefore not necessary to complete a further application form.

Persons who have recently become eligible and have not had the concession deducted from their rate account can complete the required application form at the Council Rate Office. Applicants are requested to produce their Council and Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works Rate Notices and their Concession Card when making application. Telephone enquiries should be directed to the Rate Collector, Mr. D. French — 870 4311.

DEFERMENT OF RATES:

Any person in necessitous circumstances may request deferment of rates in whole or in part. Rates unpaid will still remain a charge on the property.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Council usually meets twice each month on Monday nights at 7.30 p.m. — meetings are open to the public. If you have not attended, please feel free to come along. It is suggested you contact the Civic Centre to ascertain meeting dates.

DOG REGISTRATIONS

All dogs over the age of six months must be registered with the Council from 10th April each year. It is an offence to allow your dog to roam at large. It must be under effective control. Registration Fee \$3.00. Failure to register a dog renders the owner liable for prosecution.

FOLIAGE OVERHANGING FOOTPATHS

Owners or occupiers of properties are required under the provisions of Section 559 of the Local Government Act 1958, to keep all streets and footways completely clear of all foliage up to a height of 3 metres above the pavement surface.

BUILDING BY-LAWS AND REGULATIONS

There are a number of By-laws and Regulations controlling Building matters and written Council permits are required prior to commencing any construction, renovation, demolition of or any alteration and additions to part or whole of any building, outbuilding, fences, hoardings and signs, the erection of scaffolding and the construction of swimming pools.

Building enquiries — Building Surveyor — Mr. J. Clark — 870 4311.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Residents are required to notify the Council in writing of any change of address. In order that Voters' Rolls may be accurately compiled, full Christian names, address and occupation and advice as to whether the resident is the owner or the occupier or both should be given. The appropriate forms for submitting this information are available free of charge on application to the Rate Collector Mr. D. French — 870 4311.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

VANDALISM

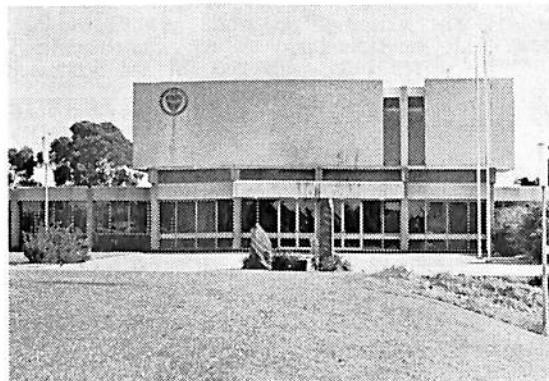
Each year street lights are broken, plants are destroyed or stolen, trees are broken and uprooted and serious damage occurs in respect to public conveniences and buildings on Council reserves and other property. The cost of repairing the Council properties as a result of this vandalism involves the expenditure of some thousands of dollars of ratepayers' money each year and the co-operation of all citizens is sought in preventing further damage to public property.

HOUSE NUMBERING

To ensure easy identification of your property for your own convenience and that of others visiting your premises, residents are requested to place numbers in a prominent position.

FIRE HAZARDS

It is your responsibility to keep your property free from fire hazards. Council can arrange clearance at your cost. Further details can be obtained from Council's Ranger, Mr. R. Anderson — 870 4311.



Ringwood Civic Centre

FINANCE

COUNCIL'S REVENUE 1976/77

This Financial Year \$3,463,305 income was derived as follows:

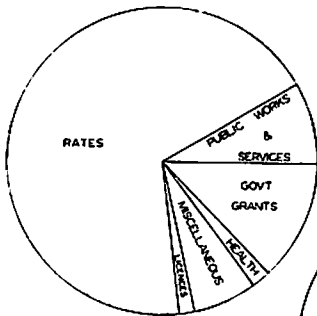
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|---|--------|
| Rates | 69.46% |
| Government Grants and Subsidies | 12.86% |
| Public Works and Services | 8.57% |
| Health and Social Services | 1.99% |
| Miscellaneous — Swimming Centre, Golf Course, etc. | 6.65% |
| Licenses and Registration Fees | 0.47% |

COUNCIL'S EXPENDITURE 1976/77

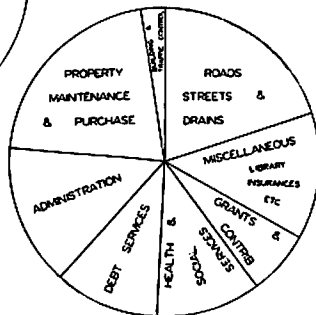
This Financial Year \$3,691,846* was allocated as follows:

| | |
|---|--------|
| Administration | 14.73% |
| Debt Services | 10.94% |
| Health and Social Services | 10.95% |
| Miscellaneous — Library, Insurances, etc. | 13.28% |
| Building and Traffic Control | 2.42% |
| Roads, Streets and Drains | 19.82% |
| Grants and Contributions | 6.69% |
| Property maintenance and purchase | 21.17% |

* Includes surplus brought forward from 1975/76.



REVENUE



EXPENDITURE

POINTS OF GENERAL INTEREST

FACILITIES FOR DISABLED PERSONS

The Council has set aside areas at Safeway Supermarket, Eastland Shopping Centre, Ringwood Library and Burntbridge Shopping Centre for parking by disabled persons. The exact locations of these areas can be obtained from the Civic Centre and are prominently marked in each location.

CITIZENSHIP CEREMONIES

The integration of newcomers to our country into our social, economic and political life is of national importance. The Council, with the co-operation and on behalf of the Commonwealth Department of Immigration undertakes on a number of occasions each year, the organisation of ceremonies associated with the granting of full Australian citizenship to migrants. These ceremonies are open to the public and all citizens are invited to be present.

RINGWOOD GARDEN CLUB — ANNUAL GARDEN COMPETITION

The Council will again sponsor the Ringwood Garden Competition which will be conducted by the Garden Club during February 1978. Judging of gardens will take place on Saturday, 25th February, and presentations to winners will be made at the Autumn Flower Show on Saturday, 4th March. Further details can be obtained from the Club's Secretary, Mr. M. Pottenger — 870 6857.

SUPERVISION OF PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

In 1975 the Council agreed that all school crossings within the municipality should be supervised in order to provide safer crossing for children. The scheme employs some 30 supervisors and has proven to be most successful. From time to time additional supervisors are required and any person interested should contact Council's Senior By-Laws and Traffic Officer, Mr. B. Williams — 870 4311.

Parents who drive their children to school are requested to observe parking restrictions in the vicinity of all schools, thus preventing traffic hazards for children.

TELEPHONE SERVICE FOR HANDICAPPED PERSONS

As a result of Council initiative, Telecom Australia has installed a drive-in telephone at Eastland Shopping Centre mainly for the use of handicapped persons unable to leave their vehicles. The telephone is located in the carpark on the western side just opposite Bond Street.



Telephone for Handicapped Persons — Eastland

STREET LIGHTS

The Council is charged with the responsibility of paying towards the cost of electricity supplied to street lights. This money is found from portion of the rates you pay. The current cost to Council is \$100,000 per annum (approximately).

YOUR ENVIRONMENT

Council is mindful of the need to protect and improve the environment and has so far this year planted 1500 trees and shrubs in nature strips and Reserves.

YOU CAN ASSIST BY

- watering street trees during the summer months.
- placing litter in the receptacles provided throughout the municipality and encouraging your children to do so.
- keeping noise within reasonable limits; e.g. dogs, mowers, music, motor cycles and cars.

CITY OF RINGWOOD

FREE TIPPING VOUCHER

This Voucher permits the bearer—a resident of Ringwood to discard one boot load or one trailer load of garbage at the Council Tip which is located west side of Wonga Road, one mile north of Oban Road.

Hours: 8.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

8.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. Weekends and Public Holidays.

Expires 31st December, 1978.

CITY OF RINGWOOD

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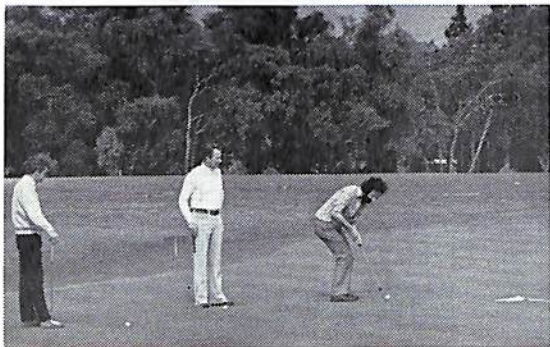
Expires 31st December, 1978.

ALL-DAY PASS (Weekends Only)

On application to the Tip Attendant an All-Day Pass (Weekends Only) can be obtained in exchange for each of these vouchers.



*Opening of New Pavilion, Wonga Reserve —
Existing Tip Site (portion)*



Ringwood Public Golf Course — former Tip Site

WHAT PART CAN YOU PLAY IN COUNCIL AFFAIRS?

YOU CAN:

- attend a council meeting
- learn about Local Government
- read newspaper reports
- ask for information
- make suggestions to council as an individual or through your local organisation
- make protest in writing, in person, organise deputations, or call a public meeting
- appeal against council decisions
- take an active interest in local elections
- become a candidate
- choose carefully the candidate you will support.

HAVE YOU,

or any organisation you belong to, ever approached the Council staff or members:

- asking advice or assistance?
- offering co-operation?
- making practical suggestions?
- to complain?

Council invites your views and opinions as to what should be done in the best interest of ratepayers.

You will be kept regularly informed of Council activities through the local newspaper.

Ringwood - "A People Community"