

Is any dance our friend could have a copy of the final booklet?

Bob Davis

you will need to supply some information -
see nos: 3(a), 13, 14, 18,

without calling me.

Please don't change the historical facts

you change the information around but

Naturally I don't mind removing much

at 4298459 (over)

the way I have don't hesitate to call me

changed things or exactly why I have put everything

if in any doubt about why I have

typed. (I suggest you don't see to a typed or printed draft.)
My photographs are not being able to get this

Noel

17/6

VC 11159



Conferring of
The Freedom of Entry
to the
City of Ringwood
upon
Royal Australian Engineers
3 Division

Ringwood



27th March,

- 1965 -

given the titles of the old Field Companies, e.g., 2 and 8 Field Squadrons recalling 2 and 8 Field Companies.

The first engineer unit located in the Ringwood district was 10 Independent Field Squadron (Armd) which, in 1950, occupied the old Training Depot, now demolished, alongside the Railway reserve near the corner of Station Street and Wantirna Road. This squadron later was to come under command of 3 Field Engineer Regiment and eventually transferred in 1956 to the new Training Depot erected in Dublin Road.

With the growth of the Ringwood district it became apparent that the population could support a larger Citizen Force unit and plans were initiated to enlarge the Dublin Road Depot. At the same time the decision was made to establish eventually 3 Field Engineer Regiment at Ringwood; to implement this, 8 and 16 Field Squadrons were transferred to Ringwood during 1958-1959.

In July, 1964, the enlarged Training Depot, Dublin Road, was occupied by 3 Field Engineer Regiment consisting of Regimental Headquarters with 2 Field Squadron, 8 Field Squadron, 10 Field Squadron, 16 Field Squadron under command. Remaining in the Melbourne area are 15 Corps Field Park Squadron and 29 Plant Squadron (Lt).

A further reorganisation in 1964 involved the raising of Headquarters Royal Australian Engineers 3 Division and the absorption by it of 3 Field Engineer Regiment. Command of this formation was assumed by Col. E. R. Baldwin, Commander Royal Engineers, on 15th December 1964.

Commanding Officers

Lt.-Col. N. T. Jelbart, O.B.E.	.. ..	1948-1951
Lt.-Col. J. Needham, O.B.E., E.D.	.. ..	1951-1954
Lt.-Col. K. D. Green, O.B.E., E.D. (Now Col.)	.. ..	1954-1957
Lt.-Col. G. W. Harker, E.D.	.. ..	1957-1960
Lt.-Col. J. A. McDonald	.. ..	1960-1964
Col. E. R. Baldwin, E.D.	.. ..	1964-

For alterations

See Notes



BRIEF HISTORY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF RINGWOOD

Earliest records of identification with a Municipality show that the Berwick District Road Board was created in 1862, and it is known that Ringwood was in this District (in March of 1864). In 1871 Ringwood was severed from the Berwick District Road Board and annexed to the Upper Yarra District Road Board which, in the following year, was proclaimed the Shire of Lillydale.

In 1876, Ringwood attempted to obtain severance from Lillydale, but was unsuccessful, as was a further attempt in 1918, but in 1924, following a petition which was successful, the Borough of Ringwood was proclaimed and became a Municipality in its own right. The population at that time was 2,000 residents in 600 dwellings and total general rates amounted to £5,000. By comparison the revenue of the Municipality as at 30th September last from all sources was in excess of half a million pounds.

With the settlement and expansion of the Westernport District which extended up to Mt. Dandenong, and the discovery of gold at Warrandyte, it was a foregone conclusion that the area between, now known as Ringwood, would have to be surveyed, and this survey was carried out by Mr. C. Hodgkinson's field party in 1857. The first sale of Ringwood land by public auction was held in Melbourne in March, 1858, prices realised being from £1 per acre. Thirty-five acres, a portion of an original block, was bought by the brothers J. A. and C. T. Browne for £106/15/- and the Civic Centre of the City occupies portion of this block. It is of interest to note that land on Maroondah Highway, being part of the Browne's block is now valued at £500 per foot.

In 1869, antimony was discovered and was mined intermittently until 1934. At the Victorian Inter-Colonial Exhibition of 1875, samples assayed were on display, and Ringwood's samples proved to be the purest in the State.

With the fluctuating availability of antimony, many men in Ringwood and surrounding districts turned to wood-cutting, and later as land was cleared, to fruit-growing.

In 1914, the Ringwood Co-operative Cool Stores Society Ltd. was formed and the cool stores, which was one of the landmarks of Ringwood until demolished in 1959, was the keystone of the fruit growing industry. Another industry operating in the early days, but which has since disappeared into oblivion, was brick making. The brickworks and kilns occupied the site where the Engineer's Training Depot in Ringwood East now stands. Two of the holes from which

1(a)

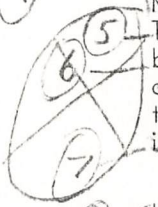
1(b)

2

3(a)

3(b)

4



8

9

10

clay was quarried to make the bricks used in the construction of chimneys and houses in Ringwood and District, are within the grounds of the Depot, and these holes, now filled with water, are used for training purposes by the personnel of the Division.

With the general facilities and benefits that become the City of Ringwood and today are taken for granted, it is interesting to contemplate that prior to the advent of railways in 1882, journeys to and from Melbourne were made by Cobb and Co. coaches, and later Mitchell's coaches. The route used led originally to the Gippsland Road, and later to Healesville. It was not until January, 1865, that the Government proclaimed this route a main road as far as Lilydale. The year 1875 saw the opening to Anderson's Creek (now Warrandyte) of the Anderson's Creek Road (now Warrandyte Road), from Ringwood.

The pioneers depended upon tanks and dams for water supply, and it was not until ~~the end of 1915~~ that reticulated water supply became available.

Likewise, early settlers depended upon kerosene lamps and candles for light, but in 1915 negotiations between Lilydale Shire and Melbourne Electric Supply Co. were satisfactorily concluded, and Ringwood residents were able to obtain electricity, at 6d. per unit as against 2.52d. plus room tariff for light and power for domestic use today.

A post office agency existed prior to 1883 in which year a Miss Thompson was appointed Post-Mistress, and general postal facilities became available. Miss Thompson held this position for 30 years. Police protection, consisting of a Mounted Constable, stationed at Ringwood East, was provided in 1888, but today 19 men are stationed at Ringwood to keep the peace, assisted by 6 men of the Criminal Investigation Branch.

News of local happenings in the early times were reported in the "Lilydale Express" and the "Box Hill Reporter" whilst the "Ringwood Mail" was established in 1924.

Subdivision of orchard properties commenced in earnest after the 1914-18 War, but it was not until after the 1939-45 War that Ringwood really expanded. Population rose from 3,350 in 1940 to 22,200 in 1960, and today it is continuing to increase and will shortly reach 28,000.

The rapid population explosion aroused community spirit to a high degree, and in order to provide for the families of the post-war residents who streamed out from the inner suburbs, facilities such as Infant Welfare Centres, Pre-School Centres, Scout Halls, Youth Clubs, Community Centre Halls, Playgrounds, etc., were needed immediately, and money in large amounts was raised by enthusiastic

workers to provide them. It is of particular interest to note that some of the money needed for the erection of the Greenwood Park Kindergarten and the Ringwood Infant Welfare Centre was raised from Balls and Socials conducted by the 10 Independent Field Squadron (Armoured) which is now incorporated within the Royal Australian Engineers 3 Division, and known as 10 Field Squadron.

The first school was opened in 1874 at Ringwood East, being situate in Everard Road, and although officially designated as State School No. 1451, was affectionately known as Cass's School, the teacher obviously being Mr. E. F. Cass, who was appointed in September of that year.

Today there is within the Municipality, two High Schools, one Technical School, and nine Primary Schools; in addition, there is a Church of England Girls' School, one Catholic Secondary School and two Catholic Primary Schools. A new State Primary School will be opened very shortly, and it is expected that a Church of England Boys' School will be opened next year.

It is a far cry from the days when Cass's School was the only school for the education of the children of Ringwood.

Naturally, worship played a very prominent part in the lives of Ringwood's early citizens, for in addition to being hard-working citizens, they were God fearing people. The first church built in Ringwood was the Church of England which was a little wooden structure — opposite the well-known landmark, the Club Hotel in Mt. Dandenong Road — erected in 1877. Previous to this, of course, services on the Sabbath had been held in private homes, and the first recorded service held in a home was that of the Church of Christ during 1874.

There is also evidence that the earliest settlers in Ringwood of the Roman Catholic faith received their spiritual guidance from a Jesuit Missionary who came up from Hawthorn once or twice a year.

As the town commenced to grow, so did the churches become more firmly established, which led to the erection of permanent edifices.

The Council being desirous of retaining as much of the natural beauty and charm of the countryside, for which Ringwood is noted, encourages the retention of native trees wherever possible, and in order to enhance the reputation which Ringwood has of being a "garden city", makes provision for the planting of suitable trees in the nature strips of streets when constructed by the Council or subdividers, of the former orchards.

17
The Council has over the years purchased or acquired over 300 acres of land for the purpose of providing parks, gardens, sports ovals and the like for its Citizens. In addition, there are 35 children's playgrounds scattered throughout the Municipality, equipped with sturdy playground equipment.

18
The years are bringing more and greater development within the City of Ringwood's boundaries of ~~9 square miles~~. Unmade and formerly impassable roads ~~are rapidly being eliminated from the Municipality~~, and replaced with wide bitumen roads with concrete kerbs.

19
Wise planning on the part of successive Councils has laid the foundations for a well-developed, balanced and self-contained community in the Municipality.

20
The Council in 1959 petitioned the Governor-in-Council, praying that the Borough of Ringwood be proclaimed a City, and thus on the 19th March, 1960, before a throng of 30,000 people, the then Governor of the State of Victoria, proclaimed Ringwood a City.

21
And so from a small township in 1924, Ringwood has developed into a fine residential City, and the progress over the years will continue whilst it has citizens in its midst ready to play their part in religious, military, civic and community activities.

"To rejoice in the magnificence of the past, that is good; but it is better still to build a present upon which the future can look back with pride."



①

①(a) The earliest records of ^{the} identification, with a Municipality show that the Berwick ^{Road} District was created in 1862, and the Parish of Ringwood was added to this District in 1863. The Berwick ^{Road} District became the Shire of Berwick in 1868 and in 1871 Ringwood was removed from the Shire of Berwick and annexed to the Upper ^{Road} Yarra District which, in the following year, was proclaimed the Shire of Hillydale.

①(b) "was 2000 residents...."

② "...\$10,000"

③(a) "...?, 000, 000 dollars" (see your own records)

③(b) ", which included Ringwood,"

(4) "The earliest land sale in Kingman was

took place about 1854 with prices about \$5

for better. larger areas of Kingman were sold
at public auction in 1858.

(5) "14 Rods ..."

(6) for \$2.14 ..."

(7) at \$? for more."

Delete all the paragraphs
referring to front 5 to 7.

fronts 5 & 6 are out as they
refer to the old "Cave
Cave" in Tom Kalle's
Council Chamber file.

Information on the "new"

file re original ownership
and price is not available to me. *

(It was mining land, made a
hole in 1930's Council got

in 1960's)

* Therefore this front 7 redundant
no delete also.

⑧ ... until " 1921 "

⑨ " In 1911 the Ringwood Coalitions were
set and officially opened by the State Governor.
The "coalitions" which were on etc etc....)

⑩ ADD NEW DATA

Other industries operating in the early
days, which have since disappeared into

oblivion, were those utilizing the fine clays
and ^{KAOLINS} Keolin in the Ringwood area.

These mineral activities and pottery making
works but ^{they} were overwhelmed by the

general brick and tile companies in operation
around the Ringwood East Station area.

The main brickworks, the Ringwood
Brickmaking Company, " (... occupied the site etc etc)

(11) "1921"

(12) Date of: "Black Lives" no
companion is available (if it were it
would need conversion to cuts).

(13) Figures not available to me.
May need to be slightly rewritten if no "CIB"?

(14) "000" [Figures not available to me - about 38000?]

(15) Delete all and insert:

" Today there are within the City boundaries nine Secondary schools, one Technical school and fifteen Primary schools. In addition there are fourteen pre-school centres.

This is a far cry from the days when Mr Cass's school was the only school within the City boundaries available for the education of its children.

(16) Vote ... of the former order. Vote each year Council makes native plants available for the use of citizens.

(17) Vote and add "Over the year Council has purchased

or acquired a total of twenty nine fish, revenues

and reports each within the City Foundation, some

equipped with teleground equipment & some of those

area work on the Ringwood Lake area, Wendell Park and Delwood Park have been extremely landscaped and not practical

improved for the

benefit of citizens.

CHECK CITY ENGR.

(18) ... of 22.76 square kilometres."

(19) ... roads" have largely been eliminated, and replaced ... etc

(20) Point

" In 1966 under the guidance of Council the former Ringwood Reserve and some old houses and shops were

demolished enabling the development of the modern co-ordinated and planned central shopping center of

Eastland which opened in 1967.

As part of the financial agreements under this

arrangement the citizens of Ringwood benefited

with the ^{advanced} provision of new community facilities

such as the Fred Sneydhouse Swimming Centre,

the Ringwood library and also, with the

demolition of the old Town Hall in 1970, the

new Civic Centre was sited just outside the

central business area.

Further initiatives by Council have

resulted in the provision of an eighton →

(21)

Under the auspices of the Council a Longwood Forum
will be formed each year when the
activities of some of the approximately 400 organizations
operating in the ^{Riviera} community are
"near."

Role golf course and in 1980 the magnificent new
Cultural Centre complex was opened by the Governor
of the State of Victoria adjacent to the Civic Centre.