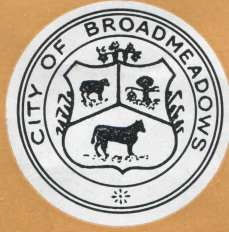
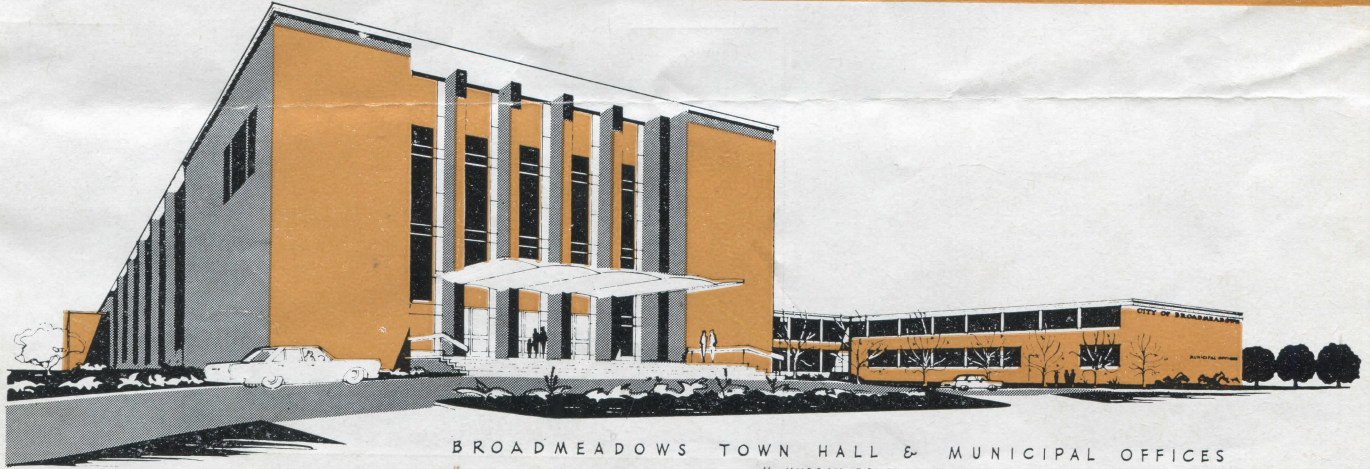


C25



City of **BROADMEADOWS**



BROADMEADOWS TOWN HALL & MUNICIPAL OFFICES
K. MURRAY FORSTER & WALSH ARCHITECTS 511612

A NEW TOWN HALL HERALDS A NEW CHAPTER IN OUR HISTORY

THE FOUNDATION STONE

The foundation stone of our new Town Hall was laid on April 15, 1964, by the then Mayor, Cr. R. K. Evans, J.P. The inscription on the stone reads:

This Foundation Stone was laid by The Mayor of Broadmeadows, Cr. R. K. Evans, J.P., on the 15th Day of April, 1964.

Councillors:

J. P. Mutton, J.P.
C. B. Smith, J.P.
E. J. Angel
J. E. Carrick
R. W. Wallace
A. Pope, J.P.
J. A. Culpin
L. K. Johnson

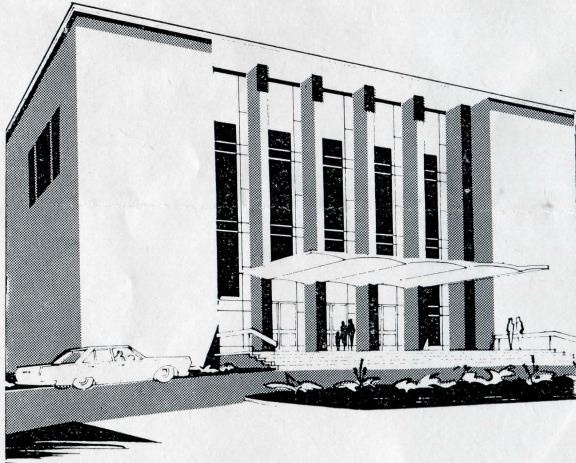
H. Payne, J.P.
E. J. Newton
D. H. C. Bucknell
E. F. Smiley, J.P., Town Clerk
Alert Construction Pty. Ltd., Builder
K. Murray, Forster & Walsh, Architects
C. D. Seabrook, City Engineer
J. F. Chester, Building Surveyor



Photo By Courtesy — Broadmeadows & Keilor Observer

The picture shows Cr. R. K. Evans at the entrance to the new building conducting the ceremony of laying the foundation stone.

Eight nations build



Men from Australia joined forces with men from England, Ireland, Scotland, Italy, Hungary, Sweden and Poland to build our new Town Hall.

An average of 30 men have worked an estimated 62,400 man hours over 14 months to build the town hall, which covers an area of almost 30,000 square feet.

When one considers these man hours, together with the fact that the building contains 645,000 bricks, 2220 tons of concrete and 300 tons of steel, the total cost of approximately £450,000 seems justified.

Add to this the dance floor which has been constructed of timber specially milled in New South Wales. The floor area is 11,250 sq. ft. A similar hall of equal size is placed below the dance hall.

Add too, the air conditioning plant which will cost £60,000, and will air condition both halls, plus the function rooms and administrative offices, which have completely encompassed the old council chambers.

monument to our future

These factors combine to give to Broadmeadows one of the largest halls in the State of Victoria which, apart from its obvious advantage for normal local functions, gives the city the opportunity to stage such ambitious functions as motor or home shows.

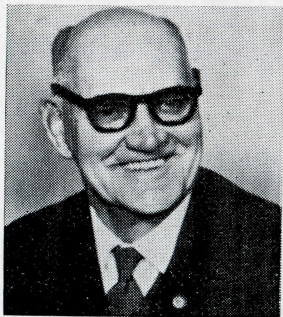
In fact, it was with this in mind that council added to the original plan a service lift 23 ft. x 15 ft. with a capacity of 6720 lbs. which would be capable of lifting cars, trucks, machines or other equipment to either of the two large halls.

To finance the building council has raised a loan of £395,000 repayable over 40 years and council hopes that revenue from the hall will pay the loan repayments.

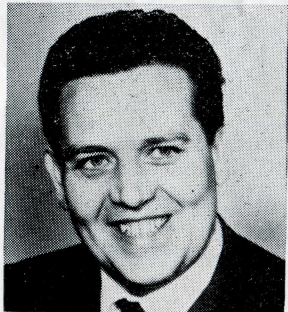
The new town hall is a fine building which will stand for many years — it will be a familiar landmark for many generations of Broadmeadows residents.

Already it is part of our history and from it will flow a continuing stream of administrative decision which will, in their turn, pass into history.





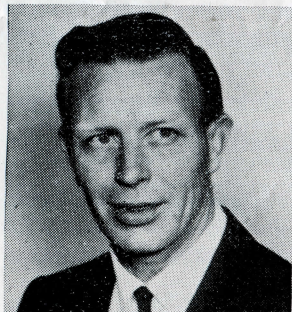
CR. H. PAYNE, J.P.
Mayor. *First elected at the annual election, 1961.*



CR. J. A. CULPIN, J.P.
First elected at an extraordinary election, April, 1961.



CR. J. P. ANDERSON.
First elected at the annual election, Aug., 1964.



CR. L. K. JOHNSON, J.P.
First elected at an extraordinary election, July, 1961.

THE CITY FATHERS

- BROADMEADOWS WARD ● GLENROY WARD
- CAMPBELLFIELD WARD ● SOMERTON WARD

The Broadmeadows City council consists of 12 councillors, three from each of the four wards within the municipality.

The wards are Broadmeadows, Campbellfield, Glenroy and Somerton.

The Glenroy Ward, or Riding as it then was, was first constituted in 1955, and together with Broadmeadows and Campbellfield formed the new shire, which was the forerunner of the City which was proclaimed on 30th May, 1956.

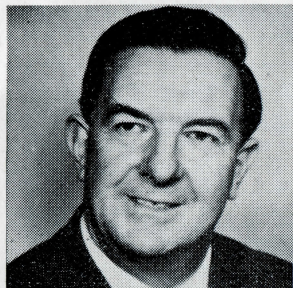
Somerton Ward was established in 1959, in order to increase council representation in keeping with the needs of the rapidly increasing population.

The council is particularly proud of its record in regard to road construction.

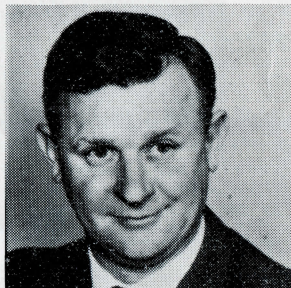
At the time of the changeover from the shire to city status, the roads in the area were in a shocking condition. Since that time council has spent huge sums to overcome the problem.

Of the 216 miles of roads within the boundaries of the City, 141 miles are now fully made. Of the remainder there are 50 miles for which there is no demand, and 25 miles are in hand for early attention.

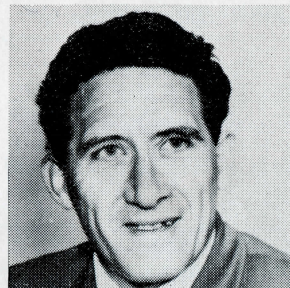
— they mould our history



CR. E. J. ANGEL. *First elected at the annual election, August, 1956.*



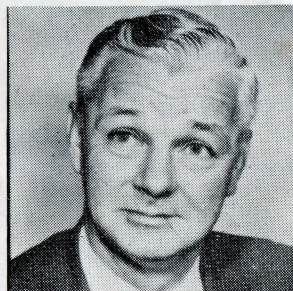
CR. K. G. MITCHELL. *First elected at the annual election, Aug., 1964.*



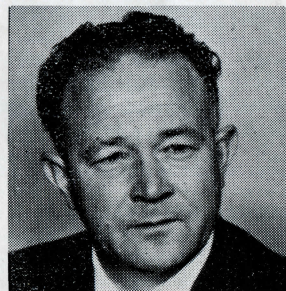
CR. C. B. SMITH, J.P. *First elected at the annual election, Aug., 1955.*



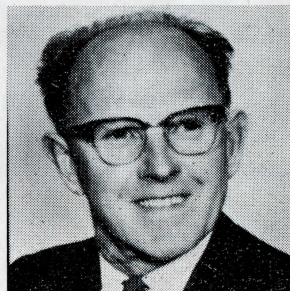
CR. A. POPE, J.P. *First elected at the annual election, August, 1959.*



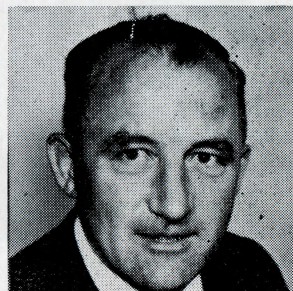
CR. E. J. NEWTON, J.P. *First elected at an extraordinary election, Dec., '62.*



CR. J. P. MUTTON, J.P. *First elected at the annual election, Aug., 1954.*



CR. K. R. EVANS, *First elected at an extraordinary election, March, '58.*



CR. D. H. C. BUCKNELL, J.P. *First elected at the annual election, 1963.*



MR. HERBERT PAYNE, J.P., was elected Mayor of Broadmeadows in August, 1964. A relative newcomer to Council he was first elected, as a representative of the Glenroy Ward, in August, 1961. This term of office is his first as Mayor.

A message from the Mayor

In building the New Civic Centre with its administrative block and a spacious new Town Hall we now become a City on a parity with other well established municipalities.

From the time the road district was formed on November 27, 1857, until the present day the need for such a building was always apparent.

It was the present Labor Council who decided to make a dream a reality by taking the necessary steps to meet the needs of our rapid development to establish the new Town Hall for our City of Broadmeadows.

Our status as a first class City in the State of Victoria has risen to outstanding eminence. A central meeting place is now available for the people of our City.

There are something like 30,000 children in our City, all of whom will in future have need of such a hall for their school functions, also for exhibitions, cultural and social gatherings and large-scale entertainment in which they can display their respective objectives.

The new building is massive, dignified, and impressive, the cost is considerable, but we firmly believe that the resulting benefits obtained by its use cannot be measured in metallic terms of cost.

We confidently expect to meet our commitments in part or wholly by the revenue from hire charges, and the overall expenditure on the hall will be liquidated over a period of years.

I sincerely hope and trust that all my fellow citizens will avail themselves and the organisations to which they belong the fullest possible use of our New Town Hall.

*I am yours fraternally, CR. H. PAYNE, J.P.,
Mayor of Broadmeadows.*



The Mayoress

Mrs. Herbert Payne is no stranger to the office of mayoress although this is her first term in that capacity.

Before taking office she was secretary to the Mayoress' Committee. Mrs Payne was, until recently, a schoolteacher but resigned her post in order to be a full-time mayoress.

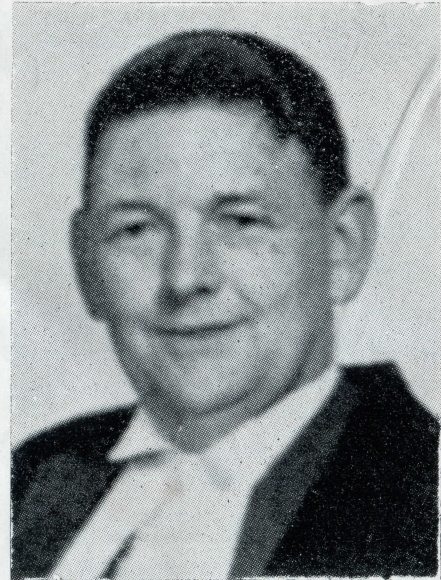
These men administer our city

No municipality can function without competent "back room" boys.

The "back room" team is comprised, in the main, of four departments, Town Clerk's Department, Engineer's Department, Health Department, and Building Surveyor's Department.

Each department has its own executive officer who is responsible to council for carrying out policy as from time to time determined. Each is a specialist in his field.

We devote these pages to introducing them to the people of Broadmeadows.



TOWN CLERK

Mr. E. F. Smiley, J.P., has been Town Clerk of Broadmeadows since it was constituted a City in 1956.

Mr. Smiley is a fellow of the Institute of Municipal Administrators and is a Past President of the Municipal Town Clerks' Association.



CITY ENGINEER

Mr. C. D. Seabrook, C.E., first came to Broadmeadows as Shire Engineer in 1950. He became City Engineer when the Shire passed on to City status in 1956.

Mr. Seabrook is a member of the Association of Professional Engineers of Australia and is at present President of the Broadmeadows Rotary Club.



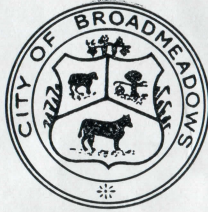
HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. W. C. Fox has been Health Inspector at Broadmeadows since 1950. He is an Associate of the Royal Sanitary Institute, an Associate of the Australian Institute of Weights and Measures and holds a certificate awarded by the University of Denver (U.S.A.)



BUILDING SURVEYOR

Mr. J. Chester was appointed Building Surveyor in 1958. He has been directly responsible to council for the supervision of the building of the new Town Hall. He is a member of the Australian Institute of Building Surveyors and holds a licence granted by the Municipal Building Surveyors' Board.



Broadmeadows — doubtful past, certain future

It is a matter of conjecture if Broadmeadows was named for the broad meadows in which it has been set or, as one historian claims, for an hotel in the district which in turn took its name from an estate in Berwickshire, England.

The area surrounding the city lends support to the former viewpoint although the truth will possibly never be known.

Nevertheless, to steal a word or two from Shakespeare: "What's in a name, a rose by any other name would smell as sweet." In every sense this quotation applies to Broadmeadows for in the spring there can be no sweeter smell than that of the fresh green meadows which sur-

round our city. It is a city with a country town flavor, a city with its name so well imbedded in the history of the nation that the origin of the name matters little.

For those interested in names it is possible to trace the origins of many of the names within the city. For example Glenroy was named after its namesake in Inverness, Scotland, by an early settler, Duncan Cameron. Another early settler, Neil Campbell, gave his name to Campbellfield,

and a local property, Pascoeville, owned by John Pascoe Fawcner, gave its name to the district now named Pascoe Vale.

In the early days Broadmeadows was a centre for a widely scattered farming area. The land was rich, though the people for the most part were rather poor, and many a Broadmeadows settler answered the call of the gold fields in the gold rush days.

By 1857 the district had grown enough in population to support demands for the establishment of a Roads Board, and on Friday, November 27, 1857, the "Broadmeadows Road District" was officially born. The first board was then elected on March 15, 1858, at the Chalmers Hall, Yuroke.

Apart from a small stone quarrying industry the district still depended on farming as its main "industry" and, because of this, development was slow.

Thirteen years passed before the district became a shire. Even that event did nothing to hasten the growth of the area. Eight years later, in 1879, the population of the shire was only 1500 people living in fewer than 300 homes.

The period between 1879 and 1949 was one of lazy,

almost accidental, progress. Normal spread from the congested City of Melbourne provided a certain amount of "natural" growth for the area but by 1950 the area started to "get up and go." The population in 1950 was 18,000 with 4000 homes and a net annual value of £382,501.

Five years later it had shot up to 23,950 people in 5300 homes and by 1956, 7200 homes housed 28,000 souls. The following years the count was 40,000 in 10,100 homes with a net annual value of £1,028,943.

The Housing Commission is of course the main contributing factor in the accelerated, almost explosive growth but credit must be given to the administrators of the day who, at least from the time the area became a City in 1956, had the dedication and foresight to begin even at that late stage a development plan which has culminated in a City whose name will live long in the history of Australia.

Historians may never be able to tell us with certainty the origin of our name but there will never be any doubt as to our right to a place in history.

BROADMEADOWS — a city of the future

In terms of Australian cities, Broadmeadows is a young city. It is a city with very little past — a city of the future.

In recent years the growth of the City of Broadmeadows has been nothing if not fantastic.

Populationwise, Broadmeadows is moving onwards at an exceedingly rapid pace. Since we were declared a City on June 13, 1956, our population has increased from 28,000 to 77,500 this year. Such a rate of population increase is equalled in very few parts of Australia.

An indication of the extent of our development may be drawn from the fact that in 1885 the net annual value of the area which is now our city was £22,392, today it is £3,255,615.

In 1885 there were only 324 homes in the area, today there are 18,225.

In 1885 the average number of people living in each home was 5.40, today it is 4.25.

The population of this city is still growing at a tremendous rate, all around us we see homes in the making or homes newly made. Each new day brings news of a new housing development or of a new home somewhere in the city.

The Housing Commission, Victoria, has played an important role in the development of Broadmeadows, particularly in providing homes for the work force required by new industries commencing in the area.

In exactly 10 years (work commenced on August 6, 1954) accommodation for some 20,000 residents has been found, on six estates, comprising 4600 houses and four flats.

The cost of land, buildings, and services has exceeded £20 million.

Broadmeadows Municipality is the Commission's largest investment in Victoria today, even exceeding Preston, where over 4000 Commission homes have been built.

Houses on Commission estates range from brick and brick veneer, concrete construction, semi brick, solid brick to timber.

Last year the council sent out 22,638 assessments which returned a revenue of £404,000.

OBITUARY

The death occurred on November 9 of the City Engineer, Mr. C. D. Seabrook. He was 63 years of age and is survived by his wife, daughter, and three grandchildren.

A chronology of Mr. Seabrook's career with the City appears on page 11 of this booklet.

Mr. Seabrook was cremated at Fawcner Crematorium on November 11. The service was attended by His Worship the Mayor, members of the City Council, executive officers and staff.

The City of Broadmeadows has lost not only a faithful servant but also a sincere friend. He will be sadly missed by his many friends at the Town Hall, and by the City at large.

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