

TRIENNIAL REPORT

1963 — 1965

ALD. S. L. HEDGES, J.P.
Mayor of Auburn

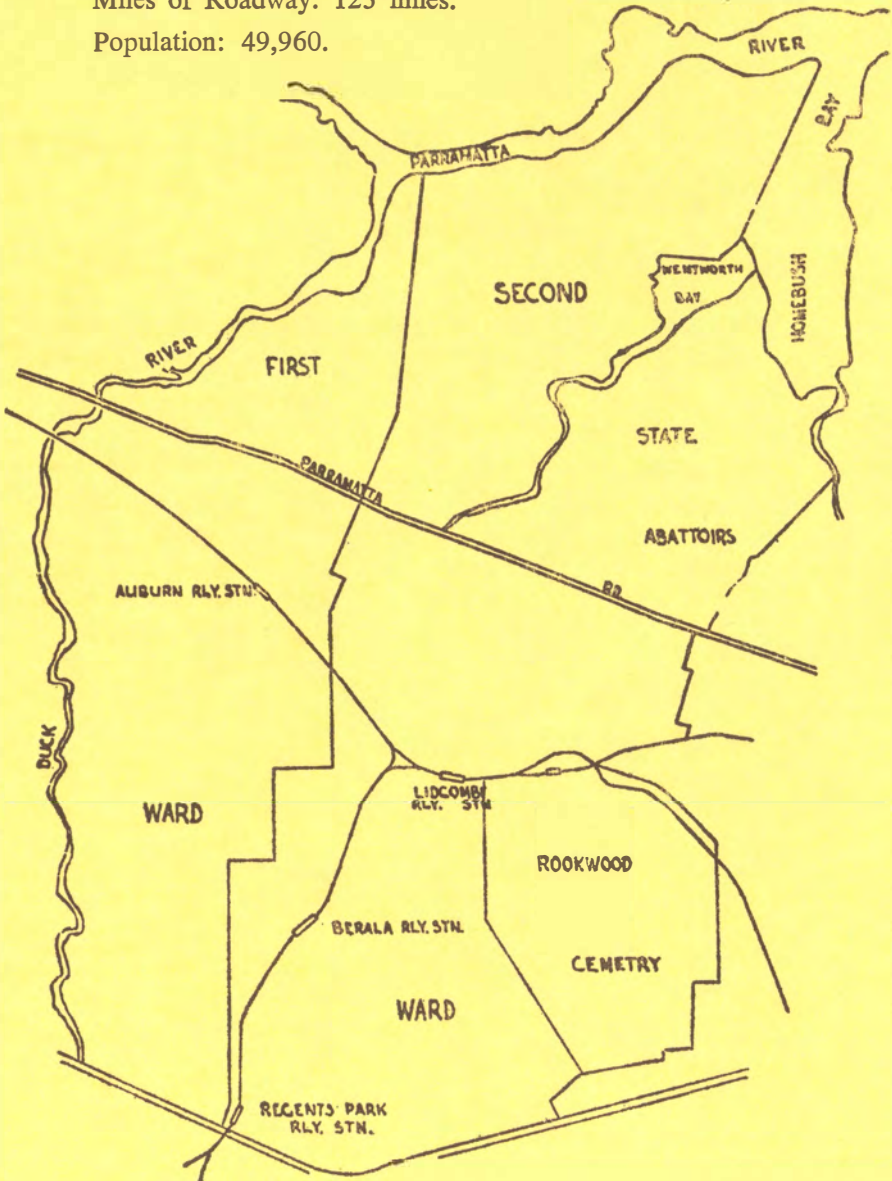
MUNICIPALITY OF AUBURN

Scale: 70 chains to an inch

Area of Municipality: 12.17 sq. miles.

Miles of Roadway: 123 miles.

Population: 49,960.



MAYOR'S
TRIENNIAL REPORT
1963 — 1965

INTRODUCTION

The 1963/65 triennial term is approaching its concluding stages with the Aldermen of Council happy in the knowledge that the Municipality has maintained its efficient record of progress and that within the limits of its available finances Council has administered wisely and at all times been aware of its duty to the ratepayers and residents. The distribution of the income of the Municipality is a responsible task not fully appreciated by all, however, the Aldermen in accepting the responsibility are not only mindful of the pleasant aspects but also are cognizant of the contrary position where the elected members of Council occupy an office of trust for which they are directly accountable to the electors.

I speak not only on my own behalf but for all the Aldermen when I say that during the present Council's term of office, the conduct of the Municipal affairs has been zealously administered with full appreciation and acceptance of the standard of precedents and responsibilities involved.

In this triennial period, Council has made every endeavour to keep up the good work of previous Councils and so allocated the expenditure of revenue on the various public works and services in a manner which ensured the most benefit to the greatest possible number whilst, at the same time, consolidated the immediate requirements associated with long term projects.

FINANCE

The stability of Council's financial position leaves nothing to be desired as a result of a continued policy of implementing a balanced budget by strictly supervised fiscal controls and these characteristics of the present Council's administration have been the subject of complimentary reports by Messrs. D. W. Allen and Company, Auditors and Mr. S. Johnson, the Inspector of Accounts from the Local Government Department.

Loan works programmes were carried out in respect of most major types of public works and following the extraordinary heavy falls of rain in November 1962, Council immediately launched an extensive supplementary drainage programme to prevent further floodings. Expenditure from loans during the period totalled £127,077 (\$254,154) and the ratepayers can be assured that this measure of financing public works has been restricted to those of an urgent and expansive nature which were entirely outside the ambit of annual expenditure from revenue.

Aggregate revenue, exclusive of loan moneys, amounted to £2,818,831 (\$5,637,662) and the strict supervision of expenditure has enabled revenue savings to be allocated to further

important works and services. Compulsory annual contributions to such semi-government bodies as the State Planning Authority, Board of Fire Commissioners and Department of Main Roads, totalled £284,737 (\$569,474), whilst street lighting charges involved Council in an expenditure of £78,261, (\$156,522). The rebate of rates to pensioners over the period has risen to the substantial amount of £95,069 (\$190,138) and this abandonment of income places a direct financial burden on the balance of ratepayers; however, the position has been somewhat ameliorated by a State Government subsidy to the extent of £43,362 (\$86,724). In the matter of these rate concessions, Council considers that our Aged, Invalid, T.P.I. and Widow Pensioners and less fortunate members of the community should receive some form of assistance in meeting rate commitments and for the time being, is prepared to share this burden, nevertheless, in principle, the whole matter constitutes a social service which directly is the responsibility of higher levels of Government.

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THREE YEARS ENDING DECEMBER, 1965

EXPENDITURE

| | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | Total |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| General Purposes | 36,508 | 46,037 | 49,365 | 131,910 |
| Public Works | 507,659 | 601,106 | 512,242 | 1,621,007 |
| Health Administration | 102,344 | 101,042 | 105,657 | 309,043 |
| Public Services | 148,405 | 134,344 | 135,781 | 418,530 |
| Municipal Properties | 17,215 | 27,042 | 6,494 | 50,751 |
| Miscellaneous | 29,829 | 35,411 | 39,855 | 105,095 |
| Capital | 99,310 | 156,174 | 258,657 | 514,141 |
| | 941,270 | 1,101,156 | 1,108,051 | 3,150,477 |

INCOME

| | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | Total |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| General Purposes | 689,614 | 689,446 | 685,742 | 2,064,802 |
| Public Works | 138,112 | 202,521 | 131,420 | 472,053 |
| Health Administration | 24,096 | 20,010 | 21,123 | 65,229 |
| Public Services | 40,809 | 36,353 | 36,895 | 114,057 |
| Municipal Properties | 5,024 | 4,821 | 4,182 | 14,027 |
| Miscellaneous | 22,027 | 19,057 | 7,500 | 48,584 |
| Capital | 57,697 | 121,963 | 211,244 | 390,904 |
| | 977,379 | 1,094,171 | 1,098,106 | 3,159,656 |

Particulars of General Rate Levy

| Year | Rate in £ | Unimproved Capital Value | Yield |
|------|--------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1963 | 4 $\frac{3}{8}$ d. | £38,331,472 (\$76,662,944) | £698,759 (\$1,397,518) |
| 1964 | 4 $\frac{3}{8}$ d. | £38,270,856 (\$76,541,712) | £697,654 (\$1,395,308) |
| 1965 | 4 $\frac{3}{8}$ d. | £38,171,626 (\$76,343,252) | £695,837 (\$1,391,674) |

To assist in the introduction of decimal currency, every effort will be made to issue the 1966 rate notices in a manner which will leave no doubt in the ratepayers' minds concerning the relationship of existing monetary values to those being introduced, and the co-operation of Council's staff in this regard during the change-over period is assured.

PUBLIC WORKS

Details of Expenditure

Although various public services and amenities were expanded, an extensive public works programme was maintained, and perusal of the undermentioned expenditure details for public works will serve to illustrate the importance placed on this essential aspect of local government administration by Council:—

| | | |
|--|----------|---------------|
| Road construction and maintenance (including Main and Secondary roads) | £820,933 | (\$1,641,866) |
| Stormwater drain construction and maintenance | £174,839 | (\$349,678) |
| Footpath paving construction and maintenance | £116,216 | (\$232,432) |
| Kerbing and guttering construction and maintenance | £76,673 | (\$153,346) |
| Bridge construction | £299 | (\$598) |
| Street and gutter cleaning | £63,202 | (\$126,404) |

Bitumous Sealing of Roads:

An important phase of Council's public works programme has been the progress made in the bitumous sealing of roads with progressively more attention being paid to road shoulders; in the years 1963/64 an annual sum of £30,000 (\$60,000) was provided for this purpose whilst this year, the sum was increased to £45,000 (\$90,000).

The specific aim of Council is towards the complete road sealing from kerb to kerb throughout the Municipality and as can be noticed, when kerbing and guttering is being constructed, the kerbs are being placed at correct levels in relation to the road surface and this policy will facilitate the work and minimise the expense in the future full width road resurfacing programmes.

Main Roads:

Continued representations to the Department of Main Roads have resulted in major construction works being undertaken on connecting roads between Olympic Drive and Silverwater Bridge, and completion of these works will vastly improve what is now a main traffic route between the southern and northern suburbs.

Construction in the future of a concrete carriageway in Rawson Street, Auburn, between the western railway bridge and St. Hilliers Road will also serve to greatly improve traffic conditions in the locality.

Increased traffic generation over these roads is primarily an effect of the new Silverwater Bridge which was opened by a former Premier, Mr. R. J. Heffron, M.L.A., in 1962, and both Council and Department of Main Roads are fully conscious of the need for continued effort in improving "feeder" roads to and from this very important road system.

At the present time, further construction is being carried out along Silverwater Road by the Department of Main Roads and within the very near future it is anticipated that substantial works will be completed which will help to create conditions conducive to a free flow of peak hour traffic. In the Olympic Drive Booreea Street intersection area, vital drainage works have been completed by Council and with the construction of the railway crossing to Department's standards by the S.M.P. Company and the resumption of certain other lands by the Department of Main Roads, Council will be able to complete this section to finality.

Street Directional Signs:

Council has placed considerable emphasis on the need for adequate directional signs being available to all members of the community, visiting trades-people and those who, through emergency, are compelled to arrive at a destination with the least possible delay.

Expenditure on street signs and directional boards amounted to £6,051 (\$12,102).

Residents are requested to co-operate in this respect by ensuring that a house number, which is also clearly visible at night, is affixed to a conspicuous position on the property.

Wentworth and Homebush Bay Reclamation Projects:

Further large scale road, drainage and associated works costing £72,765 (\$145,530) were carried out on behalf of the Maritime Services Board. This work, which has opened large tracts of former waste area for industrial purposes, will materially assist in providing a great variety of employment for local residents.

Metropolitan Meat Industry Board Subdivision:

On receipt of instructions from the Metropolitan Meat Industry Board, Council constructed, at the cost of the Board, all works associated with the subdivision, which forms part of the Homebush Abbatoirs site. Road, drainage and associated works totalled £203,420 (\$406,840) and the subdivision served to release a wide area of excellent industrial sites which subsequently were auctioned with a highly satisfactory financial result.

When these sites are developed in the near future further ideal employment opportunities will be offered to local residents; this fact augurs well for the commerce of the area and is supported by the confidence of such firms as Winns, Coles, Flemings, etc., in the expenditure of large sums in the various shopping centres in development of their commercial interests.

Car Parking:

The importance with which Council viewed the car parking problem not only in the shopping centres, but in fact throughout the whole industrial, commercial and residential areas of the Municipality can be gauged by the appointment of a special Sub-Committee which devoted many hours of investigation and discussion with the officers of Council and the representatives of the Police Traffic Department, for the sole purpose of providing ample public parking space throughout the Municipality; the findings of this Committee were embodied in the undermentioned positive recommendations which were presented to and adopted by Council.

“Resolved that the Planner’s Report concerning possible improvement for off-street parking as a seven (7) stage development plan be adopted in principle, however, in view of the fact that the 1965 budget has already been resolved, the loan allocations taken up for kerbing, guttering and paving in both Wards, and the fact that the Sub-Committee is not in a position to commit an incoming Council to fix items of expenditure in its estimates, the matter be left in abeyance for **urgent consideration** early in 1966.”

Not only was the Sub-Committee positive in its planning aspects for future implementation of the car parking programme, but it was in a tangible way, in association with the full Council, responsible for the introduction of a practical plan for early consideration of a double tier parking area in Susan Street adjacent to the shopping centre at Auburn whilst land was resumed adjoining the Court House at Lidcombe for a similar purpose; also, vital off-street parking is to be provided in the very near future on land leased from the Railways for off-street parking adjacent to the existing Municipal car park situated in

Bridge Street near the Lidcombe Rest Centre. In addition, in conjunction with its development applications, Council was able to keep the provision of public car parking facilities uppermost in mind with the result that in Auburn and Lidcombe, development companies were prevailed upon to provide additional off-street parking bays for approximately 500 vehicles. Council also was able to ensure that all available space adjacent to the shopping areas was utilised to full advantage.

The implementation of the Sub-Committee's recommendations is dependent upon the vital factor of finance and the urgency of making the recommendations a practicability must entail more positive action on behalf of the incoming Council. Auburn Council is fully aware of the fact that the survival and prosperity of the Municipality must not, under any circumstances, suffer because of the lack of adequate off-street parking.

Tree Planting:

A change in the aspect of the Municipality from an area devoid of natural beauty can be offset to a large degree by the establishment of a beautification programme associated simply with extensive tree planting; Council is mindful of its duty in this direction, however, on the subject there is an innate responsibility which weighs heavily on the shoulders of all—not only must we plant trees, shrubs and flowers but the public must realise that it shares portion of the responsibility to ensure that the action of Council in promoting tree planting programmes should be appreciated by all and the trees and shrubs must be protected from vandalism.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Municipal Baths:

Over the past three years, the Municipal swimming centre continued to be patronised to an extent that amply justified its existence.

The centre was well attended by both the Amateur Swimming and Diving Associations and provided the opportunity for professional coaching to the younger generation of swimmers. In response to general demands, the Engineer of Council has been investigating the possibility of converting the area to a heated pool and perhaps, at the same time, exploring its potential for a future ice skating rink. These matters will be the subject of discussion by the incoming Council.

The Auburn Amateur Swimming Club, during the period, has catered for local members who have acquired world wide recognition and in accordance with popular demand to allow for State wide championship gatherings under the auspices of

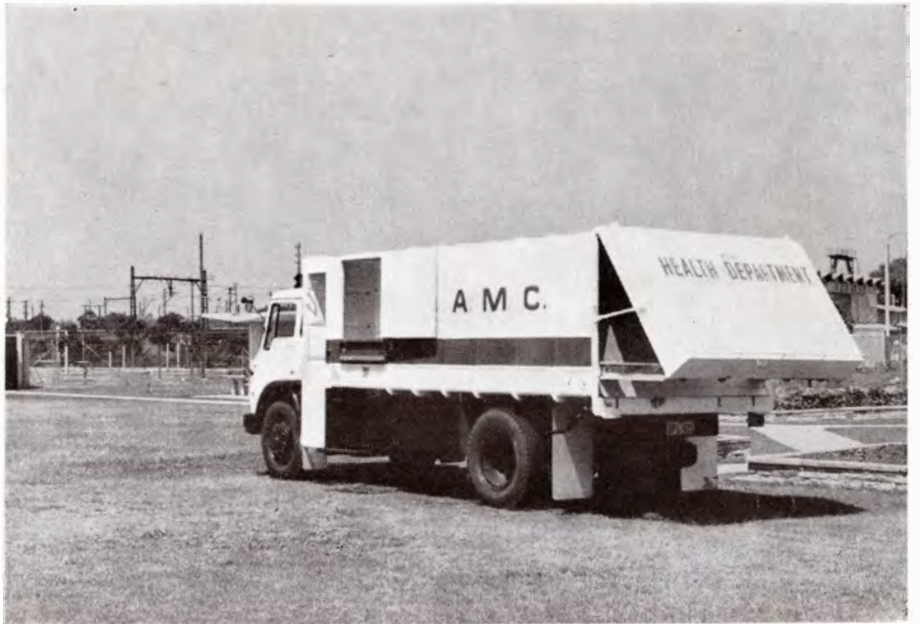
HOME UNIT DEVELOPMENT



CONSTRUCTION OF RIVERSIDE WALK



COMPACTOR UNIT — GARBAGE DISPOSAL



the Amateur Swimming Association with which the local Club is affiliated the olympic pool has, during the winter period been converted to the metric system of distance.

Golf Course:

The last three years has seen many major developments in the Auburn Municipal Golf Course which today presents a well grassed public golf course of 66 acres with a length of 5010 yds. and a par of 66. Green fee revenue, apart from the boom year of 1961 (50 fine weekends) shows a consistent trend with this year probably becoming the second best financially since the course was opened on 20th September, 1959.

The main improvement to the course has been in the drainage of the whole area and the links can now be regarded as an all weather layout with quick recovery powers even after flood rains. Only after very heavy rain it is sometimes necessary to close the course to protect the sodden greens from spike and traffic damage.

The construction of earth drainage sump and silt traps at the concrete pipe outlets in Chisholm Road has been very successful in preventing erosion and silt damage to the two main grass channels which are part of the fairways for all the holes on the southern end of the course.

Soil and filling when available, has been continually deposited on the river bank at the 12th tee and this area is now above flood level and consequent damage. Major drainage improvement schemes have also been carried out alongside the 18th hole and this measure also provided adequate erosion safeguards for the 15th fairway and green. Fairway drainage in the middle section of the course was always bad, particularly after heavy rain but subsequent to a survey of this area it was possible to divert this water back towards the river.

For a relatively new course the kikuyu grass fairways at Auburn are one of the best features and areas still requiring adequate cover of this excellent fairway grass are the 11th, 12th, 15th and 18th. A weekly top dressing treatment of tees with sand and soil was carried out last year and these areas have responded well.

Tree lopping will be necessary before next autumn to avoid shade problems on the 7th green and approaches, and the centre of the course requires a tree planting scheme to offset and break up the parallel fairways and holes in this part of the course.

The putting greens this year have been the best since the course was opened and the staff have been most conscientious and practical in coping with the problems of green maintenance. Late last year a programme of couch seeding of the greens was instituted and this coming summer, with it's threat of water re-

strictions, will not be such a hazard to this type of green compared to the more delicate bent grass.

New machinery and equipment was purchased whilst ground and building improvements were undertaken at an aggregate cost of £11,900 (\$23,800); in addition, a 20,000 gallon over-night concrete storage tank was erected for the benefit of course watering. In conclusion it is felt that in view of the fact that 20 new golf courses have been constructed in the outer western metropolitan area during the past three years, the Auburn course has shown an impressive improvement in condition and maintained its value as an amenity and an asset to the golfing community and Council.

Sporting Clubs:

During the period the ground allocated in the Wyatt Park area at Lidcombe has been almost fully developed by the Lidcombe R.S.L. Memorial Bowling Club whilst commencement has been made on two greens facing Chisholm Road for the benefit of the Auburn R.S.L. Group. Both these Clubs, in the near future, are committed to the expenditure for developing first-class greens of championship standard and erecting suitable Clubhouses; membership of the Clubs is not fully confined to R.S.L. Club members as a percentage of membership will be available to the general public.

In the realm of sport no reference would be complete without mention of the sterling work which has been continued over the term by the members of the Combined Sports Committee; representative of the various sections of sporting interests throughout the Municipality, this Committee has tirelessly conducted its activities; not only has it been the ardent advocate for an increased number of playing fields and improved conditions for all sporting features but in a more practical manner by the sheer hard work of its members has raised finance which has been forwarded to Council for expenditure on specific playing field projects. The extent of the contribution by the Committee can be ascertained when one considers that in the 1963/1965 period the Committee has undertaken expenditure in the vicinity of £6,000 (\$12,000) for such items as floodlighting of playing fields, laying down of extra wickets, park improvements, fencing, seating, basketball courts, soft ball courts, and contributions to many other improvements in the various parks throughout the Municipality; Council is indeed indebted to this Committee.

Additional Playing Fields:

Following representations by various school authorities, junior soccer clubs, the Amateur Cricket Union, the Women's Amateur Sports Council for New South Wales and similar in-

stitutions, a comprehensive investigation was made of the ultimate development of playing fields throughout the Municipality and it was estimated that Council should give early consideration to the establishment of additional playing fields in Wilson Park at Silverwater and the Duck River open space area between Mary Street and Princes Road and west of Chisholm Road; whilst the whole project is only in its early stage, the report of Council's Engineer is most significant in that it places before the incoming Council practical schemes which should ensure that ultimately in the Duck River area alone, excluding existing fields, provision will be made for the establishment of eleven full sized playing fields. Generally speaking, Council's playing field commitments are embodied in the undermentioned report.

Wilson Park:

"An allocation from the estimates over the triennial period allowed for the laying down of one additional field whilst levelling work has also been undertaken in relation to a further two playing fields. Subject to another allocation of approximately £2,000 (\$4,000), two additional playing fields could be completed making a total of five playing fields available for early use for cricket with seven playing fields to be completed for the 1966 season. The final development of the Wilson Park area provides for seven football fields and nine cricket wickets, at the same time however, this development must be associated with continued top dressing so as to increase the depth of the soil to the normal requirements of playing field areas.

Duck River Open Space:

"The ultimate development of this area provides for the laying of an extra eleven football fields with possibly fifteen additional cricket wickets; the balance of the area can be utilised for purposes such as:

1. Women's sports centre including bowling greens, volley ball courts, soft ball, hockey, basketball etc.
2. Neighbourhood park for passive recreation, including rest areas, ornamental parks, children's play areas etc.
3. Retention of natural section of Duck River and use of water in land-scaping and for irrigation.
4. Wooded sections where trees are to be featured.
5. Riverside walk."

Some idea of the extensive programme which is involved with the ultimate development of the Duck River open space area for recreational purposes can be ascertained by the fact that eleven additional playing fields can be made available for an estimated cost of approximately £17,000 (\$34,000) and this project must exercise the minds of the incoming Aldermen so

that the sporting fraternity within the Municipality can be adequately catered for within the development of the available areas.

Girl Guides and Boy Scouts:

The Girl Guide movement under the sponsorship of the Rotary Club, has completed its Club room in Olympic Drive; however, further development of areas by Guides and Boy Scout Movements has been temporarily suspended as a result of an adverse decision by the Department of Lands which has, as a matter of policy, discontinued the previous practice whereby it was prepared to make land, dedicated for public recreation available for scouting purposes. Council, however, is indeed very mindful of the need for fostering Scout and Guide Movements and at the time when this brochure goes to press, has under investigation schemes for assisting the Sea Scouts in Auburn and the 2nd Lidcombe Troop in being accommodated with sites suitable for building purposes.

HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Mobile Nursing Service:

The Mobile Nursing Service with its skilled and qualified Sisters, has more than proved how essential this Service has been with treatment being rendered to the infirm and chronically ill within their homes.

Since its inception in 1962, 40,000 visitations have been made by the Nursing Service Sister and to cope with the ever increasing demand the staff has been increased to four (4) qualified Sisters (three on full time and one part time) and a junior clerk.

Appreciation is expressed to the Auburn District Hospital and other local organisations for continued invaluable assistance in the successful operation of the Service.

Mobile Blood Bank:

During the past three years, twelve (12) clinics were held at which over 2,000 volunteers attended, each donating a pint of blood.

The Australian Red Cross Society has been most appreciative of the assistance rendered by Council and frequently has paid tribute to the Auburn Municipality as being one of the best contributing centres and in this direction special mention has been paid to the contributions from local industries and the recruiting campaigns conducted by the Apex Club. The donating of blood is a humane and charitable action and when one realises that the Red Cross Society is receiving calls from hospitals to the extent of 100,000 pints of blood each year,



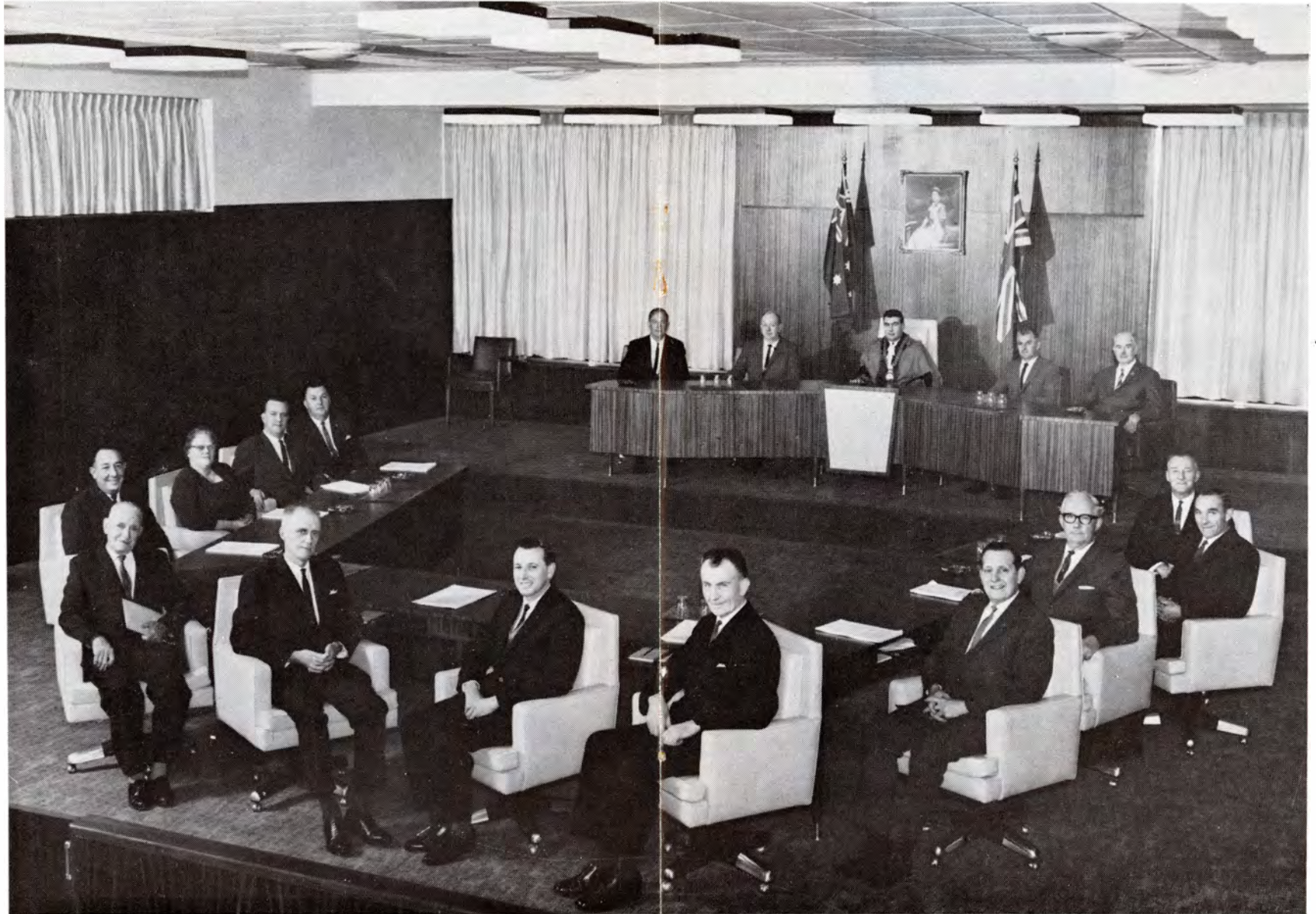
His Worship the Mayor
of Auburn
ALD. S. L. HEDGES, J.P.

MUNICIPALITY OF AUBURN — FIRST SESSION OF COUN



His Worship the Mayor, Alderman S. L. Hedges, J.P., in the Chair, Town Clerk; E. W. Black, A.M.I.E., Engineer; Ald. C. G. Noble, J. J. Fowler, J.P.; Ald. D. N. Staples; Ald. R. J. Fitzpatrick, J.P.; Ald. J. A. MacArthur; Ald. L. Meakin, J.P.; Ald. A. R. Hunt, J.P.; Ald. (Deputy Chief Health and Building Inspector); C. Goldsw

MUNICIPALITY OF AUBURN — FIRST SESSION OF COUNCIL — NEW ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, 21st JULY, 1965



His Worship the Mayor, Alderman S. L. Hedges, J.P., in the Chair, then reading anti-clockwise: G. J. Lane, J.P., A.L.C.A., A.I.M.A., Town Clerk; E. W. Black, A.M.I.E., Engineer; Ald. C. G. Noble, J.P.; Ald. F. T. Meehan, J.P.; Ald. (Mrs.) T. M. Powell, J.P.; Ald. J. Fowler, J.P.; Ald. D. N. Staples; Ald. R. J. Fitzpatrick, J.P.; Ald. D. R. Stanmore, J.P. (Deputy Mayor); Ald. F. D. Smith, J.P.; Ald. J. A. MacArthur; Ald. L. Meakin, J.P.; Ald. A. R. Hunt, J.P.; Ald. A. L. Wilson, J.P.; R. R. McIntosh, M.R.S.H. (Lond.) M.I.H.S. (Deputy Chief Health and Building Inspector); C. Goldworthy, J.P., A.L.C.A., A.I.M.A. (Deputy Town Clerk).



then reading anti-clockwise: G. J. Lane, J.P., A.L.C.A., A.I.M.A., J.P.; Ald. F. T. Meehan, J.P.; Ald. (Mrs.) T. M. Powell, J.P.; Ald. D. R. Stanmore, J.P. (Deputy Mayor); Ald. F. D. Smith, J.P.; Ald. A. L. Wilson, J.P.; R. R. McIntosh, M.R.S.H. (Lond.) M.I.H.S. Worthy, J.P., A.L.C.A., A.I.M.A. (Deputy Town Clerk).

ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING



the magnitude of the work can be gauged. Council would appreciate greater co-operation from the business, industrial undertakings and clubs within the Municipality in an endeavour to increase the present list of donors so that the supply of blood will be able to cater for the increasing daily demands.

Infectious Diseases:

Cases notified during the period 1963/1965:—

| | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| Infantile Diarrhoea | 18 |
| Infectious Hepatitis | 40 |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis | 6 |
| Scarlet Fever | 10 |
| Rheumatic Fever | 2 |
| Meningococcal Meningitis | 1 |
| Virus Encephalitis | 1 |

During the period no cases of Poliomyelitis or Diphtheria were reported, indicating the success of the free monthly clinics. 124 clinics for the immunisation against Poliomyelitis, Triple-Antigen and Diphtheria were organised by Council's Health Department which were attended by 15,448 persons.

It is pleasing to report a reduction in the number of cases of notified Infectious Hepatitis as compared with the number recorded for the previous triennial period.

Baby Health Centres:

During the term 41,000 free maternal and baby welfare consultations were given to the mothers by the qualified Clinic Sisters on the Staff at both the Auburn and Lidcombe Centres.

Ladies Rest Centres:

On 9th March, 1963, the Lidcombe Ladies Rest Centre, situated in Bridge Street, adjoining the Baby Health Centre was officially opened. Like its counterpart at Auburn, this centre also is staffed by a lady attendant, is modern in design and contains all the necessary amenities.

During 1964 toilet amenities were provided at Berala and Regents Park Shopping Centres, thus amenities have been provided in each shopping area.

Inspections:

The number of inspections carried out during the three (3) years appertaining to building, health and other matters under the administration of the Health and Building Department totalled 67,500.

Sanitary Services:

The Board's sewer has now been extended to all parts of the Municipality, except the northern section of Silverwater, re-

sulting in the reduction of weekly services from 358 in 1962 to 140 in 1965.

Garbage Services:

Council has modernised its garbage collection fleet of vehicles by replacing three (3) open type collection waggons with totally enclosed compactor units each mounted on seven (7) ton diesel chassis. 450,000 cubic yards of garbage and trade waste were collected and disposed of during the past three (3) years and the enormity of these figures will illustrate the problem which attends the conduct of this service. To cope with the increased garbage and trade waste collection, Council also replaced a light tractor with more suitable heavy earth moving equipment including a Scoopmobile, at a cost of £13,000 (\$26,000) and at considerable expense, acquired additional properties in the open space areas.

Whilst adequate facilities are still available for garbage and trade waste disposal, this aspect of Municipal Administration must be viewed as increasingly important over the coming years and future Councils are, of necessity, committed to further acquisition of areas so that the service can always be viewed in the light of a long term project which will guarantee adequate disposal areas for many years to come.

For the convenience of householders, the Chiswick Road disposal area is open for four (4) hours each Saturday and Sunday morning for the receipt of household rubbish for dumping purposes free of cost.

Air Pollution Control:

The last three (3) years has seen the implementation of the Clean Air Act to the Auburn Municipality; this Act was assented to by His Excellency the Governor on 15th November, 1961, and is administered by the Department of Public Health, Division of Occupational Health, in conjunction with Council and over this period determined steps were taken in an endeavour to grapple with one of the more serious sources of nuisances within the Municipal boundaries necessitating the application of controls to arrest the emission of soot, smoke and smog with its attending nuisances. Some idea of the extent of air pollution throughout the Municipality at the time of the Royal assent to the Act can be measured from the fact that at least forty industrial undertakings were immediately listed as scheduled premises. In fairness, it must be recorded at this stage that the companies involved were not unmindful of their responsibility to the general public and in the majority of cases, were always willing to co-operate with Council in the minimising of air pollution.

Within the triennial period, the activities of the Division

of Occupational Health, in conjunction with Council's officers, can be appreciated from the undermentioned extract of a report from the Department of Public Health dated 16th June, 1965:—

“It will be noted that the activities of the Air Pollution Control Branch have not been limited to scheduled premises alone. In collaboration with your Council, investigations have also been made into problems arising from the operations of unscheduled premises and in both cases some successes can be reported.

“Monitoring of air pollution levels in the area has been continued during the past twelve months and these show that no important change has occurred in fall-out. However, during the past four months a significant reduction in the frequency and concentration of hydrogen sulphide emissions have occurred at Silverwater.”

It will be readily appreciated therefore, that the problem of air pollution which confronted the present Council, was a serious one; however, it is felt that all steps have been taken to initially arrest the problem and future measures will definitely see further improvement in the conditions of the Municipality.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Library Services:

The Municipal Library Service has expanded and developed rapidly in the past three years. At the end of 1962 the total membership of the library was 5,666; the total book stock was 17,034 and the annual issues were 142,080. By the middle of September this year the total membership of the library service in the Municipality was 17,136; the total number of books in stock was 38,340 and the number of books issued during this year to 18th September, 1965, was 151,409.

On 14th December, 1963, a branch library was opened at Lidcombe and is ideally situated in Wellington Park close to the shopping centre. Council is indebted to the Minister for Lands at the time who made the area available. The library has proved a great success and is greatly appreciated and patronised by local residents of all ages. The modern brick building with its large attractive windows opening on to the park area is of rather unusual design and has proved to be both decorative and practical.

The library service has expanded not only in books, members and issues but in a slightly less tangible way by the interest and goodwill it has aroused. It has now become very definitely a part of the every day life of the Municipality and of a large percentage of people living and working in the area. Regular weekly visits are paid to the library by various local

schools and these visits are anticipated with pleasure by both the children and the library staff. Efforts have been made to keep in touch with local affairs and to keep local clubs and societies aware of what the library can offer them for publicity and display purposes and a column in the local newspaper by the library staff was appreciated by many residents. To further the interests in the library, visits have been made to local schools by members of the staff and displays by local photographic and art groups have been held in the library building.

The Municipal library service possesses a reasonably large and comprehensive stock of reference books which are not for loan and therefore readily available at all times to enable the staff to answer either personal or telephone enquiries. This service is used and appreciated not only by local residents but by the large industrial concerns in the area which are beginning to realise that very often their enquiries and problems can be solved by the staff with reference books which are available.

In conclusion it can be said that the Municipality is definitely becoming "library conscious" and the staff will be doing its very best towards encouraging and developing this outlook in the future.

Civil Defence Organisation:

In April of 1962 an Auxiliary was formed to assist the Local Controller in furthering Civil Defence in the Municipality. The Auxiliary was the first to be formed in the State of New South Wales.

Local Controller, the late R. Ormiston resigned in 1963 and Mr. A. D. Creswick accepted the appointment; however, because of personal commitments he resigned this year and the position was filled by Mr. R. A. Bainbridge, an Officer of Council.

During the year, field exercises were held in conjunction with other Civil Defence Organisations at Campbelltown and Kogarah; rescue, first-aid, welfare and home nursing sections were formed and many members undertook the advanced training courses at the Civil Defence School, Mt. Macedon, Victoria.

Rooms, furniture and equipment have been made available by the Auburn Council in the Town Hall, Lidcombe, where training of local citizens in the various sections of the Civil Defence Organisation is conducted. The Council supports the organisation and recommends to all residents of this area the experience and knowledge which is available in the various fields of Civil Defence.

The Local Controller may be contacted at the Council Chambers, Auburn, or the Town Hall, Lidcombe.

ARGENTINE ANT INFESTATION



FLAT DEVELOPMENT



WYATT PARK IMPROVEMENTS



Town Planning:

The local planning scheme which will, in respect of this Municipality, surmount the scheme of the Cumberland County Council, was in 1959, lodged with the Department of Local Government for investigation and report to the Minister and final re-submission to the public; in the intervening period many important amendments have been sought by Council so as to ensure that the final plan will adequately cater for both the Council's and the general public's interest, having in mind, of course, that in its final adoption the scheme of zoning must cater for the acceptance of the majority of community interests and benefits.

Early in September of this year the State Planning Authority's officers visited the area for the purpose of finalising the many representations which have been made both by Council and property owners since the lodgment of the plan; it is anticipated that these aspects will be resolved to the general good of the community and Council looks forward with confidence to the early gazettal of the scheme by the Minister so that the progress of the Municipality will be based on an adopted zoning plan and scheme Ordinance which will ensure that the future development of the area will follow a methodical and accepted pattern having due regard to the need for a healthy balance between the commercial, industrial and residential dictates of the Municipality.

Naturalisation Ceremonies:

This important work so necessary for the assimilation of the new migrants into our community way of life has been continued over the period in association with the Department of Immigration.

The first ceremony to be held in the new Administrative building took place on 27th July, 1965, when 65 candidates assembled with friends and relations to take the Oath of Allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen in the dignified surrounds of the new Council Chambers and in the presence of many distinguished parliamentary representatives and guests. Altogether in the 1963/65 period, approximately 400 people were naturalised.

Argentine Ants:

Towards the end of 1964, the Argentine Ant Eradication Committee decided to undertake a check survey of all the recorded argentine ant infestations which had been treated within the Municipality during the 1952-1962 campaigns and to ascertain whether any of these areas had become re-infested.

The survey within the Municipality covered 4,017 proper-

ties in 58 areas of infestation aggregating 1,282 acres; in only two instances were the existence of argentine ants found.

However, both areas were re-sprayed, which resulted in complete eradications.

Since early in 1950 when the ants were first found in the Silverwater area an expenditure of £16,832 (\$33,664) has been incurred by Council in its fight for the eradication of these pests.

Street Lighting:

Every request for improved street lighting made during the term has received Council's approval. As well as arranging for street lighting improvements in individual streets, Council has availed itself of the benefits arising from the Traffic Route Lighting Subsidy Scheme and an arrangement with the Sydney County Council for the alteration of existing incandescent lighting to fluorescent lighting in residential areas.

Traffic Route Lighting Subsidy Scheme: In 1964, Council made application for a subsidy in accordance with the above scheme to assist in meeting the added costs to Council of the higher standard of lighting required on traffic routes over and above the standard of lighting which would be adequate to meet local needs.

The subsidy scheme is applicable to proclaimed Main Roads and Secondary Roads and also to roads which by reason of large volumes of vehicular or pedestrian traffic, require lighting to a standard approved by the Electricity Authority of New South Wales. To become eligible for the 20 per cent subsidy, Council will be required to meet the charges involved in bringing the existing lighting up to the standard required by the subsidy scheme. An additional amount of £4,000 (\$8,000) was allocated in 1965 for this purpose.

Changeover from Incandescent Lighting to Fluorescent Lighting: To further improve street lighting conditions in residential areas throughout the Municipality along roadways which were not previously included in the subsidy scheme or were approved separately, Council has arranged for all existing incandescent lamps to be replaced with the more effective type of fluorescent street lighting. The complete changeover to fluorescent lamps should be effected by the end of 1966 and the completion of the Berala-Regents Park area by the end of 1965. Where necessary additional fluorescent lights will be provided to obtain the higher standard of residential street lighting required.

General: Considerable numbers of applications were received and approved by Council for lighting improvements in the various streets throughout the Municipality. Lighting improve-

ments were also undertaken in conjunction when road construction work caused additional traffic generation.

In association with the Auburn Combined Sports Committee and the various sporting clubs, Council installed additional lighting and floodlighting for night training purposes in the Basketball Court area Mona Park, Mona Park Oval, playing field at Webbs Avenue, Auburn, Wilson Park, Wyatt Park and Phillips Park.

Berala Play Centre:

This amenity which is subsidised by Council was first commenced in the Christmas Vacation of 1961/1962 and it has proved very popular with the children.

This play centre conducted in conjunction with the Department of Physical Education, is supervised by qualified instructors who organise the various activities and outings.

The average attendance to the play centre over the past three (3) years has been approximately 200 children.

| | | |
|-------------------|------|---------|
| Expenditure:—1963 | £180 | (\$360) |
| 1964 | £142 | (\$284) |
| 1965 | £142 | (\$284) |

MISCELLANEOUS

Buildings:

| Year | No. Applications | Value | Fees Paid |
|------|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1963 | 1,006 | £2,407,839 (\$4,815,678) | £5,413 3 10 (\$10,826.38) |
| 1964 | 989 | £3,446,219 (\$6,892,438) | £7,407 8 6 (\$14,814.85) |
| 1965 | 951 | £4,550,000 (\$9,100,000) | £8,100 0 0 (\$16,200) |

of the applications received there were:—

261 new dwelling—total value £892,638 (\$1,785,276).

58 new factories—total value £2,901,576 (\$5,803,152).

427 alterations and additions to factories — total value £3,056,333 (\$6,112,666).

2,200 Miscellaneous—total value £3,553,511 (\$7,107,022).

Residential Flat Development:

The residential development of sections of the Municipality by the erection of residential flat buildings, was a problem which confronted the Council and not wishing to assume its responsibility in an off-hand manner, Council appointed a special Building Sub-committee to investigate the ramifications of this new trend of living. This Sub-committee, in conjunction with its officers, undertook its task in a characteristic serious vein; many meetings were held, inspections made and investigations conducted with the result that the undermentioned recommendations were submitted to and adopted by Council.

(1) That Council restrict the building of three (3) storey residential flat buildings or home units, to a defined area.

(2) That the applications for the erection of two (2) storey

flat buildings or home units are to receive individual consideration irrespective of their location, and approval granted when all of Council's standards and conditions have been fulfilled.

(3) That the existing building code used by Council in respect of all building applications of a similar nature, continue to operate.

This policy, in its application, provided Council with the basis for a sound and sensible approach to the problem and examples of the buildings erected in accordance with Council's adopted policy, are illustrated in this brochure.

The problem of multiplicity of residential flat buildings and home units seems, as anticipated, to have evened itself out in the process of development and Council is of the opinion that the erection of multi-units within the Auburn Municipality definitely has a limitation from the viewpoint of demand. Council is also of the opinion that development in this direction to date is complete justification of the adopted policy.

Licences:

2,720 licences were issued during the period and fees paid amounted to £2,640 (\$5,280) and 8,000 inspections were made of these premises.

Legal Proceedings:

Thirty (30) cases were instituted for various breaches of the Local Government Act, Public Health Act, Pure Food Act and Ordinances and fines and costs totalling £360 (\$720) were awarded.

Homes for the Aged:

Contrary to the general accepted impression, the erection of homes for the aged units in Tavistock Street and Euston Road, Auburn, is not a Municipal enterprise; however, in a personal manner, the Aldermen of Council are anxious to see the finalisation of the initial stages of this project.

In the first instance Council was, with the assistance initially of the Cumberland County Council and latterly the State Planning Authority, prevailed upon to lease land to the Auburn Senior Citizens' Welfare Association, the independent committee which, by virtue of hard work and the co-operation of the local service clubs and by generous donations from industrial concerns, and a welcome subsidy from the Commonwealth Social Services Department on a basis of £2 to £1 grant, has been able to initiate proceedings to construct the first twelve units. It is anticipated that this section will be open by December of this year under the managerial direction of a competent committee representative

of the clergy, the medical profession and local service clubs. The sub-committee which is devoting its energies to raising finance, is still confronted with the most difficult task of raising another £25,000 with which it is hoped to complete the second and third stages of the project which ultimately will provide for sixty-four units each comfortable, complete and separate.

The establishment of homes for the aged catering for local aged persons is a work which should command the respect of all local residents; in regard to this project the Council whole-heartedly gives its blessing and commends the project for support.

Administrative Building:

On Saturday, 10th July, 1965, in the presence of the Aldermen of Council, the various local members of both State and Federal Parliament, and a distinguished gathering of guests and ratepayers, I was privileged, on behalf of Council, to officially open a new Administrative Building which had been built on land situated at the rear of the existing Town Hall and strategically placed between the two public car parking areas fronting Susan and Queen Street, Auburn; this building was the culmination of fifteen years of planning by various Mayors and Councils and involved an expenditure of approximately £198,000 (\$396,000). The building has been the object of general admiration and since its completion has been inspected by representatives of many Councils which, at the present moment, are contemplating similar projects.

The building has three floors, the lower ground floor being reserved for the parking of Aldermen's and staff cars, storage rooms and the like whilst a special room has been set aside in which the Aldermen can meet. This room is accessible at all times to the individual Aldermen from the front parking area and does not necessitate entrance through the main portions of the building.

The ground floor contains Rates and Accounting Section together with the Health and Building Department. On the top floor are the Council Chambers, Committee Rooms, Mayor's suite and Town Clerk's office, also the upstairs foyer accommodates the Engineer's enquiry counter and the entrance to the Engineering and Town Planning Department is from this section.

The building is of steel frame and reinforced concrete construction. The concrete encased steel columns are expressed as an elevational feature. Infill panels are aluminium curtain wall and brick. As a decorative feature there are stone

and aggregate panels. In the office areas demountable partitions have been used except where solid walls were required for privacy and reduction of noise. Council sees in this building, the completion of a project well in keeping with the high standards of Local Government Administration of the area.

With the vacation of the Town Hall premises by the staff, Council was presented with a golden opportunity to improve the old building; comprehensive discussions were held between the Aldermen, officers and architects and as a result detailed plans and specifications are in the course of preparation for the entire renovation of the building which will allow for an enlargement of the dance floor section, with the provision of modern kitchen facilities at dance floor level and shop frontages to Auburn Road; the completion of this project will be the privilege of the incoming Council.

Acknowledgements:

The Council of the Municipality of Auburn, representing the districts of Auburn, Lidcombe, Regents Park, Berala and Silverwater, united together by legislation, has been in the triennial period and will, I feel, continue in the future, to be administered soundly and skilfully by responsible elected Aldermen who will use every endeavour to maintain the existing high standards of Local Government administration.

As the third tier of Government and perhaps one which is the closest and most cherished form of democracy, Local Government administration will always fulfil an important function in our every day life; the Council with which I have had the privilege to be associated over the past three years has been mindful of these characteristics and in point of fact ever anxious and I say the word pointedly, to administer the different facets of the Local Government Law having in mind that the ratepayers and residents have an inherent right which implies that their requests, applications and the like, must receive due consideration; we as Aldermen of Council have endeavoured to temper justice with mercy and I feel that in no small degree have conducted our stewardship in a manner which should, if nothing else, earn the respect of all citizens.

As Mayor this statement gives a certain amount of pride and whilst I, in a human manner, selfishly enjoy the pride and satisfaction of the office of Mayor, I must pay tribute to my fellow Aldermen without whose help, criticism and at times, reproach, I could not fulfil the duties of my office nor could we as Aldermen confidently face the electors

and nominate for a further term of office. The successful functioning of the office of Mayor was impossible without the help of my colleagues and of this I must say they gave their very best unselfishly and without thought to personal aggrandizement. I would like to express to my Council, the Town Clerk and staff my personal heartfelt thanks for a term of office characterised by that desirable statement "a job well done."

Particular reference must be made at this stage to the retirement of Mr. P. J. Casey, the former Town Clerk, after forty years of service in Local Government, the last seven years in the capacity of Town Clerk. During his term of office, Mr. Casey, as a gentleman of outstanding characteristics and administrative ability, earned the admiration of all and the many works and services associated with the progress of the Municipality during his term of service, will forever remain as a monument to his office.

I must also express appreciation and gratitude to Messrs E. J. Harrison, M.H.R.; T. P. Murphy, M.L.A.; T. V. Ryan, former M.L.A.; and P. Cox, M.L.A., who as the elected Parliamentary representatives of the Municipality, have given their time and thought unstintingly to many Local Government problems which were mainly solved by their helpful assistance at a Parliamentary level. In this category also acknowledgements must be made of the valuable help rendered by the district representatives of such authorities as the Metropolitan Water, Sewerage and Drainage Board, the Cumberland County Council, the Fire Board, the Sydney County Council and the newly constituted State Planning Authority. Relationship with these and the many other Government Departments both at officer and personal level, are very harmonious and augurs well for future co-operation. Worthy of special mention are the local service clubs, chambers of commerce and such other associations comprised of public spirited men and women who devote a great portion of their personal time in the advancement of community interests.

I assume the privilege and take the opportunity of expressing to the ratepayers and residents of the Municipality, a personal thanks for the opportunity of serving the district for the past three years; whilst foundation stones have been laid which will in the material sense perpetuate the names of the retiring Aldermen of Council, our satisfaction is not only in bricks and mortar but in a more tangible manner; we as Aldermen of the Council of the Municipality of Auburn, feel that our fulfilment rests in the thought that we conclude our term of office happy and satisfied that as custodians of

the public purse we have given of our very best to make our Municipality a better place in which to live so that in the ultimate it will possess all those every day amenities, district functions and facilities which are characteristic of a well cultured, sensible, public spirited community concerned not only for personal welfare and selfish interests but considering the general prosperity and happiness of the community to be of paramount importance.

FACTS FOR GENERAL INFORMATION

Council Telephones

Office 649 6011, 649 6012, 649 6013, 649 6014, 649 8609.

Swimming Centre 649 9125.

Public Golf Course 649 9972.

Municipal Library 649 4815.

Baby Health Centres: Auburn 649 8621, Lidcombe 649 7941.

Mobile Nursing Service 649 4413.

Postal Address

All correspondence should be addressed to the Town Clerk, Municipality of Auburn, Box 118 P.O., Auburn, or Council Chambers, Auburn. Office hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays to Fridays.

Electors enrolled — 32,394.

Area of parks and reserves — 348 acres.

PUBLIC AMENITIES — HOURS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Baby Health Centres

Auburn — 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays to Fridays.

Lidcombe — 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Women's Rest Centres, Auburn and Lidcombe

Mondays to Thursdays 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday 8.30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

Local Mobile Nursing Service

This Service has now been transferred to the new Administrative Building, Susan Street, Auburn, and can be contacted by ringing 649 6011, Health Department during ordinary office hours.

Municipal Library

Mondays to Fridays 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturdays 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Swimming Centre, Wyatt Park, Lidcombe

Swimming season October 1 to March 31 .

Hours open to the public:

Mondays to Saturdays 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sundays 6 a.m. to 5 p.m. — 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. during the months of December, January and February.

Night Bathing: December, January and February, Mondays to Fridays 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The Centre is available for carnivals during the month of March.

Municipal Golf Course

Open every day except Christmas Day.

Parking Facilities for Shoppers

All main shopping centres are subject to the half-hour parking restrictions. Adequate car parking facilities are available in Auburn, Lidcombe and Berala. Accommodation for approximately 600 vehicles is available at the undermentioned sites at all hours:

Susan Street adjoining the public school and at the corner of Queen Street.

Kerr Parade—Railway overbridge to Marion Street—angle parking.

North Parade—Railway overbridge to St. Hilliers Road—angle parking.

Berala Shopping Centre.

Bridge St., Lidcombe, at rear of hotel.

Amy St., Regent's Park, at rear of shops, entrance from Regents Street.

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