

MUNICIPALITY OF AUBURN



TRIENNIAL REPORT

1981-1983

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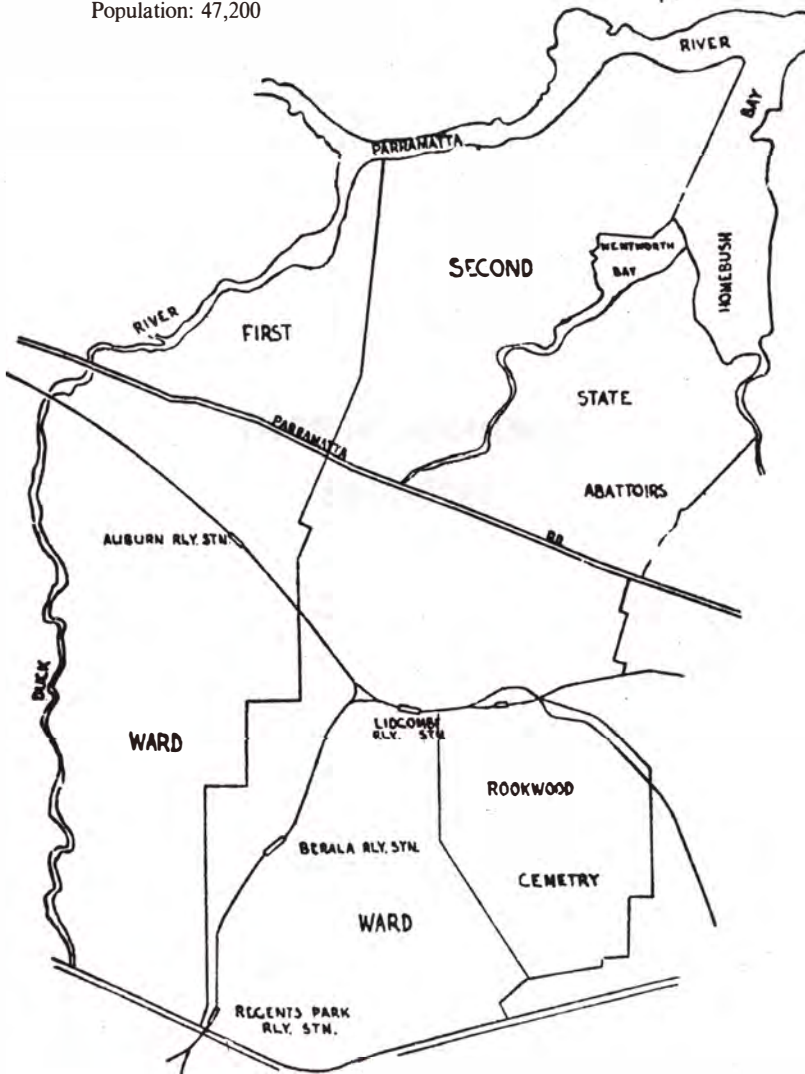
MUNICIPALITY OF AUBURN

Reduction ratio: 55 440 : 1.

Area of Municipality: 3152 ha.

Length of Roadways: 197.95 km

Population: 47,200



INTRODUCTION

It is with pleasure that this report covering the activities of Council over the last three years, is submitted to the ratepayers and residents of the Municipality.

Your elected Aldermen are most aware of the need for efficiency in administration and diligently pursue economies bearing in mind the need for expansion of Municipal services. In this regard, it is interesting to note the effect of New South Wales State Government budget policies on your Council. Substantial increases in statutory charges have been experienced during the past three years and grants monies, previously paid to Council under the Local Government Assistance Fund, have been discontinued.

Also of interest particularly in view of the above, is the fact that Council has been able to exercise restraint in keeping rate levies below the maximum permissible yield limit set by State Government Legislation when statutory charges have increased by more than the rate increase limit.

The 1983 rate levy for the first time in Auburn's history saw the introduction of differential rating. Council's Estimates Committee deliberated at length over this action; however, property valuation lists supplied by the Department of the Valuer General over the past few years, had gradually reduced the valuation differential between residential and non residential properties, therefore shifting the rate burden more directly onto residential properties. Differential rating policies will be kept under constant review by Council in the future.

Of the estimated income which is \$12,125,545.00 for 1983, Council has allocated \$4,364,589.00 for roads and ancillary expenditure; \$599,877.00 for public parks, gardens and reserves; \$520,740.00 for library services and \$98,500.00 for Swimming Centre operations. Other essential items of expenditure, including extension of recreation facilities and acquisition of land for roadworks and construction of roadworks, will be catered for from loan borrowings.

Council's policy of three year works programme for each triennial period continues and it is pleasing to note the improved standard in road construction, kerbing and guttering and paving. In this connection, it is considered that recent legislation altering the local government term from three to four years, will greatly assist in planning and stability of works programmes, particularly from the point of view of longer term financing and more effective use of resources.

A continual problem facing Council is the volume of traffic flowing through the Municipality and it is hoped that the extension of the now opened section of the Western Freeway to the western boundary of the Municipality will help alleviate this problem. A recent announcement by the Minister for Roads indicates that the Silverwater to Clyde section of the Freeway will be completed towards the end of 1984 and this should remove all east-west traffic congestion from this

Municipality. Also, construction on the new road through Rookwood Cemetery, between Arthur and East Streets, has been commenced by Council and hopefully, early completion of this road will greatly assist in alleviating traffic congestion in the vicinity of Lidcombe Shopping Centre, especially with a planned early completion of the Joseph and Bede Streets deviation.

During the latter part of 1982, an extra-ordinary vacancy in the membership of Council was caused by the death of the Deputy Mayor, Alderman P. A. Hislop, who had been an Alderman of Council for eleven years and an election to fill the vacancy was held on November 13, 1982 which resulted in the election to office of Alderman M. W. Smith. The loss of Alderman Hislop was deeply felt by the community in general and Council in particular, as his contributions to the welfare and improvement of our Municipality were of a nature that deserved proper recognition. Towards this end, Council recently designated a sporting complex situated at the foot of Everley Road as "Peter Hislop Park".

Also during the past triennial period, three of Council's long serving senior servants, the former Town Clerk, Mr. G. J. Lane, the former Chief Health and Building Surveyor, Mr. A. P. Hayes and the former Deputy Chief Health and Building Surveyor, Mr. T. Grew, retired.

There is no doubt that their expertise and in particular, their local knowledge, will be missed as between them they had accumulated 98 years service with Auburn Council.

Being an election year, eligible voters are reminded of the need to vote on Saturday, September 24, 1983 in order to avoid the possibility of a fine for failure to do so. Electors are also advised that voting concludes at 6.00 p.m.

Preparation of rolls commences on August 15, 1983 and as the onus for enrolment rests with the elector, a check on enrolment at the Council Chambers would be prudent.

In some circumstances, a vote may be obtained on election day if not enrolled and enquiries concerning any aspect of the election will be answered on application at the Council Chambers.

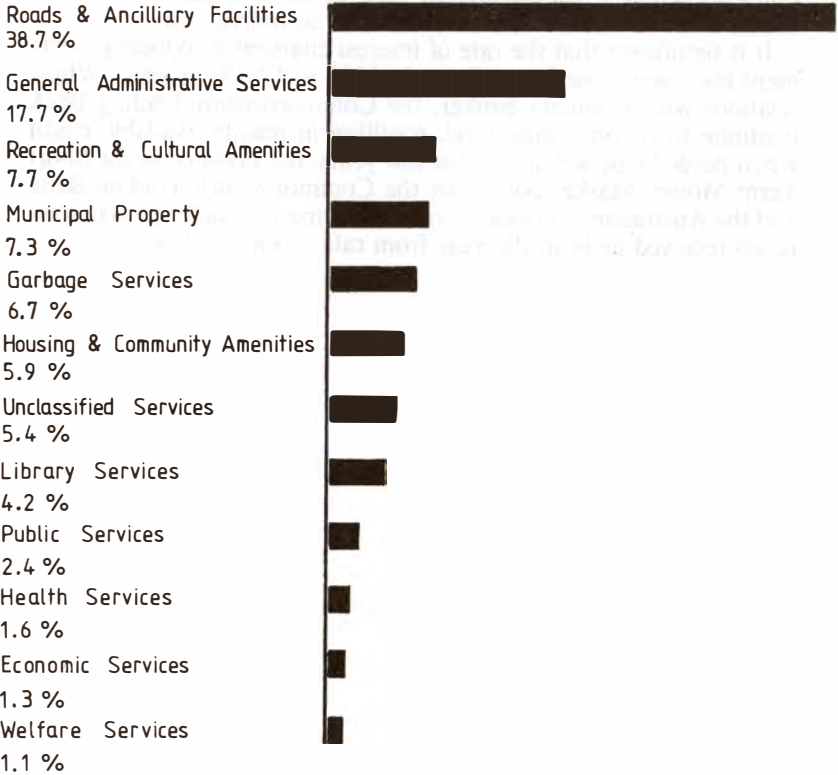
It is of interest to note that this report will be the final triennial report presented as recent amendment to the Local Government Act has extended the term for which Aldermen hold office from three to four years from the 1983 election onwards.

FINANCE

As previously mentioned Council, by way of government legislation, is precluded from exceeding a rate levy at a fixed percentage above that of previous years. However, the following statutory charges show the increase over and above the budget in 1982 - Board of Fire Commission, 28.4%; Department of the Valuer General 85%. This is one of the many problems that seem to confront the Estimates Committee annually and tribute should be paid to the members for the attitude adopted in relation to maintaining the stable financial position, particularly in view of current economic trends which affect Council in the same manner as individuals.

It is significant that the rate of interest chargeable to local government borrowers rose from 12.6% in 1980 to 17.7% in 1982. Whilst relations with Council's banker, the Commonwealth Trading Bank continue to be on a high level, resulting in readily available credit when needed Council, in the last few years, has invested in the Short Term Money Market both with the Commonwealth Trading Bank and the Australian European Finance Company in order to maximise funds received early in the year from rate receipt income.

% Expenditure Related to Each Dollar



EXPENDITURE

	1981	1982	1983	TOTAL
1. General Administrative Services	1,632,195	1,911,288	2,388,083	5,931,566
2. Public Services	215,926	241,992	338,094	796,012
3. Health Services (inc. Building Control)	211,530	162,647	174,766	548,943
4. Welfare Services	98,329	116,850	143,090	358,269
5. Garbage Services	654,437	811,516	794,602	2,260,555
6. Housing & Community Amenities	516,295	631,066	840,836	1,988,197
7. Library Services	395,871	476,036	520,740	1,392,647
8. Recreation & Cultural Amenities	787,265	939,280	849,277	2,575,822
9. Roads & Ancillary Facilities	3,844,081	4,747,108	4,364,589	12,955,778
10. Economic Services	163,384	116,561	145,636	425,581
11. Unclassified Services	562,366	577,572	669,365	1,809,303
12. Capital	716,749	840,361	896,467	2,453,577
	9,798,428	11,572,277	12,125,545	33,496,250

INCOME

	1981	1982	1983	TOTAL
1. Rates	6,184,755	6,816,354	8,236,925	21,238,034
2. Government Grants & Subsidies	1,958,891	2,700,848	1,940,642	6,600,381
3. General Administrative Services	204,642	169,147	117,498	491,287
4. Public Services	10,337	8,782	12,200	31,319
5. Health Services	14,578	9,117	21,500	45,195
6. Welfare Services	62,897	67,333	74,540	204,770
7. Garbage Services	152,264	184,369	359,000	695,633
8. Housing & Community Services	132,561	115,096	107,750	355,407
9. Library Services	166	2,594	240	3,000
10. Recreation & Cultural Amenities	208,276	287,584	242,950	738,810
11. Roads Ancilliary Facilities	358,666	817,599	355,610	1,531,875
12. Economic Services	71,078	89,516	116,190	276,784
13. Unclassified Services	507,447	1,110,004	540,500	2,157,951
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	9,866,558	12,378,343	12,125,545	34,370,446
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Roadworks - Bede Street Lidcombe.



Parramatta River Foreshore parklands.



Roundabout Cnr Chiswick and Cumberland Roads.



Open space and playing fields-Wilson Park.

PARTICULARS OF RATE LEVY

Year	Rate in \$	Type of Rate	Value Used for Rating	Yield
1981	1.511	General	431,541,507	6,184,755
1982	1.355	General	533,409,810	6,816,354
1983	1.155	Residential	363,856,099	4,562,145
	1.403	Non-Residential	259,707,200	3,674,780
			623,563,299	8,236,925

UPGRADING OF AMENITIES IN VARIOUS PARKS

- Progress Park** — construction of storeroom and caretaker's room.
- Mona Park** — construction of changing facilities and men's toilet for No. 3 and No. 4 ground.
— construction of kiosk serving No. 3 and No. 4 ground.
— renovation of kiosk serving No. 1 ground.
- Phillips Park** — construction of changing facilities, men's and ladies' toilets and storeroom.
- Auburn Park** — construction of kiosk and storeroom.

UPGRADING OF UNDERGROUND WATER SERVICE IN VARIOUS PARKS

- Progress Park** — install underground sprinkler system to No. 1 ground.
- Auburn Park** — renew part of existing water service and install underground sprinkler system to oval.
- Coleman Park** — install underground sprinkler system to No. 1 ground and extend to No. 2 ground.
- Civic Park** — renew water service.
- Webbs Avenue Playing Fields** — extend water service to north-western area of park.
- Greatrex Reserve** — installation of water service.
- Mona Park** — renew water service to new amenities building serving No. 3 and No. 4 grounds.

GENERAL UPGRADING OF VARIOUS PARKS

- Coleman Park** — erection of fencing on perimeter of park.
— laying of synthetic cricket wickets on Nos. 1 and 3 grounds.

- Phillips Park** — covering a section of stormwater channel traversing the park.
- construction of floodlighting on No. 2 and No. 3 grounds.
- upgrade floodlighting No. 1 ground.
- Guilfoyle Park** — upgrade floodlighting.
- Mona Park** — upgrade floodlighting No. 2 ground.
- Auburn Park** — reconstruction of practice cricket net.
- laying of synthetic cricket wicket.
- Webbs Avenue** — laying of synthetic cricket wicket.
- Playing Fields** — relevel and turf the area between the cricket wicket and Duck River.
- construction of floodlighting.
- Progress Park** — laying of synthetic cricket wickets on No. 2 and No. 3 grounds.
- Wyatt Park** — renovation of existing toilets in Tennis Court Complex.
- install shelters on land adjacent to grass netball courts.
- General** — installation of soft landing areas under playground equipment in various parks.

As well as above park improvements, the following two new sporting complexes have been developed:-

- i. Everley Road — two playing fields.
- ii. Wilson Park, which has been developed on land adjacent to the Parramatta River, and incorporating four playing fields, two synthetic cricket wickets, an amenities block, parkland, picnic area and shelters.

SUBDIVISIONS

During the current triennial period, numerous small subdivisions, residential and industrial, were approved by Council. The largest industrial subdivision involved a two lot subdivision on land bounded by Derby, Vore and Carolyn Streets for the purpose of developing an industrial estate.

BOTANIC GARDENS

During the current triennial period, many thousands of visitors from all parts of Australia and from other countries have enjoyed the beauty and tranquillity of the Auburn Botanic Gardens.

Council has received numerous letters of congratulations on having such a pleasing area in the Municipality.

The celebration of marriages at various points in the gardens and the taking of wedding photographs have become most popular. 394 bookings were registered from January 1 to December 31, 1982.

During the current triennial programme, Council has carried out many improvements in various sections of the Botanic Gardens in an endeavour to cope with the large number of people who visit the area, especially at weekends. In the Japanese Garden section, Council has constructed another large rock garden on the south side of the lake. Furthermore, a 54,000 litre capacity water tank with electric pump and sprinkler system has been installed throughout this section of the Gardens.

Considerable attention has also been given to improving the picnic and barbecue areas and details are as follows:-

1. The original picnic area has been extended and twelve electric barbecues are now available for use together with extra picnic tables and shelters.
2. Free hot water is now available.
3. New toilet amenities have been erected on the north side of Chiswick Road with special facilities for people in wheel chairs.
4. The existing picnic area has been extended to the south, involving construction of extra car parking facilities for approximately 50 vehicles and the erection of yet another new toilet block. When this project is completed, extra areas will have been provided for active recreation.

Due to the excellent growth of trees and plants in areas of the Gardens, such as the Sunken Rose Garden, Garden of Trees, Billabong Area, Rain Forest Section, Scrub Woodland Area, Amphitheatre, Fern House, Glass House etc., the Gardens as a whole, have become a place of real enjoyment for people of all ages.

RELOCATION OF WILSON PARK

On March 19, 1983 the new Wilson Park was opened by the Minister for Lands, the Hon. Lyn Gordon, M.P. The project cost in

the vicinity of \$1,250,000.00 and was constructed by the developing authority who exchanged the original balance of Wilson Park for the river-front site, formerly occupied by Petroleum and Chemical Corporation (P.A.C.C.A.L.) Council has also retained use of one playing field on the original Wilson Park, now known as Newington Reserve. At the present time, there are three playing fields available on the new Wilson Park and a fourth will be constructed when the Valvoline Company have vacated their present site.

Facilities provided include barbecues, picnic shelters, children's playground, first class landscaping and an amenities building which also includes canteen facilities. When the final playing field has been constructed, yet another amenities building-storage shed and toilet block will also be constructed.

All football fields are provided with floodlighting facilities for night training and the recreation and picnic area is also excellently lit.

The area has become an extremely popular recreation area, strategically placed as it is on the foreshores of Parramatta River and will become a place of enjoyment for many future generations of people.

JOSEPH STREET RECONSTRUCTION AND BEDE STREET DEVIATION

During this triennial period, reconstruction work in Joseph Street was completed between Georges Avenue and the Bede Street deviation turn-off north of The Boulevard. Work on the Bede Street deviation has been completed as far as Vaughan Street. The total expenditure for both sections was in the vicinity of \$2,240,000.00. There remains a total length of this work to be constructed of approximately 340m and subject to funds being made available by the Department of Main Roads, this work should be completed well before the conclusion of the next term of Council.

WESTERN FREEWAY

The sections of the Western Freeway between Concord Road and Melton Street, Auburn and between Church Street, Parramatta and Mays Hill, were opened to traffic in December 1982 by the Premier of New South Wales, the Hon. Neville Wran, Q.C., M.P. Work has been accelerated in the section between Melton Street, Auburn and James Ruse Drive, Rosehill, and hopefully, this work will be completed by mid 1984. Once again, all progress on this road construction is dependent on sufficient funding being made available.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY THROUGH ROOKWOOD CEMETERY

In an endeavour to improve traffic conditions in and around Lidcombe and to lessen the volume of traffic using the Rookwood

Cemetery roadways, the Joint Committee of the Necropolis Trustees of the Cemetery has made available, through the Department of Lands, sufficient land to construct a roadway between East Street, Lidcombe and Arthur Street, running roughly parallel with the railway line. The Department of Main Roads has agreed under certain conditions to accept the road as a Secondary Main Road and will be assisting Council financially in its construction. The road formation has been completed for the full length of the road and when funding is available from the Department, work will be completed. On present day values, this work will cost approximately \$1,800,000.00 and Council continues to vigorously pursue completion.

EXTENSION OF HILL ROAD, LIDCOMBE

For many years, Council has been concerned that road traffic cannot enter the Homebush Bay area of the Auburn Municipality without travelling along roads within the Strathfield Municipality. It was decided, therefore, that Hill Road should be extended to Bennelong Road through swamplands as soon as possible. Funds have been made available (including a contribution from the Metropolitan Waste Disposal Authority) to continue Hill Road, initially as far as the proposed Transfer Station, by the end of 1983 and to extend this construction to Haslams Creek as part of the same contract. It is hoped that this work will be completed by December 1983 at a total estimated cost of approximately \$1,600,000.00 (including the construction of a culvert across Haslams Creek). It is hoped that work will then continue as soon as possible to Bennelong Road although there is a vast amount of work to be done in the area of land acquisition from various public and private instrumentalities and companies. The total cost of the project could exceed \$5,000,000.00.

CONSTRUCTION OF ROADWAY BETWEEN HOLKER STREET AND RIVER STREET

The Department of Main Roads, for some time, has intended closing the median strip in Silverwater Road at all intersections except those controlled by traffic signals. The purpose of this is to improve traffic conditions along Silverwater Road. However, it has not been possible for traffic in the Clyde, River and Blaxland Streets area to make use of the traffic lights at Holker Street as there was no public road access from River Street to Holker Street. This has caused severe traffic problems for vehicles wishing to turn right out of the three streets and proceed in a southerly direction towards Parramatta Road. Council decided to acquire the necessary land from private ownership and construct a public road from River Street to Holker Street. This work was completed in the latter part of the triennial period at a total cost (including land acquisition) of \$200,000.00. To enable the median area to be closed at Fariola Street, a public road

will be constructed as part of the former Wilson Park Development so that traffic from the North Lidcombe area can use the lights at Holker Street.

AUBURN SWIMMING CENTRE

Council, during 1982, accepted a tender from Hanna Engineering Services, amounting to \$50,250.00 for the construction of a roof structure covering the existing terraced seating, and a tender from Parker Solar Energy Services, amounting to \$22,600.00 for the supply, delivery, installation and commissioning of a solar heating system on the new roof structure and both works have been completed. Council embarked on these projects to achieve a reduced expenditure in the operating costs of the 25 metre heated and enclosed pool

During the triennial period 1981-1983, Council has carried out other improvements at the Swimming Centre including replacement of the concrete concourse area, maintenance painting of the pool complex, purchase of anti-turbulent lane ropes and replacement of diving board fulcrums.

The Auburn Swimming Centre was selected as the venue for the National Diving Championships held early in 1983.

USE OF ROUNDABOUTS AS A TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICE

During the 1981/83 triennial period, the first roundabout was constructed in Auburn at the intersection of Cumberland Road and Chiswick Road. Since then, a mini roundabout has been constructed at the railway overbridge over Regents Park station and hopefully, more will be constructed at selected intersections in the near future.

From Council's limited experience it would appear that a roundabout constructed in the appropriate location is an excellent traffic control device and is constructed at a fraction of the cost of traffic signals and is capable of achieving a success rate more than comparable with traffic signals.

The Cumberland and Chiswick Roads intersection, although far from being the busiest within the Municipality, had a bad traffic accident record of generally severe smashes. The purpose of the roundabout is to greatly reduce the traffic speed of vehicles through intersections and impose on traffic, the necessity to give way to all traffic to the right. At the Cumberland Road intersection, the reported accidents have been reduced to zero and any collisions have been very minor due to the very low speeds of the vehicles involved. The roundabout at Cumberland Road has been most successful in reducing serious accidents but they are also particularly helpful on intersections which have a fair amount of area, and they enable traffic to be channelled into its correct path of travel.

Roundabouts are in common use in all States of Australia and reports as to their effectiveness, have been unanimously complimentary.

SEA WALL CONSTRUCTION AND RECONSTRUCTION

In the 1981-1983 triennial period, Council undertook to comply with the requirements of the Maritime Services Board as to sea wall construction.

Council is responsible for the construction of sea walls adjacent to public property on the foreshores of Parramatta River and Duck River.

Many years ago, Council constructed a retaining wall along the foreshores of part of Silverwater Park. Subsequently, the Department of Main Roads also constructed a wall which covered the Silverwater Road road reservation. The Maritime Services Board directed that the section between Council's construction and the wall under Silverwater Bridge be constructed together with a wall at the western end of Clyde Street. The wall units for both sections were ordered at the latter end of the triennial period and will be completed early in the next Aldermanic period.

All the walls discussed so far are, or will be, of concrete construction. From the eastern boundary of Silverwater Road to the western boundary of the Commonwealth property, there has been in existence a sandstone wall which was in a very dilapidated condition. Towards the latter end of the triennial period, a joint project involving Council and the State Government Unemployment Scheme was undertaken to restore the wall to its original condition. This work has now been completed and has greatly improved the general appearance of the river foreshores across Wilson Park and the garbage tip area.

TOWN PLANNING

The 1981-1983 triennium saw the implementation of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act. This Act which replaced Part X11A of the Local Government Act, 1919, took effect on September 1, 1980 and all planning work since that time has been carried out under the provisions of this Act.

In the period 1981 to March 1983, Council's Town Planning Department considered 634 Development Applications for new developments and change of use of existing buildings for which \$147,314.00 in development application fees has been paid.

The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act extends the provisions for public participation in the planning process and, in this regard, applications for the construction of dual occupancy dwellings and residential flat buildings are exhibited for public comment as are Draft Local Environmental Plans. The exhibition of Draft Local En-



Granstand Cover — Swimming Centre.



Playing Equipment - Wyatt Park.

Auburn Municipal Council 1980 - 1983



Ald. C. G. NOBLE, J.P.



Town Clerk:
Mr. C. GOLDSWORTHY, J.P.
A.T.C.S. A.I.M.A.



Deputy Mayor:
Ald. G. J. DUNN



Deputy Mayor:
Ald. B. ...



Ald. S. L. HEDGES, J.P.



Deputy Town Clerk:
Mr. D. J. MARKS, J.P.
A.T.C.S. A.I.M.A.



Ald. C. F. TURNER, J.P.



Chief Librarian:
Miss V. J. F. FOMONDE-MORGAN



Mayor:
Ald. G. J. DUNN

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Ald. S. L. HEDGES, J.P.



Ald. M. W. SMITH



Deputy Mayor:
Ald. P. A. HYSLOP, J.P.
(Deceased August 1982)



His Worship The Mayor:
Ald. T. H. KEEGAN, J.P.



Chief Librarian:
Miss V. L. ESMONDE-MORGAN
B.A., A.L.A.A.



Ald. C. F. TURNER, J.P.



Ald. E. J. CHALLENGER, J.P.



Engineer:
Mr. P. M. DONNELLAN
A.S.T.C., L.G.E., M.I.E., (Aust)



Chief Town Planner:
Mr. N. W. HERFURTH
A.T.C.P., L.G.T.P., M.L.G.P.A.



Chief Health & Building Surveyor
Mr. J. M. SHELLEY
A.R.S.H. (London) M.A.I.H.S.,
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Ald. A. J. LATIMORE



Ald. G. J. GRAYSTON, J.P.



Ald. H. J. NAGLE, J.P.
O.A.M.



Ald. H. G. THOMAS



Ald. K. F. JONES, J.P.

MRS. V. L. LEONHARDT
B.A., M.L.A.



Ald. P. A. HISLOP, J.P.
(Deceased August 1982)



Ald. E. J. CHALLENGER, J.P.



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Mr. P. M. DONNELLAN
A.S.T.C., L.G.E., M.I.E.E., (Ausd)

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Ald. A. J. LATIMORE



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M.B.S.I.



Ald. H. G. THOMAS



Ald. K. F. JONES, J.P.



Ald. G. J. GRAYSTON, J.P.

Composite photograph of Aldermen and Senior Servants of Council.



Picnic area - Botanical Gardens.



Roadway Through Cemetery Construction.

vironmental Plans allows for the public to make submissions on matters which they consider should be included in a Local Environmental Plan.

A total of fifteen (15) Local Environmental Plans have been gazetted for the Municipality of Auburn and these have the following effect:

- LEP No. 1 Use of certain land bounded by Parramatta Road, Station Road and Adderley Street for commercial purposes.
- LEP No. 2 Use of 3 & 3A Macquarie Road, Auburn as an educational establishment.
- LEP No. 3 Use of certain land in James Street, Lidcombe and Parramatta Road for light industrial purposes.
- LEP No. 4 Use of 5-9 Mark Street, Lidcombe for private recreation.
- LEP No. 5 Use of land at the eastern corner of Parramatta Road and Newton Street as a Home Improvement Centre.
- LEP No. 6 Permits development of a large vacant block of land in Whiting Street, Regents Park for townhouses.
- LEP No. 7 Use of land in Raglan Road for industrial purposes.
- LEP No. 8 Use of land at 9-15 Vaughan Street, Lidcombe for commercial purposes.
- LEP No. 9 Allows professional consulting rooms to be established in residential 2(c) zones.
- LEP No. 10 Allows development of exchanged land on Parramatta River for public recreation and the former Wilson Park for industrial purposes and parkland.
- LEP No. 11 Allows the establishment of a club on certain land within the Homebush Abattoir.
- LEP No. 12 Allows establishment of administrative offices and a child care centre on certain land in Kerr Parade, Auburn.
- LEP No. 13 Reduces the local road widening in Raphael Street, Lidcombe.
- LEP No. 14 Permits the establishment of a Regional Waste Transfer Station off Hill Road, Lidcombe.
- LEP No. 15 Allows use of land in Mary Street, Auburn between Park Road and Harrow Road, as a Medical Centre.

In the initial preparation of these plans, the views of persons affected by the proposal were welcomed and considered by Council.

The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 also provides for the making of Regional Environmental Plans and in this regard, the Homebush Bay Regional Environmental Plan was made by the Minister for Planning and Environment to allow the construction of the State Sports Centre at Homebush Bay and associated active and passive recreation areas. Auburn Council has been actively involved in the planning of this area in association with Strathfield Council, Concord Council, the Department of Environment and Planning, the Department of Leisure, Sport and Tourism and the

Department of Public Works.

Residents will have watched the development of a new recreation area on the shores of the Parramatta River adjacent to Silverwater Bridge. This followed successful negotiations for a land exchange for the former PACAAL industrial site for part of Wilson Park which included the making of Local Environmental Plan No. 10 to allow the former Wilson Park to be developed for industrial development comprising forty (40) factory units.

The Department of Environment and Planning has issued a number of Draft Planning Policies, all of which have been exhibited by Council and submissions made. These include Draft State Environmental Planning Policies on "Housing for the Aged and Disabled", "Group Homes", "Development without Consent", "Storeys", "Medium Density Housing" and "Surplus Public Lands". Of these, Council considered the most contentious issue to be that of Medium Density Housing.

The features of this Draft Policy which Council felt would have an adverse effect on the amenity of the existing residential areas of the Municipality, were highlighted in Council's objection to the Minister. These matters were:

- a. the proposal to allow the construction of a wall of height up to 6.7m to be constructed on the property boundary.
- b. the low parking requirements of one (1) space per unit.
- c. the lack of control of development which complies with the terms of the Policy. The Policy states that Council may not refuse consent to an application which conforms to the provisions of the Policy. Council felt that the low development standards of the Policy may result in buildings of poor aesthetic quality and if these developments comply with the terms of the Policy, Council is unable to refuse consent.

The Policy was instigated as part of the State Government's Urban Consolidation Programme which aims to reduce the reliance on outer suburbs to provide for Sydney's population growth. The aim of the programme is to increase the density of established residential services and utilise existing infrastructure.

Council has supported the principle of Urban Consolidation, however, has stated that it considers it is in the best position to judge the type of development best suited for the Municipality.

In this regard, the following initiatives will be investigated by the Town Planning Department.

- * Review of existing residential flat buildings and town/villa house codes
- * review of Council's Development Control Plans
- * preparation of an environmental study investigating the effect of extending the existing residential 2(b) boundaries.
- * consideration of other options to stop the decline of the Municipality's population.

Council's Town Planning Department welcomes enquiries by residents about any planning matters of concern.

Surplus School Site

Following a decision by the Department of Education late in 1982, deeming the proposed school site located off Walters Road, Sixth Avenue and Spencer Street, Regents Park as surplus to their needs, an application was submitted to Council by the Housing Commission of New South Wales requesting consideration of the rezoning of the site from Special Uses 5(a) (School) to Residential 2(b) to allow development of the site for town house purposes.

In respect to this request, a Draft Local Environmental Plan was prepared by Council and placed on public exhibition for a period of eight weeks from March 16, 1983. During the exhibition period, considerable interest was generated and some 250 submissions were received mainly requesting that the land not be used for residential purposes but that Council seek to purchase the site and develop it for parklands.

In order to achieve the objective of the submissions, Council would have been required to purchase the property at a cost of approximately \$1,200,000.00.

Near the end of the exhibition period, a personal submission was also received from the State Member and Minister for Transport, the Hon. Peter Cox. In his submission, Mr. Cox stated that:

“There are very compelling reasons for areas like Auburn, serviced by excellent public transport, to be given every encouragement to increase population within their Municipalities. This view, of course, is in accord with the urban development policy of the present Government and I see no valid reason why the Housing Commission should not be permitted to develop this area. As you are aware, the Commission has clearly indicated that the type of development it proposes would blend in excellently with existing housing.

Taking everything into consideration, my own personal position is that the Housing Commission should be permitted to build on this land with the restrictions mentioned above. Firstly, that 25 per cent of the land be set aside for public recreational purposes and secondly, that development be restricted to two-storey buildings.”

On the basis of the Minister's submission, Council considered that it is appropriate to proceed with the rezoning and had prepared a Local Environmental Plan showing that 25% of the land located off Spencer Street, be rezoned for Open Space purposes and the remainder of the land be rezoned Residential 2(b).

At the time of writing this article, details concerning the type of development were not available.

North Auburn Rezoning

During 1982 and 1983, Council prepared and exhibited an Environmental Study as basis for preparing a Local Environmental Plan for those areas zoned Residential 2(a) under the provisions of the Auburn Planning Scheme, which are located to the north of Paramatta Road.

The Environmental Study examined the existing land uses of the area, evaluated the residential amenity, assessed demographic trends and social factors and considered the potential for increased residential densities and a change to industrial uses.

The Study was publicly exhibited from February 7, 1983 and attracted a large number of submissions. Due to the great public interest generated by the exhibition, two public meetings were held by Council at the end of March 1983, to seek comments from the residents and to answer any questions which were raised.

From the submission received regarding the Environmental Study and the comments made at both public meetings, Council was not able to determine any clear cut decision from those persons residing in the Study area as to the most satisfactory zoning for the area. It was decided to send a notice to all property owners in the area, seeking their views on the type of zoning considered appropriate.

The following response was received:

Number of circulars forwarded	511	
Number of circulars returned	429	(83.95%)
Favour rezoning	221	(43.25%)
Not favour rezoning	208	(40.70%)

The results shown above reflect the opinions of persons residing throughout the Study area. A dissection of the results was made and all submissions received were considered and from this information Council, at a Meeting held June 1, 1983 resolved to adopt the following initiatives:

1. That part of the Study area bounded by Carnarvon, Newton, Stubbs and Deakin Streets, be rezoned Light Industrial.
2. The existing industrial site extending between Asquith and Beaconsfield Streets (known as Nos. 79-83 Beaconsfield Street) and those properties known as 85-87 Beaconsfield Street be rezoned to Neighbourhood Business 3(c).
3. That area in Adderley and Melton Streets, south of the Freeway, be rezoned General Business 3(a).
4. The balance of the Study area be rezoned Residential 2(c).

The aims, objective, policies and strategies to be adopted were determined and exhibited by Council from June 22, 1983 and the Draft Local Environmental Plan is under preparation.

It is hoped that the final plan would be approved by the Minister for Environment and Planning in the first half of 1984.

LIBRARY SERVICES

The Auburn Municipal Library serves the residents of the Municipality through three outlets, the Central Library at Auburn and branches at Lidcombe and Regents Park.

The Library service has a stock of approximately 100,000 books covering all areas of fiction, non-fiction and children's books. An excellent Reference Department has been built up over the past three years and a well qualified and experienced Reference Librarian is readily available to handle complicated or difficult reference requests.

The Library is a member of the Sydney Subject Specialisation scheme under which, each metropolitan library service undertakes to develop extensive holdings within its subject speciality. Auburn's special subject is American history and geography, and fiction by authors whose surnames begin with the letters AMF - AZZ.

Any book not held by the library may be requested through the library's Inter-Library Loans service which means that the entire stock of all public libraries in the metropolitan area is readily accessible.

A wide range of children's services is provided by the library, including regular class visits during the school term, a weekly storytelling session and regular screenings of children's films borrowed from the Sydney Children's Libraries Film Circuit. Children are encouraged to use the libraries as a place of enjoyment and learning.

A total of 35% of the population of the Auburn Municipality were born overseas, and books are required in many languages other than English. Auburn has the largest Turkish population in the metropolitan area and in 1982, a Turkish-speaking librarian was appointed as Ethnic Services Librarian. The library is currently purchasing books in the main languages required by residents and also borrows foreign language books from the State Library on a regular basis to supplement the collection. Loans of books in languages other than English, have increased from 5,000 in 1979 to 19,000 in 1982 which is 7.3% of total adult loans.

The Home Library Service currently serves approximately 70 people and deliveries are made in a library van purchased from State Special Grants in late 1981. Large Print books and Hear-a-books (stories on cassettes) are in extremely high demand and large numbers of titles are being purchased.

Displays and exhibitions are held frequently at the libraries from both local art and craft groups and from organisations such as the Australian Museum and the Art Gallery of New South Wales.

Photocopying facilities are now available at all three libraries, the photocopiers being coin-operated with a charge of 10 cents per copy.

Libraries are no longer quiet book repositories. They are both an information and recreation centre, a place to drop in and read a magazine or newspaper in comfort.

WASTE TRANSFER STATION

The Auburn Municipality is to get a new waste handling facility to replace the existing landfill depot used by residents in Jamieson Street, Silverwater.

The Metropolitan Waste Disposal Authority has recently awarded a contract worth over \$2 million for the construction of a 2 storey waste transfer station in Hill Road, Auburn. When completed in early 1984 the station will be the most modern waste handling facility in Australia.

The station will incorporate the main transfer building, 2 computer operated weighbridges, as well as an amenities block and office. Provision has also been made for the acceptance of glass, paper and oil for recycling, although the extent of recycling facilities will depend upon the prevailing market conditions.

The station has been carefully designed so that its operation will not create any problems for residents. Noise levels within the station will be extremely low in comparison to a landfill disposal site and the operation will be carried out in an enclosed building. All roads throughout the site will be sealed. The appearance of the station will also be enhanced by extensive landscaping.

After checking in at one of the weighbridges, vehicles will travel up a ramp to the upper level of the transfer building where residents can discharge their waste into pits from a concrete floor. The waste will then be compacted into large capacity trailers (50 cubic metres) for transfer to a landfill disposal site.

It is anticipated that about 2000 tonnes of waste from the local government areas of Auburn, Parramatta, Burwood, Concord, Strathfield, Ashfield and Drummoyne will be received at the station per week.

Since January 1983, Council has resumed tipping at the Jamieson Street Tip; such tip will be exhausted by the end of 1983 and all wastes, including putrescible wastes taken by ratepayers, in small vehicles, will be received at the new Waste Transfer Station.

ABANDONED VEHICLES

Following promulgation of the Local Government (Abandoned Vehicles) Amendment Act 1982, major changes will occur in the removal of abandoned vehicles from Council's roads.

Formerly, if a vehicle was dumped on a public street in reasonable condition, Council could not take action until the vehicle had been partially or totally "stripped" and a certificate obtained from the police stating that the vehicle is no longer a motor vehicle within the meaning of the Motor Traffic Act.

The procedure now is that after giving three days notice to the police, an abandoned vehicle may be removed by Council and disposed of, or, in some cases, retained and sold to defray expenses.

A further amendment to the Local Government Act and to the Motor Traffic Act will create the offence of standing an unregistered vehicle, an incomplete or partially-constructed vehicle or the remains of a vehicle on a public street, a public reserve or certain council-controlled land.

Ratepayers are requested to co-operate with Council and to report as soon as possible the location of abandoned vehicles in order to deal more effectively with this problem.

VACATION PLAY CENTRES

Encouraged by the attendance at the vacation play centres during the Christmas holiday period at Auburn North and Berala Public Schools and the Japanese Gardens, Council, in conjunction with the Metropolitan West Regional Vacation Programme Committee, have, for the first time, approved of a vacation play centre during the May school holidays to be held at the Japanese Gardens.

RECEPTACLES FOR HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE

Council is currently considering the introduction of plastic, mobile garbage carts for the convenience of residents of the Municipality, with a view to providing a much improved standard of service in the collection of garbage.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following represents cases of infectious diseases notified to Council during the triennial period.

1981 — 1 Malaria

1982 — 1 Hepatitis; 1 Campylobacter Enteritis

1983 — 1 Campylobacter Enteritis

Infectious diseases notified to Council continued to fall in comparison with previous triennial periods reflecting the efforts of all associated with disease prevention.

IMMUNIZATION

	1981	1982	1983 up to 1/4/83
Sabin	2067	1984	505
Triple Antigen	1609	1609	419
CDT	658	810	197
Measles	205	289	53
Measles/Mumps	Nil	Nil	20

M-M-Vax (Measles and Mumps Virus Vaccine) is now available and replaces 'Rimevax' - measles vaccine.

Immunisation is a simple, effective and readily obtainable method of protecting children from catching dangerous diseases, such as; diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough, poliomyelitis, mumps or measles.

WHERE TO GO FOR IMMUNISATION

Your doctor or local council.

Council holds immunisation clinics one day each month in the Auburn Town Hall on scheduled days, between 10.00 am - 12.00 noon, 2.00 pm. - 3.30 pm. and 6.00 pm. - 8.00 pm. The service is free of charge.

MOBILE NURSING SERVICE

This service commenced in March 1962 continues to be in great demand and the dedicated attitude of the nursing staff results in a high standard of care and patient/nurse relations.

	Year Ended 1-4-81	Year Ended 1-4-82	Year Ended 1-4-83
Nursing calls	7628	7959	7388
Week-end calls	35	58	13
Social calls	44	21	38
Public holiday calls	17	14	10
Average No. of patients	93	99	95

BABY HEALTH CENTRES

1981	Under 1 year	1-2 years	over 2 years	Total
Auburn	4,601	246	655	5,502
Lidcombe	2,425	195	70	2,690
Regents Park	1,658	154	62	1,874
1982	Under 1 year	1-2 years	over 2 years	Total
Auburn	3,980	336	479	4,795
Lidcombe	2,330	168	99	2,597
Regents Park	1,389	121	59	1,569
1983 - up to 1/4/83	Under 1 year	1-2 years	over 2 years	Total
Auburn	762	22	48	832
Lidcombe	360	29	14	403
Regents Park	171	13	15	199

DAYS AND TIMINGS

Auburn — 649-8621

Monday & Wednesday — 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday — 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. &
2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.



Barbecue picnic area - Wilson Park



Playing fields and barbecue picnic area-Wilson Park.



Parking Station - Lidcombe.



Construction of additional amenities - Botanical Gardens.

Lidcombe — 649-7941

Tuesday — 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Thursday — 2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Regents Park — 644-7540

Monday — 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Wednesday — 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon

RED CROSS BLOOD BANK

Council maintains support for this cause by arranging four regular visits per year of the Red Cross to Auburn Town Hall to obtain donations.

The value of the blood bank cannot be over-emphasised and an appeal is made to the community for active support by becoming blood donors.

Enquiries may be made at the Council Chambers or at the Blood Bank's Sydney headquarters.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

During the triennial period it was necessary to institute legal proceedings on twenty five (25) occasions.

Penalties for parking of vehicles on footpaths were found necessary on 233 cases.

DOG REGISTRATIONS

The following table details the activities of Council in accordance with the provisions of the Dog Act, 1966 for the current triennial period.

	Registered	Impounded	Fees
1980/81	2,399	278	\$6,174.50
1981/82	2,060	260	\$9,276.00

LICENSES

	1981	1982	1983 - up to 1/4/83
Smallgoods	52	52	52
Barbers	36	35	8
Refreshment Rooms	84	89	23
Fruit Shops	32	29	5
Butcher Shops	31	28	—
Fish Shops	5	5	—
Unilluminated Signs	588	683	589
Illuminated Signs	312	295	252

BUILDING APPLICATIONS

The Building Department of Council treated a total of 1603 building applications during the triennial term (January and February 1983 only), such applications involving building work to the value of \$136,233,884.

CONCLUSION

The cordial relations which have continued to exist between Auburn Municipal Council and sporting and service clubs and the numerous community groups which form part of our every day life are acknowledged.

In this regard, gratitude is particularly expressed in respect to the co-operation enjoyed with the local parliamentarians, Messrs. Tom Uren, M.H.R. and Peter Cox, M.P. together with respective government departments and statutory bodies. I also express appreciation of the loyalty and efficiency of Council staff.

Electors are reminded of the importance of casting a vote at the municipal elections to be held in September next, particularly in view of the fact that voting is compulsory. Further, electors are reminded that voting now ceases at 6.00 p.m. and to avoid congestion of delays at polling booths, voters are advised to cast their vote early in the afternoon should it not be possible to vote earlier.

ALDERMAN T.H. KEEGAN, J.P.
MAYOR

FACTS FOR GENERAL INFORMATION

COUNCIL TELEPHONES

Office — 649-6011, 649-6012, 649-6013, 649-6014, 649-6015,
646-4578.

Swimming Centre — 649-9125

Public Golf Course — 649-9972

Municipal Libraries — Auburn, 649-6014; Lidcombe, 649-9387;
Regents Park, 644-7558.

Baby Health Centres — Auburn, 649-8621; Lidcombe, 649-7941;
Regents Park, 644-7540.

POSTAL ADDRESS

All correspondence should be addressed to the Town Clerk,
Municipality of Auburn, Box 118, P.O., Auburn, 2144 or Council
Chambers, Auburn.

OFFICE HOURS: 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

ELECTORS ENROLLED: 31,000

AREAS OF PARKS AND RESERVES: 153 hectares.

LOCAL MOBILE NURSING SERVICE

This service is located in the Council's Administrative Building,
Susan Street, Auburn, and can be contacted by ringing 649-6011,
Health Department, during ordinary office hours.

MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES

Auburn: Monday to Friday, 10.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m.;

Saturday, 9.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon.

Lidcombe & Regents Park: Monday, Wednesday and Friday,
10.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 10.00 a.m. to
6.00 p.m.; Saturday, 9.30 a.m. to 12.00 noon.

SWIMMING CENTRE, WYATT PARK, LIDCOMBE

Summer Swimming Season: October 1 to March 31 (tentative).

Hours open to public:

Monday to Saturday, 6.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Sunday, 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Monday to Friday, 6.00 a.m. to 7.00 p.m. during the months of
December, January and February.

Winter Swimming Season: April 1 to September 30 (tentative).

Hours open to public:

Monday to Friday, 7.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Saturday, 7.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

Closed Sunday.

MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE

Open every day except Christmas Day.

PARKING FACILITIES FOR SHOPPERS

All main shopping centres are subject to half-hour parking restrictions.

Adequate car parking facilities are available in Auburn, Lidcombe, Berala and Regents Park.

Accommodation for approximately 1050 vehicles is available at the undermentioned sites at all hours:—

Susan Street adjoining the public school 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.

South Parade — between Auburn Road and Harrow Road, adjacent to the Royal Hotel

Church Street Lidcombe — between Olympic Drive and railway station — angle parking.

Bridge Street, Lidcombe — at rear of hotel.

Off New Street, adjacent to Bridge Street.

Berala Shopping Centre.

Mary and John Street, Lidcombe — at rear of Court House.

Amy Street, Regents Park — at rear of shops, entrance from Regent Street.

Amy Street, Regents Park — entrance from Mimulus Lane.

AUBURN COMMUNITY AID & INFORMATION SERVICE

21 Harrow Road, Auburn, 649-9965

Auburn Community Aid Supplies:

Emergency Transport

Justice of the Peace Signing Service

Assistance with forms

Access to information

Visiting lonely and isolated people

Assistance with shopping

Welfare Assistance

 Emergency food assistance

 Arabic Welfare Officer (Monday)

 Turkish Welfare Officer (Wednesday)

Drop in for a cup of coffee and a chat.

The Centre always needs volunteers.

Find some new friends.

Home Care Service

 Home Care Service is available from these offices

 Monday, Thursday, Friday. Telephone 649-3931

OTHER MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY SERVICES

Fire, Police.....	000
Ambulance.....	2-0920
Police Stations	
Auburn.....	646-2444
Lidcombe.....	646-1444
Detectives.....	649-5852
Hospitals	
Auburn.....	649-0211
Lidcombe.....	646-8555
St. Joseph's.....	649-8941
Rydalmere Psychiatric.....	630-6333
Rape Crisis Centre.....	633-6333
Poisons Information.....	51-0466
Family Crisis Centre.....	622-0522
Drug & Alcohol Service.....	633-7134
Interpreter Service.....	221-1111
Life Line.....	635-9000
Youth Line.....	633-3666
Child Abuse Prevention.....	344-7646
Water/Sewerage.....	266-0266
Garbage (A.M.C.).....	649-6011
Disaster Welfare Information.....	622-8111
Dental Emergency.....	267-5919
After Hours Chemists	
Auburn.....	649-7465
Berala.....	646-3192
Lidcombe.....	649-7984
Parish Centre.....	646-2187
St. Vincent de Paul.....	646-4259

MEMORANDUM

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