



VICTORIAN INSTITUTE of RATE ADMINISTRATORS

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VIRA NEWS

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

After a two year stint as Vice President I have now taken on the mantle of President with a clear understanding of the high standard set not only by Geoff Fleming but also his predecessors.

Under Geoff's guidance the Institute has enhanced its reputation within Local Government particularly with our involvement on a number of Working Parties and continued emphasis on professional development.

After a year of the deferment of Parts 6, 7 and 8 of the 1989 Act the legislative changes have now been drafted and should be passed during the Spring session of Parliament. Members should therefore be starting to put to place the necessary changes and policies so that a smooth transition takes place on October 1, 1992.

Not all members can attend general meetings of the Institute during the year but everyone can contribute by supporting the Region nearest to their municipality. In this way your views can be conveyed back to the Committee and action taken on matters of particular concern. It is intended to have Institute representation at as many Region meetings as possible to promote this facility.

Elsewhere in this Newsletter is notice of, and invitation to the November Institute General Meeting at the Rural City of Bellarine's "The Springs".

I urge you to attend this meeting which will be preceded by a golf day and followed by dinner.

Members should also note the efforts of Bob Angus of the City of Albury to establish an Institute of Rate Administrators in NSW. I congratulate Bob and wish him and his NSW colleagues all the very best with the meeting on the 28 November next. Some members of our Executive have already expressed an interest in attending the meeting.

Trevor Riches (Secretary) and Kerry Hudson (Assistant Secretary) have both stood down from the Committee and on behalf of the members I wish to convey thanks for their contribution during the two years of service. At the same time I am pleased to welcome Bob Smart, City of St Kilda and Brian Hall, City

Newsletter Co-ordinator: Greg McCormick Ph: (03) 591 8640 Fax: (03) 591 8618

of Berwick to the ranks of the Committee and look forward to working with them during the ensuing year.

In closing I would also thank the Committee for their confidence in electing me to the ultimate position in the Institute and I will do my utmost to uphold the tradition set by

others in furthering the Institute in Local Government.

I look forward to seeing you at "The Springs" on 22 November next.

Cliff Wenlock
President

Members Name Badges

The Executive has requested that I investigate the introduction of Name Badges for all members. I have been able to negotiate with a supplier for the purchase and supply of Name Badges similar to those used by the Municipal Valuers Group.

The Institute will have to purchase 200 badges initially (logo only on blank), and then order fully engraved badges when numbers are sufficient. The cost to each member will be \$8.00, which includes postage.

Badges will have a white background, printed in blue ink with an alligator clip and safety pin attached. The badges will have a protective gloss over the front.

This is a further step towards making our Institute one of the leading Professional associations in the State.

All those members wanting to order a badge could you please complete the form below and return to the address as shown with your remittance for \$8.00.

Member Name

Block Letters Only

Municipality

Block Letters Only

Return to Mr N Grant
C/- Shire of Deakin
Mangan Street
TONGALA VIC 3621

Statement of Interest Rates as supplied by the Local Government Department

Year	Interest Rate
1980/81	12%
1981/82	14%
1982/83	14%
1983/84	15%
1984/85	16%
1985/86	17.25%
1986/87	17.25%
1987/88	17.25%
1988/89	17.25%
1989/90	20%
1990/91	20%
1991/92	16%

Notice of Regional Meeting

Geelong Region
Next Meeting 10.30 am 5 February, 1992, at Borough of Queenscliffe.

For further information please contact Alan Wise on (052) 53 0223.

"The Springs" General Meeting 22 November 1991

The following letter of invitation has been received from the Rural City Council of Bellarine.

Members wishing to attend are requested to make their intention known by registering with one of the following:

Bob Smart 536 1318
Geoff Fleming 567 3651

Gerry Pekin 481 9562
Alan Wise (052) 53 0223

I am writing to confirm our invitation to the VIRA to hold its General Meeting of 22 November at "The Springs", a reception and conference facility operated by Bellarine Rural City Council.

Date: Friday, 22 November, 1991

Time: 5.00 to 7.00 pm - Meeting Room with Tea, Coffee and Biscuits provided upon arrival.

7.00 to 9.00 pm - Function Room for evening meal. A 3 course/2 choice menu will be provided at a cost of \$20.00 per person which includes standard refreshments.

After 9.00 pm - Refreshments will still be available on a "user pays" basis.

Location: "The Springs", Spring Street, Clifton Springs, via Drysdale.

count will be forwarded after the function which is payable within one month. For catering purposes we will need an estimate of attendees by Monday, 18 November.

An 18 hole Golf Course forms part of "The Springs". Your members are quite welcome to use this prior to the meeting (at normal green fees). I have enclosed a sufficient quantity of brochures for you to send to each of your members which will assist in making the day a complete success.

Should any further information be required concerning this letter, please contact Mr A Wise, Revenue Manager, on telephone (052) 53 0223.

In order to make this proposal financially viable, a minimum of 30 guests are required to participate in the evening meal. An ac-

P L Wignall
Chief Administrative Officer

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Formation of NSW Rate Institute

The following letter from the City of Albury is reproduced here for the information of members and as an open invitation to attend the proposed meeting at Albury on 28 November 1991.

Those members who attended the annual country General Meeting last year would have met Bob Angus. Bob has since become a member of the VIRA, has seen the benefits the professional exchange of information and has taken the initiative to set up a "self help" group in NSW.

RE: RATE ADMINISTRATION

Albury City Council supports the desire of our Rate Manager to establish a forum where administration of the Local Government Act, as it relates to raising and collection of rates and associated charges, can be discussed.

It is proposed to establish a quarterly or biannual meeting of Rate Managers/Administrators where matters of procedure or legal interpretation of the Act etc can be discussed. The Victorian Institute of Rate Administrators supports the establishment of a similar organisation in New South Wales and will be in attendance at the inaugural meeting now being proposed.

Such a forum is considered overdue and will be particularly beneficial in a climate of significant change to the rating structure.

The proposed meeting would be most suited to officers involved in the day to day running of a Rate Section/Department. The initial meeting will primarily involve establishing a working party with guidelines to

ensure regular meetings. Discussion of specific rating problems will only occur if time permits.

The meeting is tentatively proposed for 2.30 pm on Thursday 28 November, 1991 in Albury. We would be pleased to gain your response to the following questions.

- Is another day of the week more suitable?*
- Does your Council support the establishment of a formal forum for interaction and self help by rate administrators?*
- How many rate officers would attend the proposed meeting in November?*

Please respond by 25 October 1991, so that interest in the concept can be gauged. More details including an agenda will be forwarded to all interested Councils prior to the meeting. If you have any queries please contact the Rates Manager Mr Bob Angus on (060) 238 129.

R O Stubbs
Chief Executive Officer

ODD SPOT

The following letter dated 16 August 1991 was received recently by the Health Surveyor at the City of Oakleigh from a local Solicitor.

Re: Shop 4, 12-18 Chester St Oakleigh.

We refer to your letter dated 11 January, 1988 and its enclosure. We now enclose our cheque in the sum of \$5.00 being your fee for searching the Food Premises Register for 1987. We apologise for the delay in paying this account.

The Rate Office has decided to start issuing Rate Certificates once again!

.....

What well known former Assistant Secretary recently turned 30? We are lead to believe that she was seen in drunken debauchery with scantily clad males that morning, with work colleagues, prior to reporting for duty. Although claiming to be completely surprised one wonders if Kerry is that stupid not to notice 30 others at breakfast.

MEETINGS 1991/92

Friday, 18 October, 1991
City of St Kilda, 4.00 pm Committee Meeting

Friday, 22 November, 1991
Bellarine Rural City Council 5.00 pm General Meeting

Wednesday, 5 February, 1992
City of Geelong, 2.00 pm 12 noon Lunch Committee Meeting

Friday, 21 February, 1992
City of Wangaratta, 11.00 am General Country

Thursday, 16 April, 1992
City of Berwick, 2.00 pm Committee

Wednesday, 14 May, 1992
City of Hawthorn, 4.00 pm General

Wednesday, 17 June, 1992
City of Croydon, 4.00 pm Budget

Friday 31 July, 1992
City of Knox, 6.00 pm AGM

Life Fellow

At the Annual General Meeting held at Nunawading on Friday July 5 Murray Hockey (City of Sandringham) was bestowed the highest honour given by the Institute by being made a Life Fellow.

Murray is only the second person to be given this honour, the other being Lance Collins. It was fitting that Lance was at the meeting to formally present Murray with his certificate.

Murray was a founding Committee member and served continuously until July 1990,

Congratulations

Congratulations to Russell Hodges & Jill Cousins who were recently married 29/8/91 (to each other). It is amazing what good clean country living can do for you - or is it just old age.

a period of 12 years. During this time Murray served as Secretary, the first for the Institute and President in 1979-80 and again from 1982-86.

Added to this is involvement in a number of Government Working Parties, including: Adult Franchise Bill; Fire & Emergency Services Levy; Electoral Procedures Review Committee; Local Government Bill; and Municipal Restructuring.

Due to his work and professionalism on these and continuing involvement with the then Local Government Department, the MAV and other professional bodies, Murray's and the Institute's position in Local Government are held in high regard.

The members of the VIRA also hold Murray in high regard and congratulate him on achieving such a prestigious award.

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VIRA COMMITTEE 1991/92

Clifford Wenlock (FVIRA) City of Geelong PO Box 104 GEELONG 3220	(052) 22 3477 (052) 21 5624 Facsimile	PRESIDENT
Geoffrey Fleming (FVIRA) City of Oakleigh PO Box 21 OAKLEIGH 3166	567 3651 568 1690 Facsimile	SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
Brian Hall (MVIRA) City of Berwick PO Box 1000 NARRE WARREN 3805	705 5235 704 9544 Facsimile	JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT
Robert Smart (FVIRA) City of St Kilda Private Bag 3 ST KILDA 3182	536 1366 534 9105 Facsimile	STATE SECRETARY
Dale Muir (MVIRA) City of Knox, Civic Centre 511 Burwood Highway KNOXFIELD 3180	881 8210 800 3096 Facsimile	MINUTES SECRETARY
Martin King (MVIRA) City of Croydon PO Box 206 CROYDON 3136	724 3288 725 2354 Facsimile	TREASURER
Noel Grant (FVIRA) City of Deakin Shire Offices, Mangan Street TONGALA 3621	(058) 58 2505 (058) 58 2406 Facsimile	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
Greg McCormick (MVIRA) City of Brighton PO Box 21 BRIGHTON 3186	591 8640 591 8618 Facsimile	NEWSLETTER CO-ORDINATOR
Gerald Pekin (FVIRA) City of Northcote 189 High Street NORTHCOTE 3070	481 9562 482 5172 Facsimile	ASSISTANT NEWSLETTER CO-ORDINATOR

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