

# RECOGNISING RANELAGH

May 2011

## Welcome

Are you aware that you live in a historically significant part of the Mornington Peninsula?

Ranelagh Estate was listed on the Victorian Heritage Register in 2005, acknowledged for its town planning design by the noted American landscape architect Walter Burley Griffin and his wife Marion Mahoney Griffin, supported by Saxil Tuxen – who worked in conjunction with the Griffins and was instrumental in realising the town plan for the Estate. Ranelagh Estate is one of the largest realised town plans prepared by the Griffins, who also designed Canberra.

Ranelagh Estate retains many of the original features of the Griffin design including the numerous reserves, distinctive avenue trees and curving roads.

Such a large and complex heritage area requires good planning to protect its special qualities. Current challenges include maintaining

reserves and street trees, protecting streetscapes, establishing walking paths and installing interpretive signage.

Mornington Peninsula Shire, in conjunction with a reference group of Mount Eliza residents and experienced heritage consultants, developed the Ranelagh Estate Conservation Management Plan (CMP) to ensure consistent management of the Estate.

The Shire is working closely with a group of residents to enact the recommendations of the Conservation Management Plan.

Ranelagh Estate is a very special place – and I encourage you to become involved in the activities underway.

Leigh Eustace,  
Mount Eliza Ward Councillor



## Ranelagh meeting – June 4

Mount Eliza Ward Councillor Leigh Eustace invites the community to an information session to discuss plans for managing vegetation within Ranelagh Estate. Join your local Councillor, Shire Officers and landscape planners to learn more about preparing a Vegetation Management Plan.

### Ranelagh Community Meeting – Vegetation Management

Saturday June 4, 2011, 9.30–11.30am

Mount Eliza Community Centre

For more information please see page 2,  
or call the Shire on: 1300 850 600.

## Ward meeting – June 15

Councillor Leigh Eustace invites all residents, businesses and ratepayers to attend a Mount Eliza Ward Meeting from 7.30 – 9.30PM on June 15, at Mount Eliza Community Centre. The meeting will involve general discussion about what's happening around the Ward including drainage, planning, heritage, capital works, budget considerations and issues raised by attendees.

Mount Eliza Ward Meeting – all welcome

Wednesday June 15, 2011, 7.30–9.30pm

Mount Eliza Community Centre

To RSVP and advise of any items you would like to raise or discuss at the meeting, please call 5950 1428 or email [Councillor.Support@mornpen.vic.gov.au](mailto:Councillor.Support@mornpen.vic.gov.au)

# TREES AND VEGETATION

Ranelagh Estate features distinctive long, curved roads, recreation reserves, internal reserves and spacious triangular traffic islands that have been designed to harmonise with the area and its vegetation.

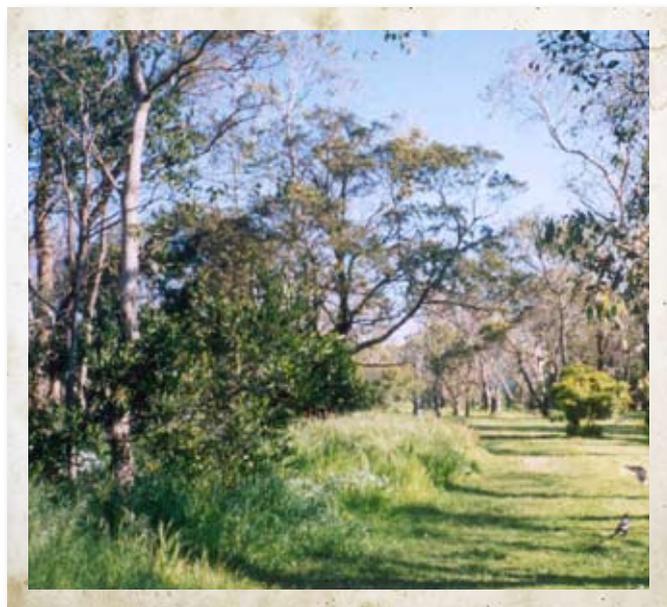
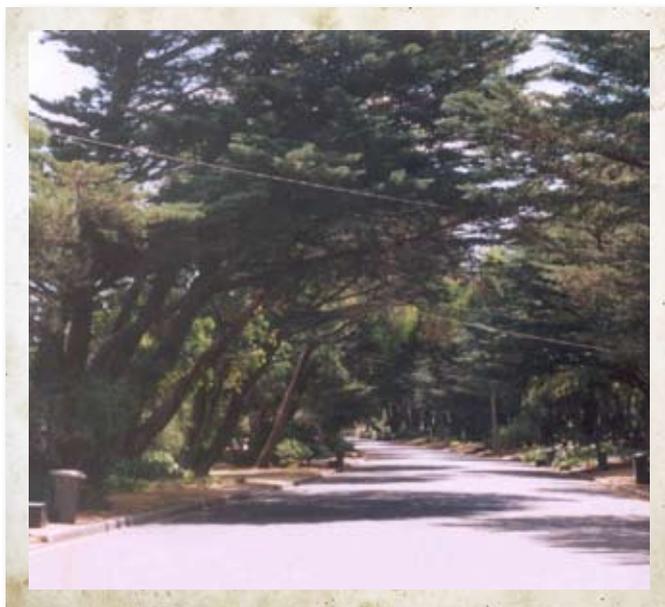
The environmental principles of the design were ahead of their time, and may even still be considered modern today.

Ranelagh Estate is significant for its planting of the rare avenue of alternating Monterey Cypress and Tuart trees along Wimbledon Avenue, as well as other magnificent plantings such as the Monterey Pines and Golden Cypress at the Rannoch Avenue

traffic island, and three fine *Cupressus glabra* growing on the nature strip.

As the existing trees age, they will eventually require removal and replacement. Important decisions must be made now about the process of this succession planting. A Vegetation Management Plan is being developed for the management and future succession of the trees and vegetation of Ranelagh Estate.

Mornington Peninsula Shire has engaged landscape planners Mike Smith & Associates to assist in the development of the plan. It is vital that you, the residents, be involved in these decisions.



## Nature strips: heritage permits

Ranelagh Estate's nature strips provide an outstanding example of 'garden suburb' design, and this is why they are heritage listed with Heritage Victoria.

This means that many works on nature strips require a heritage permit from Heritage Victoria as well as permits from Council.

**So when is a permit required, and how do you get one?**

As the owner of the nature strips, only Council can apply to Heritage Victoria for a permit. If you are a resident of Ranelagh Estate and would like to undertake any work that may affect your nature strip – please contact Council's Heritage Planner on: 5950 1928 for more information. *Some actions do not need a heritage permit, although Council permits may still be required. Please contact Council to discuss your plans.*

### Nature Strips Fact File

A copy of the Ranelagh Estate Nature Strips Fact File can be downloaded from [www.mornpen.vic.gov.au](http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au) under Your Property > Heritage > Ranelagh Estate. Please contact Simon Lloyd on: 5950 1961 if you require a hardcopy.

## Ranelagh Community Meeting – Vegetation Management

Saturday June 4, 2011, 9.30–11.30am  
Mount Eliza Community Centre

For more information please see page 1, or call the Shire on: 1300 850 600

# A PLAN FOR RANELAGH'S FUTURE

The Ranelagh Conservation Management Plan is a working document that sets the strategic direction for preserving and maintaining the unique character of Ranelagh Estate.

The Plan was adopted by Council in August 2009 and since then the Shire has been working with representatives of the community to implement policies to protect and conserve the Estate's heritage significance.

Themes of the plan include recognising and conserving heritage values, managing vegetation, enhancing access and use, presenting and interpreting the estate and communication and consultation.

A copy of the CMP for Ranelagh Estate can be downloaded from [www.mornpen.vic.gov.au](http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au) under Your Property > Heritage > Ranelagh Estate. Please contact Simon Lloyd on: 5950 1961 if you require a hardcopy.



## Activities around the Estate

Working with the community, the Shire is currently planning and implementing a number of activities including:

- 'Ranelagh' Entry signage
- Nature strip fact sheet information
- Vegetation Management Plan
- Improvements to Howard Parker Reserve
- Options for interpretive signage, or a walking trail
- Fact Sheet on vehicle crossing specifications

We will keep you up-to-date on the progress of these actions.

## New entry signage

A new sign has been erected at the entrance to Ranelagh Estate. Pictured here are (L-R): Mount Eliza Ward Councillor Leigh Eustace, Meg Breidahl, Jenelle Curtin and Peter Greer. Absent: Diane Dick.



The sign indicates to both residents and visitors the history of Ranelagh Estate's development, and details its significance as a place of great heritage value. The sign is located on Ranelagh Drive, where the original gateway to the Estate is believed to have been located.

## Howard Parker Reserve

Howard Parker was a local resident of Mount Eliza, and was instrumental in the development of the Community Centre. Lot F was jointly purchased by Mornington and Frankston Councils and was later named Howard Parker Reserve in his memory.

Today Howard Parker Reserve is used for a range of sporting and recreational activities.

The Shire has a program of works planned to improve the reserve's facilities.

Improvements planned include:

- New picnic and playground area
- Expanded car parking
- New walking path around the oval

- Tennis 'hit-up' wall
- Golf practice cage
- New BBQ area and shelter

The works are currently awaiting Heritage Victoria approval, and are proposed as part of the Shire's Long Term Recreation Master Plan Implementation Program.

The provision of recreational opportunities in the reserve is guided by the strategic direction outlined in the Howard Parker Reserve Master Plan, which was adopted by Council in 2007.

For more information please contact Chris Munro, Recreation Strategic Projects - Mornington Peninsula Shire on: 5950 1765.



Above: Mount Eliza Community Centre, at Howard Parker Reserve.

## Get involved

From filling out a survey, to maintaining heritage features, or working with the Shire – you can help preserve and maintain Ranelagh Estate.

If you'd like to join a bushland 'friends group' to assist with some of the natural history of Ranelagh (weeding, rubbish collection, planting, researching etc) please contact:

- Friends of Earimil Creek
- Friends of JT Smith Reserve
- Mount Eliza Coast Care
- Mount Eliza Association for Environmental Care

For any of the above contact [president@meafec.asn.au](mailto:president@meafec.asn.au) or alternatively ring 5950 1263 and ask for the Conservation Officer for Mount Eliza.

More information will also be available from the Shire's website: [www.mornpen.vic.gov.au](http://www.mornpen.vic.gov.au) under Your Property, Heritage, Ranelagh Estate.

*For more information about the activities of the Shire and the Conservation Management Plan, please call the Shire's Strategic Planning Unit on: 5950 1928.*

*Diane Dick (9787 0468) and Peter Greer (9787 7984) are the Community Representatives working with the Shire on this project. Should you have any queries or would like to be involved, please do not hesitate to contact them.*