

## Parks and Reserves Manager's Report – June 2009

### Victoria Park

Time is being spent on tree and shrub pruning; we have an Arborist doing the main trees along Naylor Street. Leaf collecting, weeding and garden hoeing continuing. Preparation of plants for the summer display is being attended to with thinning out of the geranium and begonia seedlings.

### Seddon Square

A number of the oak and conifer trees have old and broken branches; these have been attended to by the Arborist.

The graffiti on the band rotunda and main gates has been removed, if members of the public notices graffiti on any property please advise Council and the Police.

### Urban Reserves

Council staff has carried out the annual pollarding of the Fraxinus Trees (Common Ash) on Naylor Street, this is done to keep the shape of the trees and stop branches growing through the power lines.



Pollarded Fraxinus Tree in Naylor Street

### Knottingley Park

Preparation for planting in the Russian area at the end of June is underway. Details will be advertised in the local Advertiser paper when arrangements are finalised. The Arborist has also been working on some of the trees in the formal area. Leaf collection continues in the formal area of the park.

Local schools have held their annual cross country sports day and there has been some complimentary comments on how attractive the park looks and what an asset it is to Waimate.

### **White Horse**

Public concern has been expressed about the safety aspect of the White Horse parking area. This is an ongoing problem as vandals keep destroying the posts, chain fence and even the picnic tables. We are investigating other barrier options that are more vandal proof like large rocks for this area.

The repainting of the horse is an ongoing saga from mindless individuals who continue to deface our landmark. Service clubs and council staff utilise a lot of their time removing the unwanted paintwork from the horse. A working bee is to be held soon with the Rotary Club, thanks to them for their time and manpower to maintain this area.

Many tourists, locals and visitors to Waimate visit the White Horse to admire the views; unfortunately the mindless individuals who deface this area also give a bad impression of our town.

### **Otaio Cemetery**

After the old macracapra hedge was removed, preparation of the ground was undertaken to replant with native plants at the end of June.

It was pleasing to receive a letter from a member of the public visiting the cemetery complimenting the Parks and Reserves staff on the improvements undertaken at this cemetery.

**Graeme Watts**  
**Parks and Reserves Manager**