

NEWSLINE

MAY 2019

MAYOR'S COLUMN



Mayor Craig Rowley

Prior to Easter we were fortunate to host the Minister of Local Government, Hon Nanaia Mahuta.

We invited the Minister to visit the Waimate District so we could discuss with her the issues surrounding the provision of safe drinking water in rural areas such as Waimate.

As you'll know, there has been a lot of discussion at a national level about providing safe drinking water across the country. Much of this discussion has resulted from the Havelock North drinking water contamination. We've raised concerns about the possibility of a single organisation taking responsibility for drinking supplies around New Zealand and believe a 'one size fits all' approach will not work.

During her visit we toured some of the rural water supplies, pointing out the intricacies of providing safe drinking water in a rural setting.

We're pleased with how well the visit went, welcoming the opportunity to discuss local issues with the Minister which she will now take back to her colleagues in Wellington.

We look forward to following the progress and will keep you updated as more information comes to light.

ROADING ROUNDUP

The lifeblood of our district, roads are an important part of our infrastructure and maintaining and upgrading them is a key priority for our team.

During March chipseal repairs have been made, metal added and new surface water channels have been constructed to keep water off roads that can cause damage and form hazards during flooding. The final unsealed section of Horseshoe Bend Road has also been sealed. Here's some other highlights:

Rebuilt roads

- Lower Hook Road (between d'Auvergues Road and Wilsons Road)
- Hornells Road (between SH1 and Morven Road)
- Bluecliffs Road (between Greys Crossing Road and Lyalldale Road).



Hornells Road



Lower Hook Road

RADIANCE OF AUTUMN COLOURS

As the summer months disappear and autumn takes hold, there's still plenty of natural beauty in our parks and reserves.

Victoria Park will soon have autumn/winter flowers on display – pansies, poppies, and polyanthus have been carefully nurtured in trays by Council staff and will be planted very soon. A walk around the park will definitely be a visual symphony for the eyes!

Autumn is also a magnificent time for the many types of trees found in **Knottingley Park & Arboretum**. The autumn hues are in abundance so consider taking a wander through this park. Friends of Knottingley Park have been working alongside Council staff at monthly working bees. Trees in the maple and formal tree areas have been trimmed, mulching will be on-going around younger trees, and new trees will be planted in the west end of the cricket ground area in August or September as a project with Friends of Knottingley Park and schools.



Autumnal colours at Knottingley Park & Arboretum



Pansies, poppies and polyanthus will soon be planted in Victoria Park

HARRY THE TURTLE POPS IN

Making a special guest appearance during the school holidays was Harry the Turtle. Harry and his owner, Kathy, visited the Waimate District Library and was met with plenty of enthusiasm by a large group of youngsters. The 15 year old turtle wandered around, quite happy to be gently patted and picked up when he ventured a little too far away!

