

THE ART OF CONVERSATION

MARCH 2016

GRAVEL TRIAL PROVES SUCCESSFUL

A recent trial of five different gravels has produced some promising results and could see a new type of gravel being used on the District's roads.

The Council's roading team carried out the six-week trial on Gilchrist Road, near Waikaka Valley. It involved laying 100m long sections with about 40 cubic metres of gravel from five sources. There was also a control section.

Roading Officer Paul Williamson said the aim was to see if there were better options for the District's gravel roads than the riverbed gravel used in the past.

"We were looking for something more robust, cost effective and also safer for motorists. About 11,000 cubic metres of gravel is put on the

District's roads each year, so getting the right mix is important."

During the trial the sections were regularly inspected for such things as potholing, rutting, and dust.

Three of the five trial gravels performed exceptionally well, Mr Williamson said. One had clay properties, which are particularly beneficial.

"When you crush gravel with clay properties you get a product that binds and holds its shape."

This creates a gravel road surface that is safer, more comfortable to drive on, and doesn't pothole as quickly.

The Council is presently working through the logistics of using the new gravel type across the roading network.

EASTER WHEELIE BIN COLLECTION FOR GORE AND MATAURA RESIDENTS

There will be no recycling or rubbish collection on Good Friday, 25 March. If your collection day is Friday, please place your bin/s out on Saturday 26 March for collection.

There will be no recycling and rubbish collections on Easter Monday, 28 March. For the week starting Monday 28 March, recycling and rubbish collections will be one day later than normal for the week, e.g. Monday collections will take place on Tuesday, Tuesday collections will take place on Wednesday, and so on with Friday collections taking place on Saturday. Normal collections will resume on Monday 4 April.

If you see your neighbours have put their bins out when there's no collection, please share this message with them.



EASTER HOURS

Please note some of the Council's facilities will be closed, or have reduced hours, on Tuesday 29 March for Southland Anniversary Day.

If you have an emergency during Easter please phone 209 0330 for our after-hours service.

Civic Centre office, in Gore, and the Mataura Service Centre/Library

Closed from 5.00pm Thursday 24 March until 8.30am Wednesday 30 March.

Gore Library

Closed from Good Friday through to Wednesday 30 March.

Gore Visitor Centre

Closed: Good Friday

Open: Saturday 26 March 9.30am to 4.00pm. Sunday 27 March, Easter Monday and Tuesday 29 March 1.00pm to 4.00pm

Gore Aquatic Centre/MLT Event Centre

Closed: Good Friday

Open: Saturday 26 March 9.00am to 6.00pm. Sunday 27 March 10.00am to 6.00pm. Easter Monday 1.00pm to 5.00pm. Tuesday 29 March 1.00pm to 5.00pm.

Mataura Pool

Closed: Good Friday, Easter Monday and Southland Anniversary Day (Tuesday 29 March)

Open: Saturday 26 March and Easter Sunday 1.00pm to 5.00pm

Eastern Southland Gallery

Closed: Good Friday

Open: Saturday 26 March, Sunday 27 March, Easter Monday 1.00pm to 4.00pm. Tuesday 29 March 10.00am to 4.30pm

Gore Transfer Station

Closed: Good Friday and Easter Monday

WINTER IS COMING

From Sunday 3 April the Gore Transfer Station will change to its winter opening hours. These are:

- Monday to Friday 10.30am to 5.00pm
- Saturday 10.30am to 4.00pm
- Sunday 12noon to 4.00pm

SHARE YOUR BOOK PASSION – PUT A STICKER ON IT



If you've read a book you've really enjoyed, no doubt others will too.

Share your opinion with other readers by asking a librarian to put a *Reader Recommended* sticker on the cover.

Or submit a written review by email to gorelibraries@goredc.govt.nz and staff may select it to share on the library website www.gorelibraries.govt.nz

Include the book title, author, short story outline and what you loved about it.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

The Council has the following meetings coming up, in the Council chambers, 29 Civic Avenue:

Wednesday 30 March, 7.30pm

- Council meeting

Tuesday 19 April, 4.00pm

- Community Services Committee, followed by
- Operations Committee, followed by
- Regulatory and Planning Committee, followed by
- Finance and Policy Committee

A reasonable supply of agendas will be available on the Council's website www.goredc.govt.nz, at our offices, and District libraries.

NEW RULES FOR MANAGING FOOD SAFETY

If you make cheese rolls to fundraise or operate a B&B, then the new food safety rules may apply to you.

The rules came into effect at the start of this month, however, there is a three year transition period for existing food businesses.

The Council's senior Regulatory Officer Frances Shepherd said about 80 businesses in the Gore District fall into the transition period.

"We will work with these businesses and any new ones to make sure the roll out of the new regulations is as smooth as possible."

The Food Act 2014 takes a new approach to managing food safety and recognises

that not all businesses are the same, Mrs Shepherd said.

One of the features is a sliding scale where businesses that are higher risk, from a food safety point of view, will operate under more stringent food safety requirements than a lower-risk business.

Mrs Shepherd said she appreciates it may appear a bit confusing to start with, but the Ministry for Primary Industries has several excellent online tools to help people.

These can be found via the Council's website www.goredc.govt.nz or at www.mpi.govt.nz

Anyone with questions is welcome to phone Mrs Shepherd at 03 209 0330.

YOU could be our next ...

GORE DISTRICT AMBASSADOR

and 'fly the District flag' in 2016

\$3,500+ prize package including a return trip to Tamworth with spending money

ENTRIES CLOSE: Thursday 7 April, 5.00pm

AWARDS GALA NIGHT: Thursday 26 May, 7.00pm, Heartland Hotel Croydon



For entry details and ticket information visit www.goredc.govt.nz



Being the Gore Ambassador has challenged, amazed and inspired me"

Nicole Parry - 2015 Ambassador