**Essays on Mount Crosby - Trees in Road Easements**

Out front of the school, between the set-down laneway and Mount Crosby Road, there are several large trees in a line that give the appearance they might have been planted that way. But no, they were planted by their mother, not a human hand, and they are a good example of something surprising to observe; that the road easements of our town often provide the best remnant vegetation to illustrate something of what was there in the first place.

I write here mainly of the older roads where easements were generous in their width and, if not called upon, had the effect of preserving approximate cross-sections of remnant vegetation from the pressures of timber cutters, farmers or developers.

At their regular spacing of several metres, the school's lined-up gum topped box and forest red gums make their own argument that the school ground, before it was Powell's Paddock, was likely populated with similar trees in equal distribution.

There are numerous other places that provide an opportunity to make your own theories about what the road easement vegetation says. I encourage you to make your own study as you drive along; it's so convenient and you will begin to discover many old wooden friends that have been preserved in this way.

Col Hester