



MORE WORK: Rotary Club of Newcastle Enterprise president Julia Brougham points out graffiti behind Mayfield Superstrike.

Graffiti given the boot

By **CHRISTAL BRAND**

PARTS of Newcastle will undergo a facelift thanks to the Rotary Club of Newcastle Enterprise volunteers and community members.

Mayfield Superstrike and Newcastle Velodrome will receive some much-needed attention as a part of statewide Graffiti Removal Day. The Rotary Club and Mayfield Business Association have been

working together to keep on top of graffiti in the area.

Rotary Club of Newcastle Enterprise president Julia Brougham said the amount of graffiti in Mayfield had decreased in the past few years.

"We try to keep on top of it and when their tags get painted over they get frustrated and go do something else," Mrs Brougham said.

This will be the third year

the club has taken part in the campaign.

She said graffiti sometimes provided a moral dilemma because not all of it was considered ugly.

She said when it was obvious someone had put effort into colour and design, it moved from the realm of graffiti to street art.

Graffiti tends to be single-colour tags or, as Mrs Brougham put it, "scribbles".

Abandoned buildings,

fences and walls are the most common targets.

Residents can nominate areas that need to be cleaned in their communities.

Graffiti Removal Day is on Sunday, October 26.

For more information or to nominate a site go to graffitiremovalday.org.au.

There will be a question and answer session at The Commons in Hamilton on Thursday, October 9, from 6pm to 7pm.

Traffic spy to world forum

By **MARK CONNORS**

NEWCASTLE City Council will send a delegation to the Cisco Internet of Things World Forum in Chicago to show off technology it has been trialling on Darby Street.

The council has been working with VIMOC Technologies and Newcastle Now, trialling the first stage of The Kaooma Project, tracking the movements of cars and pedestrians and the weather using sensors.

Collected data has been used by local businesses to monitor traffic on the street as well as manage their own staffing levels.

Stage two of the project is about to start, and will involve monitoring carbon dioxide emissions, interactive lighting and smart signage.

The council's delegation will include general manager Ken Gouldthorp, community safety facilitator Nathaniel Bavinton and deputy lord mayor Brad Luke. While the council will pay \$14,000 for Mr Gouldthorp and Mr Bavinton to attend, Cr Luke has decided to pay for his own airfares.

Cr Nuatali Nelmes said it was great to see the council supporting innovative ideas to bring life into Newcastle's CBD.

She said delays in the roll-out of the National Broadband Network in the CBD had become a sore point for many businesses.

She said ideas such as the Kaooma Project gave small local business incentive to stay in Newcastle and not move to areas with better broadband.

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