

EXOTIC TREE: 52
SPECIES: *Erythrina caffra*.
COMMON NAME(S): South African Coral Tree.
B.B CATEGORY: Exotic Historic Tree - Local Interest.

ORIGINAL READINGS

LOCATION: Corner of Ridge Lane and Rogan Street.
DATE MEASURED: 1969
HEIGHT: 38 ft (11.6 m)
CANOPY SPREAD: 50 ft (15.25 m)
DBH: 49 in (1.245 m)
BURSTALL'S NOTES: Believed to be planted by Robert Snell in 1871 near the site of a blockhouse. A rare tree in New Zealand and the largest recorded.

CURRENT READINGS

UPDATED LOCATION: Ridge Lane and Rogan St intersection, surrounded by a small bed of agapanthus.
DATE MEASURED: 12th January 2001
HEIGHT: 13.2 m
CANOPY SPREAD: 18.1 m
DBH: 1.506 m
REMARKS: Moderate to poor health with the canopy on the easterly side showing signs of dieback and producing lighter coloured, smaller leaves. Numerous lower limbs have been removed, two of the most significant at 1.7 m, the largest measuring 55 cm x 40 cm. The cavity from this wound was sealed around 1970 with polyurethane foam, which is used in the manufacture of surfboards. The smaller has poor callus wood formation and decay is present. The existing lower limbs display signs of vehicle damage.
The majority of the roots are covered with tarmac and have created a huge amount of heaving on the road surface. This specimen has done well to survive for so many years (**Fig. 115**).



Fig. 115