CREDIT WHERE IT’S DUE

Gerry Wood, Independent Member for Nelson, says there has been some welcome announcements in the rural area in the budget. Gerry says he lobbied the Government for a number of things in his electorate and the budget has delivered on two important improvements and an important announcement for Taminmin College.

Firstly there will be $15m spent on upgrading and sealing sections of the Gunn Point Road. This road is popular with people fishing at Leaders Creek and Salt Water Arm, those visiting Gunn Point beach as well as residents living at Tree Point. The road is heavily used especially on weekends and this upgrade will improve the safety for motorists but also reduce expensive maintenance costs. This project will be over two years starting next year.

Secondly the Government is going to spend $1.5m continuing the cycle path along the old railway line from Howard Springs to Coolalinga. This will be of great benefit to not only locals but to the many recreational riders from Palmerston and Darwin that presently use the existing path. This use of the old railway line also has the secondary benefit of preserving some of our history from the late 1800’s and that is important too.

Thirdly there is $10m for a new two story science building with 8 classrooms and eight general learning centres at Taminmin College and is most welcome. Congratulations must go to the Taminmin School Council and Minister Higgins and local members who have put a great effort into lobbying the Government for this upgrade. The $10m does show a Government commitment to education in the rural area and that is appreciated.