

MG Manawatu Breakfast Run

Saturday 15th June 2024

An enthusiastic bunch of 25 (11 MG's) comprising Sandy and Trev, Ian and Sue Bailey, John and Anne, Liz and Neil, Lindsay and Bobbie, Alan and Robyn, Paul and Josie, Viv and John, Graeme and Robyn, Robert and Joanne, Helen, Catherine, John Edwards and ourselves, gathered at the Coach House Museum around 9.15am for a catchup and a cooked breakfast. A great way to start the run with much chatter over sausages, bacon, scrambled eggs and a variety of other treats in the breakfast buffet.



Before we left the Museum Sandy gave us some fun facts about our next stop, the new Gorge development road. Since asphaltting started in early May, about 5,000 tonnes has been laid on the highway, mostly at the western end of the site. With the volume of Asphalt required an Asphalt plant is being established on site from July.

Robert lead our convoy through the centre of Feilding and on to Colyton Road, taking in some interesting country roads as we made our way to Ashhurst.

We all found a spot at the Manawatū-Tararua Highway carpark and ventured up the walkway to take in the view of the new road development.

It is impressive, looking over the 300-metre-long Parahaki Bridge where good progress is being made to finish this major structure. The project's landscapers have already planted more than 55,000 plants, the estimated total number of plants on completion is 1.8 million.



Next stop was the Palmerston North Esplanade. Sandy organised a tour for us at the WildBase Recovery Centre, a specialist centre providing shelter and care for native wildlife recovering after treatment at Massey University's WildBase Hospital.



Our Tour Guide was interesting and very knowledgeable. He took us through the Centre pointing out native birds on the recovery program, explaining the centre's role in collaboration between Palmerston North City Council and Massey University's Veterinary School.

After flying the coup and leaving the birds behind we made our way to the Esplanade Scenic Railway Station where we purchased our tickets and boarded the train. The track is 2.2km long, and the ride is approximately 20 minutes, we travelled through native bush and secluded areas of the Victoria Esplanade, waving like excited children to other visitors around the gardens. Nothing like revisiting your childhood, a lot of fun!



Thanks to Sandy and Trevor for organising a great event that was enjoyed by all.

Robyn and Steve