

New Zealand Police Museum Visit

Saturday 20th August 2022

Around 30 people attended Rob Illingworth's run to the Royal New Zealand Police College to visit their museum. Most left from the Countdown carpark in Awapuni, whilst the ones from Wanganui and Levin joined us at Ohau, others met us at the museum. Before departure Rob split the group into two as the museum wasn't large enough to cater for all of us at once. Group 1 went straight to the Museum upon arrival at the Police College in Porirua while group 2 went to the nearby Gear Homestead café for brunch. The groups swapped after the group 1 tour concluded.

The trip down was uneventful apart from periods of torrential rain, mist, fog and cloud where windscreen wipers on the 'B's' were seen 'slappin' time' to 'Me and Bobby McGee'. Going across transmission gully, there is an unconfirmed report that a passenger in a 'B' was fiddling with the dashboard controls and turned the wipers off resulting in the lady driver losing sight of the approaching surface flooding. The resultant spectacle provided great entertainment to those following. No damaged done. After travelling the first section of the new highway, one or two exited at the Pauatahanui interchange and travelled around the inlet to the College whilst the majority took the Waitanagra exit and travelled down the hill that way.



Our 1-hour tour of the Museum was undertaken by tour guide Kate who was very good, particularly as this was her first week in the role. Kate spoke to displays such as; the 19th century mug shots, 1981 springbok tour, Air NZ Mt Erebus crash (body recovery), women in the Police, evidence collection and the Armed Offenders Squad. The museum is excellently presented, plenty of room to move about and with clarity in the displays. It is well worth the little extra to take the guided tour.

After the completion of group 2's tour our run concluded and we made our own way home as it suited. Thank you, Rob, for a well-run trip and the organisation required for its success.

Robyn & Steve