

MG MANAWATU ECONOMY RUN JULY 19TH

Our first event held since Covid 19 and lockdown and it was an Economy run organised by Robert and Lynn Heath and helpers.

The time was set to meet at 12.30pm at the Coach House Museum. As I know we have many member spread around the lower half of the North Island I spoke to Robert and John regarding organising a lunch at the newly renovated Murrays Irish Bar for those that were travelling and any locals that would like to come.

Twenty of us met for the \$12-00 lunch menu which was served quickly once we were seated and we were able to be out by 12.20pm. I think those at the luncheon were impressed with the renovated bar, I used to work in that building when it was the National Bank branch for 28 years on and off when I was not working at other branches. The builders and business owners have done a great job of renovating and providing much needed additional space.

We all moved down to the Coach House Museum foyer where Lynn Heath met us and advised we had to enter our registration number and car on a clipboard.

Once we had all arrived (18 cars) Robert and his helpers gave us a briefing of what to expect. He would see us off at one minute intervals.

We had been told we needed to arrive with full petrol tanks.

Trev and I were first off and I was navigating and saw the next instruction after turning out of the Coach House Museum and into KawaKawa Road was to turn left in the Feilding Transfer station (a no exit road) what?? As we drove down the lane we began to see what was happening, one of Robert's helpers directed us to drive on to the Manawatu Council's weigh station, at this point the other helper Robert's brother Vernon then wrote down our weight car and occupants!!

From there we turned on to Awahuri Road and left at Lees Road and joined the Mt Biggs/Halcombe Road, turning right then left into Ngaio Road.

At the top of that road we turned right and joined the road leading up to State Highway One. We then turned right and headed into Marton where we drove into Marton, and continued along Tutaenui Road heading towards Mt Curl, then rejoining State Highway One. From there we turned left at Porewa Road (hard to find that one) and continued on eventually coming back to State Highway One. We returned via Kakariki road and went left into Prices Line venturing further around the backblocks of the Manawatu

coming to the Cheltenham intersection where we turned right into Kimbolton Road. It was exactly a two hour run in lovely sunny MG weather great scenery and roads. Exactly what the MG driver and navigator needed after our long lockdown.

We were told in our instructions that once we entered the 50km in Feilding we were to find the petrol station of our choice and fill the tank up again and retain the document to hand in at the end.

We duly did this and eventually all 18 of us were back where we started. Robert Wilson and Chris were last to go and it took them a long time to come back.

Lynn had the afternoon tea arranged for us, we all provided a plate and a huge afternoon tea was available. Much social chatting and catching up.

Robert then gave us the results he and his helpers had calculated for us and these are featured on our website. Interestingly Robert Wilson and Chris came first. We were very happy with our result 4th and 48.7 mp per gallon in the MG TF.

Thanks to Robert and Lynn and the two helpers, this run took a lot of time to organise and everyone appreciated the work that had gone into making it a great day out.

Robyn and Alan the organisers of our next run were on hand to advise the run was to Tawhiti Museum on 16th August and if there was enough numbers a luncheon could be organised otherwise it was cafe food.