

MG Manawatu Report 20 May 2023
"Drive into the Past"

A bit of a wet day saw a small contingent of cars leave Property Brokers car park at 9.30 am to travel to today's destination, MAVtech Museum of Audio Visual Technology in Foxton.

Heading out Rangitikei Line we turned left into Kairanga/Bunnythorpe Road and followed our leader down various country roads on a scenic tour until a small discrepancy in the instructions, had us turning down Mangawhata Road, which indicated it was "No Exit" which surprised our leader somewhat, as previously it wasn't. An about turn sent us back to the main road and from there we followed our noses to SH1, arriving at our destination, where we were joined by more members.

Mavtech volunteers greeted us and after a short introduction it was full steam ahead upstairs to the 1920's cinema to watch our movie, "This is New Zealand", which was made for and shown at the 1970 World Expo in Osaka, Japan. An ambitious concept saw iconic Kiwi imagery - panoramas, nature, Maori culture, sport, industry - projected on three screens that together comprised one giant widescreen. New Zealand in the 1970's was certainly the place to be!

Following our movie, we headed downstairs to explore the extensive collection of radios, cameras, movie making and projection equipment, recorded sound, phonographs and more. A treasure trove of memorabilia! Up a short flight of stairs had us entering a room full of "cans". Hundreds of them all containing movie reels! Some movies had over 6 reels! A great find was the movie of the Queens Coronation, quite apt seeing we have just had her son, the King's coronation. Another room was filled with music records and even DVD's!

After showing our appreciation in the usual manner, we headed just around the corner for lunch at Mrs Nubbs, where we enjoyed catching up with everyone over hot drinks and mouth watering food.

On making our farewells, some of us decided to take a run down to the beach and maybe find an ice cream for afternoon tea, before heading back home.

Thank you Pat for organizing another great day out!

Liz Morris

