

## Hawkes Bay Weekend

Day Two 17/9/23

Dawn of day two of our Hawkes Bay Weekend revealed a prospect for some less perfect weather, but most importantly, warm and dry conditions continued and haze and wind all day were just a sideshow. The group gathered at 9.30 at the Napier sea front on Marine Parade and walked a very short distance to morning tea at the RSA. Following that we drove up to the Bluff Hill lookout and heard a little of the site's history from Sue, punctuated by wind gusts. Next was a drive to Havelock North and to the top of Te Mata Peak to take in the spectacular panorama, not too much affected by the hazy day. Descending from there we gathered at the picturesque Birdwoods cafe on Middle Road just outside Havelock North for a comprehensive lunch. This lasted until after 3pm and provided an ideal time and place to recognise the day as being the 52<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary for Ross and Anne and another birthday for Helen, and to thank Sue for organising the weekend. We dispersed there and the group, bar Viv and I, set out on what turned out a challenging journey south in very high wind. We decided to take the Gentle Annie again, having enjoyed that route over on Friday, and certainly enjoyed it again despite some expected high winds in the Kaweka foothills. Showers had been too frequent on Friday for our much-preferred hoodless travel, but all the rest of the weekend was completed in, for us, hood down paradise.

Loved having our MG Manawatu/Wellington MG Car Club members Richard and Lola, Ross and Anne and Bill and Rae along.

Many thanks to Sue for her role in the weekend.