

Southern Foodies Delight

Saturday 28th October 2023

Six cars departed the Blo Kart domain, Sanson for our food extravaganza. Ian and Sue Bailey, our run organisers lead Robyn and Graeme, Neil and Liz, Robert, John in his 'Blu Bee' and ourselves down State Highway 1 to Lewis Farms where we met Helen and Catherine from Paraparaumu and Paul and Josie from Levin for morning tea, a chat in the sun and the opportunity to purchase some of their fresh produce.



Ian then led us towards Levin turning on to Heatherlea East Road which took us past lifestyle blocks to State highway 57 and south past 'Speldhurst'. Joining State highway 1 we headed through the various speed restrictions to the Otaki expressway exiting to travel along the old state highway through Otaki Railway village. By the time we got to the Otaki River bridge we were spread out amongst other traffic. After the bridge Ian, who was temporarily distracted, missed the turn off to Te Horo which took him and Sue followed by ourselves back on to the expressway where we continued our journey to the Peka Peka off ramp. This meant we had to back track on the old highway. I believe Robert, at the back of our group, did the same. All the others made the correct turn and we caught up with them at our next stop 'The Bus Stop' café.

The 'Bus Stop' is an interesting, unusual, and quirky café set amongst trees and gardens with an old bus serving as the kitchen. This is where we had a very enjoyable and relaxing lunch.

Following lunch, it was a short trip to the Te Horo beach car park and a stroll to view the sea. Our afternoon tea stop was at Ruth Pretty's Kitchen Shop which was on the inland side of the expressway which meant a trip over the expressway on School Road. After more food, coffee, or a cold drink with another chin wag we made our way home in our own time.

Our days outing was well organised by Ian and Sue. It was a great day out with warm and sunny weather.

All of the cafés we went to, most would not have known they were there, which is a testament to Ian and Sue's research in providing us with new experiences.

Steve & Robyn

