

WAIRARAPA HERITAGE TOUR

Sunday 20 September 2020

Summerhill Shopping Centre Car Park, Palmerston North 8.15 am for 8.30 am departure

On leaving the Summerhill shops we headed up over the Pahiatua track then turning right to continue down through Mangamarie and back onto SH2. Not far north of Eketahuna we turned right into North Road over the railway lines where we had our first convoy stop. North Road turned into South Road and came out again onto SH2 at Kaiparoro where we crossed the main road and continued to Hastwell and onto Mauriceville then back out onto SH2. From here it was a straight forward drive into Masterton and around to Henley Lake Park for morning tea. Unfortunately, a couple of car problems on this stage held us up a little so that put pressure on the time schedule. Leaving Masterton we travelled through Gladstone, Longbush and Martinborough and followed SH53 towards Featherston. Next instructions were “ watch for a sign on the left showing Greytown & Masterton straight ahead with Featherston traffic turning left at the top of the hill.” Well by the time we had read all that we had overshot the corner so with a lot of others we carefully did a U turn. Then on into Featherston stopping near the Fell Engine Museum. The day was bright and sunny so out came the chairs and tables and we were soon setup in a circle on the grass beside the miniature railway tracks. 28 members had lunch together here with another 9 lunching elsewhere. We had originally left PN with 17 cars but 1 more joined us from Pahiatua then Helen and Selwyn meet us in Masterton. Selwyn is Sandy's brother and came in his very nicely restored Mini. After we left the museum some stopped just north of Featherston to view the WW1 memorial and the site of NZ largest Military Camp, other members carried on to stop at Mt Bruce for afternoon tea. Chris and I went out to Bidwell Cutting road to find an historic homestead that I had stayed in 50yrs ago.

Robert Wilson