

AN MGF FESTIVAL!

“F” stands for Festival, Fun, Friendship, Fabulous Food, Fine weather, and of course MGF, so the brain-child of Mangaweka identity John Eames came to Fruition on the weekend of 21-23 February when 27 MGF owners from all over the North Island gathered at Mangaweka to enjoy gorgeous weather, superb hospitality and some gloriously scenic rural “runs” (what you do as a group when you enjoy motoring in a special little car!)



Getting a lesson on rafting before heading of down the Rangitikei River

Some of us even took the opportunity to go rafting on the lovely Rangitikei River to absorb the atmosphere and stunning scenery which the Mangaweka Valley offers.



Some superb little vehicles being set up to outline a giant “F” on the grounds of the Mangaweka Camping Ground.

It was amazing what a common interest in a great little car does to perfect strangers, and as the weekend progressed MGF ownership experiences were shared, new friendships were Forged, and promises made to repeat the adventure again – soon. Obviously, all journeying around country roads, was executed “top down” and everyone enjoyed the sounds of country – cicadas, cows, sheep and the occasional dog, and when we all visited the Apiti Country Show, we were welcomed with the sounds of shearing, show jumping commentary and rural living. We paid a visit to Apiti Township where we learnt of a little of the history of the area, explored a magnificent ‘man shed’ to view some fascinating classic cars and vehicles and yet again enjoyed the typical rural hospitality of a lavish home cooked afternoon tea supplied by June Barrat.



Stopping to admire the stunning views on the Omatane Bridge

None of us really noticed the shower which stumbled across the landscape on Sunday afternoon! Thanks must surely go to the Heritage Mangaweka group for the wonderful hospitality and generous catering of home cooked food at the Mangaweka Camping Grounds and of course to John Eames, his wife Viv and Rachel Dean who did all the planning, co-ordinating and direction of a hugely successful weekend.