

# MG MANAWATU BREAKFAST RUN

The Manawatu MG Group held a breakfast run on the morning of Sunday 15 May.

This was a country run covering roads in the Rangitikei, Orua, Rongotea, and Foxton areas. The group met at the central parking area off Broadway in the centre of Palmerston North. Nigel and Narinder were welcomed on the run with their V8 powered MG. The group departed at 8.30am and headed along Rangitikei Street at the start of the 1.5 hour run.

Breakfast was held at Murrayfield, 5 km north of Levin on State Highway 57. The hot breakfast was well received by all MG enthusiasts. The group then visited the Owlcatraz wildlife centre at Shannon. Members were led by Jeanette, a co-owner of Owlcatraz. The group were taken through a large purpose built barn housing several native morepork owls. The owls lay eggs and rear chicks here during the year. Further along the walk a rotund kunekune pig in a paddock was popular with members, with the pig enjoying the attention. A large ostrich in a paddock soon appeared at a gate where the group was able to watch it being fed. Sadly this bird had lost its mate during a storm in the past. Several alpacas were present in a paddock next to the ostrich. The walkway took us past the Owlcatraz lake area, with abundant ducks present. Doves, and several Weka, were observed in large enclosures beyond the lake area.

Back in the reception area, members enjoyed a cup of tea or coffee. They were entertained, at times vociferously, by the antics of a tame sulphur-crested cockatoo.

Some members also visited the historic Shannon railway station. This has recently reopened to the public and has much information on display for visitors to enjoy.