

A Day at the Beach - Bowentown

By Natalie and Steve Cox

Our cars met at the usual spot (Marist Rugby park) and cut across to Bethlehem, then headed for Bowentown to meet up with the rest of the picnickers. We maneuvered our way through numerous road works on the way to Bowentown. In this election year Jacinda has decided to make our road trip to Auckland a lot easier, despite telling us a while back that we had to catch a train. Hubby said not to mention religion or politics, so, back to Bowentown.

We parked under the shady pohutukawa trees at Anzac Bay and helped Gary set up the Club gazebo. It was much appreciated, as it was a beautiful, sunny day. There was a bit of a breeze blowing so the heat wasn't as unbearable as what some days have been lately, although some still took advantage of the shade of the trees. A group of school children were there with their kayaks and



paddleboards, providing us with some entertainment, not to mention envy. I would've love to do that when I was at school, instead of doing lengths in an over-chlorinated school pool. The water looked sparkling, and so clear, I really wanted to go for a swim. If only I could get over my fear of wearing a swimsuit in public. We had all brought our picnic lunches and

devoured them with great gusto. Thank you to Estelle for sharing another one of her delicious cakes.

John arrived during lunch with some of the Club jackets that had been pre-ordered, although some were delayed due to China having the audacity to have a Chinese New Year and a coronavirus outbreak.





After more banter, people started heading off, so we helped pack up the gazebo. Has anyone ever tried neatly folding up a huge sheet of nylon when a gusty wind is blowing? Not an easy task. We bid our farewells and headed off back past Jacinda's road cones to our various destinations.

I would like to say a big thank you to those that came up with the idea for today. Quite often when we have an organised run and visit a specific place, our whole focus is on the museum, gardens, collection, etc. Some of us more reserved ones can feel a bit overwhelmed by it, assuming Jaguar owners can be reserved people. It was lovely that the outing today was simply a chance to talk and get to know each other a bit better, I'm even starting to remember peoples names. Let's hope you all enjoyed the day enough to have a few more like this.

Natalie