

Kai, Koffee and Kruise July 23rd

By Michael Creak

Well folks - better late than never. Full marks to Gary (acting Club Captain) for holding off this run for a week. Just long enough to change the weather from impossible to acceptable to good (for this time of year anyway). We had some 15 cars with 25, or so, members take part although a few joined us just for lunch. Good turnout though for winter. We went straight to the morning tea venue at the Old Forge Kitchen, 9 Alexandra Road, Te Aroha West.



The venue put on a really excellent morning tea at a cost of \$10 each for a selection of muffins and savouries. Shirley and I arrived there 30minutes early so we had an interesting insight into the building and business setting up from the lady owner.

The weather gave us some rain just as we were leaving at about 11.00am.

I give you the full address because this is a great venue and again full marks to whoever sourced this for us. I fully recommend this to anyone just wanting a coffee, brunch or lunch when in the area. It is basically brand new, having opened last October. Prices are very reasonable as well. See their web site.



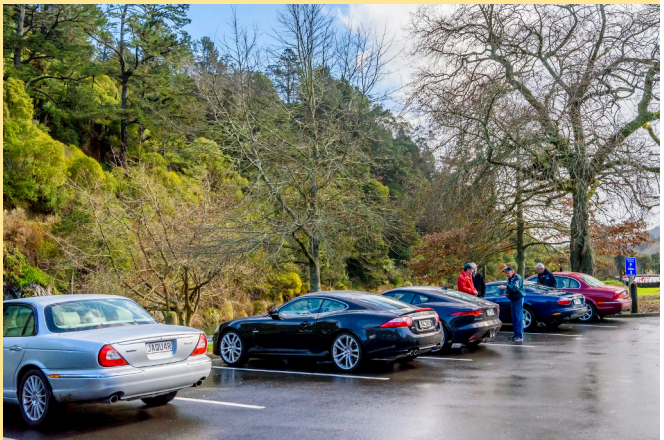
But no worries as it went off during the drive and we had a dry spell for the walk in Karangahake Gorge. A number of us did spend 40 minutes or so walking over the two swing bridges along the river (which was in full song with plenty of water) and/or up into the hill above. The last few did get caught in the next downpour but survived to meet us at the lunch venue.



Some members went straight to the alternative visit being the Spikes Bricks & Models at 25, Hazard Street, Waihi. According to reports during lunch this is also a really great display based on Lego. Pity we did not have time for both. Again, you can check out their web site although this seems to be aimed more at selling bricks than the museum which is covered better on their Facebook display.

Lunch at the Waihi RSA was pretty good well up to the RSA standard we expect. The buffet was missing though but the venue was excellent overall and I think we all had a good lunch.

At about 2.00pm we started to depart for the 50kms or so drive home. This time no road closures! Many thanks to Gary and helpers, a really excellent winter run and venues.



Michael