

BACK ROAD JAGUAR RALLY 20th September

By Colleen Clark

The sun shone on a glorious day that made you just feel it was good to just be alive when we met up at the ASB Stadium at the Mount.

The cars were polished and the smiles wide, the anticipation of a Jag run that has been denied us so often recently was obvious.

After travelling along the Highway, we entered Allport road and met up with some of members who joined us and our back-road journey began. At this stage we had around eighty people and forty cars.



With the cats purring and social distancing or more correctly, sensible distancing the fun began.

As we cruised through the fertile valleys, beautiful farms, and much Horticulture there



was certainly a lot to be admired. How the drivers kept their eyes on the road was a mystery to me. In fact, I am not sure how much they saw as they cornered with ease and flattened their feet on the accelerator and enjoyed with so much pleasure their day out with their cars.



We enjoyed having the hood down on the E type and as always, I felt I was sitting almost on the road communing with nature. The smell of silage was bad enough, but I wondered if anyone recognised the odorous chicken poo or as Roger correctly said Poultry manure. Once becoming familiar with that odour, it is never forgotten and reminds me of the days we have spent spreading it on our kiwifruit.

After travelling along Old Coach Road for a period of time we again spent some time travelling the main highway enjoying a completely different landscape with beautiful sea views before turning off at Matata and joining Manawahe Road where we travelled through Bush and lovely Farms, finally coming out at Lake Rotoma.





Where else in the world would you see such varied landscape in the space of a two-hour Rally, amazing!

After travelling along past the lakes, we turned into Hamarana Road and stopped at the Ramada Restaurant where we were given a nice Buffet Lunch.

Here old friendships were renewed, and new ones begun, it was wonderful to meet the new members. The only problem I found was we could not get to catch up with

everyone so perhaps this means another social occasion soon.



Our thanks must go to the Bourkes and Jamiesons who did such a great job and to Gary or perhaps I should say the Captain, who also sails a good ship.

Colleen



