

Te Aroha Cruise-in

By Natalie Cox

Headed off at an early (for a Saturday) hour to meet up with other Jaguars at Matamata, then drove on to Te Aroha with the weather holding great promise for the day. There was some frustration as our 15 cars drove in to the Jaguar Drivers Club spaces.

We had asked that 20 spaces be allocated to us and were assured that would happen. This would allow us to show our diverse collection off to its best.

Somehow we discovered that our spaces had shrunk to only 6, so the rest of us were scattered across the road.

Though disappointed, we just carried on and enjoyed the day.



The main street was filled with hotrods, classic cars, retro caravans, motorbikes and other interesting vehicles.

There were 28 of our members here who soon dispersed to soak up the atmosphere and enjoy the sunshine. We saw so many vehicles from the bright and shiny through to the older vehicles showing a lot of “patina”, or as we call it... rust.

I particularly liked the strange vehicle with the caravan behind it that was constructed out of corrugated iron and other bits of stuff. The many stalls with their wares provided the ladies with something other than cars to look at, and a purchase or two was made.





They also had stalls to satisfy our appetites, but unfortunately these were situated too close to a rotunda containing a band that forgot to tell the organisers they couldn't sing. Was a case of grab your food and run.

Thankfully for our ears, there were plenty of other cafes and shops

around, and an in-tune band. Whether you went to look at cars and talk in-depth about their motors, specs and other stuff I don't understand, to just look at the pretty paint colours and shiny bits, or just to have a day out to soak up the sunshine and catch up, I think it was a most enjoyable day.



By around 2pm we had looked, eaten, walked, bought and talked all we could, so packed up our chairs and chilly bins and headed back to our various homes, already looking forward to the next outing.

Natalie

(More photos on next 2 pages)



