

Kennedy Park Resort, Napier 1-3 May 2015



INTERNATIONAL CARAVANNING FELLOWSHIP OF ROTARIANS [NZ] INC

DIRECTORY

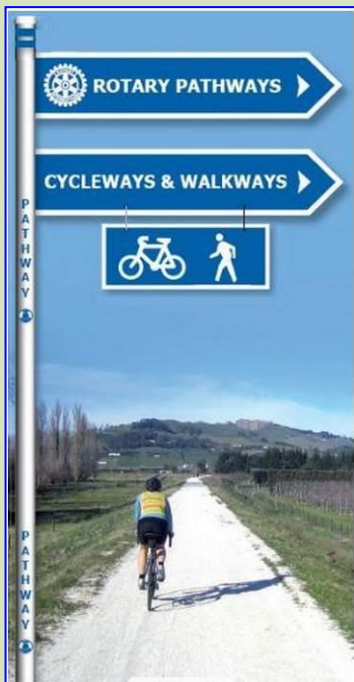
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www.icfr.rotarysouthpacific.org
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Gary Bates writes . . .



What a great rally this has been! The weather was perfect, plenty of sunshine and from the Friday start – no wind!

By **Friday** morning the count was 17 vans checked in with the balance arriving during the day, to make a total of 33 vans.

The keen cyclists in our club set off to explore the “**Rotary Pathways**” cycle trail down the coast to Clive where they met 4 members who had spent Thursday night at the Clive ‘Park-over’ on the bank of the river – a pleasant spot to stay. The cyclists continued on the trail to the Blackbridge and then returned to Kennedy Park camp after a great ride of approximately 26 kms.

Friday 4.30pm

Happy Hour was a pleasant get-together with members renewing contact and friendships.



A welcome speech by President Peter and Saturday’s programme outlined by Peter Tucker, Fish & Chip orders for Sunday requested by Kevin Longman.



Saturday dawned with clear sky and plenty of sunshine, a great start for a memorable day.

The bus left at 9.15am for the **Wallingford Homestead**, stopping on the way at “**ARTMOSPHERE ART GALLERY**” on the main road (SH2) at Waipawa. A very interesting visit

with many creative artworks and photos by 75 artists – all for sale at various interesting prices.

Our driver, Jan Bartlett gave us an interesting commentary on the way, pointing out orchards and vineyards and telling us that Hawkes Bay was the second largest producer of wines in New Zealand, Marlborough being the first.





We continued on to Wallingford Homestead, the drive through the country with the trees in their autumn colours was a sight to see.

Wallingford Homestead



We were greeted on arrival by Jenny Ormond and we walked through the grounds to the homestead veranda where drinks were set out for us.

The homestead is described as the “largest single storey wooden dwelling in the Southern hemisphere.” It is the home of the Ormond family.

History – The First Generation: JOHN & HANNAH ORMOND.

Originally built by the Hon. J. D. Ormond in 1853-54. Earlier, in 1847, J.D. Ormond stepped ashore at Auckland from his home in Wallingford, Berkshire, England.

It is not known how large the home was at this point, suffice to say that **Hannah Ormond's** 1864 journals indicate it was a sizeable house. By 1873 a map of Hawkes Bay shows Ormond owning the Mangarara Block, 14,226 acres which included the homestead and adjacent to the north east, the Eparaima Block of 4,849 acres. With a flock of 25,354 sheep, Ormond ranked 6th among the landowners of Hawkes Bay. He was a member of parliament and local bodies, spanning almost 60 years.



Since then five generations of the Ormond families have occupied the home including Sir John Ormond who chaired a number of boards in New Zealand including The NZ Meat Producers Board, The Exports and Shipping Council and The NZ Shipping Line.

Sir John passed away in March 1995 and his wife Lady Ormond in July 2000.

After a pleasant lunch we were taken through the home by members of the Ormond family, beautiful rooms to view in several wings. The homestead is currently available for dinner and lunches, weddings, family gatherings, weekend retreats and they have the bedrooms available to accommodate guests.

After speaking to Jenny Ormond it was noted that she is seriously interested in Wallingford becoming an NZMCA Park-over site. (Trevor Coleman to follow up.) A most enjoyable day!





Upon our return to Kennedy Park we were looking forward to the dinner in the Park restaurant. The meal was excellent and served smoothly by the staff.

Unfortunately there was a hiccup with the booked entertainment but the fellowship and enjoying each other's company at the tables during dining more than made up for it.

A great rally and many thanks to the Organisers.
Gary Bates.



Sunday Meeting . . .



Stan & Rosemary Roberts, Whangarei inducted by Pres. Peter



Roger Clotworthy and Derek Vincent "spooning"

FUTURE RALLIES

2015

- Jun 23/25 Miranda Hol Park - Informal
- Aug 14/16 Raglan Hol Park
- Sep 22/24 Omokoroa Thermal – Informal
- Nov 20/22 Ohiwa Beach Hol Park

2016

- Feb 5/12 Mangaweka
- Feb 12/14 Taupo All Seasons Hol Park