

## **Foxton Meeting – May 2012**

*Excerpts from the write up by David Lascelles.*

Date 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> May.

The meeting was held at Cowern's 'Blast From The Past' venue on their property at Oroua Downs.

Members began arriving on Friday evening and soon glasses were clinking and catch up chit chat was very much in vogue. A delicious supper was served and then we settled down to the first 50 lots of the auction. This was followed by a showing of a few National Film Unit Pictorial Parade films before it was time to call it a night.

Saturday began with a great morning tea, followed by the meeting. The rest of the auction then took place and was completed in time for lunch, to which we were summoned by a wonderful whistle from the host's daughter, Monique.

After lunch we boarded a British double decker bus for our visit to Thomson's Motorcycle Museum which has over 100 motorcycles, dating from 1904, on display. Then it was off to The Gables – a classic Car Museum, set in beautiful grounds. From here we travelled to Alan Rowe's diverse assortment of cars and other items. One of the highlights was a beautifully restored Model T Ford, in which some members were given a ride. We then returned to the venue.

The Saturday night dinner was held at the venue which had been completely transformed into a five star restaurant. The dinner was superb with a great selection of food which everyone enjoyed. The theme for the weekend was 1953 – its films, Royal Visit and everything British and after dinner items such as coffee mugs with Marilyn Monroe, Audrey Hepburn, Big Ben and the Union Jack were auctioned as well as the signed placemat. It was a most enjoyable night which came to an end around midnight.

Sunday morning saw us gather at the venue for morning tea before we boarded the double decker for the trip to Terry Rush's Race Car Museum. The collection of scientific, historic open wheeler race cars, motor racing artefacts, commercial vehicles, working brass collection and 2,500 plus model toy collection, beggars' belief. We returned to the venue for lunch and the official farewells.

The stayers enjoyed a visit to MAVTEC before heading back to the venue for the evening BBQ followed by a showing of three good cartoons plus the brilliant 1974 short Paramount film *The Absent Minded Waiter* with Steve Martin. As the evening came to a close, there was a request for another whistle from Monique which she happily fulfilled. This brought a wonderful weekend to an end.