



APRIL - PART 2

No. 103

THE KIWIBULLETIN

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KUMARA LEADER OF THE PACK --- EILEEN - READY TO ROLL

When Eileen and Chris joined the register in 2018 Eileen told me they recently traded in their Harley on two brand new Enfield Bullets.

After the rally, I waited for Eileen to come down from her high, I asked --- Any regrets?

Absolutely no regrets at all! Just the opposite in fact. Learning to ride (shall we say at an advanced age?) later in life was difficult, but has been my best decision, for sure. We just have so much fun riding together, the Enfields are an absolute pleasure to get out and pootle around on.

Lew



[Eileen Parker - Chris Busson](#)

Lunch at The Historic Empire Hotel Ross was absolutely fantastic! Thanks so much for taking care of us so well, we really appreciate it!

Great photos of some beautiful bikes.

Thanks Chris...

Hello Lew

Just a short article about our experience of the rally and a couple of photos.

IT STARTED OFF WELL!

Lovely morning, the famous five set off to attend the Royal Enfield Rally in Kumara.

Rob & Claire, Jack Bier, Bill Prosser and Mick Glew.

Only two Enfield's, both new, Jack's 500 Bullet and Bill's 350 Meteor. Rob riding his 1982 BMW R80G/S and me on 1989 Honda Bros. Mick on a Yamaha MT03.

We spent a night at Dawson's Hotel in Reefton where there were, surprisingly, lots of Enfield's. Our usual haunt of Bellbird Motel has been sold and is being turned into permanent accommodation for the workers at the new Waiuta gold mine.

They are building a new bridge just before Blackball and Rob stopped just after the road works.

Whatever is wrong? Look, no steering head nut! Oh no, what now? After a fruitless search along the roadsides, I decided the only way forward was for me to ride back home and get a replacement nut. So, I had a brilliant fast ride back to Nelson, about 260kms, with no other riders to worry about. Best ride I've had in years. Good job there were no policemen on the road.

With Rob's help via the phone, I located the spare nuts and suitable spanners, chucked them in the back of the car and drove back to Blackball in record breaking time. Rob having nursed the bike carefully to the Pub. Six and a half hours later it took all of 5 minutes to fix the problem.

Onwards to the rally. An excellent affair in the village hall at Kumara. 56 entrants, a record for the club. More Royal Enfield's than you can imagine in one place. We had great rooms in the historic cottages belonging to the Theatre Royal Hotel. Various prices depending on the quality of renovations to the cottage.

On Saturday there was a nice country road ride followed by a marvellous lunch provided by the Empire Hotel in Ross. Rob and I, having now only one bike and a car, decided to experience the Tree Top Walk near Hokitika. Been meaning to go there for years and it was well worth the effort.

Later enjoyed a brief AGM and very good buffet dinner in the Kumara Hall. Wonderful effort by Eileen and Chris. Hope Eileen has recovered from all that rushing around.

Sunday was Rob's 80th birthday so we headed up to Westport. Raining! Good motel with undercover parking (essential), and dinner in the fancy Denniston Rose restaurant nearby.

Claire Newcombe
15/3/22



Rob Gall, William Smith, Jack Bier, Bill Prosser and Mick Glew.



Terry O'Hanlon -- 1963 Interceptor

Fantastic rally thanks to Eileen,Chris,Pat the backup vehicle and barman,Marlene for her greenstone keychain and all the Westcoast Royal Riders for your hospitality in showing us around your jewel.Great weather matched by plenty of food and (white bait Patties especially)and outstanding back country roads.A record number of participants was helped with name tags for all,but still didn't catch up with everyone new,but certainly a lot of familiar faces.I'm sure everyone will agree it was one to remember,thanks again team

Terry O'H.

PS the mystery sponsors giveaways to all participants and line dancing entertainment was also appreciated



From the North -- Trevor, Chalky, Ray & Owen enjoying a cool 1



Mark Bellringer Over the Dansays Pass from Naesby



Kerry Little & Kery Hitchen ----- Dirt riding back from the rally



Kerry Little ----- Grapes at Reefton accommodation

KUmara or KuMAra

By Allan Cole

Which one are we headed to this time? You see, mate Chris and myself were off to the Royal Enfield rally down in the South Island at Kumara Junction. But hang on, a few weeks ago, we had ridden to “the Kumara capital of NZ” to visit some red potatoes (as well as some other veggies) at Ruawai, near Dargaville. Why? I hear you ask. Well the wacky, giant vegetables that now sat on top of the local packing shed, were fondly remembered by Chris when they used to live on the North shore at a veggie shop. It was a weak excuse for a ride, but cutting across to Whangeraï makes a great twisty route. Months later, when we heard that the RE rally and AGM were to be held at Kumara junction, we just had to go.

Previous South Island trips had been real challenges (1,800kms in 2 days for the Burt Munro) so a relaxed and scenic route seemed like a good idea. Heading down to Taupo, we turned off to Napier on what WAS a top ten motorcycle route. I say “was”, because, like so much of our rural road network, it has been “sanitized” by chopping the speed limit down to 80ks - the whole way! Good biking buddy, Kim, offered bed, dinner and breakfast in Napier where the economic/political discussions flowed well into the late hours, along with the beers.

Gentle Annie (what a name) was a new route to me and it didn't disappoint. All the way down to Wellington was glorious weather punctuated by much nodding and waving to other riders. Of course, Harley riders generally exclude themselves from this brotherhood but it pays to be vigilant, as the occasional gesture definitely deserves to be returned.

In Wellington, there is an old hotel, now a backpackers, which is across the road from the ferry terminal. It's cheap and cheerful and although it was surrounded by anti-mandate protesters this time, we made the ferry with time to spare.

Picton too, had protesters. The big, central domain was full of campers and placards. Presumably, they were as far north as they could go and were unable to board the ferry without vaccine passes.

Leaving Picton and heading towards St. Arnaud, the road boringly straight, lined on both sides for kilometers, by grapevines. The only variation is that near town the vines are mature and the further you ride, the smaller they become, until they are just cutting. The area looks like a time-lapse sequence with pasture turning into newer vineyards as the hills approach. But what's this? - a coffee cart, no a coffee caravan out in the middle of nowhere! A stop was in order. What is that sign over the top?- "F***! that's delicious" it says. What a character the diminutive coffee lady turned out to be. Over coffee, we discovered that Karen is half Spanish and half Inca. She spiced up our stop with tales of Hong Kong, buying, fixing and selling luxury luxury yachts.

Allan Cole



These are the wacky veggies that we visited in Ruawai.



Boatyard at Napier





Chris & Allan crossing the Gentle Annie



Karen lured Allan & Chris to her "F***! THATS DELICIOUS"s coffee shop

More photos from the rally



Allan says- drinks on me!!





To Beauties ---- Graham on his Crusader Super 5 & Jens on his KX



UpNorth Rally dates confirmed 11th, 12th and 13th Nov 2022

Members to contact manager (PETRINA) at Whangateau Holiday Park,
09 4273305. whpark@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

The website www.whangateauholidaypark.co.nz

PETRINA will accept all bookings and put them on a spreadsheet. She will transpose all bookings from last year, but obviously with new members...

Rally entry form will be published in the June Bulletin

*Thanks again to everyone for your articles and photos, without
them the Bulletins would be bare pages*

Next Bulletin due out in June when we will welcome in new more members.

Keep those photos and articles rolling in.

Lew....

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