

Kaikoura Revisited

8 and 9th July 2017

by Jenifer Alexander



(Above: Paula has sent in this picturesque photo of the snow and cloud covered mountains framing a lovely Leyland collection. L to R we have the Buchanan BA D, Warren N E, Alexander AG E, Jones SO S, Hammond B as B D and the Prouting PMAG E. So many Executives and only one Super. It was a shame the Hammond's couldn't bring their B as B D to Cromwell to add a vibrant colour to our Deluxe collection. Work commitments are a drag!)

July 8 & 9 Kaikoura was the destination for our annual weekend away together. Still recovering from the November 2016 earthquake, the town is in the throes of being repaired and returned to its original condition.

The advance party of John and Frances Warren, Eric Connor and Lesley and Don and Jenifer Alexander arrived late Friday afternoon and enjoyed a visit to the local museum the next morning while awaiting the arrival of the rest of our group.

The rear guard consisted of Roy and Paula Buchanan, Don and Helen Prouting, Mark and Christine Hammond and newest member Paul Jones and partner Trina who arrived in the afternoon. A stop was made in Cheviot to have lunch and boost that small town's struggling economy. Cheviot depends on passing travellers and with the Coast road to Kaikoura closed frequently for the repairs, traffic is now greatly reduced and far fewer people are there to open their wallets.

Once assembled in Kaikoura we had a tiki tour of the township and famous seal colony then met at "The Pier" hotel for dinner, after which THE MATCH between the All Blacks and the Lions was eagerly viewed.

Sunday morning saw a line-up of the 6 P76's for a photo shoot and then we travelled north as far as permitted before reaching the barrier that closes off SH1 to all traffic who would like to go to Blenheim and Picton and settlements in between. This road is scheduled to reopen in December but the official guarding the barrier predicts it will more likely be next May. So our trip north was only about a mere 12 kms!

Lunch at a local Kaikoura cafe for most members then a farewell gathering at Alexander's holiday house rounded off the activities and members departed for their various destinations.