

Hi Elias from the team at DeLuxe RV Group



In this months newsletter

- Intro
 - Deluxe RV Group News
 - Great Weekend Destinations: Dunedin
 - Deluxe Group Social Media
 - Industry Update: Shipping
 - Staff Trip 1: The Maiden Voyage
 - How To Article: Dometic 10 Series Fridge
 - Staff Trip 2: Lake Coleridge
 - Motorhome Spring Check
 - Staff Trip 3: Trans Alpine Train Journey
 - NZMCA Motorhome Caravan and Leisure Show
-



Welcome to the August issue of the Deluxe RV Group Newsletter!

Poppy, Levi, and I finally managed to sneak away to the mountains for an extended weekend and the weather gods blessed us with four incredibly beautiful, sunny, and calm days. Soon most of the cold weather will have passed and Spring is just around the corner.

Gary is currently in New Caledonia and with staff making the most of winter I am happy to share our adventures with you and hopefully encourage people to get out there before winter fades away completely.

Make the most of it while you can and enjoy the read!!!

Deluxe RV Group News



We are happy to welcome Dan, our new yard groomer, to the team and are excited for you to meet him. Make sure you pop in and say hi next time you travel past.



Dan was born in a small town in North Wales. After school he studied Fine Arts and worked in various industries before permanently moving to New Zealand in 2016 calling Picton his home.

Prior to joining the Team at Deluxe RV Group, he worked in the hospitality industry followed by a maintenance role for a local car rental company.

At Deluxe RV Dan is responsible for the immaculate presentation of our sales yard and vehicles and ensures our premises are maintained to the highest standard possible.

When not working, Dan produces music and loves exploring New Zealand. His favourite spot in the country is Cape Reinga.



We also managed to get together for a mid-winter dinner at the Marlborough Public House. The night was a great opportunity for us to catch up outside work and get to know Dan a little better.

What a great way to celebrate the middle of the year and to charge up for a successful rest of it.

Whilst the manufacturing of Pilote and Le Voyageur motorhomes has come right the shipping industry comes with a new set of challenges. Check out Matt's article on the topic below and feel free to contact us directly for any further questions.

Great Weekend Destinations: Dunedin

Our next weekend destination is Dunedin. Located approximately 200km north-east of Invercargill, Ōtepoti Dunedin brings us back to the east coast of the South Island and to territory which may be a little easier to access for most of us as a weekend destination.

Its high on my list to visit and I have thoroughly enjoyed researching the city.

"Ōtepoti Dunedin is a region of unique and beautiful landscapes, wildlife and fascinating cultural history."



"Known as the Wildlife Capital of New Zealand, Dunedin prides itself on its beautiful built heritage, stunning scenery, and unique biodiversity. Surrounded by dramatic hills and at the foot of a long, picturesque harbour, Dunedin is one of the best-preserved Victorian and Edwardian cities in the Southern Hemisphere."

"There is much to see and do in Ōtepoti Dunedin from rare wildlife and spectacular landscapes to heritage buildings and cultural sites. All within close proximity.

Globally renowned as a wildlife and eco-tourism destination, the spectacular Otago Peninsula is an area of outstanding biodiversity. Visit the Royal Albatross Centre, the only mainland location in the world where you can view northern royal albatross in their natural habitat. Local tours will help you view the world's smallest penguins, and the rarest, as well as fur seals and sea lions, among other native marine and birdlife.

Dunedin's collection of beautiful heritage buildings includes Larnach Castle, the only historic castle in the country, and the fascinating Olveston Historic Home.

In Dunedin you can also visit the world's steepest street, Baldwin Street and natural wonders such as the Pyramids at Okia Reserve or Tunnel Beach, which

features a spectacular sandstone sea arch jutting out into the Pacific Ocean and a hand-carved tunnel leading down to a secluded beach."

<https://www.newzealand.com/int/dunedin-coastal-otago/>



Heritage Attractions

"Dunedin is one of the Southern Hemisphere's best-preserved Edwardian and Victorian cities, full of gothic-style architecture and heritage attractions."

<https://www.newzealand.com/int/dunedin-coastal-otago%2Bheritage-attractions/>



Scenic Highlights

"Dunedin has a stunning backdrop of hills, harbour and miles of rugged coastline with a number of unique scenic highlights."

<https://www.newzealand.com/int/dunedin-coastal-otago-scenic-highlights/>



Nature and Wildlife

"You'll experience fascinating wildlife and untouched natural wonders in Dunedin."

<https://www.newzealand.com/int/dunedin-coastal-otago%2Bnature-and-wildlife/>



Gardens

"A verdant city of tree-covered hills, green belts and woodland, Dunedin has its fair share of spectacular and historical gardens."

<https://www.newzealand.com/int/dunedin-coastal-otago%2Bgardens/>

Deluxe Group Social Media



As many of you are aware I do love posting new listings, updates and industry related stories to our social media profiles and really appreciate the large following we have created on Facebook.

However, I am aiming to put a little more effort and time into our Instagram account, share content and keep people updated who prefer a different platform to Facebook.

Feel free to check us out on Instagram [@deluxervgroup](https://www.instagram.com/deluxervgroup), like some posts and follow our account. Much appreciated!!!

Industry Update: Shipping



Over Coming Shipping Delays

By Matt Gibson

"Daryl the GM here who looks after all the shipping logistics alongside Gary has asked me to pen an article on the unprecedented development with shipping to

keep our newsletter community informed with some of the challenges that we are currently facing in this area. Presently we have 35 motorhomes that are built and awaiting delivery to New Zealand, so I have outlined some of the reasons below why this has occurred..."

Click on the link below to read the full article:

<https://www.deluxegroup.co.nz/deluxe-rv-blog/over-coming-shipping-delays>

Staff Trip 1: The Maiden Voyage

Daryl, Linda, Carter, and the dogs have been waiting a long time for this weekend to arrive and finally got to take their brand-new Pilote Pacific P746C motorhome on its maiden voyage.



The whole family including the two dogs Poppy and George, ventured to Nelson and Mapua to check out how the new Pilote performs and had a great time making the most of all activities on offer.

Click on the link below and check out Pro Karts in Tahunanui...

https://www.prokarts.co.nz/GO+KARTS.html?gclid=Cj4KCQjw2qKmBhCfARItAFy8buLPzb5hXY7EdeWhs3SyoSE6KOoXLUKlnKZJwUR_2PcCe0RzvuADqW8xGgJ-bBAC8P8HAQ



Tip: Tahunanui is a great spot to stay at and offers a great range of activities for all ages.



The Nelson/Tasman area is a great winter destination and when the weather is as great as it was during the Smith family's trip the region is hard to beat.

Click on the link below and check out all the region has on offer!!!

<https://www.nelsontasman.nz/>



How To Article: Dometic 10 Series Fridge



Motorhome/Caravan fridges have come a long way since back in the day.

Most our vehicles are fitted with Dometic fridges. They are easy to use, effective, efficient and easy to reset. Dometic automatic 3-way fridges are designed to be set in auto mode. The fridge will automatically choose the most appropriate cooling source and you can basically forget about manually operating the unit.

When free camping, gas will be used, when plugged into mains power, the fridge will choose to operate on electricity and when driving it will automatically switch to battery mode.

The most common fault is when the operator either changes the gas bottle or runs out of gas whilst free camping and forgets to turn off the appliance prior.

A fault code and alarm noise will appear on the operating panel. Simply ensure the gas bottle is changed over and reset the fridge by holding your finger on the on-off button for 3-5 seconds before releasing. This will clear the code and reset the fridge.

Tip: We advise not to manually select the battery mode as this will run down your batteries and potentially damage them. When not plugged into power the fridge is designed to run on gas and should only choose the battery as a power source when driving. When crossing on the ferry simply turn your fridge off and it will perform as a freezer box.

Staff Trip 2: Lake Coleridge

What a great winter adventure!!! Poppy, Levi, and I recently managed to sneak away for a long weekend in the staff motorhome. Last time Levi was only tiny and not moving very far or fast. This time around he was on the move and had lots of energy to burn.



Above: Incredible calm morning at Lake Coleridge.

The trip was all about pushing the boundaries and discovering how he likes the confined space as well as travelling for extended periods of time. The weather certainly helped and all in all the weekend was a great success.

Below: Our much-loved staff motorhome posing on the top of Arthurs Pass.



Blenheim - Lake Brunner

We started on Thursday just before his lunch nap and were aiming to get all the way to Lake Brunner. The weather forecast was stunning so we decided to take the longer west coast route and were hoping that Arthurs Pass would be open the following day.



Left: Most modern car seats can be fitted with a standard diagonal seat belt. Levi was stoked.

We made it all the way to Lake Brunner and only had to stop once to burn some energy and visit the toilet.

Right: Levi posing in front of the Pilote decal not knowing how lucky he is travelling in such style and comfort.

When we arrived at the lake the sun was setting, and the evening was beautiful and calm. We all enjoyed dinner overlooking the water staring into the distance before drifting away into a well-deserved early night's sleep.



Tip: We stayed at Iveagh Bay Campground which is a free park over site for self-contained vehicles right next to the water.

Below: Quick pit stop on the way to Lake Brunner.



Lake Brunner - Lake Coleridge

We woke up to a frosty but perfect winter morning and enjoyed a relaxed breakfast and some delicious pastries from the general store in Moana before heading off on our first little hike of the trip.

Below: Levi enjoying dinner and snacks in the motorhome. A portable toddler camp chair is a must have and prevents food stains on the soft furniture.



After the hike and lunch, the temperature was high enough for me to be comfortable driving over Arthurs Pass to Lake Coleridge. The trip takes approximately 3 hours and was stunning. It's not very often you drive any of the South Island passes in perfect weather like this.

Tip: Parts of the road can still be frozen even in well above zero temperatures. In winter I would suggest driving during the warmer part of the day and take it easy especially in shaded areas.



Above Left: Early winter morning at Lake Brunner.

Above Right: The top of Arthurs pass looking towards the west coast.

We arrived at Lake Coleridge Power Station Lodge to meet up with family for a 50s birthday party weekend and were warmly welcomed by our hosts and owners of the property. We plugged the motorhome into an external power socked next to the building and set up for the rest of the weekend.

Below: Levi taking in the beauty of Lake Brunner.



Lake Coleridge - Blenheim

After enjoying a family weekend full of food, activities, play and adventures we headed back home on Sunday via Christchurch and Kaikoura stopping in Cheviot for a play at the school and a strong coffee.

***Below:** Poppy and Levi overlooking the lake during sunset and Levi playing in Cheviot.*



***Below:** Friday evening cheese board.*



Arriving back in Blenheim just on dark Levi was ready for dinner and bed. The weekend was great, and I can't stress enough how beautiful and fun it is travelling in winter. The snow changes the scenery and crisp mornings will give you a clarity in the air you won't experience in summer. A trip we won't forget in a hurry and as always, we are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to use the staff motorhome.

Let's not forget that owning a late model European motorhome is a privilege most people can't afford and the comfort it provides even during the coldest months of the year allows us to enjoy it all in style and warmth!!!



Above: The best of both worlds. Enjoying a warm fire inside after a hike in the crisp winter air.

Motorhome Spring Check

Last September I shared my thoughts on how to wake up your RV from hibernation as well as a podcast on the topic. Temperatures are rising and many of you will be itching to get away if you parked up your caravan or motorhome

during the colder months and therefore, please feel free to check out the podcast and article below.

It's time to get ready!!!



Many people park up their RV and hibernate it over the colder months of the year. If done correctly it should not create too many issues however if a vehicle has not been used for an extended period, I always suggest following a clear process to wake it up from the winter sleep.

Getting your motorhome ready for first use after winter storage may seem mundane and obvious, but there are a few really important tasks you should carry out to ensure your and your vehicle's health, safety and wellbeing prior to the first use of the season.

- Give it a top down wash
- Check for unwanted visitors
- Check the water system
- Consider a habitation check
- Check the toilet and gas systems

- Maintain your vehicle

Please check out the podcast video above for some ideas (not all information is applicable to NZ conditions) and feel free to get in touch with us if you have further questions!!!

Staff Trip 3: Trans Alpine Train Journey

Gary and Janette parked up the motorhome in Christchurch to jump on the Trans Alpine Journey to Greymouth and back. If you were always thinking of doing it late winter is a great time of the year to jump on and enjoy the ride!!!



"Explore the Southern Alps aboard the TranzAlpine train - one of the world's great train journeys, covering 223 kilometres (139 miles) one-way and taking just under 5 hours.

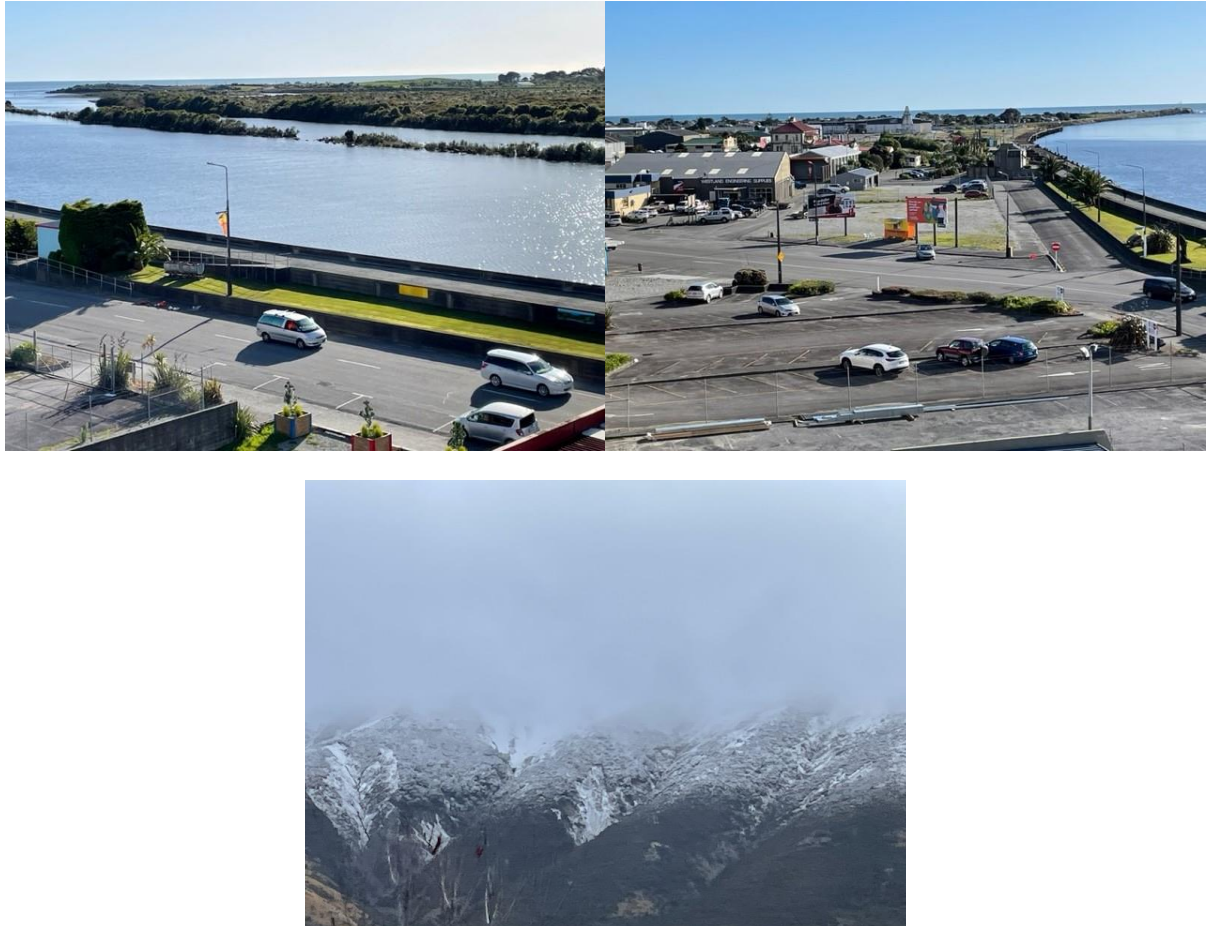
Our TranzAlpine train travels coast-to-coast through the 'Great Divide' and the indomitable spine of mountains that partitions New Zealand's South Island.

On the east, enjoy relaxing in the garden city of Christchurch and horse trekking into the mountains from Springfield. On the west, experience the tranquillity of Lake Brunner and venture into glacier country from Greymouth. At the centre, explore some great NZ mountain hikes at Arthur's Pass.

Book a journey like no other by travelling in either direction from Christchurch to Greymouth, or Greymouth to Christchurch."

Christchurch • Springfield • Arthur's Pass • Moana (Lake Brunner • Greymouth

https://www.greatjourneysnz.com/tours-and-trains/scenic-trains/tranzalpine-train/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=trains&utm_term=gmb



NZMCA Motorhome Caravan and Leisure Show



If you have an interest in anything contained within our Newsletter then please don't hesitate to contact us, we would love to hear from you.

From Elias and the team at DeLuxe RV Group.

Email: elias@deluxegroup.co.nz

Phone: (03) 578 3310

Web: www.deluxegroup.co.nz

45 Main Street, Blenheim

[Unsubscribe](#)

DeLuxe Group P O Box 749 Blenheim 7240 New Zealand 6435783310