

Hi Elias from the team at DeLuxe RV Group



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

The weather has been unconventionally warm, humid, and wet in the past few weeks and there has not been a sign of winter so far. Autumn is in full swing and landscapes around the country are transforming as the leaves change colour and nature prepares for the upcoming colder months. It's a great time of the year to visit Central Otago and enjoy the change of season before the first real cold front hits the South Island.

It feels like we have just returned from the Auckland motorhome show and are already packing for the next one in Christchurch on the 20th to 21st of May. We are looking forward to exhibiting at the show and it will be very interesting to see how many visitors the event attracts. Make sure to come and visit, check out our brand new 2023 Pilote, Le Voyageur and Bailey vehicles and compare them to other brands. It's always a great day out.

Enjoy the read!!!

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## Deluxe RV Group News



The Smith's have returned to base after a two week trip to France via Japan and are back in the office completing the team. Matt, Scott, Colin, Jesse and I looked after the day to day operations during the absence of the family and whilst it was

great to have the opportunity to look after Deluxe in Blenheim, we are all glad to have the guys back at work.

We are travelling south to the NZMCA Motorhome, Caravan and Leisure Show in Christchurch next week and are currently preparing the vehicles as well as organising for the event.

It should be a great weekend as always and we are looking forward to seeing you there!!!

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## Motorhome Show: NZMCA Motorhome, Caravan and Leisure Show

**\$16**  
Single-Entry  
**\$25**  
Multi-Entry

**YOUR FAVOURITE SOUTH ISLAND SHOW IS BACK!**

New Zealand Motor Caravan Association  
**MOTORHOME  
CARAVAN & LEISURE  
SHOW**

Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st May, 2023  
**CHRISTCHURCH ARENA**

TrailLite Group **SELWYN**  
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## Great Weekend Destinations: Wanaka



Last month we explored the Westcoast Region and are now travelling south to Wanaka. Driving from Greymouth to Wanaka will take you more than 7 hours however if you have been spending time on the West Coast and are looking to move south you are more likely to be located in Haast and the drive should take no more than 2 hours.

Wanaka is a great base to either explore the bottom of the South Island or visit for a weekend. Its a very popular travel destination and therefore can be busy at times. To avoid disappointment ensure you book the campsite early during peak travel times and plan well ahead.

***"A lively town buzzing with a carefree spirit, Wānaka's picture-perfect location and easy access to the outdoors makes it the ultimate base for your holiday."***



*"Wanaka has the buzz of a genuine alpine town and is the ultimate hub for outdoor adventures, and with Mount Aspiring National Park located close by it's the perfect destination for exploring the Southern Alps.*

*For adventure seekers, you can go skydiving, canyoning, climbing or mountaineering and there are hundreds of kilometres of tracks for hiking or biking. The crystal-clear water of the lakes and rivers are ideal for kayaking, fishing, lake cruises and jet-boating, or to get an aerial perspective of the region take a scenic flight and you can even land on a glacier. In winter, Wānaka is a vibrant centre for skiers and snowboarders with four ski areas just a short drive from the town.*

*Wānaka has a reputation for great food and wine, with a wide variety of lakefront bars, cafes and restaurants serving exceptional local cuisine, plus a wealth of artisans producing award-winning wine, beer, spirits, bread, and ice cream. Be sure to visit the local farmer's market to try some of the region's best produce.*

*Or plan your visit around one of Wānaka's world-class events like the Warbirds over Wānaka air show, the Rhythm & Alps music festival, the Festival of Colour or Challenge Wānaka, the world's most scenic long-distance triathlon."*

<https://www.newzealand.com/sq/wanaka/>

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## **Action Manufacturing: Kea Motorhome Update**



We currently have an assortment of used Kea Motorhomes in stock and are excited to announce that THL have designed brand-new decals for the vehicles.



If you have purchased a Kea Motorhome through us in the past feel free to get in touch to purchase a decal pack for your vehicle. You will then simply need to get a professional to fit the decals to your vehicle.



We are currently going through the process of getting new decals fitted to our current stock and can't wait to see the result.

Check out the images and get in touch if you have any questions!!!



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## Staff Trip: France 2023



Gary, Daryl, and Brett recently returned from a trip to France via Japan, and we can't wait to hear all the stories.

As you may be aware, recent years have been extremely challenging for the automotive manufacturing industry and the current war in Europe has extended

many of the issues we thought would be rectified by now. Motorhome manufacturers are still struggling to source certain chassis, parts, and labour, and are working through many challenges. However, Pilote managed to continue their path of constant development and improvement and the Smiths were impressed with the progress since the last visit in 2019.

Groupe Pilote remains a family-owned business despite the growth and size of the operation and we at Deluxe are as proud as ever to represent the brand in the southern hemisphere.



**Above:** Number three Pilote motorhome ever built. The boys loved to see the Bedford base as a reminder of the past.

Besides checking out the factory, discussing current improvements and nurturing our relationship with Pilote staff, future projects and brand-new motorhome projects on the horizon were thoroughly talked about.



***Above:*** Another great find was this 90's Pilote family motorhome...

A company like Pilote is always working on new projects, new concepts, and ways to deal with current challenges. Its paramount for any business to move with times and adjust operations as needed and whilst we can't share the secrets and all new concepts, we are very excited to officially have ordered the first Pilote Atlas motorhomes for the New Zealand Market.



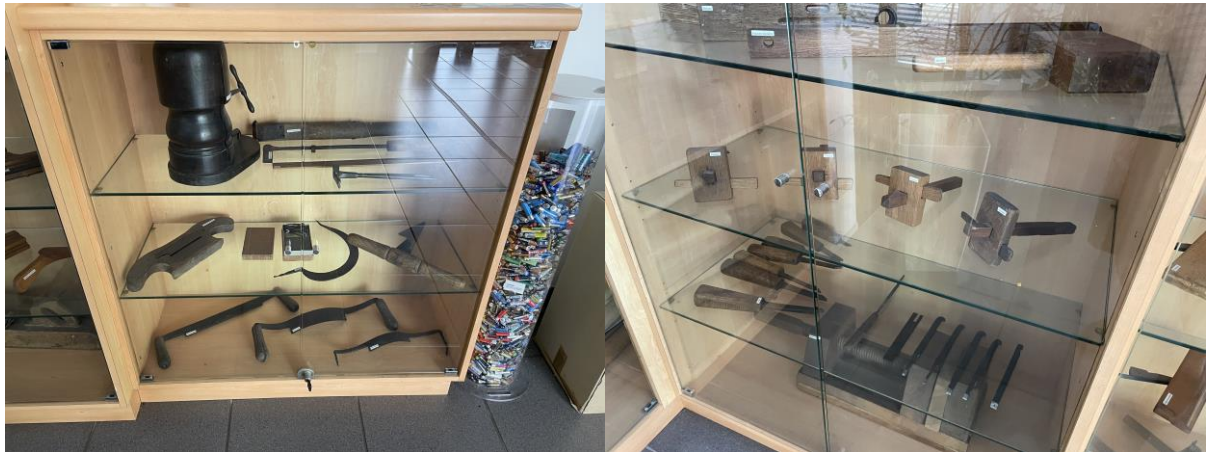
**Above:** *In 2022 Le Voyageur decided to go back to the roots and launched the new Le Voyageur Heritage range base on a Mercedes-Benz chassis. Gary managed to spot a relic of the past with this beautiful vintage Le Voyageur motorhome.*

The brand-new range is based on a Ford chassis and will add another great option for customers who are looking to purchase something different.

**"60 years of travel and innovation!"**

*On the occasion of its 60th anniversary and to further underline its dreams of adventure and limitless travel, Pilote is launching its new Atlas range on Ford Trail chassis."*

Keep your eyes peeled and I will ensure to share any further news and estimated arrival dates. We are currently hoping to premiere the new Atlas Motorhome in 2024.



**Above:** *Vintage hand tools before machines and power tools took over the world.*

The guys also enjoyed getting a factory tour (Unfortunately we can't share photos from the inside of the factory) and are excited to return next year. Make sure to come in and have a chat with the Smith's if you are keen to find out further details.



**Above:** *Brand-new Pilote motorhomes waiting to be picked up and shipped.*



***Above:*** Besides visiting the factory the Smiths kept a little time aside for site seeing and exploring the surroundings.

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## MCD Review: Bailey Alicanto Grande Porto



A recent visit from Paul Owen resulted in a 2023 Bailey Alicanto Grande Porto Caravan review and we are more than happy to share his thought about our top-of-the-line Bailey caravan.

## ***"Bailey Alicanto Grande Porto Review***

- WORDS: PAUL OWEN
- PHOTOGRAPHY: ELIAS DOBOZY
- PUBLISHED: MAY 8, 2023

*Long and wide, with some clever weight-saving construction, Paul Owen reckons the Bailey Alicanto Grande Porto a great British buy.*

*At 2.45m wide, the Alicanto Grande Porto is quite a bit wider than most Bailey caravans. This creates extra cabin space all along the length of the body than similarly laid-out dual-axle models like the Unicorn, which is 250mm narrower. So, make sure you have invested in some proper towing side mirrors (we recommend the affordable Milenco range) before hooking this British-made behemoth up to your touring vehicle of choice. That 2.45 width dimension is eight feet in the old money..."*

Click on the link below, continue reading the full article and get in touch if you have any questions!!!

<https://nzmc.co.nz/reviews/caravans/bailey-alicanto-grande-porto-review/>

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## New Zealand Motor Caravan Association Parks



Most of our customers are either current members of the NZMCA or choose to join the club when purchasing their first RV. A NZMCA membership comes with many perks and discounts, and you become part of a wider like-minded community.

One of our favourite offers are the NZMCA Parks located around the country and the Camp Saver Programme. I asked Matt to share his take of the parks and he kindly agreed to write the below. Enjoy the read!!!



"With the wonderful colours of Autumn setting in it certainly is a fantastic time to still enjoy the beautiful scenery this country has to offer. I particularly enjoy visiting the Hamner area and if I have the time, we may even explore further down South and over to the West Coast.

It is also a great time of the year to use the excellent network of NZMCA parks. They are a true credit to the association for the foresight and planning they have implemented. Jess, Mackenzie, and I, are currently planning a trip and intend to visit some of the parks along the way. We also plan to make use of the "Of the Peak Camp Saver Program" which incorporates 84 camp sites offering discounted rates of up to 25%. We are particularly keen to visit the Gentle Annie Seaside Camping Ground in Westport.

You can make use of their amazing wood fired stainless steel hot tubs or the onsite Cow Shed Coffee Shop that as the name suggests was once used as a milking shed. There is also a wood fired pizza oven in which you can concoct and cook your own pizzas. They even supply you with a wheelbarrow to head to the beach to collect driftwood, something that Mackenzie and I are very much looking forward too.

Below is the link to the NZMCA website who are promoting the program. You can look up all the details and find all the participating grounds.

<https://www.nzmca.org.nz/campsaver-programme>

The NZMCA are constantly building infrastructure around the country and opening new parks. The latest of which is in Koromiko and is currently going through the consent process. The addition will be a nice asset to the area. They have also trialed a partnership with KiwiCamp at Manapouri offering a full suite of facilities which has been well received and a resounding success. Going forward it is likely that this model will be extended to other parks around the country. KiwiCamp connection members will be granted access in exchange for a small fee to use the facilities with a cashless digital key system.

It is another great step forward and information how this works can be found below." Matt Gibson

<https://www.kiwicamp.nz/how-it-works>



**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.**

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