

### **Day 13 – Towards South Wairarapa, NZ [Thursday 03-Feb-2011]**

The drive down from Tongariro National Park was largely uneventful. We stopped at one place for a quick breakfast. It seems like the picnic areas are getting better down here compared to what we saw further up.



**Breakfast along the way. Chinese peanut butter (they used to make dog food). No worries.**



**The views from the road at the picnic spot in this part of NZ were quite spectacular**



**It's a "sheep vacation spot" – all you can eat and a place to crash at Stormy Point, NZ**

We drove by our campground but nobody was there, so we continued down to the shore by Palliser Bay. It was quite spectacular. It was 75F in the air.



**The coastline at Palliser Bay (southern edge of North Island, NZ) is impressive**



**Surfing is quite popular along Palliser Bay, NZ, especially when the tide turns.**



**Fishing seemed quite popular too at Palliser Bay, NZ**

I called Isabella and checked on things. More snow. It just keeps on coming back home. It sounded like things were under control. Our neighbors at home, the Williams, had kindly cleared the driveway a second time.



**Dude! Who are you looking at?**



**This farmland near South Wairarapa had an interesting ridge on it.**

After that, we headed up to a small town named Miltonborough. It is past the campsite by about 20 minutes. We walked around a bit and then went by the grocery store to top things off. We filled the car up, too, and then headed back to the campground.



**Farm country: downtown Miltonborough in the south part of the North Island, NZ**



**The two hyphens appear to be missing. Hey, let's have the olde shrimp salad!**

The owner was there when we arrived and we were shown an area where we could pitch our tent. The facilities were good, but even though he had a small pool, his water supply was limited. So he suggested we should hop into the pool rather than use the shower. Lilli did and when she thought it was cold, I was immediately convinced that I should stay back on land. I checked with the owner about driving over to the ferry in Wellington. He thought I should budget 2 hours for

it, especially considering rush hour in the morning. This means we need to leave the campground no later than 5:30AM.

We sat in the common room for a while as I updated the diary. Lilli read a book. The owner does not have WiFi so we'll have to wait with uploading new days from the diary until the next place.



**Working on the diary at the Gateway Motel Holiday Park in South Wairarapa, NZ**

While we were in the kitchen room of our small campground, we had the TV on. The weather has been so bad back home that the east coast of the US was on the local NZ TV.

We were the only tent campers at this small campground. There was another couple that was renting a small cabin as well. When we went to bed the wind was blowing quite a bit.



**Lilli was fascinated by these clothes pegs that were not spring loaded.**