

# 'Austineers' Hokitika-bound

**Janna Sherman**

Seventy-one people in 37 vintage Austins will arrive in Hokitika this weekend for the 'Austins Go Wild on the West Coast' rally, bringing together Austin owners from Dunedin to Wellington.

The cars often arrive in convoy. The Wellington group will arrive on the West Coast after a trip through Molesworth Station, then through Hanmer and Reefton.

Hokitika vintage car enthusiast and local co-organiser Keith Bradley will be joining the national rally for the first time in his recently refurbished 1935 Austin 7 Pearl Cabriolet – the only one of its kind registered in New Zealand.

He has owned the car for 45 years but it has been rebuilt over the past 18 months.

The programme for the weekend involves a meet and greet on Friday evening at the Hokitika Kiwi Holiday Park and Motels. On Saturday the 'Austineers' will venture out on a run exploring Kowhitirangi, the Hokitika Gorge and the West Coast Treetop Walk at Mahinapua. The rally will wrap up on Sunday after a visit to the Westland Industrial



**PICTURE: : Janna Sherman**

Vintage car enthusiast Keith Bradley polishes up his 1935 Austin 7 Pearl Cabriolet ready for its debut rally this weekend.

Heritage Park.

The VAR, is a national club of approximately 580

vintage Austin car enthusiasts.

Established 51 years ago, members meet alternatively in

the North and South Islands.

Last year's rally was held in Whanganui.