

VINTAGE VIEWPOINT



IS THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
MARLBOROUGH BRANCH OF THE VINTAGE CAR CLUB NZ

ISSUE NO 5 | May - 2026

VINTAGE CAR CLUB OF NEW ZEALAND

(MARLBOROUGH BRANCH)
INCORPORATED

AGM

TO COMMENCE AT

1:30 PM

24th MAY

THE AGM WILL BE HELD IN
THE **Redman Room**.

Bring a plate of finger food
to share for afternoon tea
at conclusion of AGM.

Feature Article :
**HARRIS FAMILY HARLEY DAVIDSON
(THUNDERGUT'S)**





CLOSE-OFF FOR THE VINTAGE VIEWPOINT

IS 7.30 PM ON THE FRIDAY FOLLOWING
THE COMMITTEE MEETING
(1st Wednesday of each month)

EMAIL CONTRIBUTIONS TO
CARYL.GRANT@GMAIL.COM

VINTAGE CAR CLUB MARLBOROUGH BRANCH

PO BOX 422 : BLENHEIM
E: MARLBOROUGH@VCC.ORG.NZ

Farewell from the Editor,

This is my last issue for the branch, as I head into my retirement I intend to finish the many projects I have at home and enjoy travelling with Mac both overseas, and around NZ with Millicent and Jennifer.

I have enjoyed my dozen or so years in the role and can say it was an absolute pleasure to work with the many contributors over the years. It is now time for someone else to take up the keyboard and make the issue their own.

This month I have had some fun with AI and leave these pictures as my thank you to the regular contributors.

The Next issue, June will be produced by Caryl Simpson - we will be in North Vietnam. Take note of the email **caryl.grant@gmail.com** I am sure she will be at the Wed morning tea just prior to the issue - 3rd June and would love to get any 'stories' and 'tales' you have of interest to the members.

I will be around, hopefully in the MG early next year and am still riding motorbikes although not the old ones, currently more into the electric motorbikes we have and off road adventuring!

Signing off for the last time,

Chris de Wagt



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WHAT'S ON THIS MONTH?

Fri 15th - Sun 17 May: Heritage Week - Museum to open

Sun 17th May :Motorcycle section will leave the park at 11am for ride to the Trout Hotel



Sun 24 May :AGM 1.30pm Clubrooms, small plate for afternoon tea.


WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Marlborough Branch extends a warm vintage motoring welcome to our newest members:

- ◆ **Paul Knight** — Blenheim
- ◆ **Ian Coates** — Blenheim
*Owner of a 1928 Chrysler 2-Door Sedan
(previously owned by Caryl and Grant Simpson)*

We look forward to seeing you both at future club runs and events.

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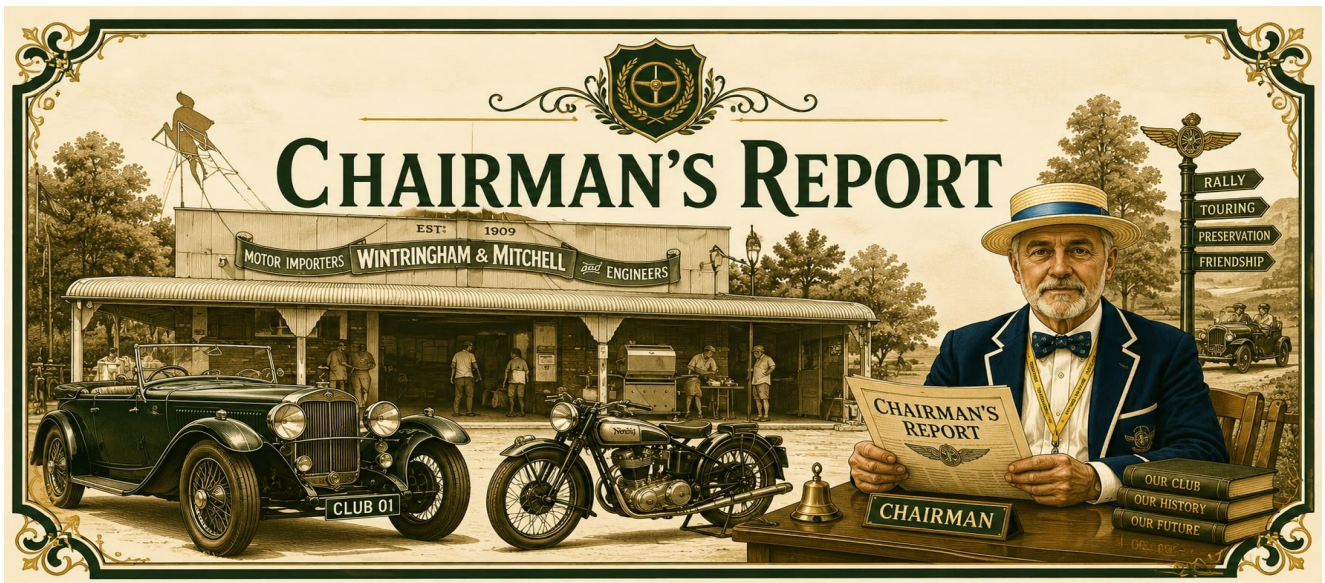
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TONY FLOOD Ph. 578 8176



Well this is the second chairman's report I've written this week the first being the required report for the AGM booklet.

Unfortunately due to ill health I haven't attended club meetings or any runs for approx a month, however I have kept up with the activities and work going on around the club facilities.

What a great response to Cath's visit to John Walshes museum collection of memorabilia I understand around seventy people turned out that day and John and his wife gave an amazing report on the history of Woodbourne farm from way back to previous owners, Govt take over for WW1/ WW2 and back into Walsh ownership post wars. This along with the viewing of various sheds and the homestead - which were also full of exhibits and a BBQ lunch supplied by the club made for a great day. Well done and thank you Cath and John and those who manned the BBQ etc.

The sound proofing in the Redmond room has been attended to by the building repair team, Thank you guys for your hard work here and from my seat on Wed morning I would definitely say the "acoustics" were better or at least the sound seemed to be duller and I could actually hear the other people around the table. Hopefully what has been fitted will be sufficient, however we can add further panels to the north of the room or the west wall if necessary, test it out see what you think and report back please. Again thanks to all the people involved with this job and the shelving alteration building work in the parts sheds, well done.

Our AGM is coming up at the end of May. I have decided to stand aside and let someone else have a turn at the Chairman's role. My reasons, are I took over from Kelly five years ago when he became ill, prior to that I was a committee member right back to when Lyall Mooney and Bob O'Malley were chairman and club captain, so that's approx 2015. So after 10/11 years on committee and chairman, current ill health has me deciding it's now time for someone else to sharpen their pencil and have a go. The committees I have worked with have been fantastic people, we have achieved much and all is well within the branch. I have enjoyed my time on committee, the contact with other branches, club members I have met at the VCC meetings out of town. I have learned a lot on the running of the VCC overall. Some of this will change under the new system due to begin soon.

I thank you all members of our branch for the opportunity to have been your Chairman and on committee and hopefully haven't upset too many along the way

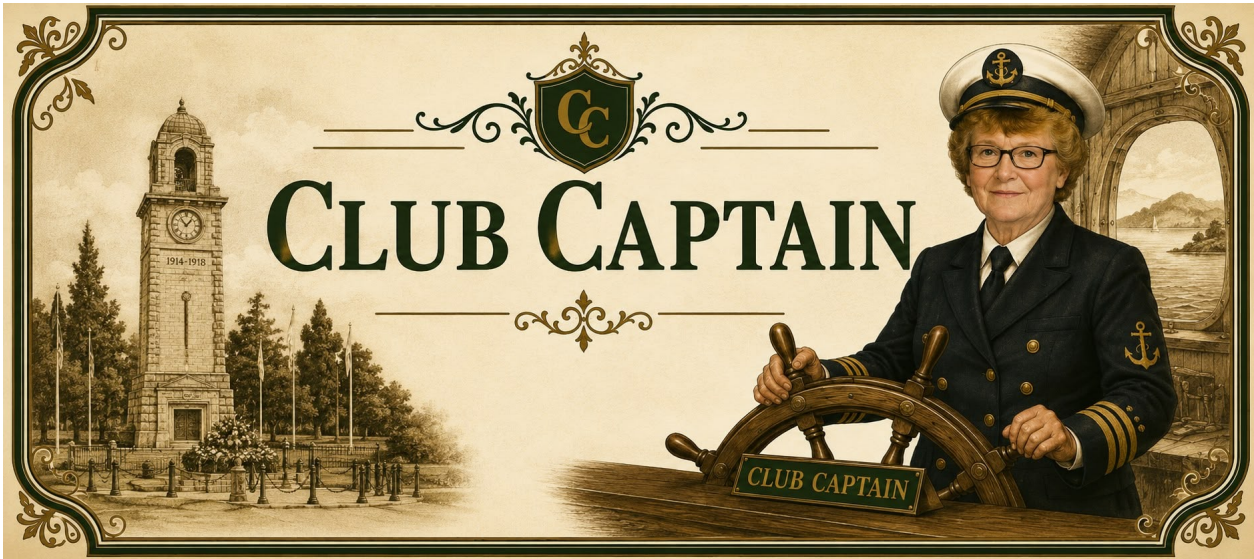
Please put your nominations forward for the AGM as two new committee will be required.

As I write this the night trial is under way and again, I've missed the event. Too cold and wet for me tonight, but for those who participated I trust Joy and Tris set you a good event and you all enjoyed the evening. The recent calendar list produced shows a lot coming up for a very busy club. Join in and enjoy it all.

That's all for now folks.

See you at the AGM

Regards Rob.



It's been quite busy in April. The Girl Guides used Patchetts Green for their fund raiser Car Rally and the forty-one members Club visited our museum for their outing.

On ANZAC Monday about 70 members on motorcycles and cars made a short run up to John and Lynne Walsh's property for an Anzac themed outing. This property is steeped in history and John gave a most informative talk about the farm and the significance it played during WWI. The farm was taken and turned into an airbase for the protection of Wellington should the need arise. One of the many hangers still remains on the property. The Homestead being used by the Officers. A BBQ lunch was enjoyed by everyone on the grounds around the Homestead. Thanks to Dale, David, Kaye, Janice, and Margie for the preparation and cooking and Chris for taking the BBQ up on Sunday.

We were delighted to host a visit on Tuesday from the Springland's Kindy children, with around forty budding young enthusiasts enjoying a tour through the Museum.

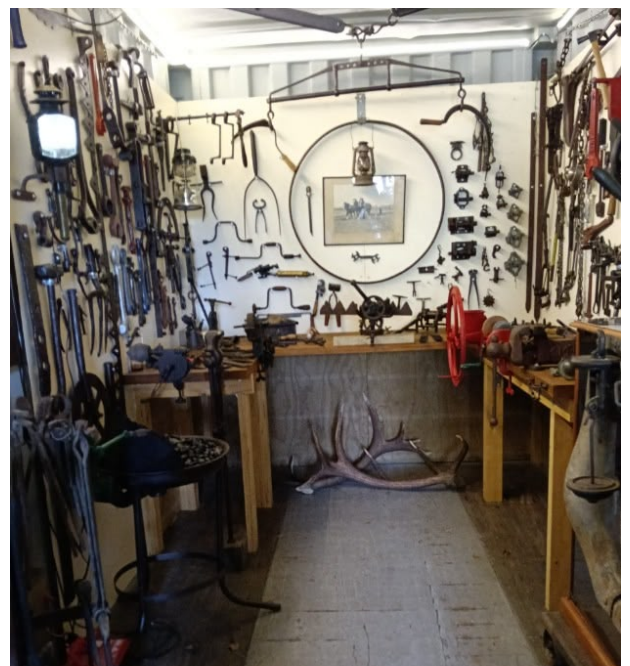
Trophies - It's time to return these please .

Keep Warm, **Cath Millar**

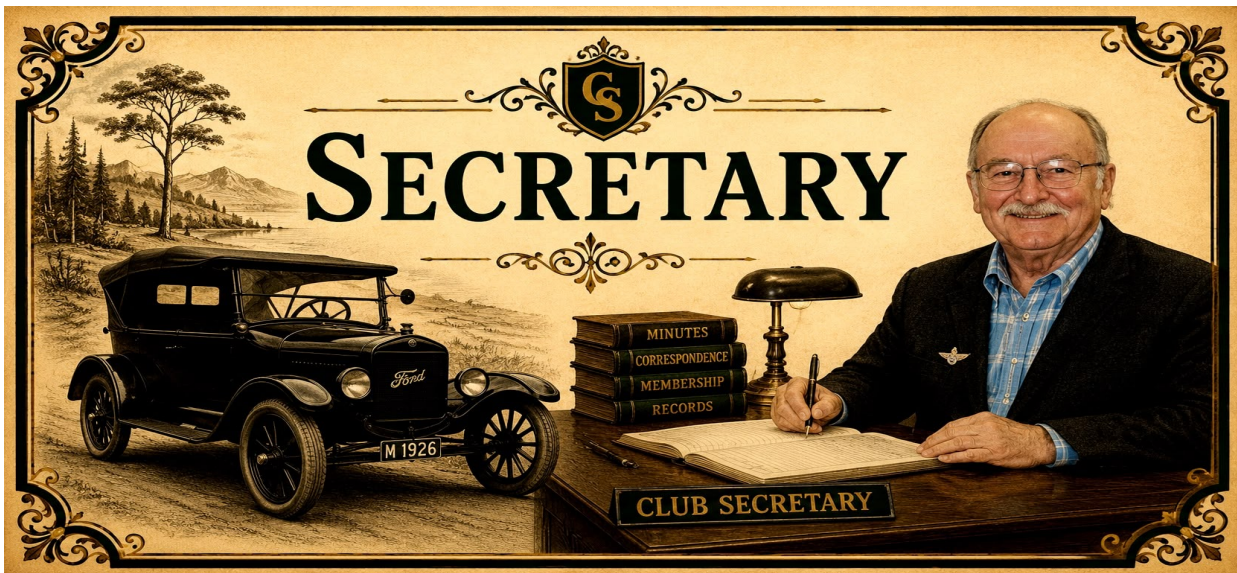




Woodbourne Farm Visit 27th Apr 2026







Well, here we are, in May. Month five of the year, over a quarter of 2026 gone already. Autumn is certainly upon us with much cooler mornings now although still great for Heritage Motoring.

May, and it is time once again for the AGM of the Branch. Please keep an eye out for notices about the meeting in Emails and the Vintage Viewpoint,

Each committee position is for nomination at the meeting so if you are keen to be involved, please consider putting your name forward. If you want to know what is involved, give me a call.

From our May Committee Meeting.

There is quite a bit happening around the Branch, and a few events already being organised over the next 6 to 10 months.

Sun Valley Roadsters request to open the museum on Saturday 30th May, A mid-winter lunch in early June, the Snow Run to St Arnaud on 25th July organised by Nelson, our Prize Giving in July, Daffodil Day on August 23rd, the Marlborough Trials, 30th August, we are hosting the Biennial rally on October 16th and 17th October, based in Kaikoura, the Capri Car Club request to use the grounds on Labour Weekend 26, and the Clubrooms for their AGM. The Coast to Coast Rally on November 5th to 7th where we are doing a light evening meal on the 5th, and into 2027 where in March we have an early Veteran run 6th to the 12th I believe, also the 18th National Model A Ford rally here on Saturday 13th to Wednesday 17th, and from 19 - 22, 2027 the Jowett car Club AGM and Meal.

This is without any of the normal club activities, like Wednesday Smokos, Monthly Club Runs or Noggin and Natters. Whew, I need a lie down!!

Around the grounds, things are looking great, with the mallow on Patchetts Green has been sprayed, and is slowly dying, and the garden areas looking great.

Those of you who have been in the Redman room this week would have noticed the sound deadening ceiling panels which were installed by Jon Haack, Jim Mclean, Gerry Roodakker, Murray and Rick Gleeson, over last weekend. The general consensus today was that they have made a difference, but we may need to install more going forward.

There is another roof being installed in the compound to make it easier to keep equipment and some of the parts dry.

At our meeting Rob asked who was not going to put their names forward for committee at the AGM. Rob has been in the Chair for 5 years and has decided to retire, along with John Russell, who has been part of the crew who have looked after the grounds and buildings for a number of years. Thanks to these two members who have put a huge amount of time into the Branch. Rob commented that he had been on the committee for 10 or 11 years, and it is time for someone else to lead the committee and the Branch.

I am heading to Australia for a quick trip next week with my son, who has a YouTube channel, Kiwi Farmer, he has been asked by one of his sponsors, Te Pari, who make livestock handling equipment, to head to NSW to film 3 large cattle operations over there who use their equipment. Only away for 3 days so a very quick trip. I will be back on board for the Wednesday Smoko the 20th.

I hope you have a great month of Heritage Motoring. **Chris Bird**



Marlborough Branch
VINTAGE CAR CLUB
INC.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday 24th May 2026

To be held in the Redman Room
Marlborough Branch Clubrooms

Meeting Commences
at 1.30pm.

AGENDA

1. Welcome:

please stand for a few moments silence in memory of those members who have passed away during the year.

2. Apologies

3. Minutes 2025 AGM.

4. Matters Arising:

5. Annual Reports

- Chairman
- Treasurer Financial Statement
- Club Captain
- Motorcycle
- Spares Custodian
- Kitchen Admin
- Museum
- BHPA

6. Election of Officers

Chairman, Club Captain, Secretary and Treasurer, and up to 6 Committee members.

7. General Business

8. Ratification of Operational

name change to Heritage Motoring Marlborough, as passed at last years AGM.

Chris Bird

Secretary

Marlborough Branch,

Vintage Car Club of New Zealand, Incorporated

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Marlborough Branch AGM - Notice Of meeting

AGM of the Marlborough Branch of the Vintage Car Club of New Zealand (Inc) to be held in the Redman Room VCC clubrooms, Brayshaw Heritage Park Sunday 24th May 2026 at 1.30pm

Nomination Forms

Please fill out nomination forms for the following positions.
Chairman; Club Captain; Secretary; Treasurer, and up to six committee members

.....

I Hereby nominate :

For the position of :

Proposed by:

Seconded by:

Accepted:

Nomination forms should be sent to the:
Secretary, Marlborough Branch VCC
by email to marlborough@vcc.org.nz
Or place in the box in the Redman Room.
Please have these in by Wednesday 20st May, at 10.30 am



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Natter & Noggin Evening – April 2026

Another enjoyable Natter & Noggin evening was held, with members treated to a hearty meal of sausages, mash and vegetables with lashings of gravy, followed by a delicious apple crumble and Ice-cream for dessert. Our thanks go to Dale and her trusty team for their efforts in preparing and serving a thoroughly satisfying meal.

Following dinner, we were treated to an engaging presentation by Chris Bird, featuring stages 2 and 3 of the Coast to Coast adventure from 'Vintage Driven'. Among the highlights was Harry Griffith in his Ford Twin Spinner, smiling as he talks affectionately about the amount of dust not on the outside of his car but the inside, as the group made their way from Hanmer Springs along the rugged Rainbow Road and into Lake Rotoroa.

At Lake Rotoroa, the humans paused for sandwiches while the sandflies enjoyed a feast of their own, before the day concluded in Reefton. The final stage saw the group traverse what seemed like every dusty road available before reaching the coast at Hokitika. It looked an inviting and memorable journey, though there was general agreement that while sleek sports cars may shine on sealed roads, this was a trip where ground clearance truly counts.

The evening wrapped up with a lively Natter, with laughter ringing out as one member shared entertaining stories from his youth—proof again that the social side of the club is just as important as the motoring.

For those who missed it—or simply want to enjoy it again—the three episodes can be viewed on YouTube – 'Vintage Driven'

Next Month

No Natter & Noggin as we have a busy calendar
 AGM on the 24th May
 and
 Mid-Winter Dinner on the 7th June.

Cheers Ged

**VINTAGE CAR CLUB
 OF NEW ZEALAND**
 (MARLBOROUGH BRANCH)
 INCORPORATED

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24th MAY

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 to share for afternoon tea
 at conclusion of AGM.

NOTICE TO CLUB MEMBERS

PLEASE NOTE OUR CLUB BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:

VINTAGE CAR CLUB OF NEW ZEALAND
 (MARLBOROUGH BRANCH) INCORPORATED

ACCOUNT NUMBER:
03-0599-0246604-00

— PLEASE USE SURNAME IN REF AND IN CODE INITIALS —



Hi everyone

Into the 5th month of the year, not sure where the months have gone. It's nearly 12 months since our AGM and the next one is coming up again at the end of the month.

Although we are nearly half way thru the year it has been very quite in the kitchen.

In April we supplied an afternoon tea for a group of 20 and also our natter and noggin was bangers & mash, with apple crumble for dessert enjoyed by 25 people, Chris showed us stage 2 & 3 of the coast to coast, was enjoyable and a few laughs.

This month we are not having Natter & Noggin as we have decided to have a mid-winter Christmas dinner on Sunday the 7th June this is going to be a luncheon. It will be \$25.pp and we will want names please.

That's about all from the kitchen this month. Keep warm and well now the winter is just around the corner.


Cheers from **Dale** and her **Ladies in the kitchen**



NO Natter & Noggin in May.
Sunday 7th June:
Mid-winter Christmas luncheon
\$25pp
Names Please

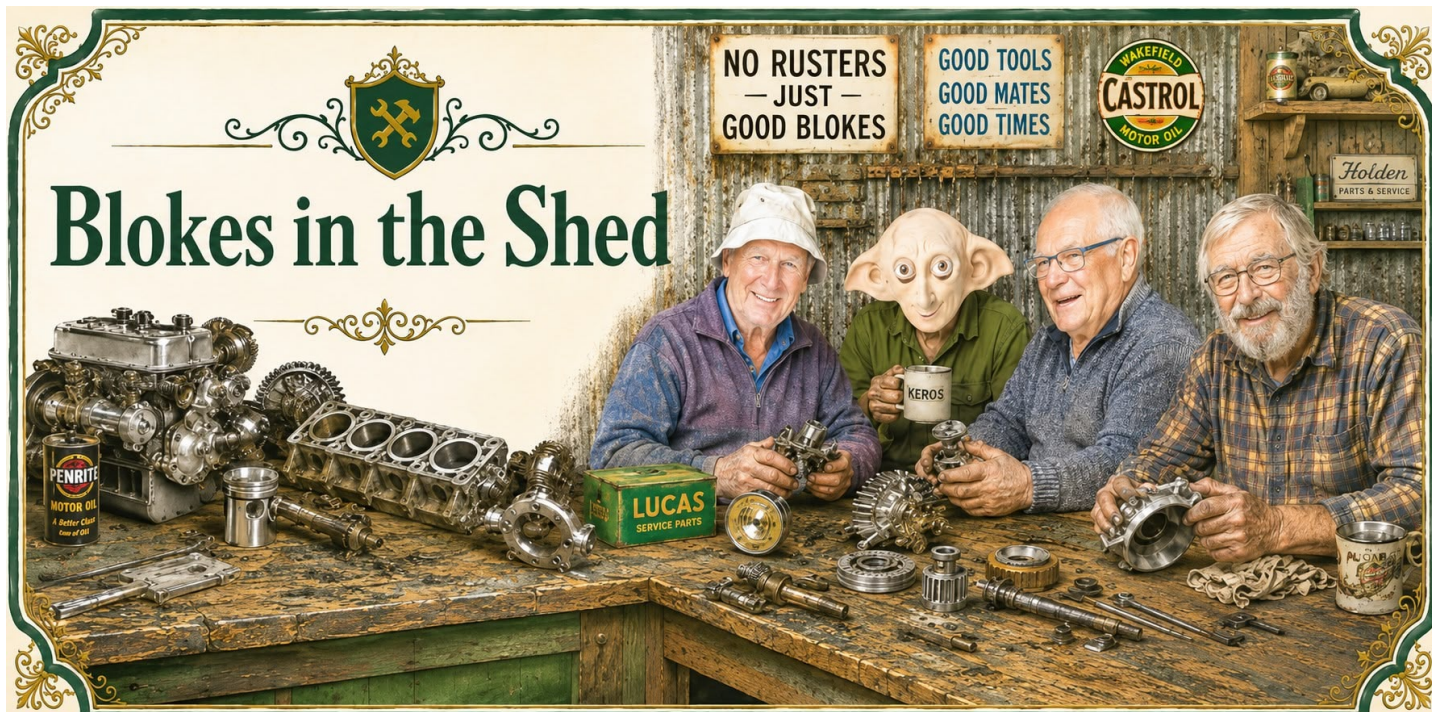

MID-WINTER

CHRISTMAS DINNER
Vintage Car Club Celebration



 **Date:** Saturday 7th June
 **Venue:** Redman Room
 **Gather:** 12 noon
 **Dine:** 12:30 pm
 **Cost:** \$25.00 per head
 *Bring your own refreshments*

 **RSVP:** Dale | **By:** 3rd June



Blokes in the Shed

The caretaker shed elf, Dobby, reported that all went exceptionally well with the spares team during the six weeks of my absence and that he appreciated being respectfully ignored.

Good progress continues with the completion of a number of tasks. All the second hand con rods, some with attached pistons, are now hanging in sets on a cunningly designed wooden dowel support system, thanks to Grant and Murray.

Dale and Pete in the workshop have done a sterling job of cleaning all the glass windscreens and their frames with these having acquired a dense burnt coating of carbon as a result of the fire three and a half years ago. The result is spectacular, and maybe these two blokes, in their younger days, could have gained these skills working the windscreen cleaning trade at some Auckland traffic intersections, - who knows?

All clutch pressure plates, thanks to Gary, have been cleaned up, had their dimensions and part numbers recorded with many now identified as to the vehicle they fit.

Rick is up to his armpits in AC mechanical fuel pumps. They are being sorted into design types and are really gleaming like new. What a difference.

Mac will soon be taking a well earned break from brakes. Thanks to Earl rediscovering his Austin 7 "bible", many of the A7 numbered parts can now be positively assigned a year of manufacture, rather than the vague "early" or "late" model.

A laundry tub, donated by Murray, has now been fitted by John R in the no. 2 shed and is a vast improvement on the old sink we had. Some training, as to which of the four taps to use, was provided to the blokes.

With the recently constructed roof in one section of the compound, the set of sliding doors against one of the sheds has now been removed. This has given us much better access to the stock, mainly engines and gearboxes.

Gerry and Grant have managed to sneak in a few pallets of random items, mainly long, heavy gearboxes, into the Trevor May shed. Where to put them?

Well, the only option available was to stand them, end on, into a space where we already had a couple of pallets of heads so these were extracted to eventually end up in the workshop to be sorted into makes by the now unemployed windscreen washers, Pete and Dale. Once sorted, we will find a suitable place to rest their heads. They deserve a rest.

Our Austin 12 stock is now stored in one easily accessible covered place in the compound, along with a whole lot of recently donated De Soto parts.

The Tuesday morning team is about to enjoy the pleasures of having a proper cup of tea made in a real teapot rather than a set of individually tea bagged cups. This was kindly provided by Dale in the kitchen and will sit with pride on our shed tea trolley. A volunteer to knit the tea cosy is sought.

We do have standards.

nibble

The bloke in the Perth shed...

After a Google search for all the top attractions to see and do in Perth, apart from catching up with grandson number one for his first birthday, I was astounded to find that they'd overlooked the best one - the Veteran and Classic car club of WA, in particular the spare parts sheds. An easy half hour drive got me there without any hassle on a Wednesday morning to see what they did, and how.

The Perth Parts site is enormous, catering for some 2500 members across WA - so about 10 x our Marlborough membership. The blokes, like us, were a very warm, jovial and welcoming team, and although some sympathy was expressed for my being from NZ, they admitted there were several migratory NZers on site as part of the Perth club. One of them took me on a quick tour - about one and a half hours.

The sheds are constructed to a design similar to ours, but with much greater height and floor dimensions. All floors are concrete and buildings are interconnected with most stock undercover. A lot of the funding has come from the lotteries commission to build and equip these sheds. Their only regret, however, was not insulating them to compensate for the Perth heat. It was a pleasant 37° on the day I visited and well over 40° inside - not so pleasant.

Access to all stock is good, with wide uncluttered passageways and there are several forklifts available. Emphasis is on safety, - enclosed footwear is essential and protective gear is provided where required.

The storage, labelling etc is similar to our own but on a much grander scale. There is a 51 page catalogue of parts listed in alphabetical order describing exactly where to find any particular item by Area, Shelf Number, Bay, and Level, together with a likely cost range for some parts.

They sell parts, "strictly to VCC members only and for the restoration of their own vehicles." It is specifically stated that, "parts are not to be acquired for the purpose of reselling for profit - this is not in the spirit of the club." As with us, parts are donated to the club from far and wide - much of it new old stock but occasionally incomplete. I watched them eagerly open a recently delivered box set of early Holden pistons 20 thou oversize, only to find five shiny new ones. Bugger.

They face the same challenges and decisions that we do - particularly with storage and what should be kept or scrapped. They actually send one large skip of scrap metal to recycle merchants roughly every two weeks.

The site also features four large, fully equipped restoration workshops, each nearly the size of our main shed:-

- 1) a garage with a pair of heavy duty 4 post hoists and a full set of tools.
- 2) a workshop dedicated to woodworking needs with saw benches, bandsaws, lathes and steam bending equipment where they can shape and build literally any wooden components such as hoodbows and wooden spoked wheels.
- 3) a fully equipped upholstery shop with three huge work tables, cutting and sewing machinery and stocks of material.
- 4) a panel shop with welders, cutters, benders and shapers which can handle repair or fabrication of most metal components.

Each of these workshops has an expert on site who will happily guide you through the process free of charge or will do the job for you for a reasonable fee. These facilities are well used not only by the VCC members, but also by the military restoration enthusiasts affiliated to the club.

I was most impressed with everything I saw - the warm, personable welcome, the physical organisation of the spares, the cataloguing systems and the facilities. Our own committee may need to be prepared for some future serious correspondence from us, the local blokes.

nibble

Perth Vintage Car Club Parts Dept.



It's amazing what happens around here when nobodies looking. Big thanks to the team and special thanks to Cath and Gerardine for spoiling us with morning teas and lunch.



BELOW:

Jon Haack, Cath Millar, Murray Gleeson, Gerry Roodakker, Rick Gleeson, Jim McLean and Chris Bird



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The monthly run was cancelled due to poor weather that proceeded to improve after I pulled the pin, on the plus side we had a catch up over lunch at Fairweather's. The following weekend nine of us did a quick ride to Redwoodtown rest home for several of the residents who had a motorcycle background. Common sense decreed that due to the fact we were going less than 3km from the park the backup trailer would not be a requirement and as well all know assumption leads to the mother of all stuff ups, one bike needed an absolute thrashing to start and a second didn't get out of the park before all the gears in the gearbox magical disappeared, never a dull moment with motorbikes. And just to make sure of a full calendar ten of us joined in on the car run to John Walsh's at Woodbourne farm, well organized by Cath, everyone had a fine time poking around in sheds.

Looming on the horizon is next year's National motorcycle rally 12th to 14th of February in Timaru, barring Canterbury holding it, this is as close as we are likely to get it travelling wise so if you have been keen to attend a National, Timaru would be a good choice. Entry forms are due out at the end of the month and at this stage I know eight definite from Marlborough, booked at the Top Ten Holiday Park, these are always a good weekend (or week if you do the after-rally tour) with 150 plus bikes so is worth the effort.



Redwoodtown Rest Home Motorcycle Visit



Smoke: Glenn cooking something on the BBQ, or is he merely starting his bike?



Mindy and others admiring a 1936 Matchless

Steve has something in his eye as he shares information with an enthusiast



Some of the group getting ready to depart

HARRIS FAMILY HARLEY DAVIDSON (THUNDERGUTS)

Specifications

Year: 1928 Model J CC 986.18 (60 Cubic inch)

Horse power 8.76 Bore 88.9mm (3 1/2 inches) Wheelbase 59 1/2 inches

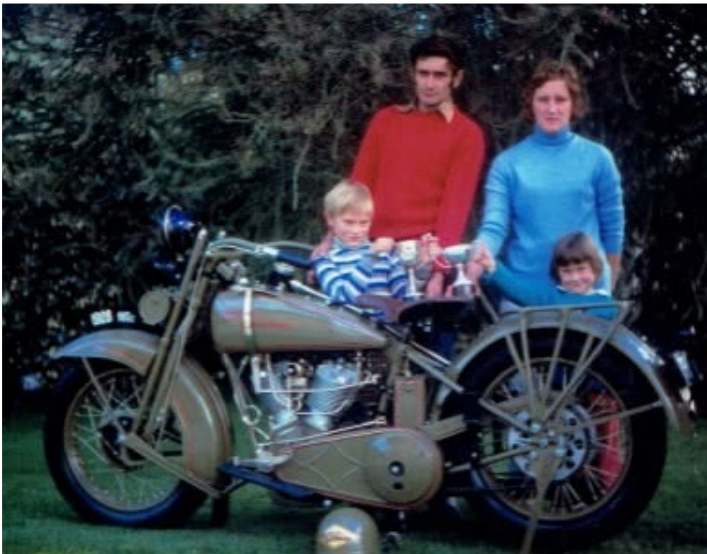
Weight 425lb (standard equipment)

Originally owned by the Donald family of Havelock suburban. After a mishap the Harley was retired to a shed and left there. Would be buyers made offers to buy it all of which were declined until sometime probably in the late 1960's Norman Collins purchased it. I was married to Norm's sister Doreen, and we were at the family home when Norm arrived with Harley. With a battery hooked up and some petrol poured in, remarkably the Harley started up. Over the years of storage oil had found its way from the oil tank into the sump and Norm, the Harley and the backyard disappeared in a cloud of smoke. Norm completely stripped Thunderguts as he called it and started some minor restoration work. Tragically he died in 1973 and a few months later his wife offered me the Harley. I arranged for Monty from Aero Cycles to value the boxes of parts and Doreen and I met Monty where the parts were stored. He said \$200 and sadly we declined.



We had bought a section, built a house, laid lawns, paths and a driveway, built fences and a garage and had two preschool age children, \$200 was not exactly surplus cash. We were

almost back home when my heart overruled my brain. I stopped the car and said "bugger, lets buy it" and we did a u turn. We now owned a trailer load of forty-three-year-old Harley Davidson parts, and I was almost clueless about how to sort, restore and reassemble it all.



Fortunately, I had an old uncle who had spent a lot of time in his youth 'honing' about on motorcycles including Harley Davidson's. He became a regular visitor at weekends sorting and assembling parts. Doreen and I went to Christchurch and spent two days visiting three VCC members who owned and restored Harley's in the same era and model as ours.

Photos and notes were taken and advice received. One of those visited was N.Z.'s early Harley expert Geoff Hockley who became a friend and an enormous help. During the restoration he stayed in touch providing advice and literature. He even insisted we take the bottom end of the motor to him, and he would strip it and take it too a reliable reconitioner to do any work which might be needed. All that was required was new roller bearing in the bottom end. The building and re-facing of tappits and valves was done by a former motorcycle shop owner, Jack Rutledge in his home workshop. Final assembly of the motor was done by the old uncle. Throttle, brake and advance and retard cables came ex old stock from Valentines in Napier. Foot and handlebar rubbers were re produced by a Canterbury member, so was the leather seat cover. It was fitted to the seat pan by a local saddler. The result brought tears to our eyes. Someone suggested we go to a retired Polish cobbler living in Seddon. He did it too perfection.

Geoff Hockley fitted Honda twin coils unseen inside the original Harley coil. The bulk of the painting was done locally by Russell's and the smaller bits we did ourselves. Most of the plating was done by Pratts in Nelson. An oblong cushion was made to fit on the rear carrier for Doreen to sit on. Two years and one day after Norms death we registered his Harley on the 28/2/75.

Our first outing on the Harley with the Marlborough VCC was on the 23rd of March to Pukaka Valley. Our first rally was the 1975 VCC Canterbury Silver Anniversary Rally. Since then, Thunderguts has competed in branch rally's locally, on the West Coast and several in Nelson.

Two of the local rallies were classified as South Island National Rallies. Eighteen national motorcycle rallies have been attended by riding on roads from North Cape to Bluff. At all the early rally's National and Provincial Doreen sat on her cushion and did the navigating. Later Glenn took over the cushion until he finished his own restoration and Doreen returned for one at two more nationals. Eventually I ended up doing my own navigating. Not always successfully.

At the Northland National I saw far more of Northland than any other entrant, but I did finish. Following the instruction and ending up at the right place was my main focus at any rally. Ending in the right place at the right time was something I only fluked on rare occasions. A second place in the vintage class was achieved in Otago in 1999.

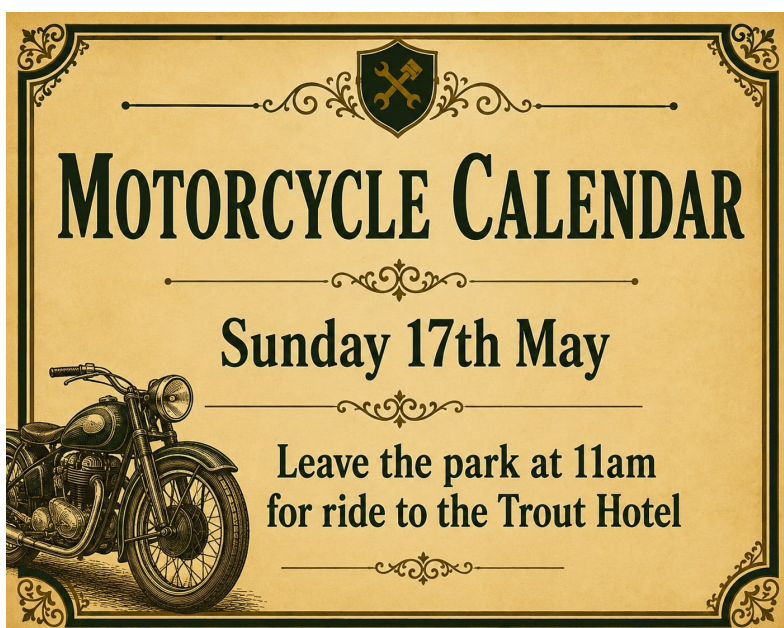
In Cromwell in 2015 I shocked myself and probably some of the more competitive Harley riders by winning the Geoff Hockley memorial trophy for best performance by a Harley rider. Some credit must go to Thunderguts for not missing a beat all day.

The 2017 National was based at Waitomo. At the time Doreen was in a rest home being assessed for permanent care. Rally day was wet. The rally start was at the top of a steep bank exiting on to the highway through Waitomo! The rider ahead of me had to give way, 1928 Harley front brakes were not designed to hold the motorcycle with full gas tanks and rider on steep inclines. We slid back a few feet and fell over. Early in the rally I missed a turn, (so did a lot of others) but eventually got back on track. My head and my heart were not in it. Passing through a small town I saw Paula stopped in the van, I gave her my lunch ticket and said I am going back to Waitomo. Not a great performance but pulling out was probably the safe option.

I rode Thunderguts in the 2018 Marlborough Branch 60th Anniversary Rally and was entered for the National Motorcycle Rally hosted here in 2019. I spent the week before the rally in hospital and was discharged on Friday but was not fit to ride in the rally. Further health issues meant I would not ride again and Thunderguts is now in Glenn's care.

Was the \$200 spent 63 years ago a wise expenditure, riding on back country roads in possibly every province in NZ I have seen places and things I would not have seen. I have made friends I would not have met. Yes, it was a good decision.

Thanks for the ride, Thunderguts.



A decorative poster with a gold border and ornate scrollwork. At the top center is a shield-shaped logo containing crossed tools. Below the logo, the text reads: **MOTORCYCLE CALENDAR**, **Sunday 17th May**, and **Leave the park at 11am for ride to the Trout Hotel**. On the left side, there is a detailed illustration of a vintage motorcycle.



A decorative poster with a gold border and ornate scrollwork. At the top center is a shield-shaped logo containing the letters 'MVC'. Below the logo, the text reads: **PELIMINARY NOTICE**, **VCC Marlborough Branch is to host the Biennial Rally**, **16th—17th October 2026**, **In Kaikoura**. The text continues: **This will be based at Donegal House, for bookings mention VCC—there are 10 accommodation units available. The Saturday evening meal will be held on site.** **The Rally events will start from Donegal House on Saturday morning**. At the bottom center is a circular logo for **DONEGAL HOUSE KAIKOURA** featuring a house illustration.

SUNDAY 12th July 2026
8AM Gates open!
No Household crap & no Dogs

**Pleasant point
 automotive only
 Swap meet**

\$5 buyers \$10 sellers
 All proceeds going to local
 Ambulance service

**29 maze road
 pleasant point
 Ph: 0221321286**

PURCHASING PARTS from THE SPARES SHED

Any parts advertised for sale from the Parts Shed are able to be inspected Wednesday mornings.

Contact: Tris Winstanley
 M: 0274440834

Storage available

To keep your precious vehicle dry and safe over winter, Pak-It-In storage currently has two 6m x 3m car size units available for \$63/ week and a smaller, 5 x 3 car size unit available for \$55/ week.

We also have a variety of other units available for general self storage.
 Call Sue on 0210627306
 or Roy on 0211269229 for more detail.

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9 Pak Lim's Rd, Rimwick, Marlborough, 7204, New Zealand

Save the date

Sunday 26th July 2026

"Henry Ford" birthday meet

hosted by the
Ford Club Marlborough

More details to follow....

fordclubmarlborough@gmail.com

GARAGE SALE

Garage sale of
Stuart Johnson's
collection of veteran
and vintage car and
motorcycle parts.

Saturday 16 May
8am - 1 pm

15 Avening Close
Blenheim.

NOTICES

Hi Chris

I have been cleaning up my father's (Stuart Johnson) estate. He collected many veteran and vintage car and motorcycle parts. Given that my father was a member of the vintage car club for 67 years (Otago from 1959 until 2007 then Marlborough 2007 onwards). We would like to give first offer of purchase of items to the vintage car club members. We plan to hold a garage sale exclusively for vintage car club members. We would appreciate if you could put the following add in your next newsletter.

Paul Johnson

DOWN THE TRACK



SUN 7th JUNE
MID WINTER LUNCH
AT CLUBROOMS

SUN 12th JULY
PRIZE GIVING LUNCH
AT RENWICK

SAT 25th JULY
SNOW RUN

SUN 23rd AUGUST
DAFFODIL DAY

SUN 30th AUGUST
MARLBOROUGH TRIALS



VCC

Marlborough BRANCH OFFICERS

Patron:	Trevor Harris	03 578 4142
Chair:	Rob Galloway (Adele) or	021 129 9133 03 578 2395
Club Captain:	Cath Millar (Kevin) or	021 208 9166 03 579 1147
Assist. To Club Captain:	Jim McLean (Jean)	021 0257 3069
Secretary:	Chris Bird	027 247 1089
Treasurer:	Ged Haack (Jon)	027 275 6514
Committee:		
	Ross Broadbridge (Rose)	027 212 2902
	Gerry Roodakker (Jeannine)	022 030 4908
	Dale Nicholas (Bill)	021 0265 7507
	Gary Vercoe (Sue)	03 578 8570
	Jim McLean (Jean)	021 0257 3069
	John Russell (Mary)	020 409 77312
Custodians:		
	Model A & T: Kevin Millar (Cath)	03 579 1147
	Mini : Rob Galloway (Adele)	03 578 2395
	Parts: Tris Winstanley	027 444 0834
	Neville Grant (Yvonne)	021 195 7709
	Gerry Roodakker (Jeannine)	022 030 4908
	Mac McKercher (Chris)	021 266 4966
Electrical		
	Tiger Lyons (Eileen)	027 201 4239
	Arfa Anderson	027 444 4537
Museum Manager		
	Ross Broadbridge (Rose)	027 212 2902
Museum:		
	Bill Nicholas (Dale)	027 578 4322
	Don Laing (Linda)	027 315 6227
	Gary Vercoe (Sue)	03 578 8570
	Kevin Jackson (Helen)	021 102 8871
	Keith Thomas (Chris)	020 4193 6671
	Mike Gray (Karen)	027 4300 001
	Peter Able (Lois)	027 200 6976
	Laurie Stevenson (Elizabeth)	022 417 6341
	Rick Gleeson	021 085 09253
Kitchen:	Dale Nicholas (Bill)	021 02657 507
Motorcycle Section Rep (s)		
	Trevor Harris	03 578 4142
	Glenn Harris (Paula)	03 577 6453



Examiners

Paul Roadmall, (Daphne)	027 577 8328
Pat Pascoe	03 573 8964
Roy Gardiner	021 126 9229

Grounds Administrator

Cath Millar (Kevin)	03 579 1147
John Russell (Mary)	020 409 77312
Jim McLean (Jean)	021 0257 3069

Beaded Wheels Scribe

Cath Millar	021 208 9166
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Photographer

Linda Laing (Don)	021 09054895
E: lindylaing@gmail.com	

Newsletter Editor

Situation Vacant

Newsletter Distribution

Barry & Margie Wilson	03 578 1587
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Health & Safety Officer

Gary Vercoe (Sue)	03 578 8570
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Delegates to the Executive

Chris Bird	027 247 1089
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Observer:

Rob Galloway (Adele)	03 578 2395
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Brayshaw Park Admin Delegates

Don Laing (Linda)	027 315 6227
Gerry Roodakker (Jeannine)	022 030 4908

Branch Spokesperson

Rob Galloway (Adele)	03 578 2395
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Website: www.marlboroughvcc.com



