



November 2025 Issue 11

Vintage Viewpoint Marlborough



Viewpoint is the official publication of the Marlborough Branch of the Vintage Car Club Inc

EVENTS : November

Sun 16th Nov : Motorbikes leave the park at 11 am for a ride to the Trout Hotel

Sun 23 Nov : Marfells Beach. Meet Clubrooms 10.00am. BYO lunch

Fri 28th Nov : Christmas Natter & Noggin. \$25.00 pp.

A FULL EVENTS LIST IS ON THE LAST PAGE OF THIS NEWSLETTER AS USUAL

What Page?

Chairmans Report	3
Club Captains Report	4
Secretary's Scribbles	9
Blokes in the Shed & Update from the Kitchen Custodian	10
The Grape Vine	11
Motorcycle Report	12
Marlborough 'Yellow Pages' The local companies who sponsor this magazine.	13
Classifieds	14
Branch Contacts & Next Months Events Calendar	15

Russell's
PAINT & PANEL

Restoration Specialists

Classic & Vintage Cars.
Collision Repair & Insurance Work.

2 Park Terrace, Blenheim, 7201
(03) 578 7864 admin@rpp.nz
www.russellspaintandpanel.co.nz

The Front page photo of John May, Bill Gil, Gary Turner, John Anders, Ray Fairweather, Ian Dymond and Gary's children. We were getting the timber from the demolished building for the new club rooms most of it came from Cuddons' white wear shop. We were looking for the turntable site - which, when removed was back filled with veteran cars. We dug half the what is now the farmers car park. No luck we did find the hole.
Contributed by : **John Anders.**

MCKENDRY
MAZDA

MCKENDRY MOTORS LTD
58 CHARLES ST, BLENHEIM
03 578 3379

**Auto
SUPER SHOPPES**

NZ's PREMIUM AUTOMOTIVE CENTRES

TOPP MOTORS

WANTED

YOUR PHOTOS

Your newsletter needs photos
- if you have any from the runs or morning tea's / noggin' n natter *please*
send them to the Editor
vintage.viewpoint@xtra.co.nz
If you are unable to send via email talk to Mac on a Wed

CLOSE-OFF for the VINTAGE VIEWPOINT
is 7.30pm Friday following the Wed meeting 1st Wed each month.
Email: vintage.viewpoint@xtra.co.nz

VINTAGE CAR CLUB MARLBOROUGH
BRANCH PO BOX 422 : BLENHEIM
E: Marlborough@vcc.org.nz

Chairman's Report



Hi team,,

Geeeee — here we are again ,another month gone another newsletter, it only seems 5 minutes since I sat down to write a report last time and just to keep you all in the loop as this year is fast closing in - its only 58 days till Christmas.

This report will be short and sweet, as I have a lot to do today before Chris, Kevin and I head off on the coast to coast rally tomorrow morning. Apparently there are six entrants arriving from the North Island leaving their vehicles and trailers in my paddock whilst they also take the rally trip, around forty entrants in total.

The branch members pass our condolences to John Monson and family on the recent sudden passing of his wife Dot. A well attended funeral / farewell for Dot was held at the clubrooms last Tuesday.

Just a reminder we have another funeral / farewell for Charlie Rodger which is to be held in the clubrooms on 14th November.

The museum has been brightened up with the replacement of LED lighting and this has made a huge improvement .This work was generously carried out for us by Russell Greer a long standing member who is always very busy ,Thank you Russell for a great job.

We have a very keen possible buyer for Bruce's Austin 7, it's taking a while for things to happen, but as we know " Good things take time" so I'm pretty confident a sale will be made very soon.

Everything around the grounds, gardens and grassed areas of the clubrooms is looking tidy and well done to our grounds team. Jims re grassing program has resulted in Patchetts Green growing well and looking good now we just have to keep water up to it through the summer. Unfortunately the special tree donated by Cuddons in memory of John May has struggled to survive our Marlborough climate hot and cold. We have moved John's plaque to another suitable Kōwhai tree in the top garden.

All the best to those members who have had health problems recently, we wish you all a fast recovery.

Well that's all folks, I off to mow the lawns.

Regards Rob.



Presentation of the \$11, 000
from the Marlborough Branch
\collected for Daffodil Day.

Thank you again to all our
supporters.

Club Captain's Report



Hasn't it been nice having some warmer days. May it continue as I have arranged a run to Marfells Beach on Sunday 23rd Nov, meet at Clubrooms 10.00am.

Our 2026 Calendar is out now for sale and again features some of Linda's fantastic photography. \$15 each.

A small turnout of Club Cars displayed at Vines Village and with a few members in their modern we had a pleasant evening dining on the food from the stalls. (Whitebait Sammie's)

Our combined run to Linkwater was very well supported with some members unfortunately having a lengthy wait. Might have to do it differently next year.

Thanks to all members that make time to come on these outings, we usually have a good time and it is a great way to meet new members.

Remember to wear your Badge Madge.

Cath Millar

Linkwater Combined Run 2025







Renwick Festival of Wheels – 19th Oct

Gerry Spencer



On the same day as the club run was to Linkwater, I took my new Indian FTR R (Carbon) motorcycle to the inaugural Festival of Wheels at Renwick (11am-3pm). It was quite well supported as a family day out, with most of the activity around the bouncy castle and food vans. The grass was beautiful, the sun shining, however the wind which has been a feature of late was also present. There wasn't a huge number of vehicles, about 50 cars, 5 or 6 motorcycles, a score of trucks, some old tractors including a couple with engine transplants, however this was a commendable start.

While there was the usual clutch of Corvettes, Mustangs and the like, a brace of Triumph Spitfires, there were some interesting vehicles there, including older examples.



1923 Douglas T5, recently restored



A car I don't remember seeing before, at least not with all its doors open. The Sera was made for the JDM only

Spring Mixer at the Vines - Photos contributed by Gerry Spencer



Secretary's Scribblings



It is very hard to believe that we are only 6 weeks or so until Christmas. Where has the year gone?

I hope you all survived the strong winds of a couple of weeks ago. I was down at my son's farm at Oxford, and it was quite scary driving up a hill track to check on some cattle and nearly being blown off the track in the side by side. Spent most of the day inside with power off all day, and branches blown off trees around the garden, and trees down. Oh well, just another job to clean up, and plenty of trees to cut up for firewood.

From our committee meeting on Wednesday.

Geradine is doing a great job as treasurer, and we have very up to date accounts to peruse each meeting. She gives up an update on where our finances are, and we are in great shape.

As mentioned last month, you would have received a subscription notice, so you need to pay this as soon as possible as \$35 of that comes back to the Branch to keep us functioning for the next year.

We have calendars for sale, which Cath and Linda have organised, available for \$15

The double door chiller in the kitchen has been playing up recently. We are looking for quotes to replace this.

The grounds are looking great at the moment. Thanks to all those who have been involved.

The lighting in the museum has been replaced with new up to date LED tubes. This gives more light, and are far more efficient lighting, and less cost to run.

We discussed the costs of supplying printed copies of the Vintage Viewpoint for members who have requested this.

The cost of printing is on average is \$30 per year, and postage on top of that is \$35 per year.

This is a cost to the Branch of around \$2600, a benefit to those members which most members do not receive.

The Branch receives \$35 from your subscription amount each year from the National Office. This is the fund which allows us to continue to offer the service we do to all members.

I have sent an email to all those members who have email, that if you want to continue to receive a hard copy, you will need to pay for the privilege.

If you wish to still receive the Vintage Viewpoint as a printed copy, please reply to me on the branch email as soon as you can so we can make provision to charge you for this service. We will begin this service in January 2026.

If I do not hear from you, you will not get a printed copy after December but will continue to get it by email, which you can print off for yourself if you require.

On most printers there is an option to print in booklet form which I have done and looks good.

The cost as set out above for printed copies will be \$30 per year, and for those who are posted the cost will be \$65 per year, payable in advance.

There are some 12 members who do not have email and will continue to receive a printed copy.

A copy will be retained at the clubrooms for people to read but will not be removed.

We have decided to cancel the Clubrooms phone, as often it does not work, and most people now have a cell phone. This will be a saving of \$50 per month.

That's all for this time, have a great month of Heritage Motoring. **Chris Bird**

New Members

Katherine Omond, Moetapu Bay, Georgia Day, Blenheim, daughter of David Day.

Welcome to the Marlborough Branch of the Vintage Car club. We hope to see you at our events.



Someone has 'fixed' the club sign which was drooping recently in the wind.

About the sign, manifestly it is not a Council produced fingerboard, but produced 'in-house'.

Signwriting isn't as easy as it appears (nor vehicle pinstriping for that matter.)

Gerry Spencer

Blokes in the Shed...

Thanks to Gerry and a keen, agile and athletic team of retired "Charles Atlas" body doubles, space in the compound is really starting to emerge. Weeds were beginning to thrive and feel quite at home until Grant attended to them with delicate finesse. In fact, two covered bays have been cleared of a lot of parts, enabling the tractor to now be stored under cover in the compound. This has left considerable space in the workshop and has removed a potential fire hazard from the main building. Win - win all round.

Some long run corrugated iron and rafters have been donated to enable further covering of open space in the compound.

Rick Gleeson has joined the team and is grappling with the chaos of carburetored fuel systems and related parts.

Gary has finished with the bearings and is now progressing through the many and varied oil seals.

Brake linings continue to plague Mac, especially when he opens an already labelled box set only to find the contents are a mixture of different linings. The final document he produces will eventually be an accurate and exhaustive record.

Water pumps, both new and second hand, have been reorganised with many having been identified as to the vehicle they fit. All engine valves, ball & roller bearings and water pumps have been added to the club's website - spare parts division.

The pallets of recently donated Valiant and Ford parts, many NOS, have taken much of Tris's attention and the recent arrival of copious Austin 7 parts will, no doubt, take whatever undivided attention can be mustered up by the Major.

The blokes in the workshop continue to dismantle whatever components we send their way, either to check the quality of the internals or to separate steel from alloy before allocating to the relevant scrap containers.

nibble



Update from Your Kitchen Custodian

Another year has almost passed us by and I can't believe how quick 2025 has gone by, I hope everyone kept themselves safe and warm with the strong winds we had recently.

We have just been south for a week and where lucky we managed to stay ahead of the bad weather although it was very windy and cold at lake Tekapo.

Sadly, we have had a couple of our members pass, Dot Monson and Charlie Rogers, our condolences to their family's.

Well Christmas is just around the corner which means we have a few Christmas functions coming up.

There were twenty six at the natter & noggin and being pot luck we had a great variety of food thank you to everyone that has come along to these during the year it is always great to sit and relax.

The last Natter & Noggin for this year is on Friday November 28th. This is our Christmas dinner and it will be \$25.00 pp. I will require NAMES please.

The Grape Vine ..



THE TIMES THEY ARE CHANGING

Apologies to Bob Dylan for using the title of one of the big hit songs he wrote and sung but the title is appropriate for our branch.

Last month's grapevine touched on the Nelson safaris which were an annual branch event. Unless you are 55 years plus member you would not have participated on a safari. Even 55 years ago the safaris had changed. On the first safaris, many of the cars which motored over S.H. 6 to Nelson, were Veterans. Today members travelling to Nelson for a VCC event drive vehicles from the vintage class to the 30 years old class.

Likewise, our members have changed. The majority of the early members who drove to events in Nelson were aged from their late twenties to their late fifties. Quite a few children were present. Some of the children had no appreciation of vintage motoring and got bored and started fighting in the back seats. Worse some of them got car sick on the back seats.

A majority of those early members who travelled to Nelson events on S.H. 6 have since travelled on the highway, which leads to the pearly gates and where now are the cars which were seen regularly on those events? Very few are still owned within the branch. The obvious one is foundation member Ted Lucas's 1914 Model T Ford which Ted gifted to the branch and is on permanent display in our museum.

There have been suggestions that the T was originally owned by Frank Southgate who owned an early grocery shop in High Street, but the Southgate ownership has never been proven. It is known the T found its way to the Peake farm at Onamalutu where it was eventually dismantled. Most of the parts were gathered up by John Reid who was employed as a salesman by Lucas Bros garage and service station. John got the restoration of the car well under way but unfortunately lost his life in a railway level crossing accident.

The restoration was taken over by Ted Lucas who was John Reids brother-in-law. The 1928 Ford Model A, which is also on display in our museum, was purchased by Ted in 1958 shortly after the branch was formed. The A is now owned by Lucas family members living out of Marlborough so we can no longer claim it as a branch vehicle.

Along with the Ford T the only other vehicle in the branch I can think of as being owned by a foundation member is Graham and Carol Wiblin's 1928 Renault Vivo six. Foundation member Bruce Mantold located the Renault parked up in a side street on the north side of town. He is not sure how many previous owners it had had. The branch 1959 newsletter reported "Bruce has just about completed the Renault" and the October 1960 newsletter reported it was motoring. Bruce later resigned to pursue other interests and Renault, needing some repairs, was parked up again. Graham and Carol purchased it in the mid to late 1970's and gave it another extensive restoration. It has since participated in possibly more branch outings and rallies as well as rallies around N.Z. than any other branch vehicle. There would be very few state highways in N.Z. Graham and Carol have not viewed through the windscreen of their Renault.

To be continued.



motorcycle group
Wednesday night ride –
just before departing in a
haze of blue smoke and
flying gravel

Gerry Spencer

Motorcycle Calendar

Sunday 16th November

**Motorbikes leave the park
at 11 am for a ride to the
Trout Hotel**

Motorcycle Report



First up this month was the Canterbury swap meet which is always well attended by the local motorcyclists hoping to score an elusive part. Zig who had scoured the length and breadth of both N.Z. and the States for the ID buttons for the back of his motorcycle horns picked up two from a Marlborough members site, Steve procured the correct muffler for his Honda step thru and showed great restraint while being egged on by a couple of so called mates late at night who were trying to convince him to buy another step thru parked on a site opposite, after a cursory once over by a cell phone light it was deemed in pristine condition and Steve should grab it quick, in the light of day and clear heads however it seemed to have deteriorated greatly overnight and Steve was left to wonder what sort of mates he has. The Harris gang scored a Harley clutch and a box full of Honda indicators and a couple of other members picked up some bits.

The combined run to Linkwater had 7 bikes, Giles and Wendy debuted yet another restoration with Wendy on a 250cc Panther which Giles has given a freshen up and repaint, and in keeping with the 250 theme Giles rode his 250cc Royal Enfield. Kelvin continues to run in the Trident after its recent engine rebuild, and Steve is making the most of his recently acquired BMW. Cath did a good job of keeping track of who had and hadn't been fed and following up with the kitchen staff, which was appreciated.

The Wednesday night run finally got good weather with ten bikes on the grid for a rip around Hawkesbury. Barry put in an appearance straight off the ferry after taking part in a rally up north, Jerry after riding his moped in the last run went to the other extreme this time riding his modern Indian which are not the most common bike around, who are now owned by Polaris they have taken the iconic name and are producing modern bikes with all the bells and whistles. Both Roy and Derek brought their Vincent's out and the only casualty of the evening was Ben whose rear tyre had all the air depart while he was having a cuppa afterwards.

Now motorcyclists tend to give and take a fair amount of good natured banter (that's the polite term) take Wade for example who was fortunate or unfortunate enough to purchase a rolling chassis of a 1950's Triumph minus the engine at the swap meet, the downside was he had to push it past the Marlborough and Christchurch motorcyclist sites. His walk of shame was greeted with loud clapping and encouraging comments of " bloody English bikes always something falling off " i.e. the engine "that will be the only time it wont leak oil " " get used to pushing you will be doing a lot more " and the icing on the cake " that's the only time a Triumph sounds as good as a Honda " all taken with a smile on his face and a suitably anatomically impossible suggestion to us all. Another who got a little good-natured banter was Mindy, I promised I wouldn't mention it but it's not everyday you go to the swap meet and buy a lorry! Well done you. Entry to the national commercial rally is now a reality and there is room for at least two BSAs on the back, we look forward to seeing you out and about in its best score of the swap meet. December motorbike run will be the 2nd Sunday of the month (14th) as the 3rd one is too close to Christmas.

Glenn





For a
**COMPLETE AUTO
ELECTRIC SERVICE**

12 OPAWA STREET

All wiring & Complete Rewiring jobs

P: 578 4900

Service Exchange generators, Alternators &
Starters VINTAGE WORK WELCOME

E: blenautoelec@xtra.co.nz

Blacks Fasteners Blenheim

Leaders in Quality Selection and Service
Leading Brand Product - Specialist Knowledge
Efficient Service The largest stockist of bolts, nuts and building
fasteners at competitive prices

1 Sutherland Tce - Blenheim
P: 03 579 6280 F: 03 578 0835



Riverside Refinishers

Craig Noble 027 577 5166
40 Park Terrace, Blenheim

Riversiderefinishers@yahoo.co.nz
www.riversiderefinishers.co.nz

RADIATOR SERVICES

44 MAIN STREET - BLENHEIM (1983)

RADIATORS - RECORES

EXCHANGE - REPAIRS

& CLEANING



Justin Howard
Ph 0210412185

John Nicholson
Ph 0210 878 0005

4B Manchester st
Riverland 7274
Blenheim

jjscustomsandrestos@gmail.com



**-MARLBOROUGH-
PANEL
& PAINT**

admin@panelpaint.co.nz | PHONE: 578 4192

VEHICLE VALUATIONS

Classic, vintage vehicles and all Trucks

For Insurance, Tax man and Lawyers.
35 years' experience with valuations in
Nelson & Marlborough Area.
Give me a call and I will come to you.

Patrick Pascoe City Motors Ltd RMVT
Phone 0274421786



Guthrie Bowron

40 Main Street
Blenheim

P: 03 578 7900

F: 03 578 4837

www.guthriebowron.co.nz

**Locally Owned and Operated
Trade & DIY**

Supplies for

- Quality Dulux & British Paints
- Ashley, Vision & Exclusive imported wall coverings
- Marine & Industrial Coatings
- High Grade Auto Finishes
- Flooring
- Giftware

...And advice you can rely on!



Blenheim Testing Station

you're good to go.

Specialising in Independent, Unbiased Vehicle Inspections

6 Dodson Street

7.30 - 5pm Mon to Fri / 8am to noon Sat

P: (03) 577 9942

PURCHASING PARTS *from* THE SPARES SHED

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

Chevrolet

radiator badge selection.

Dodge car radiator surround,

circa 1930/31, has a good badge.

Dodge light truck

s/v engine circa 1953/4.

Essex Four

engine and rear axle assembly.

Ford Escort n.o.s.
water pump. **P. O. A.**

Fordson E83W

selection of parts.

Hupmobile

An assorted selection of mid to late 20s Hupmobile mechanical parts

1934 to 1937 International

light truck C1 ?, excellent chassis on powder coated wheels with new tyres, two engines, rear axle , two front axles, drive shaft, fuel tank, front fenders plus other sheet metal and woodwork for patterns, POA.

1930s Morris Minor

Front axle with wheels and bumper

Vintage era steel rear trunk complete with lid and corner fittings etc. Open to offers.

Wolseley 1250cc Engine

complete with after market cast aluminium tappet cover.

MGB 1.800 engines.

One complete and turns over.

1923 Swift tourer project,

car is completely dismantled but is reputed to be complete (no guarantees) POA to custodians.

For Sale

Various Matchless and AJS Parts

including a new Amal carburettor never used

and a rear wheel stand for pre 50's

Seat in good condition 1950's

Rear metal Guard (top section only)

Lots of sundry bits n bobs

Any reasonable offer considered

Contact **Chris 021 251 4322**

Cars For Sale

AUSTIN SEVEN

Austin Seven two door sedan 1929.

Restored but Some work required, many spares, selling for Health reasons,

price Neg..

Bruce Rumble M: 0211299133 for contact details



BYRNEBUILT
ENGINEERING LIMITED

Adrian Byrne

021 456 936

Email: byrnebuilt@xtra.co.nz

www.byrnebuilteengineering.co.nz

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

We Offer

- Mobile Welding 3 x Portable Welding Plants 24/7
- Specialist Earthmover repairs
- General Fabrication & welding
- Machining & Lineboring
- All Vineyard equipment service & repair
- Service agents for BRAUN Undervine Weeders

Marlborough BRANCH OFFICERS



Patron: Trevor Harris 578 4142

Chair Person : Rob Galloway (Adelle)
Mobile 021 129 9133 578 2395

Club Captain : Cath Millar (Kevin)
Mobile 021 208 9166 579 1147

Assistant to the Club Captain:
Jim McLean (Jean) 021 0257 3069

Secretary: Chris Bird 027 247 1089

Treasurer:
Geradine (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) 578 8570
Jim McLean (Jean) 021 0257 3069
John Russell (Mary) 020 409 77312

Model 'A' & 'T' Custodian :
Kevin Millar (Catherine) 579 1147

Mini Custodian : Rob Galloway (Adelle) 578 2395

Motorcycle Section Rep (s)
Trevor Harris 578 4142
Glenn Harris (Paula) 577 6453

Examiners
Paul Radmall, (Daphne) 027 577 8382
Pat Pascoe 573 8964
Roy Gardiner 021 899 243

Parts Custodians
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 2014239
Arfa Anderson 027 444 4537

Security - Mike Gray (Karen) 0274 303 001

Librarian: Barry Wilson (Margie) 578 1587

Museum Manager
Ross Broadbridge (Rose) 027 212 2902

Museum Custodians
Bill Nicholas (Dale) 027 578 4322
Don Laing (Linda) 027 315 6227
Gary Vercoe (Sue) 578 8570
John Monson (Dot) 578 9044
Kevin Jackson (Helen) 021 102 8871
Keith Thoms (Chris) 020 4193 6671
Mike Gray (Karen) 027 4303 001
Peter Able (Lois) 027 200 6976
Laurie Stevenson (Elizabeth) 022 417 6341

Kitchen Custodian :
Dale Nicholas (Bill) 021 02657 507

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

Beaded Wheels Scribe

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

Newsletter Editor
Chris de Wagt (Mac) 021 251 4322
E: vintage.viewpoint@xtra.co.nz

Newsletter Distribution
Barry & Margie Wilson 578 1587

Health & Safety Officer
Gary Vercoe (Sue) 578 8570

Delegates to the Executive
Chris Bird 027 247 1089
Observer:
Rob Galloway (Adelle) 578 2395

Brayshaw Park Admin Delegates
Don Laing (Linda) 027 315 6227
Gerry Roodakker (Jeannine) 022 030 4908

Branch Spokesperson
Rob Galloway (Adelle) 578 2395

Clubrooms Phone : 578 0616

Website: www.marlboroughvcc.com

What's on this month

Sun 16th Nov : Motorbikes leave the park at 11 am for a ride to the Trout Hotel

Sun 23 Nov : Marfells Beach. Meet Clubrooms 10.00am. BYO lunch

Fri 28th Nov : Christmas Natter & Noggin. \$25.00 pp.

Further down the road

14th Dec : the motorbike run will be the 2nd Sunday of the month as the 3rd one is too close to Christmas.

MARLBOROUGH BRANCH

November 2025

Issue 11

Vintage Viewpoint

IF UNDELIVERED RETURN TO : 10 HOUGHTON CRES, BLENNHEIM

