

### Our Growing Industry

Our industry is in good heart. Demand for Sauvignon Blanc wine internationally is very strong, and as a consequence we are involved with a number of large development projects.

We continue to have a good level of enquiry from wine companies looking for new contract growers.



Across the district there has been some strong sales of established vineyards and these have shown a firming of prices, which is a good indicator of confidence in the future.

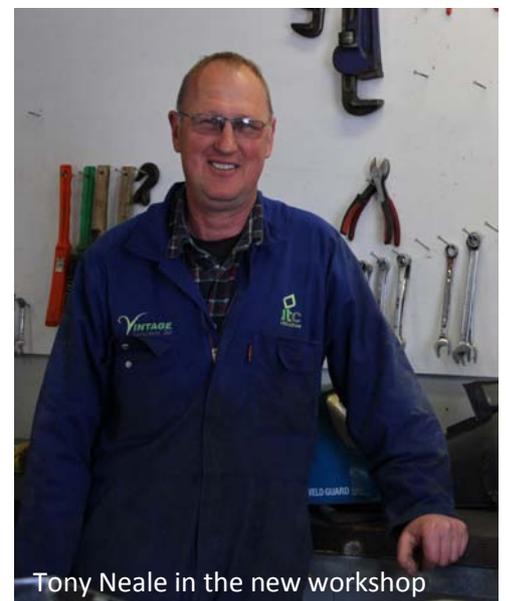
If any of our clients are in need of Sauvignon grape plants for spring replacements or other projects we have a good reliable supply, please contact Jason or Melissa.

### New Buildings

We have invested significant capital into servicing our expanding fleet of machinery with the recent addition of a large purpose built workshop. The maintenance of our modern fleet of tractors, harvesters and vineyard equipment, is very important to an efficient operation.

Our engineers now have a great facility with plenty of space and full lighting – an essential requirement during harvest when our machinery needs to be worked on at all hours of the day and night. We have also been careful with the use of space and we have incorporated storage areas into a mezzanine area.

This area is invaluable for storing all our out of season gear such as harvester belts and other machinery parts. Another improvement has been the introduction of fixed air lines throughout the building making their work flow more efficient and safer.



Tony Neale in the new workshop



## New Equipment

The John Deere tractor has been the mainstay of our business for over 25 years and has proved over time to be a reliable workhorse. Our considerable fleet of older tractors is being steadily replaced with the newest and more efficient latest JD models, these provide greater fuel efficiency and operator comfort. We are strong believers in using the best available technology, to be as efficient as we can be in all our operations.

Our current two recycling sprayers will have the addition of a third new machine for this season. Fruit quality is the most important consideration for quality wine, with sprayers that apply fungicides

efficiently with excellent coverage and at the right time, we can

consistently provide clean fruit for the winery.



One of the new recycling sprayers in action



The new John Deere line up



## New Staff

Chris Ireland joined our staff late in 2013. Chris has a Bachelor of Applied Science (Viticulture) from the Charles Sturt University of Wagga Wagga, and brings to our team added technical strength to compliment Melissa and Hamish. He has held a number of positions in our industry and has a heap of practical vineyard experience. Chris is a keen multisport participant, until he became a dad of course, now most of that is couch based.

Aaron Toms is an experienced machinery operator who has

worked in a number of industries. He is a man of many talents who can turn his hand to many different jobs.

Nicky Bright took over the administration management during September. She brings a wealth of much needed order to what can be for many of us an unpleasant chore. Nicky has had a lot of practical experience both self employed in her own business and working in winery administration. She is often seen riding her large Triumph on the roads of Marlborough.



Chris, keeping an eye on the planting

## Websites

Have you visited our websites? [www.jtcviticulture.co.nz](http://www.jtcviticulture.co.nz) and [www.vintageharvesters.co.nz](http://www.vintageharvesters.co.nz)

## Other Jobs

Spring is upon us and growth has finally taken off and despite a few cold mornings it feels as though summer might be somewhere around the corner.



We have started doing inflorescence counts this week on some of the early blocks and next week we will be starting the Sauvignon Blanc. We will also start petiole sampling soon. These foliar samples give us an excellent

snapshot of vine health and vigour prior to flowering and if taken early enough give us an opportunity to correct any vine deficiencies. If you have any technical queries don't hesitate to give Melissa or Chris a call in the office.

## Contact Us

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