



BEFORE



AFTER



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Why maintaining your motorhome is so important

Matt Kew, the owner of Thames-based Autotech Panelbeaters, says everyone knows that if we keep on top of maintenance, no matter what we own, it pays off in the long run. And that's especially true of a valuable asset like your motorhome.

Here are Matt's tips to help keep your motorhome in tip top condition:

At Autotech we offer a great service where we go over your motorhome with you; pointing out areas of concern regarding the upkeep of your motorhome; and suggesting ideas to give your motorhome a bit of a spruce up to bring it back to its former glory.

It is amazing what a cut and polish on the paintwork and changing decals can do for the looks of your motorhome. Also a regular cut and polish really does protect your paintwork – preventing the situation where the paint breaks down to such a point that your motorhome needs an expensive full repaint.

Because New Zealand's intense UV rays are some of the harshest in the southern hemisphere, over time sealers, tapes and panels break down too. So motorhome roof maintenance is probably one of the most important aspects of caring for your vehicle however it's often overlooked due to it being largely out of sight.

But this is one situation where being out of sight should not be out of mind! Every so often an inspection of your roof is an important part of your maintenance; checking roof seams and looking for any sign of product breakdown. Vents, for example, can become very brittle over the years and crack easily, enabling a leak to start to form. Most times you are completely unaware of the problem until signs of dampness begin to appear which then lead onto more serious issues.

At Autotech we are more than happy for you to pop in so we can check out any concerns you have with your roof. We have got a great ladder – especially purchased to help our customers view their roofs, most of them for the very first time – which is a great way to inspect your own

hatches, vents, and roof seams etc.

If problems are discovered we can source all sorts of roof vents that suit all areas of your motorhome, with or without blinds, tinted, clear, frosted and also breathable vents.

Matt's also keen to let you know about Autotech's free pre-purchase inspection service.

There have been a few incidences where I have had very excited customers come in to show me their latest purchase; but unfortunately once I've inspected the vehicle I've had to tell them they have just purchased someone else's problem. It is very disheartening having customers in tears telling me they have put all their money into the purchase; and knowing it is now going to cost them more dollars to repair the issues that have come with their new purchase.

So I would like to advise all motorhomers who are thinking of making a purchase to get it checked out first. We offer that service for free; going over the vehicle from top to bottom – we have the use of a large inspection pit where we can get right under the vehicle to check out for any chassis damage due to exposure at our seaside destinations.

Feel free to give me a call, even if you are miles away I am more than happy to guide you in the right direction when it comes to inspections and what the major things you should look out for.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our customers for their patronage and to wish them a very Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year. Happy Travels.

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