



finz © is the official magazine of the Cadillac La Salle Club of New Zealand Inc.



Classic never  
goes out of style!

November 2023

# Rondezvous!



FINZ Magazine Editor: Ron Melville, Life Member 2023  
 Recipient of (CLC) The Yann Saunders International Activity Award 2013  
 The Maurice Hendry Award for Excellence in Journalistic Contributions - 2015  
 International Newsletter Excellence Award - 2015  
 Old Cars Weekly ~ Golden Quill Award 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 & 2022  
 Contributions to: [finzmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:finzmagazine@gmail.com)  
 The Editor reserves the right to accept or reject any contributions.  
 Deadline is 20th of each month

Hi and hooray! For those that missed "The Event of the half - Century (!)", our 50th was simply amazing and exceeded everyone's expectations! MC and Event Organiser, Jason Curry blew everyone away with an array of events and superb execution. Kudos to him and his very supportive family - wife Nirosha, son Ryan and daughter Jessie who all chipped in to make it a family affair with lots of members and friends in the background to make the weekend that everyone relished. Even the weather gods were on our side with just a light shower one early morning. Otherwise, fine (albeit cool) all weekend and even the drive-in movie was dry!

There's probably fifty stories to tell and I've saved ten times as many photos so far so over the coming months I will share with you what we got up to over the weekend and let the images tell you the stories! The old adage of 'A picture tells a thousand words' definitely rings true for this event!

The above aside, I was flattered to be bestowed a Life Membership in the New Zealand CLC for my small editorial contribution made since taking up the Editorship at the end of 2009. Thank you to my fellow executives and to all club members who have helped make FINZ Magazine one of the most well known Cadillac Club magazines on earth (within our Global Cadillac family)! Here's an image of my Award, how cool is that?



Back to business, we start with some 'over-view' coverage of our 50th with a few photos. New Member Leah McAnenay shares her and her family's love for Caddies.

Our 'Cover Caddy' this month features Wellingtonian, recent new Member, Bain Webster's oh so nice '73 Eldo in the background whilst Jason's '78 appears in the foreground. The image is taken at our Hotel entrance and is intended to depict 'Looking back at our past 50 years'. Bain's Eldo has a particularly nice navy blue paint job!

Elsewhere in our mag this month we read about...

- > Five fin-tabulous pages of our 50th! Dig the group 'shout out' - they're screaming 'Cadillac'!
- > Welcome Leah - Cadillac blood in her veins!
- > Read about the 'Caddy Shack'!
- > CLC NZ 'Roll of Honour'
- > A Cadillac EV could be coming to you here in NZ?
- > Global news from the Cadillac Family
- > Miss Lane reminisces about the 50th weekend and who she met...
- > And as always, another one of the best Tails in Town

Until next issue, keep Covid-safe and happy almost-summer cruising out there. Please send me your photos of the 50th to [finzmagazine@GMail.com](mailto:finzmagazine@GMail.com)

Best regards, Ron (Ed)





Members from all points of the compass were drawn to Wellington this past Labour Weekend, like moths to a light or ants to a melting ice-cream! It was great to see Caddy-folk from nearly every Region in NZ including the South Island (thanks to the Doak family for driving up from Christchurch in their '96 Concours) converge on the capital. Hats off to Ron Zahn (US); Christophe and his nephew Daniel from Germany; Graeme and Margot Henley from northern Victoria; Bob Durrington from Queensland and our Melbourne based Kiwi member, Paul Dixon fly in to represent the USA, Europe and Australia! As I have said many a time, the Cadillac and La Salle club truly is a global family! Now let me 'overview' my own adventures day by day and in future FINZ issues, I will expand on more stories that will come from the many pictures taken.



Under clear skies, a 'cache of Cadillacs' (they are always stored in a hidden place!) met up and departed from the Papamoa Plaza on Thursday morning and cruised in an orderly fashion to Taupo encountering the usual road works and driving on the other side of the road, akin to 'our Caddies being at home in the US!' As has been the case in past runs, we gassed up and had coffee at the Z Station and Industrie French cafe next door to the large orange Mitre10, a great re-fuelling stop for both Caddy and member/s! As we pulled in, a familiar convertible greeted us. It was Dave and Trish Cummins old '62 looking resplendent in the sun and 'now' owner Kevin enthusiastically showed off his 'pride and joy' promoting many things he had updated and restored as well as his collection of '62 memorabilia in the boot (trunk). The plan had been to meet up with Waikato members but one driver accidentally locked his keys in the boot (trunk) of his '60 and retrieving a spare set delayed their departure from Hamilton. A kilometre south of Turangi, my Calais copped a rock on my windshield, smack where my line of sight is. I wonder if I would have been hit on the other side of the screen had my Caddy been right hand drive? The rock hit happened so quickly all I recall was a white Ford Ranger-like ute speeding very fast in the opposite direction. Damage done (and vision not overly impaired) I kept on driving. No one stopped until we reached Taihape, the over-night stay for everyone including the delayed Waikato members. Friday morning and again under a clear blue sky, we headed off in convoy, some 10 Caddies now and a great visual feast for every town we cruised through. Next stop, Sanson. 'Viv's Kitchen' is a locally famous retro fifties-like cafe/ diner reknown for selling amazing 'cream horns!' said to have



sold in excess of 400,000+ so far! A magnetic must-stop off for old car people and their ride! For me it was a pleasure to meet many new members that have joined the CLC NZ in the past 12 months. One encounter saw a photo op taken of Waikato members Steve & Roni (Veronica) Martin together with myself and fellow BoP member, Steve. Hence, pic of Steve/ Roni/ Ron/ Steve! Our journey continued with



some clever 'Go-Pro' video taken enroute by the new Waikato (and very tech-savvy') members (see



FaceBook info elsewhere) but otherwise uneventful until we reached Wellington and our 50th venue, the Brentwood Hotel where the Rolling Stones famously stayed in the mid 1960s (see pic above)



when the hotel was called 'The White Heron'. No white Herons to be seen now, but heard a 'Tui' or two! Plenty of private parking for your Caddy albeit 'tight' in places.





Friday arvo we checked into the Hotel. For me I investigated getting my windscreen looked out. A BIG shout out to the guys at Novus whom I rung at 3pm, washed the 'lime splash' off my Calais and shot off to 'show my crack!' (local TV ad joke) at 4pm. By 4.45pm they had undertaken a resin fix and it was so good, several members back at the hotel could not see it until they looked very hard! Thank goodness for 'Google' directing me to where Torrens Terrace is in Wellington city and Google directed me back again! With what is now a 'blemish' on my screen, I relaxed with a refreshment and joined the many other guests who had registered, collected their goodie bag and for some, 'settled in for the night' at the Aqua Bar! Saturday morning was cloudy but fine and with my co-driver for the day, Steve Gill, we proceeded on the 'Round-The-Bays Caddy Convoy Cruise' which ended up at the Odilins Plaza for the City Waterfront Public Display. There we were joined by non



as well.  
To finish a special cocktail (optional non-alcoholic) catered for



everyone! Bain Webster and partner won 'Best Gold

costume'. And to finish the night, the evening 'got a glow on' when band 'Frenzy' took stage and played hits of the 70s and 80s to late in the evening, however one disco dancer outlasted them! A great evening had by all. (Me

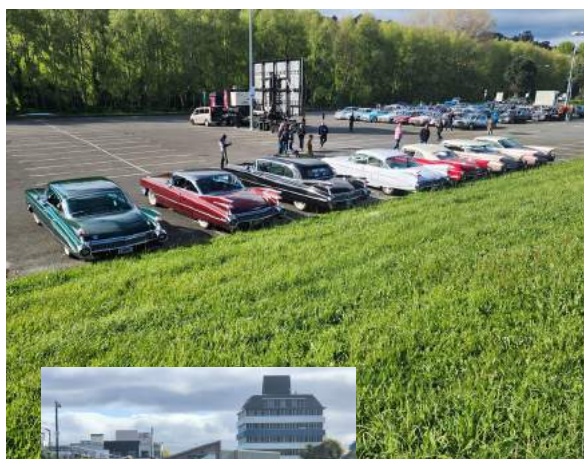
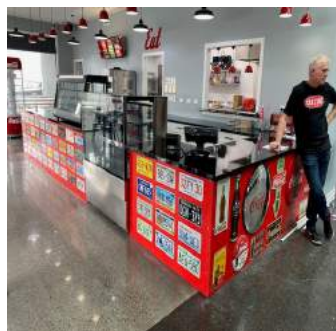
above receiving 'Life Award' - a humble CLC moment for me and at left, dynamic 'Disco Steve' - "a pure Gold moment!").



Sunday morning and we awoke to a light shower creating many a 'beaded droplet look' on every Caddy proving they all must have enjoyed a Mothers car grooming product! Before 9, the rain had stopped and the sky began to clear. Todays adventure - a visit to 'Helter Skelter' vintage market, the Wellington Vintage Machinery club for lunch, a visit to the new 'Cars Inc.' car museum, to a "secret" Cadillac cave and finally to our Drive-in Movie with 'our meals on wheels!' But before the movie, Chuck Patton appraised the 59s and 60s on display with Anita's '59 Limo winning. Let the photos tell it all!

Monday was 'Fond Farewell day', weather again fine and sunny and many of us depart for Southward Car Museum in Paraparamu and then onto other destinations - like us. Unfortunately my Calais decided to give trouble surging and back firing with reports of the occassional flame seen below the chassis! At Southwards there appeared no evidence of anything untoward under hood and we kept on going to

Palmerston North to visit Andre's Aunty. We stopped in Palmy for refreshments and you guessed it, my Caddy would not start. Crook coil and I got home two days later whilst Andre went ahead in a rental! However after the windscreen, the coil and contracting Covid upon the evening of getting home, the event itself was a resounding success due to great organisation by Jason who was backed by a financially confident and reassuring Executive who bank-rolled this extraordinary convention. Well done to everyone involved and stay-tuned for the 51st NZ Cadillac Nationals - a venue, yet to be confirmed. There will be other milestones I am sure, like maybe a 60th or 65th, 70th and 75th! Apologies are being taken now by Jason for our 100th - see ad below! Keeping an eye out for our next FINZ issue when I will share even more photos of 'the weekend that was, 20th to 23rd October 2023, our 50th!' To watch cool videos, drone images and tons of photos, 'Google' **NZ Cadillac Owners Facebook Page**. Note - this FB page is not affiliated to the NZ Cadillac and LaSalle club. Ed



Save the date!  
King George VII Birthday Weekend, 2073

## 2073 Diamond Centenary

100 years of the Cadillac LaSalle Club of NZ

Location:  
Protectorate of Wellington  
(sleep pod bank to be determined)

Avatar theme: Petrol Nostalgia

Key note speakers:  
1927 Harley Earl & 1967 Bill Mitchell (holograms)

**Start mining your crypto now!**

Shuttle pooling will be available from trans-Earth settlements. All equipped to be help projected to organising ClubAdmired Charlie (closer to event - technology yet to be developed)

1973  
2023

50<sup>TH</sup>

**GOLDEN  
ANNIVERSARY  
National Rally Weekend**

CADILLAC LA SALLE CLUB OF NEW ZEALAND 20-23 October, 2023 - Wellington, New Zealand



*Thank You...*

We can only plan so much,  
and then it's up to the guests to get into the  
spirit of an event and breathe life into it...

...and you guys well and truly delivered!



Thank you so much to all of you who made this an event to remember for a lifetime. What an awesome experience and a fitting toast to five decades of Club community and friendship!

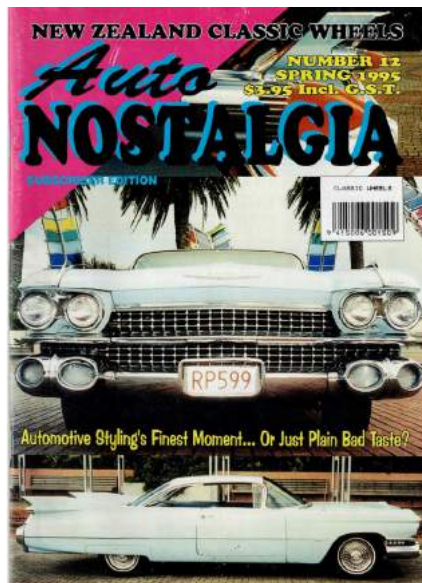


# Our Global Cadillac Family from NZ and around the world!

**GISBORNE, NEW ZEALAND** - My apologies to recent re-joined past CLC family member, Leah McAneney whose Dad (John McAneney) was President of our NZ Club in 1991. You see I overlooked making mention of Leah re-joining, thinking I had when mentioning another new member, Leah Scott from the Waikato also at the same time! Anyway, welcome to our two Leahs. I hope you get to meet each other one day!

When Leah McA emailed me she did so with a story which is always gratefully received plus pictures! As you will see below, John's '59 even appeared on the cover of a NZ Classic Car mag at the time. Leah reports:

*It's nice to be back! I've had my current Cadi for 7 years, so about time. (At time of Leah emailing me, she said) The road south from Giz is still closed so joining the next run isn't an option. Used to enjoy the Cadi Club runs back when I'd go with mum and dad, have attached a pic of one of them, the Cadis I had back then ( '62, then '59) and my current one ('62 w white top). The very old pic is of an outing from Cadi Club days – Mike and I had a blue '59. Mum and Dad (the old chap in a cowboy hat leaning on the boot), had a pink '59. We went to so many events, was a long time ago tho! As you can see the Cadi (her current one) got her toes wet but that's all in the floods. Getting out of Gisborne is more of an issue, a gorge each way, still getting shut off with slips - it's 3 hours to Napier thru a gorge. I've done it, when I bought the Cadi and drove it home from Levin (speeding ticket in first 10 mins – oops). But its getting some major work done, and I don't have a copilot, so will still have to pass on the AGM. Leah.*



Thanks Leah for the photos, more than I could have asked for. Love the picnic memory (any more of the 'old days?'), your very cool Cadillac Radio (even Cadillac memorabilia collector, Denis Bulloch doesn't have one of these...as far as I know!). Whoa that mud would have been pretty scary. The mag, from 'Spring 1995'. I have never seen a '59 in light blue, looks very nice.

Cadillacs are in your family blood Leah and many of us will look forward to meeting you one day. Write me another story soon, especially once you get your ride back on the road. Ed

**USA** - (Outgoing Editor of the Potomac Region e-Newsletter replied to my 'warm wishes email') Hi Ron, You have done a tremendous job these past 14 years. Thanks for your efforts. I remember Grant Patterson. There is a picture of him on our website when he attended our summer picnic in 2010 (see right). Anita has been on our newsletter distribution list ever since. Please say hello for me. Vince Taliano, CLC Potomac [Thanks Vince. Anita & her '59 Limo were at the 50th. Ed]

Thanks Ron! You know I love reading the newsletter! Terry Bird Atlanta, Georgia, USA [Thanks Terry. Visiting your awesome home and experiencing your guys terrific hospitality and the 'Driving Miss Daisy tour' remains with Steve, Ridge and myself. Best, Ed/ Ron]



## From the Editors Drivers seat!



It's great to be back home and being able to drive my Calais under its own steam (so to speak) vs. on the back of a flat deck! Mind you it did get flat-decked in Palmy and another 'shout out' to the AA who made a professional repair within a day to get me back on the road. The guys were very user-friendly. AA-Plus ensured a Rental for Andre.



Driving long distance on your own gets the brain thinking. Having been blessed with receiving that cool Life Membership at the 50th, it occurred to me that four of the other five recipients of the Award were actually at the venue. Other Honorary Life Members in attendance were: Alan Stewart, Murray Scott, Noeleen Souber and Grant Davis. Only Maurice Hendry was absent, but there in spirit and in the form of a video at the event! How cool is that?

Congrats to our Kiwi Supercar drivers, (Kiwi hero) Shane van Gisbergen and Ritchie Stanaway on winning the 2023 Bathurst. You guys do us proud!



Days running up to our 50th I received numerous goodwill messages from the Cadillac Global Family, here is a few:

Ron, from the CLC Potomac Region stateside, CONGRATULATIONS to the CLC Club of NZ on your 50th anniversary! You have a healthy, vibrant club and we enjoy reading about all that you do!

Regards Chuck Piel, Assistant Director, Cadillac & LaSalle Club, Potomac Region

Hi Ron - Happy 50 party to you and all your friends !

Dirk, France

Hi Ron. All looking good for your 50th!! We too are celebrating 50 years of Restored Cars in November.

Maybe you can arrange some one to cover your event for us. Enclosed a couple of Cadillacs in our 50 year edition. Nice to see Maurice Hendry still going. He called in here many years ago. Keep well, Eddie Ford [Best wishes for your 50th too, Eddie. Ed]

[Thank you Chuck, Dirk and Eddie. Ed]



One of the more sombre parts of our formal Dinner Evening was the acknowledgement of past members, Lou Christ and also Stephen Brown who left our ranks recently. Always a sad occasion when one hears about someone you know, know of or read about other car people (a regular occurrence now, it appears in the monthly Petrolhead - the Kiwi car hobby paper bible). It got me thinking (again) that we should have a permanent 'Roll of Honour Board' to acknowledge those past CLC NZ members who were mutually connected to all of us through their passion of our beloved Cadillacs and LaSalles. Hence, I've started an 'Honour Board' and invite you to email me names of those that were past members in our ranks who are now a memory, but will never be forgotten. If you could provide a tenure they were with the club, it would be great to view how we enjoyed their camaraderie.

### CLC NZ Roll of Honour

Spirits flown, not forgotten

**Stephen Brown**, Past Regional Delegate - Marlborough/ Canterbury/ West Coast - South Island Region - Member 2001 to 2003

**Lou Christ**, Auckland Region - Member 2001 to 2023

Recently I read about a cool 1947 Cadillac that possessed such amazing elements it was hard to believe this all happened in the early 1950s! Have a read by Googling Louie Mattar Cadillac on YouTube.

Now here's an interesting yet true story of a man by the name of Louie Mattar who grew up in Detroit. A retired garage owner, respected engineer and inventor, Mattar developed numerous devices for automakers and the U.S. military, including a mine sweeper for the Navy. His greatest achievement may have been the extensively modified 1947 Cadillac Fleetwood he designed and built over a period of years, constantly altering it to make it ever more capable, self-sufficient, and complex. That was the car in which he and two pals made their epic twoway cross country journey in the early 1950s. As if LA to New York and back without stopping wasn't adequate proof of the Caddy's capability and the team's endurance, they followed up two years later with a continent-bisecting non-stop drive from Anchorage, Alaska, to Mexico City. When the story reads 'non-stop', it means 'non-stop'. No stopping for gas, oil changes, going to the bathroom, eating, showering, changing a tyre - not even for a traffic light or stop sign! Read this amazing story here about one amazing Cadillac!



# Our Global Cadillac Family from NZ and around the world!

**AUSTRALIA** - George Akele recently emailed me some cool pics from a nearby car show event where he also showed his immaculate Seville.



Whilst our long-time Victorian friends, Gudie Pohlmann and Chris Salisbury have scored an amazing eight-page article on their cool shed and old car collection in the Australian car mag, *Unique Cars*. You can pick up a copy of the mag from your favourite magazine store and some supermarkets/ service stations etc. Chris and Gudie supplied me with a sneak peak that I have pasted below and I recommend you buy or have Santa pop a copy of the mag in your Xmas stocking! [Featuring below is 'Marilyn' their 1950 Caddy and their pride and joy! Steve and I enjoyed visiting Chris and Gudie's amazing shed and collection some years ago. It has expanded since but still looks very much how I remember it. A unique offering that's for sure in a historic brick-era building. Well done guys - send me a story sometime of the reaction from your 'stardom!' Ed]

GARAGE GURUS

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## CADDY SHACK

**A SHARED PASSION FOR CLASSIC AMERICAN AUTOMOBILES** LED TO THE CREATION OF AN ECLECTIC COLLECTION OF SHOW-STOPPING CARS COVERING THREE DECADES OF DESIGN BRILLIANCE.

WORDS & PHOTOS ★ STEVE NALLY



Space is the final frontier then Chris Salisbury and his partner Gudie Pohlmann have reached the outer limits of their 'couple shed'. When they started collecting cars 15 years ago, the time-travelling duo thought their former factory in an industrial area of Melbourne had more than enough room to not only house a few cars but also Chris's memorabilia and a zone for relaxing and entertaining. But then came the Cadillacs.

With the workshop measuring only 17 x 10 metres - about 2.5 Cadillacs long by two Cadillacs wide - it quickly became gridlocked and Chris had no alternative but to put three cars into orbit on mobile hoists that can be rolled out for his annual Boxing Day BBQ. Apart from a small lounge area/ bar and a mezzanine accommodation space, it's jammed.

Chris and Gudie met at a rock 'n' roll dance and discovered their passions overlapped: Chris loves classic American cars and Gudie the fashion and films of the '40s and '50s. Chris has owned many cars, starting with an FJ panel van when he was 18.

"I've had FCs, FEs, EKs... just about every model Holden and either worked on or done them up," he recalls. "My first good car was a '57 Chev which I got when I was 24. I wish I'd kept them all!"

Gudie admits she knows nothing about cars but like Chris she loves classic American cars and appreciates their style and design. Originally they were only supposed to buy one car, Chris says.

"I said 'Let's get a nice car, which turned into two nice cars then three... The first was the 1956 Buick Super Riviera but while we were waiting for it to arrive from the US we bought Gudie's 1961 Cadillac Fleetwood four-door from the bass player of 'Ol' 55, Jimmy Manzie.' It was a good start but the Fleetwood wasn't quite right for Gudie.



### NEW ZEALAND

- Taranaki Life Member, Noeleen Souber sent me an image of what's dubbed 'The Cadillac Bed'. [Not sure why - Ed]



### USA - CLC

member, Joe Gildea sends out a regular email to many of us CLC International members with many interesting snippets. Here's one pic that caught my eye!



# Our Global Cadillac Family from NZ and around the world!

**AUSTRALIA - Melbourne** - Kiwi member, Paul Dixon regularly supplies me with Cadillac info and the below is another that explores the world of EVs. From reading it, it seems that it will only be a matter of time before a few Cadillac EVs find their way to NZ either new or used. I am sure our Ozzy cozzies are hoping it will not be a repeat of that infamous cancelled CTS export order around a decade ago...much to us Kiwis delight! Ed

**Cadillac Returning To Australia With Showrooms In Malls** Cadillac is renting out space in Australian malls and will reportedly use the storefronts to sell the Lyriq, Optiq, and Escalade IQ in their own high-end spaces Cadillac is reportedly planning a long-awaited return to the Australian market and will borrow a page from Tesla's playbook. Rather than

selling its vehicle from General Motors Specialty Vehicles (GMSV) showrooms, it will establish its own stores in malls around the country. Cadillac hasn't sold vehicles in Australia since 1969, but it has come close to reentering the market a few times since then. However, now that the luxury brand is experiencing a sea change as it transitions

to electric technology, it appears to be using the opportunity to go international. To do that, it has been renting space in high-end shopping malls around Australia in anticipation of an upcoming launch, reports Car Expert, citing unnamed sources. This follows reports that the brand has filed Aussie trademarks for the model names "Lyriq," "Optiq," and "Escalade IQ."

The move will allow Cadillac to have its own, high-end spaces near the same stores that customers shop for other luxury goods. It's a strategy that is gathering increasing traction over the traditional dealership model with EV manufacturers. However, the brand is not ready to reveal its plans yet. "GM participates in select right-hand-drive markets around the world. We have previously said that the modular Ultium platform and EV architecture offer greater flexibility in vehicle configurations," a GM Australia spokesperson said. "We do not have any product announcements to share at this time but stay tuned." These reports follow the revelation that Cadillac is also trying to take on the European market. The automaker recently added Switzerland to its whitelist of countries, and more European markets are expected to be added soon. While the specifics of its plans for Australia remain a mystery, in Switzerland, the Cadillac Lyric will sell for CHF82,000. That's the equivalent of \$89,600, which is significantly more than the sub-\$60,000 price tag it has in America.



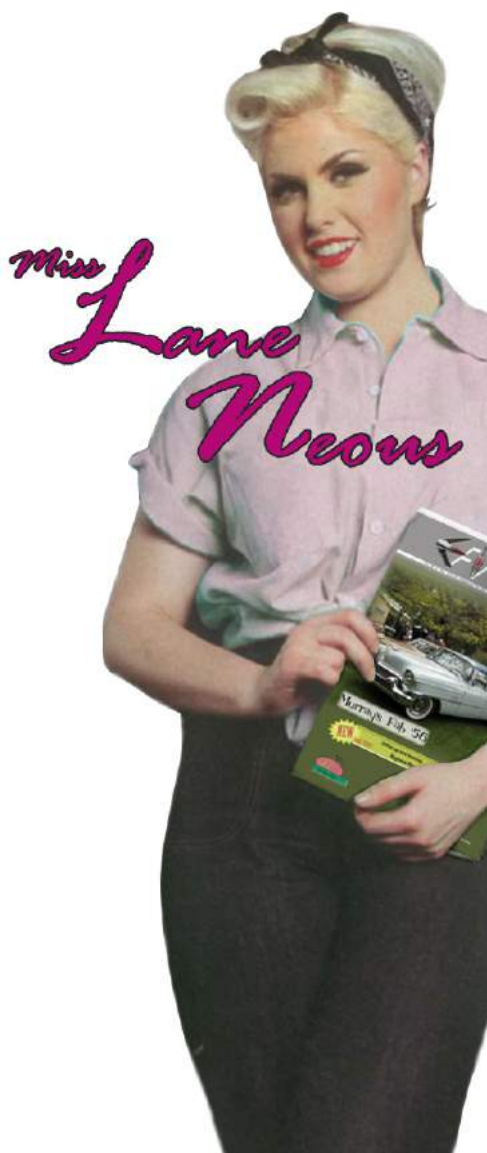
**As an EV enthusiast, my personal view is that** with Cadillac signalling the possibility of marketing their Evs, down under (including NZ), the world is slowly evolving from ICE (Internal Combustion Engines) to EVs. Technology, the price of fuel and climate change is driving a new chapter in our transportation. Whilst there are many who poo-poo the arrival and benefit of EVs, it is no different to what happened at the turn of the 1900s when many questioned the viability of those 'fang-dangled horseless carriages' that scared people, children vs. the then reliable horse-drawn transport that was in use.

'It is only a passing fad' some at the time said. However, the pioneers at the period, Carl Benz, Henry Ford, Henry Leland, and others saw the future differently. Entrepreneurs also saw dollar signs in their (auto) future (Billy Durant and his new General Motors organisation). The 1800s had created significant wealth because of the introduction of the railways. The 1900s heralded the 'car/truck' and other fuel-powered machinery notwithstanding others at the time tinkered with steam and electrically powered horseless carriages too. My recreational reading over past years (mainly American-sourced where most of the car innovation arose and progressed) has enlightened me to understand that complexities with both steam and electric (in particular, possible range) vehicles meant that even though the first ICE vehicles were not particularly reliable and petrol was not only a dangerous commodity to handle/use, many of the early ICE examples simply didn't run very well and until the two Henrys came on board. Engineering was pretty basic requiring replacement of rings and many other mechanical components on a regular basis! One of the most interesting and fascinating things my reading uncovered was that in the late 1800s and early 1900s, the streets in major US cities were congested with horses...and their droppings! In fact, I have read that it was so bad that it became a major health-hazard! Hence, the arrival of an alternative form of transport was welcomed by those who cared about health and improving life generally.

As ICE vehicles became more acceptable (read - roading was improved, new roads created, vehicles became more reliable and practical), horses were culled in their hundreds of thousands! By time the First World War had ended, there was hardly a horse to be seen, except on a farm or for recreational or racing circles. The most interesting 'parallel' from the 1900s to today is over the past 100+ years of 'black gold' from the earth converted into oil, petrol, diesel and other derivatives has again (like horse poo) become a 'health hazard' and like over 120 years ago, those today in 2023 who value our future health and well being (and improving life generally) are supportive of non-fossil powered transportation! And like over a century ago, the new evolution means greater efficiencies, power and design/ safety.

I have just read that in the Second Quarter of this year, Tesla had the two best-selling cars in California by a wide margin. The best seller was the Tesla Model Y selling nearly 75,000 units through June 2023. Second was the Model 3 with 42,000 units sold. In number three slot was Toyota Camry with 27,000 units sold followed by the Toyota Rav4 with 26,000 units sold. Tesla's sales soared 62% compared to Q2, 2022 whereas Toyota's shrunk by 8%. The result is significant enough to embarrass Toyota, the top-selling brand in climate-conscious California for many years by a 20-year old company (Tesla) with only four models! As one commentator said, "If that doesn't light a fire under Toyota's ass, I don't know what will!" As a footnote, the top selling vehicle in NZ in September was the Tesla Y and EV type vehicles accounted for 65% of the NZ market! For us Cadillac enthusiasts there could be a Cadillac EV in our future, IF the price is affordable?

However, one thing seems certain: the legacy firms' (GM/ Ford/ Chrysler/ Toyota/ VW/ Mercedes/ BMW) dream of an "orderly transition" to EVs (by which they mean that they'll be able to continue selling dinosaur-burners until they've recouped their investments in 20th-century factories) are a fantasy. An incumbent firm that wants to beat Tesla, BYD and other upstarts (little Rivian has been selling more electric pickups than Ford) is going to have to drop the horse-and-buggy mentality and commit itself 100% to EVs, and accept a world of financial pain. But there's no sign that any of the old-line automakers currently have any intention of doing so. Ed



Miss Lane writes ~ Hello. Wow, what a tremendous weekend. Did you see me there? I was mixing and mingling with all of you and just loved seeing all those Cadillacs! But for me, meeting the people was the highlight of the weekend. Members from all over including Margot, Graeme, Bob and Paul from Australia. Then there was Christophe and Daniel from Germany and Ron from the States. There were lots of new Kiwi club faces in the crowd as well, making for plenty of cameraderie. The Waikato crew of Maureen and Tony, Donna and Derek; Steve and Roni and Andrew and Leah. All nice folk and boy are they talented with their 'Go Pros' and Facebook downloading? Someone even created an amazing video of our Drive-in movie I attended. Did you see me waving at the drone? A shout out to other new folk, John, Ray and Fi Reid from the Manawatu. Love that pink '62 Fi and Ray. What are the names of your dogs? Ian Priestley from Taumaranui is one tall dude and an honour to meet you too. Likewise, Bain from Wellington is another new face and his navy-blue Eldo is just awesome. I told Ron so! Then there were folk in the club I'd never met before like the Doak family from Christchurch. How cool it was for you all to drive on up, over on the Ferry to join in the festivities. Alan and Janice Stewart I have known of for such a long time but never had the pleasure of meeting. Such lovely people. Loved your red STS! And Peter and Grace Ellmers. Another nice couple from Auckland driving a supercharged CTS, the sound of which was scary! I salute Anita Patterson from Hamilton, driving that huge 9-passenger '59 Limo through the streets of Wellington. You rock, girl! Have I left anyone out? It was an honour meeting 'Mr. Appraiser, Chuck Patton' all the way from the US of A. Mark Fox, he was one I had spoken to but never met in person. Gwen Heap - you too need to be congratulated on driving that land yacht! If there is anyone I have overlooked - my apologies, maybe email Ron and let him know and he'll get me and my friend Steve to buy you a coffee (or a beer) next year! And to all those I know already, I look forward to meeting you once more at the 2024 NZ Cadillac Nationals where ever that maybe. It will be the 51st and whoever organises it, I am sure it will be a beauty. A \$51 Registration fee would be nice!

Ron and Steve tell me that once again the Annual Tauranga Xmas Toy Run is to be held in early December - hey you cool kids from the Waikato how about coming over and applying your photo talents to the run? Another Facebook download would be awesome! Here are the details. But a closer date will be The All USA Day Car Show in Mt. Maunganui. My number one local 'go to' event. Until next time, drive and stay safe and email me sometime C/- [finzmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:finzmagazine@gmail.com) simply address your email, 'Dear Miss Lane....'

## All USA Day Car Show

All cars of US origin welcome:

Trophies awarded for Best Ford, Chev, Mopar, Mustang, Hotrod, Vintage, Sports and many more.

Amazing Cars, Good Food, Trade Stalls, and Rock n Roll Dancers between 11am-1pm

Cars from 8am, Public from 10am, Prize Giving 2pm

Entry- \$5 per person or \$10 family



Gate Entry Prize: Boeing Stearman WWII Biplane Scenic Flight, valued at \$355. Kindly donated by Classic Flyers NZ

Sun 19th Nov 10-2pm

Classic Flyers, Jean Batten Dr.

Mt Maunganui

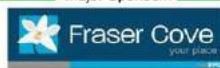
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# Where we live



## REGIONAL DELEGATES

### NORTHLAND

>All Enquiries to Pres.

### AUCKLAND

Phil Shaw  
029-412-8953  
phil@shawsjams.co.nz

### BAY OF PLENTY

Contact Steve Gill  
027-289-8849  
cornandpeas@xtra.co.nz

### TARANAKI

Mark & Noeleen Souber  
027-403-8924  
noeleensouber@outlook.com

### WAIKATO

Daryl Roberts 021-717-489  
dodgydaryl@gmail.com

### WANGANUI/ MANAWATU

>All Enquiries to Pres.

### HAWKES BAY

Alan Sargisson 06-843-6838  
027-482-4384  
fingerbreaker44@gmail.com

10 Regions across NZ

### WELLINGTON/WAIRARAPA

Jason Curry  
021-0221-5373  
curried@hotmail.com

### MARLBOROUGH/CANTERBURY/ WEST COAST

Jonathan Doak 021-026-86-949  
jonathandoak@yahoo.co.nz

### OTAGO/ SOUTHLAND

Rob McCann  
021-1835-334  
robmmccann@gmail.com

## 2023/24 CLC NZ Club Officers

### President

Ian Lind 021-863-260  
ian.lind@outlook.com

### Vice President

Jason Curry 021-0221-5373  
curried@hotmail.com

### Treasurer

Grant Davis 027-264-1204  
grantdavis37@gmail.com

### Secretary

Frances McCurdy 027-688-0677  
frances.wayne@xtra.co.nz

### Club magazine (FINZ) Editor

Ron Melville 07-557-8090  
finzmagazine@gmail.com

### Patron - Maurice Hendry

(Founding member)  
Any Contact to Ron Melville

[Corrections to: [finzmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:finzmagazine@gmail.com)]

## What's on the Fridge?



NOV 5th - BoP VCC Annual Swap and Show, Tauranga  
19th - All USA Day, at Classic Flyers Mt. Maunganui  
24th-26th Stragglers Weekend Karapiro

DEC 1st - Tauranga Toy Run  
2024 JAN - 19th - 22nd Wgtn Chev 50th Anni Upper Hutt  
FEB 4th - American Vehicle Day Trentham Racecourse U/Hutt  
MAR 14th - Caroline Bay Rock & Hop, Timaru

## Wanted to BUY

"1958 Cadillac Driver side door arm rest 6 way seat switch."

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Just a handful left. Once they've gone, they've gone!

## 50th Anniversary Gold and Silver Plated Commemorative Grille Badge

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# Tail Lights

*The Best Tails in Town!*

Singer, Rosemary Clooney was singing in my Calais "...In The Cool, Cool, Cool of the evening.." (a 1952 classic like many of those tracks from the 50s and 60s) and it could have easily been the perfect theme song of the Drive-in, don't you think? No doubt, the pinnacle of the weekend. Let's do it all again in 2073! Ed

