



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



Deamed to be a great
panoramic pic!

April 2023

Rondezvous!



FINZ Magazine Editor: Ron Melville

Recipient of (CLC) The Yann Saunders International Activity Award 2013

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Contributions to: finzmagazine@gmail.com

The Editor reserves the right to accept or reject any contributions.

Deadline is 20th of each month

Hi everyone and thanks for the feedback on last month's tragic cyclone coverage. Again, our heartfelt thoughts to any members directly or indirectly affected. If you need assistance, please contact the Executive team or care of myself. Recently, Taranaki member, Andrew Deam sent me some stunning images of his pride and joy, one of which was such a great shot that I thought it deserved a wrap-around front and back cover for this month's mag! Great photo Andrew, well done! And if you've been watching the top right hand corner of each cover this year, you will notice a different Cadillac logo appearing. This month is a 'one off'. Noeleen Souber's niece, Jade Dandy has created a 'yarn made mat' of our NZ Club's logo! How fantastic is that? It has been made and donated by Jade as a special 50th Anniversary raffle. This would look amazing in someones 'Caddy Cave!' There is a bigger image elsewhere so you can admire the handiwork. Tickets are just NZ\$5 each and details of where to buy are included as an attachment. Buy five, buy ten, but please buy some!

A warm 'Caddy Family Welcome' to no less than seven new Members this month! They herald from Feilding, Palmerston North, Gisborne and Taranaki. Welcome aboard and I expect your local Regional Delegate will be touch with each of you soon to say hi and include you in the next local Caddy outing. Drop me a line with a few photos so I can share your background and details of your Caddy with our other members.

The background below this month is from the Gas Guzlers Breakfast/ Car Show in Gisborne on the Sunday morning of our 49th Cadillac Nationals.

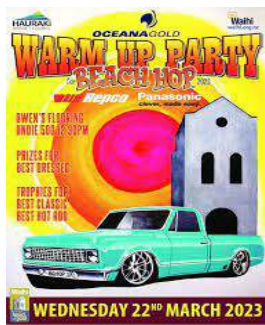
Elsewhere in our mag this month we read about...

- > Waihi Wednesday, a couple of members cruised up there and enjoyed the sun and the cars!
- > All Ford Day is a special Annual event in Tauranga
- > The continuing 'Blast from the Past!' Can you recognise more faces and Caddies from our club photo album archives?
- > Latest 50th Anniversary teaser and update on Registration numbers
- > Buy a Raffle Ticket for this unique CLC NZ mat! One of a kind!
- > This months 'Amazing Pic from the past' is below ground at the Rangipo Dam!
- > News from the Caddy family
- > Kev continues to be in fine, Fin form!
- > Miss Lane page and Events pasted on our 'Fridge!'
- > And the best Tails in Town!

Until next issue, keep Covid-safe, cruise safe, dry and send your past summer and now autumn stories and pics. Keep warm. First snow of the year in both the South and North Islands has already taken place in March!

Photos and stories please to me at finzmagazine@GMail.com





Our Global Cadillac Family from NZ and around the world!

BAY of PLENTY - Waking to a lovely fine day Steve and Ron cruised up to the annual Waihi Wednesday Beachhop event in (BoP member's) Serge and Lilian d'Elias Lincoln Continental Town car and Cadillac Fleetwood. Neither car had enjoyed a lengthy run for a year or two and both with fresh WOFs and fully registered, gas and drove the approx. 160 km round-trip without a stop or cause to be concerned. Phew! But then again, we were driving two American classics! An enjoyable days outing. Plenty of cool colourful cars to see and we photographed lots of eye-candy! Thanks Serge and Lilian for allowing us to 'exercise' your wonderful American iron! Ron & Steve



What a great way to start the day. 1930s Ford, Regd in NZ, new! Rare AMX Javelin in someone's driveway. Once the 'top of the line', an Australian Chrysler CJ360 and looked in mint condition. A bit of American Graffiti. Note red Ford Spinner in background.



I have great respect for a well-done Rod and this copper colour one is a perfect example. Set off with old-school spoke-like mags! A eye catching Studebaker. Someone had created an Impala pick up truck. '57 Chevy looked super sharp.



The great things about a gathering of American cars are the colours. 'That '57' and a Studebaker look very colourful as does a rare, 1963 Ford ex-Australian ambulance conversion. Puke-green is not the original colour, imagine white... Snazzy Ford Galaxie



Another respectable Rod. There is something about old Fords from the late fifties. I must be watching too much of 77 Sunset Strip!



Beautifully restored Chev Suburban even with black & white plaid upholstery. At left, an early 60s Pontiac Bonneville. My choice from Waihi Wednesday this year. Doesn't look much in photos but in real life it was gorgeous. Green upholstery. Immaculate throughout. Cont -->

Our Global Cadillac Family from NZ and around the world!



Steve approached the owner of this heavily customised black '59 about joining our club. Red Firebird convertible was a very nice example.



The old blue bus was once an NZ School bus. Beautiful job inside and out and attracted a lot of attention. White Transam is an unusual bird! Yellow 'Cuda looked the part whilst the Holden club was represented by a couple of FJs, one a Ute.



Another sterling example of a well done Ford. The above red Chev Monte Carlo has the familiar looks of the Holden HJ series from the late 1970s! Whilst at right, this 1950s Willys looked mighty mean with its 'Big Foot' tyres and chassis. Kids loved it! Meanwhile I ran into past members, Lyn and Barry Gardiner. Lyn was wearing this awesome American jacket (below). They still have their '57 pink Caddy sedan.



It says
"Cadillac - The only way to fly!"

Our Global Cadillac Family from NZ and around the world!

Tauranga, BAY of PLENTY

It's been a month of good outings here in the BoP. Steve and I trotted out the Lincoln to the annual 'All Ford Day' in Tauranga in early March. A lovely summer's day with, we believe a record number of Ford-related attendees, window stickers numbered to #420 from what the writer saw. Ford, being part of the Cadillac 'Family Tree' with two branches: 1) The Bankers 'rolled' Henry Ford in the early 1900s and installed Henry Leland who commenced making a new car called Cadillac at the old Ford plant. 2) Post Cadillac being swallowed by General Motors and falling out with GM Founder, Billy Durant (many fell-out with Billy) Henry Leland formed Lincoln, a luxury alternative to his Cadillac. So good was his second master piece, Henry Ford's son (with the approval of his old man) acquired Lincoln as a luxury car to serve duty in the ranks of the fine Ford family of cars. So there it is, we have two 'branches' in the family tree related to Ford! In the USA especially, there are many joint outings with the Lincoln and Cadillac clubs! Ed



The 'Blue Oval' shone loud and true across Wharepai Domain in Tauranga on a balmy March day. Nearly every Ford was represented. I personally would have loved to have seen an Edsel! A number of vintage Fords were there including a Model A pick up truck, ex-South Island. The now (North Island) owner told me he had purchased it from an 80-something year old owner. It once wore a green paint job but it was used as part of the NZ Automobile Assn's centenary and was painted in 'AA-yellow' with the AA livery on the doors. It looked resplendent. Former Caddy member, Ted Williams attended with his 1925 Ford Racer replica. If you ever get to see it, have a close look. It is very authentic looking and hand built by Ted. A real credit to a craftsman that's for sure. Left pic is a very good example of a Model T. One forgets just how big these early cars were. Here it is parked alongside a Falcon. Above is an amazing resto of a Mercury convertible. It truly was an outstanding example. The Ford Retractable was indeed a beautiful example too, gleaming in the sun in its two-tone blue paint scheme. And because the 'All Ford Day' is organised by the proactive Ford Muscle Car Club, there were lots of 'Ford Muscle cars' and Mustangs and a good spread of coloured ones at that! All in all, a great day out made even better by nice weather, coffee and cool cars! Ron (Ed)



From the Editors Drivers seat!

Hi all. Firstly an update on Neville Carter's health, partner Lynnda writes: Hi Ron, Neville came home yesterday (Fri, 3rd March). He still isn't 100% but can improve hopefully better here than in the hospital. Kind regards, Lynnda. [Here's to working your way back to good health, Neville! With Lynnda by your side, you will be up and grumpy in no time! LOL - Ed]

Past President and Life Member, Murray Scott writes: Cheers for the photos from yester year. Great to see them in the mag. I knew they'd be in good hands! Working our way up towards full roadworthy with the 56. Just need to get the carby to settle. I've taken photos of this project and will put together a wee article for your consideration shortly. Regards, Murray. [Thanks Murray. Yes carbies can be a b...It took six months for mine to settle down and one day it just came right! If I have a problem with it again, I'll simply throw away the old one and get a new Holley. Sitting under the air cleaner, no one will notice! Looking forward to seeing the project photos at some point. Best, Ed]

Cadillac is returning in force to LeMans and it is rumoured they are trying to enter F1. I have not read when, maybe next season? Meantime, have a read of the below that was sent to me.

Cadillac Racing returns to the 2023 24 Hours of Le Mans this June with three Hypercars

This year, Cadillac announced that the racing legacy will continue with a return to the 24 Hours of Le Mans in June. The brand's three new hypercars, each identified as the Cadillac V-Series.R, will surely stir up the competition.

Now, the newly named Cadillac V-Series.R hypercars feature a Cadillac 5.5L DOHC V-8 engine developed by GM's Performance and Racing Propulsion team based in Pontiac, Michigan. The race car design incorporates distinctive Cadillac design elements, such as vertical lighting and floating blades.

Cadillac's three V-Series.R race cars were put to the test in late-January during the 61st Rolex 24 at Daytona. The No. 01 Cadillac V-Series.R earned a podium finish, while No. 02 and No. 03 kept up with the chase and landed in fourth and fifth place. They will compete for the overall win in the Hypercar class with revised numbers for the 24 Hours of Le Mans



Kiwi Texaco Resto The following was sent to me. A great read via the LINK below. If you do not already, I readily recommend subscribing to www.hemmings.com daily news feed. Always a great read - Ed.

Last Known Texaco 1938 Diamond T Tanker Truck Restored

Everything on the truck, from hubcaps to handrails, required some sort of attention. Restoring it half the world away from what few Diamond T parts sources and experts remain would be madness, but New Zealanders Steve and Sue Keys took it on anyway. Five years later, their work - and the contributions of nearly a dozen others - resulted in a spectacular resurrection of what may be the last truck of its kind. [A worthwhile read - Ed]

<https://www.hemmings.com/stories/last-texaco-diamond-t-restored/>



Photo by Alastair Ritchie, courtesy Steve and Sue Keys

Following on from my mention last issue about EVs manufactured by the 'Big Boys' (Ford, GM, VW etc.) comes this interesting read from my EV feed. Maybe this is why Toyota has been so insistent on pushing Hybrids - they lack the passion for making a mainstream EV? In my opinion, the latest Lexus EV is simply a Lexus with an EV drivechain 'chucked in!'. Click on the LINK below.

Since Tesla's early days, skeptics have predicted that legacy automakers would use their expertise and financial expertise to bury the upstart—the fact that that hasn't happened reflects a basic difference in corporate cultures. As Automotive News puts it, "Given enough money and time, we're sure Toyota could produce electric vehicles at the same level as Tesla. It has money, but time is of the essence. And it lacks another essential ingredient: the mindset. Toyota needs a cultural change to accomplish that." Reading AN's report, we're hopeful that such a welcome cultural change is at hand. "We need a new platform designed as a blank-sheet EV," one Toyota executive said.

https://chargedevs.com/newswire/tesla-model-y-teardown-shows-toyota-what-its-up-against/?utm_source=ChargedEVs.com+Email+Newsletter+Opt-in&utm_campaign=38e9ab61ab-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2023_01_24_05_28_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_aabe5a139c-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D

From the Editors Drivers seat!

A few weeks back I received an email from Life Member and past FINZ Magazine Editor, Noeleen Souber. Attached to her email was the below. It is an incredible 'one-off mat' made by Noeleen's niece, Jade Dandy (who can be found on Facebook under 'Yarn for Daze'). This mat measures 85cm x 65cm and has been donated to the club as a 'Club Raffle'. Tickets are NZ\$5 each and once you have emailed your ticket order to noeleensouber@outlook.com she will email you the tickets! Details of where to make payment are in the attachment but meantime, take in these great photos. This is one of best original raffle ideas for a long time so I hope everyone in the club supports it. Must be worth buying 10 tickets surely? Ed

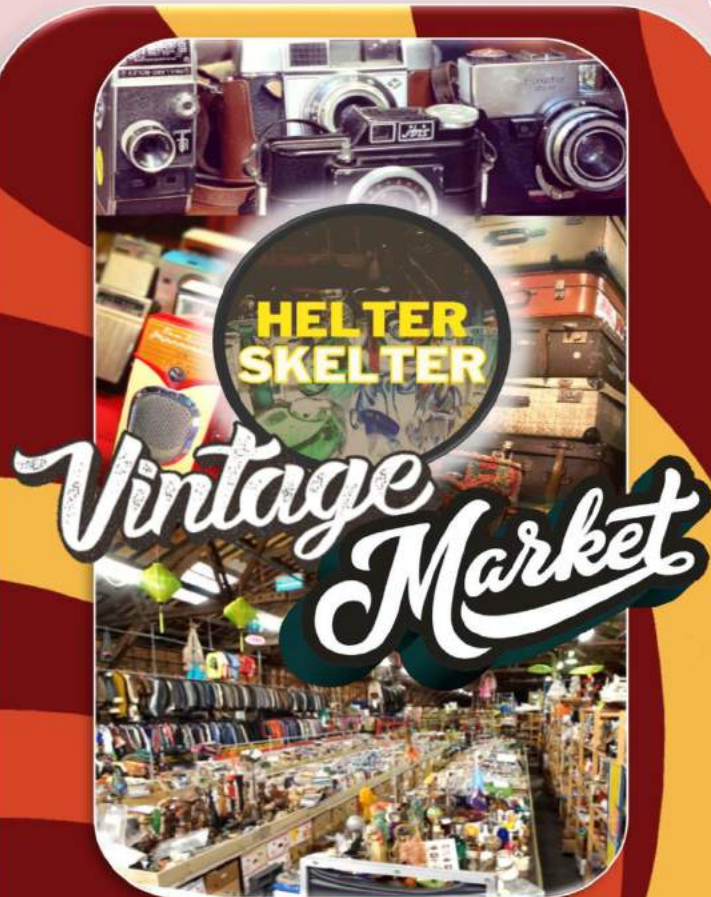




>>LATEST UPDATE Have a read of latest registration numbers, thus far. Targets are progressing well but we need more Caddies (or even your non-Caddy/ American car) to come along. Wouldn't it be marvellous if we had 50 Caddies participate at the 50th? Approx. 20% of Registrations so far are from Overseas members - isn't that fantastic! Organiser Jason and his crew are doing a fabulous job, so please support this 'one in fifty-year event!' Miss it and you'll have to wait for the next biggie - 60th! Registration form attached. More updates from Jason when they come to hand - Ed

1973 2023
GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY
National Rally Weekend
 CADILLAC LA SALLE CLUB OF NEW ZEALAND 20-23 October, 2023 - Wellington, New Zealand

REGISTRATIONS
OPEN!



Countdown to Fifty...

Fill yer boot with quirky collectibles, retro clothing eclectic ornaments, and vintage electronics, or just have fun poking around this fascinating warehouse packed to the rafters with... junk on our visit to Helter Skelter



• REGISTRATION UPDATE •

Target: 125 guests

Confirmed: 52 guests so far including 9 overseas guests!

Target: 50 Cadillacs

Confirmed: 18 Cadillacs so far

Target: 70 grille badges

Confirmed: 20 badges sold so far



50th Anniversary Event Registration: \$50 PER PERSON

'True Cost' registration for Club affiliated non-members: \$195 per person. Registration form attached.

50th Anniversary Grille Badge: \$50 PER BADGE (incl. NZ postage, please add \$4.80 for Rural Delivery charge)

Contact Jason at curried@hotmail.com or on 021 0221 5373 to order your limited edition gold and silver plated grille badge.

More Memories from yesteryear!



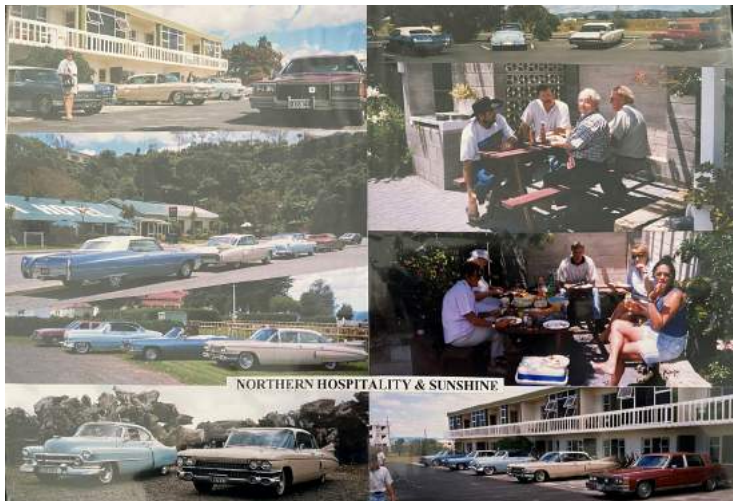
MORE photographs below from the NZ CLC photo-album archives. The only thing missing is the names of the people who appear. CAN YOU HELP identify who they are? Email me at: finzmagazine@GMail.com More pics next month! Ed.



Left is the 'Taranaki Hospitality for New Year (what year, who are these members?) Whose vintage Caddy? The more curious page at right is 'The Ballroom Cadillacs'. Where, when? Who has a broken foot/ ankle?



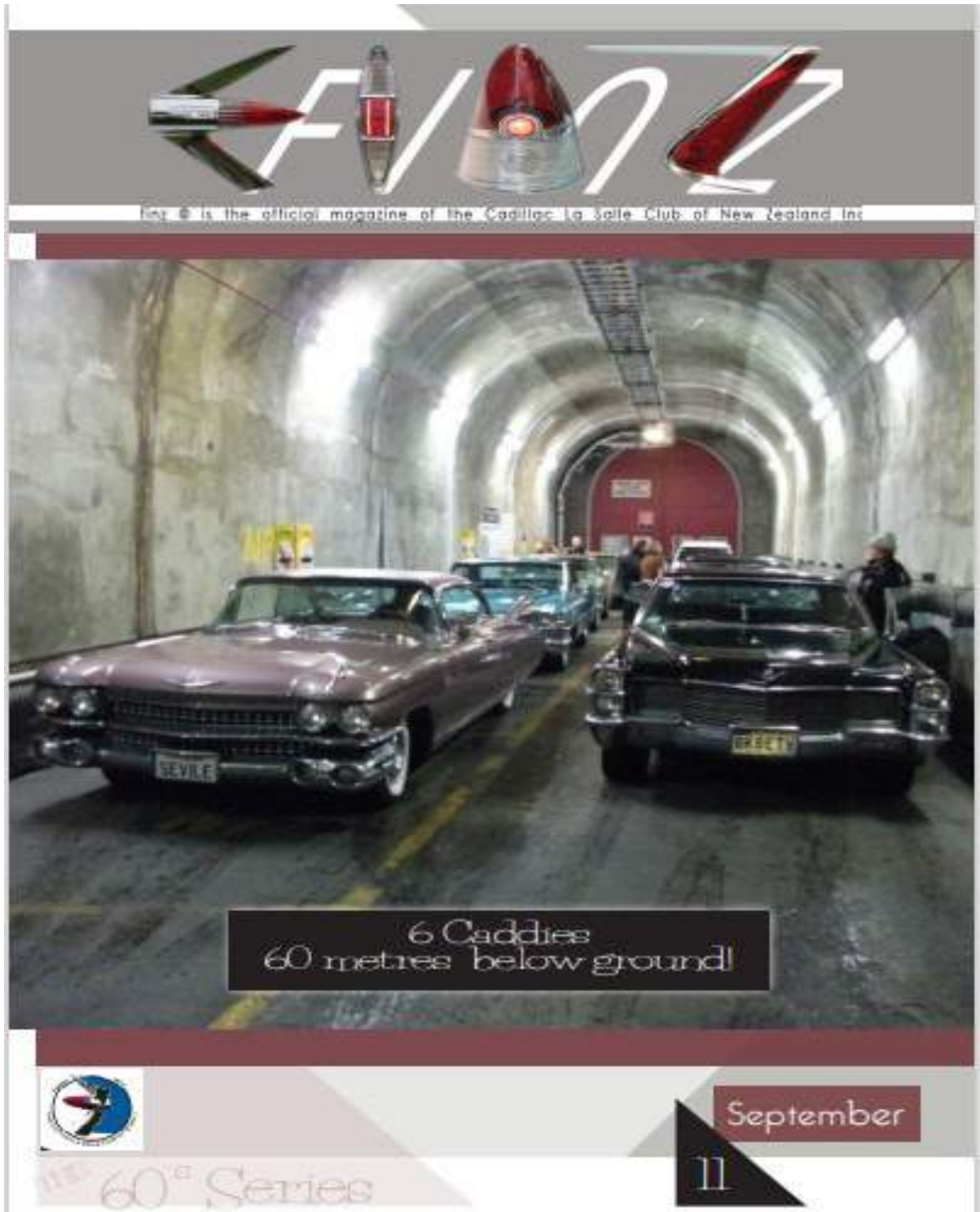
Galaxy of Cars & Swap meet. Who are these young ladies. One on the left looks familiar? 16 Caddies turn out for 'Independence Day' weekend (these were still running when I joined the club in 2005 and were organised by Ken & Nikki Scott and Ian Bradshaw). They were awesome if not sometimes cold and wet! Ed



I think I can recognise Ian Bradshaw walking across the car park just under the 'Luncheon Cruise' heading? On the Northern run, I think I might have spotted a young Paul Dixon (and his beige '59), maybe Nikki Scott and Myrie Wotherspoon???

Amazing Cadillac IMAGES

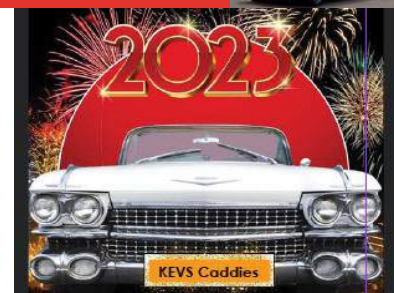
The best of the best finz images



The September 2011 issue of FINZ Magazine featured one of the most incredible journeys I have experienced in my Caddy and with our NZ Club. In August 2011, a group of us travelled many hours south of Tauranga to the Rangipo Dam, south of Turangi (past the middle of the North Island's Lake Taupo). CLC members, Sonja and Blair Meads not only gave us a personal tour of this Dam and its operations but it was underground! You read right, we actually drove our Caddies underground! Very scary but plenty of room. The sound of those V8s literally bounced off the concrete walls! To top it off, Sonja and Blair hosted us at their log cabin in Turangi in the middle of winter for the whole weekend. This issue also acknowledged the 10th Anniversary of 9/11. [Check out the details of the Rangipo Dam on the special attachment that I came across last year! At left, pic of my special '2011 Icebreaker Tour' Beenie we all got from the hosts! I still wear mine each winter! Ed]

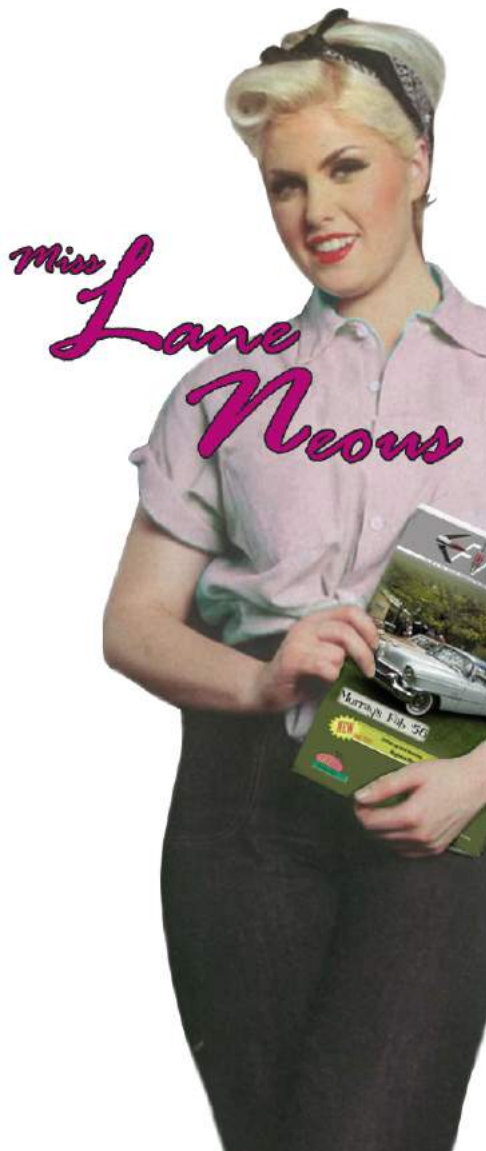
KEVS Caddies

For several years now BoP Member, Kevin Conder has surfed the net looking for cool Caddies and other rides to share with us. He and wife Christine own an amazing '60 Convertible (pic>>>)



"Hey Graham. Why are we not getting much wear out of those tyres? Not sure Lois, I always pamper our Biarritz!"

Thanks to Kevin Conder for his tireless hunt for great Caddy pics plus the odd 'other one!' Ed



Miss Lane writes ~ Continued best wishes to all our NZ Cadillac members, family and friends affected by Cyclone Gabrielle. The journey has only just begun to clean up and some how recover from our worst natural disaster in our lifetime here in the North Island. You are all in our thoughts. Let's know if the club can help in some way.

WELCOME to several new members. We hope you enjoy your time with our club and we extend an invitation to you all to join us in Wellington this Labour Weekend for our 50th Anniversary Celebrations! Read details attached.

- > Leah McAneney of Gisborne. 1962 Sedan DeVille (Hawkes Bay Region)
- > Shane Brewer & Gwendolyn Heap of Feilding. 1987 Caddy Hearse (Wanganui/ / Manawatu Region)
- > John & Gail Reid of Palmerston North. 1979 Fleetwood & 1993 Fleetwood Brougham (Wanganui/ Manawatu Region)
- > Nathan Wells & Melissa Larsen of New Plymouth. 1965 DeVille Convertible (Taranaki Region)

Here are some pics from our new members.



Shane & Gwen's Hearse



Nathan & Melissa's '65



Memories from Gizzy, November 2022 - 'Got you in my sights!' Chasing Rocket Ships along swooping roads under the viaduct. Another awesome pic by Jason Curry, Saturday 5th Nov.

Where we live



REGIONAL DELEGATES

NORTHLAND

>All Enquiries to Pres.

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(Founding member)
Any Contact to Ron Melville

[Corrections to: finzmagazine@gmail.com]

What's on the Fridge?



APRIL 2nd - Meguiars Coffee & Cars, Mt. Smart, Penrose, Auck
2nd - Gas Guzzlers B/fast, Gizzy
7th - 10th - NZHRA Street Rod Nats, Christchurch
MAY 21st - Wgton Horsepower Display & Swap Meet, Trentham
OCT 20th - 23rd - CLC NZ 50th Golden Anniversary, Wellington
BOOK NOW & start saving for gas! Have you got your grill badge? Read details below



Limited Edition 50th Anniversary Gold and Silver Plated Commemorative Grille Badge

Wear your Club pride on your ride!

Grille badge cost (incl. NZ postage, please add \$4.80 for Rural Delivery): **\$50 PER BADGE**

Keen? Contact Jason at curried@hotmail.com or on 021 0221 5373 to order



Tail Lights

The Best Tails in Town!



Andrew Deam, Taranaki
The gleaming chrome says it all!
Well done Andrew - Ed