



AS YOU CAN SEE, CADILLAC ALWAYS STANDS OUT IN THE CROWD!



# RENDEZVOUS!



Hi all. We are at AmeriCARna this issue. Members have put up a good show and I have heard a number of our members were enjoying themselves and they sent me some cool pics for us all to enjoy. Lady luck played her part, for the following week there was yet another Covid Alert where all of NZ went into Level 2, except Auckland (the culprit) went into Level 3. Had all this been on the AmeriCARna week, the event may have not taken place! Thanks to Debra Wilford of Taranaki Region who not only sent in this month's cover pic but also many more photos of the great time they had at AmeriCARna this year. I must say, a big 'shout-out' to those members who answered the call for more photos and articles when you have been out and about. As you know, a Kiwi mag should be about Kiwi stuff but sometimes its hard to come by it...!

But even when I am short on 'Kiwi kontent', there is always lots of fellow CLC Regional articles out there that is worth sharing. This month, I extend a thank you to the Potomac Region for allowing us to share two graet articles - one on a simply beautiful '74 and the other on Elvis' blue Eldo.

We also check out a great show in Moutere, Nelson and a few of you that are 'universal car guys (and gals) will enjoy my trip to the 50th Ellerslie Car show. CLC'ers from overseas that read our mag on the American website maybe surprised we have a tremendous range of European and English old cars in NZ and most would have driven to the show!

Next month I should be able to rustle up some coverage on the Beach Hop held in Whangamata.

And those that have asked, yes I have my Calais back, looking as if nothing happened. Just fighting the tow truck company now who claim it was damaged before it left Raglan and will not accept liability! Until next month, keep having fun in your Caddy before winter comes - stay safe, Ron - Ed



FINZ Magazine Editor: Ron Melville

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

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

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# AMERI - CAROL - ARNA IN TARANAKI

The weather gods ensured a overall great event over a number of days allowing lots of red, white and blue (and some other colours too!) Amercian Iron to come out and play! From the photos sent to me, it looks as if those that were there had lots of fun. Hopefully I will be there next year?! Ed



Huey, Duey and Lowey (in the middle - Lois) our BoP Legends!

CAROL'S Corner!  
Thanks Carol for your stunning pics. The Buick at top was Carol's choice! Mean Caddy at left. Above, 'The AmeriCARna Family' and 'Mr. AmeriCARna' (1st and 2nd). Another fantastic 4 days . We had awsum weather. They had 780 cars registered great turnout. Only one thing wrong - Too many MUSTANGS !!!!  
Cheers Carol (Huey)



At top is Thrupps Biarittz. ' World-famous in Kiwi Land' is ' Delores' and at left, Delores' owner - Neville Carter lunching on an AmeriCARna burger!

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# AMERI - CONDER & DEBRA - ARNA IN TARANAKI

Not only were Carol, Lois and Graham from the Bay of Plenty region at AmeriCARna, but so were Christine and Kevin Conder. They too had an awesome time and sent me these cools pics for us all to drool over!  
Ed

Thanks also Debra Wilford (of the local 'Naki) for sending me a terrific selction as below. Bless you all! Ed



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Amazing how many red Caddies there were! Have a guess who was in the fluo jacket! Rod looks very old school. Thanks Debra!  
Ed



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# ANOTHER MEMORY OF FRED BAUSCH!

Great old photos of yester-year like this one only come along now and again. A great camera position given the cars travelling along the Freeway at top of the picture look perfectly horizontal and in full focus, as are the many other images. Caddy stands out. A Glimpse Back at Life in the Big City – Los Angeles 1961. The day was April 26, 1961, and this telephoto view, according to the source, was taken at the intersection of 1st and Hope Streets in Los Angeles, CA, which is about a mile north of the center of the City. An early-1950s Cadillac is waiting at the light on N. Fremont Ave., and beyond and above it is the 110 Freeway. Below the two-tone Studebaker Coupe on 1st St. next to the Blue Chip billboard is the underpass for North Figueroa St. At the top of the photo behind the 110 Freeway on the left is a Richfield Filling Station and behind it the Cappari Bros. Auto Repair Shop. Courtesy of the USC Libraries.



# OUR GLOBAL FAMILY



FROM - **Australia** - Paul Dixon knows how to make a 'blue day' a shiny Cadillac Day! Even though Paul's Dad passed away, he went out in style! Paul tells me he chose a funeral home that had a Caddy Hearse! Good colour it was too (see below). Paul and I got to talk about Cadillac Hearse's and he found these two: Black '60 is based in Hamilton. Look at this modern CT5 example. Which begs the question - have you seen a nice Caddy Hearse in your town? Thanks Paul. Ed



FROM - **USA** - Hi Ron. Great newsletter again this month! The photos, the stories from around the globe, the news items, and the event coverage compelled me to read every word. I especially liked the stunning cover photo of "Delores," that beautiful '67 convertible. And the "In Memory of Fred Bausch!" section is always a fun read, too. The CLC NZs 50th Anniversary looks like it will be a lot of fun. I will dream of attending! Thanks again for a great job, Ron!

Mark Waterman

CLC North Texas Chapter [Thanks Mark, keep safe and well - Ed]

FROM - Taranaki, New Zealand: Mark and Noeleen Souber's new Caddy daily driver! [Nice looking ride guys. Ed]



FROM - Auckland, New Zealand: Hi Ron. Just in case you haven't seen this <https://www.trademe.co.nz/a/motors/cars/cadillac/other/listing/2997568583?bof=PAAdvTBED>  
Emailed in by Doug Campbell





# COUNTING DOWN TO CLC NZ's 50TH!

Hey folks - did you know there is only approx. 42 months to go to our 'Half-Century Club Celebration?'

Wellington Regional Delegate 'Jason Currie' has been busy behind the scenes for the last couple of years 'pencilling' ideas and checking out venues and places to go.

Whilst we are some way off from seeing the booking details, Jason and his team are inviting any suggestions that maybe out 'in the club domain' (so to speak) knowing that some of best suggestions come from the members themselves at the 'coal-face!'

So if you have a sterling idea, drop Jason an email and tell him about it. In keeping with the 50th Theme, his team would love to glean 50 ideas/ suggestions! You can email him at: [curried@hotmail.com](mailto:curried@hotmail.com) To 'kick things off', he's another:

> I had thought of an American car 'salute to Cadillac' display, perhaps at Southwards which has a regular coffee and cars show each month. Jason

Jason has been busy penning a very cool 50th emblem for our big event. The outline is of the Eldo badge and looks very cool. Jason and his team invite more ideas please. There's only just over three years to the event and lots to do and get in place way before then! Ed



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WHAT 50TH  
ANNIVERSARY  
SUGGESTIONS  
CAN YOU  
MAKE?

# NZ CLUB HOUSE-KEEPING

Club Treasurer, Lois Thrupp advises that she has been informed by the Clubs Bank (ANZ) that cheques will no longer be able to be issued or received by the Club. This comes into affect around mid-2021.

Lois suggests those members who have previously paid by cheque should set-up an auto payment NOW (to commence 1st September this year and Annually thereafter) to pay your annual subs. This will alleviate you forgetting to make your internet payment. THE CLUB WILL BE UNABLE TO ACCEPT CHEQUES FOR YOUR ANNUAL SUBS in months to come.

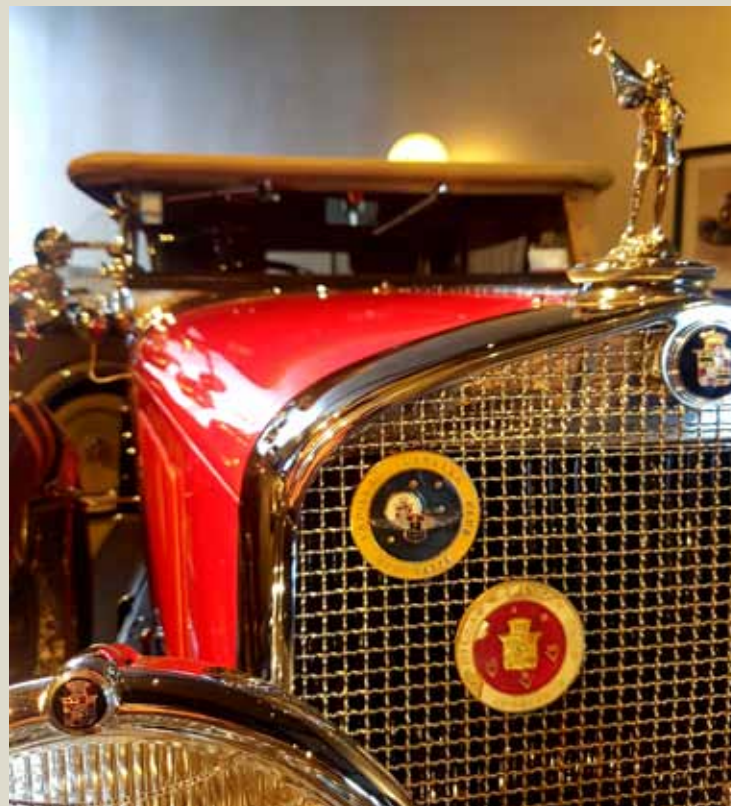
For those members affected, an Auto Payment form is attached so you can set it up and take it of your bank NOW to process.

YOUR Editor advises: I have had a few requests of late for 'Snail-mail' copies of *FINZ* Magazine. Those that have subscribed have paid their annual \$55 to cover printing and postage costs. If you wish a copy, simply email me:

[finzmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:finzmagazine@gmail.com) and I am happy to add you to the 'Paid Subscription List' - Ed



Kiwi members will be aware that since the last issue of *FINZ* our Treasurer has given three months notice to step down. NZ Pres. Ian wrote to all NZ Members (via Email and Snail mail) inviting 'Interest' from any NZ member wishing to step into Lois' shoes. To date, Ian has received one 'expression of interest'. If you would like to 'put your hand up' for this very important Club role, contact Ian Lind ASAP. Applications close 31st March 2021.



Thanks Jason Currie for always sharing us great Cadillac pics where ever you travel, like the South Island - read all about it next month! Ed





## Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle March 2021



BY JEREMY PEARCE

Just like flashy jumpsuits are synonymous with the King of Rock & Roll on stage, the Cadillac is the quintessential symbol of Elvis Presley in his personal life. Elvis' love affair with Cadillacs started with the famous 1955 pink Cadillac and ended with this 1977 baby blue Cadillac Eldorado—perfect bookends connecting two American originals. A new Cadillac was not only an example of his attraction to style and luxury, but also a testament to his legendary generosity—it was his gift of choice for friends, family and even perfect strangers.



On January 14, 1976, Elvis went on a famous car buying spree at Jack Kent Cadillac in Denver, CO. One of the people who received a car that night was Shirley Diehl, the girlfriend of Elvis' road manager Joe Esposito (pictured left with Elvis on April 26, 1977). She was offered a green Eldorado after the dealership could not locate a white one, which was her first choice. Elvis suggested she accept the green one as a "placeholder" until she could get one she really wanted.

Early the following year, the dealership called Joe & Shirley in California to offer them a brand new 1977 baby blue Eldorado, since they still couldn't locate a white one for them. Joe said he would need to call Elvis first to see what he thought. According to Joe, Elvis told him, "No problem, if Shirley likes the blue one, then get it ... I'll pay for it." They decided to take the new one and traded the green one back to Jack Kent. Elvis paid for the new car on April 26, 1977 (less than four months before his death), making it the last Cadillac that Elvis would pay for in his lifetime.



The new, blue Eldorado was registered to the Graceland address, but delivered to Joe & Shirley's condo in Los Angeles. But, this is not one of those cars Elvis simply gave away, Elvis was in this Cadillac! Joe & Shirley both state that when Elvis visited Los Angeles during the last months of his life, this was the car he used. In fact, one of their final memories of the King was riding with him in this Cadillac down Santa Monica Blvd.

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## Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle March 2021



All of this has been fully documented, including a copy of the original registration (below right), a written Certificate of Authenticity from Joe Esposito and a video by both Joe & Shirley on the history of this car. The car is now owned by Elvis collector and Tribute Artist [Jeremy Pearce](#) (below left), who also owns [The EP Mobile Museum](#), and is available to [book for events](#). Before taking the car out for display, the material on the inside of the driver's side door, which had cracked over time, was replaced. Collectors can purchase a swatch of the original material on [eBay](#). Find out additional details about this Cadillac and its Elvis connections on the famous and authoritative [Elvis Cadillacs](#) website!



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Thank ya very much Potomac Region for letting us re-print this cool Elvis two-pager. What a terrific 'pin-up' of Elvis standing next to that gorgeous blue Eldo! - Ed.





## Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle March 2021



MADISON CADILLAC  
BY BREWSTER THACKERAY

Cadillac was not only considered by many the best American car, it was often the biggest. 1976 was the last year for that. While Cadillacs had changed substantially in all other recent years, its luxury carried on almost unchanged from 1975, with good reason. These cars were stunning! While the downsized Seville that debuted as a 1975 model did a fine job responding to European competition, and the Eldorado was offering the "last" American convertible, the bread and butter of the line was the massive set of sedans: Calais, Sedan DeVille and Fleetwood.

The car my high school friend, Jeff Werner, piloted was a hand-me-down blue '76 Sedan DeVille. I was smitten by the aging car's ability to fit six people and my dog in comfort. It was so smooth. My favorite feature was the massive four-door pillarless hardtop that made the car feel like a rolling porch. (Yes, porch, not Porsche!)

In college, my friend, Ward Halverson, collected his grandmother's car, a Dunbarton Green '76 sedan. I loved cruising in that one too. In those days, these were just 10-15 year-old, obsolete dinosaurs. But now they are 45 years old, and surviving examples are getting the appreciation they deserve. There will never be cars like them again, that is for sure. While new Cadillacs are wondrous world cars, and the rightful descendants of the '70s Seville, what can you do if you want to cruise with six people on couches on a rolling porch?

My blue '76 Sedan DeVille (pictured below) was purchased from an enthusiast in western Virginia in fall 2020. He had bought it from a high-end dealer in Florida. The car has only



26,000 miles and is in ultra-mint condition with original paint and interior. Everything works, except the A/C at the moment. The car floats as it was meant to.

One thing that makes this car special is its owner documents that show it was purchased from Madison Cadillac of Memphis, TN. That is the now-defunct dealership where Elvis Presley famously bought most of the many Cadillacs for himself and/or as gifts for friends and relatives. While there is no evidence that Elvis owned this car, he quite likely walked by and gave it an approving smile at his favorite dealership (ELVIS LOVED THESE CARS!). That is why this car's name is "Madison Cadillac."

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## Cadillac & LaSalle Club Potomac Region Caddie Chronicle March 2021



See more pictures on Brewster's website.

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Thanks again to our friends at the Potomac.  
This '75 is just beautiful and undoubtedly worth  
sharing with all our Cadillac members! Ed



## GLOBAL FAMILY



Our Cadillac friend, Annie regularly sends to me very interesting pics from here travels around NZ. Below is a selection of a recent old car show in Moutere (Nelson). [Thanks Anne. I suspect there are some very unusual and cool old American Iron hiding in the South Island. No Mustangs but plenty of Chevies! When are we going there Murray? Ed]

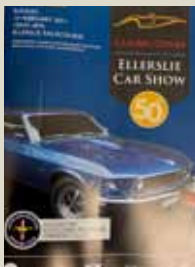






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A close-up photograph of a lawn area. A small white sign with red and black text is visible in the upper left corner. The lawn is green with some brown patches, and a concrete sidewalk is visible in the lower right corner.







## REGIONAL DELEGATES

NORTHLAND  
Vacant  
>All Enquiries to Pres.

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

BAY OF PLENTY  
Contact Steve Gill  
07-575-8891

TARANAKI  
Brian & Marie Gillett  
06-75-66-136  
briree@xtra.co.nz

WAIKATO  
Ian Bradshaw 027-211-8516  
07-828-5979  
ianbradshaw1957@gmail.com

WANGANUI/ MANAWATU  
Vacant  
>All Enquiries to Pres.

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

10 Regions across NZ  
8 Active

WELLINGTON/WAIRARAPA  
Jason Curry  
021-0221-5373  
curried@hotmail.com

MARLBOROUGH/CANTERBURY/ WEST COAST  
Stephen Brown  
03-32-88-250  
stephen.brown@xtra.co.nz

OTAGO/ SOUTHLAND  
Rob McCann  
021-1835-334  
robmmccann@gmail.com

## 2020/21 CLC NZ Club Officers

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

Vice President  
Mike Thompson 021-749-179  
mobilewelder@xtra.co.nz

Treasurer  
Lois Thrupp 07-543-4474  
redchev1960@gmail.com

Secretary  
Frances McCurdy 027-444-9824  
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)]

## FRIDGE Magnets!

APR 5-7th - 41st Corvette Nationals  
Dunedin

18th - 8th Annual Hamilton Swap Meet at  
Classic Museum, Frankton

MAY 23rd - Wellington Horsepower Display  
and Swap Meet - Tretham Racecourse

JUN 5th - Palmy North HRC 50th Anni

JUL 11th - Rotorua swap Meet

OCT - Exact dates TBC, NZ Cadillac Nats  
Central North Island!



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## FOR SALE/ WANTED

WANTED - No luck yet in finding my dream Cadillac.  
I think we should open up the field now. Can you  
place an ad for me? Cadillac Wanted, a good Sunday  
driver, 1949 to 1962.

ALSO - Wanted 1960 Cadillac parts, rear bumper,  
rear side trim, chrome trim for the fins. Anything  
repairable. Ph 022 625.6370. Ian Currie [333iancurrie@gmail.com](mailto:333iancurrie@gmail.com)

AND - Wanted wiper motor for 1968 Caddy. Can  
anyone help Gus Carmont? Ph 021-964-840 or email:  
[suengus@ol.net](mailto:suengus@ol.net)



FOR SALE - 1985 Cadillac Eldorado Biarritz - current  
w.o.f. and Rego. Excellent condition. Offers around  
\$25,000.00 Phone Bob on 0278557125. Tauranga  
location.



# TAIL LIGHTS FOREVER

I HAVE SOMETHING SPECIAL TO SHARE WITH YOU NEXT ISSUE! [ED]



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