

fiNZ22



Power of the Caddy!

Rendezvous!

Happy New Year 2022 and welcome to FINZ issue Number 14 under my Editorship with a no less fresh, colourful look!

I wonder what's in store for us this year? I wonder if we can receive a few Kiwi Caddy members cars on the front cover of FINZ like we did last year? That was a record - an entire Calendar year with a NZ Caddy featuring each month!

Well for January we are starting on the right foot with Keith and Christine Steel's amazingly restored 1918 Type 57 Cadillac Town Landulet. But not only is it restored to world class standards, it actually features in a recently released film, 'Power of the Dog'. This is a film shot here in Ranfurly, NZ with a backdrop said to be comparable to Montana (USA) where the story is set. Film Director is NZ's own Jane Campion. The movie has already received seven Oscar nominations so keep an eye out for what it achieves in time to come. If you need an excuse to watch it, do it just to watch our own NZ Cadillac that features and look out for the driver, no other than Keith Steel (at right)! How proud the Steel family must be as are their fellow Taranaki members - well done guys! I understand the '18 will be entered in the Vero International Rally in mid Jan 2022 in Keith's home town, New Plymouth.

Elsewhere in this issue is our usual news and views from fellow members from around the world. Always great to receive feedback from them and what they are up to.

There is an interesting 'Tech Topic' that almost led to a tragic old-car accident because of a tyre dust cap! WORTH reading. Have you any of these on your old car?

With summer here in NZ, it's the time to get out cruising in our Caddies, Covid permitting. When out and about, please send me a picture or two of where you have been and a few words. And please be safe, car-wise and Covid-wise! Best regards, Ron



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 & 2020

Contributions to: finzmagazine@gmail.com

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

Deadline is 20th of each month

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We formed our New Zealand club in 1973 and celebrated our 40th Anniversary in 2013 making us one of the oldest Cadillac clubs in the world. We are proud to be an International Affiliate of the world-wide Cadillac LaSalle Club of the USA - itself formed in 1958.

Power of the Caddy!



What is this marvellous Cadillac? Keith explains: It is a 1918 TYPE 57 CADILLAC TOWN LANDAULET.....ENGINE...V8 side valve 315 cu in. with detachable heads..GEARBOX...3 speed manual. ELECTRICS....Starter/generator combination...TYRES...33x5 on Kelsey wheels. FUEL TANK. Air pressurized 20 gallon capacity fuel tank..STEERING..Adjustable worm and gear with Fatman Adjustable and folding steering wheel with throttle and ignition levers...BRAKES..Rear wheel brakes only..internal and external expanding bands...Thermo syphoning radiator. Cruises at 45 to 50mph-capable of 60mph + Seven seater including two jump seats that fold away. **Back ground:** Keith tells: When living in Orewa, Hibiscus Coast (north of Auckland) in 1980 I bought the Cadillac from Joe Leets in Hawkes Bay. It had no body except front cowl, chassis, and some running gear. I know very little of its history. The car originally was a tourer but had been trucked later on and was used to cart spotted fruit to the schools sometime in the fifties. I originally was going to build another tourer body but then decided to build a Town Landulet body as they were only produced for one year and quite rare. The middle was built high for dignitaries wearing top hats! I had the car for a few years before I did anything to it. A good friend of mine Keith Dodge an ex aircraft engineer rebuilt the engine and running gear making a lot of parts that were not available and in lieu of, I restored the body of his Alvis 'Grey Lady'. After eleven attempts (!!) to cast some new heads, Wade Engineering in Silverdale finally came up with three usable ones. We moved to Hawera South Taranaki in 2000. Three acres and with a very large 1000 Sq. metre shed. I did not know of any other Town Landulets in the USA or anywhere else so therefore didn't have any plans of the car. I started with a drawing of the car and one measurement, the wheelbase. I got a sign writer to copy the drawings to a transparency, put two dots on four sheets of 2400x1200 ply at the height of the wheel centres, find the angle the picture was originally drawn and copy to it at full size. Neil Carter of Furniture & Design at Normanby built the wooden frame for the car and I panelled his 39Chev Coupe. John Reumus from New Plymouth made all the upholstery and Kevin Barkla from Hawera painted it. The Cadillac has been on the Americarna here in Taranaki and a few car shows and is entered into the Vero International Rally in New Plymouth 2022. In February 2020 the Cadillac was trucked down to Ranfurly, South Island for Jane Campions movie, 'The Power of the Dog'- a Western Drama set in Montana in the 1920s. I was the chauffeur in the movie and drove the Governor around. It is due to be released here Oct/Nov. **Keith.** [Thanks Keith. One of best stories I have had the pleasure of receiving. The resto alone is worthy of an Oscar! Ed]



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Power of the Creator!



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Above, from a pile of Caddy to extra parts to a rolling chassis; start of the wooden frame, the motor and gearbox, then onto the interior and body. Look at that upholstery. Lavish and very 'Royal-like!' More pics, next page >>>

FINZ

Publication details - 'FINZ' (2022 'The B2TF Series') is Copyright to The Cadillac & La Salle Club of NZ Inc. Publication is distributed via email and snail mail. All correspondence to the editor: finzmagazine@gmail.com Artwork/design layout and technical support by Shea' Melville (shea.melville@gmail.com). Ideas and concepts by Ron Melville and many inserts from Editors own collection, both hard and electronic copy. We thank all contributors world-wide for permitting publication, use of items and advertisers for your ongoing support. To advertise, email editor for rates. FINZ is a non-profit club publication and printed for club members and readers enjoyment. No responsibility taken for errors or omissions. The name FINZ is copyright to the Cadillac LaSalle Club of New Zealand formed in 1973 and original magazine name conceived circa 1974. **FINZ is proudly made of and in New Zealand!** FINZ Magazine under Ron Melville Editorship is in Year 14, Issue 1 - January 2022 and is 'The B2TF Series'

Power of the Creator!



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Wow, look at the detail of this 104 year-old re-creation. Look at those spoke wheels! At bottom, the old house on 'set' and Keith at the wheel! A credit to you that's for sure - Ed

Our Global Family

USA - Ron: Re the December FINZ. In one article you referenced Bob Schuman. That brought to mind my 3 years in Hawaii, 71-74..25 years after WWII, and minor relationship with Schuman Carriage, the Cadillac Dealer working on my cars. They had an "original" carriage in the show room built by the founder from the 1800s. Anyway, Schuman Carriage was "The" Cadillac dealer ultimately surviving 111 years in Honolulu. Here is a bit of history you might find interesting. Bill Overend, Peach Region, Atlanta CLC
[Hi Bill and I did look it up and it is indeed interesting. All the best for 2022 - Ed]



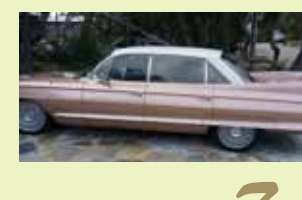
Hello Ron, The December FINZ magazine had a lot of interesting reading and photos, it is excellent work you do. The previous ones were good, also, but this one was great. One article I must take issue with, the one about President FDR's trip to our Capitol to speak to Congress on December 8, 1941. I believe the story about using Al Capone's 1928 armoured Cadillac is a fabrication. My basis is a website "FDR and Al Capone's Cadillac, Truth or Myth?" that has information and photos to debunk the story. In our present time, any information can be suspect, but I tend to believe the Capone car story was not the truth. In addition to the evidence offered on the website, I, as a person familiar with the aggravation an old car can cause, cannot believe the White House staff could have had enough knowledgeable and talented mechanics to overnight remove an old car from storage and, within only a few hours, completely assure it would be totally reliable for carrying the President on even the short journey needed. This is not intended as a criticism of your FINZ article, as the Capone story has appeared elsewhere numerous times. I am just offering the stated website in the interest of historical accuracy(I hope). While we in most of the USA are preparing to store our collector cars for winter, you folks on the other side of the world are just now looking forward to enjoying the driving seasons. Best regards, Bob Schuman
[Thanks Bob. Yes, Covid permitting I hope that many Kiwi (and Australian) CLC members will be cruising the streets this summer. Ed]

AUSTRALIA - Steve Westmacott writes (via Email) Great issue Mavron thoroughly enjoyed all the very best for the Festive Season passed on early in case our Happy Trails don't cross as December flashes past. Cheers mate, The Cowboy (aka Steve Westmacott). [Back at you Cowboy. Keep safe and well and say hi to Helen and Cody. All the best for 2022, Ed]

Our Global Family

USA - Thanks Ron. Your "Finz" are always welcome. However, since I have parted ways with the "Cadillac and LaSalle Club" (in July 2021). It would be nice if you were to include a snippet in the next issue of "Finz" to say that "Yann Saunders, creator-compiler of the 'Cadillac Database', has resigned his 50-year membership to that club. Nonetheless, he will continue, as before, to contribute to "Finz" and to other automobile clubs of which he is a member in good standing. You may still contact him directly on his private Email: yannsaunders@gmail.com The "Cadillac Database", the website Yann created and compiled in the 80s and 90s, will continue to function thanks to its moderator, "JC" Franchetti of New York, who has been running the site it on behalf of Yann, since 2010-11. I hope all is well with you and wish you "all good" at Christmas and in the coming new year. Yann [Yann and the Cadillac Board unfortunately had a severe difference of opinion where a mutual resolution and reconciliation could not be achieved. Yann has in the past and continues to be known as 'Mr. Cadillac' due to his extensive knowledge of the Cadillac and La Salle Marques. Your contributions to FINZ are always welcomed, Best to you Yann & Gita - Ed]

AUSTRALIA - Chris and Gudie (at right) from CLC Melbourne are a great couple who are really into Cadillacs and old American cars. They have quite a collection where they live in an old restored building. Pics are current. Ed



Neville Carter - look at the Caddy in the back ground! Ed

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They are '56 Buick Super Riviera Billy rare car, on a Cadillac chassis 6 inches longer than the Buicks you see that look identical. Mostly Caddy parts, the whole top is '55 Caddy. Doors bolt on etc. Black Cadillac 'Big Al' is a '52 anniversary stunning. Marilyn '50 Coupe DeVille. Gold '61 Cadillac Daisy four door our first car beautiful. '49 Chrysler convertible straight-8. Gloria has won 6 US Nats and is a Senior car. '57 Ford Tbird Amelia has won many concourse awards. '67 Chrysler New Yorker. All original and stunning car. '46 Ford Super Deluxe. Rita voted the finest '46 on the planet. '60 Cadillac Coupe DeVille Lola. Totally restored, drives fantastic!



NZ - BAY of PLENTY - Tauranga member Dave Cummins recently sent me this link of an amazing Caddy Hearse from Greece of all places! [A very cool example. Thanks Dave - Ed]



NZ - TARANAKI - Here is a line up of great American Cadillac`s and Trucks on our Taranaki Members Christmas Run, Noeleen



NZ - WAIKATO - Click on <https://fb.watch/9Oi2ovp3lC/>

How about this shed (Red '59 Ambulance) Steve Martin, Waikato [Excellent Steve. Check out the other old '59s in the background! Ed]



IRELAND - Yes it was a great pic! Have a great Christmas and all the best in 2022! Nik Stratta CLC Ireland

UK - Happy Christmas to you and family Peter B Griffith COCGB

FRANCE - Dear Cadillac Enthusiasts,
Chers Amis, MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR to all.
JOYEUX NOEL et BONNE et HEUREUSE ANNEE.
Pierre GRAVEL, CLC fr



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Counting down to CLC NZ's 50th in 2023

Hi everyone.

The Countdown is on! Less than TWO years now to our fabulous and fin-tastic 50th to be held in Wellington over Four (4) days on Labour Weekend, 2023. It is planned to be held Friday/ Sat/ Sun and Monday. This will enable all members to converge on Wellington just before the Labour Weekend holiday traffic and leave the same way! In anycase, it is expected that the holiday traffic should be travelling in the opposite direction!

Jason Curry, our Wellington Regional Delegate and 50th Event Organiser tells me he and his team have been buzzing with ideas for the biggest-ever event in our NZ Club history!

So folks, open your 2023 diaries NOW and pencil in 'more than a few days' to attend.

AUCKLANDERS should start talking amongst themselves now to arrange a convoy of Caddies to head to Wellington. One idea is that you could head to Tauranga and meet up with the Bay of Plenty contingent who will likely (to be confirmed) travel via the East coast and Napier/ Hastings and meeting up with our Hawkes Bay members!

OR you could simply head directly south and meet up with our Waikato members?

We expect Kiwi members will come from all points of the compass (North = Auckland & Waikato. West = Taranaki. East = Bay of Plenty & Hawkes Bay. South = South Island - love to see you guys, thats for sure!)

Keep reading *FINZ* for more updates from Jason OR if you have a sterling idea, drop Jason an email and tell him about it. You can email him at: curried@hotmail.com

PS - At right is the official 50th Logo!



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Our Global Family



AUSTRALIA - Hi Ron. We went to Maryborough with the Caddy club. Very nice catch up. Will send through some more pics. Regards Chris and Gudie Melbourne CLC - [Thanks Chris & Gudie. We look forward to more. You will have to tell us about the 'Cadillac Sermon' and what the name of the Church was...St LaS..? Ed]



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FRANCE - Merry Xmas from France.
François BRUERE

To my friends all over the world ...I have to finish off a job this week a client who's moving No time to write my X mass cards. I don't want to send an E card, not personal enough in my opinion. Thus , I send you this email , card (cadeau from Ron Melville of New Zealand) attached; Yep , my youth in Belgium a sleigh behind my fathers car ..driving through the streets (we lived outside of town), and every kid could hook up he's sleigh. Sometimes 5 sleighs in a row ...most fun on the last one who cut the corners and made the widest turns afterwardsho ho ho had another meaning for us. End of the year , there is no more snow in the place I was born, the fields and forests are gone old cars are forbidden because of pollution. Best thing I ever did was moving to the French countryside , South Westno snow, no sleighs but a blue pool. Wide open roads , NO road taxes ! Classic cars and motorcycles international community, blue sky and sunTime to fire up my '82 bustleback and drive down for a couple of Belgium beers , made in my own hometown Pouant , France I wish you all happy holidays , all the best for 2022 , and hope to meet you @ the Chicago Grand National next year. Detroit, Hickory corners , Cord/ Duesenberg, Iowa Indian motorcycle factory, Chicago GN , Harley Milwaukee are all on the listFasten seatbelts and stay safe

Dirk and Liliane Van Dorst
86200 Pouant , France



AUSTRALIA - Hi Ron. Well done as usual in getting the FINZ together, especially being the Pearl Harbour anniversary issue. I hope my article has created some interest among your readers. Cheers Peter Ratcliff [Yes it has Peter. Thanks for you 'Anzac-flavoured' contribution. All the best for 2022 - Ed]

Hi Ron. I have just sent our summer edition to the printer. Do you have Jen C email address? I seem to have dumped it since I last contacted her. I have numerous wiper arms that may help (when you have a '30 you have to collect this stuff). Cheers, Andrew Rees, Editor, LaCad Magazine of CLC Australia [Thanks Andrew. Hope you can help out our Members at the Motueka Museum with that part. Thats what being a global club is all about - terrific. Ed]

USA - Jeff Shively, the Editor of *The Self-Starter Magazine* of CLC USA was seen on line cruising his amazing '41 Caddy Convertible Coupe, one of 3100 built out of 62,000 Caddys produced in 1941. Below is at the Booth Tarkington home at 4270 North Meridan as part of the Midtown Holiday Home Tour in Indianapolis. Colehaven, is about a half-mile north. [Great pics Jeff. All the best for 2022 with your Award-winning Mag. Ed]



Jeff's '41 with top on and off! At right is his 'daily driver', a 2014 XTS V Sport Platinum. Very sharp Jeff! Ed



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"DOUBLE BLOWOUT" - AND A CRITICAL SAFETY LESSON LEARNED

by Tony Albarella

Kev's Kaddies & Stuff

Kevin Conder who is a longstanding loyal member of the Bay of Plenty Region and owns a super-nice '60 convertible. Kevin loves finding cool Caddy examples (and sometimes other unique rides) on the net and intends to share them with us. Check out these - Ed



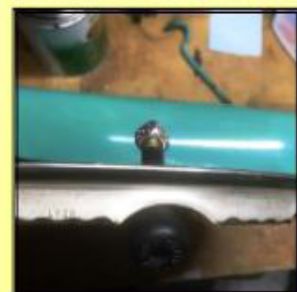
Possibly one of the most electric car examples Kev has come up with! A replica 'Singer Sewing Machine!' I wonder if it "tickers" away?! Ed



The recovered hubcap held the answer, and is something that in my ignorance I never even considered. I had chrome dice covers on the tire stems. No problem there, except that the square caps were larger than the hole in the hubcap through which the valve stem passes. The hubcap still had the intact tire valve attached to it, with no damage to the valve, and the valve cap holding it in place.

Here's what had happened: I simply lost my driver's side hubcap as I merged into the fast lane. But instead of breaking loose as intended, the hubcap caught on the valve cap cover and whipped around the wheel well at who-knows-how-many RPM. The centrifugal force ripped the intact tire valve right out of the rim. This is why I saw the hubcap take off a split second before I experienced any loss of control. With the valve gone and the weight of the car on it, the tire lost air and went instantly flat. As I started to fight for control and fishtail, the right rear hubcap must also have popped off, taking that valve with it, and the passenger rear tire also went instantly flat. I never recovered that right hubcap, but the tire was fine and the tire valve was missing, so obviously it's still attached to that lost hubcap.

Please benefit from my almost-disastrous experience and check to make sure that your tire valve stems clear your hubcaps. This applies to any situation where the valve stem passes through a hubcap, and that covers a lot of years and a lot of makes. Tell all your vintage car-owning friends. If you remove the hubcap, it should clear the valve stem without any impediment. This is how it was designed, and for good reason, as I found out. DO NOT use anything to secure the hubcap to the valve stem, intentionally or unintentionally. No one wants to lose a hubcap...but the alternative can be far, far worse.



Tech Tips

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Thanks to Tony Albarella of the CLC New Jersey, USA for allowing us to re-print this very interesting article. Due to its size, it has been edited but the 'gist' of the incident is read in the second paragraph. Take care NOT to use certain tyre dust caps unless they can clear your hub cap! Ed



REGIONAL DELEGATES

NORTHLAND

>All Enquiries to Pres.

AUCKLAND

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

BAY OF PLENTY

Contact Steve Gill
07-575-8891
cornandpeas@xtra.co.nz

TARANAKI

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

WAIKATO

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

HAWKES BAY

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

WANGANUI/ MANAWATU

>All Enquiries to Pres.

WELLINGTON/ WAIRARAPA

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

10 Regions across NZ

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

Grant Davis 027-264-1204
grantdavis37@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]

Fridge Magnets!



JAN '22 = 1st: World's 1st Car show, Whangamata

9th - Elvis in the Park, Henderson

14-16th: Kumeu Classic Car Fest.

16-21st: Vero Int'l Fest. N/Plymouth

19-23rd: Muscle Car Madness, Rangiora, Sth Is.

30th - All American Car Day, New Plymouth

FEB 6th: American Vehicle Day,

Trentham Racecourse, Wgton

11-12th: Very Vintage, Kumeu

12-13th Morrinsville Motorama

13th - Ellerslie Car Show

16-20th: Art Deco, Napier

OCT - 49th NZ Cadillac Nats - details to follow. mark your diary!

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For Sale/Wanted

Taranaki Member, Mark Fox is on the hunt for a wiper motor relay for a 1967 DeVille phone 0272384718 markfoxokato1963@gmail.com

Marlborough Member, The Motueka District Museum Trust, Jen Calder is looking for a wiper arm for Lassie. Phone 03-528-7660 savepast@snap.net.nz or motuekamuseum@gmail.com



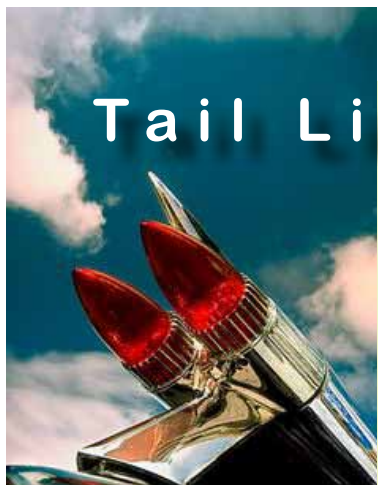
They find life richer with Cadillac luxury



From the greatest and greatest cars in the world to the most luxurious and comfortable, Cadillac is the only car that can give you the life you want. It's the only car that can give you the life you want. It's the only car that can give you the life you want.

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Tail Lights Forever



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A TRIO OF '55s AT HICKORY CORNERS, USA - NICE! ED