









Novembre



El Dorado [el dor-rah-doe] n. ficticious country rich in gold. Cadillac Eldorado = Convertible, 'Born in the USA' and rich in style!



RONdezvous



Contributions to: finzmagazine@gmail.com
The Editior reserves the right to accept or reject any contributions.

Deadline is 20th of each month

Hello Members! Wow, what a great 51st, Cadillac Nationals weekend in Taupo. Surprisingly warm, better than expected weather and the most colourful event I can recall. That's what it's like when you attend a NZ Cadillac Nationals. Kiwi members bring out their Caddies and because most are from the 50s, 60s and 70s, the colours are truly amazing against the drab tones of todays non-descript colour palate! Coverage of our fun weekend commences here with a promise of lots more colour in issues to come. And if you couldn't make it, soak it up and reach for your diary now for our 2025 Nationals in P...., details in months to come!

This month's cover Caddy is Taranaki Members, Paul & Pat Ekdahl's sharp '71 Eldo posing in front our excellent accomodation. The image is intended to salute the early 70s Eldo advertisement of the time (right hand corner). Paul tells me that he and Pat have owned their Eldo for some 12 years. The previous owner, a Fisherman had spent a heap of money on it with new motor, upholstery and much more. It was virtually a new Eldo! Eldos have been part of Pauls life for some 35+ years in total. Well done, Paul, it's a nice machine.

As usual, there's lots more in this months mag. News from the Global Cadillac Family, here in NZ and around the world. More news on the coming Lyric here in NZ; a poem to a special past Cadillac love (!); Andrew Rees '30 that's been in the family for over 70 years and a special '68 Convertible for sale. Have you wallet feast its eyes on this sweet-heart! Another batch of beautiful Caddies to admire on Kev's Kaddies page and lastly a reminder IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR SUBS this might be your last FINZ Magazine. It'd be a shame to see you go! Pay straight away to our Treasurer and of course those with an auto payment have paid already!

Coming next month is special coverage on a 'Weekend to Auckland visit' where we 'over-loaded' on five old car collections, attended the first summer Meguairs Coffee & Cars event, signed up eight new members and met lots more as well as enjoying lots of laughs and fine weather! Here's a sneek 'convoy photo' at right! For those that attended, send me any photos or stories please, to share next month.

Where I live in Papamoa (on the east coast), the first pohutukawas (NZ native Christmas tree) are starting to flower and it's only October. A sure sign of an early and very hot summer (earliest I can recall here where I live).

I look forward to seeing many of you at old car events in the Bay of Plenty and Waikato over summer, so cruise safe and let's have fun out there! Best regards, Ron - Ed:)



LADIES & GENTLEMAN, stand up and put your hands together and welcome our New Cadillac LaSalle Club of NZ President, Jason Curry of Wellington.

A new leader in the making, there may not be many Cadillac Members globally that joined their local Cadillac Club at the young age of 16?

For many years, he and his family did not even own a Cadillac but this did not dull his passion for Cadillac and the NZ club! Now, 24 years later, he steps up

to the biggest plate at the Executive Table and is now an Eldorado owner - this is the guy that wears his heart on his sleeve and literally a picture of his Eldo on his T-shirt! Enthusiastic, creative, a family man with high standards and high ideals (and lots of new ideas) who wants to (with our collective support) elevate our NZ Cadillac Club presence, gain new Members and connect more with our existing Members.

Have a read of his first contribution and I am sure, being new in the 'seat', he will want to hear from you on how you feel our club should cruise on all 8-Cylinders into the

future!



Welcome Jason and Nirosha (Check out Jason's amazing Bride, 25 years ago depicting the Cadillac Goddess!) Ed

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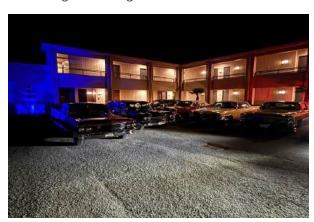






ne-ness came together at the fifty-one (ness) NZ Cadillac Nationals at Taupo on Friday 4th October! I say this because there is seemingly so much separation and divided opinions in our lives today, but when we have our annual Nationals, it is truly like the 'good old days' of togetherness, a mutual respect for each other (and our Caddies) and the feeling of freedom that we can enjoy around each other and getting out on the road in our Caddies!

FRIDAY served the Tauranaa crew well. Kay and Dave Corin, Christine and Kevin Conder, Steve Gill and I cruised cordially to Taupo taking into two pit-stops on the way to arrive just before the check-in time to one of the better places of accomodation (see pic) we have enjoyed (thank you Frances for suggesting we stay here). After checking in and sorting our parking, we parked ourselves outside (check out pic at right) by the bar to enjoy the late afternoon sun (and no wind, no less) and truly it was so hot, many of us had to remove a layer or two of clothing! Very un-Taupo like, but nevertheless so easy to soak up, so to speak. The club put on the some snacks as dark fell and some of us enjoyed each others company late into Friday evening. Below is a night shot of our Caddies bathed in the blue lights of the garden water feature!





trying out his bed for comfort! At right, his belt loop tangled in the outdoor (Bar) chair and he couldn't move easily! Friday afternoon was like a summers day!

SATURDAY we woke to a cool morning

(note McCurdy Eldo exhaust) under fluffy white clouds above. My room-buddy Steve and I enjoyed a splendid breakfast overlooking Lake Taupo with its 'mill-pond' reflection smiling at us!



A great Nationals is simply following the leading Caddy and discovering someones shed or in the case of Saturday, three of them! The first was Barry's Lock-up. A dozen mint-restored English and German examples. My favs was the Healey 3000 and the red 356 Porsche. One of Barry's friends turned up in his 'like-new' NZ-built Heron from the 80s. Powered by a midengine Fiat 1600 V4 with twin Webers, highlight of my day. Pic below is of the shed, Healey; Porsche & yellow Heron at right.





















Saturday Cont: We left Barry's shedful of beauties and in less than 10 mins we were on a tar-sealed country road, turning into a very long driveway that was litterally 'flagged' by a large American Eagle and the Stars & Stripes banner. Within a minute the convoy of nearly twenty Caddies were easily accommodated outside what appeared to be a large hidden lifestyle property with a huge shed, home and other buildings. This was Kevin Cotton's place. He is well known known for his gorgeous red '53 with the 'Taupo1' number plate! The sun was shining, the air was warmish but not cold. There was colour in the driveway and everywhere you looked. Many members commented on the variety of colours this year. Purple, blue, teal, red, 'Candy red', gold, bronze, butter-milk yellow, 'Mother-of-Pearl white' shimmering in the sun with blacks and whites peppering the palette just for fun! If there is a thing called a 'colour God' then he was certainly shining on us today! Much enjoyment, conversation and admiration was had for the Cotton Shed. The man himself had unfortunately had to attend a funeral, but his son kindly extendede the family hospitality to us all and we were indeed very grateful to be allowed to view this very private collection. I'll let the pictures do the talking but let's just say, if you liked 50s Caddies (and an amazing Corvette), you would have loved this collection. Various memoribilia here and there too, just to make it interesting!



Welcome to the COTTON
Shed!





























New Members, Dax & Debbie have a unique headliner - an air-brush picture of The Cadillac Ranch!



Lots of areat photo-snapping at the Cotton shed. Caddies of many decades - 50s, 60s, 70s, even a 2000s CTS. '73 Eldo was in fine order. The ex-Trupp 'RED59' looked well in its new home. A very striking dark red '52 convertible appeared in fine order. Next page you will see 'Taupo1', an amazing red '53 convertible with red leather upholstery. Probably the stand-out in the shed. Members cars were jammed 'bumperto-bumper' and made for a colourful gathering. An amazing collection together with pieces of memoribilia and even an incredible '59 Corvette (see next page) and a Ferrari which looked out of place!





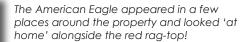
More old cars delighted the crowd who spent probably more than first thought at this really good shed.





The huge shed contained various memoribilia from flags, signage and even an amazing 'Jetson-like' Juke Box! The Corvette below was a stunner. Pride and place was a super impressive '53 convertible with red leather upholstery. Early 50s Cadillac at its best!























When one arrives at the Annual Nats on a Friday night, it seems all too shorter time to enjoy what has been planned on just the Saturday! Mind you we crammed it in and loved the three splendid sheds each with a different collection theme. This page features the 'Senjo Collection' and less than a couple of mins away from the Cotton shed.











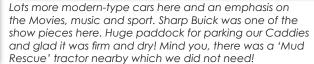


















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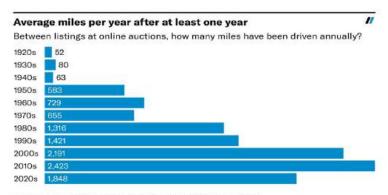
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Hi all. I read something interesting recently in my www.hagertys.com daily email feed. It said 'From the '50s to the Modern Era, Enthusiasts Drive Their Cars Similar Miles'. How interesting is that? Check out below graph and website LINK.



Vehicle counts range from 1 for the 1920s to nearly 1600 for the 2000s.

HAGERTY

https://www.hagerty.com/media/market-trends/hagerty-insider/how-much-are-we-driving/?utm_source=SFMC&utm_medium=email&utm_content=MED_VAL_NA_EML_UN_UN_I nsider&hashed_email=566fc738c2fa4cd2bb5e5080d142955d3fef70e99960153a19d4911e360e08b8 e08b8&dtm_em=566fc738c2fa4cd2bb5e5080d142955d3fef70e99960153a19d4911e360e08b8





CTS wagon. 2011. RHD. 70kms, 1 NZ owner. Silver with black leather. New tyres. Beautiful car. \$15,500. Ph Steve Barker Auckland - 021 271 8896, Or stevedetroit55@amail.com





"On Sunday, November 16, 2014 our Club had, 83 Mustangs, 21 Corvettes, 10 Cadillacs, plus more than 80 other vehicles. A great day out at the Wharepai Domain near Tauranga's central business district" (a recap from 10 years ago). And this year (2024), which is the 60th Anniversary of the Mustang, we



will again be holding All USA Day, and it will be at Classic Flyers, in Mount Maunganui on Sunday 17th November 2024. For more information check out the Events Page on our website. We look forward to welcoming all USA Origin vehicles for another great day out. See you there! Your friends at the BoP Mustang Owners Club!



All on display at Fraser Cove Shopping Centre from 7.15



Our GLOBAL Family

AUSTRALIA - Every season, we receive an email LINK (which we publish here so you can view it as well) to the Award-winning LaCad Magazine produced by our fellow members of The Australian Cadillac & LaSalle club. In the last issue, Editors, Andrew and Rachel Rees ran a feature of their amazing 1930 Cadillac which has part of Andrew's family since the

late 1950s. Andrew's Dad and Mum were into old cars at a time when many were only approx. 30 years old and compared to today, they were 'as cheap as chips!' Here are some more photos and further info from



the article plus history on LaCad, their long printed maa. It was a terrific read Andrew and Rachel. I very much enjoyed the 'back story' of the '30'. Ed]

The first club magazine was issued in late 1970 with no name at that time. The intention was to call it "The Caddy" according to the first constitution in 1970. Two more issues followed in Jan & Apr 1971. Late in 1971 the name LaCad was suggested and adopted immediately. The first editor was David Hurt (Above info is from "The First 40 Years", a book by Peter Ratcliff).

The Stutz & Imperial (appearing in the pics) went just before my dad passed away, and the DeSoto after my twin brother passed away. I have attached a photo of the DeSoto and Imperial with the Caddy at Rob Roy Hill Climb

a few years ago (Photo was just before the old salt & pepper hood was replaced and is at right).

The Stutz went to Dads cousin (Doug) who did a full resto on it. He then did a resto on another similar Stutz. Dads car was a Maroon/Black colour, the other a Yellow/ Black. Have included image of Maroon Stutz. I'm alad you enjoyed the yarn. I



included an image of the Rhodes building as it appears today for those who may visit melbourne. The apartments that I mentioned (worth a look for the Art Deco fans) would fit in magnificently in Napier! Andrew



Below is a 'Black & White' pic of the '30'. If look closely, the sign on the fence is a vintage 'COR'

petroleum emblem. I wondered what it was and found this interesting bit of history:

Commonwealth Oil Refineries (COR) was established in 1920 and by 1924 it



had built Australia's first oil refinery at Laverton in Victoria. In 1952, the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company bought out the Australian Government's interests in COR and the company's name was later changed to BP Australia Pty Ltd.



Hi Ron, I hope you are well. Another great and colourful edition of your magazine. Always an enjoyable read. Best wishes, George Akele

USA - Florida - Hi Ron. The Best Of Times - A areat video!! WHITE SPORT COATS & PINK CARNATIONS This is such a great video. So, enjoy it. For those of you/us who experienced the iconic 1950's and early 1960's, a time that will never be repeated. The cars are fantastic. the music was so wonderful, romantic, nostalgic, even magical. We were rich and did not know it! We were innocent and thought we were experienced. We were very fortunate to have lived in such an era. Enjoy the past as revealed here. Who knows what the future will bring? Jack Brackx, Florida, http://



biggeekdad.com/2013/01/the-best-of-times [Thanks Jack. Hope all the family well. I hear you are safe in hurricanetorn Florida, Best, Ron - Edl

New Jersey - I just loved the above 'old school' - look poster! Ed





Past Pres. and Bay of Plenty Delegate, Steve Gill is known for his poetry. He is our own 'Sam Hunt!' Below he has penned an ode to his late 'Black Betty' that formed a special part of his life until an identity with the initials IRD took it away from him! [I am sure you will replace her one day, Sam Steve. Read the below to the tune of China Girl by David Bowie. Ed]

I want to escape with my sweet Cadillac
I feel a wreck without my black de Ville
Her heart beats loud as she draws a crowd
Wake up in the morning feeling tragic like Elvis
I see my Caddy all moody blue
I could pretend nothing meant more to me
than my black coupe de Ville
I drive her into town just like a sacred cow
With visions of stars and strips in my head
You are the standard of the world
I will give you a tv set and head lights of blue I
will give pipes of a twisted kind
A note so sweet to blow my mind
When I get my excitement on , I lay black
rubber

Smokin it up two fiery lines
There ain't nothing on this earth gonna make
me feel so fine, fine , fine
Sweet memories of a sweet Black Cadillac to
cross my mind,

Steve Gill



Hi Ron. Attached is a new event happening soon. I will put together a file of the latest show for publication. Regards Rob McCann, Southland/ Otago [Good on you Rob, be great to receive a report from you on what looks to be an awesome event - Ed]





Specs for the NZ Lyric release are out Click on my *Driven* LINK for details:

https://www.drivencarguide.co.nz/reviews/cadillac-lyriq-ev-first-drive-is-this-the-right-luxurycar-for-nz/?lid=82mt004ifnbj



NEWS FLASH!! - Cadillac moving into former Telsa premises

New Zealand's first Cadillac experience centre will open in Q2 2025 in the former Tesla premises at 501 Karangahape Road, Auckland (locally known as 'K-Road'. Ed). It will also be home to GM New Zealand, which will relocate from Mangere East to a dedicated space within the K Road



site. Customer orders for New Zealand start from January 2025, first through Cadillac's online configurator, and will be paired with a charge and warranty offer. Test-drive vehicles will be available from early next year, first from pop-up locations, before moving to the experience centre in the second quarter.

Tesla is preparing a site at the Westgate centre in West Auckland and has a South Auckland premises.

The Auckland Cadillac experience centre is crafted by the Gensler design and architecture practice. The global firm was also responsible for designing Cadillac's first European showroom in Zurich, Switzerland. Gensler the transformation of Cadillac's space in the Rosebery Engine Yards in New South Wales, Australia – which will open early next month.

Inside the Auckland Cadillac experience centre, a combination of textured greys, classic imagery, sharp lines, and bold lighting will create a clean, modern-feeling scene. Cadillac will reshape the showroom experience with a specialised vehicle-delivery area that includes a luxurious guest lounge, a feature-vehicle runway, a design and personalisation centre, and an on-site service centre. "This incredible Karangahape Road location is the perfect launching pad for Cadillac in New Zealand," says GM Australia and New Zealand managing director Jess Bala. From the outset, we've said we want to bring Cadillac to the people, and not the other way around, so a location just moments from Auckland's CBD makes experiencing vehicles like the Lyriq easy. [So 2025 will be the official opening. It would be great for as many Auckland members to be there with their Caddies to celebrate the first ever NZ Cadillac dealership - I will liaise with Auckland members near the time - Edl

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EXCITINGLY



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KEVS Caddies and other great shapes!

(Kev's finds are sharper than this Cadillac Cacti!)







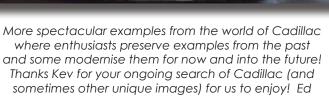








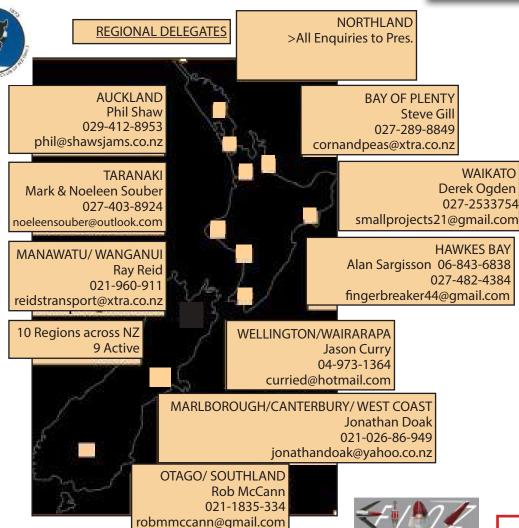






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> Club magazine (FINZ) Editor Ron Melville 07-557-8090 finzmagazine@gmail.com

(Past) Patron - Maurice Hendry 1973 - 2024 (Founding member)

[Corrections to: finzmagazine@gmail.com]



CLC NZ-Roll of Honour

Spirits flown, not forgotten

Stephen Brown, Past Regional Delegate - Marlborough/
Canterbury/ West Coast - South Island - Member 2001 to 2023
Lou Christ, Auckland Region - Member 2001 to 2023
Bruce Jefferies, Bay of Plenty Region - Member 2013 - 2023
Brian Cullen, Auckland Region - Member 2008 to 2023
Myrie Wotherspoon, Auckland Region - Member 1991 to 2024
Maurice Hendry, Auckland Region - Founder Member of The
CLC NZ, Club Patron & Life Member 1973 to 2024
Denis Bulloch, Wellington Region - Member 1993 - 2024

May the BIG fins guide you to the pearly gates!







Tail Lights Featuring the Best Tails in Town!





Ryan Curry took this fine tail light collage shot at the Cotton shed in Taupo. A taste of the colourful selection that will be shared next issue! Ed