



A Cad-leidoscope of colour at the 51st Nationals!



04  
December  
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RONdezvous

*Cadillac*

FINZ Magazine Editor: Ron Melville, Life Member 2023

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Hello everyONE and Christmas Greetings to you ALL and your loved one (be it your fellow human, furry animal or your Cadillac/ LaSalle!).

Our Cover Caddy photo this month recalls our VERY colourful 51st Nationals held in Taupo this year. It was the most colourful Nats I can recall. It is my view that the colours of our Caddies in the NZ club at this time is at an all-time high and those other road users driving their silver grey and black boxes must envy our world!

Lots of action-packed features again this month to make for a very readable issue and to let you know what fun we all can have when we collectively get together. In October it was our Nationals and later in the month, a group of us sailed into Auckland in our 'land yachts' and super sailing we certainly had and enjoyed. Read about our very busy Fri/ Sat & Sunday that comprised of lots and lots of sheds, fun times and plenty of coffee (and more cars!). One of the highlights of the weekend was engaging with a number of Auckland members and signing up new ones! Welcome to New Members: Mr. Rene deBoed; Rob Jolly; Ivan Felton & Cherie Scott; Allen Barr; Ali Hendry & Ian Hendry; Les & Glennis Wilson; Steve & Dianne Sporle and Adam Dyer. Also welcome to Janice & Steve Winter of Tauranga. If you have not already, please drop me a line with a pic of your Caddy to share with fellow members!

As usual, there's lots more in this months mag. News from our Global Cadillac Family, Taranaki's outing - thanks Ozy! Another glimpse of our Presidents 'Dashboard!' His windscreen vision is quiet clear to see and in what direction he wants to drive our club to! He invites all of us to drop him a line and let him know what you want from YOUR club: "It's your club. Have your say on the road we travel!" Love it, thanks Jason! There are lots of snippets from me, a copy of the latest FoMC newsletter plus our new 24/25 Annual Membership Directory will be following very shortly. When you get your copy, PLEASE CHECK your details are correct and if not, let me know!

As an extension of our new revamped NZ Club website and to help drive/ foster New Membership to the site, at right is our new QR (Quick Response) code. We have also added two new features to our website, one is a "key" element! Also at right is the 25-year old Wedding Day photo of Nirosha Curry. What a lovely photo-genic bride! Next month - coverage from 'All USA Day' in Mt. Maunganui, the Annual Stragglers Day at Karapiro and the Tauranga Toy Run. If your Region is having a Xmas party or run, send me your pics and a paragraph or two!

As the weather continues to warm up here in sunny Papamoa and our local pohutukawas (NZ native Christmas tree) continue to flower, may I wish you all a very safe Christmas and New Year and I look forward to sharing your Cadillac/ LaSalle photos and stories in 2025. There is a very special 60th Anniversary to celebrate throughout the entire year. Hold on tight for the first instalment in January, it will be 'stacked' with great pics!

Best regards from my family (Andre, Reece and myself, Ron) to yours and until next issue, Merry Christmas - Ed :)

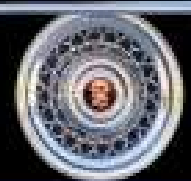


Scan our new QR Code which will take you to our revamped NZ Club website that has access to our Club membership and Payment form - Ed





*Cadillac*



A rare early shot of Nirosha & I on a Club run to member Kevin Wasley's Elvis Museum in Hawera sometime in the late 1990's - firmly in our Caddy-hop era

Heaven is the back seat of my Cadillac... Not quite what Hot Chocolate had in mind (wink!), but at the Taupo Nationals I was reminded of how much fun it is to Caddy-hop. Travelling without our Cadillac, Ryan and I had our choice of rides, testing out the back seat of a different Cadillac each leg. In the early days, when Nirosha and I had just started dating (married 25 years this week!), it was out of necessity that we hitched a ride at Club events, but I had forgotten just how much fun it was

What better way to experience different Cadillac interiors and rides across the years, and to chat and get to know the owners - I encourage everyone to try it and I suggest to those who don't attend our Nationals due to distance or lack of a car to consider flying into the host location and taking up the open hospitality of our event drivers.

Riding in the correct end of Ian Bradshaw's 1957 Limo

It was while being chauffeured in style by Ian Bradshaw in his 1957 NZ Railways Limousine at this year's event that I was thinking about the future of the Club, and after speaking with the Exec team and other members, I think there are some clear goals for our future:



- Short-term:** Pass a new constitution at our 2025 AGM to meet the latest Charities Act legal requirements. A clear mandate was given at the 2024 AGM to use the new constitutions of other clubs as templates for our own to avoid reinventing the wheel.
- Medium-term:** Grow club membership through enthusiast outreach online and at car shows, broadening our community to enhance the social enjoyment of our cars, and our network of shared technical knowledge - a robust club is a healthy club.
- Long-term:** Develop a strategy to unlock the massive potential of the South Island, currently isolated from the active North by distance and sea. Perhaps we plan a membership drive tour of the South, culminating in a special mainland Nationals?

I'm keen to hear your own vision for the Club - contact me directly, or anyone on the Exec, with any gear changes you'd like to see.

**It's your club. Have your say on the road we travel**



Your Seville servant,

**Jason Curry - President**

021 0221 5373 • curmed@hotmail.com

Our kids Ryan and Jess now carry on the Caddy-hop tradition, and are naturally drawn to ragtops... here it was Steve Gill's 1960 Deville and Wayne & Frances McCurdy's 1976 Eldorado





*Our Auckland Weekend!*



For a few years now, the Club has been tossing around the idea of organising a trip to Auckland, primarily to meet fellow Auckland members. Nothing had happened until I had the fortune to ride 'shot gun' with Auckland Member, Steve Barker on a couple of days at the February 2024 AmeriCARna due to my radiator springing a leak! During our cruising around, a pair of guys will talk about all sorts of things, mainly cars and when I mentioned about us Tauranga members coming up to Auckland sometime, he leaped at the idea and undertook to organise something.

Steve suggested he might be able to organise to view a few 'sheds' for us and he'd arrange a 'meet up' with Auckland members. The idea blossomed over winter, and it was agreed we'd coincide our visit with the first *Meguiars Coffee & Cars* of summer, held on the 20th October at the Auckland Showgrounds, an event that is held regularly until around April and usually attracts over 1,000+ cars! So, it was with intricate organisation and fine-tuning of dates, times and shed details that we fixed a weekend date. Steve found a marvellous motel that was modest in cost and provided discrete off-road Parking for our Caddies. An agenda was created and all we needed was participants! Nearly all Tauranga members attended (six in three Caddies) plus three Waikato Members (Two Caddies) and two Taranaki Members (1 x 300c, nice car by the way and a story goes with and why it attended!) and numerous Auckland Members some on different days and at different times and great to see many and their Caddies (and non-Caddies) too!

**FRIDAY** - The Tauranga members met up near the Omokoroa turn off before 9am on Friday for a fine day's cruise to the big smoke! An uneventful cruise (the ideal type!) with a coffee stop in Ngatea before landing at the Autobahn Café at the Bombay Hills for lunch and our first meet-up with organiser Steve Barker and his friend Paul Cooney in a sharp looking white 2012 Challenger. As you can see by the photos we attracted a few Auckland members who came along and joined us, including long-time member, Richard Glasson with his beautiful black '49 Coupe. Note lovely upholstery and headliner. Old car friends of Steve B's also made an appearance. Duncan Fox (locally famous Cadillac, Corvette and now McLaren resto genius - not much he doesn't know about these iconic brands) with a very nice turquoise '63.



Top - Gathering at Bombay Hills and Richard Glasson's sharp '49.

Below Left - The Tauranga lot set off from Omokoroa without air bags!

Sharon and Gerald Fieten brought along their always nice '63 convertible. The '61 boys, Steve and Andrew from 'The Tron' checked in with their respective 61s together with fellow member, Anita Patterson. The rumble of a throaty 300c parked up with 'OZY' on the number plate. Ozy and Brian Baron from the Naki landed in style anticipating avoiding any Eldo tyre demons by bringing the 300c this time, but little did they realise....

After a quick nibble and caffeine fix, it was off to the first shed. Local Pukekohe resident Tony Antonievich is a locally famous rodder and appeared in a recent *Petrolhead* in an article reporting the Pukekohe Hot Rod clubs recent 50th. Tony owns 'Auto & Aeros Paint and Resto' which handles old cars and planes. New paint jobs for helicopters or whatever plus old car restos of which he had a few underway when we parked up in his 'red-clay car park' (for those that don't know, the surrounding Pukekohe area is famous for its rich volcanic-red soil and it's a place where there is substantial Market Gardens throughout Pukekohe and surrounding areas. Those potatoes you recently bought may have been grown in Pukekohe!). Photos feature things in and outside the workshop area; an old Boeing Stearman (former American top dressing bi-plane) sat completely intact in a 'planeport' opposite Tony's grass runway - complete with orange windsock! *Continued>>*



Left TOP - the old Bi-plane and grass airfield! Projects underway and treasures hidden. RIGHT - '58 Brookwood project nearly finished (said to be \$200k+ worth!). The red volcanic soils of Pukekohe. You don't want a dust storm!





*Our Auckland Weekend!*



**FRIDAY continued:** After the best part of an hour at Tony's place, it was off to the next shed in one of those 'up the driveway, discrete building behind a big hedge-type locations' in nearby Clarks Beach, formerly a sleepy summer bachy retreat now populated with modern brick and tile homes, sealed roads and even footpaths!

This next Shed (owned by Owen Griggs) was no ordinary collection, it was to be one of my favs for the weekend, a Mopar enthusiasts dream find (over the years I have discovered many a Cadillac owner also loves Mopars more so than Fords or Chevs, especially in Oz and the US!) Anyway, if you ever admired and respected a Chrysler 300 then this is the ideal 'time-waster spot for you!' The very modern shed accommodates all sorts of complete and incomplete and 'donor-car' examples plus Hemi engines (laying on the ground) and what could be akin to a Mopar parts warehouse with much more of the same upstairs! Like many serious old-car people, there's even a bed to catch a few zzzz's when you are feeling a little jaded after losing track of time and you realise its 2am! Jokes aside, this is a serious Mopar collection. Again, I'll let the pictures tell the story. There are only a few gaps to fill, like the BIG black Limo said to be owned by 'Dr. Death'. Owen had acquired the immaculate example (said to be one of only two in the world) because the entire front, right back to the 'glass divider' had burn't out! The rest of the car was astounding.

We over-spent our time here, so much so I had to contact our motel and tell them we were actually checking in, it was just we had been caught up and were a good hour away in south Auckland and we would be encountering heavy Friday afternoon traffic once we eventually hit the motorway enroute to the city. Actually, the drive into the city was less onerous than we first thought. Five Caddies and two Mopars stuck together pretty well (given our sizes!) as we transversed the 40 km/h bottleneck route to the motel but finally we got there.



After a very quick Motel check-in we bundled ourselves into a few cars and headed to Steve and partner, Nini's lovely private home in the nearby Meadowbank area for pizzas and drinkies and admire his old car collection. He has enough garaging to accommodate Steves DeSoto, Seville, Rivera, Toronado and a longtime held '39 Ford V8 Coupe. Being in the glass business, Steve's walls were 'mirrored' to reflect what a fine collection he has under the many spotlights. Neon lights and 'must-have' signs and other memorabilia (thanks Elvis) adorned the oh so colourful interior whilst we enjoyed the private outdoors sheltered from the wind. We all had a great time and was later joined by Ali Hendry, the daughter of our late, great Patron, Maurice Hendry. Ali lives in south Auckland and took time to travel across to the 'other side of the city' to join us Cadillac folk and take a look at Steve's collection. A great evening was had by all and by time night fell, a few tired members decided to head back to the motel. I and Steve G travelled in Ozy's 300c, and my intention was to return



the same way! Unfortunately, when we were about to leave, the 300c's battery decided to not comply! Steve's jump starter did not produce a grunty enough spark to fire the 300c into life and after much conversation, Nini graciously offered her Infiniti to us to get back to the motel. Having returned back to our rooms, Ozy realised his motel door key was back in the 300c at Steve's place – OMG or such like langage was heard! Fortunately, a top window in Ozy and Brian's

room had been left ajar, and some creative Cadillac member used the motel cleaners broom handle (handily resting against the back wall of the motel office) that was found to be long enough to reach the sliding door latch and within moments 'the door was open!' Panic avoided and no need to wake up the motel proprietor at 10.30pm! With all that drama, it was time for a pre-bedtime drink, laugh and recap of our first day. Brain and Ozy enjoyed a Clayva or two at Steve (Gill) and Rons pad. Close to midnight arrived pretty quickly and there was an early morning get up planned as Steve B would be arriving at the motel by 9.30am. Time for 'shut-eye!'

*Continued>>>*





*Our Auckland Weekend!*



**Saturday** - An early morning and Steve B met was at the Motel by 9.30am. We then followed him over the Auckland Harbour Bridge and north to Albany where he had arranged for us all to view a VERY private and extensive old American car and multi-brand bike collection, owned by a David Tuke (National Mini Storage) at his pristine and extremely modern non-descript very secure storage building located amongst the many other newish buildings in a Commercial area. Whilst Dave is receptive to "some" car clubs viewing, he apparently is selective and only allows those willing to pay a 'donation' to local Hospice (akin to an 'Admission fee') and the collection is viewed on the basis of no photos. NO PHOTOS. Hence, it was very frustrating to look over what must be one of NZ's most amazing collections and be only able to keep a record of it 'in your mind!' What makes this collection so special? Presentation/ Marketing is extremely high, attention to detail beyond what us Kiwis are used to! Makes of bikes were from US, Britain, Japan, Germany, Italy. Old ones, really old ones; 50's, 60's 70s and more. The cars - Chevs, Fords, Mopar, one Cadillac, one Studebaker. A couple of pick-ups, some Rods. Now here is where the 'point of difference' was: On the bikes, there was not a 'speck of dust or grime'. On the cars, the same. I looked through the open windows, under the hood (where open) and crawled on the ground and looked under-side. Almost every car looked as if it had been dis-assembled and put back together again but with new hood lining, new upholstery, new car door cards, new dash, new gauges/ The chassis was fully painted also! All the shocks, springs, exhaust looked like it probably was when it left the factory. Not a speck of dirt here either. And get this - every old car had current Registration and a WOF! I saw one and then another and looked at them all as I walked from one to one. I cannot recall how many there were exactly, maybe in excess of 100? One could argue that these examples are probably better than maybe how they looked when new! And of course, each had a oil drip tray just in case (as if!) and the entire floor was painted and immaculate, no tyre marks, not slippery. At the end of the extensive viewing, most of us visited the equally impressive immaculate and highly spec'd toilets! Standards equal to many a top class show home! My favs? I liked a '58 Mopar done in a sparkling metallic bronze. This Plymouth was similar to 'Christine' but younger with the 'faux spare wheel'. I am not a truck person, but the '60 (?) Chev Apache was a close second, a '59 DeSoto, third. It was in my top three loves at this amazing ensemble that's for sure. Finishing up we thanked Dave profusely and 'floated away' to have a bite to eat in nearby Silverdale at 'Joes Garage' for lunch. This is an upmarket, glitzy 'Bar and Grille' where all ages are welcome and a great selection of food for nearly every palate. Parking was a little tight and the locals fretted a little to see Cadillacs squeeze alongside those Kias! A superb location for a bite to eat and another great recommendation by Steve B. *Continued >>>*



*Top Row - We stopped at BP Autobahn, Dairy Flat and met up with longtime CLC NZ Member, Bill Wotherspoon who arrived in son, Jamie's equistite dark green Dodge Charger (great example). Joes Garage - note front door handles. Group pic. Tuke Collection pic of '58 MoPlymouth found on web, Dave Tuke won aa Award with it some years back!*



Then on the road again, this time north of Orewa to Warkworth via the new Puhoi road and tunnel where we landed at the Sharpe Shop. A Ford man through and through, we initially saw a few interesting and quality Ford products upstairs only to discover that below this concrete building was akin to an Aladdin's Cave of immaculate 30s Fords, a project '59 Buick and completed old cars awaiting their final touches (and likely VIN) for their new owners. Many of these examples were said to have changed hands for in excess of six figures and when you witnessed the quality of the paint work, interior, engine bay with all the chrome, like-new glass and what appeared to look like 'period correct' seating, headlining and timber dashboards, one could see the attraction of some mighty fat wallets! The photos speak for themselves. Whilst there and wandering outside, the 'chug' of a veteran 1904 Cadillac drew lots of attention. Some VCC club owners had apparently returned from a local VCC Rally and their custom trailer was specially parked to load-up the Caddy. We had the opportunity to look over it and speak with its owner who told us it was ex-Australia! Maybe some of you in the CLC Aust may recall it? It was in pristine condition and a fine example against any brand of the period. Following a very successful look at the Sharpe shop, a suggestion was made to go check out Mr. Sharpe senior's multi car garage, just a Km or so away up a very steep local hill! Like most great collections, it too was tucked-away down a right of way and under a house with enough room for nine cars I guesstimated. Again, it was a Fordophiles dream. 30s Fords of many descriptions some complete, some not. A small collection of interesting memorabilia to go with the garage and yet another intriguing find! Time seemed to be flying, and we had to hit the road for there was more to do back in Auckland. With Steve G, Ozy and Brian Barron on board, we made a detour at Silverdale whilst Ozy invested in a new battery for the 300c. An ice cream was very much in order! Back to the motel where some kicked back and rested a while. The rest of the afternoon was left to do what one wished (like install a new battery in the 300C!) *Continued >>>*



*Just scratching the surface with so many great pics taken! Old Fords at the Sharpe shop, project Flat Top Buick. 1904 Caddy with CLC Aust badge installed. What Aust. member owned this beauty? Ed*





*Our Auckland Weekend!*



**Sunday** - Was an even an earlier morning wake-up call! Everyone met up at McDs in Greenlane by 8.30am where a large group of Corvettes had already formed and were revving to go! Following Steve B, us Cadillacs travelled spectacularly in convoy just up the road and into the Showgrounds for the first 24/25 Meguiars Coffee & Cars event where it was said some 1,450+ old cars congregated that morning. The weather gods looked up us favourably over our gathering and our Caddies attracted many onlookers and some keen to discover the attributes of the NZ Cadillac club. As a result, we signed up eight new Auckland members and we welcome them and hope to share pictures of their beautiful rides in coming issues. With lots of chatter and picture taking, the morning quickly came to an end and those of us from Tauranga, Waikato and the pair of Naki boys headed south and stopped at the Autobahn again at the Bombay Hills to top up the Caddies and ourselves before getting on the road proper. It was a great weekend. In the writer's opinion it was indeed amongst the best ever in my time with the NZ club. I enjoyed the camaraderie, meeting our Auckland members, a number of whom I had communicated with in the past but never met personally. The fun times with Auckland locals, Ozy ('Mr. Windy') and Brian and all those strangers that entrusted us and opened their arms and private Car caverns to us strangers; shared their stories and love of the old car passion because there is always a common thread with old cars! Auckland is as we all know is a very big place, and our Cadillac size was equal to two Suzuki Swifts yet we all got around ok, along grid-locked motorways, the narrow Harbour bridge lanes, up hills and down dales! (a Valley to our younger Gens reading this!). We must do it again. Speaking with the Tauranga crew we ARE keen to explore things we probably never had the time to see this time around and I have since received invitations from several of our Auckland compatriots to come visit again on another sojourn up there. I think the Naki duo would be keen also? After reading this it might even attract a few more from the Naki and even Hawkes Bay. If you live in Wellington or Palmerston North, if you think you missed out on something special, you'd be right! Maybe you guys could next time fly up on a cheap \$29 (???) Jetstar flight and we'll pick you up from the airport and you can play 'musical seats from Caddy to Caddy' during our next Auckland adventure?! A BIG shout out to Steve Barker for organising all of the weekend from the discrete (from the road parking) accommodation to the private collections; opening his own home up and introducing us to the amazing Coffee & Cars event. You did it all mate, we simply enjoyed it as can be seen by the photos (over 300 and too many to share that's for sure). Since typing this awfully long story (a reflection of an awfully great weekend!) Steve has teamed up with Ali Hendry (Maurice's daughter), a new member of our Auckland Region to assist Steve organise some regular outings for the growing Auckland Region. I think this 'dynamic duo' will serve the Auckland Region well. New blood and talent can benefit any club with new ideas, enthusiasm and hopefully even more new members in the future. I personally (and all the others) look forward to another Auckland weekend away! Ed



Top Line - line up at McDs. The Three Steves - Steve Martin, Steve Gill and Steve Barker! Gus & Lois a friendship hug in front of Gus' beautiful '60 Convertible (Ebony) and '60 Coupe (Ikon). Sibblings, Ian & Ali Hendry hold their Dads legacy books. Rows of Caddies, our Marque amongst the top three at the event!



'Cool cars, Corvettes & Caddies everywhere. Above - Caddy line up at McDs!

Afternoon Steve! I just wanted to reach out and congratulate you on what looked like an absolutely spectacular Club event on the weekend. What a success, with so many new faces and Cadillacs coming out of the woodwork - a fantastic Club outreach initiative, and a real credit to you! This event has shown that there is clearly a yearning for Cadillac community activity in the Auckland region, and I hear you're picking up the baton and planning to arrange a regular Cadillac cruise. Good on you, Steve - that's awesome! I love the passion and enthusiasm. It's exactly what the Club needs in this region - Jason Curry - Pres





**From the Editors seat!**

Hi everyone. It's that crazy time of the year where deadlines are everywhere! The Annual CLC NZ Membership will be heading to your email or snail mail box soon. **If you have forgotten to pay your sub please action ASAP as you may not appear in the Directory** and the club would hate to lose you! Details where to pay is in the right hand 'yellow box' in the Top Right corner of this page. When the new Directory arrives, please check your details and advise of any corrections to me at: [finzmagazine@gmail.com](mailto:finzmagazine@gmail.com)



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1969 Eldorado in the very rare, one year only colour of Wisteria. Full engine & Trans rebuild several years ago. Done 6000 miles since. Watch [https://youtu.be/73eip\\_GT57s](https://youtu.be/73eip_GT57s) Could do with a paint, is a very solid car (from southern Oregon) exc. interior. Building new house need cash. Asking a very reasonable AUD\$29,500, All offers considered. Greg Short +0061-0425-868-136 [Greg.Short@csiro.au](mailto:Greg.Short@csiro.au) Longtime CLC Vic. Mem



**Eight**

**2025 CLC Museum & Research Center Calendars**

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 Proceeds benefit the CLC Museum & Research Center  
 Calendars are scheduled to be shipped in December

Taupo Member, Trish Jefferies is selling her and late Bruce's beautiful '66 Sedan. Blue on blue it is a terrific example. Always well loved. Trish writes: Hello Ron, The Caddy is original, fully serviced and we have her whole history. Original owner for 34 years and willed to a family member on his death who promptly sold her for a Chev pickup. !!?? Her next 2 owners treated her like the original owner, the second selling her to a Kiwi mate of ours in 2007, whence she came to NZ. We bought her then and she's been a cherished part of our family since. A little over 74,000 miles, she will be warranted and registered at sale. Asking price as recommended by my friend Barry, is a firm \$40k. Cheers Trish Ph 021-137-8058 [nz.btjeff@gmail.com](mailto:nz.btjeff@gmail.com)





## From the Editors seat!

Lots of things to share with you this month:

Hi Ron - Do you know of anyone who has a 1976 Eldorado as a part car? Or who has a Eldordo 74 – 76. I need a radio antenna. They are a little different as the have the facility on the bottom of the antenna that attaches the bottom of the antenna to a bracket that keeps it in position. I can get from the USA but they are VERY pricy. Any help or advice would be appreciated.

Thanks and regards - Bryan G Langton  
Past President CLC Victorian Chapter  
Mobile: +61 419516219

[bryanlangton@bigpond.com](mailto:bryanlangton@bigpond.com)

Following a busy few months of our Nationals; the 'Auckland Weekend'; 'All USA Day' in Mt. Maunganui and 'Stragglers Car Show' at Karapiro, our next major event is AmeriCARna in New Plymouth. Are you going? If so, please drop me a line so I can communicate with everyone with the view of getting together on the some of the event days. If you have not already done so, Register today. Those going that I know of is: Lois & Graham Thrupp, Carol Southcombe, Kev & Christine Conder and myself. Love to see some of our Auckland members attend. Ed



MORE HELP required: Good Afternoon Ron, I have asked for help before and had great success from the contacts you have passed on to me before. I'm hoping this will happen again. Our "Lassie" 1929 Cadillac La Salle has a worn out clutch – so worn out it is not working well and makes driving her hazardous. The garage where she has gone for repairs (run by an avid vintage car enthusiast ) cannot find anyone who can do this job. Apparently her clutch is different from the " normal" these days. Do you know of anyone who may be able to work on her clutch in New Zealand - we would be very grateful. Looking forward to hearing from you, Regards, Jen Calder - Lassie Carer, Motueka District Museum Trust  
03-528-7660 [savepast@snap.net.nz](mailto:savepast@snap.net.nz)  
[I have reached out to our Global LaSalle network within the CLC family and hopefully a solution will come. Let me know Jen. Best regards, Ed]



In my [www.hagerty.com](http://www.hagerty.com) email feed was this very interesting article about the fine Ford stored cars below ground, in caves! Who knew? Worth subscribing to this website - Ed.



### Strategic objectives from the workshop

- ❖ Increase FoMC revenue and funding
- ❖ Protect and celebrate our heritage
- ❖ Be an active and effective voice with Government and agencies
  - ❖ Enhance trade and skills training and staff retention
  - ❖ Plan and implement an effective and affordable FoMC organisation structure (including succession planning)
  - ❖ Share, publicise, celebrate and leverage the NZHCVS

### Specific work plans ....

- Grow revenue (traditional model)
  - Expand membership
  - Membership benefits
  - Expand our revenue base beyond club subs.
  - Associate partners?
  - Revitalise FoMC Exec
  - Finalise the Constitution (2026)
  - Other workstreams:
    - Heritage
    - Trades training, recognition & retention
    - Active Govt engagement
- Communication between all of us will be critical.

I was recently invited by the Bay of Plenty VCC to hear Pres. of the FoMC (Federation of Motoring Clubs of NZ) Gary Jackson speak about the 'Fed'.

Very interesting it was too plus he touched on the upcoming new Charities Act, Club Constitutions and pros and cons of Club Liability Insurance, plus an update on Classic Cars having an Annual WOF. Heres a few slides I took pics of. Some of their goals appear common to many clubs who wish to survive given their ageing membership - Ed.

## WARNING - Damaged Classic Cars!

Florida Hurricanes Result in Over 17,000 Flood Damaged Cars Filling Auction Lots



Flood damaged cars, trucks, and SUVs from Hurricanes Milton and Helene are starting to show up in auction lots in Florida. So far over 17,000 vehicles are reported to be sitting in lots in the sunshine state as a result of the back-to-back hurricanes that hit the southeastern United States in late-September and early-October.



Note this in your diaries for 2025. Elvis would have been 90! Birthday Celebration at Gracelands in January!





## Our GLOBAL Family

**Wellington-NZ** - Hey Ron just remembered I promised to send through some Cadillac wedding pics for our 25th Anniversary, Married 27 November 1999 in Trentham, Wellington.

Wedding Cars:

- Murray and Meredith Scott's 1975 Sedan de Ville (now owned by Grant & Barbara Davis)
- Gary and Tracey Scott's 1957 Coupe de Ville
- Tony Conroy's 1981 Fleetwood Brougham (past member)

[Congrats Jason & Niroscha. Love your photos and I am sure members will love seeing them too - Ed]

**EUROPE** - Thank u Ron. Kev's pictures are superb . The 59 hearse is "to die for " ..... Dirk, France [Good on you Dirk. Merry Xmas to you, your family and all CLC Members to come into contact with across Europe - Ed]

**USA** - Ron, Always a great issue. Lifer (Bill Levy - North Texas CLC).

[Thanks Bill. Always a pleasure to hear from you and best Xmas wishes to you, yours and the Cadillac Club family in your Region - Ed]



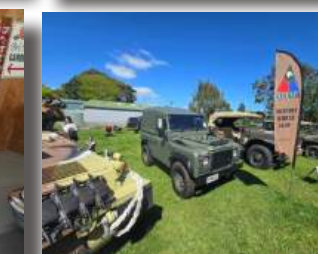




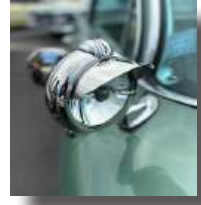
## Our GLOBAL Family

### Taranaki-NZ OZY reports...Hi Ron.

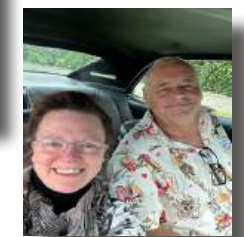
A few Sundays back, the roof went down in Ozy's 1976 Caddy Eldorado Convertible on a beautiful sunny day meeting up with the Caddy club at Inglewood railway. Its New Plymouth Garden season. We all left and visited a couple of gardens and man sheds. 1st was Harleys and Mopars. Wandering the gardens and Art studios. Then next was Mustang Ally. Shed of Mustangs with lots of models and memorabilia. Shiny Mustangs and the old jukebox playing the 45s. In the Convertible again driving the beautiful back roads of Taranaki onto Brian and Maree's shed for afternoon tea. The beautiful Oldsmobile with a shed full of Route 66 true mancave. A real nice afternoon tea with the members enjoying each others company. Then off to the last garden full of military tanks and army jeeps. Beautiful walk around the gardens and craft stalls. Then the bagpipes started playing and the last post. Really glad I went and really enjoyed driving in the Caddy Convertible on the back roads soaking up the sun on a day full of different adventures with truly good friends in our Caddies. Noeline asked me to send the report. Cheers Ozy [Good on you Ozy, always love your stories. Ed]



**Auckland-NZ** Hi Ron, Great Mag. Regarding Rob Jolly's '61 (Rob is a new Member), I understand that the floor mats and Appleton spotlights were genuine dealer options from new. The first owner was a doctor who required the spotlights for identifying house numbers on night visits. That really is a stunning original car. Steve Barker, Auckland. [Thanks Steve, yes an amazing example. Rob was generous enough to hand me his keys and I took it for a spin around the car park (as you know it was a BIG car park!). A lovely ride, be great to take it further one day. A lot of extras on this Caddy. Steve and Ali pictured below also, out for a 'Planning Session!' This is



getting serious, Jason (Pres) will be impressed! Best regards and Merry Xmas to you guys and all our Auckland members! Ed]



**Auckland-NZ** More Auckland! Thanks Ron, Love it (FINZ Mag) and appreciate your work and time & effort that you put in. Many thanks, René deBoed (Mr.) (Recent new Member) BOOTS OF NEW ZEALAND LTD. [Thanks Rene who drives the ex-Brian and Enid Service Eldo. New top, looks super sharp! Ed]








# KEVS Caddies and other great shapes!

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



Kevin wishes all 'Kev's Kaddies' admirers a very Joyful Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. See you in 2025!



**REGIONAL DELEGATES**

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10 Regions across NZ  
9 Active



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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!



Now, Fleetwood! Now, Deville! Now, Eldorado and Seville! On, Calais! On, Biarritz! On, Brougham, LaSalle and Allante! To the top of the road! To the top of the hill!

Now Rev away! Rev away! Rev away all!

**May I take this opportunity to wish all of our readership and Cadillac & LaSalle Club Members around the world a peaceful and Safe Christmas and a super 2025. Kindest regards, Ron Melville, Editor FINZ Magazine of New Zealand**