



February
Ferier



6th
Anniversary
of the 'Stax'
Models

A true artifact of the Bronze Age!





FINZ Magazine Editor: Ron Melville, Life Member 2023

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

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Contributions to: finzmagazine@gmail.com

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

Deadline is 20th of each month



Hello all and Happy Valentines Day to you, yours and your Caddy! Firstly, our condolences and thoughts go out to all our fellow LA CLC Members, their families and friends in respect of the tragic wild fires. The images we are seeing on TV down here show how devastating the destruction of so many neighbourhoods and livelihoods is - it's hard to comprehend. Have any of members lost their precious Cadillacs or LaSalle's? And in the middle of winter, too just goes to show how dry it is there. Here in NZ, we've had one of the most unpredictable summers - frequent rain, cool days, and even a snow flurry near the middle of the North Island! Most places in NZ have experienced single-digit morning temperatures, which is almost unheard of at this time of year.

Old cars. My personal goal this summer (and for 2025) is to attend more events than I have in the past. I have structured my work weekends around events to experience the camaraderie of like-minded enthusiasts while enjoying some great drives and shows. After reading this month's packed February issue, have a read about my escapades to firstly, the annual *Stragglers* event, held in picturesque Karapiro - home to NZ's rowing champions. Touted as being a huge show with hundreds of cars and trucks (and retro Caravans, too), I was indeed impressed with the entire day that was said to have attracted some 1,500 participants in November which equals lots of photo-taking! The Annual 'All USA Day' at Classic Flyers (Mt. Maunganui) seemed quieter this year, to me. A great turnout, but less 'buzz/ vibe?' Come early December was the Annual 'Charity Tauranga Toy Run', this year, attracted record numbers. A huge turnout at the Sulphur Point meeting place, said to be around 500 vehicles in attendance. Good weather right through the day and into the evening probably helped. February will be *AmeriCARna* in New Plymouth for me and many other NZ Caddy members. Each year, the event features a 'Star Car' (or truck) to promote the event. This year, it is Wellington members, Frosty and Dean Bevan's very cruisy and silver '56 Cadillac Coupe. Check it out here! In March, the Annual *Beach Hop* in Whangamata is the 'headline' local car event. On the first formal day (of the five day event) the gold mining town of Waihi will close its main street whilst hundreds of *Beach Hop* entrants descend on the town! An hour away from where I live, is my plan to drive up there for the day and take in the 'atmosphere' for those of us unable to enjoy the week-long 'Hop!' One has to book accomodation a year in advance to be able to stay there, such is the popularity of the festival (anyone got a spare bed for 2026?)



Cover Caddy this month is 'The Bronze Age', the 1970 uber-nice convertible of Garry Cullen and Phil Stickney of the Hawkes Bay. 2024 joined-members, they turned up at their first Annual Cadillac Nationals in Taupo last October and scooped the 'Best Car Trophy' - well deserved too. It is indeed a gorgeous example and the colour is striking. Who would not love this Caddy in their garage?

The salute to Cadillac's 'Stacked Headlight' era continues and more 1965's to admire. If you would like yours featured, send a pic and a few words to finzmagazine@gmail.com. In months to come, we will be featuring those '66, '67 and '68 models, so if you would like to see yours here, send it to me now!

As always, our club magazine is filled with snippets and news from NZ and abroad. There's a special message to all those attending *AmeriCARna*. If you are planning to attend, please drop me a line and let me know whether you can attend a special dinner out that Brian and Marie Gillet are organising. Well done B & M!

Of course no issue would be complete without a good dose of 'Kevs Kaddies'. He spends more time searching for these special pics than time on the golf course! Thanks Kev :). And of course, plenty of rampant colour throughout the entire issue of *FINZ*.

Until next time, send me your Summer stories AND pictures! Take advantage of our warmer weather (really?) as a perfect opportunity to cruise to lots of places you love. And send in any ideas on any particular outings you undertake that could be adopted by other Regions as an excuse to get our Caddies out and about! Drive safe out there and have a great *AmeriCARna* in the 'Naki! Ron, Ed. (Happy Anniversary Andre on the 14th of Feb ~ Ron xx)



Garry & Phil's Fabulous Photo Essay plus a few words...
The Bronze Age: A Cadillac Legacy & A true artifact of the Bronze Age.

Beneath the golden glow of the California sun, a striking 1970 Cadillac DeVille Convertible rolled off the lot of Miller Olds-Cadillac in Walnut Creek on October 5, 1970. Its first owner, Wayne Laughlin, proudly cruised the streets of Walnut Creek, the bronze paint shimmering like a fine antique. This wasn't just a car—it was a statement of style and ambition. Years later, the DeVille found itself with Mark Tompkins of Martinez, California, before beginning an extraordinary journey across the Pacific. In 2000, the gleaming convertible was imported to Christchurch, New Zealand, by Cockam McVicar Imports. Peter Marshall became its first Kiwi owner, cherishing the car until it caught the eye of Napier's Brian Finch in 2001. Brian, captivated by its regal presence, purchased it sight unseen, solidifying its place in a legacy of proud custodians. Affectionately nicknamed "Goldie" by a former owner, the car's metallic bronze finish inspired its new identity - 'The Bronze Age'. Its timeless elegance graced New Zealand's roads for decades until Garry and Phil then stepped in as its new caretakers, ensuring the car's story would continue to be written. As it enters a new chapter in 2025, The Bronze Age is set to undergo loving restoration. Plans include a new convertible top, replacement of sun-damaged door cards, and minor paint touch-ups to preserve its beauty. With each gleaming mile, this Cadillac reminds us of an era when cars were as much about art as transportation—a true artifact of the Bronze Age!



Garry is the photo-taker, Phil is the 'Valet!'. The 'Bronze Age' was gleaming for its photoshoot. Here is their Caddy up on the hoist in their 8-car shed!



Above - Walnut look dash looks cool against black fittings.

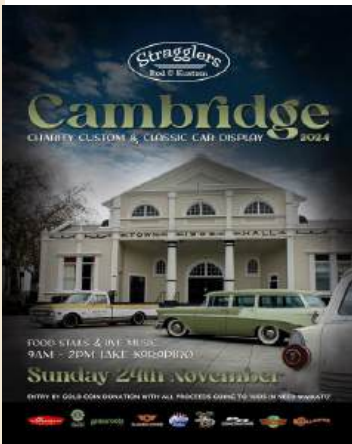


Above left and at left, not many Caddies come with white interior but The Bronze Age does and it looks 'right!'

Trophy Caddy! Best Car at our 51st Nats in '24. Lots of chrome and shine, a winning Cadillac formula!

FEATURE STORY

EVENT



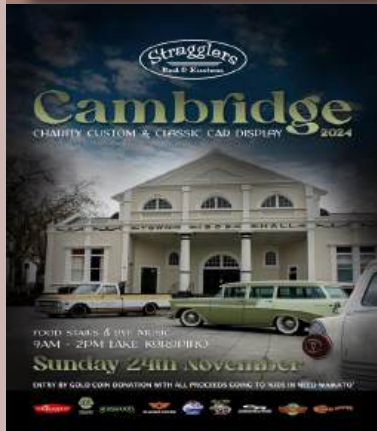
In November, 2024 I attended my first 'Stragglers Day'. I'd been told for years what a great day it is - lots of old cars, a fantastic atmosphere, and beautiful surroundings at Karapiro, home of NZ's rowing champions! But you know, in past years, I was always working on the Sunday event day. Last year, I managed to attend, arranging to leave early and rendezvous with our CLC Waikato members in Cambridge to hit the opening gate at 8am! The weather was bleak when leaving Papmaoa

and on arrival too - no rain but just overcast. But later the clouds gave way to a warm sunny day. And what a day! It was one of my "in my element" days, you know what I mean? When you are totally immersed in what you love. This event was massive. Some 1,500 cars, trucks and retro caravans were in attendance. It's a very special day, and other club members should make it a 'must see' next time in November 2025. I am sure you won't be disappointed and I intend to be there again! It's hard to choose favourite photos, but here are my top picks from the day. Ed



FEATURE STORY

EVENT



I always enjoy well-preserved or original rides and stuff one doesn't come across often. See if can spot or you knew of: An Acadian (Canadian-assembled Nova); Monza; RR; Amazingly original '69 Impala; a pair of Chrysler Cordovas; Buick-Eight x2; Charger without mags. An immaculate '68 Corvette convertible; Nissan Gloria was unusual, 60s example. Olds 442; More cool Mopars. Rod Coppins Charger from the 70s - restored of course! And below some very cool retro caravans and mostly matching period towing cars (note the Pontiac) and lastly, a Studebaker Tow Truck. Now that was something to behold or tow with! Ed

One of the satnd-outs of the Show was this '56 gold Imperial. It was amazing inside and out.



The Retro caravan above, named 'Daphne' was amazing, this is the interior. Towed by a period 1950s Pontiac in equally amazing condition.

There was an amazing cross-section of cars on show, amongst them some incredibly beautiful Mazda Rotaries from the 70s. R100s had Rotaries installed. The RX3 at right, sported twin-Rotary's and when I complimented the owners on its amazing presentation they said it actually did win a prize at the Ellerslie Concours last year! It was really that good!





Blending in with the colour of those ranges in the background, the surrounds of Palm Springs have plenty of colour palettes to draw from!

Cadillac advises a new Lyriq-V is on its way. The 'V' could stand for 'Va-Boom!' Click and read this:

https://insideevs.com/news/748322/2026-cadillac-lyriq-v-quickest-cadillac-ever/?utm_source=Klaviyo&utm_medium=campaign&_kx=DBSHUWJjeoI3y5LPhToBabPQu6zVBqdalSIUfcZVMQX9wgtcwgZ9cy-l6TkWd5rVCGm8F

2026 Cadillac Lyriq-V: The Quickest Cadillac Ever!

The V-Series take on the popular Lyriq gets boosted to 615 horsepower, while keeping a very respectable GM-estimated range of 285 miles.

- The regular dual-motor Cadillac Lyriq already gets 515 horsepower. If you're crazy enough to think that's not enough, here's something crazier.
- The Lyriq-V is the first all-electric V-Series model that will carry the legacy of GM's performance models into the electric era.
- It gets a significant power boost, adequate range and menacing black accents all over to match the performance.
- General Motors rang in the new year by reporting record-breaking EV sales for last year. Now, it wants to end January on a high note. Meet the quickest Cadillac ever, which just happens to be electric: the 2026 Cadillac Lyriq-V.
- GM has a legacy of building high-performance gas cars—just look at the Chevy Corvette, Camaro and Cadillac V-Series and V-Series Blackwing models. Going electric with its performance cars is almost a no-brainer at this stage, given how much power e-motors can unlock. With launch control, the Lyriq-V will sprint from a standstill to 60 miles per hour in 3.3 seconds, slightly quicker than the CT5-V Blackwing's 3.4-second sprint.

Production will begin this quarter at GM's Spring Hill, Tennessee plant. It will also be sold in Canada, Australia, New Zealand and some other countries to be announced later. In the U.S., the Lyriq-V is priced \$79,990, including destination, excluding taxes and other fees.

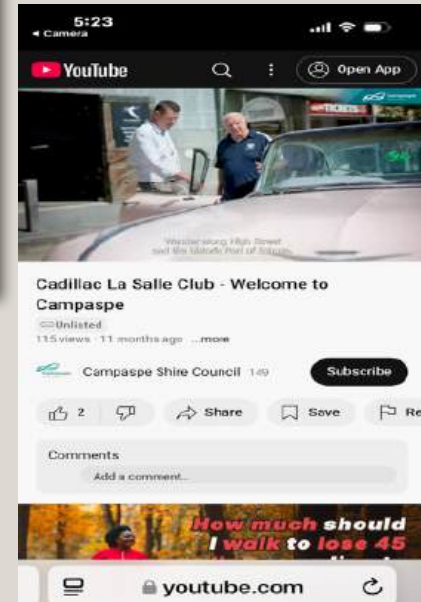


From TOP - Tail lights and 'V' emblem. At speed. Driving itself at 70 mp/h (not Kms!) - look Mum, no hands!

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/eyidrl82ob1dcf8hv302d/Summer-e-LaCad-2024.pdf?rlkey=y0bl89gp6o8yjv6mpcpat5fmv&st=hr0wiv3i&dl=0>



Above is a link to the on-line version of the 2024 Summer LaCad. Another great read from our Ozzie members.



EchUCA Update:

Early November some committee members visited EchUCA for 3 days of meetings and planning for the nationals, visiting all of the venues, and tying down final details and costings, as you may appreciate a little difficult in some circumstances given the economic climate we are experiencing.

We are extremely pleased to release our logo in this issue and the QR Code for the welcome video by the Mayor of the Shire of Campaspe. We look forward to releasing the accommodation in the Autumn issue of LaCad and more details of the event.

Lock the dates in your diaries for EchUCA 14-19 April 2026.

Below & Right - YouTube link and QR code to EchUCA welcome video.

<https://youtu.be/5Dq5XKfKOHQ>



Who would like to join Steve Gill and yours truly to Ozzie next year? It'll be a bonza time! Drop me a line. Registration details soon - Ed.



Let me pull over, 'park up' and take my hands off the wheel!

Thanks for all the feedback to date. Always great to receive snippets from all over the world!

As some you know I subscribe to a number of old car magazines and have done so for decades.

Last month I received notification that one of my fav stand-alone print mags, *Hemmings Classic Car* would be no longer and neither would its 'stable mate' *Muscle Machines*. Instead they will be consolidated into the *Hemmings Motor News* magazine (which I receive digitally anyway).

Several years ago ownership changed as did some of the Editorial staff and I personally observed their daily email-feeds and some of the stories in their mags appeared to not be as amazing as what they were when under the Editorship of *Richard Lentinello* who also authored the stylish *Cadillac Style* coffee-table book in which I have a copy. Richard was also a great photographer and his creativeness was clearly evident in the pics depicted in my above book, even the font was perfect! There also seemed to be a noticeable absence of advertising than in the past and when publications use their own 'profile fillers' to occupy space, it says something is going on or not!

The *Hemmings* people diplomatically afforded the ceasing of their paper publications to industry dynamics, costs and consumer tastes. Some of these do in fact ring true. If you will recall, when I took over the reins as Editor of *FINZ Magazine* the NZ clubs finances were certainly not 'flash' and the first thing I did was produce a digital mag and through the support of then members, the take-up of an email copy over a paper copy which even back in 2009, was expensive to produce and post. For now *Hemmings Classic Car & Muscle Machines* continue in email form, dropped into my inbox each month, so not all is lost.

The demise of these two paper mags wont be the last. Here is a pic of past of my own collection of *Classic Car* issues that featured *Cadillac* in their 'heyday' together with copies of my older *Car & Parts* and replaced by 'Auto Enthusiast' which last only several copies and folded (I lost money on that sub!). Ed

Pre-Xmas I called into my friend, John Woolley (Papamoa) who is a true car-nut and loves all sorts of old cars. His passion is for British brands and one he owns a 1947 Austin (pic at right). He was prepping it for his daughter's Wedding in January 2025. He took me for a ride, it was cool. Have you ever seen one of these windscreen decals? I personally never have. This Austin is ex NZ Defence Forces and new in NZ! An amazing example and a credit to John for getting it back to running order. It 'ticks over' very nicely too! Ed



The Hawkes Bay AA at the time issued this decal to commemorate the Queens Coronation 1953.





Got a Driveshaft leak? Saw this interesting article recently (at right), posted by our friends at the CLC West of the Lake Region, USA.

Member Video Page



This is the spot where we feature a short story of your car, a project you are working on or any tips you want to share with the club. Be sure to visit our page and SUBSCRIBE, the more subscribers we have the higher up our videos land in the YouTube search engine.



This month, Fred Butalla helped Tom Orlando fix an irritating leak from the driveshaft of his 1976 Cadillac deVille. Fred also gives a great tip to prevent the leak from returning.

Click the link to watch the video:

<https://youtu.be/GDp7ExcwmPk?si=hkCygy67TzFi6XPz>

Has anyone noticed how popular a certain members old car is? I am talking about a very special DeSoto convertible, pink in colour and a real drawcard (just like his Seville). I am talking about Auckland member, Steve Barkers beautiful ride. Here is a couple of recent newspaper images (forgive the quality of the pics, but appreciate the quality of the automobile!).



Elvis would have been 90 recently, had he have lived! His Birthday cake. Can you see Gracelands ?

The below is a fab article that I came across recently in my extensive collection of *The Self-Starters* mags. (this from 2018 whilst researching our 'Stacked' series). It just goes to show there is 'gold' in them old Club mags! You should belong to the US club! From US\$25 go to www.cadillacsallectclub.org

BELOW: AMERICAN CHOW—I had my friends drive my Cadillacs to this diner in celebration of my birthday one year. En route, the '59 convertible ran out of gas, but was able to roll into a gas station. My noodles were fried after this incident of getting to the diner. I opened my Hasselblad case and got a headache seeing all those lenses, backs, cameras. So, I closed the case. My friend Donna Herington said I have to make this shot. I opened the Nikon case and pulled an easier camera to use. We adjusted a couple of cars and made five multi-flash exposures on the same frame—moving the flash down the row, painting each "fin" with light. After 20 minutes of intense concentration and shooting, it was time to party all night.



Left - Featured in the NZ Herald 'Summer Photo Competition' no less! Pic by Christine Murthi

Below - In my PetrolHead, not only was Steves 'Bessie' featured at the recent 'Howick Hop' but so was Gus Carmont's amazing '60 called 'ICON'. What a double-act!

Well done to you both. Ed





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2025 CLC Museum & Research Center Calendars

Still only \$15 each

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United States: \$3.00 for one calendar, \$4.00 for two, \$7.00 for three to five (Priority Mail)	Canada: \$4.00 U.S. for one calendar \$6.00 U.S. for two, \$7.00 U.S. for three	Mexico: \$3.00 U.S. for one calendar \$4.00 U.S. for two, \$5.00 U.S. for three	all other countries: \$9.00 U.S. for one calendar \$14.00 U.S. for two, \$22.00 U.S. for three
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Please order your calendar at cadillacsallemuseum.org
Or, write by phone with your credit card:
248-930-7726
(after 5 a.m. Eastern time and please leave a message)

Please do not contact the CLC Office
through Social Media or the CLC Museum & Research Center
Calendars are scheduled to be shipped in December.

Here I am, parked elsewhere! On this page is some cool Caddies for sale (but I am sure, not for long!). Plus, it is not too late to order your 2025 US-CLC Museum & Research Centre Calendar. I have mine already and it is a beauty, the images just keep getting better each year!

Our AUCKLAND member, Steve Barker is looking for the following, for his lovely Seville. Can you help?
Wanted- left and right exhaust manifolds for 1959, 390 Cadillac. Must be flat and free of Cracks. Phone Steve on 021 271 8896 or stevedetroit55@gmail.com.

For Sale



At left, this Caddy is original, fully serviced and I have her whole history. 1st owner 34 yrs. NZ since 2007 bought her then. Been a cherished part of our family since. A little over 74,000 mls. Will be warranted & reg'd at sale. Asking price as recommended by my friend Barry, firm \$40k. Cheers Trish Ph 021-137-8058 nz.btjeff@gmail.com

At right - 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 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 Longtime CLC Vic. Member



\$95k Firm. Like Club Mem to buy. Complete body off resto. Immac. cond. Done 2500mls. Pics available. Phone Gus Carmont 021-964-840 guscarmont@gmail.com

Dear Members,
I am sadden to inform you all that our dear CLC Australia Club member, John Lucas, passed away yesterday (24 January 2025). John was a long time member, joining the Club in the very early 1990's, and was bestowed Life Membership in 2021. Over the years his car collection consisted not only of Cadillac, but also included Buick, Packard and Chrysler Imperial. John was a well known and respected Adelaide personality who had many friends in many fields. Whilst he never held a committee position in our club he was an avid supporter and would always boast to anyone who listened that our club was the best ever. I understand that his family will hold a private funeral service.
Vale John Lucas.

Michael Agostino
President
National Cadillac Club of Australia SA Region Inc
PO Box 80, Pooraka, SA 5095
<https://www.facebook.com/CadillacClubOfAustraliaSaRegionInc>
<https://cadillacclublasalle.com.au/>

Thank you, Michael for letting us know. Condolences from the NZ CLC to John's family and to his Cadillac family. Ed



USA - Ron, Another excellent issue with memorable car pictures. Happy New Year. Best, Jack [Thanks Jack, all the best to everyone - Ed]

IRELAND - Hi Ron, Great read as always! Nice to see some stacked headlight Cadillacs - owning a white '65 convertible myself! Hope you had a good Christmas and Happy New Year! Attached some pics from a car show at the Malahide Grand Hotel last summer and picking up some mad heads after the Bruce Springsteen concert the following day when we went touring round Dublin City in the (one of the rare) hot summer evenings. The other two gorgeous girls are my wife Ruth Barry and her niece Kezia Hart (pics below). All the best for 2025. Best regards, Nick Stratta [Always great to hear from you Nick and look for pics of your beautiful '65 which will feature next issue! A credit to you. Ed]



NZ - Bay of Plenty - Christmas is a special time here in Tauranga because of the Annual 'Charity Toy Run'. The December 2024 event was arguably the biggest turnout ever with more than half the huge car park full of old cars in lines up to five abreast! The 5pm gathering was on the back of a lovely and genuine summers day (and then the great weather disappeared from NZ's shores after Xmas!). Your Editor, Regional Delegate Steve and Member Serge with son, Josh fresh from the States enjoyed the event as did Serge's lovely black '75 Fleetwood! Ed



It was a magnificent balmy evening typical of a February (not December) day! Mid 20s at 8pm, old cars cruising. beers flowing! Ed



19-22 February 2025
A Celebration of Classic American Cars Since 2007

To all NZ Caddy members heading to AmeriCARna:

We will be there to support of our Wellington members, Frosty and Dean Bevan who will be leading many AmeriCARna events this year in their silver '56 Cadillac Coupe DeVille. Where possible, please cruise together, it will make for spectacular cavalcade! Thanks to Marie & Brian Gillett who have organised a diner out, see details below (costs own care). Brian writes:

*The best time to get together as a club is Wednesday night for dinner. So we have booked in 25-30 for dinner at the Quails Nest just out of the City at 6.30. So this will be a good get together place for members even if they are not in Americana. Please see if you can get numbers for me by the 14th of Feb. Thanks Ron. (Marie and I will be the first 2). Hope this will suit most of us, Brian [Thanks Brian. Count me in, that makes 3! **CAN ALL THOSE THAT CAN MAKE IT PLEASE EMAIL finzmagazine@gmail.com TO CONFIRM OR TEXT ME 027-290-1100.** Thanks Ron, Ed.*

Other members who have informed me they are attending AmeriCARna, are: Nevile Carter, Lynda Barr. Bruce Wallis. Brian Barron. Trish and Dave Cummins. Kevin & Christine Conder. Lois & Graham Thrupp. Ron Melville. Carol Southcombe. Andrew Deam. Ian and Debbie Wilford. Marie and Brian Gillett. Les & Glennis Wilson. John & Chrissy Reid. Frosty and Dean Bevan. That's 23, so far and I am sure a few that did not email me will turn up as well.

We'll get a group Cadillac photo taken somewhere!

Cruise safe to the event and pray for summery weather, reliable motoring and maybe cheaper gas prices! See you there. Ed



KEVS Caddies and other great shapes!

(Kev's finds are sharper than this Cadillactis that is actually in Palm Springs!)



Happy Valentines Day from Kev!



REGIONAL DELEGATES

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

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

MANAWATU/ WANGANUI
Ray Reid
021-960-911
reidstransport@xtra.co.nz

10 Regions across NZ
9 Active

WELLINGTON/WAIRARAPA
Jason Curry
04-973-1364
curried@hotmail.com

MARLBOROUGH/CANTERBURY/ WEST COAST
Jonathan Doak
021-026-86-949
jonathandoak@yahoo.co.nz

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

NORTHLAND
>All Enquiries to Pres.

BAY OF PLENTY
Steve Gill
027-289-8849
cornandpeas@xtra.co.nz

WAIKATO
Derek Ogden
027-2533754
smallprojects21@gmail.com

HAWKES BAY
Alan Sargisson 06-843-6838
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9th - Ellerslie Concours Auck
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New Plymouth
22nd - '39 Ford Deluxe W/end
Orewa, Auckland
23rd-28th - National Model A
Ford Rally - Masterton
MAR - 1st - Great USA DAY
Hancock Park, Dunedin
2nd All FORD Day &
Auto Extravaganza @ Classic
Flyers, Mt. Maunganui



2024/25 CLC NZ Club Officers

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

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

Treasurer
Grant Davis 027-264-1204
grantdavis37@gmail.com

Secretary
Frances McCurdy 027-688-0677
frances.wayne@xtra.co.nz

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!



Featuring the Best Tails in town!



'The Bronze Age' - Owned by Garry & Phil, Hawkes Bay, NZ