



April
Avril



‘66 Sand-sation!



6th
Anniversary
of the 'Stax'
Models



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
 Old Cars Weekly ~ Golden Quill Award 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018,
 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023



Contributions to: finzmagazine@gmail.com
 The Editor reserves the right to accept or reject any contributions.
 Deadline is 20th of each month

Happy Autumn in our part of the world where it's darker at both ends of the day now as the sun rises and sets after a less than memorable Kiwi summer and 'Daylight Saving' comes to an end at 2am on Sunday 6th April!

In my part of the country, we've had the greenest grass since I have lived here and more than the normal summer rain, albeit at night with glorious sun-filled and hot days.

I have been lucky enough to connect with CLC member, John Olson of Madison, Connecticut who owns this month's 'Cover Caddy', a 1966 Eldorado Convertible which featured coincidentally on the April page of the Annual *CLC MRC 2025 Calendar*. And what a stunner it is. John, very generously sent me a Zip File full of photos of his beautiful example which you will enjoy admiring on one of our 'Feature Pages' in this month's issue. Thank you, John. We are indeed honoured to be sharing your glorious ride! At right is a 'sneal peak' of John's 'Stacked beauty!'



This month we commence saluting Cadillac's 'Stacked Headlight', the '66 model. What is one noticeable feature between the '65s and the '66s? I'll tell you soon! The '66s will continue in the May and June issues of *FINZ* so if I have not received an image of yours, drop me a line today. Likewise, the '67s and '68s feature in months to come, so send a pic and a few words now (in advance) to finzmagazine@gmail.com

Our 2025 *AmeriCARna* coverage concludes with lots more photos to enjoy and recall, if you were there! There's a special feature on Taranaki Member, Ozy Davis' wonderful world of Cars and Collectibles. If you have not seen his wide and varied assortment, then it is indeed something to see and behold if you get the opportunity. Our Global Family coverage features correspondence from other parts of the world, a Cadillac F1 update plus a story of a black Fleetwood on Route 38 (that's here in NZ, folks!). Read and weep on the story of a fellow Australian Members 'fuel-leak fire' that destroyed his once beautiful 1976 Eldo - photos to view. An update on the forthcoming Cadillac EV models heading to our shores soon. If you are contemplating a trip to the US over the next couple of years, there is a schedule of events up until 2028, just to tease your 'travel bug' if you have one! Mind you, with reminders in here about the Grand European and the Australian Nationals, if inclined, you could well be globe trotting! But if the weak Kiwi dollar concerns you, then stay at home and join the rest of us here in the North Island, later this year for, first details of our 2025 NZ Cadillac Nationals has been released and they will be held in Palmerston North this October. Grab your diaries and pencil in your weekend away! Kev shares more great images of his ongoing Cadillac hunt (I say that because Easter and that Bunny will be about, no, not the PB one!) And another superb 'Tail Fin' to drool over as you complete your read!

Is that enough reading material for this month? Funny thing is, I have had to carry-over some really interesting stuff for the May issue including more great coverage of those sassy '66 models, boy were they stacked!

Until next time, send me your Summer-ending stories AND pictures! Hard to believe the Easter is almost here and Daylight Saving will be withdrawing its warmth until we circle the sun and come back out in spring!

By time your read this I will be about to head to Waihi for the Beach Hop 'Warm-up' on Wednesday the 26th! For those attending the whole 'Hop' have fun and send me pictures. 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 - Ron, Ed.



FEATURE STORY



AmeriCARna on Saturday is 'Show Day' in the closed-off CBD. Thousands of the public get to roam, free of charge and admire all that is good about this Annual Petrol-head event! (Ok, there is probably the odd diesel and one 'Steam Vehicle' - see below). A few trucks appeared also, the big cream colour one (left) is a 'Pacific' and very cool. Amongst the immaculate Cheviets was a 'replica' Model 'A' called a 'Shay' and it is American-made, whilst the Bricklin is Canadian (Ok, *North American*). The '60 beige and white Corvette picked up an Award at the Saturday Evening dinner. First time AmeriCARna entrants too, having always supported *Beach Hop!* Something very noticeable around AmeriCARna this year was the amount of *Trumpism!* There were flags, hats, t-shirts, banners and posters. This Hummer below certainly played its part in promoting Donald and with the Hummer maybe consuming 6 Miles to the Gallon, the *Drill baby Drill* poster on the back window was funnily adapt, thats for sure.

One expected surprise was an invitation to fellow Taranaki Member, Ozy Davis' Man-Cave! Located in Moturua and down by the sea, we not got to view Ozy's extensive Cave (and it really is an Aladdins Cave) full of a huge, varied and wide selection of allsorts of memorabilia from signs to tin toys and everything inbetween! Check out the pics on the next page! Ed



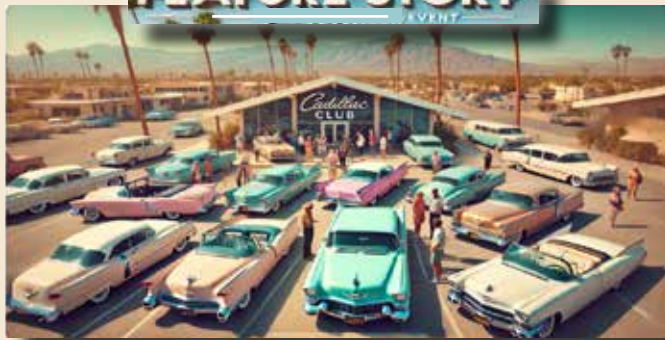
There were some very cool (and BIG!) trucks in attendance this year. Sharp black Imperial below.



A great selection of AmeriCARna on display in the CBD including this Stanley Steamer, a lovely example, hissing steam and hooting loudly!



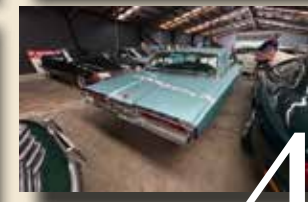
FEATURE STORY



If you are easily offended, then turn the page now! Plenty of 'non-PC' signs, images and items in Ozy's Cave! But hey, these were the norm in the 'Good Old Days' of the 50s, 60s & 70s!



The host (above) with indeed lots of hospitality was genuinely keen to show us around and he knew all the back stories to all he owned. Thanks, Ozy, it was awesome! Ed



FEATURE STORY

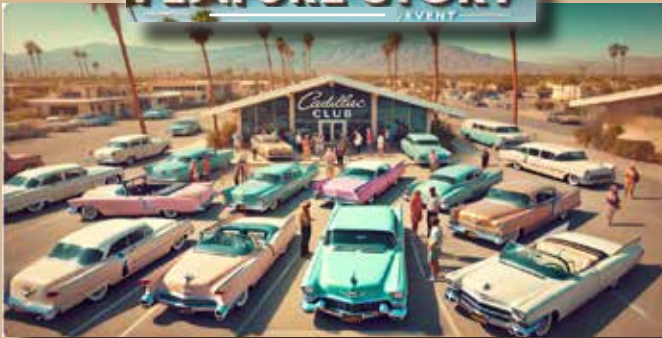
John Olson's '66 Eldorado Convertible - the perfect picture parade to end our Kiwi summer!



John Olson is a professional architectural photographer. He has spent the last three years restoring his beautiful Eldo. He tells me he is particularly fond of the '66 stacked highlight models and loves dark green cars in general. So this one ticked a lot of boxes for him! John lives in Madison, Connecticut and is a fellow CLC US Member.

[Thank you John for allowing me to share these fabulous images with all our global readers - Ed]

FEATURE STORY



Slick '66!

6th
Anniversary
of the 'Stax'
Models

STACKED HEADLIGHTS and the '66s. Success continued for Cadillac's 'Stacked series'. As was the Cadillac tradition, only very subtle changes would take place. In fact, can you spot the obvious differences between the '65s (at right) and '66s? The one thing I notice is the chrome around the headlights has morphed into a 'wrap-around' of paint work. The grill has changed. Indicators in the front bumper have disappeared and the large side lights are now more conservative. This Anniversary is a celebration that will last the entire 2025 year, and there's stacks more to come!!



CLC (Auckland) NZ, longtime Member (30+ Year), Bill Wotherspoon has owned his lovely red Eldo for many, many years. His son, Jamie is now tasked with keeping it looking and running as a Cadillac should!



National Geographic Ads from
Editors personal collection

Drive safe, your Grand Dad is
watching! Ed



More CLC Member's 66's next issue!



At left is recent new member, Ivan and Cherie Felton's pride and joy. Here's a few words about it and more next issue. Look out for it at Beach Hop and say hi to Ivan! Ed

The car is basically stock, it's as we got it, lowered and always runs well (fresh motor in the USA before we got it) we've only managed one Beach Hop even though we have a Bach at Whiritoa - useless me yes, I know! But the daughter loves the cars as does her daughter (Grand-daughter at the wheel) so we're Beach Hopping it this year and I can't wait. But as I'm a cop I'll be standing on the pavement with a borrowed speed radar gun, and they best keep it below 30km or else!



Link below to the on-line version of the 2024 Summer LaCad. Another great read from our Ozzie members.

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/eyidrl82ob1dcf8hv302d/Summer-e-LaCad-2024.pdf?rlkey=y0bl89gp6o8yiv6mpcpat5fmv&st=hr0wiv3i&dl=0>

It seems that this page is all about things to go to and great overseas mags to read!

First of all an update on the 2026 Australian Nationals

Hello Cadillac and LaSalle Club members / guests, The Victorian Chapter warmly invites you to join them for the 2026 Cadillac LaSalle Club Nationals, to be held at Echuca Victoria, Australia.

Echuca is in Northern Victoria on the banks of the Mighty Murray River, with historical features, such as the Port of Echuca, and was once the third largest inland port in Australia. This location in the town centre will feature our car show on the Saturday, with road closures in place this promises to be a carnival like atmosphere.

Registration, itinerary and entry fees will be published in the coming months in *LaCad*. We are pleased to announce the release of accommodation. We have secured all sixty rooms at the Mercure Port of Echuca and have a second motel on hold as a backup once the Mercure is full.

The Nationals will run from April 14-19; however, accommodation at the Mercure is available from April 13-19, 2026. The Mercure will be the host motel and will be the location for three evening meals including the presentation dinner. It has secure parking and plenty of room for our Cadillacs, so first in best dressed for this venue. Please be sure to mention the promotion code Cadillac 26. We advise early booking as the Victorian school holidays partially fall into these dates; full cancellation available up to 30 days prior.

Accommodation Details: Dates: April 13-19, 2026.

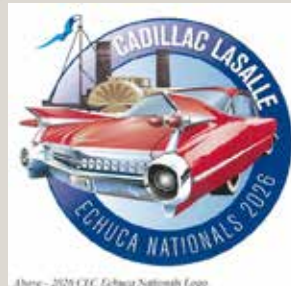
Mercure Port of Echuca, 465 High Street Echuca Victoria 3564 Australia. Telephone +61 (03)54825666

Email: info@mpoe.com.au Promo Code: Cadillac 26

Standard and Superior Queen Rooms - \$175 per night.

King and Twin Rooms - \$190 per night.

Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions or require further information, preferred option is email. Steve Ashman, President CLC Victoria 2026 Cadillac LaSalle Club Nationals Organiser
Email: steveashman@bigpond.com Mobile: 0438 313 234



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.



If you're planning to be in Europe this year, check out the 'Grand European 2025'. Like past events, this too, will be a stunner. The Europeans do things so well! Ed



At left, our accomodation. Looks like we are roughing it again! Above, the Palmy Rose gardens. always picturesque . Long roads are called 'Lines' as in 'Roberts Line' and the like. Below, Wind Farm near Ashhurst on the outskirts of Palmy. See you there!

NZ 2025 Nationals
Palmerston North Oct, 10-12th
Staying at Copthorne Millennium Hotel
Fitzherbert Ave, Palmerston North

20 Rooms held. More details to follow from Frances. Mark your diaries now and start saving for gas!





AUSTRALIA - Hi Ron. I hope you are well. Thank you for your colourful, image laden magazine as seen by everyone of the www.cadillacclub.org website. What a spectacular array of cars, styles of a great era in motoring design. Best wishes, George

Hi Ron. I encountered a devastating car fire. I attach picture of my 1976 Eldorado Bicentennial (one of only 200 built to commemorate the USA Bicentennial, and they were the last big Convertibles built by GM and Ford due to safety requirements that made their life over) I am of course devastated to lose my car in this way while I am not certain but the issue was caused due to a fuel leak. I pulled over to see why the car was "stuttering" and "Woosh" up it went. Under my insurance I will get the car back under the "Salvage" rules of my policy. And yes it was well insured. I think my Cadillac days are over and the car will be offered for sale as a potential rebuild (for which will be difficult and very expensive with the Aust and the US\$) for parts. Or it will become a parts car. We will see how things progress. Ron, are there many 73-76 Eldorado's in New Zealand as I will have parts from the car when I get it back plus I have a number of parts from the Eldorado. Plus I have many other internal trim items that are difficult to get. Regards Bryan G Langton, Past President CLC Victorian Chapter Mobile: +61 419516219 bryanlangton@bigpond.com

[Whoa, Bryan, how devastating. Glad you were ok. Many thanks for sharing your tragic story with us. At least you will have the memories of a once great Caddy. Did a fuel line break? Best regards on behalf of the NZ Club, Ed]



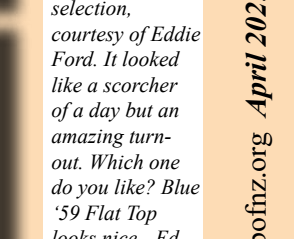
AUSTRALIA - Continued - From Paul Dixon

<https://thejudge13.com/2025/02/17/cadillac-f1-giga-factory-in-usa/>

Cadillac F1 'Giga Factory' in USA - Formula 1: Cadillac plans massive North Carolina factory for 2026 F1 entry – Cadillac's entry into Formula One is set to usher in a new era for American motorsport, with the General Motors-owned brand making significant progress in preparation for its 2026 debut. As part of its ambitious F1 project, Cadillac plans to build a state-of-the-art factory in North Carolina and position itself as a serious contender on the grid. Some have described it as Cadillac's 'Giga Factory' to highlight the ambition toward the newest works team F1 entry.

Eddie Ford emailed me recently with a lovely selection of Caddy photos (below and at right) from a recent car show he had attended. [Many thanks Eddie - you are always thinking of us here in NZ and please keep sending images of your great finds - Ed/ Ron]

USA - Florida - Great gallery of beautiful cars. :o) Jack Bracx [Thanks Jack. Remember us to everyone. How's Dianne's Caddy going? Ed Ron :)]



A great Cadillac selection, courtesy of Eddie Ford. It looked like a scorcher of a day but an amazing turn-out. Which one do you like? Blue '59 Flat Top looks nice - Ed

NZ - Tauranga - A sunny March day and Ron and myself hit the highway in a big black Cadillac. Destination Galatea BOP via route 38. Our cruise begins in Papamoa then to Rotorua. A pit stop for coffee and petrol at BP gas station and we are on our way to Rainbow Mountain. A left hand turn onto the road that leads to the Kaingaroa forest and the incredible Kaingaroa straights to the Seven Mile hill which in turn leads us to Route 38. The big black Caddy is cruising along very well indeed as we turn onto Troutbeck road Galatea. Our journey leads us to the Steiner brothers farm on Jolly road. Alf & Margaret and Eric & Betty Steiner. The Steiners most graciously received Ron & myself with lunch and a tour of their Ford tractor and implement museum together with a tour of the world's largest beer can series collection by Eric & Betty's son Barry Steiner. It was a phenomenal site viewing these beer can sets and series. A big thank you to the Steiner family from Ron and myself. We fired up the 1975 Fleetwood Brougham and toured the incredible straight roads of Galatea to lake Anawhena for a photo session and then make our way home to Papamoa. That Brougham sure was honey of a cruiser and never missed a beat, she drove and handled like a dream. Thank you Ron and owners Serge & Lilian d'Elia for allowing this to happen. A fantastic day out on highways and by ways on Opening The Gate on "Route 38" And as always our club is easily satisfied with the very best. Cheers Steve Gill



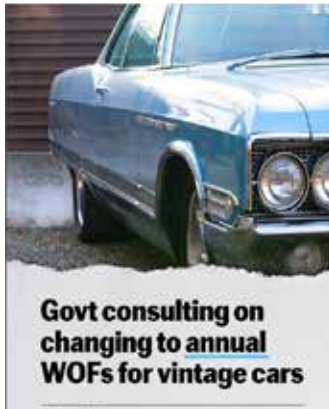


As always, there's always lots of great articles on the net and this is one of the better ones I have read recently.

This Tucker-Based Concept Shows the Future of Custom Bodywork

https://www.hagerty.com/media/maintenance-and-tech/this-tucker-based-concept-shows-the-future-of-custom-bodywork/?utm_source=SFMC&utm_medium=email&utm_content=MED_UN_NA_EML_UN_UN_DailyDriver_Thursday&hashed_email=566fc738c2fa4cd2bb5e5080d142955d3fef70e99960153a19d4911e360e08b8&dtm_em=566fc738c2fa4cd2bb5e5080d142955d3fef70e99960153a19d4911e360e08b8

The Govt. has announced an invitation for owners of Old Cars and Campervans to make a Consultative Submission on the proposal to extend the current 6-month Warrant of Fitness (WOF) requirement to 12-months.



Attached to *FINZ* this month is two FoMC (NZ Federation of Motor Clubs - of which the CLC NZ is a member) Newsletters. The First is about the WOF Submissions. There are several templates embedded in the attachment that we can use for our submissions or you are free to write your own. The FoMC strongly recommends we ALL make a submission.

The Second FoMC Newsletter is about the Federation's 30th Anniversary being held in Christchurch. If you would to attend, why not go along and hear what is said and report back to the CLC NZ club? A lot easier and geographically more suited to some of our South Island members. ED



Below - '49 on the open road. '55 Sedan in Caravan Park (note vintage caravans) and business man with '55 Sedan. New?



Recent Editorial changes mean better 'copy, stories and photos'. My daily feed is more polished now and whoever does the work is extremely knowledgeable and hardwork. Check out these beauties: Subscribe today at www.curbsideclassics.com

Below - '59 in Las Vegas, getting Married? On a fishing trip. Note boat and dirty road. '60 with tyre in back seat!



Below - '65 all alone! '65 Convertible, a bit 'used' at car lot. '69 Hardtop Sedan



Top down - '71 Sedan. '53 Sedan. '70 Sedan in what looks to be new subdivision! Maybe its the Agents Caddy? '64 in Don Lee Cadillac Dealer show room, San Fran in 1960s. '71 Sedan



More great snippets from my *Curbside Classics* email feed. Ed



Steve & Ron cruising
Rt38 in a Big Black
Brougham!



Las Vegas Seville article courtesy
www.curbsideclassics.com

The convention center where a family stopped for a pose and there is some sign work going on in the background. I am sure Las Vegas was and is a good place to be in the sign business. Their crane truck is to the left and a pre-'62 Volkswagen Type 2 Panel is in the center. Further to the right a coral over white '57 Ford Country Sedan, and a tan '56 Buick Special or Century Estate Wagon with a roof rack and that likely is a hotel customer delivery vehicle. Front and center is a white '59 Cadillac Eldorado Seville, one of 975 built with a base price of \$7401. The Eldorado Biarritz convertible was more plentiful with 1320 made and carried the same base price

Young mechanic in training
with his tutor on a 1959 Ford
Fairlane or Galaxie!



Under the hood!



Recent NEW Auckland member, Rob Jolly owns a fabulous green '61 Sedan that has one amazing 'Horn sound' like no other, and any of us other Caddy members that were at the first *Meguiars Coffee & Cars* last October, have heard before. It is like a locomotive! Anyway, we had to find out what makes this Caddy horn so unique and Rob has supplied the following:

Yes, I have seven Cadillac genuine horns and all operate to blast a Cm11th chord. I can instantly adjust the wiring to blow different tones depending on my mood! The tones are:

Eb-Eldorado long trumpet Bb-low G-mid pitch F-high pitch trumpet C-long trump

Eldorado low C-an adjusted A note to blow A#.

Don't you just love Cadillacs! I am currently repairing my by-pass valve for the air con. Once done, everything will be working as Cadillacs deserve. Best regards to you. Rob Jolly, Auckland

[Wow, thanks Rob. I am sure that quite a few other NZ Caddy members might be interested in how to get their defunct air cond going, including myself! Perhaps some more technical know-how from you?

By the way, if you have an unwanted SPARE Part or Accessory for sale or just to 'Pass Forward' to another Caddy member, drop me a line. I am thinking we should hold an inventory of what parts are out there that we could 'Trade' amongst ourselves when we need one. Would save time, huge shipping costs and being affected by the strong US dollar! finzmagazine@GMail.com - Ed]

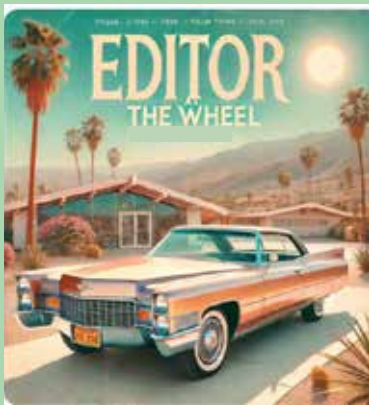


Yes, Robs
Engine Bay is
immaculate
as well as
the rest of his
amazing '61
- Ed

*Oh dear!
Now where did I put that
spare and jack?*



Steve & Ron cruising
Rt38 in a Big Black
Brougham!



Is there an EV Cadillac in your future? Hey Kiwi Members, the NZ launch is getting closer...

Cadillac has confirmed it will be adding two additional EV models to its lineup in Australia and New Zealand with the Optiq and Vistiq. These are described as 'bookends' to the Cadillac lineup locally where the Optiq will be a new entry-point in terms of size while the Vistiq is a large, three-row SUV sitting at the top. These are produced in right-hand drive from the factory in the US and when they arrive in 2026, they will join the Lyriq and Lyriq V in the showroom. It is said that both these models have been planned and engineered to be built right and drive from their inception. It's all part of Cadillac's global push into the luxury segment and these models will also be available in other RHD markets like Japan and Australia. Cadillac says that the Vistiq, which it calls a stunning three-row SUV, will 'unlock luxurious electric motoring for larger families'. The Optiq is suggested as a new entry point sitting beneath the Lyriq although Cadillac is stressing that point in terms of its size. According to Jess Bala, managing director of General Motors Australia and New Zealand; "these exciting new models will double Cadillac's lineup appealing to an even broader range of customers and usage requirements and allowing

even more people to experience this incredible brand for themselves." The Optiq is 4.8m long and 1.6m in height so it's not exactly small, and not too far off the Lyriq which is just shy of 5m long. The Optiq features a dual motor all-wheel drive powertrain with 224kW and 480Nm. It has an 85kWh battery and a 480km range. It's said to deliver 'classdefining cargo capacity and rear row passenger room'. The Vistiq will be a bit of a monster measuring 5222mm long, 2.2 m wide and 1.8m in height. This "ensures the luxury of space for all passengers while maintaining the brand's commitment to a spirited drive". It too has dual motor all-wheel drive with up to 458kW and 880Nm along with adaptive damping control with optional Air Ride adaptive suspension too. US specs state it has a 102kWh battery pack and offers 480km of range. Expect more details, including arrival time and pricing, later in the year.



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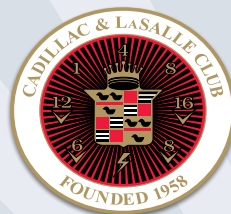
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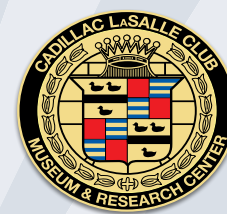
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Upcoming Events



Grand Nationals • National Driving Tours Winter Reunions & Board Meetings • Cadillac Fall Festivals



2025 Grand National Meet
June 2-7
Embassy Suites by Hilton
Nashville SE Murfreesboro
Murfreesboro, Tennessee



2025 Cadillac Fall Festival
September 26-27
Gillmore Car Museum campus
Hickory Corners, Michigan



2025 National Driving Tour
October 14-18
"Cruisin' the Capital"
Albany/Lake George Area
New York Capital District Region hosting



2026 Winter Reunion & Board Meetings
January 7-10
Element by Westin International Drive
Orlando, Florida



2026 Grand National Meet
June 1-6
Embassy Suites by Hilton
Charlotte Concord
Golf Resort & Spa
Concord, North Carolina



2026 Cadillac Fall Festival
September 25-26
Gillmore Car Museum campus
Hickory Corners, Michigan



2026 National Driving Tour
October
Huntsville, Alabama, area
Peach State Region hosting



2027 Winter Reunion & Board Meetings
January 27-30
Hyatt Regency at Riverchase Galleria
Birmingham/Hoover, Alabama



2027 Grand National Meet
May 17-22
Nugget Casino Resort
Reno/Sparks, Nevada



2027 International Driving Tour
July 13-17
Detroit, USA area to
Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada



2027 Cadillac Fall Festival
September 24-25
Gillmore Car Museum campus
Hickory Corners, Michigan



2028 Winter Reunion & Board Meetings
January 26-29
Holiday Inn San Antonio—Riverwalk
San Antonio, Texas



2028 Grand National Meet
July 24-29
Marriott at the University of Dayton
Dayton, Ohio



2028 Cadillac Fall Festival
September 22-23
Gillmore Car Museum campus
Hickory Corners, Michigan

Join Us!
cadillaclasalleclub.org
[cadillacsallemuseum.org](http://cadillaclasallemuseum.org)





KEVS Caddies and other great shapes!

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



Oh my - it's Easter in April, so I'd better hop to it and keep hunting for those egg-cellent Caddy pics - Kev!



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Wanted - AUCK mem Steve Barker needs **Left
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18th - 21st - Holden Nationals,
Christchurch
MAY - 4th - Auckland All FORD
Day, Ardmore Airport
OCT - 10th-12th - 52nd NZ
Cadillac Nationals hosted in
Palmerston North

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(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!



From any angle, John Olson's '66 Convertible looks fin-tastic! You could say, anyone would be 'green with envy' with this colour choice!