

IRON MAIDEN

Girls – wanna be famous? Send pics, car details and a daytime phone no. to: Iron Maiden, *Street Machine*, GPO Box 4088, Sydney, NSW 2001. Or email: streetmachine@acpmagazines.com.au.

STORY CRAIG PARKER PHOTOS ALASTAIR RITCHIE

MARION LIVINGSTONE, AUCKLAND, NZ



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BITCHIN' ride – how long have you owned it?

Five years, but it's only been on the road for a year. I brought it home, took it for a quick run 'round the block and then my husband, Eric, grabbed the keys, pulled it apart and sent it off to be acid-dipped back to bare metal. Four years later it reappeared as it is now.

What condition was it in?

Very good. We bought it from a guy in Rotorua who had grand plans of doing it up himself. While it was only a six-cylinder, the original owner had ticked all the option boxes.

Why a Barracuda?

I've wanted a V8 for 30 years and we were looking for a '70 Cuda or Challenger when a friend told us about this. As soon as I sat in it, I was sold, and we

both thought we could build it into a great Sox & Martin-style Pro Streeter.

What other cars do you own?

We're a Mopar family – Eric runs West Auckland Engine Reconditioning, which is a Chrysler/Mopar specialist. He owned the last E49 Charger ever built and currently drives a T-bucket with a 426 Hemi. It's been on the road for 30-odd years and was one of the first Hemis in New Zealand.

The T-bucket sounds wild – do you drive it?

Yeah, I've driven it but I prefer a roof over my head so my hair doesn't get messed up.

What do you like most about your Barracuda?

It's fast, thanks to the 400 Chrysler stroked out to 498. We call it Fast Fish, a nickname my daughter came up with. That and the stance. I also love the colour and I am really proud of all the work that

Eric and the boys have put into the car.

Have you run it down the quarter?

I haven't. Eric's run a 12.1 on a damp track. Our club [*Wheels*] goes to the track at the end of the season. It's really low key and I think that'd be a good time to get out there.

What was the hardest part about the build?

The wait. We worked on it every day. When it was finally finished, Eric took it out for a long drive to make sure everything was all right, so I still had to wait!

Future plans?

As many shows as possible. I've taken it to Beach Hop twice and the Hibiscus Coast Beach Run. The car won President's Choice there, which was awesome. I'd also like to take it to the big Mopar run at Nelson. 