

## Our Life Members

**Ralph Levinson, with assistance from our Life Members, also Owen Jones, grandson of the late Len & Stella Hoyland.**



### Alan Minson

Alan was one of the founder members of the North Island Model A Ford Club Inc. In 1972 Alan, a member of the Auckland Veteran and Vintage Car Club, asked at an AVVCC meeting for expressions of interest in forming an Auckland Model A Ford Club. After the meeting, several interested Model A Ford owners approached him.

The Auckland Model A Ford Club was formed – interest blossomed from around the North Island and the Club was renamed the North Island Model A Ford Club (NIMAFC). Alan, previously a founder member of the Canterbury Model A Ford Club, became the first Club Captain.

He was nominated as a Life Member in 1973. Alan attended the 1993 Hamilton and 2009 National Model A Rallies, also the Club's 21<sup>st</sup> and 40<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations. He has since sold his resplendent black, with red wheels, 1930 Phaeton, but is still fluent in "Model A", having been an enthusiast since his teenage years.

At a 'Meet the New Members' event in 2018, Alan was a popular speaker, explaining the origins of the NIMAFC to more recent Club members.



### Murray & Anne Ashby

Murray was nominated as a Life Member in 1995. He is widely known for his friendly help when it comes to anything Model A Ford. At that time, he had been on the committee for 19 years, as Newsletter Editor. Murray was also on the organising committee for the 1993 Hamilton National Rally and has been Chief Judge at several other National events, the most recent at Te Anau in 2019.

Driving one of his Model A's is what Murray likes best, having driven the length and breadth of New Zealand on numerous occasions. Following his nomination, it was decided that Anne, who had always participated in Model A activities, should join Murray as a Life Member.

Both their children, Elizabeth and Sarah learnt to drive in Model A's. All of their cars were given a make-over for Elizabeth's wedding in March 2013.

Murray's garage door is always open to show off the cars and offer advice on all aspects of the hobby. Recently he applied his knowledge as proof reader for a UK publication, "The Essential Buyer's Guide - Ford Model A".

Murray & Anne have many Model A's and are regular participants in either their 1928 Phaeton (restored in 1980) or their yellow 1930 Roadster (owned since 1975), and more recently their red 1928 Closed Cab Pickup, or a black 1931 Slant Window Town Sedan, imported from Ohio in December 2018.

They have been Club Members since 1975.



### **Paul Smith**

Paul joined the NIMAFC in 1976 and was made a Life Member in 2006. Over the many years of his membership, Paul has been our Club Captain, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor and Website administrator. He was on the 1993 Hamilton Rally organising committee, instrumental in attracting over 200 entrants for the event. Paul has regularly attended Model A events throughout NZ, in Australia and the USA. There he has met and made many friends from his various car hobbies.

Having rebuilt a 1930 Town Sedan as an 18-year-old, Paul followed with a 1930 AA Truck and a 1930 Roadster. He had always wanted a genuine 1930 Roadster Pickup and in 2011, purchased one from Bill Quelch (restored by Len Hoyland). In 2018 Paul imported a rare 1930 Deluxe Delivery from North Carolina, USA. Between them, his Model A's have travelled the length and breadth of NZ many times.

Paul is the Club's Historian, holding and updating Club records. Now also interested in antique tractors and historic rallying, Paul and Vicki live in Waiuku, with generous-sized buildings to house Paul's vehicles, museum and Vicki's unique elephantarium.



### **Len and Stella Hoyland**

Len and Stella Hoyland were made Life Members in 2009. They joined the NIMAFC in 1977 and were very active within the Club for many years, travelling the world with their Model A hobby.

Len & Stella took their Model A Roadster to Australia for the Bi-Centennial Rally in 1989, as well as many NZ long-distance rallies. Len was a member of many committees and also helped organise the 1993 Hamilton Rally.

Len restored Model A's and other vehicles over the years, including 2 Willys Jeeps, a Morris Minor, Chevrolet Deluxe Coupe, 2 Allis Chambers tractors and an Austin 7. The family believe Len restored approximately 17 Model A's in his lifetime. Many of his Model A's and other vehicles are still in the family or were purchased by Club members.

Len and Stella's hobby spread through the family to sons Dugald and David and on to grandson, Owen Jones, who is now the proud owner of Len's last pride and joy, his smart red 1930 Deluxe Roadster.

Sadly, Stella passed away in 2009 and Len in 2014. Their Model A legacy lives on within their family.



### **John Castle**

John was made a Life Member in 2015. His interest in Model A's began in 1965 when he purchased an original 1928 Tudor and over the years he has owned 9 Model A's of various body styles, of which 4 he fully restored.

In 1974 John joined the North Island Model A Ford Club and at the same time purchased and began the restoration of a 1930 Fordor sedan which became a favourite family wagon for attending Club and National events. He was reacquainted with the Fordor (IA1930) while at the recent National Rally in Te Anau .

Since joining the Club, John has served on the committee and all of the executive positions of the Club. He was involved as one of the team that organised the National Rally in Taupo in 2009 and has also participated as a Judge at most National Rallies.

John and wife Mary have attended most of the National Meets beginning with Blenheim in 1989 and many Club events to date and have met some wonderful people, many who have remained good friends to this day.