

Lyn Hood

Lyn's interest in cars goes way back to when as a teenage she won the Jaycees Teenage Driver of the year award. The two teenage lads she beat were not impressed at having a girl trounce them.

Working as the PA for a Holden dealership car rental business, she honed her skills and she would often leave her mini at work for a week or two while she drove around in a new Holden to clock up a few miles before it went out on hire. For a while she owned a mark III Zephyr which she particularly enjoyed driving.

Often at Pukekohe she loved to watch the car races. To this day she particularly enjoys the big V8's. Stock cars were a regular favourite too – always a good laugh.

Not her only string to her bow, Lyn has had an avid interest in dance since a young age. She was a competitive Ballroom, Latin American and New Vogue dancer, competing at National level within New Zealand – yes just like "Dancing with the Stars" on television.

In the very early 1990's Lyn met Brian, who is definitely NOT a dancer but it was a car match made in heaven. A very competitive pair (against each other), many a gymkhana or driving skills event saw these two slug it out against each other.

Lyn, who left school aged 15 at the end of the 5th form because it was too boring and easy, felt she needed a challenge. Quickly she was enticed on to the committee, where she made good use of her administrative skills gained much, much in later life which include management and teaching qualifications plus a high level of computing ability (she teaches computing at our largest tertiary institute). Lyn was on the National Club committee as New Zealand club Editor for five years, and was solely responsible for bringing the NZ Club magazine in to the modern age taking it from cut and paste to an almost completely electronic process.

Other roles Lyn carried out to name just a few, include Membership Secretary, Points Keeper and Prize Giving Organiser plus Coming Events Coordinator. She is responsible for the instigation and setting up Auckland Club's first Website and was Webmaster for many years. Auckland had not only the first Mercedes-Benz Club website in New Zealand, it was also the only Mercedes-Benz Club website for many years. And of course she has helped many committee members with the necessary computer skills to carry out various tasks or roles.

Lyn has the very special distinction of being the only woman to take out the Clubman of the Year trophy in our club. This is awarded to the top person on the club competition points table each year. The wives and partners generally are referred to as family members, but where a "family" member earns more points than a "club" member on the points table they are awarded the Clubman trophy, not the Family member trophy. And, Lyn has had the distinction of winning the Clubman of the year trophy several times – bet that caused a few ructions in the competitive Hood household.

For a while she defected and drove an MX5, which is the most fun you can have with your clothes on, although Brian always likened it to tailgating Mickey Mouse with those dreadful pop up lights. Now however it's a Toyota Echo (yeah – boot space again and no sunburnt head), but of course no ordinary Echo would do, so this one is the 1500 rally sport model.

Her interest in cars is sure to continue. Can't wait to hear what happens next.....