



Incorporated No. A0021659A

### Life Membership – Peter Ferguson

❖ awarded 13 September, 2023 ❖



very so often it is the privilege of the President and the Committee to pay a tribute to someone who has made a special, lasting and memorable contribution to the Mazda MX-5 Club of Victoria & Tasmania.

Honorary Life membership is a significant award and may only be conferred on a Club member at the absolute discretion of, and approval by, the Club Committee.

Conferring of Life Membership of this Club is not done lightly. It has gone to only 20 other people in our 33-year history. Club guidelines state that Honorary Life Membership is offered only to individuals with at least 10 years of Club membership, who have previously been awarded the Club's Service Star and given long-term, exceptional service to the Club, by applying extraordinary expertise, dedication and positive influence.

**Peter Ferguson** has been a member of the Club since July 2011. His record of involvement includes:

- » Serving as **Chapter Captain – Eastern Victoria Chapter** 2015-2021;
- » **Jinba Ittai Award** – 2017-2018;
- » three "**Mike Quist Awards**" for Club Champion – 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021;
- » two Eastern Victoria Chapter Champion awards – 2014-2015 and 2021-2022 (*either side of his Captaincy*);
- » establishment and management of the Club Khanacross Championship at Gippsland Car Club 2021-2023;
- » exceptional ongoing support for the Eastern Victoria Chapter, and for the Club as a whole, before, during and after his official role as Chapter Captain;
- » awarded **Service Star** – 2021.

In 2015 Peter took over as Captain of the already-active Eastern Victoria Chapter and turbo-charged the range and number of its activities while also engaging closely with the other Victorian Chapters.

In the process he became the Club's outstanding event organiser through:

- » establishing the now-iconic and incredibly popular "3 Peaks" annual event, starting initially as an assistant in 2013, and going on to become event leader from 2018;
- » leading the organisation and hosting of Eastern Victoria's New Zealand Tour (2018), and the "Tasmania (Not the Targa) Tour" (2021);
- » leading the organisation and hosting of the Club's celebration of the 30th anniversary of the MX-5's Australian launch, staged at Lardner Park (6 October 2019), including the compilation of detailed descriptions of each model MX-5 for the 30th Anniversary event which are now incorporated on the Club website;
- » introduction under his Captaincy of a series of Eastern Victoria Chapter events that have now become iconic fixtures in the Club's calendar, including Lunch'n'Lies runs, Wilsons Prom run, the Cardi Pub meet-ups, Around the Bay in a Day (or Two), "Bathurst pilgrimages", and the resurrection of Tech days, to name a few;
- » assisting with MX-5 NA owner support in the Eastern Victoria Chapter region, regardless of whether the owners were Club members or not.

In addition, Peter has sourced and collated a great deal of technical information about the Mazda MX-5 since its 1989 launch, including:

- » compilation of a plethora of MX-5 brochures and magazine articles dating back to 1989 for the Club website;
- » co-ordination with Mazda Australia of a list of MX-5 details for all Australian-delivered cars, up to the ND1 generation;
- » provision of input requirements for a Club Heritage Register, specifically targeted at NA models but encompassing all MX-5 generations.

He has also been a stalwart support of the Club's magazine, *mxtra*, providing constant and exceptional ongoing support with the provision of reports, photos, extensive member profiles, general articles and technical tips, resulting in:

- » a record six *mxtra* Awards – 2015-2016, then five consecutively: 2017-2018, 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, 2021-2022.

**Peter's ongoing contribution** since his 2021 Service Star has elevated him into the "exceptional service to the Club for at least seven years" qualification required for Honorary Life membership.

His contribution has been dedicated, and his influence on the Eastern Victoria Chapter's success, and on the Club as a whole, has been positive.

*I*t is with great pleasure that I invite Peter to accept this award of Life Membership of the Mazda MX-5 Club of Victoria & Tasmania.

Cary Warren, President