

I have been involved in hot rodding since I was 5 years old growing up around my father Mark Stokes. Since that time I have seen the changes and evolution of the hobby in New Zealand and have actively participated as an enthusiast. I have served on club committee's, held positions as president, secretary and club delegate as well as co-organised regional and national rodding events from day runs, provincial and national shows. My appreciation for celebrating hot rod history also helped me organise the nostalgia themed history displays at the 45th and 50th anniversary NZHRA shows respectively.

On a more personal front, I have built my own hot rods and also for others before forming GMS Hot Rods where I was recently recognised along with my father Mark at the Scroungers Hot Rod Blow Out for recreating the Morrari all comers racer of the 60's and the restoration of the Ray Carter Road Hog Model A Ford hot rod from 1972. From a business perspective, I have worked for most of the automotive magazines in New Zealand and freelanced to ones in Australia and also the USA. I have held sales & marketing positions at companies like Pro Topline who manufactured performance cylinder heads in NZ for the USA market. This led to me displaying at the SEMA and PRI Shows where I gained a greater knowledge for the sales and marketing dynamics of the global performance aftermarket industry including Summit Racing, Edelbrock and Goodguys Rod & Custom Association to name a few.

My appreciation for the hot rodding hobby from a marketing and historical standpoint offers up fresh ideas and some young blood into the NZHRA executive to help the torch to be passed over to future generations. It is hoped that I can actively encourage more of the younger generation to participate in the future of NZHRA while respecting traditional values.

Greg Stokes.