

# Flautist's musical feat

By Nick Tolerton

Flautist Trevor Hutton should be playing a particularly merry tune to celebrate a life in music.

Seventy-five this month, Mr Hutton has just been made a life member of the Savage Club, which he has belonged to for 60 years. The Hutton association with the club spans almost a century, for his father was a member from about 1905.

The normal joining age for the club, which meets once a month with the members providing music or other entertainment, was 21, but Mr Hutton started as a 14-year-old in 1937.

His father played in the club's orchestra, and the conductor suggested Mr Hutton, who played the flute, join too.

In those days the Savage club had about 300 members. "People were fighting to get in but today it's fighting to get members," he said.

As well as still playing in the orchestra, Mr Hutton formed the Serendipity Flutes, a group of flautists of all ages who meet to play every fortnight or so.

"I still enjoy the flute — it's been a big part of my life," he said. "I was very fortunate learning from my father and most of my tuition was playing beside him."

A retired manufacturing jeweller, Mr Hutton used to make his own flutes. Each took about 250 hours work and had about 270 parts.

The principal flautist for the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra for 14 years, Mr Hutton also played, like his father, for the old 3YA orchestra for many years.

In 1946 the newly-formed National Orchestra sought him as principal flautist but with a good job, his wife expecting, and music pupils he did not want to move to Wellington.



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However, when it evolved into the NZ Symphony Orchestra he played for it on a number of tours, and among his other touring highlights he played when the Royal Ballet visited New Zealand in the late 1950s.

He's also proud of being asked by the Broadcasting Corporation to record the series of Bach's flute sonatas when the bi-centenary of the composer's death was marked in 1950. These were played in Australia as well as New Zealand.

The 104-year-old Savage Club's only other life member is Charles Luney.