

President's AGM Report 2022

This is a tricky report to write. Just over 3 months ago, I had no idea I'd be sitting here writing this report – I was expecting to be writing the Motorsport Secretary's report for the AGM. The last 12 months have certainly been interesting to say the least!

In July, the committee experienced an abrupt and potentially disruptive upheaval in, losing both the president and vice-president. Fortunately, the committee retained a solid core of experienced and able volunteers who were able to put in place an effective interim committee very quickly, minimising any impact on the Clubs operations.

Since then, we have been able to fill the remaining positions and get back to normal operations. The Club now has a full committee of enthusiastic and committed volunteers, and it is honestly a privilege and a pleasure to serve as President in the current committee.

Since July, the new committee has methodically and systematically worked our way through dealing with a multitude of issues, in order of priority, which is a bit of a contrast to the previous strategy.

The most urgent priority was to get the Historic and Classic vehicle registration scheme back on track. A new sub-committee has been set up, which has reviewed and formalised scheme requirements, compliance and processes. This is now largely in place, although the documentation on the webpage still needs to be updated.

The Committee is also pleased to present a revised Club constitution to the AGM for approval. Many changes to regulatory requirements have made this a priority for the new committee – it was essential that this new constitution be completed in time for the AGM as we needed to be compliant with current legislation.

At the last AGM, we were just emerging from COVID-19 lockdown, and the Club was looking forward to getting back to doing what we love best – getting out and enjoying our MX-5s. However, economic conditions put a bit of a damper on participation, possibly more so on the motorsport side than the social side. The Club's motorsport's activities were dealt a big blow recently with the (hopefully temporary) closure of the Wakefield Park circuit, which has had a huge impact on our Motorsport.

With COVID-19 upsetting a number of our major events recently (Natmeet, 30th Anniversary), it was great to have been able to put on a great President's Picnic and the 25th Anniversary of Motorsport recently.

On behalf of the committee and the Club as a whole, I'd like to thank the retiring members of the committee for their valuable and much appreciated contribution to the Committee over the years. My apologies if I've missed anyone, but thank you to Chris Cameron (Regalia Officer), Brian and Anda Clayton (South Coast Chapter conveners), Bryan and Ann Hicks (Sydney Chapter co-conveners) and Ken and Maggie Liston (membership assistants).

I look forward to working with the new committee over the next 12 months to continue the great events that our Club has become well known for.

Ian Combes

