Celebrating 10 Years of Illawarra Chapter Mazda MX-5 Club of NSW

2012-2022

MX-5 CLUB of NSW
ILLAWARRA CHAPTER

Setting the scene …

- Mazda MX-5 Club of NSW was founded in 1990
- Initially focused on Sydney region
- Canberra Chapter established in 1996
- Hunter Chapter established in 2006
- In 2011, the club had about 570 members
- About 50 lived in the Illawarra, Southern Highlands and South Coast … but there was no Illawarra Chapter!
- These club members travelled to Sydney or Canberra to participate in club runs

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Illawarra members from 2011

- Kim & Peter Ranger (2004/5)
- Peter & Jill Feutrill (2007)
- Hella & Mark Underwood (2007)
- Bryan & Fiona Shedden (2009/11)
- Neil Tribe (2010)
- Dermer Bennett (2011)

Sydney Members who later moved to Illawarra:

- Dianne & Paul Byers (2007)
- Bob & Senia Gaunson (2009)

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Illawarra members from 2011

Motorsport participants:

- Kevin Addison (1997)
- Mark Hellmund (2007)
- Peter Feutrill (2007)
- Tony Williams (2007)
- Bryan Shedden (2009)
- Ralph Thompson (2010)
- Neil Tribe (2010)
- Alan Barclay (2011)
- Anthony Brooks (2011)

For some context … 2009-11
(Alex joined the Club in 2013)

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NatMeet 2012

- MX-5 Club of NSW hosted NatMeet in 2012
- Canberra, Easter 6-10 April
- Peter Feutrill was Chairman of the NatMeet organising committee and Vice President of the Club
- Bryan Shedden was Publications Officer / Club Torque Editor
- We carpooled to committee meetings and discussed the idea of establishing an Illawarra Chapter

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Illawarra Chapter?

- All club members were emailed on 26 April 2012 with a proposal to take the first step toward establishing an Illawarra Chapter
- Coffee & Lies on 5th May 2012 at Cliffhanger Café, Bulli Tops
- I organised a meet at Nan Tien Temple and run to Cliffhanger Café
- Michael Soulos led a BreakFast Club run from Heathcote to join us
- https://mx5cartalk.com/forum/viewtopic.php?f=63&t=52569

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5th May 2012 Cliffhanger Café Bulli Tops

- About 20 cars made the trip south, and they were joined by a dozen or so more at Unanderra.
- At about 11:15, everyone gathered in the picnic area and I gave a half-hour presentation about the concept of the Illawarra Chapter:
  - minimum of 12 members to support the chapter events
  - elect a Convenor
  - establish sub-committee / support group
  - hold monthly meetings to arrange events
- A petition was signed by 50 members: 28 were from Illawarra, Southern Highlands and Shoalhaven, 19 were from southern or south-western Sydney, and 3 from other parts of Sydney.

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Illawarra Chapter Established

- 29 May 2012 at Five Islands Brewery
  - Bryan Shedden (Organiser)
  - Peter Feutrill
  - Keith Monaghan
  - Mark & Hella Underwood
  - Brendan Barr
  - Josh Perfrement
  - Kieren Heikkinen
- Peter Feutrill subsequently "volunteered" to be the first Illawarra Convenor
- Illawarra Chapter was ratified by the Club Committee on 13 June 2012

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The First Run

- 24 June 2012
- Started at North Wollongong Beach Carpark
- Bryan Shedden (Organiser), Peter & Jill Feutrill, Terry & Noeline Smith, John Waugh
- Met Sydney members at Sea Cliff Bridge
- Lunch at Mittagong RSL
- Chapter meetings started 19 July 2012 at Wiseman Park Bowling Club. Moved to Figgy Bowlo in September 2013.

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2012 Run Calendar

Date	Run	Organiser	People
24 Jun	Illawarra United Run	Bryan Shedden	6
14 Jul	Mark's Run	Mark Underwood	7
25 Aug	Avon Dam Run	Josh Perfrement	16
9 Sep	Gledswood Run	Bryan Shedden	23
21 Oct	Shoalhaven Run	Mark Underwood	14
24 Nov	Kieren's Daylight Saver	Kieren Heikkinen	20
22 Dec	Highlands to Surf	Mark Garven	25

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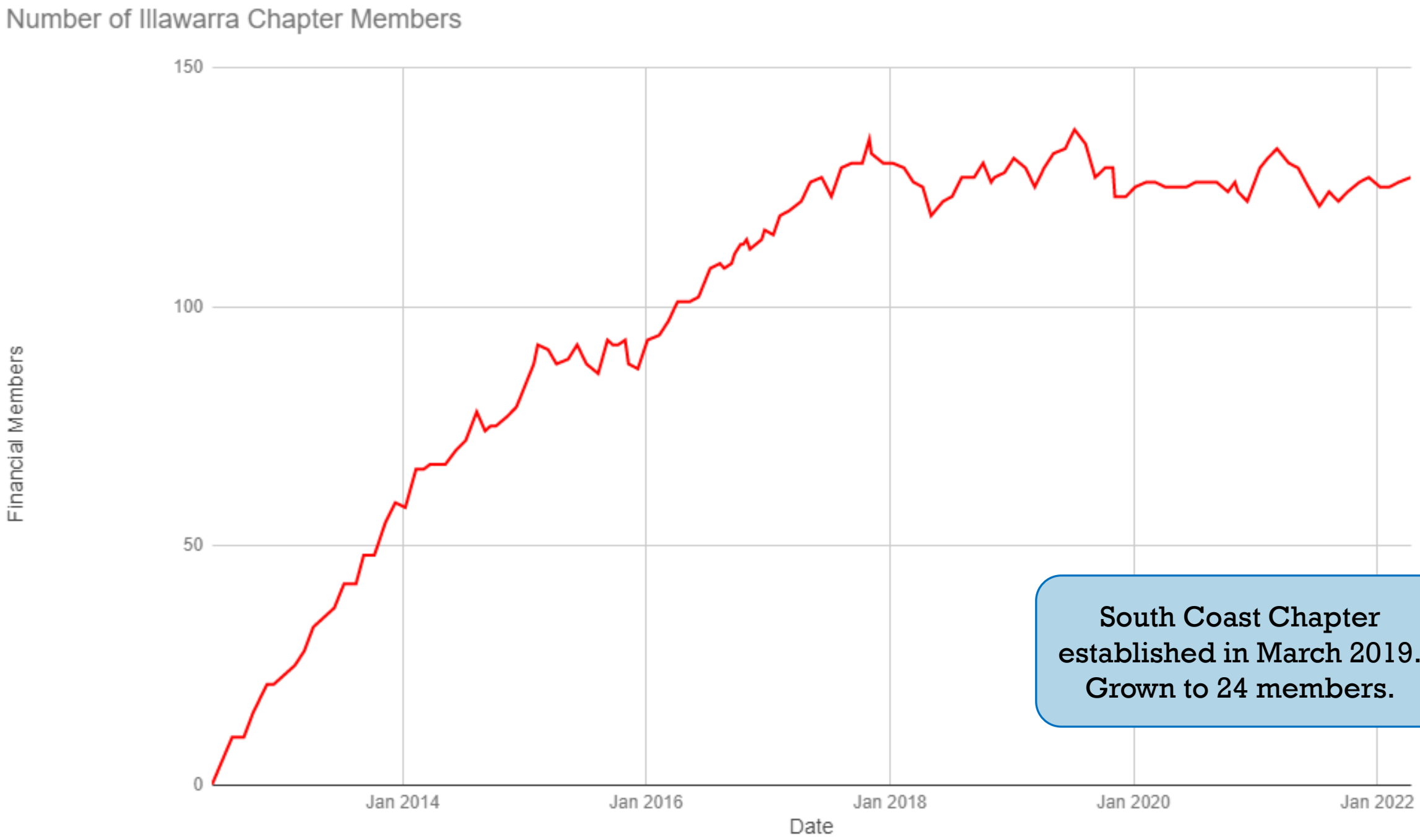
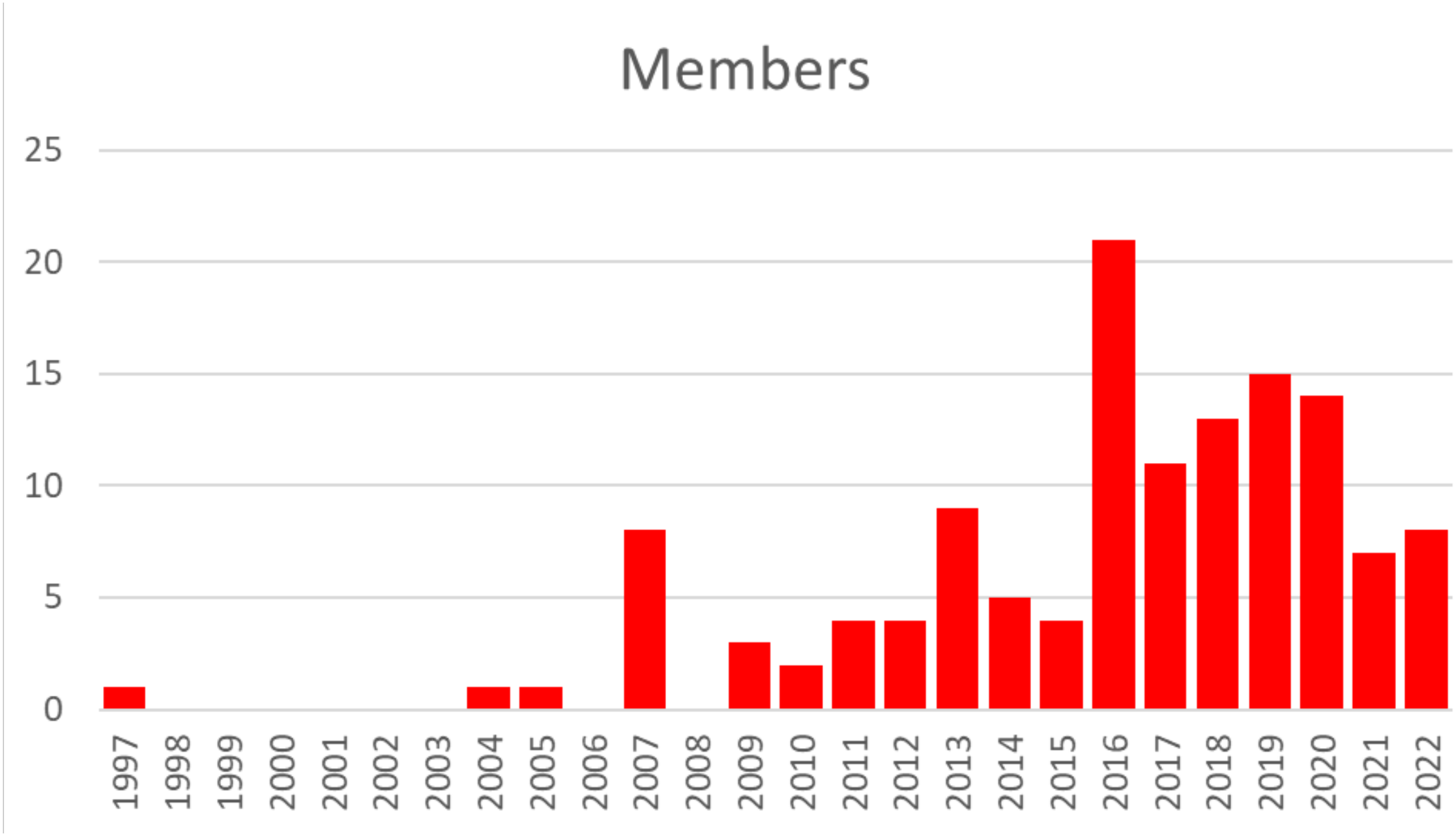
Illawarra Regalia

- Designed by Peter Feutrill
- Supplied by Aceit Wollongong
- Launched in mid-2013 with free shirts for all founding members of the chapter, thanks to our sponsor (Centenary Plumbing)
- Sponsor funds continue to pay for a free cap for new members when they attend their first Illawarra Chapter event

It's your Bald Hill



South Coast Chapter established in March 2019. Grown to 24 members.


Members
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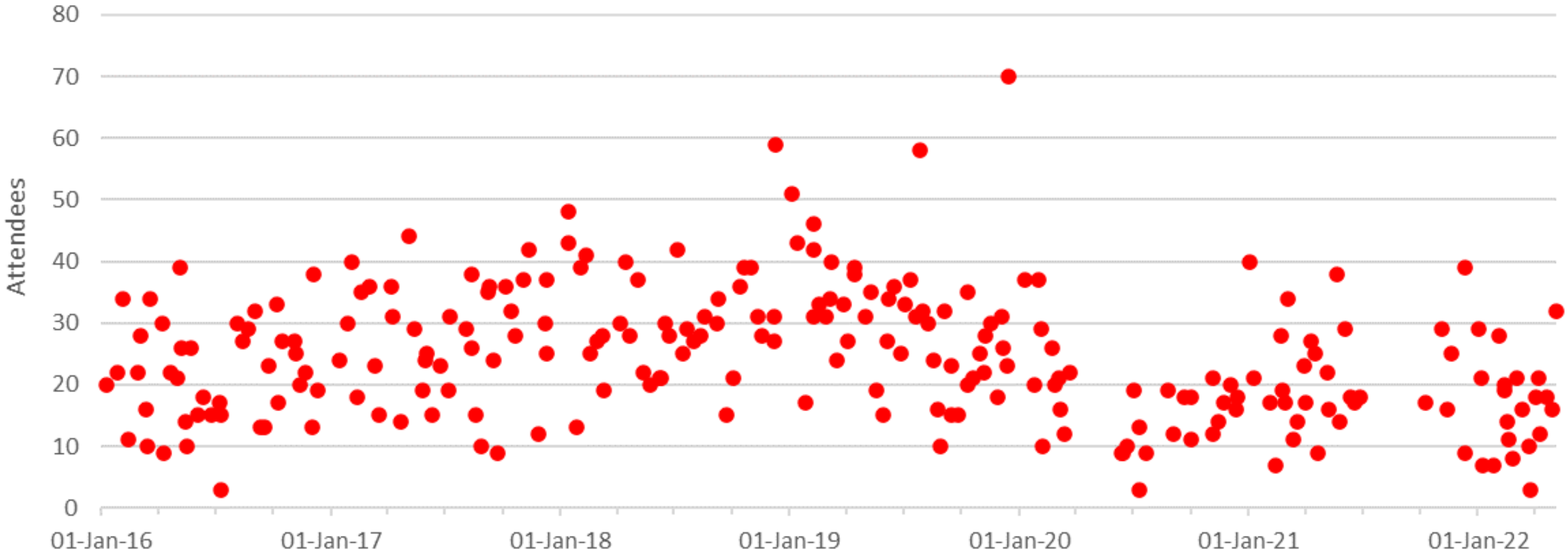
Illawarra Chapter Events



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Mazdas in the Mist

- Coffee / breakfast gathering on the second Saturday of every month
- Started by Sandra & Phil Reid
- Chats Café : Apr 2014 – Mar 2016
- Pirouette Café : Apr 2016 – Oct 2017
- Moonacres Café : Nov 2017 – Nov 2020
- Burrawang General Store : Dec 2020 +

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Convenors

- Peter Feutrill (2012-2013)
- Phil & Sandra Reid (2014)
- Jan & Garry Gibson (2015-2017)
- Kim Williams & Greg Tunks (2018)
- Jeff & Pam Rowe (2019-2020)
- James Mate (2021-2022)

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Illawarra Member of the Year

- Mark Underwood (2013)
- Peter Feutrill (2014)
- Phil & Sandra Reid (2015)
- Brendan Barr (2016)
- Bryan & Ann Hicks (2017)
- Jeff & Pam Rowe (2018)
- Jan Gibson (2019)
- Senia Gaunson (2020)
- Adele Weatherall (2021)

Mark Underwood (2013)

Peter Feutrill (2014)

Phil & Sandra Reid (2015)
+
Club MOTY (Phil)

Brendan Barr (2016)

Bryan & Ann Hicks (2017)

Jeff & Pam Rowe (2018)

Jan Gibson (2019)

Senia Gaunson (2020)

Adele Weatherall (2021)
+
Club MOTY

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Illawarra New Member of the Year

- Phil Reid (2013)
- Jan Gibson (2014)
- Julie & Paul Farquhar (2015)
- Brian & Anda Clayton (2016)
- Kerry Smith (2017)
- James Mate (2018)
- Bill Short (2019)
- Jan Short (2020)
- John & Marina Farmer (2021)

Phil Reid (2013)

Jan Gibson (2014)

Julie & Paul Farquhar (2015)
+
Club NMOTY (Julie)

Brian & Anda Clayton (2016)

Kerry Smith (2017)

James Mate (2018)
+
Jeff & Pam
Club NMOTY R/U

Bill Short (2019)

Jan Short (2020)
+
Bill & Jan Club NMOTY

John & Marina Farmer (2021)

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Illawarra Motorsport Member of the Year

- Bryan Shedden (2017)
- Matt Tarrant (2018)
- Michael Tarrant (2019)
- Phil Reid (2020)
- Ralph Thompson (2021)

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In Memorium

Sandra Reid (2016)

Janet Wheeldon (2017)

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The future

- James Mate has indicated his indication to step down later this year
- A new Convenor has nominated
- The future of Illawarra Chapter looks bright!