

2025 AGM Presidents Report

This year, the club turned 35. To celebrate, we had a fantastic lunch at Gledswood Homestead and Winery at Catherine Fields. Having missed out on the 30th anniversary because of you know what, we were determined that this event would be something to remember. John Purcell, with great support from an enthusiastic committee, organised a fabulous event. The display of MX-5s was as impressive as ever. The cakes featuring pictures of member's actual cars were amazing. They even survived that last bump into the carpark!. The highlight for me was the live video cross from our patron Bob Hall during lunch. Many thanks to Bryan Shedden setting that up and facilitating the event.

Talking about special events – our 2026 Natmeet event in the Hunter Valley went live with entries opening in July. Not even three months later, it was already full. Wow. Many people (including me) are obviously looking forward to this event. All that hard work and planning by the Natmeet committee is coming together really well. On behalf of the club, I'd like to congratulate the Natmeet committee on a fantastic job, especially Elaine and David Gazzard for chairing this committee as well being Hunter Chapter Conveners at the same time. The Natmeet website was also David's work, with support from Bryan.

On behalf of the Committee and the Club as a whole, I'd like to thank the retiring members of the Club's committee for their valuable and much appreciated contributions to the Committee over the years. My apologies if I've missed anyone, but I'd like to thank Maree & Steve Eccleston for their efforts in organising the Sydney Chapter – never an easy job. Welcome to Kay Godfrey as the chapter convener. I think that Maree isn't completely retiring and will support Kay. Thanks guys.

Elaine and David Gazzard are stepping down in the Hunter after doing fantastic work organising events in that chapter – as well as all the Natmeet 2026 work. Thanks very much guys for all the hard work in the Hunter Chapter. The effort is much appreciated!

Rosy Black and Ken Bailey are also stepping down in the Mid-North Coast Chapter. Again – your effort is much appreciated.

For the Chapter Conveners I haven't mentioned - thank you for all the work over the last 12 months - there is a phenomenal volume of activity in the various chapters, and the convenors are in the thick of it. That takes nothing away from the many other volunteers that contribute to those activities - thank you!

This year, the Governance sub-committee (Ian Mash, Chris Cameron and Cathy Combes) has continued to work through a number of governance issues. This is work that is definitely not something that most members spend time thinking about, but indirectly, the members do definitely benefit from by ensuring that the club is sustainable in the long term. An incredible amount of work by Ian Mash, Chris Cameron and Cathy Combes. It's one thing getting volunteers to put in the effort that this required. It is quite another to get that effort from volunteers with this experience, skillset and expertise.

This year we even have a detailed report from the Governance sub-committee for the AGM - please see this below. While I take no credit for the amazing amount of work done - this governance area has been a major focus for me in 2025, and will remain so.

This is the first year for three of our committee members – Jeff Rowe as Vice President, Wayne Luxford as Club Secretary and Chris Andry as Motorsport Secretary. Thanks for your efforts guys.

In particular, Jeff has had a stellar year as Vice President. We thought that Joe would be a hard act to follow, but I'm pretty confident that even Joe would be proud of what Jeff has done. Absolutely tireless - well done Jeff!

I'll try not to steal too much from the Motorsport Secretaries report, but this was the first year that the club has been part of the CSCA (Combined Sportscar Club of Australia), and I think that has worked out well. Combining with other clubs is definitely a smart move in these challenging economic times. It has been good to see Motorkhana attendance healthy this year too. Going into next year, we will be revamping the way that motorsport is organised. We will certainly be finishing the task of documenting the motorsport roles.

We are lucky as a club to have committee members in key roles with strong expertise. I've mentioned many people above, but I'd also like to mention Helen Green and Bryan Shedden. The club is extremely lucky to have Helen as our treasurer - thank you for another year Helen! As many know, Bryan takes on an array of tasks outside that expected of the Membership Secretary. The club just would not function as it does without that effort - thanks mate.

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

Ian Combes

President

2025 AGM Governance Report

In terms of the Governance of the Club, the Governance Sub-group has met fortnightly to coordinate the things that happen in the back-of-house that help keep the club functioning efficiently, and compliant with the rules, regulations and laws that apply to a Club like ours. Governance is one of those words that gets thrown around a lot in business: and it's true that if the governance processes are working well, then activities in that space are largely invisible. If governance is failing, then it gets very visible to almost everyone, very quickly!

The "work" is done between the subgroup meetings, with the latter used to coordinate activities: seeking to ensure that the volunteer efforts provide the best bang for the buck for the Club. The success honours board for the 2025 (that is since the last AGM) includes:

- Bully & Harassment Policy accepted by Committee and now on website;
- Working With Children (WWC) Policy accepted by Committee and now on website;
- 16 Role Description now up on Google drive – thereby assisting in the long-term succession planning of the club roles;
- Club committee members positively engaging in review of Role Descriptions to ensure they best represent what is actually done on the ground; and
- Governance Folder structure now in place & population is happening with current and the historical information required (so that wheel reinvention is minimised!)

A key principle that Governance Sub-group applies, is to never apologise for not having done more. All members are volunteers. All have lives, jobs, family and other things that take

up time in our weeks. That said, the above list of successes (which are 20 things if you count each of the Role Descriptions separately!) show we've not been sitting on our hands in 2025.

In the next year, some of the focus areas identified to date include:

- Streamlining and smoothing the quantity of activities involved in Motorsport administration;
- Launching the Club Handbook; and,
- Finalising the remaining few Role Descriptions.

But those are the priorities we know about already. We'd welcome any and all input from others. What priorities do you think the Governance subgroup should have for 2026? And finally, any and all support and assistance is welcomed. If you have a keen interest in Governance (and who wouldn't?) and even a little time to spare, an extra willing brain and pair of hands is always welcomed. Reach out to the Governance Officer, or the President to volunteer and in no time, you'll be kicking goals with us too.

Ian Mash

Governance Officer