

2026 Captain's Report

This has been my 3rd and final year as Club Captain and I hope I have succeeded in supporting the operation of the club in some small way. So, looking at the last year in chronological order I'll start with our MSA permits.

Motorsport Australia provides our club with Public & Professional Indemnity Insurance for our events. Each month I register the Club's social motoring events for coverage and for the last 12 months ending October, that has come to 178 motoring events.

The Convenors' Conference is held every November and is aimed at giving all the Convenors a chance to meet each other, share ideas and discuss any questions that have arisen during the previous year.

Last year's conference covered the funding available to each Chapter for social events along with the appropriate use of chapter sponsor donations. Incident response guidelines were discussed and updated along with an electronic version of the form available through the club's website. Discussions also covered use of the Club's various web applications and went through the outcome for members if their Chapter has no Convenor.

Once again, a computer-based event calendar was used to allow Chapters to enter their events for the coming year. This is done for two reasons - the first is to have the Chapters start to plan and organise the timing of their next year's events and the second is to organise combined chapter events during the year.

Natmeet 2026 was held in the Hunter Valley and my involvement was to plan two of the runs for the event, help fine tune each run with the other run organisers and to design the layout of each of the run sheets. This involved a fair commitment not only for myself but for all of the other members who did the runs multiple times to fine tune and identify any potential safety issues.

The President's Picnic was again held in September in the grounds of Ebenezer Church with 174 members attending and 40 plus volunteering to help out on the day. I can't thank all the volunteers enough for their support in making the event a success. Concours, Show & Shine and Best Ladies were run and this year we had enough entries to hold the Best Track Car category as well. Best in Show was again restricted to cars which were entered for an event. Disappointingly, 30 members (15%) who had registered didn't attend the event. In real terms this cost the club \$900 for catering that wasn't required. While some last-minute non-attendances are unavoidable, the committee will look into how this can be better managed in the future.

The annual Brass Monkey was again organised by Michael Soulos, and this year it involved a drive to Club Jarvis Bat at Huskisson. 54 Cars started from Eastern Creek making a spectacular sight heading down the M4 in the early morning light. This year we raised over \$1300 through registration, personal donations and a raffle held at the club - thank you to Senia for organising this and donating the prize.

I would like to make special mention of the Convenors of each Chapter for the fantastic work they do to put together and deliver an amazing program of social and motoring events in their respective regions. The enjoyment you get from your cars all comes back to the volunteers who put their time and effort into making chapter events run successfully.

Finally, as I said earlier, I am standing down from the Club Captain's position as of this meeting. I would like to thank all the Committee members, volunteers and the general membership for the support that I have received during my three years in the role.

Thankyou
John Purcell
Club Captain