

PRESIDENTS REPORT N.H.M.A. COMMITTEE MEETING 20TH APRIL, 2017

In addressing the report I am obliged to defend this committee once again from a very small group wishing to destabilise our Association in a variety of ways, including a complete change to our structure as an Association.

Upon reading many of these comments on "Social Media", I have come to the conclusion that in some instances some of these comments are quite correct, in that we are somewhat derelict in our duty. In defining this sentence, I must add that for about almost 2 years now this committee has had to contend with many issues that have allowed our concentration to follow paths that are of negative value to the Association as a whole. In short, putting out fires that are of no consequence to our activities. Duplication of queries from some, (member clubs & others) places pressure on the Committee's time to adopt policies that bear no resemblance to our original concepts and structures that the Association must abide by.

Threats of Special General Meetings that have not been followed up, primarily due to the fact that the General Membership appears to be quite happy and have not been pushed into signing petitions and documents that they are not happy with.

It would seem that we are condemned by others who say that we have no vision and direction and that we should be bigger and better in so many ways, bringing our activities into a much grander scale, and that "big is best". Where does this leave the many small groups that we represent? Are they to fall in and assist with these grand events only to find that their assistance is not reciprocated for their own events. Perhaps we will see the introduction of entrance fees for exhibitors, in order to make the next event bigger and better in the eyes of the organizers.

Sponsorships, whilst not a bad concept, can remove the ideals of clubs that support local schools, community groups, and social activities in which the sponsor has no interest whatsoever.

The N.H.M.A. has no fear of change and would embrace other transitions should the need arise. Our concepts of maintaining our levels of Safety and financial responsibility to our members is of paramount importance and has allowed the N.H.M.A. to support our own events with many thousands of dollars. This of course is your money being returned with no real strings attached. Criticism has been made that we have too much money to hand; certainly we have maintained a level of Association funds whereby our Insurance and running costs are balanced and show a level of accountancy second to none.

In recent times our costs have increased primarily due to the increased demand for meetings throughout Australia in order to stabilize many of the detrimental comments that have been made on a regular basis. Whilst this has been a costly exercise it has allowed the committee to discuss issues directly with the membership and ascertain the members point of view in a direct manner.

A range of procedures, together with a new Constitution to bring the association into the current timeline will be ready shortly for future direction from member clubs.

While we are here at Hamilton for the 16th N.H.M.A. National Rally and A.G.M., we hope that we will all have an enjoyable time.

Best Regards
Alan Shepherd
President
N.H.M.A. Inc