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AMC Chair's report 2022

Welcome again. Here we are once again – holding our annual meeting online for the third year in succession.

As we moved towards the end of 2021 and last year's summer, I don't think too many thought that COVID would continue to have as great an impact in 2022 as it has.

Whilst the impact continues, life has returned to "normal", or as some say, the "new normal" for most.

I really do hope that our 2023 annual meeting can be held as a face-to-face gathering as part of a broader AMC conference.

The executive continues to meet regular through online meetings, discussing and aiming to progress a range of issues.

There had been some confusion or misunderstanding about some of our online meetings, and I am certain the executive will work to clarify this moving into a new year after tonight's meeting. The constitution requires the executive to meet each two months, and the practice has evolved that there is a meeting each month, with delegates invited to every second meeting. It's important to remember that executive members are appointed as individuals to effectively be board members of the AMC, not representatives of the organisation they come from.

Having outlined this, the regular online meetings of Delegates are also critical for our success – the success of all of us.

Those meetings are not only to hear updates on matters the AMC is progressing, but an important opportunity for all member organisations to share information about what is happening in their space. There has been some move towards the Delegate meetings being every month rather than two months, and I'd be interested to hear the views of member organisations on this.

There are a number of things on the national radar or agenda.

I'll talk first of road safety.

Towards the end of 2021, the AMC was invited to become part of a non-government network of road safety stakeholders, led by the Australian Automobile Association, or the AAA.

We have participated in a number of online meetings, and have been co-signatory to two key letters. These have both been in relation to the yet-to-be finalised National Road Safety Action Plan 2021-25.

One was late last year to now-former Deputy Prime Minister and Infrastructure and Transport Minister Barnaby Joyce, and now following the election of a new government, to the new Infrastructure and Transport Minister, Catherine King.

As a result of this, over and above anything else, the AMC probably now has as close a relationship as we have ever had with the AAA, which is definitely a good thing for increased understanding of the role of motorcycles and scooters in the transport mix.

There's an opportunity to extend this discussion into other policy areas, I believe.

On the subject of politics, we are also aiming ourselves to meet with Minister King and also the Assistant Minister, Senator Carol Brown. We have written to each of them with an introduction to the AMC. Having said that, these are both people with whom we have had some connection in the past.

Speaking of stakeholder groups, another key development has been our inclusion in the industry network for the collective of the Infrastructure and Transport Ministers. This has been a long time coming. All state, territory and federal transport Ministers meet two or three times each year, with a selection of stakeholders usually invited to one meeting every year.

In May, we were represented at the launch of National Road Safety Week, with this year's national launch held in Melbourne and hosted by the Victorian Government.

MotoCAP continues to be a key project we are involved with, and I thank Brian Wood for his ongoing commitment to the success of this project.

A clothing manufacturer industry day was held at the Deakin University facility, and other work is underway aimed at boosting the awareness of the MotoCAP program across the motorcycle community. This may include a media day later this year.

I have already thanked her personally, however I will also take this opportunity to acknowledge the world-leading work of Dr Liz de Rome in the field of motorcycle protective clothing. The AMC's first formal connection with Liz was through the development of the *Good Gear Guide* in 2008/09. Liz has moved to a sort-of semi-retirement, but I am sure we will see her at various motorcycle safety events in the future, and hopefully again at one of our conferences.

At last year's AGM, I spoke of the establishment of the Queensland Motorcycle Council, and it was fantastic to welcome the QMC as a new member organisation soon after that. The QMC also participated in the road safety forum at the Ulysses Club National Rally held in Warwick earlier this year. The AMC also made a presentation at this event.

In closing, I'd like to extend my sincere thanks to all members of the executive for your work with the AMC over the past year.

I would particularly like to acknowledge the work of John Eacott as secretary over a period of five years. John had been an efficient and thorough secretary, providing excellent support to the executive and the broader organisation. John had also been the one to deliver our meeting strategy into the online world, even before the arrival of COVID.

Following John's resignation from the role, Jen Woods stepped forward offering to fill the position, for which we are immensely grateful. Over the past two months, Jen has also been proactive with suggestions to further improve our efficiency and effectiveness.

I would also like to thank all executive members for their support and work - vice-chair Peter Baulch, treasurer Brian Wood, in addition to Jason Antony, Graeme Rawlins and Dave Wright. My sincere thanks to you all.

And finally, thanks to everybody for being here tonight, and for your support of the AMC over the past 12 months.

Shaun

Shaun Lennard
Chair, Australian Motorcycle Council