

## PRESIDENTS REPORT FOR 2014 – AUTOSPORT CLUB

Welcome to the annual Prize Giving and AGM for the end of last year 2014.

It has been a very successful year with many events which were well supported and the highlight for me was the Hanmer Rally celebrating the passing of Royce Watson, with most of the Watson family being present on the day. It was good to get the Rally behind us as an event so we can go forward and enjoy its future.

The year started again in late January with the Piper Valley Hillclimb Series and we were again part of that. Another warm dry day and plenty of action.

In February we held our first Autocross with Josh Mitchell winning the event and Grant Goile second.

Our next event was the Auchenflower gravel sprint – with 36 entries was great and Matt Jansen taking out first place. Great competition on the day. Thanks Tony Witheridge and John Weir for organising the day.

April was another event – Our Toast and Roast of Crusty, fabulous night and thanks to Ross Teesdale for organising.

May was the Rakaia Zig Zag – and we had a celebrity – Hayden Paddon competing. Another well supported and great event. Thanks Chris Herdman for organising.

End of May and the Lone Star Rally of Canterbury. Great event on many public roads with great results. It was heartening to have a new Corporate sponsor and they were pleased enough to give us their support this coming year too.

August was the Cust sprint – new roads and well supported – Organised by Rodney Lang and myself – thanks Rodney

September – the Hanmer Rally. A true rally of style. Another headed by Barney and Andrea which ran with perfection – well done to that Committee.

Early November was the Mt Alexander sprint – A great final sprint for the season and lots of excitement.

The final event was the Sefton Autocross in December. Many had to make the event to tally enough points to win their Classes etc. It shows you have to be in to win. – Thanks Hamish Anderson for organising the day.

This year the Committee ran some great events and worked tirelessly making sure you all had something to offer a challenge.

Many thanks to Chris Herdman for his help this year and we are looking forward to the new car coming onto the scene.

Ross Teesdale – Thanks for your help especially for the Toast and Roast nights as they brought the Club members together on a social occasion.

Karl – thanks for your dedicated work on the Web Site and all of the other jobs done behind the scenes.

Rodney Lang – Thanks for your help this year. Rodney is standing down from the Committee due to work commitments.

Barry Deuart – great help with some events and keeping our timing repairs up to scratch.

Hamish Anderson – great work with the Autocross events and we look forward to you stepping up to help organise some sprints this coming year.

For people left to go and to me very important people in our Club.

Firstly Andrea – she has been on the Committee for many years and is retiring from the Treasurers position from now. Andrea we value your knowledge and the work you have done over the years. Come forward for a presentation of flowers to show we appreciate all you have done. Andrea will remain on the Rally Committee helping Barney run the Canterbury and Hanmer Rallies.

Tony Witheridge – a great supporter of our events and should be congratulated for his unrelenting work in the timing van making sure we have accurate records on the day. A great Committee member – Thanks again Tony.

Two final ones are Leanne our Secretary and Barney my right hand man.

Leanne works very hard organising the documents and most permits for events. She is there beside me helping in all ways possible – Thanks Leanne.

Barney is a wealth of knowledge and has earned a place on the National Rally Committee which will help the events in the future. A great organiser and very good at official business – thanks Barney.

My thanks must go to the other Clubs like RATEC and CCC for their support with our events like the Canterbury and Hanmer Rallies. Allan - please pass on our thanks to your club.

Thanks again to the Rally Sub Committee members who give many hours of time and commitment towards running great events.

Thanks to our medic – Keith Troon for all of your help and support.

Many thanks to our people who Marshall at events – without you all it would be impossible to have the events.

We are sorry to advise that at our first meeting last week we had to decide to postpone our first two events due to the high fire risk. We cannot get into the forest and the farmers do not want us in their roads until we get some substantial rain. This decision is not taken lightly but when we are able we will look for your full support.

Thanks for all of you Members for your support and entries in events. If there is anything we can help with, please call Me or your Club Captain Ross Teesdale.

We will now hear from Ross before continuing with the election of officers for this year. The very important Prize giving will follow that.

Thanks

Graham Wilson