



Protecting our heritage into the future

President's Report

NZ Federation of Motoring Clubs AGM, May 17 2026

With the demanding and challenging world issues facing us all presently, this President's Report has been a little difficult to think through and to write, given the uncertainties and concerns that dominate our headlines. But from another perspective, times such these are perfect to focus even more on family and friends, and on the things we love and enjoy. And for all of us, historic and classic vehicles are that touch point. Accordingly, a warm welcome to the Federation's 31st AGM and this President's Report!

Looking back to our AGM last year, we committed then to continuing our progress across six broad areas of focus:

- increasing our funding base
- to protect and celebrate our heritage
- be an active and effective voice with Government
- develop possible benefits and rewards for individual members of Federation clubs
- strengthen the Federation's operating processes and capabilities
- continue to leverage the findings of the NZ Historic and Classic Vehicle research Survey.

Further we also identified other targets including improved communication to all individual members, the opportunity for trade training initiatives, and to commence early thinking around the "Collectible Economy" concept outlined by AGM 2025 guest speaker Claude Lewanz.

Yes, all of these plans represented a very ambitious target and whilst there's still much to do on many of these subjects, I do feel that there is a real sense of momentum and energy from what we've seen across the past year: not least the Government's WOF decisions; the energy and numbers we're seeing in a wide range of events from traditional (eg the VCC Vero International Rally) to the very new (the Ayrburn Classic in Arrowtown and the Avid Brit and Euro Show in Christchurch) and so many in between; the news from FIVA of major turnarounds in Europe's previous very restrictive regulations affecting historic vehicles; the supportive response we received from the Minister of Heritage, Arts and Culture on our initial ideas regarding the importance of veteran and vintage vehicles as part of NZ's heritage story; and much more.

Further to the foregoing and my positive outlook, I want to convey a special welcome to the Federation's new Secretary, Steve Hawkins who has been understudying Chris Butler over the last two months and will be formally appointed by your vote at this AGM. Steve joins us with an extensive and impressive business background, and deep involvement in several car clubs, most recently Secretary of the Ellerslie Concours Show Committee for an extended period. I know Steve will bring great strength to the Federation, both as Secretary and to the wider Executive discussions and decisions.

Looking ahead to 2026/27, my view is positive and energetic. As clubs will have seen, we're presently pursuing a detailed survey regarding how clubs communicate with their members on important subjects, and once we have confidence in these processes we'll ramp up our approaches to large national retail chains to secure attractive purchase terms for all FoMC members (with associated funding support back to the Federation as per the MCA model).

As further support for strengthening the Federation resources, we'll be introducing a new category of "associate member", targeting businesses and other entities associated with the historic and classic sectors and our members, including servicing specialists, restoration companies, museums, large scale vehicle shows, and so on. We already have a number of prospective associate members, now awaiting only a final decision on fees.

Other initiatives that the Executive will discuss and pursue in the months ahead include possible expanded motorcycle group involvement, heritage initiatives, preparation for Government presentations post the 2026 election, and possible initiatives triggered by the wide-ranging "Collectible Economy" concept sparked by Claude Lewanz's presentation last year. We'll also be continuing (and ramping up) our visible presence at as many major events as possible.

As I conclude this Report, my sincere thanks to each of our Executive Committee and advisors for the great work and fellowship throughout the past year. Further, I want to recognise and thank "retiring" Chris Butler for his long contribution as Secretary, and the service and systems support he has given us all, both Executive and Clubs. And it's not goodbye, because Chris will be continuing with us as an elected Executive member.

I'm looking forward to a great, productive year ahead once current international distractions are behind us.

My very best wishes to all Federation clubs and their members.



Garry Jackson, President
NZ Federation of Motoring Clubs Inc.

