

Dear Members,

As Martin has advised, I have taken on the role as your SAAA National President.

About Me:

I live in Deniliquin, NSW and own a Communications & IT Business which services the NSW Riverina. Our business holds many national dealerships and has exposed me to many and varied clients & management structures that have added to my experience I can bring to the SAAA. Our business employs 10 staff and covers a 150 Sq Km geographical radius. Apart from that I also found 5 years out of my life to build an RV6, VH-VBW. I then successfully came out of that in the same marriage. My wife Sharon has been very patient in her time as a builders' widow.

My induction into National Council was in 2012, and I have served as National Treasurer for 12 the past months. During that time I have been instrumental in enforcing many changes and policies which, I believe needed adopting.

Enough about me, its all about you now. It is no secret my time on NC has been a massive learning curve and my style has raised many questions and actions to take place which has taken me to the position where I have now been unanimously voted by the current NC to be your next President. I must be upfront with you and advise my strength is in Business & Administration and I have many knowledge gaps within our core product areas including technical, safety and training programs we have. I do know my limitations, however a part of my management agenda is to build a strong united National Council and place the correct people with the correct credentials in the correct portfolios, so I confess that while my understanding in our charter is low – I will attempt to put the very best available individuals to cover that.

I am under no illusion the current feeling on the National Councils performance and form to date is poor. I accepted this job with full knowledge of that and I ask you for a chance to work with my new team to restore those feelings. While the past NC have had many varied and complex tasks to deal with, our communications have been poor and even thought under Martins leadership we have made many great achievements we still have a poor rating with you. You, as members, have a chance in September to reaffirm this new National Council or get rid of us. However I do ask until I can settle in and show the results you are after please be patient with my team. We are of course only volunteers putting in many hours and sacrificing our working and family life for you. If I can not produce results by the AGM that are satisfactory, I will sincerely take the verdict you hand down.

My appointment started as of 7.00 AM today and I have been working on the handover from Martin and getting some housekeeping in line. As our National Council are predominately spread all over the country, and the world for that matter communications are delayed. Currently I am working with our team to interview and appoint the key positions on National Council, and once I have assembled my team we will roll the sleeves up and get into it.

The opportunity to speak with all candidates who have nominated for National Council post the AGM has arisen, and I can honestly say you as members are very lucky to have some very strong, intelligent and passionate people ready to work for you. You need to consider this when casting your vote as it will count as all candidates are very worthy.

I have many ideas and plans to move SAAA, including better engagement with our Chapter Presidents and Members. This will take time but its something I wish to do. We have much work to do in our governance and policy areas, again work in progress. In the end my biggest achievement if able, is to hand to you as a member an organization that allows you to build your aircraft, maintain it and safely fly it, that's what this is about. And even as important enjoy some great fellowship and a beer to compare stories.

I may hold the helm of SAAA at this point in time, but my boss is the member. That's why I have stood for the role and you are who I want to work for. Many changes will become apparent. I do not pretend to know everything or get everything right, but I am prepared to have a go, and welcome any contact from you.

Yours Sincerely



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