



## **CTA 2023 AGM President's Report – Stuart Crombie**

2022 was a good year; the covid epidemic with its sometimes dangerous illness, the associated restrictions on personal gatherings and travel and its general dampening of work and fun has apparently past its peak. From early-2022 onwards covid related restrictions eased and we started getting back to normal. There were, and are, still some hiccups; new highly infective variants emerge and spread rapidly with increasing numbers of club members falling victim in recent months and even on the OYB. Recurrent booster vaccinations seem likely to become the new normal for a few years. Thank you to CTAWA members for understanding the necessity of masking, of social distancing, of getting vaccinated to protect us all from what can sometimes be a debilitating or even deadly disease.

Rides have become even more popular. The Wednesday and Sunday social rides in particular regularly attract over twenty riders and are usually split into a 'faster' and a 'slower' group for manageability and for the safety of our own and other riders on narrow cycleways. Our riders have generally ridden safely and have been considerate of others on the roads and paths. However incidents have occurred where riders have had accidents due to riding too closely to the person in front, or in groups two or more riders abreast on paths with oncoming riders. A couple of members even managed to crash and hurt themselves on their own when roads were slippery, mountain bike trails had more rocks than could be handled or bike parts failed. A bit more attention to riding safely, bike maintenance and road awareness will go a long way to keeping the CTAWA's record for safety and low incidence of injury.

Big changes to the CTAWA management committee will be happening at this AGM. Many committee members will not be standing for re-election after serving our members for long periods. Many committee members have served for considerable periods and may wish to move on. Your President (me, 6 years), Vice-President (2 years), Secretary (5 years), Treasurer (a year, and thanks to Chris for standing up when 10 year Treasurer Christine left to run the On Your Bike annual tour), Web Master (7 years), Rides Co-ordinator (on and off for many years), Achievement Rides co-ordinator (6 years), Clothing Co-ordinator (6 years total as clothing and rides co-ordinator), Social Co-ordinator, Tours or OYB co-ordinator (8 years) have done a marvellous job supporting our club. Well done.

Management committees do need to be revitalised by recruiting new members. Ideally this should happen progressively with one or two new members being elected each year to learn the ropes of their role and of working together in a management team. Perhaps fortunately, the CTAWA has a large committee (12 members) which reduces the workload falling on to each member.

The CTAWA has benefited enormously over the last five years or so by having a management team made up of exceptionally diligent, responsible and task-oriented people.



It has been a pleasure and a great privilege to work with them all. However, many of the committee now feel that they wish to sit back a bit, or try other things so a major shake-up of the committee is happening over a short period.

No one is irreplaceable however. Amongst our members are others with the capability and commitment, the new ideas and the vision to take the CTAWA forward for years to come.

YOU are one of these people. Your lifetime of experience gives you knowledge, perception and judgment to take on a committee role. Get nominated now.

Please take this opportunity to lead our club into the future by standing for a committee position at this AGM. The exiting committee members will still be around to give advice on how to manage the affairs of the club while you learn the ropes. With experience, the new committee will gain confidence and capability and very soon will be running the club as well or better than the previous committee.

The CTAWA is an exceptionally well run private sporting association of around 240 members. We provide a high quality recreational cycling experience for our (aging) demographic at minimal cost. It is our members who provide these experiences and I suggest that it is our individual responsibility to take on some senior role in managing the club to continue the excellent work that we do.

As I prepare to hand over the gavel (actually the Power Point clicker) to the incoming President I want once again to thank every committee member that I have been so lucky to work with. You guys are the best!

Thank you, ride safely and ride far.

**Stuart**