



BMWMCNZ Annual Report - 2025

Time has flown by, and it's surprising to find ourselves already deep into January 2026. Looking back, last year was especially meaningful as we marked our 50th anniversary. Reaching such a milestone is no small feat; the fact that we continue to thrive after half a century speaks volumes about the strength of our foundation and the incredible people who give their time to support us. Our story began with Martin Bootten's simple letter in August 1975, and the evolution since then has been a joy to witness. While much has changed, the spirit of the club is constant: the group rides and deep-rooted passion for BMW bikes are just as central to our identity today as they were at the start.

Events Overview

National Rally & AGM – Masterton

Our National Rally and AGM, held in Masterton, was a great success. With over 120 attendees, it was an excellent turnout. The event committee did a wonderful job showcasing the excellent riding opportunities in the region, both tarmac and gravel.

The AGM resulted in a member vote to change our name to *BMW Motorcycle Club New Zealand Incorporated*. While the remit generated plenty of discussion, I'm pleased that the voting process was robust and inclusive. This was by far the most accessible process we've had, giving all members the chance to participate through both online voting and in-person attendance. We intend to use this voting model for all future remits requiring member approval.

The Star Insurance Mystery Ride to Ākitio on Sunday was a highlight for me. That evening, we were fortunate to hear from Neil Barnard (*19), who shared valuable insights into what it was like to be a club member back in the 1970s.

North Island RAG Rally – Taylor Lodge

Although I was unable to attend this year, the feedback from those who did was overwhelmingly positive. Despite a dreary Friday for those travelling in, the weather improved significantly for the remainder of the weekend. The central North Island never disappoints, offering excellent gravel and tarmac riding routes. And of course, the traditional rotisserie dinner on Saturday evening was, as always, a crowd favourite.

South Island RAG Rally – Kaikōura Top 10

This rally nearly didn't go ahead after the original venue fell through. Step in Jason and Annable, our dynamic duo from Canterbury, who took charge and hosted a fantastic event at

the Kaikōura Top 10. Over 45 people attended, including many from the North Island who were most appreciative that the ride from the ferry to Kaikoura wasn't too onerous.

GS Rally – Kai Iwi Beach, Whanganui

Traditionally, our involvement in this event has been relatively minor, as Kiwi Rider and BMW Motorrad NZ have led its promotion and delivery. However, our role was more significant this year. Behind the scenes, we streamlined the registration and payment process, and we sponsored the shuttle vans transporting attendees between Whanganui and the Kai Iwi Beach venue. As always, the Kiwi Rider team delivered a stellar event. Attendance was also up on last year.

Operations

My hat goes off to the team on the Board/Committee. They have done a tremendous job managing their individual roles whilst contributing significantly to the day to day running of the club. Each one of them is committed to ensuring we grow by delivering meaningful benefits to you, our members. Let's not forget they are volunteers who generously give their time for the betterment of the club. A well-deserved pat on the back to:

- **Stephen Parkinson** – Vice President
- **David Fish** – Secretary
- **Colin Gates** – Treasurer, Editor, and general IT guru
- **Ian Macartney** – Area Representative Liaison
- **David Oldershaw** – Membership

Changes were made and approved to the clubs Constitution to ensure compliance with the Government-mandated regulatory changes introduced under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022. Any sections or requirements from the previous Constitution that were not carried forward have been reformatted into a separate club policy document.

We continue to improve our systems to provide a more seamless and efficient membership sign-up and renewal process. To support this, we have recently invested in software that will automate and enhance the workflow. The software is currently being commissioned, with a significant database clean-up underway before we go live. We expect it to be operational within the next couple of months.

We also invested in a new (second-hand) card printer that allows us to personalise and print all graphics directly onto membership cards. This removes the need for pre-printed stock and gives us the flexibility to update sponsor logos immediately. The result will be long-term savings and greater promotional agility.

Area Representatives

I'm delighted to see the steady stream of rides being organised nationwide by our dedicated Area Representatives (ARs). They continue to do an outstanding job creating regional activities for members to enjoy. As the first point of contact for many members, they represent the club with enthusiasm and commitment, and we can't thank them enough for their energy and dedication.

Social Media Presence

Our social media presence continues to grow, with more than 1,700 registered members in the general BMW Motorcycle Club New Zealand Facebook group, up from 1,500 last year. We also maintain a closed group, though it sees far less traffic. We plan to retire the closed group and focus our efforts on the main public group in the near future.

Membership Update

Membership remains a key focus for us with an excellent increase over last year.

Category	2023	2024	2025
Owner	568	593	702
Pillion	50	52	56
Life	21	22	22
Total	639	667	780

This represents a **16.9% increase** in total membership which is the largest I have seen over the time I have been on the board, a fantastic result. Much of this growth can be attributed to increased communication and support of members as well as initiatives linked to the GS Rally in Whanganui. We continue to make incremental adjustments to our renewal processes and procedures always trying to deliver an improved experience to members.

Sponsorship & Partnerships

I would like to extend the club's sincere appreciation to our sponsors for their ongoing and generous support. Their contributions play an essential role in strengthening our organisation and enhancing the experience we provide to members. From event support to magazine advertising to member benefits, their partnership helps us foster a strong and vibrant BMW motorcycling community.

We deeply value these relationships and the commitment our sponsors make to the club. We look forward to continuing these partnerships as we work together to support the growth and vitality of our community in the year ahead.

On behalf of the Board, I want to express our sincere gratitude to you, our members, for your ongoing support and for participating in the many activities held around the country. You are the heart of this club, and we deeply appreciate your involvement.

As we look toward the next fifty years, the continued vitality of our club relies on the same spirit of service that got us here. To ensure we keep up our momentum, I encourage you to consider stepping into a leadership role when the opportunity arises. Whether as an Area Representative fostering local connections or as a Committee Member helping shape our national direction, your unique perspective is vital. Our club thrives because of members who are willing to turn their passion for riding into a contribution toward our future; if you have the drive to help us grow, we would love to have you on board.

I have decided not to extend my tenure as Club President. I can say with confidence that we are in an excellent position, both financially and operationally, with an exciting future ahead. While the role has been challenging at times, I have truly enjoyed it.. After eight years on the Board in various roles, I feel the time is right to step aside and let someone else take the reins.

Wishing you all the very best for a fantastic 2026. I hope to see you at the Rally in Cromwell or at a club event soon

Best regards

Chris