

# AAAA NATIONAL COUNCIL ANNOUNCED

The AAAA National Council for 2015/2017 was announced at the 35th Annual General Meeting of the Association, held Monday 19 October in Melbourne

The AAAA would like to welcome Guy Nicholls from GUD Automotive to the National Council, together with returning National Councillors Greg Barker, David Fraser, Peter Martin, Adam Pay, Mark Pedder and Graham Scudamore-Smith.

The association would also like to acknowledge and thank outgoing Councillor Margie Ryder for her contribution.

One of the signs of a healthy association is competition for spots on its board and this year it had 11 nominations for the seven vacant positions from an outstanding field of candidates.

Unfortunately, as in any election, some candidates have to miss out and the association would like to take this opportunity to thank Dale Brittain, Hamish Murdoch, Gino Ricciuti and Jonathan Sampson for their nominations.

The AAAA is sure that readers will join it in wishing the new council well, as it helps set the future direction of the AAAA and ensure that the association delivers new activities and services that are valued by its members.



## THE 2015 SEMA / AAPEX SHOWS REV UP

The strong resurgence in the American industry was well and truly on display during automotive aftermarket week in Las Vegas, held from 2-6 November. Organisers predicted that the event attracted over 130,000 automotive aftermarket professionals from nearly 140 countries to the 'trade only' events.

The AAPEX Show, held at the Sands Expo at the Venetian, featured more than 2,400 exhibitors over 5,000 booths as well as 55 education sessions. This year's event focused on keeping buyers ahead of the curve in today's high tech automotive aftermarket industry.

Exhibitors displayed more technology in their booths than ever before, while the education sessions covered the latest in disruptive and emerging technology and the potential impact on businesses. Additional sessions provided buyers with the latest market research, management techniques and customer relationship strategies to boost profitability in an ever-changing business environment.

The SEMA Show, which was held at the Las Vegas Convention Center, is the premier automotive specialty products trade event in the world. It draws the industry's brightest minds and hottest products to one place. In addition, the SEMA Show provides attendees with educational seminars, product demonstrations, dynamic vehicle displays, networking events, a 'New Products Showcase', featuring nearly 2,000 newly introduced parts, tools and components and one of the largest collections of custom cars assembled anywhere on earth.

The Australian aftermarket industry was once again strongly represented at the SEMA show with over 25 Australian brands exhibiting including AAAA members ARB, Davies Craig, DBA, DCI Performance Products, EcuTek, Go Fast Bits, Haltec, King Springs, Lightforce, Maxtrax, Mean Mother, Rhino Rack, Speedflow, Sprintex, SuperPro, TJM, Turbosmart, Whiteline and Xforce. In addition, over 200 buyers participated in the AAAA registered buyers program and over 70 people attended the 'Aussies in Vegas' networking event at the Hardrock on the Thursday evening.

A visit to these shows should be on the 'bucket list' for everyone in the automotive industry and demonstrates what a massive, growing and global industry it is. It also shows that Australian ingenuity can match it with the best in the world.

We will be running a full feature on the SEMA/AAPEX 2015 shows in the next edition of the Australian Automotive Aftermarket Magazine, which will include profiles on some of these innovative Aussie aftermarket companies that are taking their products to the world. Stay tuned for more details.

**The full list of National Council members and positions is as below.**

**President**

Bob Pattison –  
Brown & Watson International Pty Ltd – (VIC)

**Vice President**

Graham Scudamore-Smith –  
Fulcrum Suspensions – (QLD)

**Secretary**

Greg Barker – RSP Australia – (VIC)

**Treasurer**

Peter Martin – Hella Australia – (VIC)

**Directors**

Mark Pedder – Pedders Suspension – (VIC)  
Rob Cameron – GPC Asia Pacific – (QLD)

**Committee**

David Fraser – Capricorn Society – Immediate Past President and Committee Member (WA)

Paul Dumbrell –  
Automotive Brands Group Pty Ltd (VIC)

Damien Hill – Burson Automotive Pty Ltd (VIC)

Peter Rogers –  
Inspired Automotive Marketing (SA)

Guy Nicholls – GUD Automotive Pty Ltd (VIC)

**BOB PATTISON**  
President

**STUART CHARITY**  
Executive Director