

# AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL of JAGUAR CLUBS (ACJC)

*“Change is the law of life and those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.”— John F. Kennedy*

The Australian Council of Jaguar Clubs (ACJC) was inaugurated in 1983 and has served us well for many years. The objectives of the ACJC were set out in the adopted constitution as follows:

- To be responsible for the annual Jaguar National Rally (JNR).
- To act as the focal point for the relationship between the Australian Clubs and Jaguar Land Rover Australia (JLRA)
- To provide a forum for the Australian Clubs to share ideas and information on significant common issues.
- To promote camaraderie between Jaguar enthusiasts.

A Jaguar National Rally Manual was produced to be used as a model for host clubs to ensure continuity between rallies. This worked very well and updates and changes were introduced as the rallies were fine tuned.

However, over the past 10 years or so changes have inevitably evolved that have affected the way the ACJC operates as it continued to seek to fulfil its primary objective of supporting the member clubs and in particular how JNRs and concours events were run. These changes can be summarised in the following:

- The general ages of club members has increased significantly with some clubs having difficulty finding adequate volunteers to organise and run a JNR and a concours event.
- The financial obligations have been of growing concern with some clubs finding it difficult or undesirable to hold a JNR or concours event for a range of reasons including the cost burden.
- Jaguar Land Rover Australia despite maintaining contact with the ACJC to keep us informed of new model releases and management changes eventually withdrew their financial support for JNR's completely. This placed a greater burden on ACJC finances and in turn on annual club affiliation fees. A burden that could not be sustained in the long term.

***All the while the member clubs saw the value in the ongoing support and camaraderie that the interaction between Jaguar Clubs provided. It is this ongoing belief in the importance of promoting the Jaguar marque that has resulted in some emerging changes that preserves the initial intentions and objectives in a modified form.***

Some clubs have decided to no longer host a JNR and others to not include a concours event as part of the JNR. At the same time host clubs have chosen to implement changes to the traditional JNR format to suit their club and to promote greater inclusion by the 4,000+ members of the Jaguar Clubs around Australia.

It became clear to the ACJC that Rally's must be totally self-funded. This principle alone forced some re-thinking of the format of future JNRs. It is also likely therefore that future JNRs will be held less frequently. It is clear that only the JDCA and JCCV will continue to include a concours event as part of a rally.

Given that the ACJC has no longer any real financial commitments it has been decided with agreement from all member clubs that there is no need for it to hold a bank account, to collect member fees, or to be an incorporated body (ACJC is incorporated in SA). In fact, an unincorporated forum provides much greater flexibility in terms of who is involved and the breadth and level of discussion. As a result the ACJC Incorporated, as we know it has been deregistered as an incorporated body. The ACJC funds have been distributed to member clubs in accordance to the constitution and the bank account will be closed. The new entity will take the form of a President's Forum with similar objectives in mind as the original ACJC. Inc.

**SUMMARY** As members of Jaguar Clubs in Australia be assured that a national forum promoting camaraderie amongst Jaguar enthusiasts and promotion of the marque will still exist. It will continue to seek to meet the original objectives, with some minor changes evident. The new name will be, the **Association of Jaguar Clubs (AJC)**. This Forum intends to meet three or four times a year via ZOOM. It will be attended by the Club Presidents (or their appointee) and the chairmanship will be rotated between the member clubs. It has been agreed that JDCA would initiate the first meeting which is expected to be in June 2023.