

## **Region 8 Director – Jason Collins**

G'day from Region 8,

I attended the New Zealand Gathering hosted by New Zealand 8 held at the Southern most point of New Zealand in Bluff through February. A very well attended event that was bolstered with the fact that it was run right at the end of the Burt Munro Classic. Burt Munro who built and piloted the World's Fastest Indian came from this picturesque part of the World and is celebrated with several motorcycle events from circuit racing, speedway, hill climb, street race, drag race and the beach race. The beach race held on the very beach that Burt did his testing prior to heading to the Lake Bonneville USA to set the speed records. Our very own Red Knight member Grey Russell represented very well with several us braving the cold and very windy conditions to cheer him on.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Australian Gathering is still tentatively being planned in the hope that it can still be held in November 2020. Please keep an eye out for information as it comes to light.

Unfortunately, due to world pandemic I was unable to travel to the USA for the Spring Meeting but have attended all of our phone calls or Zoom meetings.

I was looking forward to attending the Convention in France and have the opportunity to say goodbye to many people that I have met over my time as the Region 8 Director. As this will be my last report, I want to thank all of those that have made the role of Director a pleasure and to those that have been unselfish and seeing the bigger picture in what this great club stands for.

To the new Region 8 Director, congratulations and I hope you bring a fresh view of the world and new ideas to allow Region 8 to continue to grow. If you need an ear, then you will always have my support.

To the International Board, we don't always see eye to eye but that is what makes this organization great; being able to conduct the business of administering the club in the best interest of the majority is not always easy but is made easier by your combined professionalism.

The world is a very different place at the moment I wish everyone good health and to stay safe.