

AEVA, ADELAIDE BRANCH **PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2010**

This is the end of our second year as the reconstituted branch of South Australia, and we have come a long way, with support remaining high. We usually have around 30 people at every meeting, which indicates to me that there is a strong on-going interest in EVs.

I believe (and hope) that our meeting format is one of our attractions. The lack of boring “business” and high level of technical content is aimed at keeping people informed and interested. It is important that as many as possible of our members take a turn to share their knowledge.

At the beginning of this committee year, we discovered that it was our turn to host the National AGM. We were initially daunted, but the membership rose to the challenge and decided that we should not only host the AGM, but stage an EV conference and Expo as well. Plans are well advanced and on track for a block-buster event.

We have had great support from Michael Harbison, the Lord Mayor of Adelaide, plus other members of Council and staff. For this I am deeply grateful.

The Industry has also rallied around, and we hope to have a broad representation at the Expo.

In August, we had a stand at the annual Science Alive, and once again enjoyed great public interest. Other events have been the Power of the Past Festival at Mt Barker, and the Cittaslow Goolwa Gopher Grand Prix in February. These events are very important for raising our profile in the community, and I thank all those members and friends who turned out to help man the shows.

I believe that 2010 is a tipping point for EVs. We have seen the iMiEV from Mitsubishi come onto the roads, with other manufacturers in hot pursuit. The power companies are beginning to move, and at least two players are preparing to enter the charging field. Adelaide City Council has installed two dedicated recharging car parking bays in the Grote Street Car Park.

From only four known EVs on the road in SA when the branch was reborn, we now have about ten, with another seven or so being built. This does not take into account the commercially built BEVs, Mitsubishis and Tesla.

I believe that the uptake will increase as people see EVs moving about in the traffic as an every-day occurrence. They will see that they are viable vehicles. The same will be true for e-bikes.

So, it has been a great year, and it only remains for me to thank the Committee for its support, particularly Eric Rodda, who has excelled as Secretary and Web Master as well as being there at every event. I also thank my wife, who has had to put up with my dashing about, and has helped load and unload vehicles, and finally, thanks to you all for your on-going support.

[Edward Booth - August 2010](#)