



CRA BULLETIN

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CHANGE OF CRA CHAIRMAN

After 6 years of service to the CRA as Chairman of the National Executive, Rex Crowther is not so much stepping down as standing aside. His tireless efforts on behalf of the association has put us in a sound financial position and raised the profile of collision repairers with all industry partners. Everyone who attended conference and was at Margaret Watterson's cruise to Otehei Bay will be very aware of how much the CRA means to Rex, and the good news is that he will be staying on the National Executive for the next year.

Despite being possibly the youngest chairman in the CRA's long history, Wayne Houghton admits to "feeling like an old hand" when he looks at all the new faces around the table at executive meetings. Having served his apprenticeship at Chappell Brothers in Christchurch, Wayne bought the business, married Jo and bought his first house. The business now trades as Perfect Auto Body Ltd and employs 17 people. Although his role in the business is administrative, Wayne remains at the "coal face" of collision repair as an authorised Repair Certifier. Wayne says that he is "excited and honoured" to be appointed Chairman of the Collision Repair Association. He sees this new role as a big step in his own personal development and looks forward to the challenge.

In order for the Collision Repair Association to continue to progress, it is important that the Chairman's role be viewed as an attractive proposition. In the past, taking on the role of Chairman meant a considerable sacrifice of time and effort, which often led to the neglect of your business. We want this role to be one which members would want to take on and ideally, it would be turned over every 2 – 3 years.

Whilst Wayne remains available to all members on important industry issues, he should not be burdened with day-to-day concerns.

Your initial contact should continue to be:

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