



CHANGES @ AREC

National Director – Our National Director for the past 12 years, Jeff Sayer ZL4JS, stepped down from the role at the end of 2017 due to health reasons.

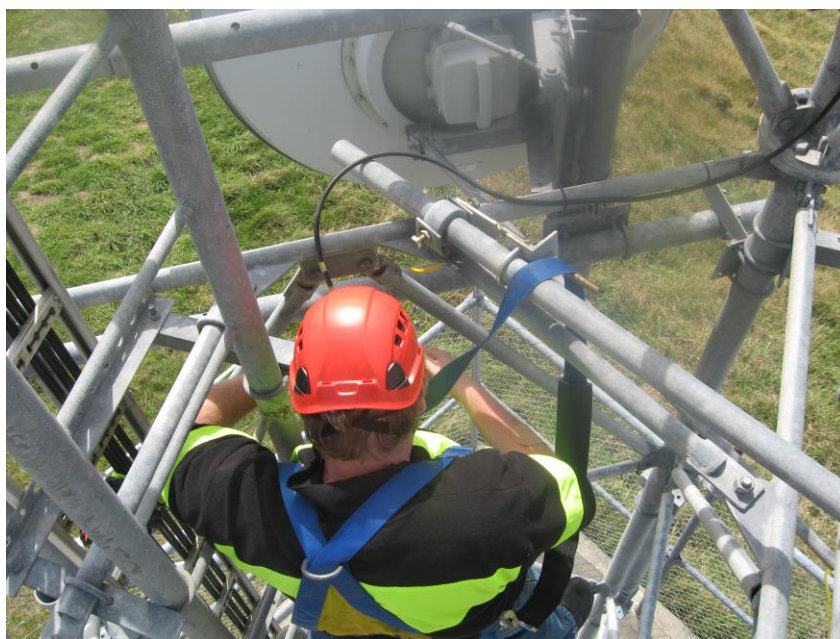
Deputy Geoff Chapman ZL3PX from Christchurch put his name forward to carry the flame until at least the AGM in 2019.

Deputy Directors – With Geoff now taking on the National Director role the AREC Executive Team decided that it may be prudent to have two Deputy Directors to help with the changes planned over the next year or so.

As a result, Don Robertson ZL2TYR and David Wilkins ZL1MR were appointed to the roles.

The senior team agreed to split their responsibilities geographically with ZL1MR looking after the top half of the North Island, ZL2TYR covering the bottom of the North Island and ZL3PX coordinating the South Island.

District Managers – This role replaces Area Manager as we need to support our members with a stronger “local” presence. AREC is strongly aligned with Police and LandSAR. By creating a new management structure around Police Districts, we should be able to build stronger and more useful relations with our key partners. This should also help us in our relationships with local CDEM Groups as Police will know our capability.



ZL4JY complete with a full set of rigging gear up a tower at Colonial Knob in Wellington. This is one of the reasons we need to sort out our H&S issues

NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Jeff Sayer ZL4JS had to stand down from his role as National Director of AREC late in 2017 due to some serious health issues.

Jeff has given a lifetime of support to AREC and Search and Rescue recently recognized by an Award for 50 years of service to SAR.

The award was presented by the Governor-General Her Excellency the Rt Hon Dame Patsy Reedy at Government House.

Unfortunately, Jeff was not able to receive the award in person so he was represented by John Yaldwyn ZL4JY at the ceremony. Soon after John travelled to Masterton and personally presented the award to Jeff who is reported to have been “tickled pink”.

<https://times-age.co.nz/honouring-regions-sar-mainstay/>

Additional Note: Jeff is in the header photo far left in shorts. A bit hard to see but he is there.

For up to date AREC Information got to AREC.info or for Public News about AREC go to AREC.today



TRAINING + HEALTH & SAFETY + ID CARDS

All current members of AREC have an ID Card that will expire in June 2019. The reason for only having a two-year validity is that AREC Executive and NZSAR want to ensure all AREC members will primarily be safe in what they do; and secondly, they will be competent in delivering services to NZSAR and others AREC partners.

District Managers – AREC Executive are in the process of appointing interim AREC District Managers as we don't have the luxury of time to run a full-blown application and assessment process. The intent is that the appointees along with all other AREC Executive will reapply for roles in June 2019. The primary role of the new District manager will be to organise a District Training session within the next 10 months. This is a critical step in getting AREC up to speed with the expectations of NZSAR, NZ Police and our other partners.

Groups not Sections – You are probably thinking the AREC Executive have lost their marbles. Not really it's just that we aren't in the Army so why are we grouped as Sections?

With the changing nature of our hobby we are now ending up with smaller groups of volunteers able to support AREC. That means that we tend to cooperate across branches to work together on AREC activities.

In some areas there may be several branches relatively close with small AREC Groups so why not combine forces and do things together formally as well as informally.

The name will change to Groups but you can form Groups in whatever way you see as sensible in your area. If you want to just keep your current structure feel free to do so.

District Training – AREC members in each District will have to participate in a cooperative shared training experience in the next 10 months. We hope to have some general topics written up so that we all cover the same issues.

There will be time to cover a few other topics. These could include building an emergency dipole, how DMR works, what is SARTrack (see: <http://arec.info/sartrack/>), what is the best location for a temporary repeater, etc.

We are all experts so I am sure each Group will be able to come up with some interesting local topics.

*Health & Safety is as simple as:
STOP – THINK – PLAN
and then ACT
Look at the back of your ID Card*



Klondyke Tower Auckland another H&S challenge

National Director - Geoff Chapman – ZL3PX

Deputy Director - Don Robertson – ZL2TYR

Deputy Director - David Wilkins – ZL1MR

Technical Director – John Yaldwyn – ZL4JY

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