

Hello my name is James Hall and I am asking you to consider me for the position of Auckland Local President.

9 months ago I returned to the Auckland Local Committee to help out, 2 weeks later I was the acting President dealing with expulsion of members. Unheard of.

With a relatively new committee we made a decision to work with the National Committee and began to negotiate a return that didn't include the costs of Court, I am proud of the work done by this committee in achieving this.

We are all after change a positive change; to not aim for this we could end up repeating history, no one wants that.

We now have more people engaged in the machine than ever before, we have more members than any other Local yet we were not influencing discussion or direction at any level. We now do this,

- Auckland Working Group
- Gas detection
- St Johns MOU
- Command and Control
- Appliance selection type 3/ aerials
- Water Safety Project

This just names a few.

Our committee is engaged with Management on a regular basis dealing with issues early to avoid dispute.

We all want change and that begins at local level, we can't just do the same thing and expect a different result.

There are some big challenges ahead of us we can't afford to be weakened and threatened by division. Those of you present in the 90's will not want to go through this again. A divided Union is weak and destructive.

Looking at the potential ALC line up pending election we have some great and returning members as well as some new blood which brings new thinking. We must continue to build relationships and get as many of our members involved in every day business, setting the direction and leading the work. An example of this would be Josh Darby's work with mental health. Many more of our members are working on special projects now. Until recently we were not given the opportunity to participate in these projects.

I will continue to encourage members from all ranks to seek appointment to these groups; with our members involved we will have a say in the direction of FENZ.

Cliché perhaps, but I love my job and the conditions I work under. Without the strength and determination of those before us life would be very different.

If you want change, at the same time rebuilding the strength of our Local and using our relationships with our wider branch colleagues then please consider a vote for me.

James Hall