

Jeremy Fewtrell AFSM – Bio – President Nominee
President, Australasian Road Rescue Organisation (ARRO)
Deputy Commissioner, Fire & Rescue NSW



Since 2021, Jeremy Fewtrell has served as the President of the Australasian Road Rescue Organisation (ARRO) and is the Deputy Commissioner with Fire and Rescue NSW, bringing over 20 years of fire and rescue experience.

In 2021, Jeremy was named as a recipient of the Australian Fire Service Medal in the Australia Day Honours List - the highest honour afforded to Australian firefighters - as recognition of his distinguished and exemplary service to FRNSW, and to public safety. This included his work in fire investigation, public safety, research capability and strategy for response to high rise and complex buildings, as well as significant projects into smoke alarms and sprinklers which resulted in key changes to the Building Code of Australia.

During his career, Jeremy has worked in metropolitan and regional operations, working with both full-time and on-call Firefighters and has a detailed understanding of the demands of their and an intrinsic knowledge of rescue capability. He has 26 years of fire and rescue experience and for the majority of this time he was a specialist rescue operator. In these roles he experienced the full range of rescue incidents from high-speed vehicle collisions, major heavy vehicle crashes, construction site entrapments, rail incidents, as well as rescues from agricultural, industrial, and domestic activities. At times some of these incidents were in remote or isolated locations with limited equipment available.

Jeremy was President of the Australian Branch of the Institution of Fire Engineers, an international professional association for the fire sector, and was the Leader of the Institution's International General Assembly for 2017-2018. Living in an area of high bush fire risk, Jeremy is also a volunteer member of his local Rural Fire Service.

As President of ARRO, Jeremy has successfully overseen the return to conducting annual Australasian Rescue Challenges following the forced hiatus during COVID-19 restrictions. The challenges in Tamworth and Adelaide have been high quality events that have been well attended by participating teams and supported by sponsors. Importantly, they have showcased the professionalism of the sector and provided an opportunity for the sharing of knowledge and the improvement of rescue and emergency medical care at rescue incidents by rescue and medical practitioners.

Ensuring the ongoing success of ARRO is a key focus of Jeremy's work. A key part of this has been increasing the rescue and ambulance agencies who are members, including additional elements to the rescue challenge such as the sponsors' equipment demonstration day and the industrial/domestic challenge stand. Additionally, strengthening the sponsor relationships and understanding their needs, as well as bringing on board additional sponsors have been important steps to improve ARRO's sustainability.

Road crash rescue will always remain as a core part of ARRO's identity as it is the most commonly undertaken type of rescue work and is a critical part of the chain to reduce fatalities and injuries on our roads. However, Jeremy believes that broadening the scope of ARRO to include a wider range of rescue elements will provide more opportunities for the organisation to remain relevant to our various member rescue agencies and to our sponsors who supply equipment that can be used across the full rescue spectrum.

He continues to maintain his operational readiness and he attends major fire incidents as required. Deputy Commissioner Fewtrell has provided distinguished and exemplary service to Fire and Rescue New South Wales, and to public safety, throughout his more than 23-year career.