



Red Knights International Firefighters Motorcycle Club
Est 1982 Boylston Massachusetts
Region 8 Director – Andrew Young – region8@redknightsmc.com
Ph +61 0400 001969

G'day from Region 8!!

Unhappily 2025 started with the passing of 2 members (Ian Wells from Australia 19 and Joseph Giarusso from Australia 1)

Please spare a thought for their families, all Region 8 mourns their passing.

The 2025 NZ Gathering took place in Cromwell, New Zealand, located in the southern South Island. The event also marked the 150th Anniversary of the Cromwell Fire Brigade. I was honoured to give away a bride at a wedding during the ride on Saturday, making it the first marriage ceremony at a Region 8 Gathering event. New Zealand 10 President Charles Le Couteur officiated, and New Zealand 5 members Roy Snelgar and Julie Watson were married in front of Red Knights from across New Zealand. Best wishes to the couple from Region 8.

On Saturday night, Russell and Dianne Rawiri from New Zealand 1 received International Life Member Awards. Russell, the first Red Knight outside North America, founded New Zealand 1 and served as Chapter President for 22 years. Congratulations to them on their well-deserved awards.

The Australian chapters elected a new country rep in March / April, welcome to Mick James from Aus 18 into the Australian Rep role. I look forward to working with you and Zane Eyre (NZ Rep) to improve communication and engagement across Region 8.

While I was in the USA for the Spring Board meeting I had the opportunity to visit the Memorial House and Park in Boylston (Thanks to Region 1 Director Ken May for picking me up from the airport and driving me up there). It was my first time visiting the house and hopefully won't be the last. We were welcomed and fed by the members of Mass 1 who were having a breakfast and clean up day at the house. I also was privileged to meet a couple more of the Founding Fathers, got a tour of the Boylston Fire House and managed to get a picture of 4 of the last 5 Perry Carter Award winners all in the same place. This was one of my most memorable days since joining the Red Knights.

Region 8 has 31 Chapters – 11 in New Zealand and 20 In Australia. Currently our members total 559 in Chapters and 14 MAL's. Since my last report I have attended the Spring Board meeting in Baltimore and been present at all Zoom meetings involving the International Board. I currently undertake approximately 3-4 hours per week on Red Knight business.

This convention marks the end of my first year as Region 8 Director, and I'd like to thank my fellow board members for their support and advice. They are a very dedicated group of people that are determined to make the club better for everyone, at every opportunity.

Region 8 is looking forward to hosting the Red Knights membership from across the world to the 2026 Convention to be held in Melbourne Australia. The Host Chapter – Australia 5 – has many events planned to make your stay memorable and we invite all Red Knights to come down to the Australia's best city for the event of a lifetime. We may even be able to manage to throw a couple of shrimp on the barbie for our international guests, and you can be sure we will have an adequate supply of Vegemite for everyone to try.

“Loyal to Our Duty”

Finally, I would encourage all members, no matter where you're from to go to a Convention, Regional Rally, Gathering or just a neighbouring chapters event. Meet some new people, make new connections and most of all ride your bike and have some fun.

Thanks, and Regards

Andy Young

Region 8 Director



“Loyal to Our Duty”



"Loyal to Our Duty"



“Loyal to Our Duty”



“Loyal to Our Duty”



“Loyal to Our Duty”