

THE NEW ZEALAND ROYAL HONOURS, ORDERS AND AWARDS

“Our honours system is a way for New Zealand to say thanks and well done to those who have served and those who have achieved. We believe that such recognition is consistent with the egalitarian character of New Zealand society and enlivens and enriches it.”

– Report of the Prime Minister’s Honours Advisory Committee, September 1995

STATE ORDERS

THE ORDER OF NEW ZEALAND



The Order of New Zealand (ONZ)

The Order of New Zealand is New Zealand’s most senior honour.

Queen Elizabeth II established this order in 1987 to recognise outstanding service to the Crown and people of New Zealand. Ordinary membership of the Order is restricted to 20 living persons.

NEW ZEALAND ORDER OF MERIT



Dame / Knight Grand Companion (GNZM)

Awarded for pre-eminent contribution in any field over a sustained period. Services have usually brought international recognition.

Dame / Knight Companion (DNZM / KNZM)

Awarded for pre-eminent contribution in any field achieving at a national or international level, recognised by peers and demonstrating sustained commitment.

Companion (CNZM)

Awarded for a prominent national or international role, leading role in regional affairs or distinguished contribution to an area of activity.

Officer (ONZM)

Awarded for a distinguished regional or national role in any field.

Member (MNZM)

Awarded for achievement or service to the community, usually in a national role.

THE QUEEN’S SERVICE ORDER



Queen Elizabeth II established the Queen’s Service Order (QSO) with its associated Queen’s Service Medal (QSM) in 1975. The awards recognise voluntary service to the community and service through elected and appointed office. Both the Order and Medal are for civilians only and military service is not eligible.

Queen’s Service Order (QSO)

The QSO is usually awarded for service at a national level.



Queen’s Service Medal (QSM)

The QSM is usually awarded for voluntary service to the community at a local or regional level.

NEW ZEALAND STATE AWARDS



The New Zealand Antarctic Medal (NZAM)

Instituted by Queen Elizabeth II in 2006 to replace the British Polar medal. This is awarded to recognise New Zealanders and other people that have made an outstanding contribution to exploration, scientific research, conservation, environmental protection, or knowledge of the Antarctic region.

The New Zealand Distinguished Service Decoration (DSD)

Instituted by Queen Elizabeth II in 2007 to recognise distinguished military service, by regular, territorial and reserve members of the New Zealand Defence Force, including command, leadership and service in an operational environment, or in support of operations. The Decoration may be awarded to all military ranks of the New Zealand Defence Force, or uniformed members of allied forces operating with or alongside units of the New Zealand Defence Force.

Nomination for a New Zealand Royal Honour

Anyone can nominate a person they think is worthy of a New Zealand Royal Honour.

Nomination forms and information on the honours system can be found at www.dPMC.govt.nz/honours or you can contact the Honours Unit of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet:

**Honours Unit
Cabinet Office
Parliament Buildings
Wellington**

Phone: (04) 817 9840
Email: honours@dPMC.govt.nz
Website: www.dPMC.govt.nz/honours

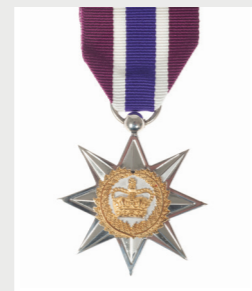
NEW ZEALAND GALLANTRY AWARDS

The New Zealand Gallantry Awards were instituted in 1999. Previously, New Zealand had awarded British gallantry awards. These awards are designed to recognise those military, and certain other categories of support personnel, who perform acts of gallantry while involved in war and non-warlike operational service (including peacekeeping). Gallantry awards do not necessarily involve the saving or attempting to save the life of another person. All can be issued with bars signifying a subsequent award.



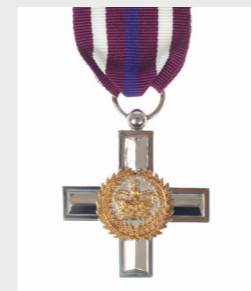
The Victoria Cross for New Zealand (VC)

Awarded for ‘most conspicuous gallantry, or some daring or a pre-eminent act of valour, or self sacrifice or extreme devotion to duty in the face of the enemy or belligerents’. The award is identical in design to, and made of the same Crimean War gunmetal as, the British Victoria Cross.



The New Zealand Gallantry Star (NZGS)

Awarded for ‘outstanding acts of gallantry in situations of danger’.



The New Zealand Gallantry Decoration (NZGD)

Awarded for ‘acts of exceptional gallantry in situations of danger’.



The New Zealand Gallantry Medal (NZGM)

Awarded for ‘acts of gallantry’.

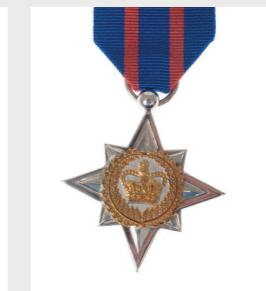
NEW ZEALAND BRAVERY AWARDS

The New Zealand Bravery Awards were instituted in 1999. Previously, New Zealand had awarded British bravery awards. These awards for civilians and military personnel are designed to recognise the actions of those persons who save or attempt to save the life of another person and in the course of which they place their own safety or life at risk. All can be issued with bars signifying a subsequent award.



The New Zealand Cross (NZC)

Awarded for ‘acts of great bravery in situations of extreme danger’. The Cross is similar in design to the original New Zealand Cross instituted by the Government in 1869 to recognise acts of bravery during the land wars of the nineteenth century.



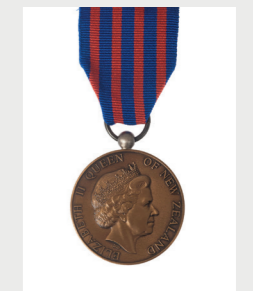
The New Zealand Bravery Star (NZBS)

Awarded for ‘acts of outstanding bravery in situations of danger’.



The New Zealand Bravery Decoration (NZBD)

Awarded for ‘acts of exceptional bravery in situations of danger’.



The New Zealand Bravery Medal (NZBM)

Awarded for ‘acts of bravery’.