



Grand Prior's Award Government House Presentation



St John
Here for Life



St John Youth
in New Zealand 1927-2017

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About the Grand Prior's Award

The Grand Prior's Award is the ultimate award for St John Cadets to obtain.

The main curriculum of the cadet programme is the Grand Prior's Award where cadets set goals and achieve in a variety of areas. There are 29 subjects available, 6 of them are compulsory.

The programme provides many topics for cadets to choose from. Although the award is a real challenge, it's super rewarding and is something all our young people aspire to obtain.

Presentation of the award is very special. As the highest award, other than for bravery, St John can bestow on its Cadets, our young people have the option to travel to Government House and participate in a ceremony where the Grand Prior badge and parchment is presented by the Prior of St John in New Zealand, The Governor General.



Message from Sarah Manley

Sarah Manley is the Director of Community Health Services for St John New Zealand.

They often say to understand the future you must understand the past. As we celebrate 90 years of St John Youth we can proudly say we have a legacy of producing young leaders throughout New Zealand, and how exciting it is you can be part of this special event tonight as part of that legacy.

St John Youth is proud of the work we do with young people and more importantly, proud of the young people you choose to be part of us. Congratulations to you all on this fine achievement.

Programme

Welcome

National Cadet of the Year, Ella McClure

Opening Address

Chancellor, Dr Steven Evans

42 Central Region Grand Prior Presentations

Presented by Chancellor, Dr Steven Evans

Grand Prior Journey

Jessa Gardner

28 South Island Region Grand Prior Presentations

Presented by Chancellor, Dr Steven Evans

Address

CEO, Peter Bradley

Waiata

20 Northern Region Grand Prior Presentations

Presented by Chancellor, Dr. Steven Evans

Arrival and address Her Excellency The Right Honourable Dame Patsy Reddy GNZM, QSO, DStJ, Governor-General of New Zealand and His Excellency Sir David Gascoigne KNZM, CBE, CStJ

Announcement of National Cadet of the Year

Reception

Their Excellencies depart 7.30pm, reception concludes shortly after.

National Anthem

E Ihowā Atua,
O ngā iwi mātou rā
Āta whakarangona;
Me aroha noa
Kia hua ko te pai;
Kia tau tō atawhai;
Manaakitia mai
Aotearoa

God of Nations at Thy feet,
In the bonds of love we meet,
Hear our voices, we entreat,
God defend our free land.
Guard Pacific's triple star
From the shafts of strife and war,
Make her praises heard afar,
God defend New Zealand.

St John Waiata

Tenei matou
Tenei matou te hunga rangitahi O Hato Hone e

Nei ra te karanga
Nei ra te karanga, ki te whanau whanui, aku teina, aku tuakana e

Ko Hato Hone
Ko Hato Hone, Manaaki tuatahi, Kaupapa rangatira e

Ko Hato Hone, Manaaki tuatahi, Kaupapa rangatira e
Ko Hato Hone, Hato Hone, Hato Hone e hi!

Grand Prior Awards

Central Region

Abigail Turner

Abigail has been a member of St John Youth going on three years. Being part of the Youth programme and completing her Grand Prior Award has helped strengthen her passion for the medical field and helped influence her decision to go on to study Paramedicine. The award scheme has reinforced the importance that hard work, perseverance and dedication has on success and achievement. The opportunities that the Youth programme has given her has allowed for a lot of learning but more importantly has allowed her to meet people who have become increasingly important in her life. St John has become an important aspect of her life and she hopes she can continue to help influence cadets the way her leaders have done for her.

Aimee Dustin

Aimee has been a member of St John for the past 6 years during which she completed her Duke of Edinburgh Bronze, Silver and Gold awards. She has developed leadership skills and self-confidence to enable her to continue at St John Youth as a youth leader. She has developed a passion for first aid and is currently studying a bachelor of Health Science (Paramedic) while volunteering as an Ambulance Officer with St John. Aimee is thankful for the knowledge and opportunities that St John have offered but also thankful for all those that helped and supported her along this journey.

Alysha van Wijk

Alysha has been a cadet at St John for the last 8 years with the Masterton Youth Division. St John has played a very important role in Alysha's life. St John has helped her build her confidence to try and experience different things. St John has helped her discover that by giving something a go and trying things outside ones comfort zone enables you to grow, become a better person and become self-aware of your abilities and areas of development. Alysha has become an NCO leader in her division which has opened her up to opportunities she never thought possible. Alysha has used these skills at school and her everyday life.

Alysha is thankful for St John as it has shown her what she is capable of.

Amelia Wylie

Amelia is a cadet from Wanganui Youth Division, who started as a penguin in October 2006. She helped with the Penguin programme when she was older, gaining experience which she is grateful for as she wants to become a primary school teacher when she leaves school. Amelia has learnt many valuable skills including first-aid and effective communication during her time in St John. She enjoyed going on camps, competing in competitions and meeting lots of people along the way. Amelia would like to acknowledge her parents and the awesome leaders that have supported her through her journey in St John.

Amethyst Barnard-Bull

Amethyst has been a member of Gisborne St John youth for ten years, starting as a penguin and moving forward to a senior cadet. She recently has revived her cadet corporal stripes which she is proud of having. In January Amethyst turns eighteen so will no longer be a cadet but is excited to step up and become a leader. Being a St John member has enabled Amethyst to make firm friendships and travel to other regions for competitions and camps. Amethyst hopes to continue to be a St John leader/member for as long as possible and is grateful for the opportunities that have been offered to her.

Angelica Clarke

Angelica Clarke has been a Cadet in the Johnsonville Youth Division since 2010. Over this time, St John has helped Angelica to develop self-confidence, which has led to success in many areas of her life such as her leadership roles in her college and her local community. St John has given Angelica many unique experiences, including camps, first responder courses, district competitions and ANZAC commemoration services. She wishes to thank all of the Johnsonville leaders for the inspiration they have given her to strive for this prestigious award. Angelica feels blessed to have had the opportunity to gain knowledge and lasting memories from St John that she will treasure throughout her life.

Bailey Harris

When Bailey first joined St John he never imagined that he would be receiving his grand prior but after a lot of motivation from his peers and leaders he finally decided to work towards his grand prior. After four long years he has achieved this, and he is thankful to everyone who has helped him along the way and for the opportunities that St John has opened for him when he pursue a career in medicine in the future. Bailey has enjoyed every second of being a part of St John and is looking forward to the years to come.

Blake Tolley

Blake has been a cadet with the Wanganui youth division for 11 years now, St John is a big part of Blake's life. St John has helped him to gain not only my first aid skills and qualifications but has given him the self-confidence to make new friends and try new things. He would like to say a huge thank you to the leaders and to his friends that helped him and pushed him to achieve his Grand Prior. Blake is planning a career in paramedicine starting with an Ucol certificate in Health Science next year.

Cameron Beauchamp

Cameron has been in St John Youth since 2010. It has been a big part of his life, introducing him to a lot of great people, and developing him as a person. His self-confidence has grown because of St John, and he would not be who he is today if he had not joined. He has learnt many life skills, and he is thankful to everyone at St John for all the opportunities he's been given, and will continue to be given because of his experiences.

Cascade Price

Cascade has been a member of St. John for almost seven years now and during that time as a New Plymouth Youth cadet she has had so many opportunities arise to her favour. With the leadership skills that St. John infused into her, she obtained the role of Central Regions West Coast DCOTY for 2017 and has been able to confidently increase her ability to work with many different people. Cascade has a passion for helping others and wants to pursue a career in medicine. St. John has helped shape her to be the person she is today and she is so thankful to all those that have helped her get where she is now as well. This Award took a lot of time and dedication to achieve and she is extremely proud of herself and grateful to those that made it possible for her.

Charmaine Sheffield

Charmaine joined St John in 2014 with the Otorohanga Youth Division. Charmaine was awarded her 100-hour community Service Shield in 2016. She is an active member both within her division and at a Regional level including being a member of the Regional Youth Team representing our region at National Youth Competitions and Festival early this year. Charmaine was awarded the Divisional Cadet of the year award for 2016. Her leadership potential was recognised in 2016 when she was promoted to Cadet Sergeant. Charmaine completed the requirements of the Grand Prior Award in March 2017.

Danyelle Grant

Danyelle has been a part of St John for 13 and a half years starting off as a penguin. She is a part of Otumoetai Division now as a leader and this is where she achieved her Grand Priors Award 17 years after her mum did at the same division. Getting her Grand Prior taught her a lot about resilience, determination and to keep on going when things get tough. She was a part of the 2016 Nationals team as a development squad member and was in an NCO role as a Sergeant. St John has grown Danyelle as a leader and grown her confidence and shaped her for her future career as a Police Officer. She is incredibly grateful for the opportunities St John has offered and thanks them for where she is in life today.

Dylan Budge

Dylan joined Petone Youth Division at the beginning of 2013 as an intermediate cadet. Since then he has competed at several District and Regional Competitions, he was also a part of the 2016 Central Region Squad that went to Nationals in Auckland. He has been promoted to Sergeant with hopes of being promoted to Cadet Leader by the end of 2017. Dylan became a senior in term 4 of 2013, and since then he has been working hard to get his Grand Prior Award. Dylan has attended every badge camp that he could, and took lots of community service opportunities to get his two hundred hours. St John has helped Dylan to develop his self-confidence and become a better person, and he is thankful for everything that he has been able to do thanks to St John.

Eimhin O'Shea

Eimhin O'Shea has been a member of St John Youth since 2013, having attended Dannevirke and Palmerston North divisions. St John has developed his confidence and leadership skills, whilst also teaching him valuable knowledge. Some highlights of his St John career so far have been being selected as the Wairarapa District Cadet of the Year for 2017, being a member of the Central Region Regional Representative Squad to this year's NYF and within this being part of the team which won team first aid, and above all, meeting new people and forming strong and lasting friendships with a diverse group of people throughout NZ through St John. He has been allowed through our program to learn so much more than just first aid and drill, St. John has equipped him with many of the skills to have a great life. He will treasure the memories, opportunities and experiences that he has gained from St John and is extremely grateful to all those who have made this possible.

Eliana Slaney

Eliana is a Cadet Corporal at Cambridge Youth Division, who started as a very shy Penguin in 2008 after attending an Emergency Expo the week the tornado went through Cambridge. Over the past eight and a half years at St John Eliana has overcome her shyness and has had many opportunities to grow as a person. Eliana has enjoyed camps, sporting events, competitions and has had the opportunity to organise an Open Day at the Cambridge Ambulance Station. Eliana was the Waipa Area Cadet of the Year in 2016 and is following in her 94-year-old Great Grandmothers footsteps who received her Grand Priors Award in 1940, 76 years ago. Eliana is thankful for all the opportunities she has had and all the new friends she has made at St John and knows these will stay with her for a lifetime, as they have with her Great Grandmother.

Gemma Clunie

Gemma is a cadet from Hamilton Youth Division, who started St John 5 years ago. Over the past 5 years Gemma has helped out her division, area and district develop. St John has allowed Gemma to gain friendships across the country, with having many inspiring leaders. Gemma is thankful for many unique opportunities that would not have been available to her otherwise, these including fun camps with bay of plenty district, leadership development courses, competitions and cadet of the year selections. St John has given Gemma knowledge and memories that she is thankful for and can't wait for the future. Gemma is also truly thankful for her parents for dedicating their time to making this award and many others achievable.

Glen van Leeuwen

Glen has been a cadet since he was 7 and currently holds the rank of Cadet Sergeant at Welcome Bay division in Tauranga. He has thoroughly enjoyed his time spent in St John competing and placing at District, Regional and National levels. The Grand Prior Award Scheme and St John have given Glen the chance to really grow and become who he is today.

Hayden Tankersley

Hayden has been a member of Carterton youth since he was born as he has followed a family tradition, 11 family members before him. But he signed up as a penguin 10 years ago, gaining his super penguin badge before moving to cadets. Where he has been an active member attending many events, camps and at gold level he has continued to be involved with the Penguins by going along to assist with drill and first aid. He has had a great deal of success at competitions over the years within the Central Region. Hayden has become a fantastic role model for our younger members in showing his growing leadership skills.

Ivana Emer

Ivana joined St John Youth in 2010 and is currently a member of Wellington City Youth Division. Through the youth programme she has learnt the value of hard work, commitment and resilience. It has enabled Ivana to connect with like-minded youth who also want to have a positive impact on society, and with whom she has created incredible friendships and memories. Ivana has had many opportunities in St John Youth with highlights including being part of Central's Regional Youth Squad for three years and being the Team Leader of the winning Drill, Communication, First Aid and Champion Team at the National Youth Festival and Competitions. Ivana is very grateful for the fundamental role St John Youth has played in her life and looks forward to many more years.

Jack Geden

Jack has been a member of St John since 2007 and throughout this time the organisation has played a huge part of his development and helped him achieve many goals. The youth programme played a huge part in developing Jack to be an excellent leader which has led to many more achievements in life. The skills learnt from the youth programme and support from the organisation helped him overcome many challenges that he has faced and has prepared him to achieve any goals no matter how big. St John has been and will continue to be one of the most valuable factors in Jack's life.

Jacob Morris

Jacob Morris is a cadet from Palmerston North Youth Division who started St John in 2012. Jacob began as an Intermediate cadet and has fond memories of the very 1st badge he earned - the Ventureship badge.

St John has also given Jacob many other unique opportunities such as competing in competitions, attending camps and helping teaching badges to other cadets within his division. Jacob has earned the rank of Cadet Corporal. Jacob is appreciative of the memories, friendships and knowledge he has learned throughout these years and would like to thank his leaders and fellow St John members for their ongoing support in his journey.

Jacob Perkins

Jacob Perkins is a cadet from Porirua Youth Division and has been attending for two and a half years now. St. John Youth has helped Jacob in many ways especially over the last year in which he has gained an overwhelming sense of self confidence and leadership. Because of this he has taken part in things like the National Youth Squad and Regional Colour Party while also having the confidence and skills to move up the youth ranks and become a prefect at Tawa College. Jacob is grateful for the opportunities that St. John has offered him, the knowledge they have provided him and the confidence he has gained through the organisation.

Jamie Churchouse

Jamie is a cadet with the Feilding Division and has thoroughly enjoyed his time meeting people and learning new skills. As Jamie would like to be a paramedic after finishing high school, being a part of St John is a step in the right direction. Jamie received a lot of encouragement and guidance from the Feilding Division leaders to pursue the Grand Prior Award. His confidence and leadership skills have increased immensely, and he is grateful for the many opportunities that being a cadet at St John has offered.

Jarrold Young

Jarrold joined Hawera youth in 2014 as he wanted to learn something medical to help people and understand how and why things happen to people, and so hopefully be able to use the knowledge in the workplace. Jarrold had found St John a good place to meet friends.

Joshua Morris

Josh Morris is a cadet from Palmerston North Youth Division who started St John in 2012. Over these past years St John has helped Josh in many ways. St John has helped Josh to develop confidence in himself which has led to success in many other areas in his life - such as being a youth leader on a camp for those that are less fortunate than most people. St John has also given Josh many other unique opportunities such as competing in competitions, attending camps and teaching badges to other cadets within his division. Josh is thankful for the knowledge, friendships and memories he has gained from St John and knows these will stay with him for a lifetime. Josh would like to thank all the leaders and other members of St John that have helped him with this journey.

Julie Anniss

Julie has been a part of St John for 5 years. This has played a big part in developing Julie as an individual and encouraging her to become more confident in different roles. Once a very immature teenager taking on a role as District Cadet of the Year turned into a lifetime full of knowledge and gain. Becoming passionate about people and what they stand for. Creating a passionate being with the need to help others as St John helped her. Julie has learnt a lot about herself and has even been surprised with the amount of support she has received throughout her 5 years in the Tamatea Division and thanks everyone for pushing her when no one else would.

Laura Bruin

Laura Bruin has been a member of St John for the last 6 years, and it has been a big part of her life. St John has shaped her as a person and has taught her about first aid and people. Laura is passionate about helping people from a medicine and first aid perspective, her work with St John has helped her secure a role as a Dental Assistant and she hopes to take this further in the future. She has had some great experiences including camps, courses and competitions as well as helping coach Penguins to grow and learn. Laura is thankful for all the opportunities and friendships St John has opened up for her.

Laura Campbell-Morrison

Laura has been a cadet for over 10 years and has loved it since the penguin days. Her grand prior journey has led her to learn a vast variety of skills and she is so thankful to have experienced all that a grand prior journey contains. Through St John Laura has received a phenomenal amount of opportunities resulting in her personal growth in many different areas. She has made lifelong friendships and she would not be who she is today without St John in her life.

Lyneil Gray

Lyneil is a Youth Leader from the Palmerston North Youth Division who joined St John Youth as a cadet back in 2008. The past nine years within St John have helped Lyneil grow as individual, foster lifelong relationships with other members and develop skills that she will carry with her through her future personal and working lives. Competing, leading and instructing at St John events has been a major highlight of Lyneil's time in St John, second to receiving her Grand Prior's Award today. Lyneil is humbly grateful for all of the opportunities she has had, and owes thanks to everyone who has and continues to contribute to her journey within St John.

Maddison Herdman

Maddison is a cadet from Whakatane youth division and has been involved with St John youth for 3 years. St John has provided her with numerous leadership, first aid and life skills showing perseverance through working hard. These skills have shaped her to become the person she is today. The positions of DCOTY and RCOTY have helped her to see a new perspective and side to our organisation. Camps, competitions and courses have also allowed her to meet and gain friendships with people all around New Zealand. She knows that St John has made a big impact on her life and the experiences she has had in St John will help her in whatever she chooses to do in the future.

Madison Hart

Madison has been a member of St John for the last 5 years, and it has been a big part of her life. St John has shaped her as a person and has taught her a lot about first aid, drill and people. Madison is passionate about helping people from a first aid perspective, and hopes her time as a St John cadet will help her to pursue a career in medicine when she is older. Madison is thankful for all the opportunities St John has given her and the self-confidence that St John has helped build.

Mikayla Donohue

Mikayla Donohue is a cadet from Dannevirke Division, who has been in St John throughout the Wairarapa for 11 years. Over the past 11 years, Mikayla has had many opportunities within St John, including competing three times at National Competitions, being selected as 2015/16 Wairarapa District Cadet of the Year, and ultimately, completing her Grand Priors Award. St John has helped Mikayla to develop life skills, as well as grow in confidence; something that she helps will benefit her as she pursues a career in law and politics. Mikayla is thankful to her parents for allowing her the many opportunities she has had, and for the friendships and memories she has made and will continue to make in her time in St John.

Nicole Bluett

Nicole first started St John Youth in 2008 when she joined Hamilton Division. St John has been a massive part of my Nicole's life and she is grateful for all the amazing opportunities and experiences she has been able to get involved in during this time. Being a part of St John has introduced Nicole to some amazing people who have continuously supported and educated her. Nicole has learnt so many skills that have been, and will be, useful in her life. She is also incredibly grateful for all the friends that she has made on her St John journey. These memories and adventures are ones that Nicole will truly remember.

Rachel Bluett

Rachel has been a member of St John for 7 years. She is a cadet corporal at Hamilton division. Rachel has completed over 200 hours of community service and is currently completing her cadet sergeant course. Rachel regularly assists with her division and is an excellent time model for younger cadets. St John has helped Rachel grow as a person and it has belief her develop her leadership skills. Rachel had loved being a part of the St John community and has enjoyed meeting people from all over New Zealand and making new friends.

Rachel Li

Six years ago Rachel joined St John. Although unnoticeable at the time, the six years have been influential in the formation of the values she bears. While working towards her Grand Prior, Rachel not only took on more responsibility within St John, but also within her everyday life. Now with the courage to go beyond her comfort zone and with an expanded view of society around her, the impact of St John can be evidently seen. But it is undeniable that without the people, this experience would not have been the same. Although not expressed enough, Rachel appreciates everyone who has played a role in this unforgettable chapter of her life.

Reef Majurey-Johns

Reef has been a member of St John for 6 years, first joining as a Cadet of the Hamilton Youth Division in 2011. My time as a cadet was an invigorating, challenging, and enjoyable experience. The countless opportunities that have been available to Reef through completing his Grand Priors Award, such as Leadership Workshops, Competitions, Clinical Courses, and Community Events, have given him both experience and skills that are transferrable to many other areas in life. Through the Youth Programme, Reef was able to establish relationships that have led to further volunteer and paid roles in our wider Community Programmes Function. These roles have opened doors to many professional development opportunities, all of which would not have been available if it wasn't for joining as a cadet. St John is an enormous part of Reef's life and has very much shaped him into the person he is today. The one phrase that Reef pickup up as a cadet, and continues to appreciate is "Takitini, Taku Toa – Our unity is our strength".

Sophie Napier

Sophie's has enjoyed her journey over the last five years in St John youth working towards her Grand prior award. There have been a few challenges along the way, in particular for her, getting up to speed with her drill work, as she is not the world's most coordinated person, but the practice and the encouragement from senior St John adults & cadets helped so much. One of the things she loves about her involvement with St John is the really friendly and accepting culture. Highlights for me over the last few years have been the friendships made and support offered from my fellow cadets in Whakatane, and the badge camps which I really enjoyed, in particular the child care and caregivers camps. I would like to give a huge thank you to my fellow cadets in Whakatane, and more importantly to Carl, Nicky, and Richelle, for all their tireless voluntary hours and support which helped enable me to achieve this award.

Tamara Stratton

Tamara Stratton has been a cadet at Wanganui Division for the past 6 years over which time she has had many amazing learning experiences. During her involvement with St John she has enjoyed the chance to volunteer at community events and develop many valuable life skills. Through the various camps and competitions she attended she has built a number of strong relationships. Tamara would like to thank the friends and leaders she has met along the way for all the help and support they have provided.

Taylor Spencer

Taylor's endeavours with St John Youth began in Palmerston North Division almost 5 years ago. So far it has been a massive part of his life, teaching him key skills and ideas that he would've never experienced, if he hadn't taken the leap into St John. Taylor has become passionate about helping out within the community and developing his First Aid skills. He was a member of the Champion Team in First Aid at the St John National Youth Competitions in April this year. Although Taylor does not wish to pursue a medical focused career, he is definitely going to remain within St John as a volunteer and he is thankful for everyone that has and continues to be a part of his Journey.

Thomas Boulton

Thomas joined Hawera Youth in June 2013 because his Mum wanted him to, as she did not want his sister to feel lonely. He found he enjoyed St John and would try for his Grand Prior and has achieved this. He also wants to use his Grand Prior as a point of difference when applying for jobs. Thomas also wanted to learn leadership to help with self-discipline.

Yasmin Hansen-Purchase

Yasmin Hansen-Purchase joined St John back in 2005 after learning her father was once a cadet. St John quickly became a big part of her life and teaching Yasmin many various and valuable life skills. While completing the Grand Prior Award Yasmin's self-confidence, leadership and disciplinary skills developed immensely. This led to her having many successes. St John was also able to provide Yasmin with many unique opportunities that would have not been available to her elsewhere. Yasmin is very thankful for the opportunities, memories and knowledge that she has gained from St John and knows these will always remain as a fond moment of her lifetime.

Zoe Edwards

Jack has been a member of St John since 2007 and throughout this time the organisation has played a huge part of his development and helped him achieve many goals. The youth programme played a huge part in developing Jack to be an excellent leader which has led to many more achievements in life. The skills learnt from the youth programme and support from the organisation helped him overcome many challenges that he has faced and has prepared him to achieve any goals no matter how big. St John has been and will continue to be one of the most valuable factors in Jack's life.

Grand Prior Awards

South Island Region

Brooke Bennett

Honestly, the best 8 years of my life. The friendships, skills and memories that I have gained are unforgettable. From competing as a penguin, a shy little kid, to just completed at nationals at the age of 15. I couldn't ask for more. The various camps I have been on and endless divisional nights have been more than worth it. Wakatipu division has 100% provided. I would like to thank Tania and all the amazing leaders for making my journey to achieving this, as one to never forget.

Caleb Jopson

The biggest skill I have gained from completing my Grand Priors award is the confidence to give things a go and to try new things. I have also gained a wide range of clinical skills which have helped me in my day to day life and within my district, regional and national competitions.

Callum Simonsen

The skills I have gained have helped with interview confidence as I left school. The opportunities given by St John have allowed me to gain confidence and self-development.

Cameron Anisy

I have learned 12 Gold Level badges worth of Knowledge and Experience. These have made me step out of my comfort zone and take opportunities I wouldn't usually. This knowledge and experience have helped me in areas such as a divisional member/leader, in my competitions and as a Community member.

Courtney Anderson

I have become more confident in myself in leading a group of people, talking in front of others whether it is in front of other cadets at Division or speaking in public. St John cadets have allowed me wonderful opportunities and networks and I have met some amazing people that will remain lifelong friends – we are like one big happy family!! I am also passionate to further my involvement with the St John organisation.

Courtney Chalmers

Through completing my Grand Priors I have gained many new skills. Some of the new skills I have learnt are leadership, team work and learning how to train the younger cadets through role modelling. All of these skills have helped to develop me into a leader for the younger cadets. Now that I have completed this award I hope that I can be someone that the cadets can look up to.

Courtney Smith

I have gained valuable skill sets along with valuable friendships which I will have for life. St John Youth has given me the skills I will need later on in life such as, communication, awareness of a community's needs and how to be able to treat people with dignity and respect in a variety of circumstances. Completing my Grand Priors made me very proud and I loved having a book to look upon my service. It has enabled me to continue to help my community which has been extremely rewarding. I am so grateful to our leaders who run the Grand Priors programme, as without them I would never have learned these skills or gained this achievement.

Devon Harding

I have met many amazing people while completing my GP with many becoming long-time friends. The badges I have gained are a small part of the outstanding learning opportunities I have been able to be a part of. Each and every badge has developed my wider knowledge and has enhanced my personal skills. Putting them all together this has helped shape the person I am today. The Grand Prior's Award is a great way for me to continue my personal skills I have gained along my journey, with ability I share my knowledge with friends, family, cadets and the wider community.

Grace Froggatt-Bush

I have Aspergers, which challenges me socially, however it is not something that holds me back. St John has been a stepping stone to help me broaden my social skills and confidence.

I have been attending St John Youth since I was 9 years old and it has been an inspirational organisation for me to be a part of. It has given me support and encouragement, friends and mentors, and most importantly, life skills that I can carry with me into my adult years.

It is an honour for me to receive this award, as it is something to value in my time at St John and I worked little by little to earn it. I would like to mention a huge thank you to the people who have encouraged me and given me the resources to achieve this.

Hannah Ireland

The Grand Prior's Award has been a very challenging but also a very rewarding opportunity to develop life skills in many different areas. Over the last 6 years I have grown in confidence and have made a number of friends. During this time I have enjoyed helping in the community and attending public events and have nearly completed 800 hours of service to the community. I have also gained satisfaction in receiving each of my badges and that in turn provided incentive to keep trying to earn and achieve more badges, of which my favourite were, First Aid and Drill. Some of my highlights have been competing, being promoted to Sergeant and being selected for the 2017 South Island Region National Squad. Having completed my Grand Priors I now have a bigger desire to work on the ambulance when I turn 18, and my goal is to become a Paramedic.

Jacoba Kinley

I have so much to be thankful for and have gained so much over the time taken to complete my Grand Priors award. The opportunities I have been given have helped me build my confidence, make lifelong friendships, learn new skills and so much more. I have attended numerous camps and courses over my journey which has pushed me as I have learnt first aid, communication, leadership and other general life skills. I'm so grateful for this experience and I look forward to helping my peers grow over their journeys.

Jamie Simonsen

I have gained confidence and leadership skills and have enjoyed a diverse spread of learning opportunities and experiences through the badges I have achieved. I hope to pass on this knowledge to younger cadets and encourage them to achieve their Grand Priors.

Jenifer Stratford

As someone who struggles with anxiety in general, completing my G.P is an amazing feat for me, I learned how to clean someone's hair, brush someone else's teeth, whilst all practicing on someone I didn't really know. I made speeches in front of crowds and taught drill. For me to be that far from my comfort zone is an achievement all in its own. I have gained some confidence, knowledge and respect for the people who have their jobs in the 6 compulsory badges and those who simply volunteer their time. Completing my G.P puts into perspective all the hard work my leaders and I have done to get me here today. This is a dream come true.

Jessa Gardner

As a younger cadet in the St John Youth programme, I have always set goals and ambitions that I continuously strive to achieve. The Grand Priors award was a main goal for me throughout my years in youth and it has provided me with an ongoing goal and has challenged me immensely. A highlight whilst completing this goal was attending the regional/district camps that was on offer. I was able to meet new faces and indulge in new experiences whilst attending these badge camps. Overall I thoroughly enjoyed completing my Grand Priors award and look forward to passing my knowledge onto other cadets.

Jordan O'Neill

During the time of working towards my Grand Prior award I learned so many new skills and knowledge from the badges involved in gaining it. I enjoyed every single one of the badges involved but mainly First Aid and the St John badge. Those two in particular taught me so much valuable knowledge that can help me in my future within St John and starting the Paramedicine degree in the following years. I also have had the chance to meet some incredible youth members who were on the same journey as I and exchanging some of our knowledge on the badges between each other. I am so excited to have completed my Grand Prior and look forward to the new doors that will open in St John.

Joseph Murray

In the 8 year's I have been in St John I have had many great experiences, one has been achieving my Grand Priors. It has given me many skills like leadership, teamwork, and a sense of achievement. I have had many opportunities to try new things that I would not normally do such as snowboarding, rock climbing, camping, sea kayaking, and much more cool things. I have made some great long lasting friends that I would not have made if I had not taking the opportunity to join St John. Completing the Grand Prior award has given me a sense of pride in myself and has also given me the purpose to help others achieve their Grand Priors.

Kaleb Donald

I have gained various life skills, including first aid, self-discipline, health care, communication and leadership. Throughout the past 3 years I have grown in so many different ways and my confidence has increased tremendously. I have loved all the opportunities I have been given throughout my Grand Priors award and I would recommend to all of my friends to strive and complete their Grand Priors too.

Lucy Mattingly

I have been able to enhance my communication and people skills. Being able to talk to anyone and everyone no matter the situation or age and being a more confident public speaker, which has further helped me talking with patients in my Frontline Ambulance Career.

Mackenzie Green

I started the completion of my Grand Prior in July of 2010. Throughout that time I have gained many skills that have helped me get to where I am today both in St John and outside St John. Leadership, communication and teamwork are some of the skills that have lead me to become the Assistant Divisional Manager of Bishopdale Cranmer Division. It has also given me confidence to take up/apply for any opportunities that are sent my way such as applying jobs and being part of the South Island's National squad for 2 years. The overall experience of completing my Grand Prior was amazing. The skills I have gained will help me through my journey in St John but also in my life outside of St John.

Micaela Aldridge

I have gained many valuable life skills from completing my Grand Priors including leadership, communication, organisation and team work. Achieving this high level of recognition has always been a long-term ambition. Throughout my time in St John I have attended many extraordinary camps and had the opportunity to participate in things that push me outside my comfort zone. Through these experiences I have learnt my capabilities are endless and I can do whatever I put my mind too. I also have met like-minded young people from all around New Zealand and formed bonds with a wide variety of individuals I may never have crossed paths with had it not been for St John. I am confident that these friendships will continue as we continue our journey through life. It is truly an honour to be a part of an all-inclusive organisation where the skills we learn can take us places in our futures and help benefit people in need "Here for life" as they say, the youth are the future of tomorrow.

Millie Bray

Throughout my time in St John, I have learnt about how important general first aid, life skills and getting involved with your city/community are. I have gained knowledge about first aid and was lucky enough to receive my Clinical 1 and now have a better understanding about my community. I met so many amazing people throughout my journey to my Grand Priors and got to travel to places I never thought possible. I have also learnt how to be more independent, and a good team leader/player. Achieving my Grand Priors has been my goal for the last few years and has given me something to strive for.

Natasha Young

On my road to gaining my Grand Priors I gained so much more than just badges. On camps I met new friends from all over the country that I never would have met otherwise. With them, I've had so much fun and made so many memories. My favourite was completing my Clinical 1 course for my first aid badge. Although I found some parts challenging I learnt a lot and found it really interesting. While completing my Grand Priors I learnt so many useful skills that I am able to use in my life and I think that's awesome.

Nick Grant

The skills I have gained from completing my Grand Priors, both personal and professional will carry with me for the rest of my life.

Oscar Sergel-Stringer

Throughout my years in St John Youth I have been lucky enough so work towards and achieve my Grand Prior's Award. This award has given me many life changing opportunities. Some of these include the chance to meet some of my closest friends, develop my leadership skills and attend camps and competitions. Achieving this award is one of my proudest achievements, and I am incredibly grateful towards everyone who has helped me achieve it.

Robert Batt

Gaining my Grand Priors has been a long difficult journey but such a rewarding and indescribable feeling when I found out I had in fact achieved it. A huge thanks to the people who worked behind the scenes to help me get to this point. Something I will be forever grateful for.

Tessa Jackson

While working towards my Grand Priors award I have developed some life changing skills and have benefited from the opportunities that St John has given me. The experiences I have had, the skills I have learnt and the people I have met have helped me into the person I am today and I am sure will carry me in good stead as I go forward into the next stage of my life. I am now entering into my next phase with St John and am looking forward to being able to play an active role in my community.

Tim Moule

Upon completing my Grand Priors award I have gained lots of new skills and a better understanding of people and the environment. From the many years it has taken me to achieve this award I have learned new first aid skills, communication skills that have improved my personality and made me the person I am today. On top of all this, I have met and made so many friends in St John that I know are life time friends.

William Brett

I have learnt lots throughout my time with St John. I was one of the original Penguins when Ashburton Penguin Rookery first started. I completed my Super Penguin badge and then moved to Green level at Ashburton Youth Division. I then transferred to Methven Youth Division where I completed more Green badges, then continued through to Blue level and then on to Gold level where I once again transferred back to Ashburton Youth Division. I took a break from St John Youth and joined back up with St John Youth in the Te Waipounamu Online Youth Division last year. The online Division meant that I was able to be part of St John Youth and complete my Grand Prior. My favourite badge I completed towards my Grand Prior was Camping. I enjoyed getting out and about, staying in my tent, sleeping under the stars, camp crafts and I still use aspects of what I learnt when I go camping today. Each badge I completed had its challenges and rewards and it was interesting to go into a badge subject not sure what I would learn and then realising once the badge was completed that I learnt a variety of new skills and extended my knowledge. I would like to thank my parents, leaders, youth members and other members of St John for all their support, assistance and help.

Grand Prior Awards

Northern Region

Ashleigh Coffman-Monk

Ashleigh joined St John Youth at Hibiscus Coast Youth Division in 2012, where she remains today.

Ashleigh was recognised at her division for her leadership potential in 2015 and 2016 when she attended Leadership Development training courses, Ashleigh made further progress in 2016 when she was promoted to Cadet Corporal.

During her time with St John she has been involved in all aspects of our programme, and her commitment has seen her obtain her 100hr Community Service shield in 2017.

Atahlia Dunnett-Wilkes

Atahlia joined St John as a member of the Henderson Youth Division in 2010. She moved to Avondale in 2013 where she is now a Youth Leader.

In 2014, Atahlia began as a Youth Leader at Avondale, allowing her to give back to the community and St John. She has given many hours of service to St John, earning her 100 Hour Community Service Shield in 2016. Atahlia has also been awarded with her 3 year Service Pin.

In 2014, Atahlia attended the Youth Leaders training course, further developing and enhancing her leadership skills that she brings to division.

Charlotte Kemp

Charlotte joined St John Youth at Birkenhead Youth Division in 2013 where she remains today as a Youth Leader.

Charlotte has established herself as a competent leader within her division, and attended the Leaders Training Development Course in 2014 and 2015. She was promoted to cadet Sergeant in 2014 and further promoted to Cadet Leader in 2015. Charlotte relishes the opportunity to further her leadership skills.

Charlotte is an enthusiastic member of St John, giving many hours of service to the community. In 2016, she earned her 100 Hour Community Service Shield.

Charlotte was selected to be a part of the Northern Region Nationals Youth Festival competing squad for 2015. She shows talent and commitment in this role and is an excellent competitor.

Douglas Maynard

Douglas joined St John Youth at East Coast Bays Youth Division in 2012 and remains there today.

Douglas has established himself as a competent leader within his division, and attended the Leaders Training Development Course in 2014 and 2015. He was promoted to Cadet Sergeant in 2014 and in 2015 was promoted to Cadet Leader which is the highest youth rank.

Douglas is an amazing competitor and this was recognised in 2016 and 2017 when he was selected to represent Northern Region as part of the Northern Region Nationals Competing team.

Emma Jeffries

Emma joined St John Youth in 2011 at Pt Chevalier Youth Division, where she remains today as Assistant Divisional Manager.

Emma is respected as a Youth Leader within her division, as well as holding this position she has worked on her community service and gained her 200 hour Community Service shield in 2017.

Emma was recognised for her hard work and commitment in 2014 with a 3 year service pin. Emma has also completed her Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Genevieve Wedgwood

Genevieve began as a member of St John in 2013 at Kaitia Youth Division.

In her time at the division, Genevieve has shown great leadership skill. In 2013 and 2015 she attended a Leadership Development Course and was promoted to Cadet Corporal in 2014. A testament to her ability showed when she was further promoted to Cadet Sergeant in 2016.

Genevieve is an enthusiastic member of St John earning her 500 Hour Community Service Shield in 2017.

Georgia Leaning

Georgia joined St John in 2012 as a member of Waiuku Youth Division, she moved to Pukekohe Youth Division in 2015 where she remains today.

Georgia showed a lot of promise and dedication to the Grand Prior Programme and to her division.

During her time with St John she has been involved in all aspects of our programme, and her commitment has seen her obtain her 500hr Community Service shield in 2016.

Georgia Shen

Georgia joined St John Youth in 2014 at Botany Youth Division, where she remains today as a leader.

Georgia is respected as a Youth Leader within her division, at her time at Botany Division she has worked on her community service and gained her 100 hour Community Service shield in 2016.

Georgia was recognised for her commitment to St John with a 3 Year service Pin in 2016.

Hanbi You

Hanbi joined St John in 2014 as a member of Cornwall Park Youth Division.

Hanbi showed a lot of promise and dedication to the Grand Prior Programme and gave her time to her community; she was awarded the 100 Hour Community Service Shield in 2016.

Although she is no longer with St John, the skills she learnt in her time in the programme are an asset to herself and the community.

Logan Doody

Logan joined St John Youth in 2011 at East Coast Bays Youth Division; in 2014 he completed the transition from Cadet to Leader and is now part of the management team at East Coast Bays Division.

Logan is respected as a Youth Leader within his division, as well as holding this position he has worked on his community service and gained his 100 hour Community Service Shield.

Logan was recognised for his commitment to St John with a 3 Year service Pin in 2015.

Luke Smith

Luke joined St John Youth as a member of Kerikeri Youth Division in 2004. He moved to the Hauraki/Coromandel district in 2005 where he was a member of Paeroa Youth Division for 5 years. Luke moved to Hauraki Plains Youth Division in 2013 where he is a leader today.

Luke was the Divisional Manager of Hauraki Plains for 3 years showing his great leadership and mentor skills.

Luke has always been an enthusiastic member of St John, giving many hours of service to the community. In 2016, he earned his 500 Hour Community Service Shield.

Luke is working as a call handler for North Clinical Control Centre on Brown watch.

Mark Bosman

Mark joined St John in 2013 as a member of Takapuna Youth Division.

Mark showed a lot of promise and dedication to the Grand Prior Programme and to his division.

During his time with St John he has been involved in all aspects of our programme, and his commitment has seen him obtain his 100hr Community Service shield in 2017, this is a great achievement.

Niamh Curd

Niamh joined St John Youth at Avondale Youth Division in 2008. She moved to Blockhouse Bay division and Kelston Division in 2009, before settling at Massey Division in 2016 where she remains today.

During her time with St John she has been involved in all aspects of our programme, and her commitment has seen her obtain her 100hr Community Service shield in 2017.

Niamh is an amazing competitor and has been recognised in 2015 when she was selected to represent Northern Region as part of the Nationals Development team. In 2016 and 2017 Niamh was selected to represent Northern Region as part of the Northern Region Nationals Competing team.

Niamh has recently been accepted as the District Cadet of the Year for the 2017/2018 period for West Auckland District. We wish you well in this role where you can show your exceptional leadership skills.

Nicole Jones

Nicole joined St John in 2010 as a member of Manurewa Youth Division. In 2017 her family relocated to Palmerston North where she joined the local Division.

Nicole has keen leadership skills and these were recognised when she attended a Leadership Development course in 2014. She was further recognised with a promotion to Cadet Corporal later that year.

Nicole has also completed her 100 Hour Community Service Shield and is a very keen member of her Division.

Paige Robinson

Paige joined St John Youth at Hibiscus Coast Youth Division in 2008. During her time with St John she has been involved in all aspects of our programme.

Paige is an amazing competitor and this was recognised this year when she was selected to be on the Development Squad for Northern Region at the National Youth Festival in 2017.

During her time with St John she has been involved in all aspects of our programme, and her commitment has seen her obtain her 200hr Community Service shield in 2016, this is a great achievement.

Rebekah Pawley

Rebekah joined St John in 2013 as a member of Hibiscus Coast Youth Division. In 2017 she moved to newly opened Kaukapakapa Division, and Helensville Division, she attends both.

Rebekah has keen leadership skills and these were recognised when she attended a Leadership Development course in 2016. She was further recognised with a promotion to Cadet Corporal of Kaukapakapa Division in 2017.

Rebekah is an enthusiastic member of St John, giving many hours of service to the community. In 2016, she earned her 200 Hour Community Service Shield.

Robert Simpkin

Robert joined St John in 2005 as a member of Mangere Bridge Youth Division.

In 2006, Robert achieved his Super Penguin award, the highest award a Penguin Cadet can earn. Robert has established himself as a competent leader within his division, and was promoted to Cadet Corporal in 2014. He attended the Leaders Training Development Course, relishing the opportunity to further his leadership skills.

Robert is an enthusiastic member of St John, giving many hours of service to the community. In 2011, he earned his 200 Hour Community Service Shield.

Samuel Blewett

Samuel joined St John Youth at Henderson Youth Division in 2005. During his time with St John he has been involved in all aspects of our programme.

Samuel was recognised at his division for his leadership potential in 2013 when he attended a Leadership Development training course and made further progress in 2016 when he was promoted to Cadet Sergeant.

Samuel is an amazing competitor and this was recognised in 2016 when he was selected to represent Northern Region at the National Youth Festival in Auckland.

Samuel is now a Leader at Henderson Youth Division where he is a valuable part of the management team.

Tegan Roycroft-Cooper

Tegan joined St John Youth at Whangarei Youth Division in 2013. During her time with St John she has been involved in all aspects of our programme, and her commitment has seen her obtain her 100hr Community Service shield in 2017.

Tegan was recognised at her division for her leadership potential in 2013 and 2015 when she attended a Leadership Development training course and made further progress in 2015 when she was promoted to Cadet Sergeant.

Tegan was selected as the Northland District Cadet of the Year for the 2016/2017 period. She has shown amazing commitment to the role and has proven herself as a great role model for other cadets.

Timothy Aitkenhead

Timothy joined St John in 2009 as a member of Mt Wellington Youth Division, he moved to Mt Wellington Home schoolers Division when they opened in 2011 where he remains today.

Timothy gives a lot of hours to St John. In 2017, he earned his 100 Hour Community Service shield.

Timothy is an enthusiastic member of St John. He is always striving to learn and is highly dedicated to his division.



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