



# PATRONS' BULLETIN

JULY 2024

## COMMANDING OFFICER'S UPDATE



**Lieutenant Colonel Adam Gordon**  
Commanding Officer,  
Youth Development Unit

I'd like to welcome you to the second edition of the Patrons' Bulletin, a twice yearly update which aims to keep you abreast of the Limited Service Volunteer programme.

Our first bulletin was well received, with favourable responses from many of you including Ron Mark, Sir Graham Lowe, Chrissie Fernyhough, Lindsay Crossen, Jules Fulton, Bevan Killick, Dave McEwan, Benoit Midol, Warner Cowin and many more, including Bernie Isherwood, who set up YDU in 2010. Thank you and please keep sending us your comments and suggestions.

In this edition you'll find the course and graduation dates for all LSV Courses through to December 2024. You'll also find confirmed dates for upcoming Patron's Events in the Northern and Central regions, as well as a summary of our recent Patrons' Event held on 14 June in YDU South. There are a few Good News Stories that remind us why this is such a valuable programme and you'll also find a new video from NZ Police, which contributes to our LSV Story.

Trainee numbers are on the rise post-COVID and the size of our graduations are getting bigger which is great to witness. For the first time since COVID (Mar 20) YDU marched in over 100 trainees on a single LSV course (occurring twice this year at YDU North).

Thank you for being an essential part of the LSV community.

Together we are making a difference!



Between 1 July 2023 - 30 June 2024:

**684 LSV TRAINEES MARCHED IN**

**478 GRADUATED**

**70%**  
GRADUATION RATE







# A TRANSFORMATIVE PROGRAMME

**Christine Fernyhough (Patron of LSV South 04/11) reflects on the Limited Service Volunteer Course.**

The following are excerpts taken from Chrissie Fernyhough's article published in The Listener in March 2024.

The article serves as a good reminder of the transformation that can occur for many of the trainees.

Instilling self-respect, self-responsibility and respect for others can divert young people from a life on the dole, writes Christine Fernyhough.

LSV, which has been running for 30 years: it is not for serious young offenders and is definitely not a boot camp. Courses run for six weeks and MSD encourages young New Zealanders at risk of becoming long-term unemployed to enter the LSV programme.

I've been involved since becoming a patron of an intake at Burnham in April 2011. If ever you want to see programmed transformation working, you need to be at one of the three Youth Development Unit centres – Burnham, Trentham or Whenuapai – for an LSV graduation. Here, you'll see 70-100 young women and men marching in line, in step, heads up, eyes proudly looking forward. If you're lucky enough to speak to one or two, you will be impressed by their presentation, manners and pride.

A mere six weeks earlier, they were a raggedy bunch of 18- to 24-year-olds arriving for what is a job-ready programme. Some, but not all, face barriers: obesity, substance abuse, lack of opportunity. Many have challenging home environments.

On graduating, a number of the trainees seek to join the armed forces. For many, for the first time, they have had boundaries to adhere to, within which they may grow. They have seen themselves flourish, become confident and achieve. They have come to see themselves as leaders.

The purposes of the programme are to develop within each trainee the knowledge, skills, attitudes and resilience to become a valued employee, to learn constructive ways to deal with conflict and to foster behaviours that will increase their opportunities for employment.

Certainly there are a lot of challenges: following instructions, teaming up with others you've never met before, respecting them and respecting yourself, climbing high ropes, undertaking physically demanding tasks, getting out of bed at 6.30am, tidying your space. Many trainees identify as highlights of the programme having to make their own bed, keep their cupboards tidy, iron their clothes, clean their shoes and having three nutritious meals a day.

I would like to see the programme extended to eight weeks or longer. This would give more time for trainees to participate in and be taught a greater range of skills. They would have the chance to further embed the programme's positive values into their daily lives. I would like to see literacy and numeracy addressed. If the programme was extended to 10 weeks, one of the significant practical barriers to employment – gaining a driver's licence – could be tackled.

The job expo scheduled for week four of the programme is a time when employers arrive to hand out brochures and talk about their company and the skills they require of trainees. On graduating, close to 80% get a job or go on to further education. More than 70% are still in work 28 days later.

One hears bosses complaining, "Young people these days, where's their stickability?" If you or your company are looking for employees who show resilience, motivation, initiative, perseverance and respect for self, and others, seek out an LSV graduate.

The full article can be found [here](#)

*Editors note: We value the ideas and passion shown by our patrons. MSD are currently trialling driver licencing across all three YDU locations.*





# CELEBRATING SUCCESS



## HE WAKA EKE NOA

We are all in this canoe  
together, no exceptions



### FROM LSV TO NZDF

LSV Trainees take on all sorts of new pathways after graduating, some of them joining the New Zealand Defence Force.

### FROM TRAINEE TO PTE (NZ ARMY)



Congratulations are in order for Trainee Fungalei, who graduated on LSV N01/22 and is now PTE Fungalei completing his Apprentice Electrical Fitter Course, NZ Army.

We wish him the very best in the next step in his career.

### FROM TRAINEE TO SIG (NZ ARMY)

During SAIC C02/24, SSGT Kennedy ran into Ex LSV Georgia HAUPT LSV Cse N03/23.

SIG HAUPT is now on Ready Reaction Force 414 Training Army Depot.

We wish her the very best in the next steps in her career.





# CELEBRATING OUR SUPPORT CREW

NEW LSV AWARD ANNOUNCED FOR THE ANNUAL TOHU AWARDS



The Minister of Defence Force's 2024 Tohu Awards recognise excellence and commitment from people and organisations that support the Limited Service Volunteer programme.

The Tohu Awards, held in November every year, announces and celebrates the 'Employer Contribution to the Limited Service Volunteer Programme' and the 'Outstanding Contribution to the LSV Programme' awards.

This year, we are thrilled to announce the addition of a new category, designed to celebrate our LSV trainees. In 2024, for the first time ever, the newest Tohu Awards category will recognise the 'LSV of the Year' award.

The awards are attended by the Minister of Defence, Members of Parliament, Senior NZDF Leadership including Chief of Defence Force, Chief of Navy, Chief of Army and Chief of Air Force, as well as Senior Business Leaders of New Zealand. This addition marks an exciting opportunity to celebrate our graduates.

We also welcome an additional announcement, with Patron's over the qualifying period (30 Jun 23 – 1 Jun 24) being invited to attend the awards.

## CELEBRATING OUR PATRONS

We'd like to extend our sincere thanks to the following people who were Course Patrons in 2024:



### YDU North

Shaun Clarke, CEO Far North District Council  
Matthew Malaghan, Founder AUSPERL Group of Companies



### YDU Central

Tui Te Hau, Independent Director



### YDU South

Aaron Wright, GM Strategic Growth, Citycare Property  
Jane Gray, Teacher

# PATRONS EVENTS



YDU South held a Patrons' Event on Friday 14 June where past and present patrons had the opportunity to reconnect and even meet future patrons. We saw a good turnout which we're looking to grow each year.

It is intended that a Patrons' Event be planned for all regions on an annual basis. The purpose is to provide an opportunity for past patrons to re-engage with LSV, introduce potential patrons to the programme and enjoy some good company.

The northern region (Whenuapai) will host their next Patrons Event on 24 August 2024 and the central region (Trentham) will hold a Patrons Buffet Lunch on Wednesday 16 October 2024.



### ***Keen to get involved?***

Further details on Patron's Events will be provided by the Officers Commanding of those regions.

- 24 August 2024 (Whenuapai)
- 16 October 2024 (Trentham)

# COMING UP

Short Name	Location	Start Date (March in)	End Date (Graduation)	Point of Contact
LSV N03/24	Whenuapai	14-Oct-24	23-Nov-24	Major Steve Bougen Officer Commanding YDU North, steve.bougen@nzdf.mil.nz
LSV C03/24	Trentham	19-Aug-24	28-Sep-24	Major Sheridan Cooper, Officer Commanding YDU Central, sheridan.cooper@nzdf.mil.nz
LSV C04/24		29-Oct-24	7-Dec-24	
LSV S03/24	Burnham	5-Aug-24	14-Sep-24	Squadron Leader Craig Thornley, Officer Commanding YDU South, craig.thornley@nzdf.mil.nz
LSV S04/24		21-Oct-24	30-Nov-24	





## Follow us!

You can watch past LSV Graduations, live or in your own time, and get real-time updates and behind the scene glimpses of each LSV course via the following links on Facebook:

[LSV – Limited Service Volunteer - Auckland](#),  
[LSV – Limited Service Volunteer - Trentham](#)  
[LSV – Limited Service Volunteer - Canterbury](#).

### **What's involved in an LSV Course?**

For video content about the LSV Programme, please enjoy the following links, published in our previous bulletin:

About Us video (01:42 minutes): Check it out [here](#).

Maori TV (12 Minutes): Check it out [here](#).

**New** Police video on LSV, filmed in Burnham last year: Check it out [here](#).

### **Get in touch:**

If you have any suggestions for this bulletin or want to discuss anything to do with the LSV course, including recommending patrons, please contact:

Tua Atkinson,  
Training & Engagement Manager,  
[tua.atkinson@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:tua.atkinson@nzdf.mil.nz) or scan the QR code for contact details and LSV videos and articles.

Thank you for reading along, and please do get in touch with us at any time at [ydu.patron@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:ydu.patron@nzdf.mil.nz)  
If you wish to [unsubscribe](#), please contact us on [ydu.patron@nzdf.mil.nz](mailto:ydu.patron@nzdf.mil.nz)

