



Introducing Tool Blacks Team Member

Name: Kirsty Lister
Skill: Restaurant Service
From Palmerston North

Kirsty gained a gold medal at the WorldSkills NZ National Finals in September 2008. She meets the criteria and high performance standards required for WorldSkills, and has been selected to be part of the Tool Black team competing at the 2009 WorldSkills International Competition to be held in Calgary, Canada in September 2009.

Kirsty has been in the NZ Defence Force since June 2006 and is undertaking her training through the Joint Services Catering School in Waiouru. Her basic qualification was gained through the Hospitality Standards Institute and now she is working towards an Intermediate Steward's qualification through City & Guilds (London).

2008 was a busy time for Kirsty with regard to competitions, not only did she compete successfully at the New Zealand regional and national WorldSkills competitions but she also had the opportunity to compete as a Guest Competitor at the WorldSkills Australia competitions. Kirsty also was part of the NZ Defence Force team competing at the Salon Culinaire competitions where she acquitted herself well.

Kirsty "learnt heaps" by entering the WorldSkills competitions and would definitely encourage other young people to enter because "it is a great opportunity to widen your knowledge, meet new people and there is always the chance you might get to the international competitions."

Kirsty is looking forward to the experience of competing in Calgary as she is keen to learn new skills and find out how things are done overseas. She's working hard to ensure her skills are at the standard required for the international competition but making new friends from around the world is also high on Kirsty's agenda for the trip.

Kirsty is being fully funded for her trip to Calgary by the NZ Defence Force. WorldSkills and Kirsty would like to thank the NZ Defence Force for their support of Kirsty and the Restaurant Service Competition.

