

California/New Zealand Lifeguard Exchange 2001-2002

An Opportunity and Experience of a Lifetime

By Chris Graham

Two Auckland Lifeguards, Dean Storey, Mangawhai Heads and Shane Coward, United North Piha, spent five weeks visiting 11 California Lifeguard Agencies. Shane Coward commented "The challenges that a new and different environment offers, can expand a lifeguard's knowledge base and also broadens one's perspective of lifesaving".

Two California Lifeguards have been chosen to represent the California Surf Lifesaving Association in the 2001-02 professional Lifeguard Exchange with Auckland, New Zealand. This year's representatives are Gennifer Amthor, City of Seal Beach Lifeguards and Casey Graham, Port Hueneme Lifeguards. They begin their seven-week exchange as they leave the U.S. on December 25, 2001.

The goal of the CA/NZ Lifeguard Exchange Program is to explore and share different avenues of rescue philosophy and styles of ocean lifeguarding. The experiences the exchange guard's share is of keen interest to the hosts, the travelers and to those awaiting their reports.

For information regarding the 2002 CA/NZ Lifeguard Exchange go to www.CSLSA.org

TO: Vince Lombardi,
Editor, CSLSA Magazine

FROM: Dean Storey
Mangawhai Heads SLSA

On behalf of Shane Coward, Surf Lifesaving Northern Region and myself, I would like to thank the vast number of people and departments of Southern California who showed us immense kindness and goodwill during our visit on the 2001 Lifeguard Exchange.

The 36th year of the NZ-California exchange saw us spend five weeks touring a number of different departments between Los Angeles and Imperial Beach. During this time we had the opportunity to witness and experience a huge number of activities, lifeguard and non-lifeguard related.

The kindness we received exceeded our expectations hugely and served to represent the genuine personal and professional qualities of the lifeguards in the Southern California area. Thank you once again for a fun and educational experience, I look forward to the reciprocal visit of your exchange guards in December this year, so I can return the favor.

A special thanks to the California-NZ Exchange Coordinator Chris Graham for his exceptional planning and management of our stay. I couldn't imagine things going any better.

All the best,
Dean Storey
Mangawhai Heads Surf Lifesaving Club

*New
Zealand
Exchange
Lifeguards
touristing in
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