

# TOURING HISTORY OF NATIONAL BANDS OF NEW ZEALAND

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**1953 Music Director, KGL Smith** Tour duration five months performing at The Edinburgh International Festival, the British Open Championship in Belle Vue, Manchester and the 1953 Coronation Festivities, London. The Band presented 170 concerts and marching displays over 17 weeks. A highlight was a Royal Command performance before the Queen at Buckingham Palace.



**1962 Music Director, KGL Smith** Performed at the Edinburgh International Festival and World Music Concourse, Kerkrade, the Netherlands gaining the highest honours in its section.



**1965 Music Director, Norman Thorn** Tour duration of three months including performing for three weeks at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto; Concert tour throughout North America presenting 96 concerts and displays in 110 days. The International Association of Concert Managers voted the National Band of New Zealand the finest new attraction heard in North America.





**1967    Music Director, KGL Smith            Concert tour of New Zealand.**



**1970    Music Director, Elgar Clayton**            Performed at the World Music Concourse, Kerkrade, the Netherlands, where the Band regained the World Brass Band title, won the marching event, and was placed third in the overall section; Expo 70, Osaka, Japan; Moscow; Edinburgh Commonwealth Games; Concert tour of Great Britain. The band then performed at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto before embarking on a six-week tour of North America. This band presented over 175 concerts and displays over four months.



**1974    Music Director, Mervyn Waters**            Performed at the Commonwealth Games in Christchurch, and a concert tour of North America.



**1976 Music Director, Mervyn Waters**

New Zealand concert tour.



**1978 Music Director, Mervyn Waters**

Four-month tour comprising more than 80 public appearances, including performances at the Canadian National Exhibition; Los Angeles County Fair; Concert tour of North America, Great Britain and The Netherlands culminating at the World Music Concourse, Kerkrade, the Netherlands. At this event the National Band of New Zealand was awarded three gold medals with distinction, the highest number ever rewarded.





**1980    Music Director, Rodney Sutton**

Nine-week concert tour of North America.



**1985    Music Director, Ken Smith**

One month tour of Great Britain, Germany, France and the Netherlands - culminating at the World Music Concourse, Kerkrade, The Netherlands. The National Band of New Zealand gained the highest points ever given at this event and was accorded a standing ovation, by both the capacity audience and the panel of international adjudicators.



**1989 Music Director, Mervyn Waters**

The band formed to tour China but the tour was called off because of political unrest. Music Director Mervyn Waters died suddenly shortly after the band's first training camp. Kevin Jarrett was then appointed the music director. The band did not reform or tour.



**1990 Music Director, Kevin Jarrett MBE**

The 1990 Band was formed specifically to perform at the Commonwealth Games opening ceremony in Auckland. This spectacular extravaganza was telecast around the world. The band only performed one concert as the majority of the time was spent preparing a marching display for the opening ceremony. The Drum Major was John Everitt.





**1992 Music Director, Kevin Jarrett MBE**

This band was formed to tour New Zealand and performed 29 concerts in 18 days. The tour occurred because of a perceived need to “push” the National Band on the concert circuit in New Zealand. Audiences were generally good and this was the last National Band that still undertook to march.



**1995 Music Director, Kevin Jarrett MBE**

The 1995 Band undertook a concert tour of the United States giving 24 concerts in five weeks. The band travelled 9000 miles by bus and was accompanied by the Aotearoa Maori Cultural group. The combination of the Band and the cultural group received standing ovations at every concert and performed before some very large audiences indeed.





**2003 Music Director, David Gallaher**

The 2003 Band formed after an eight-year break saw many new players become part of the National Band environment. The band undertook an internal tour of New Zealand performing many of the latest works of substance for brass as well as recording a CD.



**2005 Music Director, David Gallaher**

Four-week concert tour of Singapore, Great Britain, Germany and the Netherlands culminating at the World Music Concourse, Kerkrade at which the band was placed third.





**2007 Music Director, Howard Taylor**  
Morrison.

Concert tour of New Zealand with international guest artist James



**2009 Music Director, Howard Taylor**  
Netherlands.

The band placed fourth at World Music Concourse, Kerkrade, The



**2014 Music Director, Nigel E Weeks**

Concert tour of South-East China with the Aotearoa Maori Group, promoted by the China Performing Arts Agency. With performances at the Korea International Wind Band Festival, South Korea.





**2017 Music Director, Nigel E Weeks**

Selected in 2016 this National Band undertook training camps in Blenheim, Christchurch and Wellington before its final assembly in Auckland. While in camp the band recorded a CD and performed in Hamilton and Auckland with guest artists David Bremner (trombone) and Aotearoa mai Tawhiti. The tour group performed in Hong Kong as part of the 20<sup>th</sup> celebrations of the hand-over of Hong Kong to China before competing at the World Music Contest in Kerkrade at which the band was placed second.



**2020-2023 Musical Director, David Bremner**

Selected in 2020, the planned activities of this National Band were disrupted by a worldwide pandemic, although one concert was performed in Hamilton. In 2021 the band performed a joint concert with the New Zealand Army Band following the National Contest in Christchurch. In May 2022 the band recorded a joint performance with the New Symphony Orchestra in Wellington and performed its own concerts in Upper Hutt, Wellington, New Plymouth and Palmerston North.

