

Nelson Cadet Unit, New Zealand Cadet Corps

10 Feb 26

OP ORDER 03/2026

PURPLE POPPY DAY – 22 FEBRUARY 2026

SITUATION

1. Purple Poppy Day is on 24 Feb every year. This year the commemoration is on Sun 22 Feb.
2. The commemoration honours and remembers the animals that have served during wartime. Animals had many different roles during war time, pigeons carried important messages, dogs helped to find the wounded and donkeys carried the wounded to field stations.

MISSION

3. Nelson Cadet Unit will attend Purple Poppy Commemorations, providing a work party, ceremonial duties and assistance at Marsden Cemetery.

EXECUTION

4. The activity will be conducted in 3 Phases:
 - a. Phase 1: NLT 1600 Sun 22 Feb, all assemble at Marsden Cemetery, assist with set up.
 - b. Phase 2: 1700 – 1745 Commemoration
 - c. Phase 3: 1745-1800 Assist with pack up and dismiss

ADMIN & LOGISTICS

5. ELIGIBILITY: All Regimental cadets and above.
6. APPLICATION: Cadets must apply and have NOK approval prior to 1800hrs Thu 19 Feb.
7. EQUIPMENT: Record of Service Book, water.
8. DRESS: Dress 3A. If the weather is colder or windy, bring a smock to wear.
9. RATIONS: Please ensure cadets have eaten and are hydrated before attending the activity.
10. TRANSPORT: Cadets are to provide their own transport to and from Marsden Cemetery. Those attending NCO development training during the day of 22 Feb, will be transported between NCU and the cemetery, and can be picked up from the cemetery.

COMMAND & SIGNALS

11. Activity Officer in Charge (OIC): MAJ Sophie Webber, NZCF, emergency contact number 027 382 6913.

FURTHER REMARKS

12. Families and friends are welcome to attend, and pets/animals can be brought for the service (on leash).



S. R. Webber
MAJ, NZCF
CUCDR, NCU