

The R.F.P.A. GAZETTE



(Established 1931)

Registered office
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WINGHAM NSW 2429

www.retiredpolice.com.au



Have you purchased your RFPA Tie and/or RFPA Ladies' Scarf?

Men's ties are \$20.00 Ladies scarves are \$25.00 both including packaging and postage. Contact the State Secretary, Peter Rankin (see back page).

Wrong front page, take from 90th Anniversary please.



MEET YOUR NEW COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT NSW – ELECTED DECEMBER 2021



BACK ROW: DAVE WHITEMAN, IAN MOORE, STEVE TURNER, DAVID BUCKLEY, BRUCE HOWE, BETH DOCKSEY, ALLAN SIMPSON BEMKS, NEIL PURVIS

FRONT ROW: GEORGE WEISSEL, IAN LOVELL APM, PAUL WYNNE, JOHN CROCKETT

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

- President's Report
- Welfare Report
- Articles of Interest
- New Members Welcomed
- Reunions
- Secretary's Report
- Letters to the Editor
- Branch Reports
- Notice Board
- Vale

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x change "Upcoming Reunions to "Reunions" Add Honour Roll as a contents item

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



This is my first report as President and I would like to express my gratitude to the membership in having the confidence to vote me into this position. My thanks to those who retired this year, **Paul Biscoe AM, Peter Rankin and Tony Dunn** who, during their years of service, did a sterling job on the committee and served the Association so well. I wish them all the best in their retirement and future endeavours.

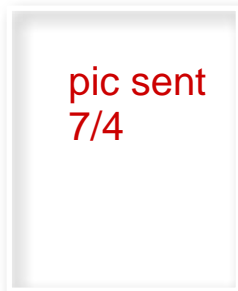
At this time I would join with you in welcoming the new members of the Committee viz; **Ian Lovell** APM from the Hunter Branch; **Beth Docksey** from Murray River Branch, and **Neil Purvis** from Parramatta-The Hills branch.

During my tenure as President of the Committee of Management, I will endeavour to further enhance the name, reputation and role of the **Retired & Former Police Association** and to further put in place benefits for our members.

This will be achieved by engendering a closer relationship with the Police Commissioner and her commanders including those at Local Command Level, and other organisations of the Police Family such as Police Bank, Police Legacy, Police Association, Police Wives & Friends Support Group and other stakeholders.

Currently, there are negotiations underway with several of the above and we will keep you advised via the website, Gazette and Branch Secretarial Reports of the outcomes.

God Bless,
Paul Wynne JP



SECRETARY'S REPORT

I have now had time to reflect on the Association's achievements over the years, as set out in the 90th Anniversary Gazette. This has made me rather proud to have been elected to the Committee of Management as Secretary, and focuses my efforts on maintaining the spirit and standing of the **Retired and Former Police Association**.

Paul BISCOE, Peter RANKIN and Tony DUNN have now moved on, but most of the C.O.M. have been in place for a number of years; some more than twenty. A lot of effort has gone into deliberating, negotiating, drafting and executing plans and achieving worthwhile change to benefit the Members. Archiving those efforts has arisen as a priority.

I commend to you the efforts of **Paul BISCOE and Peter RANKIN**, who are both Life Members of our Association, having spent the whole time since their respective retirements serving the RFPA Committee of Management, and those of each of the C.O.M. Members, who continue to concentrate on the Association's aims, in particular your personal welfare.

COMMUNICATING WITH YOU:

Your newly-constituted Committee of Management has embarked on **upgrades to our communications**, with a view to making all information accessible to all Members without depending on email systems. We have discovered I.T. limitations which are widening as various commercial entities go their own ways with new technology, and particularly when they fail to support commonly-used personal email systems and when compatibility issues arise as these systems and programs receive regular commercial overhauls and protections.

Put simply, when upwards of 4,000 emails are sent to our membership as individuals, you can guarantee that several hundred will fail to reach their destinations, for reasons outside our control. We have decided to upgrade now, and to future-proof the system as much as we can.

What is proposed is a process which will deliver information to where you can access it as it arrives. This includes same-day service from several sources, including NSWPF, through policy and process changes which have been made specifically to help us. Your ability to access it will depend only on whether you have a device which can access the internet. This is already the case for the receipt of email messages.

You will simply access the **RFPA website and go to 'NEWS'**, where day-to-day information will be listed, taking the place of email messages. **All funeral information where known will be posted in real time**, and when it is no longer required, it will transfer to the 'VALE' file on the home page. Careful consideration is in process regarding the important issue of privacy.

The changes will require you to access the webpage, rather than your email feed, and should otherwise be seamless, and far more reliable than awaiting the 'steam-driven' processes now offered by the various programs and servers. Reliability will be enhanced, and the time factor will be greatly reduced owing to the lack of need for double handling and re-addressing by our many Branch Secretaries, and yours truly. The efforts of the Commander, Police Protocol Unit to establish policy which will give us early access to more detailed information are greatly appreciated. Many thanks to **Chief Inspector Paul SMITH**.

As an entirely new facility, **Facebook will shortly become part of our information system**, allowing for new ways of exhibiting graphics, images, advertising and the like for the benefit of Members.

BRANCH GRANTS:

The long-established process of making grants to Branches to assist with socialising and welfare arrangements was delayed however, by the time you read this, your branch should have received their payment.

Ian Lovell, APM



EDITOR'S REPORT

Thank you to those who took the time to give some feedback regarding the 90th Anniversary edition - mentioning both the stories, history and the photos.

It is always gratifying to know that we are doing a reasonably "decent" job for most of our members. Your comments are welcome, whether positive or constructive as this feedback means we can continue to "tweak" the Gazette to be a better read.

Your editorial team felt the addition of an **Honour Roll** was timely given the tenure of both the outgoing President and Secretary was at an end. **If anyone can fill in the gaps of names and dates**, please let us know so we can build up a history which can be passed on into the future.

We are happy to receive your stories, present and past, together with photos, but please send photos as separate attachments so that we get the best final quality.

Deadline for receipt of articles and photos for the Winter Edition is 7th June 2022

God Bless,
Paul Wynne JP, Editor - and Sandy Benson JP, Sub-editor



WELFARE OFFICERS' REPORT add "been" before ill

We are coming into the autumn months now and we can expect it to be a little cooler as the months approach. Not as though the summer months have been good, with untold rain and cool periods to most of the state. Some members have [^]ill and in hospital over the period, but many are improving and on the

mend at their homes. I will continue to contact many members throughout the year, to see how they are going and to check on their welfare. If you know of anyone who is ill, in hospital or care and would appreciate a call or visit please let me know.

In the meantime, I look forward to each of you having a good time and taking care of yourselves.

Ian Moore

State Welfare Officer.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

Paul and Sandy.

Want to congratulate you both for your outstanding support to our magazine. Unfortunately the members I know are mainly mentioned in the Vale pages these days as I am now well into my eighties.

I would like to take you back to 1960 when I was a new Constable stationed at Clarence Street. The uniform of that day was a hopsack fabric for summer and a heavy cloth tunic for winter. We were issued with three shirts with detachable collars. This saved washing and only needed the collar washed and starched and then clipped on with studs. Some said you could clean the collar without washing by use of a pencil erasure to remove grime. I did not try that.

Then there was a Beretta automatic pistol and handcuffs with a leather holster and large waist belt to hold them. Also issued was cap and white pith helmet. A black cloth bag was used to carry the headwear not worn. (Weather conditions).

There was no paid overtime in 1960 and any such time worked could be accrued and then taken off on the basis of equal hour for hour. I was not eligible for leave until the following year so I decided I would volunteer for extra duty to accrue enough days off because I was getting married later that year.

x

I clearly remember one of my regular volunteer duties was supervision at the Sunday afternoon at the Sydney Domain. A walk from Clarence Street, in full uniform & Pith hat, I would arrive shortly after midday and then oversee the large number of mixed people gather to watch the antics of several speakers and others who would yell and rave from their soap boxes. There was never any trouble and I am sure those attending were encouraged by the presence of a roving young Constable. I actually got to know many of the regulars. Also in attendance were a number of buskers who would do their best to entertain the crowd with a possible coin reward.



There was this old man who would sit in his cane chair and play the violin. He had a couple of dogs who wore sunglasses and caps and laid on the grass. Also a few budgies who perched on his bow. The chair had seen better days and his clothes were tattered but he seemed healthy enough. As he sat there playing the violin I noticed that a large portion of his genitals had fallen out of his trousers and down through the bottom of the chair to be visible to women and children standing in the crowd. I knew I had to do something. So I took off my helmet and then crept around behind the old fellow without any panic. Then I leaned down and spoke into his ear in a very clear manner. I said, "Do you know your balls are hanging down through the bottom of the old cane chair?" He quickly replied "No I don't but if you can hum a few lines I'm sure I'll pick it up."

Paul & Sandy. Most of the above is true, I promise. Maybe we can ask some of our members to relate incidents that really happen. I am sure my above story will get a laugh along the way if you report it.

Don Peter

Dear Paul,

Back in 1962 several young, single Police were transferred to Cooma, most of whom were housed in the Police barracks, which was the former Inspector's residence.

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

SURNAME	CHRISTIAN NAME	LOCATION	BRANCH
BENTLEY	CHRISTINE	SPRINGDALE HEIGHTS	MURRAY RIVER
GALLAGHER	STEPHEN	ADAMSTOWN HEIGHTS	HUNTER
GUILLAUMIER	MARIO	LONDONDERRY	PENRITH
HURLEY	JOHN LAURENCE	MEDOWIE	HUNTER
LAWLOR	ANTHONY JAMES	COFFS HARBOUR	COFFS HARBOUR
LEDDEN	MICHELLE	HILLSDALE	SYDNEY
MCKECHNIE	GEOFFREY	DUBBO	DUBBO
PACK	KYLIE ESMA	CHISHOLM	HUNTER
REEVES	MATTHEW	PORT MACQUARIE	



Thanks, mainly to **Tony Southall**, we have kept in touch over the years, and more recently meeting once a year for lunch and a get-together. The attached photos show four who are still with us, namely left to right, **Tony Southall, John Albury, Col Bridgeman and Graeme Clarke**. All ex-cadets.



This was a gathering at Fingal Bay to celebrate **Col's 80th** birthday, and includes, left to right, **Tony Southall and partner Pamela Gallagher, John and Margaret Albury, Helene Naylor widow of Bob Naylor, Col and Clyne Bridgeman and Graeme and Joy Clarke**.

Regards
Col Bridgeman

Dear Editor,
x remove this letter, will put in next month's
I write again to protest, complain or perhaps draw attention to the changing face of the NSW Police Force. I joined as a Police Cadet (by law a member of the NSW Police) and was sworn in as a Constable in 1952.

I retired after 37 years and to use an old cliché "one never stops being a policeman" even though my baton and cuffs are now on issue to another young buck or doe. In my time there was constant criticism of the strict seniority system for promotion and now that a new system has been installed in its stead, I question our progress for reasons too many to mention here.

I regularly attend my local RFPA meetings, read the Police publications that come my way, read newspapers and listen to the radio and am very sad at the current perception that all is not well in the Service. For 25 years I was a Prosecutor and over time one's respect for the judicial system failed to create confidence in those who have to enforce the law.

I draw particular attention to the anachronistic jury system where 12 good men and women sit, sometimes for weeks at a time, to determine the guilt or innocence of an individual. How distressing it is to know that Police, including retired police* I, are not permitted to serve on a jury because we are considered to be biased. Dopes, criminals, those who are anti police can serve on a jury and as a prosecutor with considerable experience in committals for trial it is difficult to comprehend the jury's decision of not guilty when I later speak to the arresting police who gave evidence at the committal and later tell me the ultimate result of the trial – the jury found the accused not guilty.

Police are charged by the Act of Parliament to investigate crimes yet we must advise those who commit the crime that they do not have to answer our questions. Criminals, including a High Court Judge and the Chief Magistrate of New South Wales were allowed to make unsworn statements from the floor of the Court – thus denying the prosecution the right to cross examine the suspect. I have always been of the view that silence does not equate to innocence.

In the early days the Police Regulation Act stated that the Commissioner of Police had the superintendence of the Police Force. When **Neville Wran** became our Minister (and Premier) he added the words, "..."(subject to the control of the Minister)". This amendment simply interpreted unequivocally was that we then became a political arm of the Government.

Most will remember that **Jim Lees** (later Commissioner) was the officer in charge of discipline and examinations. **Premier Wran** introduced the Ombudsman Act and encouraged people who felt they had a complaint to make communication with the Ombudsman and **Wran** gave a direction that every complaint should be fully investigated. This had the effect of Jim Lees being replaced with the Internal Affairs Branch with a staff of over 30. I was heavily involved with Internal Affairs, both as a Prosecutor and subsequently as an Inspector investigator and only a very small number of complaints was justified. On being transferred to Internal Affairs, in a very short time I had 26 complaints referred to me for full investigation with many of them taking weeks to investigate and fully report to the Ombudsman. Many people, other than Police, complained that it was wrong for Police to investigate Police. Nothing was ever done to implement this insulting suggestion.

In our time we have experienced the **Justice Moffitt** enquiry, the **Wood Royal Commission, Black Deaths in Custody**, the termination of the **Police Cadet system**, we now see the push to increase the age of criminal responsibility from 10 to 14 – there have been many Acts of Parliament either abolished or had Police powers reduced, such as Police Offences Act, Offensive behaviour, drunkenness, indecent language, consorting, indecent publications, compulsory retirement no longer exists, on physical standards (little people under five feet as uniformed constables) and my take on all of this is that **Neville Wran** created a comic Police Service. **Wran** was certainly not the friend of our Police Service.

I believe that the Police Force I joined in 1949 was so far removed from the job it is today – you do not need university graduates – what is required is experience and common sense. I have said enough – I have made my point that all is not well – good luck to all service Police today.

Oscar Taylor Retired Inspector 7472

**Editor's Note – There are several groups of people automatically exempt from serving on a Jury in NSW. Currently serving Police, Armed Forces, High Public Office and those with criminal convictions, undischarged bankrupt, and other criminal categories. So we, Retired Police can be called upon to serve on a jury and in fact I, personally, was selected for jury duty recently.*

BRANCH REPORTS

BRISBANE

It was around the year 273 that the church considered commandeering the existing pagan festival of winter solstice as fitting time to honour the son of God... Western Christians officially began celebrating December 25 as the birth of Jesus in 336 AD. The first recorded incidence of Christmas being celebrated actually dates all the way back to the Roman Empire in 336, during the time of the Roman Emperor Constantine.

Annual Branch Christmas Party 2021 We were able to gather 56 members, friends and guests to our function. The day commenced with plates of nibbles being circulated by staff and replenished a number of times. When called to seating, our MC **Kevin**, introduced guests which included former Commissioner Queensland Police **Bob Atkinson**, local Caboolture Area Commander, **Superintendent John Hallam**, Queensland Police Bank rep. **Dan Keating**, Queensland RPA President **Greg Early**, Immediate Past President Queensland RPA **Mick O'Brien**, Branch member and **Police Chaplain Ian Todd**. A sumptuous buffet meal was laid-on, and later, sweets were delivered to tables. A bar tab catered for the thirsty ones until the till ran dry. Raffles Prizes and Christmas Gifts During the day lucky door prizes were handed out and raffles galore caused fun among the audience. We were entertained with song and music by the popular **Rob Rosenlund of Wickety-Wack** fame. And of course, Santa finally to those who were impatient for their Christmas gift

Kevin RAMM

CENTRAL COAST

We look forward to your report and photos for our next issue

CENTRAL TABLELANDS

We look forward to your report and photos for our next issue

COFFS HARBOUR

Our last gathering was on Tuesday 19th October on the Jetty Foreshores, and what a great day it was with live music by our resident entertainer **Floyd BALLARD** and his Ukulele backed by a small choir singing, delicious roasted chicken, and great company. I urge those of you that are not vaccinated to go and get the jab. We missed seeing you. I felt sorry for our members that only had one jab, and of course our members that were not well enough to join us.



Bob Fellows receiving OBE



Christine Zecchinati Retirement



Attending were **Garry/Suzanne HESKETT, Hedley/Barbara GLEAVE, Ian/Sue HODGES, George/Jeanette WILLIAMS, Murray/Judy SMITH, Greg/Patricia SEALE, Bob JONES, Heather MOORE, Betty LYNE, Bev CLANCY, Gwenda WILKINSON, Floyd BALLARD, John HARTLEY, Ruth BOYD and David MORRIS.**

With apologies from **Bob/Sandra FELLOWS, Tony/Sheila BROWN, Trevor/Anne GOLDMAN, Doug/Jan TYSOE, Dallas/Charlie BURRAGE, Lorraine GARDINER, Christine ZECCHINATI Deirdre McLEOD, Tony LAWLER, Barry WALKER, Trevor BEAUMONT, Ruth BOYD.**

Regards

Gary Heskett

DUBBO

We look forward to your report and photos for our next issue

GOLD COAST

Despite having half our membership living in Qld and the other half in NSW, we managed to organise bit of an informal get together on the date that we would normally be holding our Christmas Luncheon. **Garry Mathews** organised a function for those living in NSW, around 20. **Gary Hughes** organised an informal luncheon for the Queenslanders on the ground floor restaurant area at the Currumbin RSL.

As mentioned recently, **Joan** and I will have a disruptive year in 2022 and we could be away for about 4 months. **Malcolm Cox** has indicated he is prepared to take on our task of the monthly newsletter and many thanks for his most capable assistance.

On behalf of your Executive, **Gary Jardine, Garry Matthews, Gary Hughes, John Beacham** and myself, all the best for 2022.

John King

HUNTER REGION

2021 was not a good year for meetings, so we only held a few in the Hunter.



Christmas at Kurri TAFE

Bob GREY, Tom Cyril HUTCHESSON, the late Jack BRACKEN, Geoffrey the extraordinary winemaker, Clelia and Ian PARK, Col and Gael CURRY sampling the wines.

Our November meeting was about to go ahead when the Manager at Pacific Dunes called to say that there was a 'deep clean' taking the place of our gathering. They look after us and we'll return there soon. Christmas in July was put off four times and eventually held at Kurri TAFE in December. That had given the Lizard Liqueur enough time to be decanted, and we were privileged to taste the first drops of this 2009 vintage from the Mudgee area. It was time to present OBE's to **John ALBURY** and **Graeme CLARKE**, and to have a most enjoyable celebration, thanks to **Desley** and her staff. Pacific Dunes and Kurri Kurri TAFE remain on our 'favourites' menu.

We had 'between' meetings at Nelson Bay Bowling Club, the Washtub Diner at Stockton (the 'overseas' visit) and Club Macquarie at Argenton.

All were well attended, and newer Members **John WILLSON, Joe and Kaleen KRZANIC and John HURLEY** all appeared to enjoy themselves.

On a sad note, we farewelled a number of Hunter stalwarts during the covid period; many through the medium of television links, a sign of the times. Personal tributes were difficult, and hopefully more traditional process can be followed now. Farewell to **Chris HAIN**, our lovely Social Secretary **Janne McMAHON, Sam BASS, Dick DOUST, Brad EDWARDS, Norm APPLEBY, Stan GOFFETT and John HAKES**, and maybe others as yet not known. Our condolences to their loved ones, and you can be sure that we are the poorer for their losses.

We will be back to 'normal' hopefully from here on, and the next event is scheduled for Muree Golf Club, Raymond Terrace, 11-30am Tuesday 12th April. Any visitors to the area are most welcome to attend.

Ian Lovell

ILLAWARRA



On Monday 17th May 2021, our Branch held a **"Mother's Day High Tea"** at the Warilla Sports Club, this was well supported by our Branch along with members of **Kiama Branch**, with a total of **25 persons** in attendance. This was held in a spacious dining room for our members only, overlooking a small creek and grassland area adjacent the Club. In addition to the beautiful presented food, wine and tea/coffee were included.



LR Dave Routledge, Kel Schreiber, Bob Cocksedge, Gordon Weaver

Our Branch held its **A.G.M** at 11.30am Monday 21 June 2021 at the **Wollongong Master Builders Club**. This was a short meeting with all current Office Holder's, being renominated and accepting their positions. **Dave Routledge** (Chairman) thanking those for accepting their positions and members of the Branch for their Loyalty in attending our Meetings and Social Events. Current positions, Vice Chair, **Bob Cocksedge**, Secretary **Neil Harris**, Assist Secretary **Marjorie PAYTON**, Treasurer, **Steve Byrnes**.



LR Alan Hodge, Chris Berry, Steve & Bev Byrnes, Roy McIntyre



LR Barry and Sue Smith, Julie Routledge



Following this meeting we held our normal meeting and planned some future outings which have subsequently not occurred because of the "Covid Shutdown". Following the meeting members dined at the Club for lunch and some liquid refreshments. Attached is a photo of members **"Proudly" wearing their RFFA Tee-Shirts"**, with more members ordering the same, they are proving **VERY INFECTIOUS** (poor but appropriate word). Thanks to the Albury/Murray Branch for their assistance in this matter:

AGM Tee Shirt Members, F - Barry Smith, Neil Harris, Marjorie Payton, Dave Routledge, Alan Hodge B - Back Row, Warren Fitzgerald, Bev & Steve Byrnes.

This Branch also sadly has lost two of our members, **Marian LAYTON** and **Joan PARSONS** in last months. Both regulars at our meetings and social events. Joan's husband Kevin is still active in the Branch.

Both Chairman and Secretary of Branch continue to contact members by phone to check on welfare and just general chat.

Neil H. Harris

KIAMA

During the Christmas period **Paul Wynne, President**, met with three local members for a chat and coffee. Always good to try to catch up with locals when you are visiting an area where there is an RFFA Branch.

Kel Schreiber

Insert photos sent.

MACARTHUR

Just a quick synopsis of the February meeting





Visit from State President for 2022

The first meeting of the Macarthur Branch of the R.F.P.A was conducted in February 2022. There was a good roll up of 23 attendees with 14 apologies. The meeting welcomed **Paul Wynne** in his new capacity of President. **Paul** outlined his vision to grow and add value to the Association which was met with positive reactions.

Remove this para below
The major sponsor **Gerald Kenneally** of Kenneally's Funerals introduced himself to the forum. Details of the visit to the Police Airwing were finalised but unfortunately prior to the visit, the event was postponed due to the major flooding.

Remove this sentence.
The next meeting of the Branch is 8th April, 2022.

Roger Ford

MANNING GREAT LAKES

We held our 1st meeting for 2022 at the Manning River Hotel, Taree on Tuesday 15 February with 24 in attendance.

Terry & Kerri Tamplin, Des Hall, Wayne & Cheryl McCann, Shane & Sharyn Murphy, Karen & Kevin Guillaumier, Warrick Hemsley, Dick & Michelle Spencer, Pat & Charlie Paff, Don Brown, Cliff & Wendy Hoare, Arthur Southwell, Deena Lane, Gerard & Jan Cross, Peter & Dawn Rankin, Judy Russell. Supt Chris Schilt (Visitor)

Apologies were noted from **Bert & Linda Bennett, Shayne Green, Col & Barbara Cross, Wayne & Judy Parkes, Bob & Lyn Poole, Colleen Hall, Ray & Gaye Taggart, Terry & Jeanine Clifton.**

Nothing much has happened in this part of the world due to the ongoing Covid. We were very fortunate to have our Police Commander for the Manning Great Lakes **Superintendent Chris Schilt** in attendance at the meeting. **Chris** as always gave an overview of his Command.

I am very pleased to report the return of two members **Arthur Southwell and Kevin Bishop**, both have been having health issues and it was great to see them again.

As we are all are now getting older it was decided to meet at a location suitable for everyone with easy access. It was decided that all future meetings will now be held at Club Old Bar.

Terry Tamplin

MID NORTH COAST

Our AGM was held at the Port Macquarie City Bowling Club. It resulted in the following people being elected for the 2021/22 period.

Chairman : **AL LUKES** Vice Chairman: **Val IVLEV** Secretary: **Paul GRIFFIN** Treasurer: **Betty HARTNETT** Welfare Officers: **Bruce SAUNDERS & Bob BRUCE.** Committee: **Jennett HUNT, Mickey FOSTER, Marlene BROWN and Graham WILLIAMS.** Others in attendance at the meeting were **Jim CRANNA, Sid CRANE, Wayne EVANS, Murray & Margaret OSBORNE, Paul EGGE, Bob HANLON GM, Bryan LONGHURST, Ron NUNN, & Trevor NEIL.** There were apologies from **Laurie & Marcia McGRATH, George & Jan McCLEERY, Betty HARTNETT, Brian & Christine BANKS, Keith & Mary RULE & Ron HAMMERSLEY.**

It was very good to see both **Paul Egge and Bob Hanlon** back on deck with them both having been on the 'sick list' in recent times.



Our guest speaker for the day was **Mark STRACHAN**, affectionately known as "**Strawny**", who is a legend on the Mid North Coast. He has hosted the morning show on radio station Triple M for 20 plus years and he rivals **Ray Hadley** for popularity in these parts. He has also worked on television for years providing us with weather, fishing & surfing reports. **Strawny** has always been

super supportive of the local Police and it was a great pleasure to have him as a guest speaker at our meeting. He was also kind enough to act as Chair of our AGM for the election of Office Bearer for the coming year. He kept us enthralled with stories associated with his time in radio and television, very funny and highly entertaining. We particularly thank him for his time, bearing in mind he has to rise each morning at 3a.m. to get ready for his morning program.

Remove this whole story and pic as under.



Our annual mid-year Christmas luncheon was held at the Wauchope RSL. Considering the COVID restrictions that were in place we had a very good roll-up. Those present were **AI LUKES, Ron & Desley NUNN, Graham & Irene WILLIAMS, Mickey FOSTER, Bruce SAUNDERS, Denise HUNTLEY, Denis DRIVER, Jan WALKER, Jennett HUNT, Ian & Dawn CAMPBELL,**

Brian & Christine BANKS, Keith & Mary RULE, George & Jan McCLEERY, Marlene BROWN, Laurie & Marcia McGRATH, Jeff & Margaret ELLIOTT, Heather ANDERSON, Paul & Karen GRIFFIN & Jim & Sandra CRANNA. The food was excellent once again as was the wine and the company. Our hardworking 'social committee' (**Marlene, Mickey & Jennett**) did another great job organizing raffle prizes (which they personally donated I might add) and a special gift for each of the ladies present. It all helped to make it a really good day out. **This story above**



Port City Bowling Club was again the venue for our next meeting. In attendance were **Paul GRIFFIN, AI LUKES, Jim CRANNA, Bob HANLON, Paul EGGE, Brian & Christine BANKS, Keith & Mary RULE, Bob BRUCE, Val IVLEV, Marlene BROWN, Laurie & Marcia McGRATH, Wayne EVANS, Bruce SAUNDERS, Brian & Irene WILLIAMS, Ian CAMPBELL, George McCLEERY & Sid CRANE** while apologies were received from **Ron & Desley NUNN, Mickey FOSTER, Betty HARTNETT & Jennett HUNT.** After coffee in the cafe we were entertained by **Dave ('Astro Dave') RENEKE** who is a well-known and highly regarded member of the Astronomers society on the Mid North Coast. He has travelled the world lecturing and writing about the

mystery's the Universe. His presentation was excellent. While in America some years ago he spent an entire day with **Buzz Aldrin**, who walked on the moon in 1969 with **Neil Armstrong**, and he was able to tell us some of the stories **Aldrin** told him of that space mission. He also spent a day

with **Sir Richard Branson** some years ago when **Branson** unveiled one of the Spacecraft he was developing in his quest to make space travel a commercial proposition.. A very interesting morning. **Dave** will visit your home, or you can go to his, and he will bring one of his powerful telescopes and set it up so you and your friends can enjoy a birds eye view of the galaxy and he will talk you through it all. There is very reasonable fee involved and it would make for a very unusual 'party' if you are interested in that type of activity.



Jim Soiland 50 years IPA

Our next outing was at the Cowarra Dam, King Creek, which is about 5k from Wauchope. The dam is the main water reservoir for the Port Macquarie/Hastings area and was completed in 2001. When full it holds 10,000,000 litres of water and I'm pleased to say its full at the moment. We had a BBQ there on the day and about 25 members attended, a good turnout on a day where the weather was only "just" OK. The dam is very well presented to visitors with plenty of signage, photos etc to explain its history, its construction and the involvement of the local aboriginal community on whose land the dam sits. All in all a very enjoyable day.

~~Delete this para~~ Our end of the year Christmas lunch was, by popular demand, again at the Wauchope. Our members are more than happy to go back there each year because of the quality of the meal and the way we are looked after. We had 40 members, wives and friends attend with 16 apologies. Looks like we might need more tables and chairs next year !! We again thank **Betty Hartnett**, our Treasurer, and members **Marlene Brown, Jennett Hunt and Mickey Foster** for their effort in putting it all together. The vote was to stay at the same venue next year. ~~up to here delete para~~

Our first meeting of 2022 was postponed because of the easing of Covid restrictions which brought with it a significant increase in cases in the Port Macquarie/Hastings District. So we took the decision to wait until cases reduced and we eventually met on 1st March at the Port Macquarie Fire Museum. Our members present were **Jim & Sandra Cranna, Al Lukes, Paul Griffin, Betty Hartnett and Peter Wilms , Ron & Margaret Hammersley, Garry & Anne Jennings, Ian & Dawn Campbell, Jennett Hunt** (it was lovely to meet **Jennett's** parents, **Arthur & Mabel**, who were down visiting from the Gold Coast) **Bruce Saunders and Denise Huntley, Dennis Driver & Jan Walker, Jeff & Margaret Elliott, Sid Crane, Murray & Marg Osbourne and Val Ivlev**. There were apologies from **Laurie & Marie McGrath, Keith & Mary Rule, Mickey Foster, Marlene Brown, Judy Kilkeary, Ray Downes and George McCleery**.



Vice Pres Val Ivlev & Welfare OIC Bruce Saunders



And what a very pleasant surprise the museum turned out to be. Run entirely by volunteers and only opened in November 2021 the museum has excellent displays showing the history of both the NSW Fire Brigade and Rural Fire Service of NSW in the Port Macquarie, Wauchope and other parts of the Hastings area. Two fire engines, one a fully restored 1935 Dennis Ace Fire Pumper; are central to the display and the curator, **Don Davidson**, gave us a talk about the history of the

museum, the origin of many of the items and photos on display and plans for the future. The museum is open on Wednesdays (12 noon to 2pm) and the last Saturday of each month (10am to 2pm). If you are thinking of a visit it may be wise for you to double check the opening hours. There is plenty to look at there. We all wish **Trevor NEILL** a speedy recovery from his recent knee replacement surgery.

Cheers for now,

Jim Cranna

MURRAY RIVER

As usual we have been on the trot down here at Murray River going with the flow where we have been working around our lockdowns, border closures and isolations, however things have gone ahead whenever we have been able. So what have we been up to.

On release from lockdown we hastily convened Coffee & Chat at Cafe Borella on 13 September 2021 being a lunch and/or arvo tea. It was a smash hit with 27 of our wonderful people turning up. We had a couple of members attending for the first time that being member **Jenny Choice** and hubby **Ross Pogonoski** who came all the way from Deniliquin for their first Coffee and Chat. Wow great effort you say, well I'll let you into

a little secret, it was really to go to Drummonds Golf Shop for their sale on. You guessed it golf shoes for Ross. Good to see **Steve and Leanne** at coffee, as it was to see our Corowa local **Norm Wales APM, and Gary Dunn** all the way from Newcastle dialled in for a video call so he could have a chat to everyone.



Ken Zegiel, Norm Wales, Maureen Milnes, Sue Zimmer, Dave Zimmer, Annie Smart, Debra Milnes, Chris Bentley

Gary & Maureen had been living down in Albury for about 5 months house sitting for our members **Geoff & Maryan Jenkins**, who gave **Gary** the tip to come to our coffee & chats.

On 4 October 2021 we went for a little trip out west to have lunch at Howlong. Howlong did it take us to get there, well not telling. Yeah, I know it's a Dad joke told by a Mum. New member **Linda Jackson** who is the sister of our member **Bruce Ray** joined us - Welcome **Linda**.

Also we had a most welcome visitor from the Manning/Great Lakes RFPA Branch, **Jim Girdler**, welcome great to meet you.

On 25th October about 15 members and partners attended our "Snagged at the Drug Bust Coffee & Chat" on the day to listen, learn and be tested by **Senior Constable Matt Stephenson** from Albury HWP who came along to demonstrate how the latest drug testing equipment works. **Jim Caldwell** former HWP officer was first to be tested and fortunately he was negative and avoided a trip to the cells. Next **Paula Zegiel** did the test and passed with flying colours. It was apparently a very interesting demonstration. Thank you, **Matt**, for coming to our event and showing us the current equipment and on your day off to boot. Meanwhile the sausages were cooked, and everyone had a nice sausage sandwich. We also had our newest member **Arthur Croft** who has just moved down here from Sydney attend his first coffee and chat as a local. Welcome **Arthur**. I was in Covid Isolation so thanks to all who stepped in to make the day successful.



Peter Dwyer, Max Merkel, & Peter Seidel

On 14 November 2021 we had just on 40 members attend a combined Murray River & Riverina event - big thanks to **Steve Turner and hubby Graham** for helping on the day.



Holbrook Riv & MR Group Photo

On 5 December 2021 **Ken 'Ziggy' Zegiel** organised a Christmas Lunch at the Glasshouse at the Springdale Heights Tavern. Welcome to **Carol Brookes**, lovely to see you come along for your first get together with us. We had the lovely **Chris Frost Barker** in town from the Central Coast. Thank you to all of the people who brought along toys for the Albury Police Christmas collection for the Albury Hospital Children's Ward. Lucky **Ziggy** has a big boot to pack them in for delivery.



On Thursday 30 December 2021 we all rallied for lunch at the Albury Brew House. A large crew turned up for a brew and chew yeah, I know don't give up my day job, but I am happy to say that I originally called it a Coffee & Lunch as usual, and it was the creative **Dave Cottee** who came up with the Chew and Brew title in his reply so I'm happy to give the accolades to **Dave**. Yeah, he has given up his day job

and is now a photographer, volunteer ambulance officer, gym instructor, horse breeder with his wonderful wife **Vicki**. Some of our special guests this time were **Peter & Anne Dwyer** who live on the sunny south coast, have a home here as well and now visit Albury regularly to assist with the grandchildren here

We invited our Riverina RFPA mates and the Branch Secretary, **Steve Turner** and his lovely wife **Lynelle** came to the luncheon. They again met some new people there and caught up with some other well-known ones.



Graeme Stephens, Annie Smart, Jamie Hughes



Beth Docksey at home in isolation

Remove ;para below

Well we all love our Vintage Rose Tea Room and on 23 February 2022 we went for a Coffee & Chat. We are so glad it has moved over to our side of the border to Albury. It is a great location with the wonderful cakes, scones, other food and drinks that we became used to when we ventured to Yackandandah on previous occasions. Nice to catch up again with everyone.

Best Wishes **Beth Docksey**

NEW ENGLAND

I hope you and **Sandy** remain well in Sydney. Our ties with Sydney end next Wednesday, with the sale of Maree's mother property at Kellyville. Our son, **Chris** now works for the Cabinet Minister for the Constitution in the UK Parliament and we intend to resume international travel later in the year with a granddaughter born in London.

Whilst our COVID number had been low or even non-existent, we had a couple of spreader events at Moree (funerals and horse racing carnivals), that then spread east into the New England area.

Greg Chie

NORTHERN BEACHES

Hi everyone, well we are back in action after Lockdowns, Restrictions, Now we have the Omicron strain starting to cause some havoc BUT, we did manage to squeeze in a few meetings and coffee catch ups. We even had our Xmas party at our old venue, the Fishbowl at Dee Why RSL on Friday the 17th December 2021. We had close to 30 attend with wives and partners. The numbers were down as a number of members attended the funeral of **Trevor "Swift" SWIFT**.

Our annual AGM was finally held on Monday 22nd of November. The Chairman, **Dave WHITEMAN**, Vice Chairman, **Brian FRIEND**, Treasurer **Bill BUSH** and Secretary **Ian FINLAYSON** were all re-elected unopposed. It was an interesting meeting with Chairman **Dave** quite ill and doing the right thing by staying at home and no, it was not Covid. Vice Chairman **FRIENDLY** attended the funeral of a close friend's son so was also unable to make the meeting. **Ian FINLAYSON** the Secretary stood in for Chairman **Dave** and **Allan HINES** one of our auditors took over the job of Secretary as he has done before and did his usual professional job with the minutes.



At the AGM we had a good roll up and would have had more attending but the access to the meeting room makes it difficult for less mobile members to attend. The club is looking at addressing this issue in the near future and have applied for a grant to provide the appropriate infrastructure. Those attending were **Col FITZROY, Garrie WATT, Alex VOGT, Col COLMAN, Geoff KAY, Neville BEHAGG, Greg THANE, Bart SNEL, Bill BUSH, Deb ANDERSON, Jim SOILAND, Allan HINES, Milton CHRISTMAS, Rob LINNEY, Ian FINLAYSON, Brian WRIGHT, Bob PINFOLD, Gloria VELLELEY, Peter BUTCHER, Oscar TAYLOR, Barry MILES and Harold HANLEN**.

Apologies were received from **Dave WHITEMAN, Brian FRIEND, Brian INMAN, Ross NIXON, Andrew JENKINS and Tony WRIGHT**.



We have three new members and hope to see them at future meetings and coffee catch ups;

Belinda SNEL, Daryl DONNOLLEY and Chris CHURCH.

It has not been a good year for the Branch with the passing earlier in the year of 5 members; **Jon GARDINER, Peter VELLELEY, Alastair BROWNE and Rod IRWIN**. Then recently we had the passing of **Arthur NEVILLE, Ray McDERMOTT and Trevor "Swift" SWIFT** one of our former welfare officers.

Due to Covid restrictions delaying funerals over the past six months, a Memorial service was recently held for **Jon GARDINER** and a wake was held for **Alastair BROWNE**.

The RFPA Committee of Management held their AGM at Parliament House on Tuesday 14th December, 2021. This was also the 90th Anniversary of the RFPA. **Dave WHITEMAN** attended as part of the Committee of Management and **Ian FINLAYSON** and **Brian FRIEND** representing the Branch. One of our auditors, **Geoff GREEN** also attended and occupied his time by being the MC for the occasion and, I might add, doing an excellent job. We congratulate the incoming RFPA President **Paul WYNNE** and the new RFPA Secretary **Ian LOVELL** as well as all those elected to the COM.

On the welfare front, we wish the following a swift return to good health – **Dave & Liz WHITEMAN, Lindsay DIVE, Ross NIXON, John GIBBONS, Jim PEDDELL, Neville BEHAGG, Alex VOGT**

Special thanks to our Welfare team of **Jim SOILAND, Geoff "Jellybeans" KAY, Barry "Scooter" MILES** for the fantastic job they do supporting our members both by phoning and personal visits. **Deb Anderson** has joined the team as she has recently qualified in Bereavement and End-of-

Life Counselling and sadly has had to use her skills with a number of our Member's families to help them cope with the loss of loved ones. We have the Gold Standard when it comes to welfare for our members.

Col COLMAN (Class 107) one of our popular members with 21 years of service, and then becoming the Superintendent of the NSW State Transit Police, is building a Policing dynasty. His grandson **Ben** recently attested at the NSW Police Academy at Goulburn, class 350. Ben's dad, **Anthony** is the Fraud Officer at Mount Druitt. Ben has commenced duties at Marrickville Police Station and we wish him all the best in his chosen career. **Ben** started his career early as a very young fellow watching his dad's passing out parade at Goulburn in 2007.



Congratulations to Veteran Member and Welfare I **Jim SOILAND**, for achieving 50 years membership of the International Police Association. **Jim** was presented with the plaque by **John Maricic**, the Chairman of the NSW IPA. John's wife was also present along with **Geoff KAY and Brian FRIEND**.



This Gazette article for the end of 2021 had to be held over whilst the 90th Anniversary Edition was published. The year finally came to an end and we had hoped it was going to be better than 2020. We were keen on having a number of outings for the year after the popularity of the mountain trip. What do they say the best laid plans of mice and men etc. Then we had the Omicron strain starting to cause some havoc BUT we did manage to squeeze in a few meetings and coffee catch ups. We even had our Xmas party at our old venue, the Fishbowl at DY RSL on Friday the 17th December 2021. We had close to 30 attend with wives and partners. The numbers were down as a number of members went to the funeral of **Trevor "Swifty" SWIFT**.

Take care everyone and remember Look Down, Step Up & No Ladders!

Ian Finlayson

NORTHERN RIVERS

Greetings from the Northern Rivers. Our report will be very short as we have not held a meeting now for approximately 18 months due to covid and natural disasters. Our Secretary **Charlie Halloran** advised a couple of weeks ago that it is our intention to hold our first meeting back in late March 2022 at Evans Head. This announcement was before the devastating floods in the northern rivers.

So many houses lost in the northern rivers area. I have no specific reports of any of our members being affected, although I am aware that some members reside in badly affected areas of Lismore, Evans Head and close to the Wilsons and Richmond rivers. Our thoughts go out to the many

people who have lost their homes not only in the Northern Rivers area but in NSW and Queensland. Hopefully as the year moves on we can get back to some normality.

Glenn Taylor

NORTHERN SUBURBS (formerly Hornsby)

We look forward to your report and photos for our next issue

PARRAMATTA -THE HILLS

Our branch held a combined meeting/Christmas picnic at BLACKTOWN PRECINCT Richmond Road, Blacktown THURSDAY 9 DECEMBER 2021 . We crossed our fingers re the weather and held the get together outside in a park to comply with Covid numbers. Lucky we were – it became quite hot and did not rain till well into the afternoon.



Remove pic below

ATTENDEES (31) - Eric Etienne, Fred & Anne Camage, John & Lee Hall, Bob & Robyn Oswald, Sandy Benson. Paul Wynne, Barbara & Ian Lindsay, Ian & Heather King, Ivan & Joan Hamilton, Elaine Bennett, Naomi Baldwin, Nick Pavlov, Peter Rackley, Graham Stone, Barrie Sutcliffe, Kent Vild, Maurie Whitton, David Hain Neil & Colleen Purvis, Gary Raymond, Mick Berwick, Brian Haim, John & Sue Wakefield.

APOLOGIES – Heath & Jemma Thompson, Ron Sadler, Mike Neilsen, Barry Inall, Norm Tattersall, Doug & Heather Kane, Ray McConnell, Shri Ram, Phil Martin, Alan & Madeline Strachan, Phil Martin, Charlie D'Agostino, John & Robyn McInerney, Joe & Jenny Turner, Shirley Anderson, Ross Carlisle. Mal Brown.

As this is our last get together for the year, **Paul Wynne** took this opportunity to thank the ladies of the Social Committee for their efforts throughout the year and especially for what they have provided here today and thank those who provided prizes for the raffle.



Put pic with other Ettamogah lunch pic below



On the welfare front, **John Fletcher** had a fall a couple of months ago and crushed a number of bones in his neck, The good news is that the paramedics and his surgeon were able to save him from becoming a quadriplegic. **Gary Raymond** has been keeping in touch with **Lee & John Hall, Pam & Don Walkom** and other members who are having some health issues.

Caption here "Ian Lindsay receiving his OBE"

The chairman presented **Ian Lindsay** with his Veteran's Certificate (O.B.E.) and wished all our branch members a Merry Christmas and hope for a better 2022.

Ian Lindsay receiving his Wrong place, remove

In 2022 we scheduled a "Welcome to the New Year" BBQ to get the ball rolling on the social front, however, the continual rain and flooding in Sydney saw it postponed. Instead, we arranged an "indoor" luncheon at The Ettamogah Pub, Rouse Hill, where 21 people plus 1 x companion dog attended. Good group of people, nice way to spend a few hours on a rainy day.

Remove 1 pic "light lunch"



A light lunch following our meeting. Joan Hamilton and Elaine Bennett



In conjunction with our local Rotary Club of Blacktown, our branch has also helped man the Bunnings BBQ on a couple of occasions, in order to raise funds for the **purchase of Defibrillators into each of the Blacktown LAC's vehicles.** It has been noted that since Covid 19 struck some 2 years ago, the Police are often 1st responders, given the Ambulance & Para Medics are tied up with Covid, and as such having Defibrillators on a Command Vehicle can mean the difference between life and death. Well done Rotary for supporting this most worthy cause.



Eric Etienne, Gary Raymond, (Rotarian at back) Lester Robey and Neil Purvis



Helping at Rotary BBQ to get Defibrillators into Police **Cars** Blacktown LAC

Looking forward to some social events in 2022, we have arranged a Christmas in July at the famous Carrington Hotel in Katoomba with many choosing to book an overnight stay. Let's cross our fingers for some snow this year!!

All the best

Eric Etienne

PEEL - Only meets June and December and will report next Gazette.

Doreen Goddard

PENRITH BLUE MOUNTAINS

February 2022 meeting had the following in attendance **Ian and Cathy BERRY, Lilian SOANE, Rob and Carol PRIESTLEY, Dick HURST, Terry BANCROFT, John and Bev POLLOCK, Lesley SCHWETZ, Barry BRAZZILL, Barry BRACKENRIG, Ray OWSTON, Dave WHITEMAN, Geoff McAlister, Alby GRAHAME . Welcome to Dave Whiteman** as a visitor today.

On the welfare front **Ray OWSTON** is recovering in a moon boot. Everyone was reminded we are all welfare officers supporting each other.

A lunch at the Settlers Restaurant, Mulgoa is being enquired into to have a Xmas Theme during July 2022.

The Penrith morning Copffee/Tea at 10-10.30am on the first Wednesday of the month at SALTY's Café (formerly C.B.'s Café) located on the ground floor of the Domayne building of the Harvey Norman Complex, Wolesely Rd., Regentville. Off Mulgoa Rd(Bunnings Store is in the same complex and next to Harvey Norman Lighting store).

The Springwood morning Copffee/Tea will be at 10-10.30am on the third Wednesday of the month at The Oriental Hotel's "ORI CAFÉ", Macquarie Rd., Springwood (next to the HUB)

Monthly Meetings are held on the fourth Monday of the Month at Penrith Panthers Club at 11am in the meeting rooms upstairs from the Reception. * indicates moved one week due to Public Holiday.

The morning copffee/tea venues are purely social (No politics or bitching) REKINDLE old friends and colleagues and bring along a friend.

Ian BERRY
Secretary

RIVERINA

Well, at the time of reading this I hope everyone has caught up with family and friends as borders have started to open and we return to the new normal. We have been a bit quiet of recent times for obvious reasons but we did venture out to Holbrook for a joint morning/lunch with the Murray Rivera RFPA on Sunday 14 November and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves with about forty members and their partners attending.





As I have indicated to members I am not standing for re-election as Secretary due to relocating to Queensland early in 2022 but I have enjoyed my time in the Riverina Branch and hope to transfer to another branch once I have secured another residence.

Over the period I have been involved with the Riverina RFPA we have seen our average age of members and their partners attending getting older and older. This is a real shame as there are great opportunities for former Police and importantly their partners to share a common bond in a social environment as only the Police family can, i.e. once a cop always a cop. I really encourage our younger ex Police and their partners to become more involved, otherwise this avenue unfortunately will be lost.

Sadly, we lost former **Senior Sergeant Philip Thomas Loughlin** on the 26th of October but we were not able to attend the service as his wishes were that it was to be a very private service.

Also, sadly we lost **Sue Jackson** (wife of Riverina RFPA member, **Ken Jackson**) who lost her short battle with cancer and her service was held on the 26th of November in Wagga Wagga with members and their partners attending the service itself to pay their respects and on Live Streaming.

Steve Turner



Our Christmas Party/AGM was scheduled for Monday 6th December where hopefully the board was filled, however at the time of drafting this report there was a real issue, with only the chairman's position receiving a nomination and this was going to give members some tough decisions to make. **Remove this para above**

SOUTH COAST

Since the easing of Covid restrictions last year the RFPA South Coast Branch have conducted the following activities; Police Remembrance Day - 29 September 2021 & Retired Police Day Due to Covid restrictions the Commissioner of Police **Mick Fuller** posted a video of You Tube in lieu of hosting functions save the official function at the Domain which was telecast.

A great time of fellowship and Chinese food was enjoyed by members who attended our Social Luncheon held at the Greenwell Point Bowling Club on 15 July 2021.



Branch **Chairman Bob Williamson** presented member **Paul Hawkins** with a Certificate of Appreciation for his service to the RFPA South Coast Branch over the years as Vice Chairman and Welfare Officer.

November 17th – Social Dinner, Bega. As a 'prelude' to our RFPA South Coast Branch 2021 annual meeting at Tathra, with our 'far south coast' members, Bega members **Steve & Carol Allison** arranged a banquet for both 'local' and 'travelling' members at the Grand Hotel's Pearl Chinese Restaurant, Bega.

November 18th - Social Luncheon in the bistro at the Tathra Bowling Club. Twenty members attended the RFPA South Coast Branch 2021 annual luncheon meeting at Tathra with our 'far south coast' members. A great time of 'catching up', reminiscing and 'storytelling' was enjoyed by all. A general consensus was that the function should be held twice yearly.

En-route to the meeting at Tathra, a visit was made to RFPA members **Dave Bourke and Ian Gordon** residing at The Banksia Lodge Nursing Home, Broulee. **Ian's** wife and RFPA member **Jan Gordon** arranged access to the Nursing home for the visitation by our RFPA South Coast Branch Secretary/Treasurer.

It was great to be able to catch up with some of our 'distant' members who were very appreciative of the visit. **Pat Durrant John & Betty Cross**.

December 14th – RFPA 90th Anniversary AGM & Luncheon, Parliament House, RFPA South Coast Branch Committee Members **Garry Donnelly & Tom Turner** travelled to Parliament House, Sydney to represent the Branch at the RFPA 90th AGM and Anniversary luncheon. They were



joined by RFPA South Coast Branch Secretary/Treasurer **John Crockett** who attended the AGM and luncheon in his role as RFPA of NSW Vice President and Life Member.



Welcomed to the luncheon were new members **Noel and Gayle Flanders** from Shoalhaven Heads who had 'transferred' to our branch during the year. A great time was had by all who attended February 17th 2022 - Bi-Monthly Meeting Our first meeting for 2022 was held in the Heritage Room, Shoalhaven Ex-Servicemen's Club, Nowra. In attendance were **Bob & Gail Williamson, Dave & Jenny Dawson, Bob Groenestein, Graham Lower, John Crockett, Mick Rigg, Paul Rutledge, Garry Donnelly & Dusty Jones**. During the meeting branch **Chairman Bob Williamson** presented RFPA Social member and resident 'snake wrangler' **Dusty Jones** with his RFPA Veteran Certificate having attained the age of 80 years. We look forward to catching up with you at meetings and social events as detailed in the branch 'Diary Dates'.



Appreciation Cert Paul & Willo

John Crockett

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

The Southern Highlands Branch Charter remains current and in place however the Branch is taking a break.

SOUTHERN TABLELANDS

We are back meeting at the Goulburn Soldiers Club after the last lifting of Covid-19 restrictions to entry. Our double vaxed members took advantage of the rule change to meet, albeit with lesser numbers than usual.

Present: **Bold names please**

Tom Burke, Bruce Carter, Mick & Carol Donnelly, Kevin Hayward, Cheryl Hughes, David Kennemore, John & Louise Kowalenko, Ken Lockyer, Annette McDonald, Greg & Debbie Moore, Ian Radford, Kim & Manny Rivera, Ray & Maureen Strong, Steve & Pattie Senior, Bill & Judy White, Peter Willard.

Apologies: Peter & Kay Betts, Rosemary Cameron, Perc Carter, Matt Casey, John Connell, Joe Dombroski, Daryl Holder, Rosemary Kennemore, Linda Lockwood, Bob Marchet, Gregg Presland, Glen Thompson, Enid Storm, Alan Whitten.

Our November meeting was held on 15th November in the Diggers Bistro which enabled us to eat, drink and be merry without the inconvenience of the mask disguising us or rebreathing our own air.

Although this meeting was set down as a Christmas Meeting with an appropriate menu set down, the inability of the caterers to provide all of the Christmas fare was compensated by the availability of the usual choice of meals, washed down by beverage of choice.

Chairman Mick Donnelly extended welcome to Acting Inspector Matt Carroll, standing in for Officer in Charge of Goulburn Police. A special welcome was Annette McDonald who travelled from Canberra to be with us.

Bold names please

Of note was the presentation of a Veteran Members Certificate to David Kennemore.

Acting Inspector Carroll introduced himself as the current Hume District Highway Patrol Supervisor; but for two weeks is relieving Inspector Matt Hinton as the Officer in Charge of Goulburn. He informed us that his operational background was in General Duties, Highway Patrol and Tactical Operations.

Matt expressed his appreciation of the Retired and Former Police Association and Police Legacy in supporting officers and their families on their retirement or at the conclusion of operational duties. He was also able to update our members on some of the latest technologies attached to police vehicles and the training provided by the Police Academy in the use of these technologies.

Our next Branch meeting will be held at the Goulburn Soldiers Club at 10.30am on Monday 17th January, 2022, Covid permitting. All are welcome if you are in the area. Let me know (0467091776) or southerntablelandsrpa@gmail.com

Our bimonthly Branch Meeting for 21st March, 2022 was held at the Goulburn Soldiers Club. The Devonshire Tea/Coffee was on hand for all attendees.

Present: Peter Betts, John Campbell, Bruce Carter, Mick Donnelly, David Kennemore, Kevin Hayward, Annette McDonald, Greg Moore, Ian Radford, Manny & Kim Rivera, Steve Senior, Ray & Maureen Strong, Bill & Judy White, Alan Whitten, Peter Willard.

Bold Names please

Apologies: Tom Burke, Perc Carter, Joe Dombroski, Linda Lockwood, Daryl Holder, Cheryl Hughes, Rosemary Kennemore, John Kowalenko, Linda Lockwood, Phil Pollard, Greg Presland, Betty Riley.

Chairman Mick Donnelly welcomed branch members, OIC Goulburn Inspector Matt Hinton, and our Guest Speaker Deputy Commissioner (Retired) Gary Worboys (APM).

Mick informed us that he is now able to move his arthritic hands into a fist but is not happy with the rest of his body's response to this condition. "Age shall not weary them"

Bold names please

Our Guest Speaker Deputy Commissioner (Retired) Gary Worboys

informed us that his focus at this time of retirement was family. His previous role within the NSW Police Force required extensive travel throughout the state and he is pleased to spend time at home. At present he and his wife Dianne share their Goulburn home with a son and his daughter's family. Hopefully his son-in-law will complete building his home on the outskirts of Goulburn this year; taking his daughter; their 3 year old daughter and 3 month old infant to live their own blissful life and free up some of the family house rooms.

Dianne is still happily working at the Mulwaree High School. This will afford Gary with the time to carry out overdue works at his home and play plenty of golf.

He then informed the meeting of his past role in the NSW Police (Force) (Service) Force. He served at Blacktown, Penrith and Lismore before promotion to the rank of sergeant at Lightning Ridge then to OIC Liverpool Local Command. In 1999 he was promoted to the rank of Chief Superintendent and served as the District Commander at the Southern Tablelands and Monaro Districts. He was promoted to the rank of Assistant Commissioner Southern Region and based at Wollongong. His final role within the Police Force was as Deputy Commissioner (Regional Field Operations).

In his latter role he was appointed State Emergency Operations Controller (SEOC) and coordinated responses at the State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC) the Cobargo Bush Fires, Covid-19 response at Wilcannia and the Lismore floods.

In an informative Q and A session he covered the topics of fire, flood, Covid-19 and politics. He touched on the Emergency Management system and the need for the coordination of responses on the levels of local, State and Federal Governments. **Bold names please**

Social Chairman, Ray Strong suggested that members meet on our off meeting months with coffee outings. This follows our successful outing to the Burns Club in Canberra in February.

This was generally supported by members and the next outing is set down for 9th April, 2022.

All are welcome if you are in the area. Let me know (0467091776) or southerntablelandsrpa@gmail.com .

Ian Radford.
Branch Secretary

SYDNEY

Greetings from the Premier Branch!

Our monthly meetings are held at the City of Sydney RSL Club, 565 George Street, Sydney on the third Tuesday of most months. You will receive a very warm welcome should you decide to drop in if you are allowed to travel!

Those who attended the May meeting included **Kent Vild, Kathy Parker-Smith, Glenda Macdonald, Kay Whitty, Peter Vymys, Margaret Thornell, Keith Thornell, Vince Coluccio, Vaughn Reid, Adnana Reid, Esther McKay, Don Eyb, Peter Hamer, Belinda Dunn-Toemoe, and Bruce Howe.**

Unfortunately, some members could not make the meeting and so apologies were received from **May Loomes, Brian Loomes, Brian Breakspear, Ike Ellis, Mervyn Morgan, Cath Cole, Charlie Warrie, Bruce O'Malveney, Ian Moore and Bill Fleming.**

The Branch Welfare Officer, **Ian Moore**, reported that he had spoken with **Barry Hocking**. **Ian** was informed that **Bonnie Hocking** was home from hospital recovering from a stroke. **Barry** thought it would be some time before **Bonnie** fully recovered, but that it was pleasing to have her home.



Following the meeting, our member **Esther McKay** gave a very detailed and informative talk about the future of welfare programs for serving and retired police.

Esther founded the Police Post Trauma Support Groups Inc and has worked actively for the past fourteen years as Chair supporting and coordinating services to both serving and former police and their families who suffer from work-based trauma. She is also a long-standing advocate for improving conditions for front line responders.

She was awarded the National Police Service Medal in 2001, the Pride of Australia Medal for Community Service in 2007 for her work with traumatized police, the NSW Police Diligent and Ethical Service Medal in 2008 and The National Service Medal in 2016.

With the Winter Solstice approaching, the Branch met on June 15 with a roll call including **Kent Vild, Paul Biscoe, Kay Whitty, Kathy Parker-Smith, Louise Warry, Glenda Macdonald, Charlie Warry, Margaret Thornell, Keith Thornell, Vaughn Reid, Lance Williamson, and Bruce Howe.**

Apologies were received from **Cath Cole, Bruce O'Malveney, Denise Behringer, Peter Duffy, Mike Edgerton, Mervyn Thompson, Vince Coluccio, Brian Dale, Ian Moore, Mervyn Morgan, Janine Newell, Belinda Dunn-Toemoe, Peter Hamer, Allan Simpson, Adriana Reid, and Greg Thane.**

Bruce reported that **Joan Crutchner**, former Policewoman No. 24, had contacted him. She is 93 years of age and is confined to her home at Engadine. She would appreciate either a visit or a phone call. Let me know if you wish to contact Joan and I will supply details.



of "**Charlie**". **remove para to here**

Following the meeting, the guest speaker was **Clare Williams**, the Community Engagement Officer of Discrimination NSW, who spoke of the various forms of discrimination by explaining the difference between Federal and State legislation. She gave many examples of "discrete" discrimination, including those which show prejudice against older people.

She explained that in New South Wales, certain types of discrimination are against the law in specific areas of public life. Discrimination is treating someone unfairly because of a characteristic they have, or they are assumed to have, that is protected by New South Wales law. These characteristics are disability, gender, race, age, marital or domestic status, homosexuality, transgender status, and carer's responsibilities.

August saw the Branch conduct both a general meeting, as well as the Annual General Meeting by way of the Zoom platform. Amazingly, all the officer bearers were swept aside at the AGM however, all the Zoomers voted to re-elect them to their previous positions. That means, Dear Reader, that you will have to suffer my ramblings for the next twelve months!

Cheerio for now,
Bruce Howe

WATER POLICE SUB BRANCH

Finally after so many restrictions and lockdown we were able to hold a meeting on the 18th November, 2021.

Apologies: **Allan Morris, Bill Harley, John Marshall, Garth Tilley, Grant Thompson, Tom Bradley, Brian Robinson, Alex Ramsay, Jeff Comber, Vic Rulewski, Ross Cramp, Terry Fitzgerald, Les Shave, Don Stewart, David Buchanan, Paul Monk, Lindsay Dive, Allan Ring, Neil McCarty.**

Attendees: **David Buckley, Frank, Mahony, Michael Poole, Martin Kelly, Bill Freeman, Brian Friend, Terry Ervin, Len Ware, Ken Moroney, Hilton Penfold, Darren Maguire, John Whitehead, Bob Adams, David Ritchie, Hilary Hansen, Mal Jeffs.**

Branch Welfare Officer **Ian Moore** reported he had spoken with **Maurie Green** who is at home relaxing. **Maurie** stated that, depending on his health, he might be able to attend a future ex-Police Cadets' function, whenever it can be held. When you celebrate your 80th birthday, you receive a Veterans Certificate. Recent birthday boy, **Elwyn "Charlie" Warry**, received his certificate from **Kent Vild**. **Charlie** responded by extolling the benefits of being a member of the RPA after relating how he came by the alias **Caption under pic Elwyn "Charlie" Warry received his OBE from Kent**



On the 14th **Frank Mahony, Michael Poole and David Buckley** attended the AGM and 90th anniversary dinner at Parliament House. During the course of the proceedings outgoing Secretary **Peter Rankin** presented **Michael Poole** with his OBE after him attaining the age of 80.

THE WAY WE WERE



Who can put names to these faces?

We had several members identify this group including **John Wheatley, Cate Wikner and Col Dyson.**

Fraud Squad, CIB, circa 1979.

Back row: **Rome Martin, Col Dyson, Bob Baker, Allen Turton, Andy Wallace, George McTaggart, Athol Edmunds, Doug Smith, Byron Shelley, Gary Phillips, Mark Hitchman, Bruce Taylor, Mick Newton, Bruce Lyons, Bruce Coates, Ron Shaw, Percy Carter, Graham Wheeler, John Cahill. Graeme Morgan.**

Front: **John Lowe, Geoff Shelley, Rod Gibson, Allen Whittaker, Reg Hollis, Bruce Durham, Ron Armstrong, Laurie Queenan. Rome, John and Allan** are all deceased.

Thanks to **John Wheatley** who added some further information

John R Lowe - **John** started his police service at the Safety Bureau and appeared on an early recruitment poster in his "Motor Cycle Gear". He then spent all of his career in plain clothes. John a close personal friend passed away in February 2007



Gordon Williams OBE

David Buckley
Secretary



Brian receiving his OBE



John Gibbons was in the Water Police and these are some of the others when **Gordon Wellings** was the boss there I believe.

WIDE BAY

We look forward to your report and photos for our next issue



L to R - 10013 A.L.(Alan) FREEMAN. / 10007 W.G.(Bill) MILLINGTON. / 10033 T.K.(Trevor) NEILL. / 10002 B.A. (Joe) BLANCHI. / 10000 P.I.(Percy) CARTER. / 10010 P.(Paul) PILLEY. / 10005 K.S.(Keith) KERR.



NOTICEBOARD

Men Ties (Current Stock) - The men's ties, with prior RPA logo will be distributed to branches to do with as the branch sees fit. Some are intending to sell at a great price, use as raffle prizes etc.

Men's RFPA Ties - The **new tie supply** is underway and we will let you know when they are in stock.

Ladies' scarves are unaffected, as there is no wording on these and stocks are available

The RFPA Pocket Slides are available for purchase - contact Ian Lovell (see back page)

If there's other merchandise you think might be popular, let our secretary, **Ian Lovell**, know and your suggestions can be followed up if considered practical.



POLICE CADETS OF NSW – BOOK

A limited number of copies of The "Police Cadets of New South Wales" is available for \$25-00 from the author, Bruce Howe. Email your postal address to him at plimsal@bigpond.com to obtain your copy.

REUNIONS HELD

Class 129 – 50th Reunion

Attendees at the 50 year reunion of Class 129 held at the City of Sydney RSL Club on the 13 November, 2021. Class 129 entered the New South Wales Police Academy, Redfern on the 1 November, 1971 and graduated on the 13 December, 1971. A great time was had by all despite numbers being down due, no doubt, to the prevailing Covid restrictions. The success of the function was due, in no small measure, to the efforts of Lone Langford.

Remove Pics above and below



Front Row L to R: Don Robinson, Ric Campbell, Anita Face and Lone Langford,

2nd row: Terry Steer, John O'Neill, Rhonda Gleeson Nick Pavlov. 3rd Row: Paul Devine, Bill Davenport, Terry Geary and Ron Mitcherson.

Back Row: George Weissel, Steve Kerr, Paul Nolan, Jim McGrath, Glenn Griffith, Kris Sweic and Jeff Small



Ex CADETS REUNION Feb2022

Thanks to **Ian Moore** who organised our annual ExCadets Reunion. Thirty-four turned up together with many apologies. Members from Queensland and all parts of NSW appeared. We enjoyed a 3 course lunch together with wine and beer. Members were still there at 4.30pm having a good yarn.

Attendees at the 50 year reunion of Class 129 held at the City of Sydney RSL Club on the 13 November, 2021. Class 129 entered the New South Wales Police Academy, Redfern on the 1 November, 1971 and graduated on the 13



VALE

We will remember them.



* Denotes Serving Member

SURNAME	CHRISTIAN/KNOWN NAME	AGE	REG.NO	DECEASED
ADAMS	John Milton	83	9262	2/3/22
AGLIO	Mark Joseph	44	42008	27/2/22
BAGWELL	Grant Thomas	61	14357	17/2/22
BARRY	Roderick Edward	69	15408	17/2/22
BRAITHWAITE	Mervyn Stewart	90	10038	20/2/22
CARLON	Robert Owen	91	6040	1/2/22
CHAPMAN	Stephen William	65	24279	28/2/20 (late)
CLENTON	Kenneth	74		27/2/22
COGGAN	Henry Phillip (Harry)	96	5922	22/2/22
COONEY	Darren Ronald	59	20161	7/3/22
DRIVER	Denis Godfrey	83	9605	18/3/22
GRANT	Kenneth Patrick	91	NT.Pol.52	17/2/22
HAMEL	Kenneth Alfred	81	10880	26/11/21 (late)
JOHNS	William Kenneth	87	8646	8/3/22
JOHNSON	Lawrence Carl (Larry)	93	7374	20/2/22
KOBOROFF	Raymond Vincent	88	7009	16/12/21
LOSEBY	Wilma	88	PW.48	12/2/22
MAGNUS	Kenneth	77	10764	23/2/22
MARTIN	Allen Spencer	67	20033	2/1/22
O'TOOLE*	James Liam		53092	14/2/22
OSWALD	Stephen Francis	60	19666	4/3/22
PALMER	Mark David	61	19317	24/2/22
RUMING	Daniel Michael	66	16476	12/2/22
SIRY	Bernadino	69	CLO	7/1/22
STEVENS	Helen Annette	76	Wife of Ken	6/2/22
TUCHIN	Walter Keith (Wally)	98	5638	27/2/22
TURNER	Shirley Anne	85	Widow	27/9/21
WILLIAMS	Bruce Charles	67	16259	13/3/22
WOOLCOCK	Allan William	78	10702	19/2/22