

AUTUMN 2024



# The R.F.P.A. GAZETTE

(Established 1931)  
Registered office  
PO Box 201  
HAWKS NEST 2324  
[www.retiredpolice.com.au](http://www.retiredpolice.com.au)

“RFPA NSW PATRON – COMMISSIONER KAREN WEBB APM”

## POLICE LEGACY BLUE RIBBON BALL 2024



The venue this year for Police Legacy's Blue Ribbon Ball was the ICC Sydney, a most impressive large capacity venue. This event is Legacy's largest single fund raiser event each year. Guests were welcomed by Mounted Police and Highway Patrol personnel. The atmosphere, food, drinks, auction items and entertainment were top class.

If you have never attended this ball try to get it on your next year's calendar. A great night out for a great cause!

### HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

- Committee Report
- Branch Reports
- Notice Board
- Honor Roll
- Articles of Interest
- New Members Welcomed
- Reunions
- Vale





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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



On 18 January I attended the 47th Anniversary Ceremony of the Granville Train Disaster. On that date in 1977 of the 410 passengers on board the train 84 perished and 213 were injured. It is the worst rail disaster in Australia's history. I laid a wreath on behalf of the RFPA in memory of the victims. My attendance was also to honour and pay tribute to the courage and bravery of the First Responders who risked their own lives in rescuing trapped persons from the wreckage.

On 13 February I attended the 46th Anniversary Ceremony of the Hilton Hotel Bombing and laid a wreath in memory of those killed in the explosion and also those who carried lifelong injuries from the result of the 1st Terrorist attack in Australia.

On the 1 March I attended the Attestation Parade of Class 361 at Goulburn Police Academy. This was at the invitation of Police Commissioner Webb, and was the 1st time the RFPA had been represented since the Covid Pandemic, when attendances were either non-existent or restricted.

Upon arrival I was greeted by the **Principal Ch Supt Toby Lindsay APM and Inspector Nick Hallett**. I spoke briefly with **Ch Supt Lindsay** regarding the further enhancement of the affiliation of the RFPA and the Academy.

On 18 & 19 March along with **Ian Lovell, George Weissel, Ian Moore and Sandy Benson** I attended the Police Friendship Week at Forster-Tuncurry, where we joined with members from other Branches. As usual **Charlie Halloran**, the Secretary of Northern Rivers Branch assisted by **Phil Knight** from Dubbo branch had everything well organized for the 62+ attendees.

Whilst there the Executive met with members of the Manning Great Lakes Branch where several Awards for Service to the RFPA were presented to Branch Members.

On Saturday 23 March the **Police Legacy Gala Ball** was held at the Sydney International Convention Centre. The RFPA were well represented with members of the State Executive having a table. A most enjoyable evening which raised a significant amount of money for a most worthy cause.

In April the State Secretary, **Ian Lovell** and I will be attending the Coffs Harbour Branch Meeting. This is in keeping with our undertaking to visit as many Branches as we can to meet members face to face.

On May 17 I will be attending West Tamworth Leagues Club to support the **Bob Drew Fundraiser**. As mentioned elsewhere in this publication RFPA Member Bob Drew suffered injuries leaving him a quadriplegic. The fundraising event is being organized by the Peel & New England Branches.

Until next time.

God Bless,

**Paul Wynne JP**

E: [president@retiredpolice.com.au](mailto:president@retiredpolice.com.au)



## SECRETARY'S REPORT

As a result of the Federal legislation controlling money laundering and customer identification, Police Bank was forced to implement KYC (know your customer) protocols at short notice. All banks are required to do this, but with our major RFPA sponsor, being the bank most of us have used for many years, the effect has appeared somewhat unfair to some. Combined with the truncation of cheque

usage (another Federal government legislative change) from 8 May 2024, it appeared to some of our Members that they were being unfairly treated. THIS IS NOT THE CASE.

As our major sponsor, **Police Bank** was required to follow legislation and has done so, giving maximum available notice to all its customers. Other banks have had to do the same. The only way to deal with cheques now will be using PostBank, an arm of Australia Post, using its own 'clearing house' arrangements which used to be accessible to other banks through industry-wide arrangements in place for a century or more. Now some 92% of financial transactions take place using cards and common industry platforms such as Osko and BPAY and are done on line. We all need to know how to operate these functions, and the importance of personal cash in some instances has now increased. **Help is available through 131728 (Police Bank help line)** or by using young relatives, for whom all of this is normal stuff.

These comments are included in this report merely to bring to notice the changes and their origins, and to encourage all of our Members to become involved in using such systems, which are fast becoming the substitute for cheques money orders and other such methods of payment. If you are lucky enough to win a jackpot at your club, you might have to take the cheque they are currently required to give you for big prizes to the Post Office. Likewise the Opera House Lottery prizes you might win.

**Jim THOMPSON and Joanne ROBINSON** of the Reef Resort at Palm Cove (just North of Cairns) have again this year **donated the annual RFPA Membership Draw prize** for those Members whose dues are up to date. Anyone with a direct debit or State Super deduction arranged, or has an exemption from paying dues prior to 1 July 2023, is up to date on the date of our 2024 AGM, and will be eligible to win the great prize. If you are an annual 'paying' Member, your 2024-2025 fees will need to be paid before 5pm on Sunday 28 July 2024 to be eligible for the prize, valued at well over \$2,000. **Jim and Joanne have also made a similar donation to assist in the Bob DREW benefit on 17 May at West Tamworth Leagues Club, with the RFPA** adding further value to that prize to assist **Bob and Gael** through their trying time. For **On Line Raffle Tickets** go to [www.raffletix.com.au?ref=4a3kk](http://www.raffletix.com.au?ref=4a3kk) Please assist this cause if you can.

A couple of our Branches have found themselves in difficulty through lack of volunteers for some committee functions. This is regrettable, as anyone with policing experience can do all the tasks required of any of the Branch positions. The satisfaction derived from doing even a small amount for former colleagues is immense when you experience it. What is unfair about the system is that a few willing people are often required to do the same jobs for many years, with little thought given to their advancing years or health status. There is a good deal of backup available for anyone wanting to help out, and no penalty for having to withdraw at any time.

Friendship Week at Forster in March was a great success, with **Charlie HALLORAN, Phil KNIGHT** and their loyal volunteers continuing (and improving annually) their traditional week of camaraderie and social events. See full details in the Articles Of Interest in this issue. **The RFPA takes pleasure in supporting this event wherever and whenever it occurs, representing our core business.**

The 2024 NSW Police Legacy Ball on 23 March at the International Convention Centre, Darling Harbour, was an outstanding event. Legatee **Phil BURTON OAM** from Human Nature again headlined the entertainment, with backing from the NSW Police Concert Band. Hearing and seeing (video) the excellent work Police Legacy does with Legatees is an uplifting experience. Congratulations to **Det Supt Donna McCarthy APM** and her dedicated team, who raised an enormous sum for Legacy and its beneficiaries.

On a sad note, **Anne HAYDON, widow of the late Sgt Keith HAYDON** shot at Mount Sugarloaf in 1980, passed away on 6 April. Anne had done tremendous work for Legacy during the past 24 lonely years. **Rest in Peace, Cecelia Anne HAYDON.**

Our 2024 AGM will take place at 10am on Monday 29 July 2024 at Club York, 95 York St Sydney. Please keep in mind the opportunity to give back to your old colleagues through volunteering for membership of the Committee of Management.

We hope to see as many as possible at the **Bob DREW** Benefit at West Tamworth Leagues Club on Friday 17 May. See our website for details. We'll all have a beer with Bob.

**Ian Lovell, APM**

E: Secretary@retiredpolice.com.au

**Contact the Secretary with any changes to address, phone or email.**



## EDITOR'S REPORT

Editors Report Autumn 2024

It has been brought to my attention by Sub-editor **Sandy Benson** that March of this year marks 15 years that I have been performing the role of Gazette Editor. I cannot believe that the years have passed so quickly. I remember distinctly the words of my friend and former

Editor, **Tony Dunne** when passing the baton onto me, "It's a snack Wynnie. You'll knock it over in no time at all." (had he not been a cop he would have been a top car salesman)

The Gazette has progressed in many ways over the past 15 years thanks to the increased contributions by Branches and individuals. The Committee of Management agreeing to print the Gazette in colour certainly enhanced the quality of the photos being presented.

I thank each and everyone who contributes Reports and Articles for publication as I am often receiving phone calls and comments regarding the quality of content within the Gazette.

I also would like to thank the Police Bank for their continuing support in production of your Gazette.

I do however again ask that photos be forwarded as attachments and not be included in the body of the Report or News item.

The closing date for the Winter Gazette is 8 June, 2024.

Members are reminded that the Annual General Meeting will be held at Club York, 95 York St, Sydney on 29 July, 2024.

God Bless,

**Paul Wynne & Sandy Benson**

E: Editor@retiredpolice.com.au



## WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Committee is now gathering state-wide information in a set form, which means we are in a position to quantify the overall welfare effort we apply to our Members. Calls for help are rare, but always answered.

What we do to assist our Members is quantified monthly and is of interest to potential sponsors and those who already support us

Welfare Officers checking on their Members is the main source of information. We have access to assistance for many types of issues, but have found that the friendship offered by former colleagues who may never have met each other is greatly valued by those down in their luck or experiencing ill health.

Our connection with Emerge & See can be useful for professional referrals. We have our **RFPA Chaplain (Gary RAYMOND APM OAM)** who can assist in a number of ways – see back page for Gary's contact details.

**Ian Moore and Ian Lovell**

E: welfare@retiredpolice.com.au

## RFPA BRANDED ITEMS FOR SALE

Item	Contact	Cost
Men's Ties	State Secretary	\$25 inc p&h
Ladies Scarves	State Secretary	\$25 inc p&h
Pocket Badge Holder	State Secretary	\$9 inc p&h
Coffin Sashes	State Secretary	\$70 plus**
Get Well or Sympathy Cards Min 10	Macarthur Branch	\$30 inc p&h

\*\* sash will have branch name on it, but to insert individual deceased names talk to Ian Lovell who can run through the procedure.

## WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

SURNAME	CHRISTIAN NAME	BRANCH
BENNY	BRUCE	HUNTER REGION
BUERCKNER	PHILLIP JOHN	MURRAY RIVER
CLARKE	GARY	MACARTHUR
ELVIN	MICHAEL	HUNTER REGION
EVANS	JAN	MANNING GREAT LAKES
EYLES	WILLIAM DREW	NORTHERN BEACHES
GILDAY	GARY	CENTRAL COAST
HAYWARD	TONY	HUNTER REGION
HELEN	LUCILLE	MACARTHUR
HOGAN	RICHARD	HUNTER REGION
LOWDEN	DAVID	NORTHERN SUBURBS
MCCUDDEN	ALLAN LESLIE	HUNTER REGION
MILLAR	SUSAN	MACARTHUR
O'BRIEN	PHILIP JOHN	NORTHERN BEACHES
RENWICK	STEPHEN ANDREW	CENTRAL COAST
RULE	GRAHAM PATRICK	MACARTHUR
SICARD	KERRIE ROSE	PARRAMATTA-THE HILLS
SMITH	GREG	MACARTHUR
TOWNSEND	DOUGLAS ROBERT	NORTHERN RIVERS
TURNER	TRACEY MERRYN	SOUTH COAST



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024

MEMBERS are advised that the AGM of the Association will be held at 11am on Monday 29th July 2024 at Club York, 95 York St SYDNEY.

- Only financial MEMBERS are entitled to vote at this meeting.
- Only financial MEMBERS are entitled to stand for office at this meeting.
- Proxy votes (a limit of five complying proxies per financial MEMBER attending the meeting) may be exercised at this meeting. In order to comply, proxy votes must be signed and the Secretary must be able to identify the proxy through detail recorded on the prescribed forms, as a financial MEMBER. The forms must be lodged with the Secretary 48 Hours prior to the meeting's advertised starting time.
- Please note, that under current Rules, an ASSOCIATE is **not** a MEMBER for the purposes of voting.

### THE AGENDA WILL BE:

11am Commence

Opening and welcome address by the President. [Conduct of the annual **Membership up-to-date Draw.**]

Apologies

Recent Deaths

New Membership applications

Minutes of the AGM held on 25 October 2022 Business arising from those minutes

President's Report Secretary's Report Treasurer's Report

# Election of officers for 2024/5#

# See detail hereunder '**VOTING PROCESS**' and provisional declaration by the Returning Officer on 22 July 2024.

Close of Meeting. A light meal will be available at the Club

### VOTING PROCESS

#### CURRENT OFFICE BEARERS

President Paul WYNNE (Standing)

Senior Vice President George WEISSEL (Standing)

Vice President Elizabeth Anne DOCKSEY APM OAM (Standing)

Secretary Ian LOVELL APM (Standing)

Treasurer Bruce HOWE (Standing)

State Welfare Officer Ian MOORE (Standing)

**FURTHER NOMINATIONS FOR EXECUTIVE POSITIONS RECEIVED** TBA by 11am 22 July 2024

#### CURRENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Allan SIMPSON (Standing) Neil PURVIS (Standing)

Russell OXFORD APM (Standing) Paul SMITH APM (Standing) Alan LE SURF (Standing)

Belinda Ann DUNN-TOEMOE (Standing)

**FURTHER COMMITTEE POSITION NOMINATIONS RECEIVED** TBA by 11am 22 July 2024

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**The Returning Officer, Mr Lloyd TAYLOR, will be notified of those nominating for all positions at 11am on Monday 22 July 2024 as required by Part3, S.15 of the Model Constitution.**

Ian LOVELL APM

Secretary

Please note:

**This notice is supplied with the RFPA Gazette and will be duplicated on the RFPA website. It may be updated as required on the website, but there will be no further Gazette publications prior to the required deadline (22 July 2024) for Notice of the AGM.**



### SPECIAL MENTION

The Executive and members of the Retired & Former Police Association of NSW express our support for Inspector Amy Scott for her heroic and unselfish actions when she saved the lives of many innocent people at the Bondi Westfield Shopping Centre.

Her courage and control under the developing conditions, were exemplary. She showed true Australian Spirit of helping fellow Australians under life threatening circumstances.

## ARTICLES OF INTEREST

### SEARCH DOGS SYDNEY INC



Did you know a trained search dog can cover the same area of ground it would take about 39 humans to search.

Search Dogs Sydney Inc is a team of dedicated volunteers trained to a rigorous standard in

- Canine handling
- Search strategies
- Lost person behaviour

This use of resources together with Drone activity and GPS collared dogs can carry out searches in areas difficult for a human being.

We are always looking for volunteers to join our team – if you have specialist skills such as IT support, graphic design or can help with fundraising we need you. Think you and your dog have the dedication, skills and time to become an ace canine search team? Call me or head to the website.

Contact [www.searchdogssydney.org](http://www.searchdogssydney.org)

Chris D'Arcy 0412 524 715

### NSW RFPA BRANCH DONATION TO NSW POLICE LEGACY

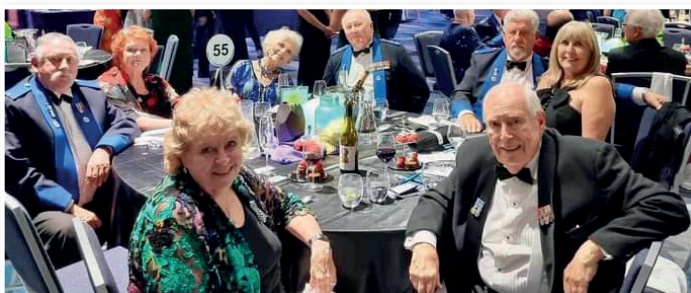
Recently you would have read information both in the RFPA Gazette or on the [retiredpolice.com.au](http://retiredpolice.com.au) website, that **NSW Police Legacy** and the **Retired and Former Police Association** have joined hands and are working together.

This was to work on ways in which we can support NSW Police Legacy and the many legatees that they support. Some of the ways that we are looking to support **NSW Police Legacy** was to encourage our members & branches to consider one off or regular donations to **NSW Police Legacy** as they did when they were working for the NSW Police. This of course can be done by way of the **NSW Police Legacy Website** or by contacting them direct. [www.policelegacynsw.org.au](http://www.policelegacynsw.org.au)

With this in mind, during the week of Roaming the Murray River Region in October 2023, the Murray River Branch of the RFPA conducted an auction of 5 limited edition drink holders embossed with 'Roaming the Murray River Region' and marked 1 of 5, 2 of 5 etc, for the inaugural event. They were auctioned on the night of our welcome BBQ & Fire-pit evening where we had about 35 people attend from several RFPA Branches and participated at the auction. Murray River RFPA member **Peter Croucher** supplied the holders to be auctioned and was the chief auctioneer on the night. Great job thanks **Peter**. We were able to raise \$465 from the sale of the 5 drink holders for donation to NSW Police Legacy.



RFPA Executive at Police Legacy Ball



COM NSW attendees



Comm. Karen Webb APM and Super. Donna McCarthy



NSW RFPA President Paul Wynne with NSW Police Commissioner Karen Webb APM. Engendering a closer relationship between Legacy, NSW Police and Retired Police bodies.

On Monday 29th January 2024, as the RFPA Vice President, NSW Police Legacy Champion and Secretary of the Murray River RFPA Branch, I attended the NSW Police Legacy Office in Sydney to donate the \$465 to **Superintendent Donna McCarthy APM** Chair of NSW Police Legacy. I indicated that it was only a small amount, however **Superintendent McCarthy** was very happy with the donation as she indicated it would go into the education fund for legatees and that would assist several of them during the year. Every dollar helps and even though it seemed a small amount, boy was it a big cheque that I handed over to **Superintendent McCarthy**.



Police Legacy Donation Feature Beth Docksey & Supt Donna McCarthy APM

I would encourage all RFPA Branches to consider donating to NSW Police Legacy if you have a branch raffle or some other fund-raising event and give those few dollars to a very worthy cause of looking after the NSW Police family. Thank you to all that participated in the auction and made this all possible.

**Beth Docksey**, Vice President NSW RFPA.

## FRIENDSHIP WEEK 2024 NRMA FORSTER TUNCURRY HOLIDAY PARK

Another successful Friendship week was held at Forster Tuncurry between the 16 to 23 March 2024.



### Friendship week 2024 Foster Tuncurry

Sunday the 17th we had a welcoming Bar B Que with over sixty in attendance.

Monday consisted of a visit to the Artisan Farm in the heart of Nabiac, where there was great food, coffee and other items consumed and purchased.

Tuesday consisted of entertaining the Manning Great Lakes Branch of the RFPA to a meeting and luncheon consisting of a sausage/steak sandwich. The food was cooked by the same chefs from the Friendship Week.

Wednesday we had a Boat Cruise of the Lakes and consumed a two-course meal on board. In the evening we had a meal and drinks at the Tuncurry Bowling Club .

Thursday afternoon we had a Curry prepared in the camp kitchen. This was a free meal supplied by the Friendship Week group, from proceeds of the afternoon raffles.

Friday, meal at the Tuncurry Bowling Club we were treated to a great meal having a choice of four meals. Lamb shanks, Barramundi, Chicken

Schnitzel or Steak.

With accommodation, the Boat Cruise, Barbecue, and the Friday evening meal, together with all other expenditure in the area during the week it is estimated we put approximately \$35,000 to \$40,000 into the community.

**Charles Halloran APM**

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## DEFIBRILLATOR DONATION TO LIVERPOOL PAC SAVES LIFE

A follow up good story to Macarthur Branch's successful Charity Golf Day.

As a result of our Defibrillator donation to Liverpool Police Area Command, Police in early February, 2024 were in a position to attend the scene of a collapsed male pedestrian on the footpath in Moore Street, Liverpool. On arrival, it was noticed that the male person had no heartbeat present which resulted in Police attaching the Defibrillator to revive a heartbeat until the arrival of the Ambulance.

The Ambulance Officers commended the Police intervention and use of the Defibrillator as without that action that male person would have died at the scene before their arrival.

The only downside to this story is that Campbelltown Police Area Command declined to accept their allotted allocation of Defibrillators which have now been presented and gratefully receive by Camden and Liverpool Police Area Commands.

**Roger Ford**

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## BRANCH REPORTS

### BRISBANE AND NORTHERN SUBURBS

Hi Everyone,

Our Christmas Party didn't make the Summer Gazette but while numbers were down everyone who attended had a great time and next year, we are going to combine with the NNC QRPA which is **Merv Melling's** Branch which will be more cost effective for attendees and allow us to increase our social circle at the same time.

Over the Christmas period no meetings were held but the social activities continued with a couple of lunches which had a good roll-up.

Moving forward to our AGM and Meeting at the Norths Leagues and Services Club, Kallangur on the 2nd of March and the following positions on the committee have been filled for the 2024/5 period:

Chairman:	<b>Steve Turner</b>
Vice Chairman:	<b>Merv Melling</b>
Secretary:	<b>Steve Turner</b>
Treasurer:	<b>Ken Fogarty</b>
Social Sec:	<b>Lynell Turner &amp; Sally Matherson (Shared Position)</b>
Welfare Officer:	<b>Marilyn Fiddis</b>
Chaplain:	<b>Ian and Di Todd</b>
Committee:	<b>Kerry Beggs &amp; Gerald Fiddis</b>



**Gerald Fiddis** did not seek election for Social Secretary as he says he is over 80 and would like to take a back seat and let younger people have a go after over 15yrs. On behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank him for such a great effort, which is appreciated by everyone, I am sure.



**Chris Long** attended with his lovely wife **Ann** and was presented with his Veteran Certificate (OBE) and gave a very interesting presentation of his Police Service.

**Lynell and Sally** have several ideas of what social events and lunches they would like to organize but they are always happy to hear suggestions.

Many of you may have got used to **Gerald** ringing up to remind everyone of lunches but I am not sure to what extent this will continue so please check your emails and our Brisbane and Northern Suburbs RFPA Facebook Group posts on a regular basis for updates, so you don't miss out.

After the meeting we attended the Precinct Restaurant and had a great lunch and then **Bob, Ken, Sally** and I debriefed in the TAB area with a couple bets and beverages.



The Major Prize Draw of the Holiday in Cairns that started last year is on again this year and is drawn at the RFPA NSW AGM in July. There is no additional cost to enter the draw as all financial RFPA members (including Associate & Veteran members) are automatically eligible and therefore memberships must be renewed or new applications submitted no later than the 30th June 2024, for a chance to win.

Regards

**Steve Turner**

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## CENTRAL COAST

The Branch Meeting was held on Tuesday, 20th February, 2024, commencing at 11 a.m., chaired by Chairman **Geoff Talbot** with the following members attending: **Peter Caddy, Ernie and Bev Carmichael, Barry and Marj Clark, Tony and Virginia Connolly, Bill Connors, Peter and Anne Drinan, Bruce Gibson, Ray Hatcher, Shane Hobbs, Bede Irvine, John and Anne Kent, John Marheine, John and Noelene Nicholas, Carl and Ramona Ripphausen, John Roger, Bernadette Sweeney, Geoff Talbot, Wilma Walsh, Russ Whitcher.**

Our Welfare Officer, **Barry Clark**, reported on Members who are experiencing difficulties:

**Bill Ide; Father Jim; Peter Drinan; Trevor Carroll, Bernadette Sweeney; Ian and Marlene Robertson; Brian McVicar and Barry Clark.**

Chairman Geoff thanked **Barry** for the work he has done in the Welfare capacity. It is always nice to have someone call on the telephone when you are not at your best and **Barry's** efforts over a long time are much appreciated.

We wish all those Members not feeling well a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing them at the next Meeting.

**Bruce Gibson** again raised, as a matter of interest, how magistrates of today have to be qualified lawyers as compared with the days when we were in the Police Force and magistrates came up through the general court system. We lamented the good old days when penalties were applied as deserved.

On Tuesday, 16th January, 2024, the first sizzle of the New Year was conducted at the Valley Tavern, at Narara, with head chef, **Brian McVicar**, demonstrating those incredible culinary talents we have all come to take for granted. Of course, he was assisted by his dedicated team of orderlies and everyone enjoyed a great day, celebrating the commencement of another year of activity, whatever that may be.

**Brian** is seen here in his usual supervisory role, just checking to ensure the standard has been maintained by those working under his able guidance and control.



The Ladies Coffee Club was back to its best when the last Meeting took place on Tuesday, 20th February, 2024, and a goodly number of girls attended. We know that numerous health issues were discussed – even though we were not listening – and one notable absentee was **Jan Gibson** who was suffering the unfortunate effects of an accident. But, knowing the grit with which she is made, we know she'll be back in a short time and making her usual great contribution to the Club's activities. We do hope the girls keep up the good work they have been doing for so long.

Note - 21st May, 2024. Sausage sizzle at the Valley Tavern, Narara.

18th June, 2024. General Meeting & Annual General Meeting at the Ourimbah RSL, Ourimbah.

16th July, 2024. Sausage sizzle at the Valley Tavern, Narara.

20th August, 2024. General Meeting at the Ourimbah RSL, Ourimbah.

And where to now?

Well, it seems that Taylor Swift has brought joy and excitement to a significant number of people in the whole of the country. And, in the context of world events, that does seem to be something positive. If only it could be everywhere – all the time. Let's hope the New Year brings some positive outcomes for Members and their families. Our wish is that we will see a great number of our Members fit, up and running, and enjoying life to the fullest. And we look forward to seeing them at Meetings and our other activities.

**John E. (Ernie) Carmichael**

E: centralcoastrfpa@retiredpolice.com.au

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## CENTRAL TABLELANDS

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

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## COFFS HARBOUR

Greetings RFFA Members, RFFA State HQs, as well as our Coffs/Clarence Current Serving Members. Hope everyone has had a lovely Easter break with your families.

On Tuesday/20th February at the Boambee Reserve we gathered for our social. It was a lovely day beside the water. A big thank you to **Hodgo and Nat** for cooking up the BBQ and serving up the delicious food. After the event, because everyone exited the area so quickly, **Natalie** along with our guest **Lea** together with **Suzanne** and I, drove up to Sawtell Town Centre and had coffee and afternoon tea, to finish off the day.

During the afternoon, both **Shane and Mark Spencer** caught up with us at the BBQ. They were in the area attending to funeral arrangements for their mother Coffs Harbour RFFA Police Widow member **Laura Spencer** May she RIP.

Attending were **Garry/Suzanne HESKETT Hedley/Barbara GLEAVE Murray/Judy SMITH Tony/Shiela BROWN Harley/Rhonda TOMS Ian Hodges OAM/Sue Betty LYNE John Reid Natalie SALTER Heather MOORE et al Leanne PRICE (Guest) Shane/Mark SPENCER (Guests).**

Apologies

**George/Jan WILLIAMS, Steve JAMSEK, Dallas BURRAGE, Doug/Jan TYSOE Murray/Judy SMITH Bev CLANCEY Peter Chilton.**



From the left **Harley/Rhonda Toms, Sue Hodges, Nat Salter and Ian Hodges OAM** on the BBQ. **Shiela Brown and Heather Moore. Hedley Gleave, Tony Brown and John Reid Myself** presenting **Sheila Brown** with a NSW Police talking about the good ole days!!!!



**Gary Heskett presenting Sheila Brown NSW Police Legacy Pin**

It was great to see our Coffs RFFA Members in attendance, who all had an enjoyable day. I did invite Coffs/Clarence current serving Police members to join us but unable this time.

We the committee provided Lunch, Drinks, Raffle Prizes etc.

June 2024. As you are all aware I will be conducting our Coffs Harbour RFFA AGM. I will not be standing again which I prefaced last AGM 2023, and in following Newsletters.

Without going into detail, I have a couple of personal matters of which I need to attend to that will require my undivided attention and focus, and of course I am still employed within the Sports Medicine Australia industry, notwithstanding as a veteran, my involvement with the RSL.

In this regard, our State President **Paul WYNNE** and State Secretary **Ian LOVELL APM** will be attending our next local branch social luncheon to talk to all of us members about our organization, which was founded in 1931, its purpose is to foster Friendship, Fellowship and Welfare for Retired and Former members' of the NSW Police Force. In addition, our organization is concerned with the improvement of conditions and quality of life for all former Police and Police Widows. Hence, our local RFFA Branch is seeking leaders to take us forward, so we may continue along this path for the good of all of us members. I am hoping we can have a good showing for our next social function, so we can listen to both our NSW State President along with our State Secretary in offering advice on keeping the doors open on our aging local RFFA.

**VALE** - It is with a heavy heart that I advise the passing of **Laura Spencer, Sgt. Geoffrey Wiggins** aka Wiggo

*Death leaves a heartache*

*No one can heal.*

*Death leaves memories*

*No one can steal.*

*May they all RIP'*

**WELFARE** The welfare rounds were done, and I'm happy to say that everyone is surviving, and getting along ok. Remember any issues give myself, **Tony Ian** a ring. Details below. We also say a sad goodbye to Retired and Former NSW Police Officer 17459 **Det.S/C Trevor Walter. Trevor** was fatally injured in a motorcycle accident on Sunday/24th March 2024 in Thailand whilst riding with 3 x other former Coffs Harbour Police Officers.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

11.30am/TUESDAY/16th APRIL 2024 Coffs RFFA Social Lunch BOAMBEE CREEK RESERVE.

Cheers

**Garry**

E: [coffsharbourrffa@retiredpolice.com.au](mailto:coffsharbourrffa@retiredpolice.com.au)

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## DUBBO

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

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## GOLD COAST

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

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## HORNSBY/NORTHERN SUBURBS

We hope everyone had a very enjoyable Christmas and new Year and wish Northern Suburbs (formerly Hornsby & District)

We started 2024 off with a good roll up for our February meeting. In attendance were **Bill Johnson, Les Potter, John Barber, Alan Pollock, Ross Beattie, Kent Vild, Alan Doak, Warren & Trudi Cole, Bruce Williams, Bill Shute, John Schell, John Graham, Verity Greenwood and Greg Muir** with apologies from **Bill Leadbeatter, John Andrews, Chris Reardon, Wal Gaffney, Ken McKnight, Kerry Larsen, Phil Stubbs-Mills.**

We put **Kent Vild** on the spot for an impromptu talk about electric vehicles and his Tesla. Great job, Kent. The talk was very well received.

Our March coffee club meeting included a presentation by **Beyond Blue** for their Police and Emergency Responders Program at The Asquith Club (former Bowling & Recreation). The talk touched the memories of some of our group but was still well received, with management strategies for anxiety and depression. Meditation and talking to others about it was high on the list. In attendance were (front row, l to r) **Les potter, Tony Sneddon, Alan & Evelyn Doak, Helen & Alan Barwick, second row, l to r) Bruce Williams, Bill Shute, Bill Leadbeatter, Verity Greenwood, John Graham, John Andrews, (back row, l to r) Kyle (visitor), Kent Vild, Trudi & Warren Cole, visitors Michael Lonergan, Ian & Helen Daley, and June Muir (obs).**



At the conclusion a cheque for \$2500 raised by our Branch in conjunction with the Club and local business was presented for the Beyond Blue Program.

All future coffee club and official meetings will now be held at The Asquith Club at 11am on the first Thursday of the month.

**Greg Muir**

E:hornsbydistrictfp@retiredpolice.com.au

## HUNTER REGION

We've been to a few places lately, and some of them new venues we will see again. The Irish Pub at Cameron Park was a standout, as was the former Stockton RSL (Club Stockton). Pictured there was **Verne ALLEN** receiving his OBE, as he says, a little early. He expects to survive until the appointed day, a couple of weeks off.



**Verne Allen receiving OBE**

**Bob GRAY** has been busy arranging our Xmas in July, as he has done for the last few years. If you have the chance, come along to the Kurri Kurri TAFE on Tuesday 9 July and you will not be disappointed. We have had over 50 turn up in recent years, and the numbers are growing. Visiting the viticulture and hospitality facilities has been a feature, and our preferred customer status has seen many stock up with their 'Intuition' wines, including of course the world-famous Ilzard Liqueur (Dragon's Mirage) we have delivered to lucky door prize winners at our meetings.

We've just heard of the Passing of **Anne HAYDON, widow of the late Sergeant Keith HAYDON**, who was murdered at Mount Sugarloaf in 1980 by a serial killer who had previously executed another. In pursuit of Keith's killer, on the same day, **Alex PIETRUSKA**, also on duty and shot by the same person as he attempted to avoid capture, was himself shot and seriously wounded, but lived to complete many years of policing. **Anne** was a Police Legatee for many years active in the movement, and instrumental in the Care Bear project, which gave comfort to many young people who had found themselves in Police Stations and without their parents to help. RIP **Cecelia Anne HAYDON**. We of the Hunter Region Branch of the RFPA are especially aware of your efforts to support others and the excellent work you have done raising yours and **Keith's** three children.

Look forward to attending the Knights Centre of Excellence at Broadmeadow in May, and for our next few meetings and 'between' meetings, check out the website and look for emails.

Regards

**Ian Lovell APM, Chair/Secretary**

E:Hunterrpa@retiredpolice.com.au

## ILLAWARRA

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

## KIAMA

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

## MACARTHUR

On the 8 March, 2024, retired **Detective Chief Inspector Russell Oxford** addressed the Macarthur Branch of the RFPA, in respect of his investigation into the murder of **Roxlyn Bowie** at Walgett in 1982. At that time although suspicious, the inquiry was suspended by local police at Walgett.



**Ron Reuben, Russell Oxford and Roger Ford**

In 1988, relatives approached the homicide squad and this investigation was reopened. Subsequently, following their diligent and thorough investigation the former husband was arrested in October 2019, interviewed and charged with murder. **Roxlyn Bowie's** body was never found. Following a Supreme Court trial, in March 2023, the former husband was found guilty of murder and sentenced to 24 years imprisonment with a non-parole period of 18 years. However, under the current NSW laws "no body – no Parole" -and because of the prisoner's age of 72, he should die in custody.

**Roger Ford**

E:macarthurrpa@retiredpolice.com.au

## MANNING GREAT LAKES

A meeting was held at the Friendship Week in Forster-Tuncurry on 19th March 2024 where **Kevin GUILLAUMIER, Terry TAMPLIN Wayne McCann and Bert BENNETT** were presented with plaques in appreciation of the long service to their Branch and the RFPA. An OBE was presented to **Kevin Naylor** to mark the milestone.



Manning Great Lakes meeting group



Kevin Naylor receiving OBE



Terry Tamplin receiving Plaque of Appreciation



RFPA Life member Peter Rankin presenting Wayne McCann with a Plaque of Appreciation



Kevin Guillaumier receiving appreciation plaque

## MID NORTH COAST

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

## MURRAY RIVER

On 16.12.23 the Murray River Branch members slipped out to Gum Tree Pies at Yack for a bit of a yack and catch up in a historic building. We had seating out the back in the courtyard and it was lovely. About 28 attended for a lovely chat and get together which lasted nearly 3 hours so we could have morning tea as well as lunch. We had a couple of people that we hadn't seen for a while, **Les Nugent** being one. **Al Grogan** and local museum chairman, **Phil Buerckner** briefed us on the history of the building/s. The main part at the front was originally a pub. The building at the side was a brothel...as you would expect...not. And the back brick building was a 'Ball Room' which could squeeze in 20 people for a Dance night.

On 14.1.24 we had a lovely catch up with our Victorian members and friends of the Murray River RFPA at the Mail Exchange Hotel, Melbourne. 9 attended and a few others were disappointed they couldn't come due to being away on holidays etc. Great catch-up thanks everyone for coming.

The Murray River RFPA Branch met for lunch at the Jindera Pub on Saturday 20.1.24. First off a few of them went and checked out the Jindera Museum which has so many relics from the past.... reminded lots of their younger days with Arnott's biscuit tins etc.

They then moved across the road to the pub for a bit of lunch and chat with everyone that turned up. It was really nice to see **Jenny Choice & hubby Ross Pogonoski** come all the way over from Deniliquin for lunch with us. Some others travelled so much further.....on foot from a couple of blocks away, **Linda & Ken Medway, & Tash Pollard, with Lis & Pete McLaren**...a couple of kilometres, all being local yocals.

We found out at the luncheon that the day before had been **Warren Mitchell's** birthday, he is 21 & lots and lots of months, actually 85th, an amazing man who has been working on a farm right up until now and may now be able to call himself 'retired'. Well the sticky date cake came out and we had a bit of trouble locating a fire source to light the candle. Another great time together. See you all next time.



Birthday boy Warren Mitchell

On Tuesday 6.2.24 we held a Coffee & Chat at 2640 with the presentation of 2 OBE's (Over Bl..dy Eighty) to **Mr Brian Rosewarne OBE and Mrs Colleen Honeysett OBE**. A good roll up of about 20 people to cheer on the awardees. The presentation was done by our chair, **Ken (Ziggy) Zegiel** in his usual jovial manner. Happy Birthday to both **Colleen and Brian**, one a bit late and one a bit early a great achievement.

We also had our members **Garry & Maureen Dunne** down from Newcastle for the month basking in the Albury sunshine and so they could attend our fabulous events. **Roland and Christine Kubank** also had a leisurely drive down from Wagga to join us for the morning. Great to see all of you. **Ray Waring** brought along his 4-year-old grandson, although a bit late, as they had been busy putting a jigsaw puzzle together and then had to catch the bus in from Thurgoona. This is always a family event. A couple of others that we hadn't seen for a while, **Lisa Ride & John, and Dave Graham** now released from grand-parenting duties. A lovely get together.....see you all next time.



**Colleen Honeysett, Chair Ken Zegiel & Brian Rosewarne OBE Presentation.** The Murray River RFPA members decided to go out to dinner on Wednesday 21.2.24 to the little-known South China Restaurant in North Albury. There were 21 including some of our distant members who came along to catch up with us including **Phil & Chrissy Eddes** from Melbourne who were seeing family on the way up & **Gary & Maureen Dunn** from Newcastle down here house sitting.



**Terry & Wendy Yarnall, Max & Denise Wilton, Graham & Beth Docksey, Christine & Phil Eddes, & Margaret Westaway.**

We had 21 of us attend and the venue only takes about 26 comfortably so when I confirmed a couple of days before with young **Darren** the chef & owner, in about late 20's, that we only had 21 and not 26, he was relieved. We didn't know at the time that his Dad who is usually one of the chefs had been delayed in China visiting his ill father and **Darren** was the only one cooking for the night for us and doing take away meals as well! The meals were lovely.

As people were getting up to pay and a couple of people had departed I was tapped on the shoulder by **Brian Rosewarne** who said "Haven't you forgotten something.....photo's?" Whoops! Oh no some had left already **Martyn & Rhonda Stenson, Bill & Margaret Sutton, .....** We will catch up next time. Another great get together of our members.

## PRESENTATION OF DSC MARGY SAUNDERS MEMORIAL SHIELD

### MURRAY RIVER POLICE DISTRICT RETIRED POLICE DAY

On 28th September 2023 **Superintendent Paul Smith** invited all retired and former officers and family to Retired Police Day at Albury Police Station. The reason it was on the day before National Police Remembrance Day was because it was the 4th anniversary of the passing of Detective Senior Constable **Margaret Saunders** who served 33 years out of 38 years at Albury and completed 30 years in criminal investigation duties. **Margy** was an amazingly tenacious detective and received commendations and high recognition for her CI work.

Firstly, we had the presentation of a number of retired police pins to **Peter Dwyer, John Clarkson, Steve Farwell, Ken Zegiel, Warren Mitchell & Lyndelle Tubie OBE** her husband who passed away. This was followed by the re-presentation to **Warren Mitchell** of his RFPA OBE certificate, the original which had been destroyed when his home burnt down, and he lost everything at the end of July 2023.

We moved on to the next part of the presentation day that being where the Murray River Police District Command has now instigated the DSC Margaret Saunders Memorial Shield. This award will recognise a criminal investigator within the district each year and one of them will be awarded the shield. Criminal investigation staff are nominated for the award and all CI staff vote to determine who is to receive the shield. All available criminal investigation staff in the district were present with us.

This day being the inaugural award day, **Margy's husband Rob Moran** and his father **Bill Moran** were in attendance. **Margy's daughter Majella** is currently in Ireland so could not attend. **Robbie** presented the 1st shield to **Detective Senior Constable Matt Kelly** who was selected by his peers. He was extremely honoured and humbled to be the first to receive the award. He had spent many years sitting at the desk next to **Margy** and enjoying her unique enthusiasm.



### Margy Saunders Memorial

**DSC Matt Kelly** responds to the award with **Rob Moran & Supt Paul Smith**. Behind **Rob** is the frame with the valedictory and a large shield in it which will have individual small plaques recording the yearly awardee.

**Beth Docksey, APM**

E: [murrayriverrfpa@retiredpolice.com.au](mailto:murrayriverrfpa@retiredpolice.com.au)

## NEW ENGLAND

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

## NORTHERN BEACHES

A great turnout of 35 members including **Dave WHITEMAN, Alan LE SURF, Brian FRIEND, Garrie WATT, Christine BUSH, Alex VOGT, Barry MILES, Rob LINNEY, Kevin MONCKTON, Bart SNEL, Barry CAFE, Oscar TAYLOR, John LETTS, Brian INMAN, Anne MULLINS, Geoff KAY, Harold HANLEN, Deb ANDERSON, Liz WHITEMAN, Geoff GREEN, Julie BERTOLDO, Belinda SNELL Gloria VELLELEY, David DREW, Bill MCINTOSH, Irene MCINTOSH, Col COLMAN, Brian GATELY, Bob PINFOLD, Dave COLE, Peter BUTCHER, Les LIDBURY, Valma LIDBURY** for the first Northern Beaches RFPA meeting of 2024 at Manly Leagues Club.

Sadly two Members **Tony TIBBLES** and **Graham KEECH** passed away. We had four OBE Certificates (Over Bloody Eighty) and **Brian Friend** was presented with his OBE. **Tony Wright, Duck Filmer and Terry Moss** will receive their OBEs at a future meeting. Then the raffle was drawn and won by **Dave Drew** and our "Rumpole of the Beaches", **Oscar Taylor**, who himself celebrated a 90th birthday in December.

But a most important birthday today (January 25th) of the oldest Northern Beaches RFPA branch member, **Aileen Wheeler** who is 100 and was a NSW Policewoman from 1950 to 1964. The branch sent a card but Chairman **Dave WHITEMAN** and his wife **Liz** visited **Aileen's** home at Marsfield to congratulate her on behalf of the branch and the RFPA.



**Aileen** was surrounded by her family and she still lives at home and there were flowers and cards from her many friends. A special memento was a personal card from **King Charles and Camilla**, the NSW Governor, the Governor General and prime minister, as well as many cards from her former workmates.

**Aileen** was keen to show a photo of her with two of her fellow policewomen **Julie Grotch and Wilma Loosby**, who was also one of our NB branch members and passed away in 2022. **Aileen and Wilma** maintained their friendship all those years until **Wilma's** passing. **Aileen** thanked us and all branch members for our kind thoughts and for the Blue Family which she much appreciates.



**Brian Friend OBE**



**Rumpole of the Beaches**

We had another successful RFPA Northern Beaches branch lunch at the Collaroy Beach Club in February. Despite initial torrential rain, 14 intrepid branch members ventured out to enjoy good company, good food and a few drinks while overlooking the magnificent Collaroy Beach. **Julie Bertoldo** even made the effort to join us as it was her 15th anniversary. Attending were **Alex and Margie Vogt, Deb Anderson, Harold and Beth Hanlen, Oscar and Pauline Taylor, Annie Mullins, Jeff Brady, Dave and Liz Whiteman, Col and Jenny Colman and, Julie Bertoldo.**

**Alan LE SURF**

[Enorthernbeachesrfpa@retiredpolice.com.au](mailto:Enorthernbeachesrfpa@retiredpolice.com.au)

## NORTHERN RIVERS

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

## PARRAMATTA -THE HILLS



The Branch held a Welcome Back BBQ for our members in February. Despite the inclement weather on the day the members attended. As usual at our BBQs we hold a raffle and sell cakes made by the ladies in the Branch. The funds raised go to various organisations and this time we chose Search Dogs Sydney Inc, a self-funded voluntary group. They had previously been guest

speakers at a Branch meeting and the Branch was impressed by their audio visual presentation. With the proceeds of the day the Branch donated \$500 to their organization.

Held at Blacktown Workers Club

TUESDAY, 12 MARCH 2024

ATTENDEES ( 28 ) - **Eric Etienne, Paul Wynne, Neil & Colleen Purvis, Sandy Benson, Annette Willett, Fred & Anne Camage, David Hain, Kent Vild, Phil Connor, Steve Bensley, Sheila Jackson, John & Susan Wakefield, Darrell Maher, Gary Raymond, Joan & Ivan Hamilton, Shirley Anderson, Tom Baena, Brian Haim, Lester Robey, Lloyd Taylor, Mal Brown, Phil Connor, Steve Bensley, Paul Smith.**

APOLOGIES – **Nick Pavlov, Naomi Baldwin, Joe & Jenny Turner, Ian & Barbara Lindsay, Mike Neilsen, Chinn Gounder, Shri Ram, Robyn & John McInerney, Phil Hickman, Greg Swindels, Robert & Robyn Oswald, John Fletcher, Greg Hyde, Ian King, Phil Martin, Robert Redfern, Kris Sweic, Richard Thomas, Maurie Whitton, Graham Stone. Mathew O'Neill, Michael Berwick.**

On the 19th of January **Paul Wynne** attended the Granville Rail Disaster Ceremony marking the 47th Anniversary of this Disaster. I laid a wreath in memory of those persons who lost their lives and also acknowledging the first responders who risked their own lives in rescuing the injured.



On 13 February **Paul Wynne and Sandy Benson, Gary Raymond, John and Susan Wakefield** from this Branch attended the Memorial Service in front of the Hilton Hotel marking the 46th

Anniversary of the first terrorist attack on Australian soil. **Paul Wynne** laid a wreath in memory of those who lost their lives in this bombing. Especially remembering our Branch member the late **Terry Griffiths** who never fully recovered from his injuries of that night.



**Hilton Bombing Remembrance Ceremony 2024. Parra Hills members attending. Gary Raymond Paul Wynne, Sandy Benson, Susan & John**

On Friday 1st March by invitation **Paul Wynne** attended the Attestation Parade of Police Class 361 at Goulburn Police Academy. **The Principal Chief Supt. Toby Lindsay APM and Chief Insp. Nick Hallett** extended an invitation for our Branch to visit the Academy for a tour

Our Welfare Team were active with **GARY RAYMOND and Lester Robey** combined making 65 Calls to members, 17 home visits, 2 Grief & Bereavement Calls, 2 Grief and Bereavement Visits, 3 Legatees and "lost" member Personal Visits

Also on the welfare front **Lester** informed the meeting that his daughter in law was in hospital receiving a double lung transplant and thanked everyone who contacted the family with their concerns.

The miracles of today's medical advancements.

Today's Guest Speaker was **Gary Raymond** who spoke on SUICIDE PREVENTION. He presented the SIX MINUTE INTENSIVE TRAINING program (S M I T)

In the year 2022 in Australia there were 2,455 suicides by Males, 794 suicides by Females, making a total of 3,249. Attempted suicides amounted to 65,000 in Australia.

High Risk Groups included those suffering from PTSD, Victims of Crime, Controlling Cults and Drug Addiction.

This was a very interesting talk and Gary will be delivering this message to many groups throughout the Blacktown and Surrounding areas

**Eric Etienne**  
E: parrahillsrpa@retiredpolice.com.au

## PEEL

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

## PENRITH BLUE MOUNTAINS

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

## RIVERINA

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

## SOUTH COAST

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

## SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

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

## SOUTHERN TABLELANDS

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

## SYDNEY

We held our quarterly meeting on 20th February at the Club York, 95-99 York St, Sydney and then adjourned to the Zabou Bar and Grill to grab a bite of lunch and some lively conversation. In the coming months a number of our members will be jetting off overseas to enjoy spring and summer in Europe. To those members we wish you a safe and fabulous holiday.



**Some Sydney members at a coffee catch up. at Ryde Eastwood club**

Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club was the venue for our March 2024 "Roving Coffee Catchup". Our relaxed coffee mornings are a great way to meet members who can't attend the city meetings and to build friendships. We had a couple of scratchings on the day due to illness. Any

RFFPA member or former/retired police are most welcome to join us.

**Belinda Dunn-Tomoe**  
E: combdt@retiredpolice.com.au

## WATER POLICE SUB BRANCH

By way of introduction, my name is **David Ritchie** and I am the Treasurer of the Water Police Sub-Branch of the RFPANSW.

As you are no doubt aware our past Secretary, **David Buckley**, sadly passed away on the 1st January 2024. I am currently filling the Secretary duties until such time as we have someone from within our branch volunteer for the position of Secretary.

On Thursday, 22nd February 2024, the Water Police Sub-Branch held its first quarterly meeting for 2024. This Meeting held particular importance for our Members as it was the first held since the passing of our **Inaugural Committee Secretary, David J. Buckley. David**, along with others, was one of the main driving forces behind the establishment of the Water Police Sub-Branch and we are indebted to **David** for his tireless, hard work and legacy over the past 10 years. Vale, and thank you **David**.



RIP Dave Buckley



Members Present: (Standing L-R) **Terry Ervin, Neil McCarty, Greg Aldred, Martin Kelly, Stan Watson, Vic Rulewski, Len Ware, Tom Bradley, John Whitehead, David Ritchie** (Seated L-R) **Frank Mahony, Mick Poole, Gerry Perkin.**

**Brian Friend**

E: [waterpolicerfpa@retiredpolice.com.au](mailto:waterpolicerfpa@retiredpolice.com.au)

## WIDE BAY

*We look forward to your report and photos for our next issue*  
E: [widebayrfpa.com.au](mailto:widebayrfpa.com.au)

## NOTICEBOARD

### 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NSW RFPA

**When:** Monday 29th July 2024 at 11.00am  
**Where:** Club York, 95 York St Sydney

### FRIENDSHIP WEEK FOR 2025

**When:** 15th to 22nd March 2025  
**Where:** Top of the Town Holiday Park, High St Stanthorpe QLD  
**Bookings:** Advise them you are with Retired Police they apply 1 free night when you book for 7 nights.  
**Information:** For more information about the accommodation and the park please follow the link <https://topoftown.com.au> Look forward to catching up for a great week again in 2025. Phone 07 4681 4888.

Charles Halloran

## UPCOMING REUNIONS

### 40 YEAR REUNION CLASS 202

**When:** Friday 28th June 2024  
**Time:** 12 noon to 4pm  
**Where:** The Helm Bar Darling Harbour (close to town hall station)  
**Cost:** \$45.00 – finger food and snacks  
**Payment:** In full by 1st June to bank account name - Paul Smith BSB- 815 000 Account 34926 (51.1)  
**Contact** **Paul Smith** 0414 237 965  
**Frank Schroeder** 0423 190 535  
**Kristina Wood** 0421 074 712

### 40 YEAR REUNION CLASS 204

**When:** Saturday 14th September  
**Where:** Goulburn Including A Tour Of The Academy  
**Contact:** **Sue Vine (Hartup)** 0415 661 761  
**Patrick Wunsch** 0402 000 582

### 60 YEAR REUNION – CLASS 101A OF 1964

**When:** Suggested date 30 October 2024. Other suggested date would conflict with Melbourne cup dates.  
**Where:** Coronation Club Burwood - also known as club 88  
**Contact** **John Seward** 0419292209.  
[John.newington@bigpond.com](mailto:John.newington@bigpond.com)  
Meal and drinks at bar prices.  
**RSVP** Please advise if interested so booking can be confirmed.

### 46 YEAR REUNION – CLASS 156

**When:** Weekend 15,16,17 November 2024  
**Where:** Bayview Hotel Woy Woy  
**Contact** **Denise Behringer, Sandra Herd** – go to Facebook – NSW Police-Class 156 (1977) or email [Ken.Houseofgordon@gmail.com](mailto:Ken.Houseofgordon@gmail.com)

### 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FORMATION OF THE NSW MOUNTED POLICE (oldest continuous Mounted Police Unit in the world)

**When:** First Saturday in May 2025  
**Where:** To be advised

## REUNIONS HELD

CLASS 113 HELD THEIR 56 YEAR REUNION AT NELSONS BAY ON 11/11/23

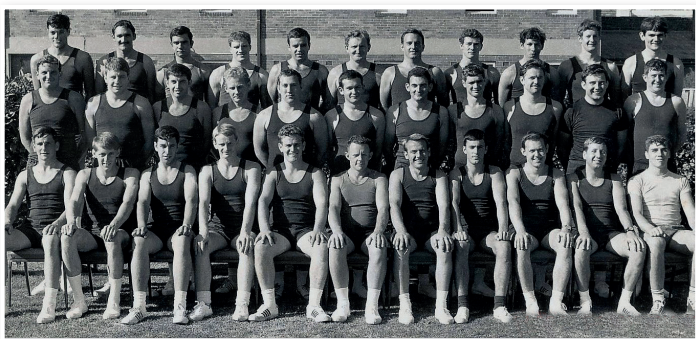


Those attending were **Len & Denise Richards, John Vine, Bev and Steve Byrnes Jenny and Col Owens, Bill and Nancy Walsh, Fred & Anne Camage, Lyndsay & Debbie Baxter, Lee & Helen O'Mara, Marilyn & Jim Bennett, Geoff & Faye Knight, Brian & Ann Goodall.**

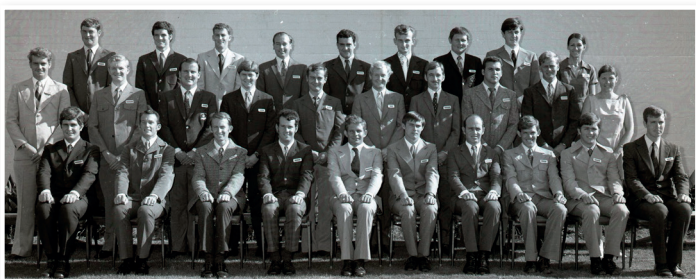
## 91ST YEAR OF CADETS. REUNION 2024



## THE WAY WE WERE



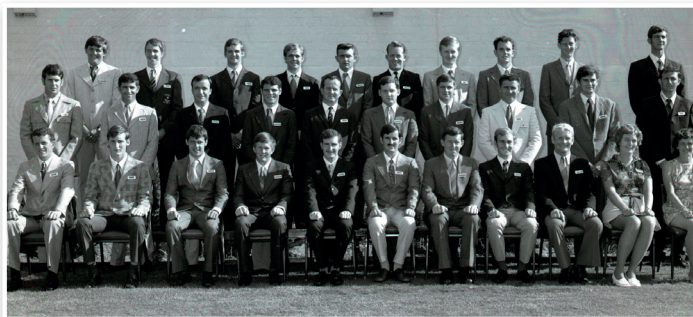
Class 134 (A)



Class 138



Class 138



Class 138



Class 202



Drinkwaiter's jacket and long baton



## BOB DREW BENEFIT EVENT

In March 2023, **Bob Drew** was involved in a horse riding accident. **Bob** has sustained lifelong injuries, leaving him wheelchair bound for life.

**Bob** has achieved many milestones in his time, he served with the New South Wales Police Force for 32 years, retiring as Detective Chief Inspector, Crime Manager of the then New England Local Area Command. **Bob** has always had a love for horses, which led him to become the Clerk of the Course at Tamworth and Hunter Valley Races and Tamworth Harness Racing.



**Bob** spent over 30 years as a Greencoat (mounted steward) at the Sydney Royal Easter Show. In 2022 **Bob** was honoured with the title of Champion of the Royal Easter Show.

**Bob** has always been a caring person who has spent many years giving his time and efforts to the community. It is now our turn to help support **Bob**, as he faces his most difficult chapter of life yet. **Bob** has a long journey ahead of him.

**Read more and donate here. Forward this message to your contacts to help our campaign reach its goal! <https://gofundme.me/81c80c75>**

Friends and family in support of **Bob** will be holding Benefit event for **Bob**. The event will consist of a two course meal & beverages, auctions and raffles. **MC Kevin Anderson MP**. Guest speakers include retired **Commissioner of Police, Michael Fuller APM, Ben Fordham 2GB** personality and retired **Detective Chief Inspector Russell Oxford APM**.

For further information contact

**Wayne Biffin** 0438 936 784

**Dave Walker** 0458326866

**Phil O'Reilly** 0448593261

**Greig Stier** 0418911168.



### How can you help?

#### \*Attend the Lunch event

Friday 17th May 2024 12.00pm The Event Centre

West Tamworth Leagues Club 58 Phillip Street,  
West Tamworth 2340

Cost \$150 per head for the lunch event. Tickets can be purchased at <https://www.stickytickets.com.au/LNWQD> or scan the QR code.



#### \*Donate - on line go to [www.gofundme.com/f/bob-drew-quadrilegic](http://www.gofundme.com/f/bob-drew-quadrilegic)

#### \*Buy Raffle tickets – can be purchased on line [www.raffletix.com.au?ref=4a3kk](http://www.raffletix.com.au?ref=4a3kk)

#### 1st – 7 night Dream Holiday package at Reef Retreat, Palm Cove Qld including

- \* accommodation for 2 people in a 1 bed apartment
- \* airport transfer
- \* 6 day car hire
- \* \$500 air fare subsidy
- \* Lady Douglas River cruise at Port Douglas
- \* Return Kuranda Sky Rail tickets
- \* Quicksilver Outer Barrier Reef Platform excursion for 2 adults
- \* \$200 Vivo Restaurant (Palm Cove) meal voucher

Prizes donated by **Jim Thompson and Joanne Robinson & the Retired & Former Police Association NSW**

2nd - \$200 visa gift card, donated by **Police Bank**

3rd - \$200 visa gift card, donated by **Police Bank**

Other prizes still being received. See website for full details

# YOUR RFPA COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT



**Paul Wynne**  
President



**George Weissel**  
Senior Vice President



**Beth Docksey APM OAM**  
Vice President



**Ian Lovell**  
APM - Secretary



**Bruce Howe**  
Treasurer



**Ian Moore**  
Welfare Officer



**Allan Simpson**  
BEM, KSj



**Neil Purvis**



**Alan Le Surf**



**Belinda Dunn-Toemoe**



**Russell Oxford APM**



**Paul Smith APM**



**Sandy Benson**  
Editor



**Dave Whiteman**  
Web & IT Admin



**Gary Raymond APM OAM**  
Chaplain

## INTERESTED IN JOINING?



Have you read this Gazette and are NOT a member of the RFPA? Perhaps you are interested in joining?

**Go to [www.retiredpolice.com.au](http://www.retiredpolice.com.au) website to download application forms**





## VALE

All relevant information regarding the passing of Members and former Police will be posted on the Retired Police Website [www.retiredpolice.com.au](http://www.retiredpolice.com.au) under the category of 'VALE'.



Then go to 'Death and Funeral Notices'. You will note that the latest posts contain funeral detail. This will be removed when no longer needed and the VALE list updated accordingly. To access the website, go to [www.retiredpolice.com.au](http://www.retiredpolice.com.au)

*We will remember them.*

\* Denotes Serving Member

SURNAME	CHRISTIAN/KNOWN NAME	AGE	REG.NO	BRANCH	DECEASED
BOZIKIS	Nicholas	79		Unattached	13/2/2024
BRANN	Gordon Alexander	78	14991	Mid North Coast	1/1/2024
BRETT	Brian Victor	78	14784	Central Coast	18/2/2024
BUCKLEY	David J	73	13650	Water Police Sub Branch	1/1/2024
BYRNES	William Donald	87	8265	Central Tablelands	4/3/2024
CARSON	Brian P	90	8897	Penrith Blue Mountains	11/1/2024
GLEESON	Michael Henry	81	10078	Unattached	21/3/2024
GODFREY	Allan Frank	73	15284	Macarthur	7/3/2024
HARDING	Alan Bryan	85	9396	South Coast	13/1/2024
HILLIER	John Jackson Welfare	80	10522	Macarthur	28/3/2024
HOULAHAN-EARLE	Toni Annette	73		Northern Rivers	18/1/2024
JORDAN	Richard Andrew	70	16774	Unattached	18/12/2023
JOYCE	Colin Patrick	96	5525	Central Coast	1/1/2024
KEECH	Graham Lawrence	79	10703	Northern Beaches	1/2/2024
KENNEDY	Christopher Graham	68	16748	Unattached	31/1/2024
MARTIN	William Warren 'Warren'	83	9568	Northern Suburbs	11/1/2024
SCHWEIKERT	Victor Albert	86	9458	Unattached	22/12/2023
SCOTT	John George	73	14997	Unattached	29/3/2024
SPENCER	Laura	89		Coffs Harbour	15/2/2024
TOPPING	Leonard George	80	10210	Hunter Region	4/12/2023
WADE	Ian Robert	76	12976	Unattached	23/1/2024