



# 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”

## YOUR POLICE FAMILY

Supt. Donna McCarthy APM, Police Legacy; Robert Redfern APM, Police Bank; Kevin Morton, Police Association, Supt. Kylie Endemi, & A/Asst. Comm Shane Cribb APM, NSW Police Force; Ian Lovell APM & Paul Wynne, Retired & Former Police Association.  
All five entities are stakeholders in the Welfare of Current, Former and Retired Police and Police Legatees.



Your Police Family – working for you.  
See article in this issue by Phil Holder, APM for more ways Police Legacy can help you.

### HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

- Committee Report
- Branch Reports
- Notice Board
- The Way We Were
- Articles of Interest
- New Members Welcomed
- Reunions
- Vale



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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Firstly congratulations to our Committee Members who were returned unopposed to their positions on the State COM. It is a true indication that the Association's Members are satisfied that the COM is performing the function of State Management in the interest of the Association as a whole.

I would also like to congratulate and welcome **David Drew** from the **Northern Beaches Branch** in the position of Committee person. I thank our former Committee member Neil

Purvis, who did not stand this year, for his service and contribution as a Member of the COM over the past years. I wish him well for the future.

On 21 June by invitation I attended to Attestation Parade of Class 236 at Goulburn Academy.

I was accompanied on that occasion by our Webmaster **David Whiteman**. On that day I met with **Superintendent John Klepczarek APM**, who will be taking over the role of **Academy Principal** from **Superintendent Toby Lindsay APM**. He informed me that he was keen on continuing the relationship with the RFPA. The Attestation Parade was again one of pomp and ceremony with the highlight being **Det. Inspector Amy Scott awarded the Commissioners Award of Valour**.

On 18 July **Ian Lovell** and I were invited to the **Newcastle Police District Awards Ceremony** where after the Ceremony we conversed with both serving and former Police. Amongst those we spoke with was **Northern Region Commander A/Asst Commissioner Shane Cribb**.

On the 31 July I attended the Celebration of Life Service for the **Late Former Assistant Commissioner Bruce Wallace Johnston APM**. I had served under his Command for a number of years and the service was well attended by both serving and former Police. The Service was conducted by **Police Chaplain Ian Schoonwater** in a manner befitting the calibre of the **Late Bruce Johnston**.

By invitation of **Superintendent Sam Chrisafulli** I travelled to the Builders Club in Wollongong on Saturday 3 August for the **Awards and Recognition of** for personnel attached to the **Youth Command**. On this occasion I was invited to speak regarding the RFPA and the role we play in assisting Retired and Former Police.

On Tuesday 20 August along with **Ian Lovell** and **Gazette Sub Editor Sandy Benson** I attended the meeting of the **Central Coast Branch** at Ourimbah RSL. Their Guest Presenter was **Quentin Anthony**, a former PNG Patrol Officer and ASIO Agent. This gentleman is 93 years old but looks more than 20 years younger than that. His presentation from when he was a child in Papua New Guinea, to being evacuated to Australia when the Japanese invaded, and then returning to become a Patrol Officer for many years before being poached by ASIO.

On Wednesday 21st August I attended the **Police RSL Sub-Branch Memorial Service Commemorating both VP Day and Vietnams Veterans Day**. The Service was conducted at the Burwood RSL Club with our **State Secretary Bruce Howe as the MC**. I laid a wreath on behalf of the RFPA in remembrance to those who paid the Supreme Sacrifice.

By Invitation from **A/Asst Commissioner Shane Cribb, Ian and Lovell** and I attended on Wednesday 28th August the **Northern Police Region Serving and Retired Commissioners' Officers Formal Dinner** in Newcastle.

A busy couple of months with on the agenda for the rest of the year:

Your Committee of Management are continuing their efforts to further enhance the name of the Retired and Former Police Association and we applaud the Branch Committees commitment in supporting our goals.

God Bless,

**Paul Wynne**

E: president@retiredpolice.com.au

## SECRETARY'S REPORT



With the AGM 'season' just about over, we will be getting used to some new faces, and have welcomed **David DREW** into the Committee of Management at the 26 August meeting of the CoM. David brings with him his policing background, combined with years of experience in the security industry as a manager of major undertakings for SNP. Included in his responsibilities were Mascot Airport security arrangements, corporate governance and Australian Standards

compliance. He will keep us on track.

Several Branches are yet to report their management and financial details, and when these are known, CoM will deliberate on Branch grants. During this year we have seen some excellent fundraising and donating by several Branches. Notable again has been the effort of the Macarthur Branch, which raised an enormous amount of money at a golf day which enabled them to make a generous donation to the **Menangle Bush Fire Brigade**. Macarthur's policy is to choose a LOCAL organisation which would benefit from the Fund Raising. Well thought out, well organised, and very worthwhile effort all round. **Steve REEVES, Roger FORD** and **Ron REUBEN** deserve our congratulations. They have placed the RFPA in the spotlight in their area for all the right reasons. Last year's donation to buy defibrillators for Police Vehicles in their area are already saving people. During the recent weeks I have visited a number of Branches and country locations on RFPA business. The President **Paul WYNNE**, Vice President **George WEISSEL**, Welfare Officer **Ian MOORE**, and Gazette Assistant Editor **Sandy BENSON** have been with me on some of these.

We have been asked about who pays for these 'trips' and we can all say that they are all done at no cost to the RFPA. We have visited Forster, Tamworth, Dubbo, Ourimbah and Wingham on Branch business, and various locations on invitation from Police Commands.

Our calendar in the next few weeks includes planned visits to the Hornsby, Illawarra and Kiama meetings. We like to interact with former colleagues and meet new acquaintances, assist Branch officials with any issues they have, and take away ideas to incorporate good practice into our advice. The Business Plan is our guide to dealing carefully with core business, and is a working document available to Branch officials to assist in keeping our aims in sight. We would like to make the RFPA an enduring benefit to our former colleagues when they may need it most. The RFPA is now 93 years old, and we are looking forward to its centenary in 2031.

Much has already been reported by **Paul WYNNE** regarding **Quentin ANTHONY**, former PNG Patrol Officer and ASIO operative, who spoke at the Central Coast Branch's recent meeting. Locals in attendance (and the five visitors on the day) were treated to a wonderful recall of the 1940's in Papua New Guinea through a child's eyes and at the commencement of the Japanese invasion in 1942; working in primitive conditions as a de-facto Police Officer; Magistrate and midwife through the 1950s, and the tribal fighting, disease, lawlessness and jungle lifestyle Quentin endured during his working life. He then took the easy way out and left PNG for the James Bond life of an ASIO person.

I had a call from **Olivia BRUCE**, who won the major prize at **Bob DREW's** benefit. She had just arranged her trip to **Palm Cove to stay at the Reef Retreat**, and wanted to thank the RFPA for our part in providing some of the add-ons to her free week at **Jim and Joanne's** tropical paradise. We are all grateful to Jim and Joanne for making these holidays possible, and for their generosity and ongoing involvement. If you are wondering what to do in the next couple of months, give them a call, arrange your VIP status as an RFPA Member, and go for it. Make sure that you book directly with Jim or Joanne, so they don't have to pay agents' commission and neither will you..... (07) 4059 1744

Contact with police commanders of late has revealed some of the headwinds being faced by the NSWPF right now. Thinking back a few years, I don't remember being videoed by offenders or bystanders when the chips were down. Guns and knives were around, but not in the numbers they

face today. Copycat crime is practised and boasted about on TikTok, which didn't exist. Video games are where car thieves learn to drive, or maybe just adopt an attitude to driving. However, the words of one commander in particular have had a great effect on me personally in my assessment of how 'the job' is going. He said, "I have great young people working for me learning this job. I can depend on them and I am filled with optimism when I reflect on what they are doing." He said this to a room full of retired police, and the resulting discussion amongst us certainly lifted the mood over our meal.

Godspeed and congratulations to those who are doing the job on our behalf and keeping us safe.

**Ian Lovell, APM**

E: Secretary@retiredpolice.com.au

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



### EDITOR'S REPORT

The group photos are good value particularly when members are facing the camera and names are included.

**The closing date for the Summer Gazette is 30th November 2024 (bit early due to Printer Xmas closedown)**

God Bless,

**Paul Wynne & Sandy Benson**

E: Editor@retiredpolice.com.au



### WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT

The summer months are almost with us and I hope everyone is feeling well. If you have been ill, I hope that your welfare is on the improve and the future holds much brighter. We have lost some fine members over the past months and they will be remembered by us. Many former RF Police do not join the Association.

I ask that such members do join the Association and like many, enjoy the friendship and social activity of the Association. To those of you who have not been feeling well, I hope things improve for you to make your life better.

**Ian Moore**

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
BUCKLEY	CHRISTINE	WATER POLICE SUB BRANCH
BUXTON	ROBERT PAUL	13202 KIAMA
EVANS	PHILLIP MALCOLM	12129 PARRAMATTA-THE HILLS
GOSPER	MATTHEW ROY	32493 GOLD COAST
HARTUP	SUSAN PATRICIA	21510 MID NORTH COAST
PRESCOTT	CHRISTOPHER WILLIAM	13128 NORTHERN BEACHES
REYNOLDS	PAUL	23759 PARRAMATTA-THE HILLS
RICHARDSON	MARGARET	34479 HUNTER REGION
ROBINSON	LESLEY ANNE	18011 BRISBANE & NORTHERN SUB
TAYLOR	STUART WILLIAM	20688 SYDNEY
ZEGIEL	PAULA	MURRAY RIVER

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### MYSTERY EQUIPMENT

We have a mystery to solve and I'm hoping that you or one of your colleagues can help. We have a photo of some equipment which we think was taken here at the Academy but we have absolutely no idea what it is or what the equipment was used for:



**Sandra Hall**  
Librarian Goulburn Academy

**Ed: Note** Can any member identify what this is, what it was used for and apart from the Late John Hamer, who are the other persons in the photo. This information will be passed onto the Goulburn Academy Library as part of their history.

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## ARTICLES OF INTEREST

### WINNERS OF THE 2024 RFPA MEMBERSHIP DRAW

Peter WOODS from the Wollongong branch has already booked REEF RETREAT, PALM COVE far North Queensland won in the AGM membership draw. He has indicated that he will be driving up to Palm Cove and back, taking in the Queensland sights along the way. We are all grateful to Jim Thompson and Joanne Robinson for making these holidays possible, and for their generosity and ongoing involvement.



**Peter and Marlene Woods WINNERS. – We are over the moon with our prize**

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### THE FORGOTTEN SECONDMENT

In the early 1970s, when Papua New Guinea was preparing and aiming for Independence from Australia, the Federal Government became aware that a number of Contract Officers working in PNG would be approaching a time when their contracts would expire or need to be renewed. A decision was finally made late in 1971 or early in 1972, not to renew contracts but

to replace these personnel with police from Australia, in order to fill the gap to the countdown to Self-Government.

A few officers went up to PNG in 1971/ 1972 and jobs for secondment were advertised in the various Police Forces around Australia.

There were already personnel from NSW Police "in country" e.g. **Paul McKinnon** and **Bob Green**, and early in January 1973 a group of 10 police from NSW was seconded to work in PNG for two years. These police went up initially in January to be introduced to working conditions and housing there. They returned to Australia after a short period to accompany their wives and families to begin work and family life at the beginning of the school year.

I have enclosed a photo of the group taken after they were outfitted with the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary uniform. They were given various jobs to do in training and development of cadets and potential officers. Of the ten who were seconded, seven families lived at the Police Training College at Bomana, about 10 miles out of Moresby. One family lived in Boroko, a suburb between Moresby and Bomana, the site of a large Police Station and shopping centre. Two went to other parts of PNG.

Sadly time has interfered with memory for other responsibilities. Suffice to say that all the men were involved in training the up and coming Cadets and Officers.



**Back Row - Ron Gilson; Geoff Wegg; Hans Moller; Ron Blake; Rex Anderson**  
**Front Row - Pat Cassidy; Phil Lloyd; Mike Fenton; Jim Underhill; Alan Singh.**

**Ron Gilson** went to Lae; **Hans Moller** went to Rabaul; and **Phil Lloyd** worked in Prosecutions, training younger potential prosecutions officers, **Rex Anderson** was Training Officer for the whole of the Papua Division necessitating many trips around the islands on the Government Trawler.

They all had a hand in training the man to become the first Police Commissioner, **Pius Keropaoea**, and others who took high positions early in Independence. Pius later became the Commissioner for Prisons. Sadly **Pius** was, many years later, killed when a rascal attacked him near his home in Moresby.

**Shirley Anderson**

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### WHEN COPS RETIRE

When a good cop leaves the 'job' and retires to a better life, many are jealous, some are pleased and yet others who may have already retired wonder. We wonder if he knows what he is leaving behind, because we already know. We know, for example, that after a lifetime of camaraderie that few experience, it will remain as a longing for those past times. We know in the law enforcement life there is a fellowship which lasts long after the uniforms are hung up in the back of the closet. We know even if he throws them away, they will be on him with every step and breath that remains in his life. We also know how the very bearing of the man speaks

of what he was and in his heart still is. These are the burdens of the job. You will still look at people suspiciously, still see what others do not see or choose to ignore and always will look at the rest of the law enforcement world with a respect for what they do; only grown in a lifetime of knowing.

Never think for one moment you are escaping from that life. You are only escaping the 'job' and merely being allowed to leave 'active' duty.

So what I wish for you is that whenever you ease into retirement, in your heart you never forget for one moment that **'Blessed are the Peacemakers for they shall be called children of God,'** and you are still a member of the greatest fraternity the world has ever known. There are those that think they understand, and then... there are cops.

**St Paul's Retired Police Association Minnesota** (contributed by **Garry Heskett**).

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## THE OPENING OF PARRAMATTA POLICE STATION

On Monday 26th August, 2024 Parramatta's new Police Station was Officially Opened by **Honourable Chris Minns MP, Premier of NSW**.

The day's proceedings started with a March along Marsden Street by 44 Serving members stationed at Parramatta PAC. This group included several newly minted Probationary Constables. The marchers were led by a contingent of Police Motorcycles and the Police band.

Following a Smoking Ceremony the official party unveiled a large Aboriginal artwork by Leading **Senior Constable Tay-la Shearley**. This impressive artwork hangs in the public foyer of the Police Station.

The Formal Ceremony then followed with a Welcome to Country by **Uncle Lexodious Dadd**, a Senior Dharug man, followed by prayers by the **Senior Police Chaplin... Rev Ian Schoonwater**.

The large group of invited guests was addressed by Host Officer **Superintendent Barry Vincent, Commissioner Karen Webb APM and the Honourable Chris Minns MP, Premier of NSW**.

The commemorative plaque was unveiled by **The Premier, The Honourable Yasmin Catley MP Minister for Police & Counter Terrorism, Commissioner Webb and Superintendent Barry Vincent**.

Following the ceremony a large and delicious morning tea was served.

Invited Guests included former police officers who had served at Parramatta Police Station, **Former Superintendents R. Redfern and J. Carrol, Representative of NSW Retired and Former Police Association Paul Smith APM, Former Detective J. Wakefield OAM**, who was stationed at Parramatta in the 1960's and **Former Plainclothes Policewoman Susan Wakefield OAM**, who had been in attendance when the 2nd Police Station at Parramatta was opened in 1974 as a serving officer. In 1974 there were only 2 policewomen stationed at Parramatta.

The Parramatta legal community was well represented with the attendance of The Sheriff of NSW, members of the Legal Fraternity of Parramatta and 2 officers from the Parramatta **Lancer Barracks resplendent in their Emu feather slouch hats**.

**Susan Wakefield. OAM**



**Donna Davis MP, Hon Yasmin Cateley Minister for Police, Hon Chris Minns Premier, Moi, Commissioner Webb APM, Paul Smith APM**



**Paul Smith, Susan and John Wakefield – invitees to the official opening of the New Parramatta Police Station**

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## NEW SOUTH WALES POLICE LEGACY REMEMBERS YOUR SERVICE AND SACRIFICE

**Phil Holder APM**



When the rules for Police Legacy were being developed, focus was never lost on who it was that we were recognising. That focus centered upon the need to always remember the service and sacrifice of our Police Officers, both serving, retired and medically retired.

To this end, when the inaugural Board of Management was determining our logo, the words "We Remember Them" rang out as a true and blunt reminder about our responsibility to all Police Officers, past and present, who have served in what we affectionately call "The Job."

It is timely to remind all retired and medically retired Police Officers **that you are covered under the rules of Police Legacy** – always have and always will be. Equally, it is appropriate to remind everyone of the wonderful work that Police Legacy does in caring for our families (Police Legatees), when we are no longer here.

The efforts of NSW Police Legacy in focusing on the "Police Family" and its maintenance and growth are outstanding. I have spoken to literally hundreds of Legatees, who have always been impressed at the level of support and understanding they received on the death of their spouse/partner, who was either serving or retired.

On being advised of the death of a retired or medically retired Police Officer, Police Legacy makes direct contact with Legatees. This contact allows for an immediate welfare check and to assess if any short-term urgent assistance is needed. Beyond this point, the following are examples of the assistance and support available:

- Invitations to social connection events, including Christmas Lunch, Family Day, Social Connection Lunches
- Specialised grief and bereavement psychological support
- External support referrals
- Accredited financial advisor support service
- Referral and advocacy service for various issues such as pension applications, council assistance, medical assistance, My Aged Care applications, and personal safety support
- Supply of Personal Care Alarms to Legatees 65+
- Wellbeing checks

For those passed Retired and Medically Retired Police who may have had younger children of school or university age, the following additional assistance and support is available for 0–25-year-olds:

- Education Grants from pre-school to university and apprenticeships
- Scholarships
- Mentoring and leadership programs
- Safe Driver program
- Social connection through camps and Family Days
- Outward Bound adventure camp

Police Legacy has continued to listen, to learn, and to collaborate with Police. This ensures that the services provided are contemporary, understood, and are moulded to the individual needs of Legatees.

None of these support services come cheap. Along with all the associated costs with having a successful NSW Police Charity, Police Legacy continues its challenge to raise funds to ensure the success achieved to date is continued.

As Retired Police and beneficiaries of Police Legacy, we should support this worthwhile charity. If, like me, you are in receipt of a pension, fortnightly deductions can be arranged through State Super, direct to Police Legacy. If not, please access the website [policelegacynsw.org.au](http://policelegacynsw.org.au), email [info@policelegacynsw.org.au](mailto:info@policelegacynsw.org.au), or phone (02) 9264 1311. You may also want to consider a gift in your will. For more information, go to: [bit.ly/nswpl-gift](http://bit.ly/nswpl-gift)

Hopefully, this article has cleared some misconceptions about the coverage of NSW Police Legacy for retired and medically retired Police Officers. As previously stated, this is our Police Charity, placing great value on our collective service and sacrifice, as it should. Additionally, it keeps alive the notion of the Police Family and the memory of those who have gone before us.

**We Remember Them**  
**Phil Holder APM**

## BRANCH REPORTS

### BRISBANE AND NORTHERN SUBURBS

Well, it is now spring and our thoughts and planning move to Christmas parties and catching up with family and friends in a few months.

On that issue our Brisbane and Northern Suburbs RFPA Christmas Party lunch will be at Secrets On The Lake in Maleny on Saturday the 7th December and all important details have been mentioned at our September meeting and also sent by email and posted on our Facebook but if you have any questions and or have not received what I have sent out then please contact me as soon as possible.

Our June lunch was held at the Bribie Island Bowls club on Tuesday the 11th and we had a particularly good roll up indeed and everyone had a fun time.



**Present yesterday: Russell & Bev Gray, Steve & Lynell Turner, Marilyn and Gerard Fiddis, Ian & Shirley Whitehall, Ken Fogarty, David & Gloria Weight, Kerry & Marlene Beggs, Di Demartina, Penny and Pieter Strik, Lesley & Peter Robinson, Jan & Jeff Watt, Doug Carrol, Chris & Anne Long, Graham & Dawn Devaney.**

Due to Christmas in July, we did not have a meeting. Christmas July lunch this year was held at the winery Ocean View Estate and what a fantastic location and meal that was and again everyone really seemed to get into the Christmas theme and had a wonderful time.



**Present were: Steve & Lynell Turner, Sally Matheson, Kerry & Marlene Beggs, Ken Fogarty, Marilyn & Gerald Fiddis, Merv & Carol Mellings, Shirley & Ian Whitehall, Pieter & Penny Strik, Julie Newman.**

August lunch was held at Bribie Island Surf Club on Tuesday the 6th which is an excellent location on the beach and enjoyed by everyone who attended, especially Ian Todd who celebrated his 70th birthday and really enjoyed the surprise birthday cake baked by Marilyn Fiddis.



**Present: Lynell & Steve Turner, Marilyn & Gerald Fiddis, Kerry & Marlene Beggs, Graham and Dawn Devaney, Ken Fogarty, Graham Hunt (IPA), Dale De Martino, Ian & Shirely Whitehall, Bev & Russell Gray, Ian Todd**

September's meeting was on the 14th and reports and photo's will be included in the Summer edition.

We have had several new members join up, which is great so keep up the excellent work everyone as it is important that we continue to grow.

Regards  
**Steve Turner**  
 Chairman and Secretary  
 E: [brisbanerfpa@retiredpolice.com.au](mailto:brisbanerfpa@retiredpolice.com.au)

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## CENTRAL COAST

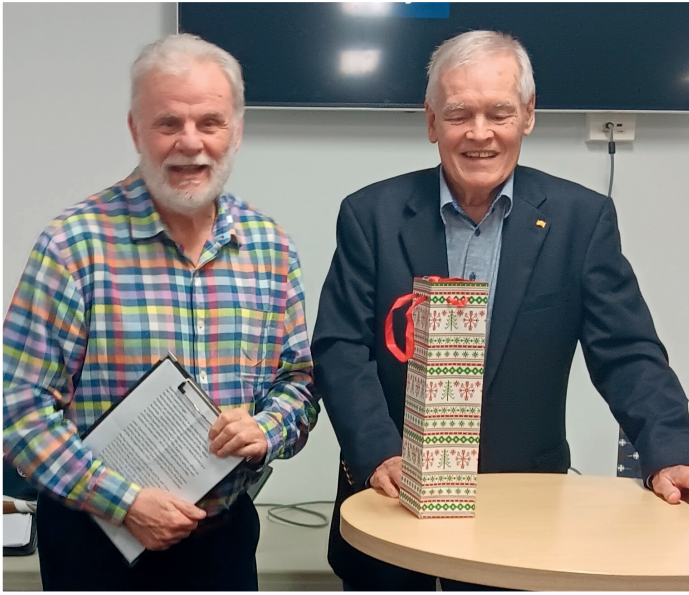
What a wonderful autumn it has been and it is so fortunate that, in this part GREETINGS TO ALL MEMBERS.

On the Central Coast we have been fortunate to have enjoyed a wonderful autumn and winter, with only the occasional spasm of wind – and, yes, some rain, to spoil it. If only that element of bliss could be applied to the rest of the world with humans perishing in their thousands at the hands of merciless invaders. And, if the world is not in enough turmoil now, can we even imagine what it will be like once the American presidential election ramps up – without even imagining what it will be like when it is actually finished. In the meantime, make the most of every day. Each day is a gift and we should keep those closest to us always in our minds if not in close presence. The Central Coast is a gifted area. We should make the most of it while we are here.

The Branch Meeting was held at the Ourimbah RSL Club, Ourimbah, on Tuesday, 20th August, 2024, commencing at 11 a.m., chaired by **Chairman Geoff Talbot**. A summary of the matters dealt with at the Meeting is set out hereunder.

The following Members, wives and partners were in attendance.

**Neil Ashman, Father Jim Boland and Carmen, Peter Caddy, Ernie and Bev Carmichael, Barry and Marj Clark, Bill Connors, John and Joan Corbett, Neil Dick, Peter and Anne Drinan, Bruce and Jan Gibson, Ray Hatcher, Keith Hockley, Bede Irvine, John and Anne Kent, Brian McVicar, John Marheine, John and Noelene Nicholas, Chris Olen, John Roger, Phil Stubbs-Mills, Geoff Talbot, Russ Whitcher.**



**Dick Whittaker & 93yo Quentin Anthony**

The Chairman, **Geoff**, extended a warm welcome to **Paul Wynne**, President of the State RFPA and Editor of the Police Gazette, and **Sandra Benson**, Paul's wife and Sub-Editor of the Gazette, and **Ian Lovell**, Secretary of the RFPA. It was pleasing to see them attending our Meeting. Geoff also extended a welcome to our guest speaker, **Quentin Anthony**, and to **Dick Whittaker**, who brought Quentin to the Meeting and who has previously been a guest speaker. Geoff also welcomed the two serving officers who attended, **Chief Inspectors Paul Nicholls and Colin Lott**, from the respective local Police Commands. He also welcomed the visitors who also attended the Meeting.

The Welfare Officer, **Barry Clark** reported that the following are not feeling too well and a phone call is always appreciated - **Trevor Carroll** was in hospital in Sydney having specialist treatment for his throat cancer and also on the mend are **Peter Caddy and Bill Ide**.

We had a great roll up at The Entrance Hotel for a wonderful lunch on Wednesday, 24th July, 2024. See photos.

Chairman **Geoff** informed the Meeting that he had attended the Annual General Meeting of the RFPA, held at Club York, in Sydney, on 29th July,

2024, and had a copy of the financial report from the State Branch should anyone wish to examine it.

Geoff also told the Meeting that he and **I.J. Toms** had attended the funeral of the late **Greg Ashurst** and that he had attended the funeral of the late **Graeme Williams** and, on the day before the Meeting, had attended the funeral of the late **Glen Marks** and had caught up with Paul Smith who had been in the same class as Glen Marks. Geoff said that memorial sashes had been given to the families of all the deceased personnel.

**Bruce Gibson** informed the Meeting that **Bill Galvin**, now long retired and living at Noosa, is suffering serious illness.

**Peter Caddy** wished to thank all those Members who rang him while he was in hospital. He said that he spent 5 weeks in hospital while doctors attempted to find out what was causing his intense pain, the problem being like a time bomb in his spine. He said that receiving a phone call when you are hospitalized for a long period is very helpful.

## GUEST SPEAKER

Our guest speaker at this Meeting was **Mr Quentin Anthony** who was introduced to the gathering by **Mr Dick Whittaker**. Dick has an extensive background as a meteorologist and has previously been a guest speaker at one of our earlier Meetings. In fact, Dick brought Quentin along to the Meeting.

**Quentin**, who told us he was born in Sydney in 1932 but certainly does not look that age, said that he lived with his parents in Papua-New Guinea during his early years, his father having been a World War I veteran, but was involved in World War II when the Japanese invaded Rabaul in January, 1942. He said that his father was a survivor of that invasion, escaped through the jungle and gathered a group of stragglers who later escaped on a small boat, under the noses of the Japanese, and eventually reached Port Moresby. In his later years, Quentin became involved in policing and security activities in Papua-New Guinea and he provided numerous anecdotes associated with his work in the land which is so close to our shores.

Those present would have certainly appreciated **Quentin's** outstanding talents as a speaker and he most definitely lived up to the accolades given by those who had seen him before

**John E. (Ernie) Carmichael**

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## CENTRAL TABLELANDS

*We look forward to your contributions for our next gazette*

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## COFFS HARBOUR

Hello Coffs/Clarence RFPA members, Hoping that this Newsletter finds you all well. I am currently in the Ipswich Shire in Qld, welcoming my newest granddaughter into the Heskett clan. She will be the 5th addition to my tribe which I stand as the Tribal Elder. She is beautiful of course. Our last get-together on Tuesday/20th August saw us gather at the Old Butter Factory at Bello. It was a great day with good company. I thank Natalie for facilitating this social event for our group.

On the 5th September, myself with other members attended RFPA Friendship Day. We gathered at Coffs Harbour Police Station in Lyster Street, which is now turned into a Training Facility used by Police in the Clarence District.

Our new Editor **John Hartley APM** has the goss on this, which he will cover below.

The next function on the 24th September, I attended Silvios Restuarant in the Park Beach Plaza for Coffee with a Cop. **Barry Walker, Doug Tysoe** and I attended, where we spoke with local police. It also gave me an opportunity to catch up with **Supt Joanne Schultz APM** the Commander of the Coffs/Clarence Police, where we discussed closing the gap between us retired and former Police and current serving local police.

On Friday/27th September RFPA members together with current serving members gathered to commemorate National Police Remembrance Day at the Anglican Church in Coffs Harbour. Our Editor has more information on this. I thank John Hartley APM for stepping up in my absence, and also **Anthony (Tony) Lawler**. A Wreath was laid, and bible reading were conducted by these 2 x gentlemen.



Thank you to all members that attend our RFPA functions. I don't know where this year has gone. Christmas is almost upon us, and again I will be facilitating our Coffs/Clarence RFPA Christmas Lunch at the Sawtell RSL in December with **Russell Oxford APM** our most welcomed Guest Speaker. I take this opportunity to wish everyone the very best of health and look forward to catching up with you all.

Coffs/Clarence RFPA Friendship Day 2024. We were invited to the Training Facility situated in the former Police Station and Court house. On behalf of our group I extend my thanks to **Sen/Const Richard Allison and Sen/Const Alan Tunicliff** for taking us through new training methods like Tasers and introduction to new weapons and familiarisation of same. A big Thankyou to public Servant **Ebony Dean** from the Administration Team, who cooked up a lovely lunch, as well as relieving Commander **Matthew Hinton** for his presence and input. It was a great a day reliving old war stories and funny yarns.



The Remembrance Day Ceremony was conducted at St John's Anglican Church, Coffs Harbour and attended by many past and present officers. It was conducted by our Police Chaplain, a former serving officer: **The District Commander Superintendent Joanne Schultz APM** along with her senior command and officers welcomed all and provided a professional and heart felt ceremony. Wreaths were laid on behalf of us as well as the Command, Local Member **Gurmesh Singh MP, Police RSL Sub-Branch** and local community representatives.

Cheers

**Garry Heskett**

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## DUBBO

*We look forward to your contributions for our next gazette.*

## GOLD COAST

Our February meeting was a normal bi-monthly meeting with the Our meeting in June was a normal bi-monthly meeting and Annual General Meeting.

Members present were **Bob GODDEN, John & Joy BEACHAM, Bruce & Dora THOMSON, , Graham BISHOP, Jim & Olive CAVANAUGH, Ron GRAHAM , Gary MATTHEWS, Jim LUTHERBURROW, Tim TARLINTON, Geoff & Vicki MAXWORTHY, John COOKE, Jim MATHEWS, Col VELMIN, Geoff & Pamela CHESTER, Ken & Esther JENKINS, and Noreen McMURRAY.**

Apologies received: from **John SEWARD, Ron BLACKMAN, Garry JARDINE, Jeff FOWLER., Mike NEILSON, Max & Barb ROBERTS. Terry & Betty PERKINS, Steve HUBBARD, Mahendra BLACKMAN, Madeline QUINN, Garry HUGHES, and Louis GEIST.**

Our meeting was chaired by our Deputy, **Gary MATTHEWS** in the absence of our Chairman **Garry JARDINE**, who is on the road again. And what a great job Gary did running the meeting.

Welfare - we wish **Bruce THOMSON** and **Max ROBERTS** all the best with their recovery and will keep in touch.

**Jim CAVANAUGH** has been busy on the phone and made a visit to John Flynn Hospital where he unfortunately contracted Covid. Of course he

shared that with Olive. They both survived that OK, not any worse for wear. Just annoying, as we all know. Great to see **Bob GODDEN** and **Col VELMIN** back on deck after extended absences with various ailments and circumstances.



**Gina and Mahendra Blackman.**



**Long time member Bob Godden receiving his OBE from acting Chairman Garry Matthews.**

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

The A.G.M. was chaired by **Jim LUTHERBURROW**, who declared all executive positions vacant. Nominations were called for the following positions:

**Chairman:** Garry JARDINE nominated. Elected unopposed.

**Deputy Chairman:** Gary MATTHEWS nominated. Elected unopposed.

**Secretary:** John BEACHAM nominated. Elected unopposed.

**Assistant Secretary:** No nominations. Position left vacant.

**Treasurer:** Bruce THOMSON nominated. Elected unopposed.

**Assistant Treasurer:** No nominations, position left vacant.

**Social Secretary:** Gary MATTHEWS nominated. Elected unopposed.

**Welfare Officer (Northern):** Jim CAVANAUGH nominated. Elected unopposed.

**Welfare Officer (Southern):** Bruce THOMSON nominated. Elected unopposed.

**Bruce Thomson**

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## HUNTER REGION

We've been about a bit in the last couple of months. The Committee has some 50 old coppers turned out at Muree Golf Club, Raymond Terrace, for 2024 Retired Police Day arranged for Port Stephens Hunter Police District. Plenty of old faces and a few new ones were greeted by support staff, the HWP supervisor, duty officers from Maitland, Raymond Terrace and Nelson Bay, and 'The Bear' now in his 45th year of NSWSP service and showing no signs of giving up.



### Hunter branch meeting

**Wayne's** presentation was an eye-opener, with bare facts and statistical analysis surprising some of us. Anecdotal information regarding outside agencies' views of what police have to do with domestic violence was instructive. This is clearly a major task which has risen in importance to levels we didn't expect to hear about.

**Mick JOHNSON** was with us, and was determined to meet up with his old workmates. Not in the best of health, Mick enjoyed his day out, and did some verbal sparring with a number of us who hadn't seen him for a while. We managed to get some new recruits for the RFPA, with two of them having paid into the account for membership before I got home.

**The Ron FIRTH trophy** for Port Stephens Hunter Police Officer of the Year was presented to **Constable Michelle CHANDLER** of Karuah by Ron's daughters, Michelle and Kate. This has become a tradition after the prize was reinstated by **Supt Chris CRANER** several years ago, and is keenly contested, with all three finalists there on the day after a peer selection process. Runners-up were two Raymond Terrace detectives, **Adam WAITE** and **Brearne CALLAGHAN**.

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Retirees from the Southern half of our coverage area saw a very interesting presentation at Club Macquarie, courtesy of Lake Macquarie and Newcastle Police Districts. As Hunter locals (and many from afar) would know, the Port of Newcastle and railways leading to it were paralysed recently by protesters.

The 'protesters' ('saboteurs' more correctly described in our minds) closed the coal supply chain and all shipping for several weeks. Disruption to commerce was widespread when a flotilla of some 300 plus kayaks jammed the harbour, and the policing operations surrounding all this were explained to those in attendance.

With the serious stuff behind them, all enjoyed the excellent catering and socialising that characterises Retired Police Day, and Club Macquarie's close connection with the RFPA. Some indicated that they would like to gather in numbers more often, and were offered the RFPA regular hospitality and membership forms.

**Bob GRAY** thanked the presenters for allowing us to be involved, and have a most topical and complex set of plans devised by those still serving our area shared with us oldies.



### Officer of the Year Const. Michelle Chandler

Photo shows the late Inspector Ron Firth's daughters **Michelle and Kate** presenting **Constable Michelle Chandler**, OIC Karuah Police Station, with her Officer of the Year Award, selected by her peers. **Det. Supt Wayne Humphrey** gave **Const Chandler** high praise for her ongoing efforts

Regards

**Ian Lovell APM, Chair/Secretary**

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## ILLAWARRA

*We look forward to your contributions for our next Gazette.*

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## KIAMA

*We look forward to your contributions for our next Gazette.*

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## MACARTHUR

A great day and experience was had with the visit of the Macarthur RFPA to the Police Aviation Command on 13/09/24.

Our visit coincided with the attendance of the NSW Marine Rescue whom also made the day memorable.





S/Constable **Ian Bennett** gave a presentation that differentiated the old Airwing which was newly formed in 1979 that has evolved into a modern working Police Unit that incorporates with Rescue, Surveillance, Tactical Response, assisting with car pursuits and the arresting of offenders. The departure and arrival of the Police Helicopters whilst lunching on a BBQ was also another highlight of the day.

**Roger Ford**  
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## MANNING GREAT LAKES

We look forward to your contributions for our next Gazette.

## MID NORTH COAST

Our Christmas in July luncheon was held at the Wauchope RSL. Again in was an excellent meal as is always the case. Those in attendance were **Marlene Brown, Jennett Hunt, Ian & Ian Campbell, Graham & Irene Williams, Rick & Marilyn Walton, Ron & Desley Nunn, Paul Egge, George & Jan McCleery, Bob & Helen Hanlon, Al Lukes, Jeff & Margaret Elliott, Laurie & Marcia McGrath, Bruce Saunders & Denise Huntley, Garry & Anne Jennings, Jim & Sandra Cranna, Sid Crane & Kerry Bolsover and Betty Hartnett & Peter Wilms.** We also welcomed **Peter McDonald** from northern suburbs branch who said he had an excellent day. **Marlene & Jennett** again did an outstanding job in organising the lucky door prizes with almost everyone going home with something. Such is the quality of the meal they serve us every time we go there we resolved to again hold our christmas luncheon there in december. A great day was had by all.

Our August meeting consisted of a coffee, a cuppa and a chat for an hour at the Port City Bowling Club and we then walked up to the new Port Macquarie PCYC which opened only a month ago. Those in attendance in the attached photo are (l to r) **Ron Hammersley, Wayne Evans, Bruce Saunders, Sid Crane, Val Ivlev, Helen Hanlon, Trish Affleck-Mooney, Rick & Marilyn Walton, Irene Williams, Margaret Elliott** (seated, arm in sling) **Erin Perkins** (PCYC) **Margaret Hammersley, Graham Williams, Al Lukes, Laurie McGrath** (seated), **Jeff Elliott, Bob Hanlon, Marie McGrath and Ian Campbell & Ron Nunn** seated at table.

We were met by the club's manager, **Erin Perkins**, a lovely young lady who was a schoolteacher at the Port Macquarie high school (next door to the PCYC) and on whose land the club was built. After giving us an introduction about how the new club came into existence she took us on a guided tour of the two levels. And what a state-of-the-art set up it is. Two full-size basketball courts which are multi-purpose and can be converted to futsal pitches and many other uses. There is a very large area dedicated for gymnastics. A large room used for yoga, judo and a wide range of other sports and a really large gymnasium with all the bells and whistles in the way of weights, walking and other exercise machines. They also teach boxing and a wide range of other activities we all associate with the PCYC movement. The original Port Macquarie PCYC closed at least 10-12 years ago so this new one is a very welcome addition for our area. **Erin** told us the initial use of the club has exceeded expectations. We all wish the club well for the future.



**Marlene BROWN (L) and JENNETT Hunt.**



**Christmas in July lunch (l to r) Ron & Desley Nunn, George & Jan McCleery, Dawn & Ian Campbell & Paul Egge. Bob & Helen Hanlon are standing.**



**Mid North Coast Branch with PCYC Mgr Erin Perkins.**

**Jim Cranna**  
Publicity Officer, Mid North Coast branch  
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## MURRAY RIVER

On Wednesday 19 June 2024 the Murray River RFPA attended the Cake Cottage in Macauley Street, Albury for a coffee and chat. The very tasty morning tea included cakes, slices etc., delicious coffee and friendly service. In attendance were **David Graham, Max Merkel, Ken Zegiel, Paula Zegiel, Robyn Pollard, Warren Mitchell, Audrey King, Lyndelle Tubie, Christine McEwan, Roland Kubank, Jan Callaghan, Annie Prancus Smart, Graeme Stephens, Louise Stephens, Debra Hargreave and Ray Waring.** Unfortunately, a few were unable to attend due to COVID, the flu and holidays. A pleasant morning tea was had by all. We held our Branch AGM and elections for 12 positions on the 20 July 2024. There are a number of members that were re-elected and also some new faces that put their hands up. One for Social Secretary and others for our welfare positions which we now have 3 welfare officers.

New welfare procedures are now being developed by the team including the welfare officers being trained in Mental Health First Aid as this is a big issue in this job. The only position not filled at the time was Vice Chair and that has now been filled at our last meeting by **Phill Eddes.** After the meeting we had a lovely lunch at the Thurgoona Golf Club. Murray River Branch of the RFPA had a lovely coffee and chat at a new location Nannina's Cafe in South Albury on Thursday 1 August 2024. The great thing about creating our events on Facebook is that our former colleagues on our group know where to go and when....so I walked in 15 mins early with **Lisa Ride** and there was already a young lad sitting at our tables waiting for us....so welcome **Noel Radburn** to our coffee and chat. **Noel** was down from the Central Coast unfortunately for a funeral but able to pop in for a coffee and see some of his former workmates from Albury. We worked together in Eastern Suburbs District back in the early 1990's when he was at Malabar Police Station and I was at the district office at Daceyville. In walked **Christine Bentley** who knew **Noel** really well from when she worked in the Detectives Office with him at Albury for many years..

## FEATURE ARTICLE MURRAY RIVER RFPA CANCER FUND RAISER

On the 6th April 2024 Murray River RFPA held a Shitbox Rally Fundraiser for the Cancer Council at Cafe Borella's, Albury. **Scott & Simone Russell** participated in the first Shitbox Rally in 2019 in their car named "Carol" the Corolla, thinking that they would do just one....now a few years later, they are about to commence their 5th rally this Wednesday which is a rally from Adelaide to Perth. **Scott** is an Inspector at Murray River District. We had several of our members attend where we conducted a raffle that in the café. Owners of Cafe **Borellas & Peards Nursery** donated one of the prizes as did others plus donations received. So a huge \$811 was raised for the Cancer Council Research.



L-R Front to Back. **Beth Docksey, Robyn Pollard, Scott & Simone Russell, Chris Bentley, Warren Mitchell, Nigel Horne, Jim Caldwell, Graham Docksey, Louise & Graham Stephens, & Kel Clowry.**

**Beth Docksey, APM**

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## NEW ENGLAND

The New England Branch of the RFPA and others were hosted on Retired Police Day by **Superintendent Chris McKinnon** Commander New England Police District at the Armidale City Bowling Club. Following our regular meeting we were given an informational update on all things policing related in our area by **Sgt Chris Pieterse.** **Superintendent McKinnon** provided lunch, which was much appreciated by all those that attended.

At our meeting **Monty Ehsman** was presented his Veteran Membership Certificate, whilst Retired Armidale Police Inspector **Matt Lynch** was awarded the 2024 New England and Northern Inland Volunteer of the Year, for his commitment and dedication to supporting young people as a mentor, coach, driver and cook with youth support group BackTrack at a separate function following.



Photo from Left to right around the table: **Monty Eshman, John Walkowiak, Graham, Ridley, Superintendent Chris McKinnon, Gemma Meehan, Inspector Darren Williams, Matt Lynch, Sgt Chris Pieterse, Inspector Greg Ryan, Simon Meehan, Brian Bowman, Scott Wilson, Peter Lane, Greg Chie & Bill Hooke.**

Many thanks

**John Walkowiak, Secretary**

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## NORTHERN BEACHES

On Thursday, March 21st, our branch held a lively meeting at Manly Leagues. On July 25th we held our AGM at the Dee Why Bowling Club with 37 in attendance. The usual team of champions was re-elected. **Dave Whiteman – Chairman, Brian Friend – Vice Chairman, Alan Le Surf – Secretary and Bill Bush – Treasurer.** **Dave DREW, Garrie WATT and Alex VOGT** were elected to our branch Committee of Management. **Liz Whiteman** is our Social Secretary. **Julie Bertoldo and Ian Finlayson** are the Branch Reporters. Ian Finlayson stood in as Returning Officer for **Brian Inman** who has been our Returning Officer for many years but due to medical issues was unable to this time. Thanks to our Auditors, **Allan Hines and Kevin Monckton.**

Our wonderful Welfare Team are continuing their good work keeping an eye on our members. They are the best in the State comprising **Barry "Scooter" Miles, Geoff "Jellybeans" Kay, Brian Friend,** and of course **Margaret Kay** who, despite her own medical issues, managed to send Condolence cards and Get Well cards as needed. Our Grief and Bereavement Officer is **Deb Anderson,** the only dedicated and qualified Bereavement Officer in the RFPA. The Welfare Team have been run off their feet looking after our members with quite a few members doing it tough; **Margaret Kay, Paul Sheehan, Allan Hines, Neville Behagg, Oscar Taylor, Brian Inman, Ian Finlayson, Jim Boon, Ted Callandruccio, Col Fitzroy, Warren Chambers, John Gibbons, Warrick Wharton, Graeme Ferguson, Adrian Compton, Brian Breedon and Brian Friend.**

A great roll up with the following members attending the AGM; **Dave WHITEMAN, Alan Le SURF, Garrie WATT, Bill BUSH, Jan KEECH, Alex VOGT, Margie VOGT, Liz WHITEMAN, Jeff BRADY, Chris PRESCOTT, Ian FINLAYSON, Greg THANE, Brian GATELY, Col & Jenny COLMAN, Oscar TAYLOR, Deb ANDERSON, Margaret KAY, Barry MILES, Harold HANLEN, Sean ELLIOTT, Geoff KAY, Bob PINFOLD, Brian FRIEND, David DREW, Belinda SNEL, Darryl DONNELLEY, Julie BERTOLDO, David COLE, Bill & Irene MCINTOSH, Bob LINNEY, Bruce SMITH, Bill EYLES, Tony WRIGHT, Anne MULLINS and Bill "Noddy" WILLIAMS.**



Chairman **Dave, Margie Vogt and Deb Anderson** added some sartorial elegance to the proceedings showing off the winter Branch uniform collection. The judges are still out on whether it will make it to the next winter collection.



Our guest speaker was **Dan Giles** from Easylink Community Transport. This talk was of special benefit to those members who reside on the Northern Beaches and may need point to point transport to go out shopping or doctor's visits. They also have shuttle service to the Lower North Shore to RNSH and Mater Hospitals. The cost of the service is about 20% that of a taxi. If you missed the talk and want more info speak to **Margie Vogt** or one of the welfare or committee members.

We adjourned to the bistro for lunch and the poor chef was a bit overwhelmed by the large number of hungry members and associates.



On 20 August the Northern Beaches Branch held a casual lunch at the Terry Hills Tavern. It was a resounding success with 30 members and friends attending for good company, laughter, delicious food and a few drinks. Our resident bard, **Oscar Taylor, aka 'Rumpole of the Beaches'**, was in fine form with his usual wit and humour. Also present was Bob **'The Snake' Inkster**, and a new Associate RFPFA member, Jan Keech. We welcomed a friend of **Dave Whiteman, Sonja Breckenridge** – she is a talented photographer who has twice won First Place at the Royal Easter Show photography competition! **Greg Bertoldo**, brother of Julie Bertoldo, is a member of the Hornsby branch and he was also warmly welcomed by

members. We will be planning more of these get togethers as members enjoy them and it is great to catch up in the month that there is no general meeting. Lea and Dave DREW brought along a very very long term potential member.



Some of the members who enjoyed the lunch at the Terry Hills Tavern. **Bob "The Snake" Inkster, Bob Lilley, Greg Bertoldo, Geoff "Jellybeans" Kay, Brian Inman and Oscar "Rumpole of the Beaches" Taylor.**



Winter has not been a good period for us with a few members passing; **Richard Harold (Dick) Filmer, Breck Scott-Young** who was Manly STP and whose brother Rod was in the job, **Bob Belford** an old 14 Div stalwart **Aub Thompson** aged 99 years.

On the 28 June the funeral service of our Centenarian Northern Beaches RFPFA Member, **Aileen Wheeler**, 100 Years old and Police Woman No. 21 who joined the NSW Police in May 1955. A Police Honour Guard was provided, and our branch was represented by branch Chairman **Dave Whiteman** (who read Aileen's Service History and presented the RFPFA Sash), **Liz Whiteman, Brian Inman and Deb Anderson**. Several apologies from our members were received.

The Northern Beaches PAC Retired Police Officers Day was held at Mona Vale Police Station and hosted by NB PAC Commander Superintendent John Duncan. About 40 retired and former officers attended, most of them NB RFPFA Members, and we were given a very informative outline of modern day policing technology by **Superintendent Duncan**. It was also pleasing to see several RFPFA veterans there as well as a couple of Police Widows who are keeping the camaraderie of the Blue Family alive.



In the next Gazette, we will report on our Mona Vale 'Retired Police Officers Day' being hosted by the new **Superintendent John Duncan** and with a bit of luck we will have a few photos of members who attended the HWP Retired Police Officers Day at Huntingwood.

Stay Safe

**Ian Finlayson & Julie Bertoldo** - Branch Reporters.  
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## NORTHERN SUBURBS (FORMERLY HORNSBY & DISTRICTS)

Some of us have witnessed the recent passing of former workmates including, amongst others, **Greg Ashurst** (Central Coast), **John Bruinenberg**, **Mick Tuohy**, and **Glen Meppem**. May they rest in peace. Our thoughts are with family and friends. Our loss certainly reinforces the need to stay in contact and our Association provides the opportunity to do just that.

Our August meeting was well attended, with our members keen to hear a presentation by lawyer/historian **Rod Best** on a double murder that occurred at Pennant Hills in the early 20th Century. **Rod** certainly knew his subject and enlightened us on social values from the era.

In attendance were (front row, left to right) **John Andrews**, **Kent Vild**, **Bill Johnson** and driver **William**, **Verity Greenwood-Graham**, guest speaker **Rod Best**, (second row) **Bruce Williams**, **Bill Shute**, **Peter McDonnell**, **Alan Doak**, **Les Potter** (third row) **Ross Beattie**, **Alan Pollock**, **Trudi** and **Warren Cole**, **Greg Bertoldo** (back row) **Tony Sneddon** and **Dave Louden**.



We had a coffee catch up at The Asquith Club in September, with the following in attendance, left to right – **Alan Doak**, **Bruce Williams**, **John Andrews**, **John Schell**, **June Muir**, **Trudi Cole**, **Bill Johnson**, **Warren Cole**, **John Graham**, **Greg Muir**.



**Greg Muir**

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## PARRAMATTA - THE HILLS

The following members attended our July meeting: **Eric Etienne**, **Paul Wynne**, **Sandy Benson**, **Annette Willett**, **David Hain**, **Elaine Bennett**, **Janis McKinnon**, **Naomi Baldwin**, **Joan & Ivan Hamilton**, **John Wakefield**, **Gary Raymond**, **Brian Haim**, **Shiela Jackson**, **John Laycock**, **Lester Robey**, **Kent Vild** and **Paul Smith**. Apologies were received from; **John & Jenny Turner**, **Mike Neilsen**, **Nick Pavlov**, **Robyn & John McInerney**, **Robert & Robyn Oswald**, **John Fletcher**, **Kris Sweic**, **Phil Connor**, **Sue Wakefield**, **Ron Balkan**, **Lloyd Taylor**, **Russell Oxford**, **Angus McDonald**, **Bill Chaffey**, **Ray McConnell**, **Richard Thomas**, **Maurie Whitton**, **Graham Stone**, **Norm Tattersall** and **Paul Reynolds**.

Following the usual committee reports, the meeting was entertained and informed by a presentation from **Pam Carne** about a world first initiative called 'Teacher In a Box' which takes education via re-purposed laptop computers to remote and dis-advantaged people living where such resources are limited or non-existent.

On the 5th July **Paul Wynne**, **Sandy Benson**, **Nick Pavlov**, **Naomi Baldwin**, **Annette Willett**, **Juanita Vettier**, **John & Sue Wakefield**,

**Shiela Jackson**, **Joan & Ivan Hamilton**, **Elaine Bennett** and **Janis McKinnon** travelled to Parliament House, Sydney for an excellent day of fun, laughter and companionship. After a very interesting tour of the building and Chambers the party adjourned to the Members Lounge for a spectacular High Tea. Another great day out organised by **Sandy Benson** and **Sue Wakefield**. Congratulations to **Shiela Jackson** for winning the raffle during our trip home in the bus.

The following members were joined by **Cath and Ian Berry** from the Penrith /Blue Mountains Branch as they celebrated **Christmas In July at The Carrington Hotel**, Katoomba.



L to R: **Paul Wynne**, **Cathy & Ian Berry**, **Joan & Ivan Hamilton**, **Dave Hain**, **Annette Willett**, **Juanita Vettier**, **Sandy Benson**.



L to R: **Daryl our bus driver**, **Ian King**, **Heather King**, **Kerry Rackley**, **Irene Vella**, **Paul Vella**, **Vicki Mott**, **Mick Mott**, **Paul Vella**, **Peter Rackley** and **Anne bus drivers wife**.

Our August meeting was attended by; **Eric Etienne**, **Paul Wynne**, **Sandy Benson**, **Annette Willett**, **David Hain**, **Elaine Bennett**, **Janis McKinnon**, **Naomi Baldwin**, **John & Susan Wakefield**, **Joan & Ivan Hamilton**, **Tom Baena**, **Mick Berwick**, **Darrell Maher**, **Shirley Anderson**, **Neil Purvis**, **Richard Thomas**, **Phil Connor** and **Paul Reynolds**. Apologies were received from; **Joe & Jenny Turner**, **Gary Raymond**, **Mike Neilsen**, **Nick Pavlov**, **Robyn & John McInerney**, **Robyn** and **Robert Oswald**, **John Fletcher**, **Kris Sweic**, **Ron Balkan**, **Lloyd Taylor**, **Russell Oxford**, **Angus McDonald**, **Bill Chaffey**, **Ray McConnell**, **Maurie Whitton**, **Graham Stone**, **Norm Tattersall**, **Shiela Jackson**, **Phil Martin**, **Steve Bensley**, **Peter Rackley**, **Paul Vella**, **John Laycock**, **Ian & Barbara Lindsay**, **Fred & Anne Camage**, **John & Lee Hall** and **Lester Robey**.

Following the usual committee reports, the meeting was entertained and informed by a presentation from **Bernie Fehon OAM** and **Brendon Webber** from the University of Western Sydney regarding the development of solar powered motor vehicles which they enter in national and international competitions.

The cool winds and occasional spot of rain did nothing to dampen the spirits of the intrepid members of our Branch who ventured down to the Kiama Markets on the 18 August. After an enjoyable lunch at Gerroa Fishermen's Club, it was back to Kiama for ice cream to have on the way home. **Thanks to the Blacktown RSL Sub-Branch** for providing their bus and special thanks to our driver for getting us safely there and back.

At Gerroa Fisherman's Club L to R: **Janis McKinnon**, **David Hain**, **Graham & Anne Stone**, **Paul Wynne**, **Elaine Bennett**, **Sandy Benson**, **Annette Willett**, **Nick Pavlov**, **Naomi Baldwin**, **Tom & Rowena Baena** and **Shiela Jackson**.



Our Branch was well represented at the **Retired Police Day** celebration held on the 5th September at the newly opened Parramatta Police Station. This year, the celebration was a joint enterprise with The Hills, Riverstone and Parramatta LACs. After the welcoming speeches and presentation of Retirement pins, guests were treated to a very interesting tour of the facilities before enjoying morning tea and celebratory cake. Thanks must go to our hosts, **Superintendent Barry Vincent, Parramatta Area Commander, Superintendent Naomi Moore, The Hills Police Area Commander** and **A/Superintendent Michelle Mathieson, Riverstone Police Area Command**, and their staff for a most enjoyable morning.



**Our Annual General Meeting** was held on the 10 September at The Blacktown Workers Club. All current committee members were re-elected unopposed with the exception of The Secretary, who is retiring due to his wife's need for 24/7 care. The casual vacancy of Secretary will be filled by the Committee of Management as soon as possible.

**Nick Pavlov, Branch Reporter**  
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## PEEL

*We look forward to your contributions for our next Gazette.*

## PENRITH BLUE MOUNTAINS

Our monthly meeting was conducted at Panthers Penrith in the John Farragher Boardroom, we had 18 attendees and at the completion of business a presentation was made by **I.K.Ellis OAM,APM. Assistant Commissioner (Ret)** one of our members, on the subject of Hostage Negotiation. Ike advised that in the day he was the first General Duty Officer recruited in that field, he went through the training methods and gave examples of situations he attended with positive outcomes. Very well received by all. The meeting was followed by Lunch at Kellys Bistro at Panthers where members enjoyed Lunch & drinks.



## Penrith July meeting

Our group meets 4th Monday of each Month for a Branch Meeting | 1am Penrith Panthers and 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month for coffee at Penrith (Cafe Mocca Home Makers Complex ) and Glenbrook (Glenbrook Bowling Club) 1030am.

Cheers

**Dick Hurst & Ian Berry**  
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## RIVERINA

Riverina RFFPA have continued through Winter with a Coffee and Lunch morning at the Little Lunch Café in Wagga with the usual Ramblers attending and enjoying hot coffee and the usual yarns and tall stories before enjoying a scrumptious lunch. A big thank you to **Mitchell** and the crew at Little Lunch.

On Monday 18th September our coffee morning and Lunch Day outing was to be held at the Tumblong Hotel but unfortunately upon arrival there we were informed that the Pub had no water; that's right, so a quick decision was made to go to the Adelong R.S.L. so as not to ruin the day out. A good time was had by all At Adelong, and we will make plans later to attend the Tumblong Hotel in the future.

**Fred Lonergan and Barry Scott** received their Veterans awards at our bi-monthly meeting in July. They were presented with their awards by our hard-working Vice President and Welfare Officer **Kevin Barber**.

**Barry Winkler** was presented with his veteran's award by Chairman **Fred** at our bi-monthly meeting and AGM in August. **Bob Quarmby** also turned eighty but could not attend our August meeting to receive the award personally due to being unwell.

At our AGM held in August **Fred Lonergan** was reelected as Chairman, **Kevin Barber** was reelected Vice President and Welfare Officer, **Barry Scott** was reelected Treasurer yours truly was reelected Secretary.

Members attended the Retired Police Day at Wagga Wagga Police Station organized by Police and Staff of the Riverina Police District. Morning tea and snacks were laid on as well as talks by members of the Highway Patrol in relation to Policing the Hume Highway. A big thank you to **Superintendent Andrew Splet and Executive Officer Alyce Russell** for putting such great day for us.

Members also attended the Police Remembrance Day at St Johns Anglican Church, Wagga Wagga. Two members of the Riverina RFFPA, **Graham Winsome and Fred Lonergan** read the prayer and laid the wreath respectfully.

Now that winter is behind us, its Spring, and soon the weather will be warmer, most of us in the south will be able to get about again. Unfortunately, some of our members haven't wintered really well and are being visited or contacted by our Welfare Officer KB. To the following members, I hope you get well soon, **Sandy Mellis, Bob Hogno, Ron Beard, Carol Benson, Liz Latham, Norm Deen and John Wendt.**

**Graeme Holmes**  
E: riverinarfpa@retiredpolice.com.au

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## SOUTH COAST

We look forward to our contributions for our next Gazette.

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## SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

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

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## SOUTHERN TABLELANDS

We look forward to our contributions for our next Gazette.

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## SYDNEY

We held our AGM at Club York on Tuesday 20th August with the following Branch members being elected for 2024 -2025:

Chairperson - **Kent Vild**

Vice Chairperson – **Allan Simpson**

Treasurer – **Belinda Dunn-Toemoe**

Secretary – **Ian Moore**

Welfare officer – **Ian Moore**

Social Secretary – **Belinda Dunn-Toemoe**

Unfortunately, I forgot to take a photo of our members enjoying the AGM luncheon in the Zabou Bar & Grill. We had a long list of apologies for the meeting as many of our members are currently holidaying both in Australia and overseas. We wish them all a safe and happy trip and hope to see them soon to hear their holiday stories.

Our "Roving Coffee Catchups" allow our members and any RFPA member or former/retired police to catch up and enjoy a coffee together. We're a friendly bunch and we'd love to have your company.

On Tuesday 16th July we met at Dooleys Club, Lidcombe. Pictured over a coffee and a chat are **Kent Vild, myself, Warren & Carol McKinnon and new faces Phil and Elizabeth (nee Montgomery) Budge.**(from l to r around the table.) The coffee morning had a number of apologies due to illness and those who are currently travelling.



**Dates for the 2024-2025 Diary - Meetings at the Club York commencing at 11am –**

Tues 19th November 2024 (General meeting)

Tues 18th February 2025 (General Meeting)

Tues 20th May 2025 (General meeting)

Rolling Coffee Catchups start at 11am (All RFPA and former Police are welcome) -

Tues 21st January 2025 - Taren Point Bowling Club

Tues 18th March 2025 - TBA

**Belinda Dunn-Tomoe**

Social Secretary

E: sydneyrfpa@retiredpolice.com.au

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## WATER POLICE (SUB BRANCH) (FORMED 21 MARCH 2013)

We look forward to our contributions for our next Gazette.

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## WIDE BAY

We look forward to your contribution in our next edition.

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## NOTICEBOARD

### 60 YEAR RE-UNION

Eight survivors from Class 100A recently attended a reunion organized by **Lance Williamson at Club York, Sydney.**

On 17 August 1964, Class 100A breached the curtilage of 749 Bourke Street, Redfern, to commence Initial Training at the NSW Police Training Centre.

It is believed that following the appointment of these newcomers to the Police Force, several of the law instructors had to retire medically unfit due to post traumatic stress occasioned by attempting to educate such a batch of trainees in esoteric and futile subjects, such as Police Practice and Procedure. Additionally, all photographs of drill staff after that graduating class traipsed off the parade ground shows those instructors with bald pates due to having pulled their hair out while demonstrating intricate marching techniques involving placing one foot in front of the other while swinging the arms in the other direction to the diagonally opposed legs.

All felt compelled at the re-union to recite the same anecdotes that were told at previous re-unions of their various triumphs, gaffes, and glitches while trying to administer justice within the criminal law system.



(back l to r) **Cliff Fraser, Peter Ross, Bruce Howe, Alan Doak, Greg Hickey & Bob Barnetson.** (front l to r) **Lance Williamson and Carl Cameron.**

Each one of those present declared that they would attend the 70th anniversary soiree to be held in 2034. Does anyone know the collective term for a group of optimists?

**Bruce Howe**

(Sub-Ed Note – "Specsavers")



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## CLASS 120 OF 1969 – 55 YEARS LATER.



Left to right:- **Garry Donnelly, Bob Cooney, Neil Blewitt, Mark Cohen, Vickie McCrohan, Laurie Wynn, Ted (Eddie)Pike, Bob Lysaught, Dave Woolnaugh, Peter Smith, John (Richo)Richardson, Neil (Noddy) Goddard, Alan Rounds.**

Cheers

**Garry Donnelly**

Secretary RFPA South Coast Branch.

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## FRIENDSHIP WEEK FOR 2025

**Where:** Top of the Town Holiday Park,  
High St Stanthorpe QLD

**When:** 15 to 22 March 2025

**Phone:** 07 4681 4888

**Info:** For more information about the accommodation and the park please follow the link <https://topoftown.com.au>

**Booking:** Advise them you are with Retired Police they apply 1 free night when you book for 7 nights

**Charles Halloran APM**

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## UPCOMING REUNIONS

GO TO [www.retiredpolice.com.au](http://www.retiredpolice.com.au)  
FOR THE MOST RECENT AND UPDATED INFORMATION

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### 46 YEAR REUNION – CLASS 156

**Where:** Bayview Hotel Woy Woy

**When:** Weekend 15,16,17 November 2024

**Contact:** Denise Behringer; Sandra Herd – go to  
Facebook – NSW Police-Class 156 (1977)  
or email [Ken.Houseofgordon@gmail.com](mailto:Ken.Houseofgordon@gmail.com)

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### 40 YEAR REUNION CLASS 2116

**When:** Tuesday & Wednesday 8 - 9 April, 2025

**Where:** Goulburn NSW

**Dinner** on 8 April and Academy visit on 9 April 2025

**Contact:** Ken Schneiders 0411489186 ([kensch10@gmail.com](mailto:kensch10@gmail.com))

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## 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

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## THE WAY WE WERE



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### METHODS OF INSTRUCTION COURSE – CLASS 3 OF 1978

**BACK ROW:** (L to R) Sen/Const. Bob Gollan (35), Sgt. 2/c John Ireland (22), Sgt. 2/c Col Evans (20), Sgt. 3/c Bob McDonagh (34), Sgt. 2/c Leabeater (16), Sgt. 2/c Joe Leach (11), Sen/Const. Bill Galvin (18)

**FRONT ROW:** (L to R) Sgt 3/c John Walton (3), Sgt. 3/c Mark Stirton (28), Sen/Const. Brian Couper (Academy), Sgt. 3/c Keith Mercer (Academy), Sgt. 2/c Reg McCann (Fingerprints), Sgt. 3/c George Jarman (7), A/Sgt. Greg Willis (Prosecuting Branch)

Photo courtesy of **Bill Galvin, Brisbane Branch**

## THE WAY WE WERE



### Parramatta Detectives

Back row, left to right: Det. Sen. Const. W.A. Allen, Det. Sen. Const. D. McMillan, P.C. Const. I/c D.W. Williams, Det. Sgt. 3/c I.W. Hamilton, Det. Sen. Const. K.R. Sheens, Det. Sgt. 3/c L. Melchior, P.C. Const. P. Mayger.

Front row, left to right: P.C. Const. I/c C.E. Brown, Det. Const. I/c B.K. Driver, Det. Sgt. I/c J.R. Bryant, Det. Sen. Const. B.J. Williams, Det. Sen. Const. R. Moore, Det. Const. I/c R.A. Broad, Det. Sgt. 2/c B.L. Inglis, Det. Sgt. 3/c G.E. Martin.

Other Staff stationed at the No. 18 Division Detective Office, who do not appear in the photograph are listed hereunder:-

Det. Sgt. 3/c L.B. Walsh, Det. Sen. Const. G. Brent, Det. Sen. Const. M.A. Leary, P.C. Const. I/c S. J. Snell, Det. Sen. Const. P. Dickens, Det. Sen. Const. R. O'Regan, Det. Sgt. 3/c D. Ballard, P.C. Const. I/c S.J. Leonard, Det. Sen. Const. L.R. Yorke, Det. Sen. Const. K.M. Godfrey, P.C. Const. I/c L.A. Whalan, P.C. Const. M.N. Holmes.



### Dapto Police 1990s



Photo courtesy of Bruce Thompson. Ex-Cadets Class 115 Sergeant Les Thompson (Cadet Sergeant), attested in May 1968



## 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
ASHURST	Gregory James	76	14281	Unattached	11/07/2024
CASSIDY P	Atrick John	86	9175	South Coast	9/08/2024
CROSS	Paul Russell	89	8853	Southern Tablelands	15/07/2024
CRUMPTON	Margaret Rose	78		Hunter Region	20/09/2024
FIEDLER	Allan Robert	89	9680	Penrith Blue Mountains	5/07/2024
FILMER	Richard Harold	80	10504	Northern Beaches	8/08/2024
FINDLEY	Leslie Raymond	87	9753	Hunter Region	13/08/2024
GODFREY	Ross	88		Unattached	31/08/2024
GOLDMAN	Anne	89		Coffs Harbour	30/07/2024
HUGHES	Martyn John	79	12732	Unattached	30/08/2024
JUDD	Ronald	75	14345	Macarthur	8/08/2024
KIRK	Michael	94	9512	Unattached	14/08/2024
LEANAY	Barry Kevin	83	9533	Penrith Blue Mountains	3/09/2024
MAHONY	William James	81	11100	Central Coast	25/09/2024
MCNEIL	Derek Geoffrey	77	12200	Mid North Coast	21/08/2024
PICKERING	Patricia	80	66	Wide Bay	15/08/2024
PROUD	Lawrence Clifton (Peter)	93	6551	Mid North Coast	13/09/2024
ROBERTSON	Ian David	90	10160	Central Coast	27/08/2024
THOMSEN	Michael John	70	17228	Unattached	1/09/2024
WEDMORE	John Lequesne	82	10180	Gold Coast	6/08/2024
WILLIAMS	Graeme John	83	10872	Central COAST	19/07/2024
WILLIAMS'	John Patrick 'Jack'	88	10474	Southern Tablelands	23/09/2024
WILSON	Julius Peter 'Peter'	79	14210	Unattached	3/08/2024