

WINTER 2023



The R.F.P.A. GAZETTE

(Established 1931)
Registered office
PO Box 201
HAWKS NEST 2324
www.retiredpolice.com.au

MACARTHUR BRANCH FUNDRAISING GOLF DAY



Defibrillators for 3 Local PACs
See Macarthur Branch Report

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

- Committee Report
- Letters to the Editor
- Articles of Interest
- Branch Reports
- New Members Welcomed
- Notice Board
- Reunions
- Vale



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NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

MEMBERS are advised that the AGM of the Retired & Former Police Association of NSW will be held at 11am on Monday 31st July 2023 at Club York, 95 York St SYDNEY.

The current health warnings may make it advisable to have a mask on hand in the Club.

- 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 no later than 24 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:

1. Commence 11am
2. Opening and welcome address by the President
3. Apologies
4. Recent Deaths
5. New Membership applications
6. Minutes of the AGM held on 25 October 2022
7. Business arising from those minutes

8. Reports

- a. 8 President's Report
- b. 8 Secretary's Report
- c. 8 Treasurer's Report

9. Notice/s of Motion

10. Election of Office Bearers 2023/4
11. Close of Meeting.

A light meal will be available at the Club

VOTING, IF REQUIRED:

CURRENT OFFICE BEARERS

- President **Paul WYNNE** (Standing)
Senior Vice President **George WEISSEL** (Standing)
Vice President **John CROCKETT** (Not Standing AS Vice President)
Secretary **Ian LOVELL** (Standing)
Treasurer **Bruce HOWE** (Standing)
State Welfare Officer **Ian MOORE** (Standing)

CURRENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- John CROCKETT** (Standing)
Allan SIMPSON (Standing)
Beth DOCKSEY (Standing for Vice President)
Neil PURVIS (Standing)

Note: Two Committee Members resigned from the Committee in February 2023 and have not been replaced. The Committee consists of The Executive and up to six (6) Committee Members.

VOTING RULES:

(These have changed significantly under Provisions of the 2022 Constitution, and allow Proxy Voting we have used in the past, whereas the Model Constitution, referred to in previous Notices of AGM, precludes that form of voting)

Extract, 2022 RFPANSW Constitution

Part 8(3) Voting -

- (a) On a question arising at any meeting of the Association, each Member has one personal vote only and additionally by proxy but no such Member may hold more than five proxies.
- (b) A Member is not entitled to vote at any meeting of the Association unless all money due and payable by the Member has been paid.

Part 8(4) Appointment of proxies -

- (a) Each Member entitled to a personal vote under clause 8.3 is entitled to appoint another such Member as their proxy by written notice given to the Secretary no later than 24 hours before the meeting commences in respect of which the proxy is appointed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Well as the year continues I hope I find our Members in good health and continuing to enjoy their retirement. As mentioned in my report of the last Gazette I along with Gazette Sub Editor **Sandy Benson** attended the Police Friendship Week between 18 and 25 March. This year the event was held at Darlington Beach Resort, Arrawarra. Other members of the State Committee who attended were State Secretary **Ian Lovell** and Senior Vice President **George Weissel**.

Congratulations to **Charles Halloran** from Northern Rivers Branch and **Phil Knight** from Dubbo Branch along with all the others who made this a most enjoyable week.

On Thursday 20 April along with **Sandy Benson** and State Secretary **Ian Lovell** I attended the meeting of South Coast Branch where I met with, spoke to and had lunch with the Branch members.

The next day Friday 21 April I drove to Tamworth where I met up with Ian Lovell. The purpose of our visit was to speak with local RFPA members regarding reinvigorating the Peel Branch. There is a degree of positivity and a future visit by myself and other members of the State COM is envisaged in July.

On Friday 5 and Friday 26 May along with other members of the State COM I attended the Eastern Suburbs Cemetery Boardroom for meetings regarding the forthcoming Eastern Suburbs Police Memorial Ceremony in September this year.

On Thursday 11 May again with **Sandy Benson** I attended the Lakeside Resort at Tea Gardens to visit with Hunter Branch members. Their guest presenter on this date was **Former Det. Chief Inspector Russell Oxford APM** who gave an audio visual presentation regarding the investigation, arrest and charging of **Roger Rogerson** and **Glen McNamara** in relation to the 2014 murder of **Jamie Gao**.

On Thursday May 25 I along with other RFPA members attended Guardian Funerals, Blacktown who were conducting a Biggest Morning Tea to aid the Cancer Council. There I met with that Branch Manager and other senior personnel from Guardian Funerals. Guardian Funerals Blacktown support the Parramatta – The Hills Branch and Guardian Funerals Maroubra support the Eastern Suburbs Police Memorial.

During the coming months it is the intention of myself and other State COM members to visit other Branches.

In closing I would like to congratulate MacArthur Branch in their organizing and conducting of a Fundraising Golf Day last week. It was a most successful event which exceeded their expectations.

By way of sponsorship, attendees and raffles on the day they raised \$14,800 net after expenses. The proceeds of the fundraising will allow the Branch to purchase and present 2 Defibrillators to each of the Police Commands at Campbelltown, Camden and Liverpool.

I commend Branch Secretary **Roger Ford** and Branch Welfare Officer **Stephen Reeves** on embarking on such an ambitious project who tirelessly worked for months promoting and implementing the project. Thank you also to the other Branch Members who gave their support by way of golfing participants, donations and attending on the day to assist.

The Defibrillators in the Police vehicles in those 3 Commands have the potential to save many lives.

I wish all our members good health and happy days in retirement.

Until the next edition,
God Bless,

Paul Wynne JP



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Another business year has passed and how our focus has been adjusted, following the analysis done by **Dave Whiteman**, one of the most dedicated workers we have. The feeling of 'steady as she goes' has given way to 'what can we do to promote and make the RFPA relevant into the future?'

We had some issues with the email arrangements becoming unreliable through service providers, professional filters and networks making them less and less accessible to the Membership.

As a result, we abandoned our older email addresses and adopted our domain-based system which uses our website as the basis for electronic communication. This has also allowed us to bypass (quite ethically and necessarily) the decision by NSWPF to disallow direct email contact with some public mail servers.

Our Membership database had become cumbersome through a natural decade or more of commercial development in the information technology sphere. Dave determined, through his up-to-date and extensive work in one of his day jobs, that we needed an industry standard and regularly upgradable database which could be interrogated for real time information and trends. Presto! Now we don't have to estimate too many things, and know where we stand. The CoM and Branch Secretaries have the latest information and can act on it.

Then, on **Dave's** analysis, we took a long hard look at trends, which told us many things we probably suspected, but now had concrete evidence on which to base a business plan. The CoM is looking at income, expenditure, the relevance of every proposal put to us by the Membership or amongst the Committee themselves, dealing with compliance and governance issues as forecasts, and looking at every opportunity to advertise our Association through brand recognition strategies.

We are building a succession plan, as we have also recognised our own vulnerability measured against age, and in some cases, against many years of weighing in as volunteer workers who understand our Members as well as any group of a dozen or so former police could do.

With all that in mind, we have allowed Dave to resign from the CoM and focus on his job as the Webmaster, Facebook manager and database trouble-shooter and developer, and we thank him immensely for his past ongoing work. Good luck Dave with the Chairman's job at Northern Beaches Branch, which, of course, runs like clockwork.

The CoM has used data analysis and group thinking to move in a number of relevant areas:

- **The Membership fee structure** has been modified and should serve us well into the future. Members will note that their fees (in many cases due this month if you don't have a deduction or periodical payment in place to credit 815000 70483) have not increased. The general fee remains at \$28, unless you are already contributing to paperless (deductions which we don't have to process manually) or previously allowed concessions. Those who already are exempt from paying fees will remain so. The unfortunate news is that when you attain 'OBE' status, being 80 years of age no longer entitles you to free Membership. We currently forego \$31,192-00 pa in allowing this exemption, with 1,114 Veterans on the books. If this decision causes any hardship, please call the Secretary and the information will be considered by CoM.
- The categories of RFPA Membership are reduced to two (Member or Associate) with several levels within those categories (Veteran, Life, Honorary etc). Members are those with a former NSWPF registered number; and Associates are anyone else who is accepted into the Membership. Veterans are over 80 years of age, Life Memberships are created under the Constitution in respect of their service rendered, and Honorary Members are either ex-officio, as the Commissioner, our Chaplains and sponsors who make significant contributions to the RFPA.
- The processes used in reporting 'Vale' information are subject to business rules, which will allow formal processes between bereaved parties, Police protocol, the Secretary, local police commands, our provider of service sashes and the CoM to provide accurate information through the website where former colleagues, family members, VIP'S and RFPA friends and Associates can be respectfully acknowledged after their passing, and in most cases, before funerals or memorials are held.

- **The succession plan** looks specifically for potential CoM Members to assist at first, and then if elected, to take various roles within the CoM. This is serious business, but suits some Members who seek to contribute and provide the Friendship, Fellowship and Welfare strands of our core business, either directly or indirectly. If you or anyone you know fits this bill, and can give one regular day per month and the occasional additional commitment for a special event, this is for you.
- **Our Brand recognition** strategy seeks to identify the RFPA as a stand-alone organisation representing former police in the socialising sphere, and with the ability to refer those in distress to welfare arrangements. We currently have 4,151 Members who are able to take part in what the RFPA arranges, mostly in the 25 active Branches across NSW and QLD. Some of those who contact us through the website contact forms are of the belief that they are Members, when they have not made an application for membership. They are regularly referred to the 'forms' menu, and most then join us.
- To further promote our RFPA 'brand', we have requested that the RFPA be permitted to provide and **academic prize** or similar, along with a short public speech, **to those graduating from various courses (including recruits) at the Goulburn Academy.** We also hope to fly an RFPA flag in an appropriate location at Goulburn and possibly other locations.
- **The question of sponsorship** is being explored with Police Bank executives. This may take the form of advertising within our Gazette, providing an agreement can be reached without damaging our current sponsorship arrangements with the Bank. Please note that the Bank already sponsors the RFPA in respect of the printing of our Gazette, and that they also sponsor the AFP and Tasmania Police retired and former associations, as well as mental health provider Emerge and See, amongst others.

For those patiently waiting, your Secretary is currently undergoing training to use the new RFPA Membership card printer. Newer Members and Veterans should receive a card in the mail before too long.

Ian Lovell, APM



EDITOR'S REPORT

Thanks to all the branch Secretaries for getting their articles and photos in a bit earlier this time due to the strict time frame as this Gazette includes AGM information.

Well, let me say it's getting a bit competitive regarding the Front Cover choice. The choice is not only based on the Reason/Content of the event but also the quality of the photo.

It is pleasing to hear from members, during general conversation, how much they enjoy reading and seeing names and photos of former colleagues. Our mission is going in the right direction when we hear this.

Deadline for receipt of articles and photos for the Spring edition is 15th September 2023

Paul Wynne, Editor
Sandy Benson, Sub Editor



WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT

Winter is with us once again. There is a need to check our heaters and air conditioners (and chimneys) in our homes to ensure they are operating efficiently. As State Welfare Officer I am busy with a steady stream of contacting and visiting those who are having health issues. Many have required hospitalisation but a

phone call or visit is always most welcomed by them.

The following vaccines are FREE to elderly persons.

- **65 Years**
- Influenza & your 2023 Covid 19 booster
- **70 Years**
- Pneumococcal
- Shingles
- **71 and Over**
- Shingles – catch up vaccine ends 31st October 2023

Look after yourselves and each other.

Ian Moore
State Welfare Officer.

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

SURNAME	CHRISTIAN NAME	BRANCH
BATTON	BARRY MICHAEL	MANNING GREAT LAKES
BRADY	JEFFREY ROGER	NORTHERN BEACHES
CALDER	RICHARD WILLIAM	SOUTHERN TABLELANDS
CRUMPTON	MARGARET ROSE	HUNTER
HANDLEY	MICHAEL JAMES	SOUTHERN TABLELANDS
HOBBS	SHANE	CENTRAL COAST
LIGHEZZOLO	PAUL	HUNTER
MATHESON	SALLY	BRISBANE & NORTHERN SUBURBS
NUGENT	LESLIE MICHAEL	MURRAY RIVER
PARISH	STEVE BRUCE	MANNING/GREAT LAKES
PRICE	NIGEL	HUNTER
SCHNEIDERS	KENNETH ANTHONY	HUNTER
SHAW	COLEEN	HUNTER
SIMMONS	KERRY JOHN	NORTHERN RIVERS
STIRTON	MATTHEW CRAIG	MURRAY RIVER

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Paul,

The female computer operator, in photo, at bottom of page 17, of Autumn 2023 issue, is **Paula HAASE** (married name is **Paula DALEY** now.) Most probably, the picture is the front counter of the old Campbelltown Police station (Railway St).



Paula HAASE (married name is Paula DALEY)

Cheers,
Warren Sinclair
Retired s/c 19854.

G'day Paul,

Identifying a person in the photo which appeared in the Autumn RFPA gazette, on page 17. The woman with no hat standing near a GD vehicle, was **Lisa Camwell (Nee Parish)**. Lisa was one of the very first full time female operator of the Police rescue squad then based at Zetland. I think she was the second or third following **Sally Place (Nee Sally Verhage)**, before she married **Norm Place**, also a Police Rescue Operator; sadly **Lisa** died of Liver failure several years ago. she had been stationed at 24 Div, Sutherland and then PRS. later she transferred to Cooma, where she was the OIC of the Rescue unit as well as General Duties.



Lisa Camwell (Nee Parish)

Regards
Bill Davies (Lumpy)

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

NSW Police Legacy Blue Ribbon Ball

On the 25th March 2023 Beth Docksey, APM as the Retired and Former Police Association NSW Police Legacy Champion, attended the NSW Police Legacy Blue Ribbon Ball with her husband **Graham**. She represented the RFPA with a table made up of former Back Up for Life organiser; mentors and partners. This being the second ball held since covid there was a huge attendance with the International Convention Centre being filled. The night was hosted by **Superintendent Donna McCarthy, APM** with **Commissioner Karen Webb, APM** attending in support of this very important organisation. As usual there was a number of items up for live and silent auction which were all purchased with zeal by the attendees.



Graham and Beth Docksey at the Police Legacy Ball 2023

Beth ended up with a new frame from the silent auction to hang on the wall at home. A Red Hot Chili Peppers guitar that was signed by the complete band. Great outcome with the many people who attended, supported and donated to the NSW Police Legacy in support of Police Legatees.

MULTI BRANCH FUNCTION AND MEETING – HOLBROOK

Murray River, Riverina, Southern Tablelands, South Coast and Illawarra at Holbrook

On Wednesday 3rd May 2023 members from the five branches travelled to Holbrook with some staying at Woomargama just up the road for a couple of days of our multi-branch get together. We had a good turnout at with members from Southern Tablelands, Riverina, South Coast, Illawarra, Murray River and Sutherland Associates.

Some of the early attendees met up on Tuesday night at Holbrook venues or Woomargama Hotel for Locals Night and started off the fun. On Wednesday morning we all met at the Submarine Cafe for a coffee and chat before the group attended the Submarine Museum to learn all about the HMAS Otway.



After the tour the rain subsided, and we were able to have a group photo taken in front of the sub before we proceeded across the road to the Holbrook Hotel for lunch. Several other members joined us there for lunch growing to about 30+ members and we all had a lovely time catching up with old friends and connecting with new ones, particularly in putting faces to names of members from the other branches that attended. Some were staying another night and again caught up at a Holbrook venue with the others that were staying at Woomargama Hotel having another get together there.

L to R John Holstein, Claire Crockett, Kim & Manny Rivera , Jan Callaghan, Robyn Pollard, Christine Bentley, Brian & Cheryl Rosewarne, Warren Mitchell, Graham Docksey, John Crockett, Glenn Roe



L to R Terry J Macgregor, Beth & Graham Docksey, John Holstein, Glenn Roe, John Crockett, Alan & Marg Hodge, Barry Smith, Claire Crockett, Christine Bentley, Jamie Hughes, Ian Radford, Front - Sandy Mellis, Manny Rivera, Peter Willard, Kim Rivera, Louise & John Kowalenko, Terry Terrence Psarakis, Julie & Dave Routledge, Sue Smith.

On the whole a fun couple of days before a few continued on to visit friends or relatives in Melbourne or other locations around the area.

Beth Docksey, APM

Editors Comment – This is a great way to promote “Friendship & Camaraderie” by having joint functions.

BRANCH REPORTS

BRISBANE AND NORTHERN SUBURBS

Hi everyone, welcome to a Queensland winter which even when we complain it is still far better than the winter of our RFPA members south of the border.

February saw us attend Woodford Gardens for our social Sunday which was genuinely a nice café in a nice garden setting where **Lynell** and I also caught the short train that travels up to the gardens.



March meeting was also our AGM where both **Kerry Beggs** and **Clint Halloran** did not stand for re-election. **Kerry** had of course been the foundation Secretary since its inception in 2005 performing his duties continuously over this period, while **Clint** had performed many years as Treasurer. Senior Committee members of this outstanding calibre are very hard to replace and our sincere appreciation for their dedicated service hardly seems enough and our new committee has some big shoes to fill for sure.

2023-4 Committee are listed below:

Chairman: **Steve Turner**

Vice-Chairman: **Merv Melling**

Treasurer: **Ken Fogarty**

Secretary: **Steve Turner**

Assist Secretary: Vacant

Newsletter/Editor: **Kerry Beggs**

Social Organiser/Raffles: **Gerald & Marilyn Fiddis**

Welfare: **Marilyn Fiddis**

Branch Legacy: **Ron Everingham**

Committee Members / Auditors (2): **Ian Whitehall / Kerry Beggs**

Our March Social lunch saw us return to an old favourite at the Caboolture Sports Club where once again everyone who attended had a wonderful time.



At our April meeting amongst other items, it was decided by popular vote to move the monthly Sunday luncheon to a mid-weekday from July on a trial basis and Saturday meetings and Lunch would remain, however the frequency will be discussed at the July meeting with an email to go out to members beforehand.

Our April Lunch saw us attend another favourite being the Caloundra RSL where some of us also enjoyed the beaches and other tourist interests while we were there.

Our May Social Lunch was at the Bribie Island Hotel and for those who got there early were able to enjoy a community event by the water that included vintage boats, cars and markets.



Christmas in July once again will once again be at Secrets on the Lake in Montville 12nd Thursday 13.7.23.

Our special meeting with guest speaker **Russell Oxford** on the 3rd June will be included in the Spring Gazette

Regards

Steve Turner

Chairman & Secretary

CENTRAL COAST

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

CENTRAL TABLELANDS

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

COFFS HARBOUR

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

DUBBO

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

GOLD COAST

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

HUNTER REGION

Our most recent 'between' meeting was held at Palm Lake Resort, Tea Gardens. Recently-retired and RFPA Member of Parramatta-The Hills branch, **Russell OXFORD, APM** delivered a fascinating (90 minute) expose of the intricacies of the investigation into the murder of **Jamie GAO** in 2014, the media's part in the process, and the epilogue which demonstrates to all that **Russell** and his mates will 'get you' if that's warranted.

Len TOPPING, a Tea Gardens resident these days, came over the road with wife **Lorraine** to receive his OBE certificate. It was good to see the old fella in good health, and for him to mix it with a few old mates, especially **Lee RANKIN**.

Russell's presentation was enthralling, and several of the 60 or so audience members in the theatre who were not police, and heard that **Russell** has other similar presentations available, have asked him to return when he can. He's busy, with RFPA presentations still to go at Brisbane and Northern Suburbs and Macarthur Branches. Well worth arranging at your Branch!

Some of us are not getting around as well as we should these days, and a goodwill call goes out to **Paul BOWHAY, Ken EDWARDS, Esma KANE and Bob DREW**. If you need contacts for these Members, please contact 0425336801.

We're booked in for 11 July at Kurri Kurri TAFE for Christmas in July. This is our best mid-year event, and all are welcome – just send a message to ihr@bigpond.net.au so that we can cater for you. You might walk away with the lucky door prize of 'Lizard' Liqueur, laid down by vigneron and former viticulture 'headmaster' at Kurri in about 2009. We have watched this brew carefully for more than ten years, and they finally sold the first drops in 2022. We have secured some to give away!

We have negotiated with Nova Cruises for a return visit over the next couple of months when whales are active along the Hunter Coast. We give early notice of this, as saving up for the touristy, but discounted price of \$70 per person, added to a day away from your home, may require some planning. Newcastle or Nelson Bay may be the launch site, and we are currently talking with them about Newcastle and on a Tuesday, which would make an extra work day for them. Fingers crossed. We may well have our 2023 AGM in international waters.

Regards

Ian LOVELL APM

ILLAWARRA

On the 20th March 2023, at 10.30am 10 of our members meet at the "Shellcove Marina" Shellharbour and were taken on a tour of Police Launch "VICTOR" which included short trip on the Launch, with Police Crew, "Josh, Mick and Dan" looking after our members and explaining the Water Police Operations.

Unfortunately the weather on this day was "wet" however our members enjoyed the experience. (attached is a photo of the group which included, **Chris Berry, Alan Hodge, Bev & Steve Byrnes, Dave & Julie Routledge, Barry Smith, Bob Cocksedge, Terry Wall and Beryl Hammond**.) This group then dined at the Marina for Lunch.



Police Launch Victor

Illawarra Branch Meets Bi-Monthly (any second month June-Aug-Oct- 3rd Monday in month at 11am Builders Club, Wollongong. Social outings May-July- Sept-Nov) contact Chairman **Dave Routledge** 0414339424 or **Neil Harris** (Sec) 0411487813 for details. Our Branch always welcomes New Members and Partners.

Regards

Neil Harris. Secretary

KIAMA

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

MACARTHUR

MACARTHUR RFPA CHARITY GOLF DAY



In January 2023 we formulated a plan to purchase Defibrillators for the Local Police Commands at Campbelltown and Narellan. We investigated the opportunity to organise a Charity Golf Day to raise the necessary funds which at this stage were to purchase 3 Defibrillators (\$6000 +). We booked the 1st June at the Lakeside Golf Club, Gledswood Hills to make the day happen.

We made personal contact with Senior Officers at Campbelltown and Narellan Police Commands and received their positive

acknowledgement of our desires. We continued with our endeavours and as a result our Sponsorship and Donations to the cause continued to grow with an impressive list of local Businesses prepared to join and ensure our success.

The number one feedback reason from all the Sponsors that we contacted to participate in this project was that they already thought that Police Vehicles were fitted with Defibrillators. Consequently, this did assist in reaching our final, conclusion.

To encapsulate the event, we maximised the Teams to 10 with 4 Players per team and a Fee of \$600.00 per team to participate. Included in that fee were 18 holes of golf with an electric Cart to traverse the Course, a Breakfast consisting of a Bacon and Egg Roll for starters and concluded with a main luncheon and Presentation to the Winners.



To benefit the Sponsors, we had all 18 holes displaying their individual Logos and an Appreciation Board with their Logos garnered for more visibility in acknowledgement of their Sponsorship. This Board will be used when the official presentations to the 3 Police Commands are completed.

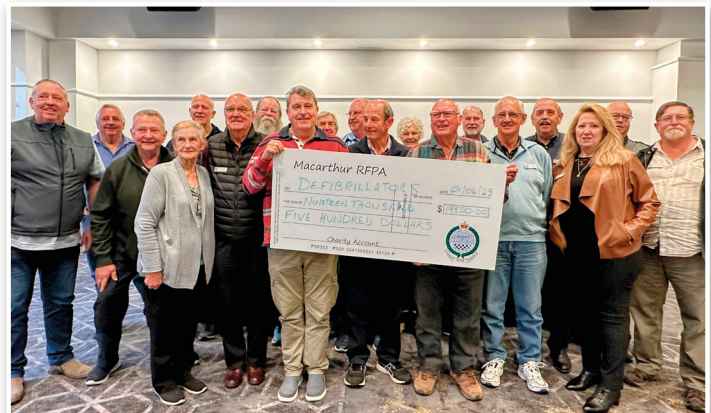


On the day of the event even the weather was a sponsor with a fine sunny day delivered for all participants to enjoy their golf. On return to the Golf Club the festivities continued with the meal and obligatory speeches before the presentation to the winners **Team Wilson**. Overall, the event was well received by all involved with the promise of returning next year with more Teams.

But the Big Winners will be **the communities of Campbelltown, Narellan and Liverpool Police Commands** whom will be distributed with 2 each of the Defibrillators valued at \$2,230 per unit.



With the Sponsorship, Donations and Raffles run on the day etc we raised \$19500.00 and after **expenses netted \$14,800.00 which will enable us to purchase 6 Defibrillators for the 3 Police Commands.**



Our Motto through this campaign was **ONE LIFE SAVED that LIFE SAVED could BE YOU**

This motto gave us the purpose and drive to deliver the results necessary to complete the task at hand.

Roger Ford

MANNING GREAT LAKES

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

MID NORTH COAST

In March our Branch held a BBQ on the banks of Lake Cathie. It was extremely well attended with around 40 members, wives and friends attending. Great to see so many people turn out, we nearly ran out of food!! **Paul Griffin** and his able assistants provided an excellent BBQ for everyone. It was great to see so many people sitting around the tables, enjoying their food and talking about old and current times. I have included a number of photos of the day,

I hope you recognise some of the people. The thanks of all present go to the hard working committee who put the time and effort in to organise these days. I know they get a real lift when they get such a good attendance. Great to see **Warwick & Chris Laney, Rod & Voula O'Regan, John Tallis & his wife** and some other of our long time members come along for the day.

Our April meeting was at home base, the **Port City Bowling Club**. those in attendance were **Keith Willott, Ian Campbell, Graham Gibb, Peter Wilms & Betty Hartnett, Bob Hanlon, Wayne Evans, Al Lukes, Bruce Saunders, Val Ivlev, Jeff & Margaret Elliott, Graham & Irene Williams, Marlene Brown, Bob Bruce, Brian Banks, George McCleery, Laurie & Marcia McGraths, Ron & Margaret Hammersley.**

Our Guest Speaker for the day was **Linda Knox**, a former Police Officer who was stationed at Kempsey. She was seriously injured when king-hit by an ice addict outside Kempsey Police Station, knocking her down where her head hit the pavement. Her injuries resulted in her having to retire from the Service. **Linda** is now studying Psychology and will become full qualified at the end of this year. She is still suffering the effects of PTSD as a result of the assault on her and when she became qualified she intends to open a business here to treat Police and other emergency service people who have PTSD issues. She gave us a very interesting talk and we wish her well in her efforts to provide much needed assistance by those effected by PTSD.

The month of May saw us at the Kew's Royal Hotel for lunch. Those who enjoyed a lovely lunch Were **Ian & Dawn Campbell, Jeff & Margaret Elliott, George & Jan McCleery, Laurie & Marcia McGraths, Jim & Sandra Cranna, Marlene Brown, Jennett Hunt, Deb Murray & Bob Parry.** There were a significant number of apologies mainly caused by medical appointments. All present enjoyed the newly renovated hotel and the excellent fare from the kitchen washed down by a wine or two. A very pleasant day was had by all.

Tim and Michelle Eggert are two Police Officers stationed at Port Macquarie Police Station. They have 5 children, the youngest being 10. Tragically **Tim** was recently diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease.

His work colleagues and others got to work and organised a fundraising day which was held on Sunday, 28th May at the Wauchope Country Club. When our Branch heard about the fundraising efforts we offered to assist in whatever way we could. Twelve of our members (**Al Lukes, Paul Griffin, Warwick Laney, Colin McKenzie, Jennett Hunt, Marlene Brown, Karen Griffin, Deb Murray, Sid Crane, Ray Downes, Wayne Evans & Keith Rule**) Volunteered to man the BBQ's to cater for the large crowd who attended. Some of our ladies also assisted on the BBQ and selling raffle tickets as well as other fundraising activities.

Our efforts made a significant contribution to the success of the day and were greatly appreciated by the organising committee and the **Eggert** family themselves. The day raised in excess of \$50k and we were privileged to be part of that. Although we may be 'retired' we were more than happy to be able to assist a fellow Police Officer as he commences his fight against this insidious disease. We received many compliments and thanks throughout the day and I feel certain we raised the profile of the RFPA here



(L to R) **Ray Downes, Sid Crane, Col McKenzie, Al Lukes, Keith Rule and Warwick Laney**

Should anyone who reads this article feel inclined to make a donation to help the **EGGERT** family through what will be the difficult road ahead you may do so by going to <https://portal.policelagacynsw.org.au/campaign/53/Timothy-Eggert-appeal> This will take you directly to a page on which you can donate any amount you wish. I know the **Eggert** family will be very grateful. Thank you in anticipation.

Our Branch held our AGM at the Port City Bowling Club on 6th June. Those present were **Al Lukes, Ron & Margaret Hammersley, Betty Hartnett, Peter Wilms, Sid Crane, Bruce Saunders, Jeff & Margaret Elliott, Ian Campbell, Graham & Irene Williams, Mathew Reeves, Jennett Hunt, Laurie & Marcia McGrath, Paul Egge, Jim & Sandra Cranna & Paul Griffin.** Apologies were Received from **Wayne Evans, Marelene Brown, Garry Jennings, Warwick Laney, Keith Rule, Ron Nunn and Val Ivlev.**

The Following People Were Elected To The Committee For The 2023/24 Year:

Chairman: **Al Lukes**

Vice Chairman: **Ian Campbell**

Secretary: **Paul Griffin**

Treasurer: **Betty Hartnett**

Welfare Officer: **Ian Campbell** who will **Co-Ordinate any welfare issues with all members of The Committee.**

General Committee: **Jennett Hunt, Mathew Reeves and Bruce Saunders.**



Supt. Jo Schultz presenting OBE to Laurie McGrath



Supt. Jo Schulz presenting OBE to Bruce Saunders

Following the AGM our guest speaker was **Acting Superintendent Joanne (Jo) Schulz.** She gave us an overview of her policing career which has been in both the country and metropolitan areas and also at the Police Academy. **Jo** has been relieving as Police Area Commander over the past 6 months at various Area Commands including Tuggerah Lakes, Broken Hill (Barrier) and now the Mid North Coast, quite a diverse spread !!

She told us about crime trends in our area and her focus on supporting the Police she leads. Her address was very well received and we wish her well for the future. **A/Supt Schulz** also presented Veteran Membership Certificates to **Laurie McGrath and Bruce Saunders.**

Until next issue stay safe and well.

Jim Cranna

MURRAY RIVER

On 5th April, a number of our members attended our luncheon at the Jindera Hotel, Jindera. It was nice and roomy, good food and we could all hear each other well. We had the near and far of our members attending today with our locals, **Ken & Linda Medway** having to walk a whole block from home to get there, Ian Callaghan having a little drive west from Table Top, and the far being our Victorian members **Katie & Graeme Morris** coming up from Benalla. Oh I nearly forgot our other Vic resident with **Graeme Stephens** all the way from Bethanga. The rest of us had to travel all the way from Albury well about 10km.



Group at Jinderra

A couple of happy wanderers whom we hadn't seen for a long time as they have been travelling around in different locations of Oz graced us with their presence today. **John Duncan** had spent 3 months free camping in Tassie with **Petria**, and our gypsy **Annie Smart** has been all over the countryside in her van.

Pete Dwyer and John Duncan had not seen each other for 20 years or so and had a great chat to catch up as well as **Graham Docksey** who met **John Duncan** some years ago at Corowa at the Khaki Vehicle Club. Mates reminiscing. Another great day.



Graham Docksey, John Duncan, Peter Dwyer

On 20th April, 2023 a little run south to Victoria for a Coffee & Yack at Yackandandah. Gumtree Pies are the best and boy there were some people in and out. We even had to line up to order sometimes 6-7 deep.

A great turn up of 20+. What was amazing was that the mad pie eating NSW members were outnumbered by the Mexicans, oh I mean the Victorians today. We had 12 there from Vic and 10 from the right side of the border, ha-ha.



John & Margaret Corcoran

We hadn't seen **John & Margaret Corcoran** from Myrtleford for quite a while as there were other things going on with them, however it was like ESP as one night I was thinking hadn't seen them for a while and the next morning their email came in that they were coming. We had **Graeme & Katie Morris** up from Benalla, 4 from Bethanga, and a couple from Wodonga...oh and off course our great host **Allan Grogan** from Yack itself.

Anyway we all got to eat pies, sausage rolls, yummy cakes to go with our coffee. A brilliant time. After some wondered the streets as there is lots to see in Yack. **Graeme & Katies** son popped in with their grandson Toby about 10 years old. He wasn't a happy camper as there were some wasps buzzing around outside where they were sitting and trying to eat his food. We had to collect some historical items from **Graeme's** car and finding out that Toby liked Mustangs...the cars not the horses...oh but it is a pony, my **Graham** offered him a ride. He was into it and when he came around the corner with the top down, he had the biggest smile on his face. So cute. Another wonderful day with the local family & friends.

Murray River RFPA members had a lovely day on ANZAC Day with the March in the morning at 9am with a number of members attending we marched behind the serving police and had a great pic with all of us at the end of the march. Later at 10am some of us went up to the morning service at Monument Hill where our Chair **Ken Zegiel** laid a wreath on our behalf. A beautiful day to remember all of our armed forces members past and present. Lest We Forget.



Anzac - L to R, Ken Zegiel, Peter Dwyer (glasses just visible behind Ken), Carolyn Epstein (serving), Michael Worboys (serving), Jamie Hughes, Mick Skillicorn (Serv), Beth Docksey, Aidan (Flag Bearer Gran

Our last event for this quarter was a Murray River RFPA Brunch at the Cactus Cantina on Sunday 21st May 2023. It was great with a large variety of food on the buffet and cooked breaky food to order. A big surprise was lambs fry in a gravy, wow it was a treat for many and we were open mouthed of how many ordered it. ...OK I was one of them. Great to see **Ian Elworthy, Martin & Rhonda Stenson** who hadn't been able to make it for a while due to work. Also we had a new friend come along **Ray Waring**, welcome, who fitted in so well and was a barrel of knowledge and interesting discussions.

We also had the lovely **Lyndelle Robyn Tubie & Robyn Pollard** at the brunch who were very busy getting more food when the photos were taken. **Robyn Pollard** was that your way of getting out of the photos?... well it won't work next time.

We stayed a long time, with the rest of the tables empty and the chatting was happening at a high pitch. The managers Dad who was working there came up to us and indicated that they had a noise complaint come in from Albury Airport that they could hear the conversations out there... about 5km away...can you believe that? Ha. A great roll up of members and friends and another fun time shared together.

Beth Docksey, APM

NEW ENGLAND

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

NORTHERN BEACHES

Hi everyone,

Well we are back in action with a good start to the year. We have had three successful meetings so far this year with 25-30 attendees and guest speakers, all well received by the members. We have had two outings so far this year organised by Chairman **Dave's** wife **Liz Whiteman** and **Gloria Velleley** wife of the late **Peter Velleley**. The ladies are building up the numbers and make a great team. They are now our Social Secretaries and have done an excellent job organising places for us to visit and have coffee and lunch catch ups. Our new Branch Secretary, **Alan LeSurf** has settled in well.

The January meeting was our first for the year with over 30 members and guests in attendance. We welcomed new members **Liz Whiteman, Julie Bertoldo, Dave Maguire and Bruce Smith**. The Facebook sites are definitely having an impact on member enquiries. **Liz Whiteman & Gloria Velleley** were nominated and accepted the positions of Social Secretaries.



Brien Gately was presented his OBE by **Bill Bush**. Thank you to **Gloria Velleley** who donated a photo that is going to be presented to the Laughin' Boy Café, Emu Plains when 40 plus members will visit the cafe and then visit the new Airport at Badgerys Creek in late June. The Laughin' Boy cafe is in the recently refurbished original

Brien Gatley OBE

Emu Plains Police residence, constructed in 1908 as a purpose-built police station and residence for Emu Plains until the 1950s. Many would remember **Scotty Denholm** who was lockup keeper there in the late 1940's.

Our first outing of the year in February was organised by **Liz WHITEMAN and Gloria VELLELEY** was a luncheon at the Royal Motor Yacht Club at Newport. Around 20 members and guests attended with equal numbers of ladies and gents. Lovely venue right on the water at Pittwater.



Treasurer Bill Bush Danny Shannon and Jessica Gaddes



The March meeting had over 30 members and guests attend. **Danny Shannon** accompanied by **Jessica Gaddes** was our guest speaker. **Danny Shannon** was a former drug addict and is now a business trainer and support advocate. **Danny** has not had a drink or drugs since 15 September, 2009. He raising awareness through personal stories about addiction and empowering and educating others about the emotional and social impacts of addiction.

He has a Diploma in Community Services and has worked as a Senior Case Manager at a treatment facility for men for more than a decade. **Danny** has given talks at Corrective Services facilities and other organisations, speaking on recovery and community issues.

His talk about his experiences went over particularly well with members and he would probably be one of the most interesting speakers we have had. At the end he was approached by some of our members asking if he would be interested in speaking at one of the local high schools or community groups. It was good to hear a success story amongst so many bad ones where drugs are involved.

In April we had our second outing for the year which was a lunch at the Long Reef Golf Club. Around 20 members and guests attended. A lovely venue with magnificent views. Kudos to **Gloria** and **Liz** for selecting the venue and organising it.

Our April meeting was attended by **John Andrews, Tony Sneddon, Alan Doak, Greg Bertoldo, Verity Greenwood, John Graham, Warren Cole, Greg Muir, Kent Vild, Bruce Williams, Bill Shute, Bill Johnson, Les Potter.**



Long Reef Golf Club

Our third meeting for the year was in May. The branch welcomed our newest Associate member **Jeff Brady**. Our guest speaker for the meeting was **Dale COHEN**, Principal Consultant, Wonderlyze, Pty Ltd. Initially employed as an accountant in the Australian Tax Office, Dale moved into an emerging technology company and then was contacted by Kerry Packer to develop Australia's first on line cricket website, Baggy Green.

Following this he developed the original websites for Wide World of Sports and The Footy Show. **Dale** established the Northern Beaches Advocate as a free, on-line newspaper when The Manly Daily stopped printing at the start of the COVID pandemic in May 2020. It has grown since then and in April 2023 it reached more than 120,000 readers. **Dale** gave an interesting and informative talk about the media and its associations. He was well received by our members.

Our next event is on Wednesday 28 June. A bus trip to Western Sydney Airport & lunch at Laughin' Boy Café, Emu Plains. The bus is FREE for members. This outing is fully booked and a number of people are travelling to the venues by private cars. So far over 40 members and guests will be attending.



NB Welfare Team

We have an amazing welfare team, **Jim Soiland, Barry Miles (Scooter), Geoff "Jellybeans" Kay, Brian Friend and Deb Anderson** who also supports members and families with bereavement counselling. The Welfare Report for this half of the year looks like a Who's Who of the Branch! Our welfare team has been kept very busy and 28 members have been mentioned in welfare reports over the last 6 months with a whole range of medical issues. And we must thank **Margaret Kay** who hand-prints our get-well and bereavement cards.

Recently our Chairman received a call from a former officer, not an RFPA Member, but who would be well known to many. He wanted to thank our branch and particularly our Grief and Bereavement Officer **Deb Anderson**, who reached out to him during a very difficult time, after the sudden and tragic death of his wife. In his words, "If it wasn't for her support I wouldn't be here!"

Our next formal meeting will be the AGM on Thursday 13th of July at 11 am at Manly Warringah Leagues Club.

Take care.

Ian Finlayson

NORTHERN RIVERS

Annual Friendship Week

This is a little bit of the background to the Friendship week currently being arranged by members of the Retired & Former Police Association of NSW Inc. It usually takes place in early March each year to avoid the Easter period, where accommodation at caravan parks become more expensive. They commenced 24 years ago, and some were hosted by other Branches during this time. Northern Rivers Branch have been involved in the organising for the past 18 years.

Originally the week was titled "Fishing Friendship Week" It was first hosted on the South Coast of New South Wales. Fishing was the main attraction for the week, and including games of Golf, and Bowls. It was later discovered that many members did not attend as they were not fishers; hence the Fishing was eliminated from the title.



Everyone relaxes

The weeks have been hosted over the years at the South Coast, Burrum Heads, Keepit Dam, Yamba, Evans Head, Tin Can Bay, Ballina, Nambucca Heads, Tweed Heads, Stockton Beach, North Haven, Dubbo, Toowoomba, Wooli, Darlington Beach Resort just to mention a few. The week has been hosted at some location on more than one occasion. In 2024 this event will be held at Forster, Tuncurry.



BBQ

The main reason for the Friendship Week, is for those who would like to catch up with some previous work mates, and also meet some other retired personnel who have served in the Force. The week is also open to friends of retired Police, and also currently serving Police. We have many civilians participating making it a very interesting time. They also have many stories to tell about their experiences as friends of the Police. We have also had some serving Police attend the event both from the Queensland Police Force as well as New South Wales Police Force.



Raffle Every Afternoon



Daily Happy Hour

The event is held at a Caravan Park, where all those attending can be accommodated, either on caravan sites or in Cabins. At the location it commences with a welcoming Bar B Que, on the Sunday, where everyone meets and catches up with all. This Bar B Que is supported financially by the Committee of Management, RPA Inc. Those attending are free to play Bowls, Golf, or participate in any other activities they may choose to do, or just relax. Then there is another meal arranged during the week, usually on the Thursday, where the meal is provided as a result of some small donations collected over the few days. Friday night a venue and evening meal is arranged. Discussions take place with suggestions from those in attendance as to where the Friendship week could be hosted the following year.

Charlie Halloran

Darlington Beach Resort – Arrawarra Friendship Week – a summary by the Sub-Editor

This year **Charlie Halloran** from Northern Rivers, **Phil Knight** from Dubbo with the very able assistance of their "committee" held this annual event at the Darlington Beach Resort, Arrawarra, just north of Coffs Harbour.



There were over 54 attendees this year over the 7 days and a great itinerary was arranged. The welcome lunch was wonderful, slow cooked meats with salads, rolls etc. Each afternoon there was a "happy hour" which included a raffle. Donations of goods for the raffle were wide and varied from Frozen Meats, Wine glasses, Hardware items, Gardening goods, homewares bottles of Wine. The funds from these daily raffles went towards a free BBQ for all participants.

Club Dinner

Every second day there was an organised event thus leaving the other days for sightseeing, R & R etc. – can't make a holiday TOO busy. We had dinner and lunch events, a day trip with lunch to The Golden Dog Hotel at Glenreagh, Art morning, Bingo with the local ladies club, evening meal with the Outdoor Cinema showing the Footie.



Lunch at The Golden Dog, Glenreagh

The location was really wonderful with huge sites which would fit the largest vans, wildlife abounding (sometimes bounding right into your van site). The list of things to do is immense from the crystal clear water of the beach, to the swimming pools, cycling "surreys" to get you around the large park, outdoor cinema, onsite licensed restaurant/coffee shop, outdoor bowling greens, archery area etc. The kids were catered for too with a large indoor games area, jumping pillows, the pools and slides, beach volleyball court etc.

The team is to be congratulated for the behind the scenes organisation – an example was well evident in the trip to a local Club for dinner where a bus was arranged to pick us up and return us and the pre ordering of the main course so we did not "swamp" the local club with our orders.

Congratulations to **Charlie, Phil, ladies and "team"** – you did a great job.

Sub Editor's Note – for those trivia buffs, Q.name three Australian towns that are palindromes A. Tumut, Glenelg and Arrawarra.

NORTHERN SUBURBS (formerly Hornsby)

It has been a busy 2023 for our Branch. Quite a few of our Members went through or are planning to go through medical procedures and we wish them well.

In February we organised a presentation by entertainer and historian **Jim Haynes** at Asquith Bowling Club, raising \$1000 for the Beyond Blue Police and Emergency Responders Program.

Our April meeting was attended by **John Andrews, Tony Sneddon, Alan Doak, Greg Bertoldo, Verity Greenwood, John Graham, Warren Cole, Greg Muir, Kent Vild, Bruce Williams, Bill Shute, Bill Johnson, Les Potter.**



L to R Bruce Williams, Bill Shute, Verity Greenwood, John Graham, Greg Muir, Peter McDonnell, Ross Beattie, Ken McKnight, Warren Cole



L to R - Bruce Williams, John Andrews, Bill Shute, Jim Haynes, Greg and June Muir, Event Organiser Sandra Charleston, John Graham, Verity Greenwood, Peter McDonnell, and Peter Scheinflug with Elizabeth & Phil Budge



Our April meeting was attended by (standing l to r) John Andrews, Tony Sneddon, Alan Doak, Greg Bertoldo, Verity Greenwood, John Graham, Warren Cole, Greg Muir and (seated are Kent Vild, Bruce Williams, Bill Shute, Bill Johnson & Les Potter)

Apologies were received from **Chris Reardon, Dick Smith, Warren and Lesley Martin, Warren and Trudi Cole, Peter McDonnell, Ross Beattie, Ken McKnight, Luke Spurr, Alan Pollock, Kerry Larsen and Wal Gaffney.**

The colder days didn't deter attendance at our June meeting, with **Bruce Williams, Bill Shute, Verity Greenwood, John Graham, Greg Muir, Peter McDonnell, Ross Beattie, Ken McKnight, Warren Cole** and (missing from the photo) **Trudi Cole, Steve Bensley and Alan Doak.**

Apologies were received from **Alan Pollock, Luke Spurr, John Schell, Les Potter, Greg Bertoldo, Dick Smith, John Andrews, John Barber, Chris Reardon, Kerry Larsen and Wal Gaffney.**

Our meetings are usually held in the meeting rooms at Hornsby RSL Club at 11am on the first Thursday of the even months, i.e. August, October and December (Christmas function). We usually meet at 10am for coffee beforehand, and have coffee meetings at the same time during alternate months. All are welcome to attend.

Greg Muir

PARRAMATTA -THE HILLS

At our April meeting we had in attendance - **Eric Etienne, Neil & Colleen Purvis, Paul Wynne, John & Susan Wakefield, Ian & Barbara Lindsay, Lester Robey, Gary Raymond, Annette Willett, Fred & Anne Camage, Sheila Jackson, David Hain, Elaine Bennett, Darrell Maher.**

With apologies (many due to grandparent duties during school holidays) from – **Mike Neilsen, Chinn Gounder, Shri Ram, Robyn & John McInerney, Phil Hickman, Greg Swindels, Robert & Robyn Oswald, John Fletcher, Greg Hyde, Ian King, Phil Martin, Mal Brown, Robert Redfern, John & Lee Hall, Michael Berwick, Kris Sweic, Ivan & Joan Hamilton, Russell Oxford, Angus McDonald, Bill Chaffey, Irene Moore, Neville Greatorex, Ray McConnell, Trevor & Betty Francis, Paul Vella, Peter Rackley, Richard Thomas, John Laycock, Bill Shute, Kent Vild, Maurie Whitton, David Livingston, Nick Pavlov, Naomi Baldwin, Graham Stone. Steve Bensley, Mathew O'Neill**

The Chairman advised that he has noticed that more Branches are holding their social functions on weekends noticeably Brisbane and Albury Branches as younger members are leaving the Police Force and going into other occupations and they obviously cannot attend mid weekly functions and it is recommended that our Branch have more weekend functions for that reason.

WELFARE REPORTS

Gary Raymond made 17 Welfare phone calls; **Neil Purvis** reports that

Barry Inall is recovering from day surgery and his son has come up from Victoria to look after him. **Bob Oswald** and **Lee & John Hall** are still doing it tough. **John McInerney** is currently in the Sands Hospital and is finding it very difficult to walk.

Lester Robey reports A number phone calls to members, including **Don Keene** who is struggling following 2 eye surgeries and other issues and 2 home Visits.



Colleen Purvis and Anne Camage - Social Events Ladies

At our May meeting we dedicated our guest speaker spot to our Mothers and asked members to tell us a little about their mothers. It was really interesting to hear the old "sayings" and stories, sad & funny.

Social Events - May

Lunch at Macquarie Arms Hotel Windsor overlooking the gardens, followed by a walk through the Windsor Markets.

We held a fund raising BBQ to support the Cancer Council's Biggest Morning Tea and yellow was the colour. This was a FREE bacon and egg BBQ, drinks provided. Raffle and Cakes/slices for sale – from the proceeds our branch will be donating \$500 to the Cancer Council.



Naomi Baldwin, Sandy Benson (Social Events Ladies with Russ Lang, Nick Pavlov and Ian King



Fundraising BBQ for Cancer Council

Several of our members also attended Guardian Funerals Biggest Morning Tea. Guardian Funerals Blacktown have been our sponsors from the since our branch commenced some 12 years ago. A great morning tea was presented but no raffle prizes this year for our members.



Guardian Funerals Biggest Morning Tea

Upcoming Social Events

Upcoming on 17 June, Lunch at the Armory Wharf Restaurant, Sydney Olympic Park, for we are booked for 32 members

Mid-Winter Solstice evening – a Mental Health Awareness Event– We will be having a stand and handing out RFPA information

An outing in July to Major Oak Theatre Restaurant and the Zig Zag Railway trip in August are in the planning

Castle Players at Pavilion Theatre for September has been booked.

NSW AGM - This year's NSW CoM Annual General Meeting will be held at the Club York, 95 York Street, Sydney on the 31 July 2023 commencing 11.00am

Eric Etienne

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

Doreen Goddard

PENRITH BLUE MOUNTAINS

At our April 2023 we had attending - **Terry Bancroft, Lilian Soane, Ron Johnston, Lesley Schwetz, Dick Hurst, David and Louise Cole, Carol and Rob Priestley, Keith Thoms, Cath and Ian Berry, Ray Filewood, Mark McCallum, Peter Scheinflug, Barry Brackenridge, Peter Kirk, Alby Grahame.**

We also welcomed visitors **Cathy Berry, Lilian Soane, Carol Priestley, Dave And Louise Cole** With apologies from **Pat Bancroft, Chris Bendell, Guy Smith, Tony Malone, Paul Kelly, John and Bev Pollock, Jim Prendergas, Barry Brazzill, Therese Hurst, Ray Owston**

On the social front, we have a new date for the visit to the Marine Command - 26 June 2023 where we will have a talk about the functions and operations of the Marine Command and a short cruise around Sydney Harbour. Many thanks to **Chief Inspector Brazzill.**

Alby Grahame was awarded his Veteran Certificate, congratulations.

Morning Copffee/Tea and Meeting Dates for 2023 – visitors to the area are most welcome.

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

The Springwood morning Copffee/Tea will be at 10-10.30am on the third Wednesday of the month at The Springwood (Recreational) Bowling Club, Macquarie Road, Springwood near intersection of Hawkesbury Road

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

Month	Penrith 1st Wed	Springwood 3rd Wed	MEETING 4th Mon
July 2023	5/7	19/7	24/7
August 2023	2/8	16/8	28/8
September 2023	6/9	20/9	25/9
October 2023	4/10	18/10	23/10
November 2023	1/11	15/11	27/11

Ian Berry

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Ph. 02 4732 1258

RIVERINA

We started off the new Year with a coffee morning at Temora on Monday 16th January. Our host for the morning was former Temora Police Officer **Terry Goode**.

Twenty two members braved the very warm day for a coffee at the Old Federal Hotel, now called the FED&BED with several members then staying for lunch.



Temora

Terry had arranged for the Mayor of Temora, **Rick FERMAN**, to attend and welcome everyone to Temora. **Rick** is extremely proud of his town and his welcome, like the weather was warm. Local Police and former Police who served at Temora renewed old friendships and even a few of the locals also came and met with the Police who were previously stationed at Temora. Members then visited different tourist attraction in Temora before heading for home and the air conditioner. All in all, a great day.

On Monday 20th March another coffee morning was held. This time we paid a visit to the newly erected and magnificent Wagga Wagga PCYC. The morning coffee was from 10am and then a tour of the huge complex was made with our guide, member of staff, Zac. The millions of dollars that it cost to build the new PCYC were worth it and will assist the youth of the Wagga area.

After the tour of the PCYC most members then attended the Victoria Hotel for lunch a cool drink and a long chat.



Wagga PCYC

Our welfare officer and veteran member, **Kevin Barber**, has retired from the AFL Riverina Independent Tribunal after 50 years. **Kevin** was nominated by the Narrandera AFL club as their nominated tribunal member and he held the position for 50 years. **Kevin** received his award at a luncheon in Wagga in early March. Well done, **Kevin**.

Graeme Holmes

SOUTH COAST

On 16 March RFLPA South Coast Branch members met for lunch at the Sussex Inlet, Ex-Servos Club where they enjoyed a great time of Friendship, Fellowship and Comradeship.

In April we had visitors from the NSW Committee of Management, **Ian Lovell**, State Secretary, **Ian Moore** State Welfare Officer, and **Paul Wynne** State President with his wife **Sandy Benson**, sub Editor of the Gazette. At this meeting we presented **Bob Groenestein** with his OBE.



April Branch meeting

On 18 May RFLPA South Coast Branch members met at the Ulladulla Ex-Servos Club where they enjoyed a great meal, fun, friendship, bad jokes and a bit of frivolity! It was great to see local member **George Nielsen** 'on deck' and warmly welcomed by members.



March Branch meeting

Back Row - George Nielsen, John Crockett, Graham Lower, Tom Turner, Gary Donnelly, Noel Flanders, David Dawson. Front Row - Claire Crockett, Jill Lower, Helen Turner, Pauline Donnelly, Jenny Dawson



Presenting Bob GROENESTEIN with his Veteran Member Certificate

We look forward to seeing members and/or visitors at our next meetings.

Thursday 20th July, 11.30 **Batemans Bay Soldiers Club**

Thursday 17th August 11.00 **Shoalhaven Ex-Servos Nowra**

Thursday 19th October 11.00 **Shoalhaven Ex-Servos Nowra**

Thursday 16th November 11.30 **Tathra Bowling Club**

John Crockett

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

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

SOUTHERN TABLELANDS

We had the following present at our March 2023 meeting - **Faye Ambrose, Bruce Carter, David Kennemore, John Kowalenko, Louise Kowalenko, Greg Moore, Ian Radford, Kim & Manny Rivera, Maureen Strong, Ray Strong, Bill White, Judy White, Peter Willard** with apologies received from **Peter & Kay Betts, Tom Burke, Matt Casey, Perc Carter, John Connell, Joe Dombroski, Carol Donnelly, Mick Donnelly, Cheryl Hughes, Linda Lockwood, Daryl Holder, Rosemary Kennemore, Linda Lockwood, Annette McDonald, Betty Riley, Alan Whitten, Jack Williams.**

Welfare:

Ken Lockyer has visited **Jack and Nancy Williams** at Warrigal Care, Goulburn **Jack** is in a "frail" condition and his wife **Nancy** is being treated for a renal problem.

Ken has also visited Chairman **Mick Donnelly** who has returned to the Goulburn Base Hospital after his recent brain surgery in Canberra. **Mick** is currently in rehabilitation to regain full use of his right side as a result of a side effect of the surgery.

Social:

Ray Strong informed the meeting that he had been approached by the President of the **IPA, Canberra** to ascertain if a luncheon could be organised between the IPA and our RFPA branch at the Goulburn Soldiers Club on a Saturday in the near future.

Coffee outing:

A suggestion has been made and accepted by members that we have a group Coffee Outing on the 3rd Monday of our off meeting months. Venues will be selected with a view to involving as many members as possible.

Regards to all,
Ian Radford

SYDNEY

At the May meeting, **Allan Simpson** took the Chair due to the absence of **Kent Vild** and welcomed all who were present, especially **Michael Watson**, a Branch member who alternates living between Sydney and Thailand!

Members present were **Allan Simpson, Greg Thane, Kay Whitty, Margaret Thornell, Keith Thornell, Michael Watson, Peter Vymys, and Bruce Howe**, while Apologies were received and accepted from **Kent Vild, Geoffrey Dunlop, Peter Hamer, Glenda Macdonald, Don Eyb, Janine Newell, Terry O'Brien, Gary Roser, and Kathy Parker-Smith.**

The Sydney Branch now has a Facebook page. Access to the page is by invitation only so if you wish to join the page, email the Secretary at sydneyrpa@gmail.com

Several members have added interesting items, for example, **Esther Mackay** detailed the work of Police Care Australia, **Greg Callander** provided a link to the Australian Fallen Police page, and **Beth Docksey** reported social events of the Murray River Branch of the RFPA.

"The Dog Incident":

Allan Simpson entertained the meeting with a lengthy description about how he came into contact with the roadway. Apparently, he was walking his daughter's dog, using a leash as the dog's harness was wet. Despite **Allan's** wife suggesting the dog wouldn't notice a wet harness, **Allan** insisted on using a leash. This proved to be his downfall.

The dog in question, **Millie**, apparently dislikes various other breeds of dogs. While **Allan** was gazing into a shop window, admiring, of all things, another "doggie in the window", **Millie** saw a canine foe approaching and strained hard at the leash. This took **Allan** by surprise and propelled him towards Mother Earth. His head came into contact with the hard surface and, because he is on blood thinners, no amount of effort at the scene or at home could stem the flow of blood from his head.

He was admitted to Accident and Emergency and treated there. Next day a magnificent bruise erupted at the site of the wound. He has now recovered.

As Secretary I read the following statement to the meeting –

"When I retired from full-time employment in February 2015, I was able to attend the monthly meetings of the Sydney Branch of the (then) Retired Police Association.

Barry Hocking welcomed me with open arms as 'new blood' and asked if I would take up the position of Branch Secretary. He assured me the role involved only an hour or two each month! My endorsement as his chosen successor was confirmed at the Annual General Meeting in August of that year when I was elected to the role.

Following the sudden and tragic death of **Peter Keating**, I also assumed the role of Branch Reporter and have produced and distributed the Newsletter ever since. When **Glenda Macdonald** stepped down as the Branch Treasurer at the 2022 AGM, I was elected to fill that role.

Now eight years later, I find that I must curtail some activities, as my wife and I are contending with ongoing health issues. Consequently, I will not be standing for reappointment as the Branch Secretary/Treasurer/Reporter at the Sydney Branch Annual General Meeting to be held this August. However, I will continue to be an active member of the Branch.

During my time as Secretary, I have always been fully supported by our esteemed Chairman, **Kent Vild**, for whom I express my utmost admiration. There is a small inner circle of Branch members who attend the meetings and I thank them for their commitment. I especially applaud the financial support of Elite Funeral Directors Ltd. and that sponsorship was acknowledged recently when **Diane Luccitti** was granted Honorary Membership of the Branch and I had the privilege of presenting her with a Sydney Branch name badge.

Whoever takes the reins in August can rest assured that I will always be available to provide feedback or advice if it is sought."

Living in Thailand:

Michael Watson gave a vivid description of the benefits of living in Thailand and alternating with a residence in Sydney. The meeting was enthralled with his story.

If anyone has lost \$500 wrapped in a rubber band, please contact me. I found your rubber band! Finally, I told a joke during a Branch meeting on Zoom. Nobody laughed. Apparently, I'm not remotely funny.

Bruce Howe
Secretary

WATER POLICE SUB BRANCH

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

WIDE BAY

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

NOTICEBOARD

Roaming the Murray River Region - Invitation to all RFFA Branches Members, family & friends to attend.

Monday 23rd to Sunday 29th October 2023 Inclusive.

Come for some days or all of them. Lots of local daily touring around this spectacular area of the NSW/VIC border, including Bonegilla Migrant Camp, Bandiana Military Museum, Gold Towns-Yackandandah, Beechworth & Bright, Lake Mulwala & Murray River, Snowy Mountains, Wineries, Silos, Glenrowan and more. The itinerary and options will be out shortly.

Accommodation is available in Cabins, sites for your own Caravan, RV Campervan or tent only sites at Lake Hume Discovery Cabin & Caravan Park at a 10% discount rate and/or if you just want a motel room across the road at Lake Hume Resort Hotel. They also have some cabins (standard rates apply).

However you must email, call or SMS your final dates and accommodation choice to Beth Docksey APM, secretary Murray River RFFA on 0412 661 738 or murrayriverrfpa@gmail.com who will contact the Lake Hume Discovery Park, NSW, book and then provide payment details which will be available via credit/debit card and bank transfer. (their rules not ours!)

Beth Docksey APM

FRIENDSHIP WEEK FOR 2024

Where: FORSTER TUNCURRY NRMA HOLIDAY PARK and RESORT, 1 Baird Street, TUNCURRY 02 65546827

When: From 16 MARCH to the 23 MARCH 2024

Bookings: A number of powered caravan sites and cabins have been reserved for our members. These reservations will be held for four weeks from 29th May 2023. Bookings require a deposit to secure the accommodation and any unsold sites/cabins after 4 weeks will be released back into sale. Members can still call after that period to book their accommodation but it will be subject to availability.

When booking indicate that you are from the Retired and Former Police Association. The Group Booking No. is 125261. They have applied one free night when you book for the seven nights. If you are a NRMA Member you can only receive one discount.

Information: For more information about the accommodation and the park please go to Forster Tuncurry NRMA Holiday Park & Resort web site for additional information and photographs.

The park is pet friendly.

Look forward to catching up for a great week again in 2024.

Kind regards

Charles Halloran

RFFA BRANDED ITEMS

Mens RFFA Ties	The State Secretary	\$25.00 inc p&p
Ladies Scarves (no logo)	The State Secretary	\$25.00 inc p&p
RFFA Pocket Badge	The State Secretary	\$9.00 inc p&p
Clear Plastic Holders	The State Secretary	\$TBA
Coffin Sashes (min 10 with Branch name)	The State Secretary	\$70.00 inc p&p
Get-well/Sympathy Cards	Macarthur Branch Secretary	TBA

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

REUNIONS HELD

Cabramatta Get Together

The Chairman of Murray River Branch, **Ziggy Ken Zegiel** took a little trip north on 20 May, 2023 to Cabramatta to spread his wings, meeting people from his past who he worked with at Cabramatta in the 70's. I heard they had a fun get together so just thought better celebrate with a mention and a picture.



Norm Tattersall Mick Mott, Ted Biel, Sue Bytheway, Ken Zegiel, Steve Packer, Peter Croucher.

NSW Mounted Police Bi - Annual Reunion

On 29th April, 2023, sixteen former Mounted Police accompanied by their wives and partners, attended the Mounted Police reunion at Coffs Harbour. The reunion was a lunchtime 3 course meal at the Coffs Harbour Surf Club where old workmates caught up and talked of their time spent at the stables at Redfern. Following lunch and a formal photograph, many adjourned at to the Park Beach caravan park Camp Kitchen for a sausage sizzle and more reminiscing of old times continued until well after dark.

The oldest to attend was **John ('Tex') Cleal** who joined the Mounties in 1956. Two former OICs; **Don Eyb** and **Wayne Biffin** were also the present.

Don Eyb arranged for a large collection of old photographs and memorabilia from the Mounted Police Museum at Redfern stables to be displayed which was appreciated by all in attendance.



Photo shows - Back Row (L to R) Murray Smith (70 - 74), Wayne Biffin (2001 - 07), Gary Lee (72 - 74), Fred Haskins (70 - 76), John Holstein (74 - 74), Bob Green (71 - 76), Kieron Power (76 - 80), Rick Watson (77 - 80), Wayne Friend (78 - 89).

Front Row (L to R) Bob Hunter (68 - 72), Roger Walker (73 - 76), Don Eyb (61 - 2005), John (Tex) Cleal (56 - 64), Kevin Wild (62 - 72), Peter Gowing (65 - 70), Geoff Perry (80 - 86).

All are looking forward to the next reunion which will be held on the first Saturday in May 2025 which will be the 200th Anniversary of the formation of the NSW Mounted Police which is the oldest Mounted Police Unit in the world.

Murray Smith

UPCOMING REUNIONS

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FORMATION OF THE NSW MOUNTED POLICE

When: First Saturday in May 2025

Where: To be advised



VALE

All relevant information regarding the passing of Members and former Police will be posted on the Retired Police Website 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

We will remember them.

* Denotes Serving Member

SURNAME	CHRISTIAN/KNOWN NAME	AGE	REG.NO	DECEASED
AMBROSE	Robert (Bob)	75	Husband of Faye	28/2/23
BLACKBURN	HAROLD JAMES (HARRY)	93	6414	9/5/23
BROMHEAD, MP	Stephen Bruce	66	18622	16/3/23
BROWN	Alan John	86	8195	16/4/23
CAREY	Crona	74	Wife of John	8/5/23
COLEMAN	Michael Anthony	89		31/3/23
CONDON	Malcolm John	80	13307	20/4/23
DONNELLY	Alan David	92	7822	16/5/23
DOUGLAS	Paul Robert	70	15624	6/3/23
FERRIS	Norman Albert	87	Former British & AFP	5/4/23
FRANCIS	Betty	84	Wife of Trevor	27/5/23
GAZZARD	Raymond Vincent	87	8609	23/4/23
HIGGINS	Bernard Leslie	66	20406	24/4/23
INKSTER	Grahame Robert	82	12980	18/5/23
JOHNSTON	Arthur Nicol (Nic)	83	9301	5/2/23
KENNEALLY	John Anthony	75	12140	15/3/23
LAPWORTH	Kenneth Mervyn	82	7052	23/4/23
LLOYD	Maurice	91	9325	19/3/23
MERCER	Ernest George	89		18/5/23
MILLER	Peter Kenneth	66	17160	20/5/23
MOONEY	Brian Henry	75		9/3/23
MURRAY	Kenneth Edward	91	8455	Approx 1/1/23
MUSTOW	Warren John	83	12954	27/5/23
QUINN	Bruce Daniel	76	12460	11/5/23
RUDD	Alan Leonard	77	11341	14/3/23
SCARFF	Robert Lawerance	82	9457	24/4/23
SLATTERY	Robert John	70	15603	13/5/23
SMITH	David Robert	75	13838	12/5/23
STALKER	Douglas Noel	82	9648	13/3/23
SULLIVAN	Gerald Charles	76	12253	29/4/23
TUBIE	Peter	75	16085	8/4/23
TULLOCH	Sydney Ian	86	11389	28/3/23
WEST	Morris Langlo	66	16865	6/5/23