

## RIVERINA RFPA WINTER 2021 BRANCH REPORT

Hi everyone,

By the time you read this the Riverina should be in its normal cold and hopefully wet period but then not long before we can once again look forward to warmer weather and a brighter and greener garden. Many of you missed getting your summer edition of the RFPA which was due to lack of input from several branches and was combined with the Autumn edition.

March 25<sup>th</sup> saw us journey out of the area to the Sir George Hotel at Jugiong which was a great success with about 40 odd members and their partners from our branch, Murray River and Southern Tablelands. Unfortunately, due to floods and other issues the RFPA Senior Committee were unable to attend but we will organise further catch up them and other branches down the track of course.

See Photos 1-4

Graeme Holmes had hoped to organise a meeting in Young in May to coincide with a veteran police car display but that didn't work out so we may do the same as last year and organise a meeting there later in the year during the cherry season.

At our last Bi Monthly meeting members were informed that I have added a Retired and Former Police Association, Riverina Facebook Page which will be kept up to date with events, other matters of interest with members and their partners are more than welcome to join and if interested that I can help you get access to it. It is a closed group where the site can be located by anyone seeking to join but only at this stage can approved by me and only members of the site are able see the comments.

Some of you joined up to the Main RFPA Facebook site but that has been removed as the President was not happy with aspects of it so it is now on the back burner and was raised at the State RFPA meeting on the 28.4.21 where it was decided that a presentation should be prepared to see if sufficient safeguards can put in place for the State Committee to consider whether to approve it being re-instated. Also, our Riverina website is available which you can access by putting <https://www.retiredpolice.com.au/riverina/> in your URL or browser. If you want access the main RFPA website, then use [www.retiredpolice.com.au](http://www.retiredpolice.com.au) but I will still send out emails and text messages of course.

Morning tea and lunch was held at the Wagga Wagga Country club on the Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May where a small but quality group enjoyed a chat and tried out the new caterers which had only started that day which we thought was good and well presented.

Photo 5

On that issue we are keen to see more ladies attend our morning teas and it has been discussed by some ladies that they are not sure about coming unless they know other ladies are attending, which is fine. For your information I send the list out of attendees beforehand and when you see x2 against a member's name that indicates that their partner is attending also.

Welfare:

Former Riverina Member Norm Deen on Wednesday on the 7.4.21 due to a fall and was in intensive care at Nepean hospital mainly because of a pre-existing heart condition and I initially contacted him on the 8<sup>th</sup> and got this back from this humorous reply from him: Thanks Steve I had a fall at home at Penrith. Received a spiral fracture of right Femur had op Sunday going okay but

will miss footy training for a few weeks thank all the boys for their sincere concern much appreciated. I spoke to me again on the 11<sup>th</sup> of May and I am pleased to say that he has been released from Nepean Hospital and is back at his sisters' home in Penrith and is as usual in good spirits.

Bob Hogno has of recent time has issues of being far too regular if I could put it in that fashion but a colonoscopy on the 7<sup>th</sup> of April found no problem but his condition persisted with further medical appointments following to try to get to the end of it. Spoke to him again on the 11<sup>th</sup> of May and he said he seems to have overcome all the issues now without knowing what had caused it in the first place. He had just come back from the South Coast with about 100 kgs of fruit to make some jam, so members can expect him to bring some to our next meeting, we hope?

Contacted Steve Ross on the 11<sup>th</sup> of May and he indicated he has recovered really well from his cancer scare with all his physio etc all finished and to use his own words is firing on all fours and he hopes to attend some of our meetings very soon.

On this issue we are still seeking someone to put their hand up to be the welfare officer. This is an important but not time-consuming position. The state committee are in the process of formulating a handbook to assist in this regard.

If members and their partners have any interesting input that they would like to be included in future RFPA Gazette's, then please email them with Photos (Jpeg format) to me or give to them to me at one of our catchups.