



The R.F.P.A. GAZETTE

(Established 1931)

Registered office

PO Box 201

HAWKS NEST 2324

www.retiredpolice.com.au

40TH REUNION OF CLASS 191 HELD FEBRUARY 2023



L to R Back Row: Rick Sitkiewicz, Paul Carlton, Frank Gomes, John Bronsveld, Steve Ticehurst, Steve Rose, Steve Turner, Craig Inglis
Front Row: Monty Green-Gibson, Monica Marshall, Peter Nellies, Kerrie Sicard, Dave Brisett

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

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



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Well 2023 has started for me with a very active Calendar:

Firstly in January I represented the RFPA at the annual **Granville Rail Disaster (Day of the Roses)** Memorial Service. Some 83 persons died and over 200 persons were injured in this disaster. This was the 46th Anniversary of the disaster and hundreds of people were there to pay their respects.

On the Thursday 4 February I along with my wife, **Sandy Benson**, State Secretary **Ian Lovell APM** and Senior Vice President **George Weissel** attended the Official Opening of **Grace's place** at Doonside. Grace's Place a project of the Homicide Victims Support is a world first Centre for care, support and counselling of children 3 to 18 who have been impacted by homicide. Sandy and I along with other Retired and Former Police have worked closely with the **Homicide Victims Support Group** for over 6 years to see this vision come to fruition. The Centre is named after the Late **Grace Lynch**, the mother of **Anita Cobby** and was a Foundation Member of the Homicide Victims Support Group.

The opening was attended by over 800 Guests, including Politicians from both sides, NSW Police Commissioner **Karen Webb APM** and NSW Governor **Margaret Beasley AC KC** who officially opened the Centre. There were many members of the RFPA attending who could be easily recognized by them wearing our RFPA tie/scarf.

On Saturday 6 February I again attended **Grace's Place** in relation to the **Ride For Justice** motorcycle event co-ordinated by Channel 9 Reporter and Grace's Place Ambassador, **Simon Bouda**. This ride is in its 10th year and raises funds for the Homicide Victims Support Group. The ride of over 200 motorcyclists commenced at and finished at Grace's Place where a BBQ lunch and other refreshments were provided.

Tuesday the 7th February saw **Ian Lovell** and I at a meeting with **Commissioner Webb** where we discussed a number of matters relating to the RFPA and its members. The meeting went for more than an hour and was positive in its outcome.

Monday the 13th of February I represented the RFPA at the **Annual Hilton Bombing Memorial Service** which was very well attended on the 45th Anniversary of the event. Former Senior Constable **Rod Withers**, a survivor of the bombing made an emotional address of his memories at being at the bombing.

In keeping with my intention to personally visit all of our RFPA Branches I went with **Ian Lovell** on the 21st February to Old Bar RSL where we met and spoke with the members of the Manning Great Lakes Branch. It is our intention to visit South Coast Branch in April.

In March **Sandy** and I along with **Ian Lovell** and Senior Vice President **George Weissel** will be attending **Police Friendship Week at Darlington Beach Caravan Park**, just north of Woolgoolga. This promises to be a wonderful week with **Charlie Halloran** again organizing and co-ordinating the event. I believe that this is the 23rd year that this event, formerly known as the Police Fishing & Friendship Week has been conducted.

Sadly in January two of our Committee Members resigned their positions. **Dave Whiteman** who has served the RFPA well for over 3 years resigned as he found his commitment was severely impacting upon his other activities. Dave served the COM well and his IT knowledge was instrumental in developing our new Data Base, Website and Facebook site. We are extremely grateful for his service and were very fortunate to have his expertise in IT matters to progress the RFPA. Dave has agreed to stay on as our Webmaster and of course is the Chairman of the Northern Beaches Branch.

The other COM member to resign was **Steve Turner** who since becoming a member of the COM has moved residence from the Riverina to Brisbane. He found that the tyranny of distance and cost of travel in attending our Sydney COM meetings difficult to continue in the role. We thank Steve

for his service and input into progressing the RFPA during his 2 years of involvement. Steve is now the Chairman/Secretary of the Brisbane and Northern Suburbs Branch and we know that as such the Branch's future is strong.

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

Until the next edition,
God Bless,

Paul Wynne JP



SECRETARY'S REPORT

President **Paul** and myself met with **Commissioner WEBB** on 7 February and discussed a number of issues related to our Association. Much of the discussion revolved around recruiting (for the RFPA) and how we can be better recognised as an organisation. [Further matters will be discussed in detail as we receive advice from the Commissioner and can implement proposals with corporate

support]

We have found that quite a few enquiries received as contacts on our website have come from former Police who believed they were Members of the RFPA, when in fact, they were not. Quite a few have since joined us. We see it as a problem when the simple distinction between the RFPA and the Police Association of NSW Associates is blurred. We are different organisations, with somewhat similar aims, but catering to different needs and by different methods.

On disengagement of any type, exiting Police are given a number of documents for formal purposes, and amongst them now is an **offer to join the RFPA**, along with advice on how to do so. This also happens with the PANSW, and an offer to join the Associates branches is included in the package.

In some parts of the State the two organisations meet as one, and have done so for some years. This is a good thing, and recently the acting President of the PANSW attended an RFPA meeting and discussed the advantages of such meetings with us.

What has stood out from these meetings and discussions are the facts that Police exiting the NSWPF are younger than most of us were when we left, that they were not engaged in life-long careers in many cases, are not covered by the familiar Hurt on Duty arrangements of days past, are highly likely to pursue another career soon after disengaging, and in such cases, they are not amenable to daytime socialising and formal meetings because they are working. Some thought has been given to weekend meetings, which are regular in the Brisbane and Northern Suburbs Branch. Some of our RFPA meetings are formal, others informal, and quite often they alternate. Whatever suits various Branches is encouraged, with a view to increasing participation.

We can offer Welfare services on a referral basis through some very active agencies, and in particular **Emerge & See**, which is developing a very successful network of professional services to help former Police through the sometimes-difficult period after they leave the job.

We are not able to offer legal advice or financial assistance. The fees we collect from Members are applied to pursuing the Fellowship, Welfare and Friendship creed on which the RFPA is based. The PANSW has significant resources and extends the application of them to legal advice and assistance to their Associates after they finish work, as well as the day-to-day activities of protection of their members' working conditions while still working.

Hopefully, you will see in the near future the introduction of RFPA prizes at Graduation Parades, Region Award presentations. We are asking our members to obtain RFPA ties and similar items for wearing on official occasions. The opening of **Grace's Place at Doonside** recently was a shining example of where RFPA representation was clearly observed and commented upon, as the **Governor of NSW, Her Excellency Margaret BEAZLEY AC KC** officiated.

No fewer than four of our members were actively engaged in planning, designing, fund raising and the building right from the outset of the "idea" some 6 years ago. This is a world first Residential Trauma centre for the children who are affected by homicide. The counselling (age specific), residential facilities, food, beds, fun activities, social outings etc. are all FREE.

The names **Sandy BENSON, Paul WYNNE, Gary RAYMOND, Deb WALLACE, and Naomi BALDWIN** should be remembered for their untiring efforts since 2016 (and before) to make Grace's Place a reality. The RFPA brand was highly visible on the day, with many of our members dressed appropriately, and standing out in the 800+ crowd.

I have placed a burden on local Branch Secretaries, giving them all accurate records of the Members' addresses, emails, payments made and other notations made for the purpose of communication and providing welfare and similar service when required. This has been a major source of updating our database, which had been diminished in value when addresses have changed and we were not informed. That led to breakdowns in communication and misunderstandings where information had not been received when sent in good faith. Gazettes had not been received, and some 150 have now been restored thanks to the Branch Secretaries being on the job. We owe them for the work they do voluntarily and often.

Membership card printing has re-commenced with the purchase of a card printer and the abandonment of the previous card supply arrangements. As previously indicated, cards will be provided for new Members, Veteran Members and Honorary Members, and if anyone else requires a new card, they will be printed and posted on request at the nominal cost of \$10 until Australia Post again raises the cost of posting them. Printing is now in-house, so the cards will arrive as soon as they can be processed and posted. Arrangements which may enable the inclusion of Membership cards in electronic wallets are being investigated.

As this goes to print, some have already arrived at **Friendship Week and Darlington Beach Resort, Arrawarra**, where the happy campers/motel guests will enjoy the delights of Northern Rivers Branch team headed once again by Charlie Halloran. **This week has evolved into one of the best Friendship and Fellowship events we have in the RFPA calendar.** See you there soon.

Meanwhile **Beth DOCKSEY** has arrangements in hand for a similar event to be held in the south of the State, in the vicinity of the Hume Weir, later in 2023. Check the Murray River Branch webpage on our website for developing news.

Ian Lovell, APM



Paul Wynne, Editor
Sandy Benson, Sub Editor

EDITOR'S REPORT

We receive many photos, which, because of their significance, are worthy of being on the front cover of this Gazette, however sometimes the quality of the photo cannot be reproduced effectively. Having said that, I am consistently pleased with the improved quality coming to the Editor – who said "we oldies" cannot "learn new tricks" . So if you have a

momentous occasion that you believe should be on the front cover, take a bit of time with the photo, the lighting, the composition etc and who knows, we may see your smiling face adorning our Gazette Cover. Happy snapping to all and keep the stories and pics coming in.



Ian Moore
State Welfare Officer.

WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT

As we age there are many incidences of sickness or injury and one of the main tasks of our RFPA is to administer WELFARE. Some members face a longer than normal stay in hospital with serious injuries. One retired officer from Tamworth, was unfortunate to have had a fall from a horse, resulting in serious

injuries, and has been transferred to Royal North Sydney Hospital where he is undergoing treatment. Once again, I stress the need to be careful with what we do and take care with ourselves.

I again remind members to let their local Branch Welfare Officers know of anyone who may have members who are not well and need a friendly visit or phone call, I would be happy to assist to back up the fine work our Welfare officers at branch level are doing.

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

SURNAME	CHRISTIAN NAME	LOCATION	BRANCH
BERTOLDO	GREG		NTHN BEACHES
CLOSE	GREG		MACARTHUR
COX	JOHN		WATER POLICE
DAY	MICK		MURRAY RIVER
ECKERSLEY	RYAN CHARLES		NTHN RIVERS
FOWLER	STEPHEN		NTHS SUBURBS
FROST	MICHAEL		MURRAY RIVER
GALANOS	DIMITRIOUS		SYDNEY
GILLAM	PETER		MACARTHUR
GOODWIN	GARY		MACARTHUR
GRANT	GARY		GOLD COAST
LOUISON	STAVROULA		MID NORTH COAST
MAGUIRE	DAVID		NTHN BEACHES
MEALING	TIM		SYDNEY
MORGAN	JANE		GOLD COAST
PAGANO	GUISEPPE "JOE"		MACARTHUR
RICHARDSON	PETER JOHN		NTHN RIVERS
THOMAS	RICHARD		PARRAMATTA-THE HILLS
THOMAS	SUSAN JANE		MACARTHUR
VOGT	MARGRET		NTHN BEACHES
WILLOX	HARLEY		NTHN RIVERS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

In the Summer 2022 edition of The RFPA Gazette, I note that the State Committee of Management has taken on the maintenance of the Local Police Memorial at Eastern Suburbs Memorial Park (ESMP), Matraville.

What a wonderful gesture. Would it not be great to see this example flow on through the entire state with local branches putting up their hands to assist Police Commands in the maintenance of any police graves and memorials in their respective geographical areas.

I did note that in both the articles regarding the ESMP Memorial, it was stated that the 27 police and 4 colonial troopers recorded on the memorial are interred in the adjoining cemeteries now encompassing ESMP. This is incorrect, as only eight (8) of the names recorded are located there, along with the four (4) colonial police. The Memorial was created in 2015 to honour those killed on duty within the former Botany, Maroubra, Waverley and Rose Bay LAC's rather than only those interred at ESMP.

The eight with a link to ESMP are:

- **GILFEATHER, Lindsay Vincent** - (Cremated – Ashes Collected)
- **HERNANDEZ, Juan Carlos** (Cremated - Ashes Collected)
- **MACAROUNAS, Themelis (Tim) Arthur** - Grave
- **MALONE, John Hawkes** - Grave
- **McENTEE, John Joseph** - Grave
- **OLIFF, Eric Peter** - Ashes Interred in Niche
- **POSTMA, Mark Ian** - Grave
- **STEVENSON, Reginald Hugh** - Ashes Interred in Niche

The remaining 19 Police recorded on the memorial are interred as follows:

- **BELL, Owen Edwin** Waverley - Grave
- **BREMNER, James** Waverley - Grave
- **HUSH, Joseph John** Waverley - Grave
- **MacDONNELL, James** Waverley - Grave
- **MURROW, Henry Stark** Waverley - Grave
- **SUTHERLAND, David** Waverley - Grave
- **WOLGAST, Frederick William** Waverley - Grave
- **CARMODY, William Matthew Patrick** Randwick - Grave
- **PORTER, Noel Ainsworth McCarthy** Randwick - Grave
- **HEFFERNAN, Dana Therese** Woronora - Grave
- **LORD, William John** Woronora - Grave
- **AHEARN, Victor Donald** Rookwood Anglican - Grave
- **ALLEN, Norman Thomas** Rookwood Anglican - Grave
- **ANDREWS, Ernest** Rookwood Anglican - Grave
- **MURPHY, Duncan Hughie McCallum** Rookwood Anglican - Grave
- **PATCH, Allan Boyd** Tweed Heads - Grave
- **DALEY, Geoffrey Joseph** Sandgate - Grave
- **RIXON, Wayne Allen** Bega - Grave
- **McENALLAY*, Glenn Edward** Tuncurry - Grave

[* incorrectly spelt on memorial]

Since the official opening of the ESMP Local Police Memorial, the following Police interred at ESMP have been added to the NSW Police Honour Roll but are not recorded on the Local Police Memorial:

- **HILL, Morgan James** (Ashes in Grave) – Suicide at Malabar

Additionally, the following NSW Police are also interred at ESMP but are not listed on the Memorial or NSW Police Honour Roll:

- **GRAY, George Herbert** (Grave) – Suicide at Kingsford
- **McGILL, Andrew** (Ashes Scattered) – Collapsed at Alexandria Police Garage
- **REA, Thomas Gordon** (Ashes Niche) – Collapsed at CIB (Vice Squad)
- **BREEN, Jeremiah** (Grave) – Suicide at Coogee Beach
- **SHENNAN, John Thomas** (Grave) – Suicide at Murwillumbah

The four (4) Colonial Police mentioned on the Memorial are buried at ESMP having been reinterred there (Bunnerong Cemetery*) after the reclamation of the Sydney Burial Ground (Devonshire Street Cemetery) in 1901 to extend Central Railway Station. They are:

- **DUNN, Luke** (Grave no longer exists) – Burnt in Bushfire
- **KIRK, Stephen** (Grave no longer exists) – Burnt in Bushfire
- **PROSSER, Peter** (Grave no longer exists) – Beaten to Death
- **CONNELL, John** (Headstone in Pioneer Park) – Beaten to Death

[*Bunnerong Cemetery no longer exists and in 1972 was absorbed into Botany Cemetery and by the end of that decade all the land apart from what is now Pioneer Park had been cleared for reuse as lawn cemetery].

Additionally, it has been determined that the following three (3) colonial police were also reinterred at Bunnerong Cemetery from Sydney Burial Ground:

- **BRYAN, Patrick** (Headstone in Pioneer Park) – Kicked by Horse
- **HAYNES, Joseph** (Grave no longer exists) – Beaten to Death
- **McKENNA, Christopher** (Grave no longer exists) – Drowned.

Research continues and it is not unreasonable to believe that further colonial police who were initially buried at the Sydney Burial Ground will be found to have been reinterred at Bunnerong.

Finally, can I ask all members of the RFPA of NSW to consider devoting some time in the week leading up to Police Remembrance Day each year to visit any police graves and memorials in their local area and if possible, perform a tidy up and advise any maintenance/repairs that might be required to the relevant Command.

I can report that I have already been approached by an officer from Eastern Beaches PAC seeking the location of all graves in that geographical area so they can be prepared for Police Remembrance Day 2023. The first time in the almost 20 years I have been researching police graves for such a request, but hopefully not the last.

Kindest Regards

Ken Medway
garuu56@gmail.com

Editor's Comment – this memorial covers Police Graves from various sites in the Eastern Suburbs Area.

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Roaming the Murray River Region - Invitation to all RFPA 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/MC 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). **continued on page 9**

GOOD OVER EVIL

- By Martha Jabour OAM, Executive Director of HVSG

Reproduced (in part) with kind permission of Simon Bouda AM, editor of the Australian Police Journal

THE BEGINNING

In June 1993, after the brutal murders of their daughters, the parents of **Anita Cobby and Ebony Simpson** were introduced to each other. They immediately recognised the genuine need to set up an organisation that could offer counselling, support and information to families and friends of homicide victims throughout NSW.



Paul Wynne and Garry Heskett who was a lead investigator in the Anita Cobby and Ebony Simpson cases

It was after this meeting that the counselling section at the Institute of Forensic Medicine started to work with family members to introduce the concept.

The result was the formation of the HVSG.

GRACE'S PLACE – THE TIMELINE

The first visit to the proposed Grace's Place site occurred in February 2016 when about 20 HVSG staff, police officers, supporters and local officials travelled out to Doonside, NSW; a suburb of the Blacktown Local Government Area.



Hugh McDermott Member for Prospect, Gary Raymond, Donna Davis, Parramatta Council, Stephen Bali Member for Blacktown

The land allocation resulted from cooperation between various state and local government agencies, Blacktown City Council and Western Sydney Parklands Trust.

It was the starting point in this remarkable journey.

As we reflect on the many marvellous and generous people that have contributed (in any form) to make Grace's Place a reality, there is one person above all others that made this dream come true: **Jeff Sahyoun**. He deserves special recognition and my eternal gratitude goes to **Jeff Sahyoun** and his two companies, **Sirius Consolidated and Jasara Construction**, as his fantastic staff are responsible for the beautiful buildings and surroundings that make up **Grace's Place**.



Grace's Place

THE STARS ALIGN

It was just by chance that Jeff came into my life at precisely the right time. The stars were definitely in alignment, or perhaps it was a 'divine intervention'. Nevertheless, enter **Sandy Benson**, who is another of our superstar volunteers and has been continually helping in various ways on committees and volunteering in support of **Grace's Place**. Most importantly, she also worked for **Jeff Sahyoun**.

One day in the office, **Sandy** recalled to **Jeff** her experience attending a recent, major fundraising function at Blacktown Workers for **Grace's Place**. **Sandy's** partner, former police officer **Paul Wynne** worked on the **Anita Cobby** fundraising raising committee. She shared with **Jeff** the dream that was **Grace's Place** and HVSG. Soon after, I met with **Jeff Sahyoun**.



Sandy Benson Martha Jabour Naomi Baldwin

His generosity was immediate and, at the end of the meeting, **Jeff** made a considerable donation towards the construction of **Grace's Place**. **Jeff** asked what else he could do and when told we needed a builder, **Jeff** put his hand up to take on the job of building **Grace's Place**. It was as quick and as simple as that. He will forever be in our hearts for his generosity and hard work.

Over the past 10 years, one of the most significant fundraising and awareness campaigns has been the annual Ride For Justice, organised by **Simon Bouda AM**. It brings together people within the emergency services, police and ambulance officers, firefighters, doctors, nurses, members of the judiciary, family members and friends of homicide victims to go on an epic ride that **Simon** plans to raise awareness of the plight of homicide victims.

There have been so many other generous supporters, including community groups and their continual fund-raising projects. There are too many to name, but we find that when people give without any expectation then they should be named. Fundraising events and other similar functions have continually been held with great success as well. With further generous support, we have been running a second-hand shop in Parramatta named **New Leaf** which is really starting to gain traction and is proving a good source of income towards **Grace's Place**.

THE OPENING

Simon Bouda AM, Ambassador for **Grace's Place**, was the MC for the Opening Ceremony on 2 February 2023. The dream was now a reality.



Simon Bouda AM, Graces Place Ambassador & MC

Grace's Place was declared open by Her Excellency **Margaret Beazley, AC, KC**, NSW Governor who participated in the cutting of the ribbon. The event as attended by 800+ persons including The Police Commissioner, **Karen Webb APM**, members of all political persuasions, (Federal, State and Local) and other dignitaries.



Ribbon Cutting The Governor of NSW Margaret Beasley AC KC and Jeff Sahyoun



Part of the 800 attendees



Paul Wynne, Supt. Dave Waddell, Karen Webb AM

Other organisations support family members of homicide throughout Australia, especially the **Queensland Homicide Victims' Support Group** and the **South Australian Homicide Victims' Support Group**.



Nick Pavlov and Naomi Baldwin



Supt. Dave Waddell, Peter Simpson & Paul Wynne

All children affected by homicide, no matter where they live in Australia (or the world for that matter), would be most welcome to come and take advantage of this beautiful facility and the magic I know it will create. All the services of the HVSG are there and, at no cost to family members.



Neil Purvis and Gary Raymond

The promise that Chief Inspector **Gary Raymond APM** made to **Garry Lynch, Anita Cobby's father**, has been fulfilled – **something good would come out of the evil of her murder.**



Colleen Purvis and Fred Camage



John Laycock, Jayne & Danny Doherty



George Weissel & Paul Wynne

Editor's Note - much of this story is taken from the original article by Martha Jabour written by Simon Bouda, for the Australian Police Journal with permission.



LAKE HUME DISCOVERY CABIN AND CARAVAN PARK.

You can review the variety of accommodation on the website below and telephone them for information about the availability and what might be suitable to you on (02) 6049 8100.

HOWEVER YOU MUST EMAIL, CALL OR SMS YOUR FINAL DATES AND ACCOMMODATION CHOICE TO BETH DOCKSEY, SECRETARY MR RFPA ON 0412 661 738 or murrayriverrfpa@gmail.com who will contact the Lake Hume Discovery Park, book and then provide payment details which will be available via credit/debit card and bank transfer. (their rules not ours!)

www.discoveryholidayparks.com.au/caravan-parks/new-south-wales/albury-wodonga-lake-hume-new-south-wales

LAKE HUME RESORT HOTEL & CABINS

If you want to stay at the Lake Hume Resort Hotel in a motel room or one of their cabins, please review the accommodation on the website and/or dial the below number for a booking.

Accommodation: (02) 6026 4444 www.lakehumeresort.com.au/
Above details and link will also be available on the RFPA .Website, <https://www.retiredpolice.com.au>

GET ORGANISED EARLY AND GET YOUR BOOKINGS MADE FOR THIS LOVELY AREA AND ORIGINAL WEEK AWAY. WE LOOK FORWARD TO GREETING YOU AND ENJOYING TIME TOGETHER.



HEART 2 HEART WALK INTRODUCED BY EMERGE & SEE.

Recently at the State RFPA Committee Meeting we had two former NSW Police Officers, **Alana Singleton and Pia Schindler** make a presentation to the committee. Re the **Emerge & See Programme**.



Emerge & See was founded in 2021 by these two medically retired NSW Police Officers, with lived experience. Their charity assists NSW & ACT emergency service workers (their members) with PTSD and their families. "We walk with you through the journey to heal the past and help you to... 'Emerge & See' a better future."

As part of their presentation they provided detail about the Heart 2 Heart Walk which **Pia and Alana** are on the planning committee. It is a long distance walk to raise awareness around First Responder Mental Health and Wellbeing including Suicide, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Premature Mortality. This walk was being launched at Parliament House the following week and an invitation was extended for representatives of the RFPA to attend.

The NSW Committee of Management of the RFPA determined that a liaison officer was needed to work with Emerge & See and **Beth Docksey** was selected by the Committee for that role. As a result Beth attended the launch of the Heart 2 Heart Walk at Parliament House in Canberra on 14 February 2023.

The launch was organised and supported by **Senator David Pocock** and the Heart 2 Heart committee with **Attorney General Hon Mark Dreyfus KC MP** addressing the launch event. Key note speakers, **Nicole Sadler AM CSC** Phoenix Australia, Retired Admiral from the Australian Defence Forces **Chris Barrie AC** Fearless PTSDNZ, **Senator Anne Urquhart** Federal Parliament, former NSW Police Officer **Allan Sparkes CV, OAM, VA, FRSN** all addressing the importance of the issue of mental health and the need to implement actions to address these issues. In attendance also were **Senator Jacqui Lambie, Dr Helen Haines MP**, representatives of numerous mental health support organisations & sponsors, Black Dog Institute, Lifeline, Beyond Blue, Phoenix, & Police Bank to name a few. NSW Police were represented by Assistant Commissioner Dean Smith, Capability Command, & **Superintendent John Klepczarek**, Queanbeyan District Commander in addition to many other retired and former police officers.

Heart 2 Heart organisers, a group of former and current serving Australian first responders, have and will continue to be working to raise awareness around first responder mental health and wellbeing, as well as working with these government officials, particularly with Senator David Pocock to have the 2019 Australian Senate Inquiry into First Responder Suicide, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Premature Mortality Report with its 14 recommendations to be actioned.

The Heart 2 Heart walk will cover almost 3,000km commencing on the 1st July 2023 from Lambert Centre, near Finke NT (Heart of the Country) to Australian Parliament House, Canberra (Heart of Nation) via the National Emergency Services and Nation Police Memorials, on 28th September 2023, a day prior to National Police Remembrance Day. They will be walking through 39 townships with a total population of just over 433,000 people. Along the way they have numerous first responders support and community engagement events planned on the journey to champion their objectives and to raise awareness around the impacts of First Responder mental health and wellbeing of serving and retired (Veteran) First Responders and their families.

Heart 2 Heart Walk organisers invite the RFPA and its members to show their support by walking with them for part of the way to spread their message, but in particular they would love us to walk the final leg with them along Lake Burley Griffin via the Remembrance Memorials to Australian Parliament House on 28th September 2023.

Full details of this organisation and the walk can be found on the website.

www.Heart2Heartwalk.org



Allan Sparkes CV, OAM, VA, FRSN, Beth Docksey APM, & Senator David Pocock



Vince Pannell, Alana Singleton, Paul Milne, Jacqui Lambie, Pia Schindler



Allan Sparkes, Vince Pannell & Paul Milne.

BRANCH REPORTS

BRISBANE AND NORTHERN SUBURBS

For the benefit of members and partners please note the details below so that you can easily access them by simply clicking on the link

Link for Brisbane and Northern Suburbs Branch is

<https://www.retiredpolice.com.au/brisbane-northern-suburbs/>

Link for the State Retired & Former Police Website

<http://www.retiredpolice.com.au/>

We conduct monthly meetings at Norths Leagues Club, Kallangur. Meetings are on the first Saturday of each month. The doors and coffee shop open at 9.30am.



We now meet in the Ivy Room which has provided a more suitable meeting place, especially for guest presentations. The Ivy Room with ad-hoc seating. Special guest was **Mark Hickson**, 91yo former OIC Superintendent, Dubbo District.

Secretary presented with painting by artist Penny Strik



Our February social outing saw us return to the delightful Woodford township. Located near the end of Peterson Road away from the madding crowds. The restaurant sits in a garden setting next to the old narrow-gauge train line. Twenty-two members and friends journeyed to this gem in the west.



In March we are off to The Mill Restaurant, Caboolture Sports Club thanks to **Gerald and Marilyn** for organising this function

Kerry Beggs

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

Not sure about the rest of you all, but I've certainly had a busy few months, with my attendance at former close mate **Det/Chief Inspector Russell Oxford** send-off at Rooty Hill, and also **Sen/Const Bill Dowd** from Coffs Harbour Police held at the CEX Club. The passing of two of our former local Police Officers namely **Bob Fellows** and **Tom Damaschke**, as well as **Gloria 'Judy' Mercer** may they all RIP (More Later), RPPA Day (No appearance Your Worship) National Police Remembrance Day, National Police Wall-Wall Motorcycle ride for remembering mates who died in the execution of their duty, my youngest sons baby shower, suffering the loss of the Parramatta EELS in the 2022 GF against "Penriff" the handover of our wonderful raffle prize being the original painting of the 'Nasturtiums' by member **George Williams's** artist wife **Jan**, and not forgetting the passing of our **Majesty Queen Elizabeth II**. More reports to follow in my Newsletter.

SEND OFF FOR Det.Chief/Insp Russel OXFORD



During May, I had the honour of being personally invited to **Russell Oxford's** send off at Rooty Hill. A Lot of you would remember **Russell**, who's a close mate of mine, and who I invited to our Coffs RPPA Christmas luncheon as my Guest Speaker in 2018, with his wife **Heather** (May she RIP).

He spoke on the investigation, arrest/charging and subsequent imprisonment of **Roger Rogerson** and **Glen McNamara** for the murder of **Jamie Gao**. His send off was an outstanding night with up to 250 guests in attendance for one of the true greats in the history of NSW Policing and Criminal investigation. His career spanned 40 x years with about 25 x years as a Homicide Investigator.

Further information has also been received that **Kevin/Anne GOLDMAN** have moved into a Retirement Village in the township of Largs near Maitland some 300kms from Coffs Harbour. They have family in that area. Being active and frequent long attendees to our meetings and social functions we will surely miss them both. Their new address

I spoke with **John SONTER** recently. **John** kindly wrote me a letter with a donation to our RPPA Branch. He cannot make it to any meetings or social functions due to his fulltime Carer Role with his wife **Ollie**, who has been suffering 6 x years with dementia.

On Tuesday/18th October, the following members gathered at the Jetty Foreshores for a sausage sizzle, laughs, and frivolity.



Garry/Suzanne Heskett and Liam, Hedley/Barbara Gleave, Tony/Sheila Brown, Murray/Judy Smith, Peter Chilton, John Reid, Natalie Salter, Sue Standen, Bob Jones, Tony Lawler, Sandy Fellows, Glen Lang with apologies from Ian & Sue Hodges, Barry Walker, Heather Moore and Ruth Boyd.



I had the wonderful pleasure and honour to present our wonderful **Barbara GLEAVE** Assistant Treasurer extraordinaire the wife of **Hedley** the award of the OBE. She is a very active lady and does not look a day over 70...

was proud to welcome a new member who showed up for the BBQ. Her name is **Natalie SALTER**. Former Detective Sen/Sgt. Now retired. She worked with some of my old comrades. It was a great catch-up over coffee and talk about our days in the job.

Hope this report finds you well and in good spirits

Garry Heskett

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

We've had plenty happening in the Hunter in past months. Meetings and events have covered a wide area, with Club Macquarie at Argenton, Club Charlestown, Ozzie the Mozzie at Hexham, Cookabarra at Bobs Farm and a visit to the new Cessnock Gaol, Shortland High Security Unit at the invitation of Member Tony HONOR'S son, Nick.

The lovely **Mary SCAYSBROOK** finally received her Veteran Certificate from Sydney VIP visitor **John 'JAG' GILBERT**, who occasionally makes the long journey for the good company we offer. **Jim POWER** travelled all the way from his new HQ at Berry Park to receive his OBE on the same day. Club Macquarie provided their usual great cuisine and tranquil setting overlooking Cockle Creek. We'll be back, and probably for Xmas Lunch after the great spread this time around. Although the red eyes have been turned off on Ozzie (someone complained a few years ago that their child was frightened by them) he's still a spectacular 'Hexham Grey', and undoubtedly the biggest mosquito ever: He stands guard over Hexham Bowling Club, and is a landmark in the area. Great food was had by all there, and the talent scout (**Di HUTCHESON** in this instance) came up with an ideal venue. Even ideal is not 'best'. **Nick ARENA** agreed to open his (closed Tuesdays) Cookabarra establishment at Bobs Farm for our 14 Feb meeting. As suggested by the name, Cookabarra is the home of Barramundi, farmed on the property, which gave rise to Nick's 'Farmer of the Year' award. Farming of fish and vegetables in great balance with nature gives you the feeling that Nick's award was well deserved. Amongst our guests on the day were **Ian ALLWOOD**, acting President of the PANSW (a local resident and wise to the value available here) **Col and Clyne BRIDGEMAN**, **Mark VAUGHAN**, **Glen JENKINS**, **Bob and Betty KOPPMAN** and more than 30 other regulars at local social events and formal meetings, were there. A tentative acceptance had been conveyed to us by **Esmā KANE** from **Tom LUPTON APM**, but unfortunately Tom passed away a couple of days before we met at Cookabarra.

There was a suitable tribute to the great man at our meeting. **Bob GRAY** and **Lee RANKIN** performed the honours for the day as the Chair was at the official opening of Grace's Place at Doonside. Google www.gracesplace.org.au what a magnificent facility, and several of our prominent RFFA Members (**Paul WYNNE**, **Sandy BENSON**, **Deb WALLACE**, **Naomi BALDWIN** and **Gary RAYMOND**) were members of the original building committee for the entire building project. It's a world-leading facility and a great tribute to **Anita COBBY** and her mother **Grace**.



Coleen SHAW, **Mary SCAYSBROOK**, **Pauline KAYLEE** and **Stanley SMITH** with **Brian CARR** in the distance. In the background **Sue DALEY** and her guest **Sandy**, **Ian SAVAGE** and wife **Jeanette**



John WILLSON with three Pacific Dunes men, **John HURLEY**, **Glen JENKINS** and **Mark VAUGHAN** at the Bobs Farm feast



Bob GRAY and **Lee RANKIN**, our Hunter workers for the day, with **Ian ALLWOOD**, acting President of the PANSW, our official guest

...and on another sad note, we lost another great man in **Phil LLOYD**, who passed away early in December. Many a police officer owes **Phil** a debt, due to his ability to guide any kind of brief past the winning post. Salut, Pont and Bonnefin, and Sebulan Wat -v- The State. Lukim yu wantok. **Ann and Ben**, our hearts are with you.

For those who might travel our way, check out the webpage at retiredpolice.com.au to see where we are, and join us on the second Tuesday of every month, somewhere around the Hunter.

Ian LOVELL APM

ILLAWARRA

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

KIAMA

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

MACARTHUR

The February Meeting of the Macarthur RFPFA was held at the West Leagues Club, attending were

Allen Godfrey, Peter Gillam, Bob Barnett, Darrin Wilson, John Carroll, Gary & Judy Trick, Mark Doubleday, Les Green, Dennis Smith, Geoff McNevin, Mick Timms, Sonia Roberts, Robert Lawlor, Allan Moule, Tony Lamb, Joe Stanioch, Rob Thomsett, Peter Edwards, Steve Reeves, Ron Reuben, Jim & Karyn Johnson, Roger & Lorraine Ford & Gerald Kenneally (Sponsor)

Apologies from **Julie Turton, Steve Brent, Peter Barragry, Alan Randall, Shane Howard, Bob Hynes, Richard Cordwell, Wendy Walsh & Paul McDonald** were received.

This was our first meeting for 2023 and as a result augurs well for a very successful year.

Steve Reeves gave an up to date synopsis of our Charity Golf Day on 1/06/2023 with all golfing teams now finalised and sponsorship for the day progressing well. **Steve** also gave our Welfare Report with the good news that all outstanding matters have now been finalised and no further action is required.

David Hogan from Marsdens Law Group (Sponsors) was our Guest Speaker and did a presentation on the problems and pitfalls to Wills, Guardianship and Power of Attorney that made us all aware of our legal obligations in regard to these issues.

After the meeting the social aspect of the group continued with the greater majority staying for lunch.

Roger Ford

MANNING GREAT LAKES



At our Feb meeting we were visited by State President Paul Wynne, State Secretary Ian Lovell and sub editor Sandy Benson for the meeting and lunch afterwards.

Cheers

Terry Tamplin
Secretary.

MID NORTH COAST

We met in early November at the Port City Bowling Club. Those in attendance were **Paul Griffin, Sid Crane, Paul Egge, Brian Banks, Jennett Hunt, Laurie & Marcia McGrath, George McCleery, Jim & Sandra Cranna, Betty Hartnett & Peter Wilms, Bob Bruce, Garry Jennings, Bob Hanlon, Bruce Saunders, Ian Campbell and Bob Parry.** Apologies were received from **Val Ivlev, Al Lukes, Graham & Irene Williams, Matt Reeves and Marlene Brown** (who was holidaying in Bali)



Our Guest speaker for the day was **Barbara Smith** who was accompanied by her husband **Laurie**. Both were volunteers at the 2000 Olympics in Sydney and since that time they have attended every Olympic Games and worked in a volunteer capacity. **Barbara** gave us a very interesting insight into life as a volunteer and some of the trials and tribulations she and **Laurie** have encountered.

Micky Foster & Laurie McGrath at one of our BBQ outings

Laurie, who went to Mexico City in 1968 and has been to every Games since, wrote a book titled "**Living is Giving**" following the **Sydney Olympics** and it sums up the volunteering experiences of many who contributed to the outstanding success of the Games here. He was kind enough to give everyone present a copy of his book. A very entertaining talk and we thank both **Barbara and Laurie** for giving us their time.



Keith Rule, Val Ivlev and Bruce Saunders at Xmas luncheon

December saw our members at the Wauchope RSL again for our Christmas luncheon. Always a great day and this year proved to be no exception. Despite a few late withdrawals because of Covid, medical appointments and other extraneous issues a good number of members enjoyed an excellent lunch, some fine table wine and a huge assortment of lucky door prizes.

Everyone received a prize and some lucky people two !! Thanks go to **Jennett Hunt** who does a great job getting all the prizes together and **Marlene Brown** who must cook for days getting the Christmas cakes, puddings and other goodies ready for the day. President **Al Lukes** wished all present a very happy festive season and thanked them all for their support of the Branch throughout the year. **Jim & Sandra Cranna** were sorry to miss the luncheon this year as they were celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary with a cruise over to New Zealand. All things considered things look very positive for our Branch as we move toward 2023.

Our first meeting for 2023 was in February was well attended and those present **Paul Griffin, Val Ivlev, Ian Campbell, Bruce Saunders, Jennett Hunt, Jim Cranna, Graham & Irene Williams, Jeff & Margaret Elliott, Marlene Brown, Al Lukes, Laurie & Marcia McGrath, Bob Bruce, Paul Egge, Sid Crane, Garry Jennings, Bob Hanlon, Matt Reeves, Brian Banks and Ron & Margaret Hammersley.** Apologies were received from **George McCleery, Ron Nunn, Keith Rule, Betty Hartnett & Wayne Evans.**



Sandra Cranna, Kerry Bolsover and Sid Crane at a very cold Lake Cathie BBQ.

After enjoying a coffee together before the meeting we then enjoyed a talk from the recently **appointed Community Safety Officer for the Mid North Coast Command, Senior Constable Tim Preston.**



Members Jeff Elliott, Graham & Irene Williams, Marlene Brown & Jennett Hunt enjoying a coffee pre-meeting

Tim gave us an update on what's happening crime-wise around our area. He highlighted the fact that Police are constantly targeting recidivist offenders and once they are taken out of play there is always a significant drop in the crime rate. **Tim** was unable to shed any light on the proposed location of the new Police Station that was approved and supposedly funded a couple of years ago but my comment is that, with the State elections in February and the potential for a new Government, I wouldn't hold my breath waiting for an announcement. Time will tell.

A shout out to **George McCleery** who had a knee replacement just prior to Christmas and is slowly coming good, **Mickey Foster** who fell and damaged her shoulder late last year. **Micky** is getting better albeit slowly. **Ron Nunn** is doing well following his knee replacement. Long-time member **Bryan Longhurst** turns 90 in February and all members wish him a very happy birthday and a return to good health.

Until next issue stay safe and well.

Jim Cranna

MURRAY RIVER

Veteran Certificate Presentation (OBE)

On Friday 3rd February 2023 over 30 members of Murray River RFPA gathered at 2640 Cafe, Albury for the presentation of Veteran Certificates to three of our members **Don Hamilton, Henry Honeysett, and Bill Sutton.**

The certificates were presented by our Chair **Ken (Ziggy) Zegiel.** **Zan Morley** our treasurer also received her Veteran Certificate however was unable to attend. **Zan** was presented with her certificate on Christmas Eve at home. So four new OBE's presented for this year. All of their partners were in attendance to cheer them on with the rest of our police family. Sadly **Zan** passed away a short time later however she was above to enjoy being presented with her certificate.



Zan Morley



Bill Sutton, Don Hamilton, & Henry Honeysett

Congratulations Terry MacGregor on your Community Achievement Award.

Murray River RFPA Member Sergeant **Terry MacGregor** (Ret'd) on 25 January 2023 attended the SnowyValleys Council Citizen of the Year Awards at Batlow and was surprised and excited to be awarded a Community Achievement Award.

Terry is very active in the Tumbarumba Community where he lives and where he also policed for many years leading the team there. The award in brief is for past Policing achievements, **Sgt Maginnity Memorial** & grave restoration, **Mens Shed** & other Community involvement.

Members of our branch have experienced **Terry's** branch and community involvement when a number of our RFPA members went and stayed at Tumba and **Terry** met us for lunch at the Courabyra Winery & Restaurant and toured us around the **Sgt Maginnity Memorial** & Grave site as well as a bit of a tour of Tumba itself. (**Sgt Maginnity** in pursuit of bushrangers at the memorial location, was murdered by bush ranger **Mad Dog Morgan** in 1864.) Again Congratulations **Terry** you are a champion.



Terry MacGregor

We have many social occasions and in November we visited King Valley where we tasted wine at Pizzini's and food at their Mountain View Hotel in Whitfield. We all toddled off about 3pm after having another great day out with our Murray River Retired & Former Police family and friends.

In November we also had a trip to **Anthony's Crepes Wodonga**

Christmas lunch on 18th December 2022 was a big gathering with near 50 people attending the Glasshouse Tavern at Springdale Heights. We had a wonderful attendance of near on 50 people coming from far and wide. **Roey** was down from the Blue Mountains, **Roland and Christine** from Wagga, **Warren Mitchell** in from Woomargama and **Bill & Margaret Sutton** have returned from 6 months up in Queensland.

We also had our Albury Children's Hospital toy collection where gifts were donated from our members and delivered by the Chair **Ken Zegiel** with his taxi truck to the Albury Police Station. The kids love it. A great day for a great cause.



Paula & Ken Zegiel, (Chair) Graeme (Committee Member) & Louise Stephens & David Phillips

In January we had a dinner with our Murray River RFPA Members who live in Melbourne at the Crane Restaurant, It was non-stop chatter the whole time as it had been a while since our last catchup. We finally picked a night where **Wayne Rossetto** and partner **Megan Dell** were available to attend our dinner

Weekend at Euroa, Victoria

On 21st & 22nd January 2023, we took a trip to Euroa in Victoria including an overnight stay. We started off at the Seven Creeks Hotel which is such a lovely classic hotel. The food was lovely and everyone enjoyed our lunch there. We had **Graeme & Katie Morris** come down from Benalla to join us for lunch.



The big statue of Ned. L to R Roland Kubank, Graeme Stephens, Louise Stephens, Peter McLaren, Christine McEwan, Beth & Graham Docksey, Elisabeth McLaren.

After lunch most of the crew staying overnight went to the Victoria Cross Memorial Park at Euroa to view the statues of three local men who were awarded VC's, **Corporal Alexander Burton VC, Lieutenant Colonel Leslie Magyar VC and Major Fredrick Tubb VC** all participants in WWI. Very interesting story boards about all of them and their lives. That evening off we went to Northern Republic Restaurant situated in an old flour mill with a classic facade, which made lovely wood fired pizzas and a few odds share plate selections.

Beth Docksey

NEW ENGLAND

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

NORTHERN BEACHES

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

NORTHERN RIVERS

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

NORTHERN SUBURBS (formerly Hornsby)

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

PARRAMATTA -THE HILLS

At our February meeting we had 25 attendees viz: - **Eric Etienne, Neil & Colleen Purvis, Paul Wynne, Sandy Benson, Steve Bensley, John & Susan Wakefield, Ian & Barbara Lindsay, Lester & Anita Robey, Brian Haim, Barbara Maher, Gary Raymond, Annette Willett, Richard Thomas, Joe & Jenny Turner, Bill Shute, Vickie Macrae, Michael Mott, Fred & Anne Camage, Kent Vild.**

Apologies from Mike Neilsen, **Chinn Gounder, Shri Ram, Robyn & John McInerney, Sheila Jackson, Phil Hickman, Greg Swindels, Robert & Robyn Oswald, John Fletcher, Greg Hyde, Ian King, Phil Martin, Maurie Whitton, Mal Brown, Robert Redfern, John & Lee Hall, Michael Berwick, John Laycock, Chris Sweic, Ivan & Joan Hamilton, Russell Oxford, Angus McDonald, Bill Chaffey, David Livingstone, Irene Moore, Neville Greatorex, Lloyd Taylor, Sheila Jackson. David Hain, Ray McConnell, Nick Pavlov, Naomi Baldwin, Trevor & Betty Francis, Paul Vella, Peter Rackley.**

2023 was the 45th Anniversary of the Hilton Hotel Bombing in George Street Sydney

As the President of the RFPA I attended the ceremony together with branch members,

Gary Raymond and John Wakefield. Rod Withers who was injured in the blast and pulled

Terry Griffiths (our member who has since passed away) from the carnage, was in attendance.

On 7th February **Ian Lovell** and I had a meeting with the **Police Commissioner Karen Webb, APM** who was very interested in our proposals. She was shown the **Disengagement Package** to be handed to members who retire or resign from the Police Force and she agreed to have the package scrutinised before handing them out. She also mentioned how impressed she was with **Grace's Place** and the involvement of the members of this Branch in the establishment of such a worthy project. The **Ride for Justice** recommenced this year after COVID and after the ride the Bike Riders returned to Grace's Place for a BBQ and Refreshments. Thanks to **Gary, Neil and Lester** for their assistance.

On the 23 February 2023 we held our Welcome Back BBQ at Blacktown Precinct Richmond Road commencing at 10.30am. We had a rainy day (don't believe the Weather Bureau predictions all the time) Raffles, Cakes, Bacon & Egg BBQ.

Next Thursday there was a coffee crunch at the West Tigers Leagues Club which some of our members attended.

WELFARE

We now have 3 Welfare Officers on duty in this branch. Great Work

Gary Raymond reported –

Bob Oswald in doing it tough at the moment as are the **John and Lee Hall. John McInerney** is currently in the Sands Hospital and his wife **Robyn** is suffering from Carpel Tunnel and is also finding it very difficult to walk. **Faye Ambrose's** husband **Bob** recently passed away with cancer.

Lester Robey: 12 phone calls to members and **Lester** visited **Maurie Whitton** to check on his welfare.

Neil Purvis: ongoing welfare assistance visits to **John Hall.** John has had a number of falls recently.

GUEST SPEAKER

This month's Guest Speaker was **Bill Shute**, who retired 43 years ago through injuries he received on the job. **Bill** joined the Police Force on the 27 February 1961 and recounted a number of incidents through his short career. He served at Paddington, on the Vice Squad for a short time and then Burwood and at Blacktown until 1966 when he was transferred to Richmond Police Station.



Bill Shute and Paul Wynne

On 14th June, 1967, at North Richmond, **Constable 1st Class William Andrew Shute**, whilst seated in a Departmental motor car, was confronted by a man whom he had followed. The man held a loaded sawn-off rifle at the Constable's head. Whilst this was happening the Constable endeavoured to draw his pistol. The man directed the Constable to surrender his pistol. The Constable refused and removed the ignition keys from the Police car. He then alighted from the car and when he did so the man shot him on a number of occasions in the leg. **William Shute** was awarded the Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct (Imperial) – granted 6 December 1968 – apprehended an armed offender (Cst 1/c). As a result of his injuries **Bill Shute** retired (H. O. D) **Bill** notes that he has been "out of the job" almost twice as long as he was "in the job".

Editor's note – there is one who made good use of the pre '88 pension.

A well attended March meeting comprised of 38 attendees viz:- **Eric Etienne, Neil Purvis, Paul Wynne, Sandy Benson, Steve Bensley, John & Susan Wakefield, Ian & Barbara Lindsay, Lester & Anita Robey, Brian Haim, Barbara Maher, Gary Raymond, Annette Willett, Richard Thomas, Bill Shute, Fred & Anne Camage, Kent Vild. Maurie Whitton, John Laycock, David Livingstone, Lloyd Taylor, Sheila Jackson, David Hain, Nick Pavlov, Naomi Baldwin, David Hain, John & Susan Wakefield, Graham Stone, Michael Berwick, Ian & Barbara Lindsay, Ivan Hamilton, Elaine Bennett, Sheila Jackson.**

With apologies from – **Colleen Purvis, 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, Chris Sweic, Ivan & Joan Hamilton, Russell Oxford, Angus McDonald, Bill Chaffey, Irene Moore, Neville Greatorex, Ray McConnell, Trevor & Betty Francis, Paul Vella, Peter Rackley.**

The Chairman advised that our Welcome Back BBQ was well attended despite the inclement weather; thanks to those who cooked the Bacon & Eggs and to the ladies for providing the cakes for sale. All in all a successful morning.

Gary Raymond was nominated and accepted the role of Chaplain at the recent NSW Committee of RFPA NSW

On the social scene, the welcome back BBQ was a success despite the weather:



I never win anything - Mick Berwick

Our annual Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea BBQ will be held in May and several other events are in the planning stage including some weekend activities.



OBE for Darryl Maher

Guest Speaker

Our Guest Speaker was **Detective Chief Inspector Jason SMITH** of the Cyber Crime Unit.

Det. Chief Insp. Jason Smith joined the NSW Police Service in 1989 and has been an operational Police Officer for almost 34 years. He worked in a range of Local Areas, Major Crime and Specialist Commands, such as Robbery, Middle Eastern Organised Crime, Drugs and Firearms and Financial Crime. He is currently the Investigations Coordinator at the State Crime Command Cybercrime Squad.

Formed in 2018 the Fraud Cyber Squad concentrated on Online Covert engagement of cyber Crime which has no boundaries anywhere in the world. On line Scams are on the increase especially on the 'DARK WEB' He also touched on the subject of Cryptocurrency which has grown over the years and which is very hard to trace once it is in the hands of the criminals.

A very interesting look at today's top fraud crime.

Eric Etienne
Branch secretary

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

Doreen Goddard

PENRITH BLUE MOUNTAINS

At the February meeting we had the following attendance

Terry Bancroft, John Pollock, Lilian Soane, Ron Johnston, Lesley Schwetz, Dick Hurst, Therese Hurst, David Cole, Louise Cole, Carol Priestley, Bob Priestley, Keith Thoms, Col Colman, Jenny Colman, Jim Prendergast, Cath Berry, Ian Berry, Barry Brackenridge, Peter Kirk, Ray Filewood.

We also welcomed the following Visitors **Cathy BERRY, Lilian SOANE, Therese HURST, Carol PRIESTLEY, Dave and Louise COLE and had apologies from Pat BANCROFT, Chris BENDELL, Guy SMITH, Tony MALONE, Paul KELLY, Geoff McALISTER, Bev POLLOCK, Barry BRAZZILL.**

It was raised that welfare and support needs to be stepped up. The RPPA needs to be supportive of our members but not provide counselling services as we are not qualified. Morning coffee/tea is one of the ways our Branch provides support. We are all welfare officers and look out for our fellow members.

The Penrith morning Coffee/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, Wolesely Road, Regentville. Off Mulgoa Rd (Bunnings Store is in the same complex and next to Harvey Norman Lighting store).

The Springwood morning Coffee/Tea will be at 10-10.30am on the third Wednesday of the month at 'Just Cakes' Whitecross Shopping Village, Hawkesbury Road, Winmalee for February 2023 only, then the venue will be changed to The

Springwood Bowling Club, McQuarie 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
May 2023	3/5	17/5	22/5
June 2023	7/6	21/6	26/6
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

The morning coffee/tea venues are purely social REKINDLE old friends and colleagues and bring along a friend.

THIS NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION FOR IT TO WORK, SO PLEASE PUT YOUR INPUT FORWARD AND COME ALONG FOR THE RIDE.

SUPPORT YOUR BRANCH

Ian Berry
ianberry49@optusnet.com.au
Ph. 02 4732 1258

RIVERINA

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

SOUTH COAST

Christmas Luncheon

On 17 December 2022 RFPA South Coast Branch members had a great time of friendship, fellowship, comradeship, fun, frivolity and food in 'air conditioned comfort' at their Christmas Luncheon at "Twin Creeks", Nowra Hill.

In attendance were;

Bob & Gail Williamson, Bob & Marie Groenestein, Dave & Jenny Dawson, Graham & Jill Lower, Mick Rigg, Noel & Gayle Flanders, Garry & Pauline Donnelly, Tom & Helen Turner, Dusty Jones, John Crockett and guest Joe Fenech.

First Meeting for 2023

The RFPA South Coast Branch held their first meeting for 2023 at the Ex-Servos Club, Nowra on Thursday 16 February 2023 and in attendance were

Bob & Gail Williamson, Tom & Helen Turner, Dusty Jones & 'Monty', Mick Rigg, Garry & Pauline Donnelly, Noel Flanders, John & Claire Crockett.

Apologies were received from;

Dave & Jenny Dawson, Paul & Rhonda Rutledge, Bob & Marie Groenestein, Gayle Flanders, Judy Rigg, Graham & Jill Lower, Garry Nowlan, John Rudd, Mark Kielly, Wayne & Kim Adams, Joe Fenech, Alan & Lucielle Harding.

'Diary Dates for 2023' for RFPA South Coast Branch Meetings and Luncheons has been posted on the RFPA Website and noted that ALL RFPA members from any branch are more than welcome to attend South Coast Branch activities if they are on the 'South Coast' on those dates.

Meeting at the Ex-Servos, Nowra 1030 hrs for 1100 hrs start in the 'Heritage Room' followed by lunch

Bi - Monthly Meetings at the Heritiage Room Nowra Ex Servos 10.30am for an 11am start.

20 April
15 June – AGM
17 August
19 October

Social Luncheons

16 March - Sussex Inlet RSL - 1130 hrs.
18 May - Ulladulla Ex-Servos - 1130 hrs.
20 July - Batemans Bay Soldiers Club - 1130 hrs.
16 November - Tathra Bowling Club - 1130 hrs.
21 December - Christmas Party - Venue TBA
Retired Police Day - 7 Sept – Details TBA
Police Remembrance Day - 29 Sept – Details TBA

John Crockett

SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

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

SOUTHERN TABLELANDS

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

SYDNEY

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

WATER POLICE SUB BRANCH

On the 23rd February, 2023, we held our first meeting of the year at Club York, which was well attended and we look forward to our next on the 18th May, 2023.

Apologies: **Allan Morris, Bill Harley, David Upston, Mal Jeffs, Ross Cramp, Terry Fitzgerald, Garth Tilley, Brett Hood, John Cox, Gordon Williams, Terry Ervin, Len Ware, Jeff Gilchrist, Don Stewart, Greg Aldred, Gary Hodsdon and Clint Colyer.**



Attendees:- **David Buckley, Frank Mahony, Hilton Penfold, Brian Friend, Neil McCarty, Allan Ring, Larry Malone, David Ritchie, Martin Kelly, David Buchanan, Stan Watson, Mick Poole, Vic Rulewski, Grant Thompson, Bruce Vickers and Tom Bradley.**

David Buckley
Secretary

WIDE BAY

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

THE WAY WE WERE



Anyone know her name



Computerisation - and the Operator is?



Cyclone Tracy 1974



Photo courtesy of Liverpool

Liverpool cyclists



PATROL COMMANDERS COURSE N° 408 FEBRUARY 1990
BACK ROW
 C/Inspector Ian Cleary, C/Inspector Allan Doyle, S/Sergeant Ron Storr, Inspector Jim Hamstead, S/Sergeant Allan Crumpton, Inspector John Bishop, Inspector Paul Laster.
FRONT ROW
 Inspector Mick Morton, Inspector Mike Stephens, Inspector Doug Graham, Inspector Ron Humphrey, Inspector Peter Dawson, Inspector Ashol Price.

Patrol Commander's Course 1990



Stewart Lockrey's Five Dock farewell at Five Dock RSL. Stewart's father Keith is far left.

NOTICEBOARD

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

Monday 23rd to Sunday 29th October 2023 Inclusive.

HOWEVER YOU MUST EMAIL, CALL OR SMS YOUR FINAL DATES AND ACCOMMODATION CHOICE TO **BETH DOCKSEY**, SECRETARY MR RFPA ON 0412 661 738 or murrayriverfpa@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!)

RFPA BRANDED ITEMS

Mens RFPA Ties	The State Secretary	\$25.00 inc p&p
Ladies Scarves (no logo)	The State Secretary	\$25.00 inc p&p
RFPA Pocket Badge	The State Secretary	\$9.00 inc p&p
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.

UPCOMING REUNIONS

BI-ANNUAL NSW MOUNTED POLICE REUNION

When: Sat 29/4/23 12 midday

Where: Conference Room of the Coffs Harbour Surf Club, Coffs Harbour at for all serving and former Mounted Police and their wives or partners.

Time: 3pm till knock off.

9am following day - BBQ breakfast Sunday Morning Forster Pool Main Beach

Cost: \$50.00 per head including Sausage Sizzle at Park Beach Caravan Park.

Other (Other functions are optional and at your own expense.)

Events: **Fri 28/4/23** (approx. 5pm) - Informal gathering at Park Beach Bowling Club for drinks and dinner.

Saturday 29 Apr. (4pm onwards) – Sausage Sizzle and drinks (BYO) at the Camp Kitchen Park Beach Caravan Park, Park Beach Coffs Harbour.

Sunday 30 Apr. (8am onwards) – Breakfast at Coffs Harbour Surf Club.

RSVP Saturday 15 Apr 2023

Contact: **Murray Smith**, Phone - 0411-548-860, E-mail - muzjudsmith@bigpond.com Post - 65/1 Ocean Pde; Coffs Harbour. NSW. 2450

CLASS 167 REUNION – 43 YEARS

The Friendship week 2023 has now been arranged

When: Friday 23rd June 2023 – midday to 5pm

Where: Private Room, Club York (www.clubbyork.com.au)

Cost: \$30 per person partners welcome

Payment: BSB 815.000 A/C 100488348 A/c name "Class 167 Reunion" + your name

Enquiries: **Sue Alexander** 0408 754 885 Email sueronalexander@hotmail.com



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
ABIGAIL	LAURENCE LYAL	87	8981	17/10/22
AMBROSE	ROBERT (BOB)	Unknown	Wife of Faye	28/2/23
BEAUMONT	TREVOR LYLE	79	14058	8/1/23
BOLAND	GREGORY BRIAN	70	14467	5/12/22
BONNER	GEORGE WILLIAM JOHN	87	7935	14/11/22
BRAZNELL	ERROL EDWARD	32	13000	7/2/23
BROADHEAD	RONALD CHARLES	78	13062	5/2/23
BROWN	DAVID JOHN	53	26864	28/11/22
BUCKLEY	JOHN ALAN	60	22065	4/2/23
CLEMSON	PAUL ROLAND	82	9523	2/12/22
CLUFF	JULIE ISABEL	81	Wife of Darcy	3/2/23
DIVE	LINDSAY ROYLE	76	15298	1/12/22
FOX	RONALD JOHN	78	15035	3/2/23
FUSCA	VINCENT	60	21606	30/11/23
GALE	ALAN FRANCIS	73	19153	4/12/22
GEERLINGS	JOHANNES CAROULUS	86	9721	8/1/23
GROVER	MICHAEL LEO	70	14944	24/2/23
HARKNESS	FREDERICK WALTER		8357	28/11/23
HARVEY	IAIN RODNEY	62	19327	30/11/23
HILLIER	KEVIN	78	10716	26/2/23
HOLMES	KENNETH CLARKE	84	8869	12/2/23
HORN	COLIN ERNEST	86	9223	24/2/23
KING	NOEL	69	20637	2/1/12
KIRKMAN	CHRIS M	78	11077	23/12/22
KOVACS	GYULA (GEORGE)	90	8615	5/6/20
LAUER, APM	ANTHONY RAYMOND	86	8019	30/11/22
LEMME	BARRY SYDNEY	84	11429	26/11/23
LLOYD	PHILLIP	75	12238	5/12/22
LOOMES	BRIAN MAXWELL	86	8279	15/1/23
LUPTON	THOMAS WILLIAM JOHN	79	13678	10/2/23
MAGREE	JOHN EDWARD	73	14595	28/2/23
MANERA	GRAZIANO MAXWELL (GEORGE)	80		13/1/23
MARSHALL	COLIN JOHN	72	9799	9/2/23
MCINTYRE	ROYSTON (ROY)	91	8370	6/12/23
MCLAY	PETER JOHN	56		1/1/23
MILLS	BRIAN KENNETH	73	13436	Jan-23
MORLEY	ALEXANDRA ROSE (ZAN)	80	Widow of Bill	13/1/23
MORTON	ALEXANDER WILLIAM	91	8249	8/11/22
MUIR	ROBERT JOHN	76	13290	1/1/23
NEWTON	ROBERT CLIVE	92		11/12/22
OLIVER	ROBERT "BOB"	73	10487	27/11/22
PADDOCK	WILLIAM GEORGE	83	10485	13/11/22
PAYNE*	GREGORY ROSS	42	38597	?/4/21
PEARON	DONALD JOHN	89	8122	8/1/23
PHILIPS	RAYMOND JOHN	89	7413	17/11/22
PHILP	DOUGLAS PATRICK	82	10041	6/11/22
PROBERT	SYBIL RAMYA		Wife of Winston	Jan-23
QUINION	BRIAN JAMES	76	14068	17/12/22
RATTENBURY	JOHN DUDLEY	98	6197	10/1/23
READING	JOHN LAWRENCE	79	11894	20/11/22
RICHES	DAVID WOODS	62	28987	4/12/22
ROBERTSON	GLEN ADAM	42	48713	21/11/22
ROWLANDS	KENNETH WILLIAM			12/2/23
SAWKINS	KENNETH MAURICE	75	13976	5/12/22
SECKOLD	ROY JAMES	85	9119	1/1/23
SHEIL	PATRICK JOHN	84		29/11/22
SHEPERD	ROSS	86	11072	18/12/22
SMITH	IAN ROSS		15448	9/1/23
SMITH	IAN ROSS	70	15448	9/1/23
SOUTHWELL	ARTHUR HERBERT	83	12230	11/12/22
STOCKWELL	CRAIG DESMOND	42	38386	27/11/22
STONE*	PETER THOMAS	44	34893	10/2/23
TOMPSON	WARREN JOHN	84	8680	3/2/23
WHITE	KEITH BERNARD		13113	21/11/22
WITHERS	JOHN FENTON	75	13100	19/12/22

R.F.P.A GAZETTE EDITORIAL TEAM

Editor: Paul Wynne

PO Box 201 Hawks Nest 2324

Email: editor.rpa@hotmail.com

Phone: 0414 465 963

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTIFICATION

Surname _____

First Name _____

Old Address _____

Post Code _____

State _____

New Address _____

Post Code _____

State _____

Email _____

Telephone No _____

Please send completed form to

State Secretary RFPA Inc
PO Box 201
HAWKS NEST NSW 2324

BRANCH DETAILS

Regional Branches	Branch Secretary	Telephone
Brisbane & Northern Suburbs	Steve Turner - brisbanerfpa@retiredpolice.com.au	07 3410 7305
Central Coast	John Marheine - marheine.jack@bigpond.com	0400 724 768
Central Tablelands	John Morris - rpa2795@gmail.com	0403 300 842
Coffs Harbour	Garry Heskett - garryheskett4@gmail.com	0414 512 302
Dubbo District	Gary Nixon - nickoseni@hotmai.com	0419 230 317
Gold Coast	John Beacham - beachamjohn@bigpond.com	0400 776741
Hunter Region	Ian Lovell - ihlrt@bigpond.net.au	0425 336 801
Illawarra	Neil Harris - illawarrarpa@gmail.com	0411 487 813
Kiama	Kelvin Schreiber - kelschreiber@gmail.com	02 4237 7078
Macarthur	Roger Ford - sixwill@ozemail.com.au	0412 409 905
Manning Great Lakes	Terry Tamplin - ttamplin@bigpond.net.au	0427 341 970
Mid North Coast	Paul Griffin - pandgriffin@bigpond.com	02 6585 2815
Murray River	Beth Docksey, APM - murrayriverpa@gmail.com	0412 661 738
New England	Greg Chie - gchie@northnet.com.au	02 6721 0965
Northern Beaches	Allan Le Surf - amlesurf@bigpond.com	0421 694 035
Northern Rivers	Charles Halloran - garnet10h@gmail.com	0418 198 532
Northern Suburbs	Greg Muir - hornsbyrpa@gmail.com	0408 486 475
Parramatta-The Hills	Eric Etienne - parramattathehillspa@gmail.com	0421 062 875
Peel	IN RECESS	
Penrith Blue Mtns	Ian Berry - ianberry49@optusnet.com.au	02 4732 1258
Riverina	Graeme Holmes	0419 161 893
South Coast	John Crockett - southcoastrpa@gmail.com	0412 240 058
Southern Highlands	IN RECESS	
Southern Tablelands	Ian Radford - southerntablelandspa@gmail.com	02 4822 1942
Sydney	Bruce Howe - Isydneyrpa@gmail.com	02 9331 5455
Water Police Sub-Branch	David Buckley - waterpolicepa@gmail.com	0416 067 051
Wide Bay	Allan Bassett	0408 293 889



The RFPA Gazette is the official publication of the Retired & Former Police Association (RFPA) of NSW Inc. The editor is Paul Wynne. The RFPA of NSW Inc. publishes material in good faith from various sources in the belief that it is authentic and accurate. The RFPA cannot accept any responsibility for any inaccuracies. The statements and opinions expressed by contributors to the Gazette are not necessarily those of its members or the Committee of Management. The Editor reserves the right to refuse to publish any material submitted for publication.