



The R.F.P.A. GAZETTE

(Established 1931)

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“RFPF NSW PATRON – COMMISSIONER KAREN WEBB APM”

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HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

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



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RFPFA Member Benefits Scheme now active

DISCOUNTS NOW AVAILABLE

The RFPFA Member Benefits Scheme has officially launched, offering an array of exclusive deals tailored for our financial members.

For full details of the Scheme visit the RFPFA website at **retiredpolice.com.au**, click on **Membership** and then click on **RFPFA Member Discounts and Benefits**.

For any questions or queries about the Scheme, please contact RFPFA Benefits Scheme coordinator, **David Drew** on 0426 818 177.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Since our last publication I have been actively involved in matters representing the RFPFA.

Saturday 18 January was the **48th Anniversary of the Granville Rail Disaster** in which 84 lives were lost after the Blue Mountains Train collided with the Bold Street Bridge. Each year a Memorial Service is conducted to not only remember those who lost their lives or were severely injured, but also to recognize the

courage of those who put themselves in harm's way rescuing the survivors. These persons were not only Police, Ambulance and Fire Brigade personnel, but also members of the public who came to the fore to assist. The Service as usual was well attended by Politicians, Senior Members of the Emergency Services, Survivors and relatives of those who were on the train and many members of the Community.

I laid a Wreath at the Memorial on behalf of the RFPFA and then took part in the Ceremonial Throwing of Roses onto the rail tracks.

On Thursday 13 February I attended the **Memorial Service of the Hilton Bombing** which occurred on 13 February, 1978. There were fatalities of both Police and Civilians and also other Police and civilians injured, some carried fragments of the bomb in their bodies for the rest of their lives. The service was conducted by **Caroline O'Hare APM** and **Gary Raymond APM OAM**. The event was well attended by other members of the RFPFA, the President of the Police Association, Police Legacy, Senior Police, the Ambulance Service, the Fire Brigade, Representative of both State and Local Governments, members of the United Services Union and friends and relatives of those who perished or were injured as a result of the bombing.

After presentations were made by several persons wreaths were laid by the abovementioned organisations and I laid a wreath on behalf of the RFPFA.

On Wednesday 19 February by invitation of **Ian Moore** I attended the **Sydney Cadet Reunion** at Club York where I enjoyed the company of former colleagues. At this event I was given the opportunity to speak to the group regarding the Membership Benefits now being offered to Financial RFPFA members.

After speaking I received requests from about a dozen requesting that they be issued with the RFPFA card which includes their member number.

On Thursday 20 February I attended a **Police Coffee Crunch** at Wests Leagues Club, Leumeah where I again spoke to those gathered regarding our Membership Benefits and added to the list those who requested new cards with their membership number.

On Friday 14 March, 2025 I attended the **MacArthur Branch** meeting where I delivered new Membership Cards and other RFPFA material. At this location I again had the opportunity to speak to members regarding the Membership Benefits.

On Saturday 22 March, 2025 I along with other members of the RFPFA attended the **HVSG Ebony & Ivory Masked Ball** at the Four Seasons Hotel. (Ebony Jane Simpson, 9yo was abducted, raped & murdered at Bargo on 19 August, 1992) Renowned Media Personality, **Simon Bouda** was the MC and in his welcoming address made reference to the RFPFA. Also attending the Ball was **Det. Superintendent Danny Doherty** and members of the **NSW Police Homicide Squad** who were called to come forward and be recognized in front of those who specially appreciate the efforts of these Police.

During the last months I have had several conversations with **Patrick Tsang, Chairman of the NSW Branch of the International Police Association** regarding our Associations links.

On Saturday 29 March, 2025 I attended the **Police Legacy Ball** at the International Convention Centre where members of the International Police Association were seated at my table. The Ball was a great success with over 800 attending.

Sandy and I have booked our accommodation at **The Reef Retreat, Palm Cove** and also our flights to and from with **Virgin Airlines**. We will be joined there by a number of other members who have done the same and look forward to a week of Fellowship, Welfare and Friendship at the Reef Retreat, Cairns (0740591744) owned and operated by **Jim Thompson** and **Joanne Robinson**, who have sponsored our Association for the past few years.



Hugh McDermott MP Paul Wynne and NSW Governor Margaret Beasley AC KC

Away from the RFPA I have been involved in local community volunteering for many decades now (time flies) The many years of this service were surprisingly recognised on Australia Day with my being named **Citizen of the Year Blacktown**. Thanks to all those who sent messages.

God Bless,

Paul Wynne

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SECRETARY'S REPORT



Members/Associates.

The highlight of the last few months has been the **NSW Police Legacy Blue Ribbon Ball**. With a young grandson a legatee, I was keen to show his new parents just how well **NSW Police Legacy** looks after our Police Family when the worst happens. **Stuart and Jade** came in from Dubbo to attend, and had a great night, along with other members of our

extended family, **Lorraine and Andrew**. It's great to know that our grandson is looked after so well after the loss of his mother Kerryn in 2015 and his father Matthew in 2022.

Having also been associated with many other instances of NSW Police Legacy's outstanding support for the Police Family, both as a serving police officer and as the RFPA Secretary, I commend **Det Supt Donna McCARTHY** and her dedicated team for all they do.

We had another special lady at our table in RFPA Associate **Lorraine THOMPSON**, who has been a Legatee since 3 May 1977, when her then husband Allan was killed in a collision whilst on duty at Buttai. Lorraine has raised three amazing children, with Craig recently retiring from NSWPF as a Senior Sergeant. There is abundant evidence that the support given by NSW Police Legacy makes life for these special families much richer than it otherwise would have been. **Howard, John and Brenda** at our table, all with significant life experience of their own, agreed with that.

NSW Police Legacy operates as a charity and needs the financial support that we can all give in small (or larger) amounts. Please donate if you can. Our website contains a link to assist with donations. I recently attended a **NSW Police Legacy Champions** conference where Area Managers and serving Police were developed as influencers to promote the regular payroll deduction process amongst colleagues. The value of those donations, however small, cannot be measured.

We have been promoting the **RFPA Member Benefits Scheme** through this Gazette and Branch News recently. **Dave DREW** from the Committee of Management has worked very hard to achieve the best discounts and

deals he can for our Members. **The great value in this is illustrated by a recent visit to get a hearing check by one very well-known Member. He saved \$2,000 when he picked up his new hearing aids.** Another Member from the same Branch saved over **\$600 on a new set of tyres**. Our almost insignificant membership fee now achieves benefits at no less than 13 establishments and in some cases at dozens of branches of those businesses Australia-wide. Search the **MEMBER DISCOUNTS** on the home page of our website. For those with new membership cards, you can access the website directly by using the QR code on the card. You may also need your card and photo ID, such as your driver's licence to obtain the discount or benefit offered. Those of us going to Cairns in May for the Fellowship gathering at Palm Cove (**our sponsors, the Reef Retreat 0740591744 – ask for Jim or Joanne**) have saved significant cash on **Virgin** airfares, as well as accommodation at the Reef Retreat and local tourist attractions. Although this is not strictly secretarial reporting, everyone needs to know just how extensive the program has become, thanks mainly to **Dave DREW's hard work**.

As many would be aware, we have recently lost two Branch Chairmen. **Al LUKES** had served the **Mid North Coast** for many years as Chair, and also held substantive positions in the Rural Fire Service as a volunteer leader and trainer. Connections with the Wauchope RSL and a significant hobby group at Long Flat kept him busy. His funeral at Innes Gardens showed just how much the RFS and other rescue organisations thought of him. **Ian CAMPBELL APM** read Al's eulogy and Service History, and has taken the temporary duties of Branch Chair until their AGM. **Peter WILLARD** has passed in the last week. He has also been a long serving Branch Chairman for **Southern Tablelands Branch**. Peter's Memorial Service will be held on 22 April. See Vale notices for further detail. Meanwhile, **Bill WHITE** has been nominated to take over as Chair at Goulburn.

The new Branch Chair for Manning Great Lakes is **Cliff HOARE**, elected to the position on 9 April. He is assisted by **Peter RANKIN, Wayne McCANN and Dick SPENCER** at this stage, with further Committee positions to be decided at the next branch meeting.

The value added by branch membership can't be stressed too much. Interaction on a monthly or whatever basis your branch decides, allows for many people to interact in a way which promotes wellbeing and keeps us all active to an extent decided by you personally. Attendance is not compulsory. At a meeting today I witnessed a number of our people who had not been able to get to an outing for a while. The smiles were evidence of what that couple of hours meant to them. At my local (informal) meeting yesterday, we had over 40 very talkative people who were keen to know where the next one was to be held.

So far this year the RFPA has made eight Significant Voluntary Service Awards. All were nominated by their branches, and judging by the smiles seen on Facebook and elsewhere, they are gratefully received and provide a formal 'thank you' from colleagues who respect what they have done, in some cases for twenty or more years. If you know someone who is worthy of such recognition, please raise the issue at a meeting and have some correspondence sent to the Committee of Management.

Our **'News to Branches'** still provides the latest updates straight after a COM meeting each month, but for day-to-day updates of everything, the private **RFPA Facebook Group** (with 2,000 members now) contains what you may want to know about. Our Webmaster has been busily working on a subscription-based messaging system which works well at several branches now, and may expand to others in the near future. The beauty of this is that anyone who wants to receive the information it contains – nearly anything of note relating to the RFPA and its Members – is private to the subscribers, and is very easy for the sender to direct to the right people. Those people can opt out of the system any time they wish, but a simple request will join you to the service. All is under development, but already proven to be successful and ready to deliver to individual branches for their use.

Any Member, preferably able to work as a willing member of a great team, and who thinks he or she would like to undertake the duties of RFPA Secretary, is urged to contact myself on 0425336801 or secretary@retiredpolice.com.au whenever you like. It's nearly time to go.

Ian Lovell
Secretary

E: secretary@retiredpolice.com.au

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

EDITOR'S REPORT



As technology has advanced the RFPA now has daily update of events on the website www.retiredpolice.com.au which is manned by our webmaster, **Dave Whiteman**. For any items of a time-sensitive nature we suggest these be posted on the website and/or your own branch Facebook page. This gets the information to many more people more quickly.

If you want to access the Gazette on line, it is up to you to access same from the website. IT WILL NOT BE EMAILED TO YOU.

Keep up the great articles and photos coming in.

We need to make our apologies to the Hartley family and Coffs Harbour branch - in the last Gazette there is a photo of **Xavier Hartley** with father **John Hartley APM** with an incorrect caption. With respect we reprint the photo with correct captions.



CLASS 364 Xavier Hartley with father John Hartley APM attested 6 December 2024

For any extra info you want on the DIGITAL Gazette email webmaster@retiredpolice.com.au

Deadline for receipt of your photos and articles for the Winter 2025 (Apr May June 2025) Edition is 15th June 2025.

God Bless,

Paul Wynne & Sandy Benson

E: Editor@retiredpolice.com.au

WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT



I hope you all have enjoyed the Christmas New Year period and ensuing period of time. The months have started to cool off a little now and for the ensuing autumn months, but we can still expect some hot periods of time leading through April and into May. But as we settle down, the months will become cooler. I have spoken to a number of our members over the past month and while some of them are ill, they continue with treatment and hope for improvement.

Some of our members have been placed in Nursing Homes for the betterment of their care and treatment which in many cases is over a 24 hour

period. These members do not want to be in this situation, but their medical condition does not allow them to be at home. I have spoken to the wives and spouses of them and while they don't agree, they see it as the only alternative. On a brighter note, I look forward to all those members improving in their health which will improve their circumstances for a better life.

PS. Reminder - time for the update of your 'flu and/or covid injections.

Ian Moore

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Paul,

I read with interest an item in the Spring edition of the Gazette by **Shirley Anderson** touching upon the secondment of NSW police officers to the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary in 1971. Consequently, I have written a follow-up resume of some personal experiences there from 1971 to 1973. For your consideration.

Regards,

Paul McKinnon

Further to **Shirley Anderson's** item in the Spring Edition of the RFPA Gazette - 'The Forgotten Secondment'.

In 1914 Australia assumed control of New Guinea and administered it as a Mandate of the League of Nations, and then, after 1945, as a **Trust Territory of the United Nations**. The nation of Papua New Guinea achieved its independence from Australia on 16 September 1975. In 1971, I was recruited by the Australian Department of Administrative Services for deployment on secondment to the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary. Papua New Guinea is represented by the eastern half of the island of New Guinea the islands of New Ireland, New Britain, Bougainville, and smaller nearby islands. Together these make up the nation of Papua New Guinea in tropical Oceania located in the western edge of the Pacific Ocean, close to the equator and above the tropic of Capricorn. Principally, it has two seasons, wet and dry. During the tropical wet summer in Port Moresby, it rained every day at 4 p.m. creating a natural sauna for the ensuing 24 hours. Volcanoes and earthquakes provided some interesting seismic activity, mostly in the highlands and Rabaul, and the occasional tsunami along the eastern ocean fronts. The PNG National parliament in 1971 had splendid accommodation, nonetheless it operated like the big bar of a frontier pub.

My role was a training mission to develop technical and forensic services there. I arrived in Port Moresby in December 1971 with my wife, **Jann**, **Andrew 6**, **Fiona 5** and **Kirsten 15 months old**. Three other New South Wales police officers followed, **Max Mathews**, a communications expert, **Alex Bunt**, senior instructor from the Police Training Centre, **Bob Greenhill**, Lawyer and police prosecutor. We all had accommodation with our families in and around Port Moresby.

The next year, ten additional NSW police arrived accompanied by officers from South Australia, Victoria, Tasmania and the Commonwealth Police. There were deployments to Mount Hagen, with **Ron Gilson** going to Lae and **Heinz Moeller** to Rabaul. The common aim was to advise on police training and development.

The Constabulary was established on a conventional military framework of discipline which demanded frequent saluting of uniformed commissioned superiors. Figuring amongst them was a large contingent of expatriate British, South African and Irish with former home service as police and soldiers. The expectation of an internal appointment as Commissioner to head the Constabulary had not eventuated. **Ray Whitrod**, a former founding member of ASIO and later, Commonwealth Police boss got the job in 1969, followed by **Brigadier Norman Nichols** in 1970. Deputy Commissioner **Brian Holloway** was the preferred option of the RPNGC officers. Promotional ambitions for the upper echelon fell in a hole. They weren't happy in 1971.

PNG was approaching independence and expatriate regular police were unsettled by an unknown future. In the main, our presence there was resented and subject to many hostile encounters. The PNG hierarchy insisted that we all wore the local uniform. A very large part of the establishment was subordinate to us. Consequently, our saluting entitlement intensified the disdain. We tried to fit in. **Max Mathews** and I decided to

ditch the uniforms for plainclothes which seemed to relieve the tension.

I had no missionary inclinations. I was attracted to the experience by money. My home pay was that of a Detective Constable First Class. My PNG income was at the rank of Inspector Second Class, equivalent to the salary of NSW Police Inspector Third Class, a substantial jump. Day to day commodities were more expensive than we were used to, but, after a while and wheeling and dealing, Max Mathew and I gathered access to useful wholesale suppliers. Some of the wives capitalised upon their individual qualifications finding fulfilling work there. Over a relatively short space of time, some of us clocked up a lot of flying hours. There were few interconnecting district roads. Travel mostly comprised flying or boat trips. Some of our NSW contingent travelled back and forth to Australia for court appearances, from time to time.

PNG did not have a lot of modern developments and its cultural foundation was derived from tribal traditions. Violence was a standard operating procedure for the settlement of conflicts from the personal to the tribal levels. Tribal wars were common, particularly in the highlands. The weapons used in murders and woundings ranged from arrows, spears, machetes, knives, axes, tools, clubs, rocks, bits of steel and swords to pistols, rifles and shotguns.

Local NCO's and other ranks had English education in language laboratories. While they seemed slow to respond to inquiries, it was explained that questions were subject to **several translations** for them to get the gist of it. Their village language was 'Ples Tok' which was free of colours and technical words. Then they learned 'pidgin' in schools and at the missions. English followed that. So, questions went from English to pidgin then Ples Tok, an answer was formulated and came back in reverse, Ples Tok to pidgin to English. You needed to understand what was happening, be courteous and patient. A lot of the regular officers didn't treat them very well.

From March 8, 1942, when Japanese forces first landed on the island, to the end of World War II in the summer of 1945, fighting took place across the island of New Guinea and in its nearby island chains. The remnants of the Japanese invasion cropped up all over the place. For example, in the tunnels around Rabaul Harbour in New Britain, they left cans of picric acid. When hydrated, picric acid is safe to handle, but it becomes a powerful explosive when dry, more powerful than TNT. The local population found it handy for use in fishing. Mishandling of the substance led to several local fatalities at sea when the dry picric acid exploded when wet.

The meteorological and atmospheric conditions produced a lot of widespread fog making the recovery of murder victims difficult from remote places. Walking in and out of the bush took me into jungle environments to examine murder scenes and, on one occasion, to recover the body of a perpetrator executed by relatives of a murder victim. Fog over the Kokoda area provided the setting for that experience.

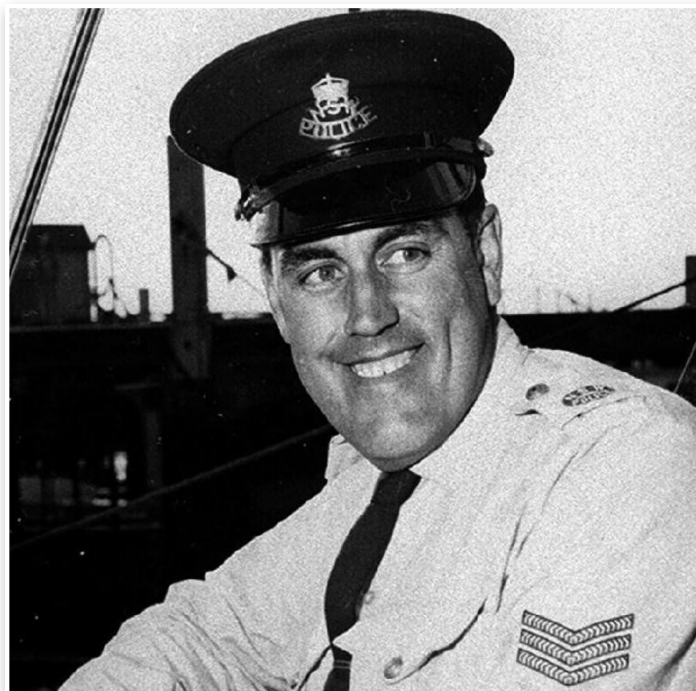
The first contingent came home late in 1973. We hadn't accomplished much. However, **Max Mathews'** engineering of remote radio repeater towers across the highlands and outer islands left substantial monuments to his particular skills and dedication. The executive levels of our host constabulary were missing enthusiasm for the task and the commissioned indigenous officers had their own concepts of post-independence command and control arrangements. A lot of them had worthwhile, practical on-the-job training within operational Australian policing agencies. Essentially, we represented a window-dressing operation and an element to which some retrospective blame could be delegated for general administrative failures under the mandate.

Before returning to Australia, I was offered a job with the police in Hong Kong to handle render-safe operations on IED's. A vacancy occurred there after their senior operator had his hands blown off. We left that one alone. Some months after returning to work, my work mate, **Bill Hanington**, threatened me with violence if I ever again began a sentence with, "When I was in New Guinea". Our whole contingent was loaded with plenty of anecdotes. It was a distinct collection of experiences. My wife, Jann, and I came home with three pidgin speaking nippers. In 1997 each of the secondees were awarded The Royal Papua New Guinea Centenary Medal for service there. Better late than never.

Paul McKinnon, APM

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Gone without a trace: What happened to flight VH-MDX



The charter flight disappeared over the Barrington Tops, north of Newcastle, in August 1981, with five people on board.

Our Coffs Harbour member **Hedley Gleave**, advises that there was a move to petition the Federal Government to commit resources and funds to try to solve the **43 year old mystery** of missing VH MDX and give some closure to the matter.

Hedley's brother **John Gleave** had organised a boat trip to the Whitsundays and then a flight back to Sydney. Unfortunately the plane was lost somewhere in the Barrington tops and **John** lost five of his mates. Those on board flight VH-MDX were the pilot **Mike Hutchins**, 52, **Rhett Bolsler** 33, **Noel Wildash** 40, **Phillip Pembroke** 43 and Inspector **Ken Price** 54 who was a serving member of the force who was in charge of the Water Police.

Hedley Gleave
Coffs Harbour

NEW BOOK RELEASE - 'BIG BILL' MACKAY by Bill Walsh



William 'Big Bill' Mackay, a Scotsman, served in the City of Glasgow Police (1905-1910) and in the New South Wales Police Force (1910-1948). He was the outstanding Commissioner of the New South

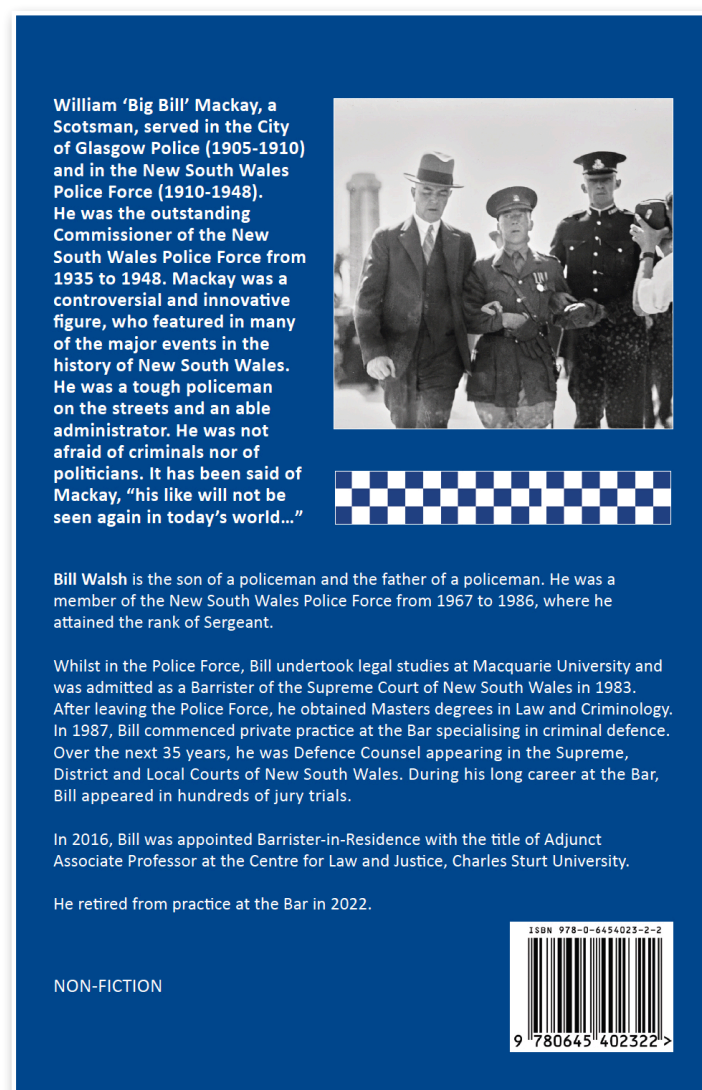
Wales Police Force from 1935 to 1948. Mackay was a controversial and innovative figure, who featured in many of the major events in the history of New South Wales. He was a tough policeman on the streets and an able administrator. He was not afraid of criminals nor of politicians. It has been said of Mackay, "his like will not be seen again in today's world..."

Author **Bill Walsh** is the son of a policeman and the father of a policeman. He was a member of the New South Wales Police Force from 1967 to 1986, where he attained the rank of Sergeant.

Whilst in the Police Force, Bill undertook legal studies at Macquarie University and was admitted as a Barrister of the Supreme Court of New South Wales in 1983. After leaving the Police Force, he obtained Masters degrees in Law and Criminology. In 1987, Bill commenced private practice at the Bar specialising in criminal defence. Over the next 35 years, he was Defence Counsel appearing in the Supreme, District and Local Courts of New South Wales. During his long career at the Bar, Bill appeared in hundreds of jury trials.

In 2016, Bill was appointed Barrister-in-Residence with the title of Adjunct Associate Professor at the Centre for Law and Justice, Charles Sturt University.

He retired from practice at the Bar in 2022.



This non-fiction work is well researched and documents many changes and initiatives to policing and civic reform. The author is honoured by Retired Police Commissioner **Ken Moroney's** Foreword and acknowledgement of Mackay's status in the NSW Police Force. Recent Australian history comes alive in the book alongside images and sources from Police, State and National archives and the author's own collection, making this 'first' biography of Mackay a must for any library.

Price \$30 + \$10 P&H (combined postage for bulk orders). International rates POA. Dim: 340x 240mm



Commissioner Karen Webb APM receiving book Big Bill Mckay

Sales enquiries: style.diana@gmail.com / M: 0419 267 499. Author book-signings/personal messages available on request - please include details with your order. 'Gift' books wrapped on request.

ISBN 978-0-6454023-2-23

Content enquiries: billwalsh811@gmail.com

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS

SURNAME	CHRISTIAN NAME	BRANCH
BROWN	Michael Howard	Coffs Harbour
CHANG	Stuart	Manning Great Lakes
CROWLEY	John	Macarthur
DILOSA	John	Macarthur
FILMER	Lilian	Northern Beaches
FISHER	Kylie Jane	Dubbo District
GRAY	Michael Andrew	Hunter Region
ROBERT	John	Macarthur
SMITH	Denise	Hunter Region
SMITH	Rohan Neil Frederick	Northern Suburbs
STRICKLAND	Colin Ross	Illawarra
WATT	Suanne Lee	Hunter Region
WHITE	Robert Stanley	Brisbane & Northern Suburbs

BRANCH REPORTS

BRISBANE

Hi Everyone,

At time of writing this report it was now Ex Cyclone Alfred and the sun was out again and time to begin to return to normal although some areas will take some time to recover from winds and flood damage but fortunately most of us weathered the storm ok.

The February meeting and Lunch were cancelled due to a number of issues and our next lunch was Tuesday 4th March at Redcliffe RSL, some members pulled out in preparation for cyclone Alfred which had been expected to hit in a couple of days' time but it was a great catch up and in effect the lull before the storm.

Attendees, **Steve and Lynell Turner. Ken Fogarty. Michael and Felicity White. Leslie and Peter Robinson. Pieter and Penny Strik. Warwick and Toni Grainger. Ron and Kristine McIntosh. Graham Hunt. Bev and Russell Gray.**



RFPA Fellowship in FNQ:

More will be in our next Branch Report but Lynell and I booked this for 4 nights at a fantastic discounted rate which is provided for Financial RFPA Members thanks to our Brisbane and Northern Suburbs RFPA Members, Jim and Joanne at the Reef Retreat Resort at Palm Cove

Take a look at the **Reef Retreat** partnership pages on our RFPA NSW website. You will be impressed, 0740591744 is the number to call. Direct bookings only for RFPA benefits!!!!



Financial RFPA Member benefits, Membership application forms etc are on our website using this link <https://www.retiredpolice.com.au/>

Keep an eye on the links in the Member Discounts and Benefits section, where the results of ongoing negotiations with sponsors and business partners will be added as they are finalised.

Now there are great discounts that are only available for Financial RFPA members.

If you need further information about the RFPA discount scheme, please send an email to **Dave DREW** on: comdd@retiredpolice.com.au

Regards

Steve Turner

Chairman and Secretary

E: brisbanerfpa@retiredpolice.com.au

CENTRAL COAST

What a world of utter chaos we are living in – and less than 12 months of the first quarter of the 21st century has passed and we are seeing the potential of world wars appearing on the horizon day after day. Will the human race ever learn! Surely we have seen the devastation that this uncontrolled mortal combat inflicts on ordinary people. But those with the power seem unperturbed. And so it goes on. In our tiny area of the world we can only hope that we can care for our health and the health of our loved ones and keep those closest to us constantly in our thoughts.

We lost **William Francis Broderick – 22nd January, 2025** one of our older Members, Bill Broderick, aged 92 years, born 18th May, 1932, described by his children as a "larger than life character", who would have a go at anything and was very much the larrikin in his younger years.

The Branch Meeting was held at the Ourimbah RSL Club, Ourimbah, on Tuesday, 18th February, 2025, commencing at 11 a.m., chaired by Chairman **Geoff Talbot**. Our Chairman, **Geoff**, welcomed our much revered visitor, **Les Potter**, to the Meeting and we were pleased to see him joining us. **Geoff** also welcomed new Member, **Ron Richmond, and wife, Doreen**, who have now moved to the Central Coast. We look forward to seeing more of them.

The following Members, wives and partners were in attendance: **Geoff Bown, Peter Caddy, Ernie and Bev Carmichael, Barry and Marj Clark, Bill Connors, John and Joan Corbett, Neil Dick, Peter and**

Anne Drinan, Bruce and Jan Gibson, Ray Hatcher, Keith Hockley, Russ Jackson, John and Anne Kent, Brian McVicar, John Marheine, John and Noelene Nicholas, Ron and Doreen Richmond, Geoff Talbot, Wilma Walsh and Russ Whitcher.

Geoff also expressed pleasure in seeing our Member, **Wilma Walsh**, back with us after a significant absence and he also welcomed our guest speaker, **Mr Dick Whitaker**, to the Meeting. We will deal more with Dick's remarkable address later in the Newsletter. The Welfare Officer, **Barry Clark**, provided details of those Members not feeling so well. **Trevor Carroll, John Nicholas, Neil Ashman, Father Jim and Bill Ide.**

On Monday, 13th January, 2025, a beautiful day on the Central Coast, we started our New Year activities with a luncheon at the Davistown RSL club, the location chosen for the benefit of **Neil and Lois Ashman**. Neil hasn't been travelling so well in recent times and we thought we would help him by getting a little closer to home. It was a great feed and we all had a wonderful day out as the following photo will show.



Bruce Gibson told the Meeting that he had recently met up with **Ken Moroney**, the former Commissioner of Police, and he said that Ken extended his best wishes to our Branch.

Peter Drinan told the Meeting of the mention in the Summer 2024 edition of the RFPA Gazette of the lady, **Joyce (Joy) Masters**, who has turned 102, she is the oldest Associate in the Hunter region and the oldest Member of the Association. Joy is the widow of the late **Ralph Masters** who was frequently away from home for long periods engaged in scientific work. A photo on the front of the Gazette shows Joy with **Paul Wynne and Ian Lovell** at a lunch in her honour at the Pelican RSL Club.

Our newest Member, Ron Richmond, was invited to tell the Meeting some details of his background. Ron said that he joined the Police Force in 1969 and was initially stationed at Redfern on General Duties. He was subsequently transferred to Yass but later returned to Redfern. Eventually, as time progressed, **Ron and his wife, Doreen**, became fed up with life in Sydney and they have now moved into a retirement village, "Brentwood", in Kincumber on the Central Coast.

GUEST SPEAKER

Our Guest Speaker at the Meeting was **Dick Whitaker** who spoke on the history of **Frank "Bumper" Farrell** who was an outstanding Police Officer, as a Detective, in the inner Sydney region in the 1940's, 50's and 60's, and whose history stands as an incredible emblem of policing in those years. And, of course, "Bumper" was a first grade rugby league player having been the captain of Newtown for some years. We can say, unequivocally, that Dick is a most engaging speaker but the extent of the research obviously carried out for his presentation was extraordinary. Dick particularly highlighted "Bumper"'s involvement with the two prominent "ladies" of the time: **Kate Leigh and Tilly Devine**. If you were not at the Meeting you missed a unique occasion.

What a great start to the New Year! On Tuesday, 21st January, 2025, a goodly number of dedicated attendees piled into the Valley Tavern, at Niagara Park, and enjoyed the great cuisine provided by Head Chef, **Brian McVicar**, and his loyal team of assistants, and the jovial company of those who gathered to swap stories and just generally enjoy the festivities. What

a wonderful day it was – as the following photos show. We were pleased to welcome a couple of newcomers but we hope they will become regular attenders. It's a shame if you missed out. It was a great day.

Chairman **Geoff** visited **Bill Ide** at his current nursing home and presented him with a new RFPA cap. Doesn't he look debonaire in it.



Bill Ide

The Ladies Coffee Club.

If we ever doubted their ability to recover, return and out-pace us at every turn, then we obviously have no foresight – or understanding of their ability to respond to all situations and deal with all problems. How fortunate we were to have met them, in our respective situations, and to have enjoyed their company, their talents, their patience and their assistance and supervision with the many problems which we have encountered over the years – and which still arise. And these girls sit quietly – and patiently – in the lounge while we engage in formal discussions at the Meetings – and take momentous amounts of time to analyse problems which the ladies would solve in a heart beat. Isn't it wonderful that they are on our team. Unlike the Matildas, these girls don't need television cameras to achieve notoriety at the highest level – or to jump up and down every time they score a winning point.

And what does the future hold? Here in our little isolated corner we are relatively immune from major scourges which are being thrust upon others not so fortunate. And we must be grateful for what we have, we must keep our loved ones close and enjoy every day and whatever benefits those days produce. We hope you are all in the best health you can be and are making the most of every day.

With best wishes to everyone.

John E. (Ernie) Carmichael.

Email: johncarm2@bigpond.com

CENTRAL TABLELANDS

We look forward to your contributions for our next gazette

COFFS HARBOUR

We look forward to your contributions for our next gazette

DUBBO

We look forward to your contributions for our next gazette

HUNTER REGION

Hunter Region Branch has held recent outings at East Maitland Golf Club (Ollie's Restaurant looking out over their picturesque course and beyond to the rapidly expanding rural residential areas to the East) and Club Mex (Metal Plate Restaurant with a strong ANZAC atmosphere) and will shortly (13 May) hold another at the Lincoln Room, Charlestown Bowling Club, where one of our latest joiners, Michael GRAY, is the CEO. Undercover parking, great food and the nearby Charlestown Square shopping precinct are attractions which always make the club one of our best attended venues.

Apart from our 'rusted on regulars', we have welcomed some new people, and others from near and far or with other regular commitments who can make it occasionally. Reg HINCHEY came from Forster and caught up with old mates. Tony HONOR and Gwen enjoyed the company, and Denise SMITH recently joined us after spending time working as a VIP with Thommo. Rene MARKERINK is back on deck and brought Chrissy with him. He's been through a tough time recently.

Ted and Beth OLDFIELD continue to make the monthly journeys from Greta and Brenton LEE comes down from Chichester. Lance and Barbara HOPKINS were welcomed as potential regulars, and caught up with many old colleagues for the first time in a while.

Karen MURRAY was a visitor at East Maitland, and many of us hadn't seen her since we retired. Karen is a widely experienced NSWPF unsworn officer who worked with us at Newcastle, Maitland and Scone back in the day when we really needed her help. She has recently applied for Associate Membership.



Ron's OBE

Old mate Ron CALMAN OAM ESM was able to take a break from his Marine Rescue commitments and joined us. Bob GRAY presented Ron with his 'OBE' to go with those other significant formal honours he has earned. Ron has been one of the finest examples of policing to the Hunter Community for generations, since the last time he stepped out of a very fast car and into Rescue mode all those years ago.

More individual detail and some great photos of those attending our formal and informal gatherings can be found on the Hunter Region webpage.

RHG
A/Secretary

ILLAWARRA (WOLLONGONG) AND KIAMA BRANCHES

We look forward to your contributions for our next gazette

MACARTHUR

We look forward to your contributions for our next gazette

MANNING GREAT LAKES

We look forward to your contributions for our next Gazette.

MID NORTH COAST

Our Christmas Lunch was another great day out at the Wauchope RSL. Over 30 members attended and were treated to another fine baked meal with desserts and tea and coffee provided. Both **Jennett Hunt** and **Marlene Brown** again provided a large number of lucky door prizes. An excellent day was had by all who attended and everyone was wished a Merry Christmas by our Chairman **Al Lukes** before the day concluded. Little did we know it would be the last time Al carried out an official function for our Branch.



Alastair Martin LUKES NSWPF Died 20 Jan 2025

In January Al passed away in his sleep from, it was later established, a heart attack. It was an absolute shock to everyone who knew him. He had been Chairman of our Branch for well over 6 years and his passing was completely unexpected. Al was a completely selfless man who dedicated his life to serving the community, firstly as a member of the NSW Police Force and, in retirement, as a member of the Rural Fire Service where he gave over 25 years dedicated service. He was the Senior Deputy Captain of the Brigade in the area he lived and was held in very high regard by the community. He also managed to run a workshop for many years which provided support for First Responders and other emergency workers who were suffering the effects of PTSD and similar stress related issues. His funeral was held in early February and it was one of the biggest seen in Port Macquarie in years.

Serving and retired Police formed a Guard of Honour together with the very large contingent of Rural Fire Service personnel. Ian Lovell, Secretary of the RFPA also attended and our **Vice Chairman Ian Campbell** spoke on behalf of our Branch. All speakers at the Service were high in their praise of Al. A wake was held at the Wauchope Country Club following the funeral service, a fitting way to celebrate the life and times of **Alistair Lukes**. Rest in Peace Al, you were a fine man, highly regarded by all who knew you.

Our first meeting of 2025 was held at the Port City Bowling Club on the 4th February. It was a pretty somber affair following our loss of **Al Lukes**. Our guest speakers were from the Operations Centre of the Rural Fire Service in Wauchope (arranged by Al prior to his passing). They spoke to us about fire safety, how to protect your home, the reasons for difficulty with wildfires and much more. They were very interesting and informative and we thank them for their time. A MINUTE'S silence was held at the commencement of the meeting to remember Al and other Police who may have passed away. The meeting was well attended and at the conclusion of

the meeting some members stayed for coffee and/or lunch. Our next get together in March was to be a BBQ at Lake Cathie but Tropical Cyclone Alfred has interfered with that as it moves southward down the coast with strong winds and rain forecast for the day the BBQ was to be held. But we're versatile, we'll hold it later in the month.

A sad start to our year, we lost a great Chairman and supporter of our Branch, he may be gone but he'll not be forgotten. I look forward to having some brighter news next issue.

Jim Cranna

Publicity, MNCRFPA.

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MURRAY RIVER

On 8 December 2024, 28 members of the Murray River RFPA had their Christmas lunch at the Springdale Heights Tavern. Instead of donating toys this year, the Committee decided to raise money for a charity for the under privileged. Over \$600 was raised for Westside Community Centre which will be used to provide packs for children and youth to prepare them for school. Our member **Tony Edwards** and his wife **Lynne** who live way down at Tyres Beach in Victoria were up in the area and came to the lunch. So nice to meet you both in person.



Lynne & Tony Edwards & Peter Seidel

On Saturday 1 February 2025, the Murray River RFPA Vice Chair **Phill Eddes**, travelled north from Melbourne to Sunbury in Victoria to present our member **Graeme Trebley** with his OBE Certificate. We all met at a local cafe for brunch for the presentation. Graeme was accompanied by family members, his wife **Robyn**, daughter **Melissa**, and grandson **Nathan** who is about to follow in his grandfather's footsteps and join the Police although in Victoria not NSW. Also present were Murray River RFPA members **Christine Eddes**, **Beth Docksey**, and **Graham Docksey**. It was very lovely to meet our member **Graeme** in person.



Phill Eddes presenting the OBE to Graeme Trebley

On 4th February **Ken Zegiel** and **Annie Smart** attended Westside Community Centre to see the back-to-school packs & essentials, approx. 68 purchased with the \$680 in funds our branch collected at the Christmas function & donated to Westside prior to return to school for 2025.

Tracey Zani, Westside Centre Manager and Welfare Practitioner expressed her gratitude for the donation. The packs contained practical items for lunches, school shoes and joggers, socks and underwear. Tracey indicated that "Our kids here have so many barriers facing them, these packs go a long way to helping our children and youth have a positive start to the year without having to chase funding."



Tracey Zani, Annie Smart Welfare Officer, & Chair Ken Zegiel

On Sunday 16 March 2025 we went over the border again to the Bethanga Hotel. We had our pending member **John Jansen** who worked in the ACT Police, later the AFP and also as a special constable in the NSW Police and his wife **Allison** attending to meet all of us, welcome. We had a lovely lunch and our chairman attended to receive his "Significant Voluntary Service' award from the RFPA of NSW, Murray River Branch. It was presented to him by **Beth Docksey** State Vice President & Secretary Murray River RFPA Beth. We had our other two recipients one being **Beth Docksey** & **Brian Rosewarne** present, so we had the three of us present for the celebration and photo.



SVSA Ken Zegiel Beth Docksey Brian Rosewarne

Beth Docksey, APM

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NEW ENGLAND

We look forward to your contributions for our next Gazette.

NORTHERN BEACHES

We concluded the year in style with our Christmas function on December 12th at Manly Leagues Club. Thanks to the incredible effort and dedication of **Liz Whiteman**, **Christine BUSH** and the club staff, the event turned out to be a resounding success. Over 50 Members and guests came together to celebrate with great company, delicious food, a few drinks, and plenty of festive cheer!

We were delighted to host special guests, including **RFPA President Paul Wynne**, **RFPA Gazette Sub-Editor Sandy Benson**, and **RFPA Secretary Ian Lovell**, who joined us with his wife, **Glenda**.

One of the most memorable moments of the afternoon was the presentation of RFPA Significant Voluntary Service plaques by President **Paul Wynne**. These plaques honoured two esteemed Northern Beaches RFPA members: former Chairman and Secretary **Bill McIntosh** and **Brian Friend**. The awards were a heartfelt acknowledgement of their exceptional dedication and commitment to the RFPA over many years.



Bill McIntosh receiving his award from Paul Wynne

2025 started well with around 40 attending our first meeting on the 23rd of January at Manly Leagues. In attendance were **Dave WHITEMAN**, **Alan LE SURF**, **Garrie WATT**, **Bill BUSH**, **Oscar TAYLOR**, **Barry MILES**, **Liz WHITEMAN**, **Peter BUTCHER**, **Jan KEECH**, **Bill EYLES**, **Tony WRIGHT**, **Brian FRIEND**, **Robert LINNEY**, **Harold HANLEN**, **Dave DREW**, **Belinda SNEL**, **Darryl DONNELLY**, **Phil O'BRIEN**, **Lillian FILMER**, **Bart SNEL**, **Geoff & Margaret KAY**, **Deb ANDERSON**, **Kevin MONCKTON**, **Lindsay FREEMAN**, **Brian WRIGHT**, **Allan HINES**, **Alex VOGT**, **Julie BERTOLDI**, **Anne MULLINS**, **Jeff BRADY**, **Brien GATELY**, **Terry MOSS**, **Bruce ALDERTON**, **Bob PINFOLD**, **Peter ELLICOTT**, **Bill & Irene MCINTOSH** and **Milton CHRISTMAS**.

Apologies were received from **Andrew JENKINS**, **Tony POLITO**, **Brian INMAN**, **Keith AITKEN**, **Chris PRESCOTT**, **Ian FINLAYSON**, **Steve ALLCORN**, **Jim BOON**, **Graeme FERGUSON**, **Brian SMITH** and **Col FITZROY**.

RFPA Significant Voluntary Service Award plaques were presented to Northern Beaches RFPA Welfare Team... **Barry "Scooter" MILES**, **Geoff "Jellybeans" KAY**, **Margaret KAY** and, **Deb ANDERSON**. Well done team!

Lindsay FREEMAN was presented with an OBE certificate by our Treasurer **Bill Bush**.



President **Dave** presented our branch Auditor **Allan Hines** with the MBE (Magnificent Bloody Effort) Certificate for Outstanding service to the Branch.



On the 27th of February, our group had the privilege of visiting the NSW Police Marine Area Command (MAC) in Balmain. Thanks to **Brian Friend** for organizing this memorable event, and to Superintendent **Joe McNulty** for being a gracious host and Christine for her invaluable assistance during the presentation. Additional thanks to **Linc Kilpatrick**, our skilled skipper on the Alert, **Brad** the nimble deckhand, **Haldane Potts**, our dedicated bus driver, **Margie and Alex VOGT** for organising the bus and, all the staff at MAC for extending such a warm and welcoming experience. It was truly a day to remember!



The day began with 20 members being picked up by bus from Manly Leagues Club, skilfully driven by our volunteer, **Haldane Potts**. Meanwhile, seven lucky members departed from Manly Wharf, enjoying a stunning Harbour cruise aboard the Police Launch Alert to MAC HQ in Balmain. After their visit, the entire group of 30 embarked on a relaxing Harbour cruise to Manly. Some members disembarked there, while the remaining members continued their journey back to Balmain, before returning to Manly Leagues via the bus.



Search for "Northern Beaches RFPA Day Trip to NSW Police Marine Area Command" on YouTube and you will see a short video showcasing part of the day.

On a sad note we have had the passing of a number of our members and colleagues; **Brent THOMAS**, **Alastair Martin LUKES**, **Paul HUGHES** and **Ted CALANDRUCCIO**.

Our welfare report is like a who's who of the branch. Hopefully the following members and partners are on the mend; **Margret KAY**, **Brian FRIEND**, **Bill BUSH**, **Allan HINES**, **Neville BEHAGG**, **Oscar TAYLOR**, **Brian INMAN**, **Ian FINLAYSON**, **Jim BOON**, **Col FITZROY**, **Warren CHAMBERS**, **John GIBBONS**, **Warrick WARTON**, **Graeme FERGUSON**, **Adrian COMPTON**, **Brian SMITH**, **Lionel KEKWICK**, **Jan KEECH**, **Robyn BURGESS**, **Coral CALANDRUCCIO**, **Noelene FITZROY**, **Graham SPRING** and **Dave WHITEMAN**.

Thanks to the outstanding efforts of our branch member and COM Business Partner Coordinator **Dave Drew**, the list of organizations offering discounts to all financial RFPA members is continuously expanding. For full details, visit the RFPA website and explore the "Member Discounts" section. It's a great way for all Financial RFPA Members to take advantage of some fantastic benefits!

Al Le Surf & Dave Whiteman

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NORTHERN RIVERS

Greetings from the Northern Rivers Branch. Well hasn't the year flown Greetings again from the Northern Rivers Branch. Well what a last week the Northern Rivers area has had. Cyclone Alfred certainly flexed his muscles and delivered serious wind gusts and a substantial amount of rain to the Northern Rivers, Clarence area and of course in Queensland. An evacuation of Lismore and Coraki took place but thankfully in Lismore the Wilsons river did not breach the levee bank. It has not quite been 3 years since the last devastating floods in Lismore, Ballina and other areas and we certainly did not want to go through that again. We can't thank the emergency services people enough and it was sad to hear that 4 army personnel were seriously hurt in a motor vehicle accident near Lismore during the emergency.

Our last meeting was held at beautiful Yamba in late February 2025 at the Yamba Bowling Club. Following our meeting members enjoyed a lunch of their choice at the Club. Thanks to Yamba Bowling Club for providing the facility and nice food. Members that attended (some with their wives) were **Charlie Halloran**, **Kerry Halloran**, **Chris Wallace**, **Doug Townsend**, **Barry Hurren**, **Harry Sunderland**, **Con Venardos**, **Glenn Taylor**, **Peter Watt** and **Bruce King**.



Regards

Glenn Taylor, Branch reporter

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NORTHERN SUBURBS (FORMERLY HORNSBY & DISTRICTS)

We look forward to your contributions for our next gazette

PARRAMATTA - THE HILLS

Our branch kicked off the New year with coffee at Claudia Road Café Toongabbie attended by **Joe Turner**, **Juanita Vettier**, **Sheila Jackson**, **Annette Willett**, **Ian Lindsay**, **Barbara Lindsay**, **Tom Baena**, **Faye Ambrose**, **Paul Wynne**, and **Jenny Turner**.

Our second coffee catch up was at Durk's Café, Carmel Village it was great to see some relatively new faces of **Ron Balkin** **Jan** and **Chris Krawczyk**.

On the 13th of February **John and Susan Wakefield, Gary Raymond** and **Paul Wynne** represented our Branch at the Hilton Hotel bombing Memorial Service. A wreath was laid in memory of Constable **Paul Burmistrw** and council workers **Alex Carter** and **William Flavell**.



It was a happy and enthusiastic group of 45 members, old and new, who gathered for our first bar-b-que of 2025 in the Blacktown Precinct Park. **Stuart Dawbney** and **Les de Belin** were warmly welcomed into the Parramatta/The Hills RFPA Branch with the usual good spirit of camaraderie and friendship. Thanks for a successful day must go to **Paul Wynne** and **Sandy Benson** for all the preparation that must happen beforehand. Also thank you to **Naomi Baldwin, Susan Wakefield, Anita Robey, Vicki Mott** and **Sandy Benson** for the delicious cakes. **Joe Turner's** vegetable produce was also a much appreciated raffle prize.



Welcome back BBQ in beautiful parklands at Blacktown

A visit to the NSW Historical Police Museum.

A number of our members travelled to Revesby earlier in March where we inspected the premises of the **NSW Historical Police Museum** and spent an hour or two in amazement at the vast collection of historical motor vehicles, police and civilian, held there pending completion of more appropriate storage and display. Also available to us was a large area of Police memorabilia including a Charge Room mock-up and uniform items. All members present were unanimous in their approval of the efforts being made to ensure preservation of NSW Police heritage. Parramatta/The Hills RFPA Branch made a donation of \$200.00 to assist in this endeavour. Lunch at the Revesby Workers Club brought the day to a most enjoyable conclusion.



Cheque to Tony Fitzgerald Museum

Nick Pavlov, Branch Reporter

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PEEL

We look forward to your contributions for our next Gazette.

PENRITH BLUE MOUNTAINS

We look forward to your contributions for our next Gazette.

RIVERINA

Our Christmas luncheon was held on Monday 16th December 2024 at the Wagga Wagga RSL Club on a day when the mercury touched forty three degrees outside, but we dined in cool surrounds inside the Club. Members who attended enjoyed a three-course meal and a nice glass or two of wine. Chairman **Fred Loneragan** thanked all members for participating at our meetings and social outings and wished everyone a very merry Christmas. Those who attended our Christmas luncheon were, **Dennis GUERIN, Bob WIGHTON, Graeme GARROD, Col WALTERS, Kevin WALES, Keven and Lois BARBER, Fred and Rae LONERGAN, Steve and Joy ROSS, Chris and Chrissy BROWN, Frank and Helen FULLER, Jeff and Lorna ABELL, Barry and Janet SCOTT, Keith and Julie GIDDINGS, Barry and Virginia WINKLER, Graeme and Margaret HOLMES.** See front page page.

The Riverina Branch's Welfare Officer, **Kevin Barber**, who is a great asset to the branch has been very busy catching up with those who are on sick report and needing support. Those members are **Bob Hogno, Sandy Mellis, Ron Beard and Bob Tuck.** Since the start of 2025 Kevin has made over 20 phone calls home visits. Thanks **Kevin**, you are greatly appreciated by members and their families.

At our February meeting it was decided to decrease the number of meetings we have and increase the number of Social Outings. **Barry Scott** as well as being the Treasurer, is now also our Social Outings manager. This has been done to facilitate more interaction with the members in the towns of our area. **Colin Walters** will receive his Veteran Members award at our Social outing in March.

Graeme Holmes

E:riverinarfpa@retiredpolice.com.au

SOUTH COAST

We look forward to our contributions for our next Gazette.

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 our contributions for our next Gazette.

SYDNEY

We look forward to our contributions for our next Gazette.

TWEED/GOLD COAST BRANCH

From our meeting in February, 2025 it was moved and adopted by members present, via emails and phone calls to rename our branch to **Tweed/Gold Coast Branch of NSW RFPA.** This was to reflect that members were both from the Tweed region and Gold Coast region. It also indicates our alignment with former members of the NSW Police Force.

Members present: **Terry PERKINS, Bruce and Dora THOMSON, Jim and Liz LUTHERBURROW, Ken and Esther JENKINS, Russell ROBERTSON, Jim and Olive CAVANAUGH, John and Joy BEACHAM, Garry JARDINE, Col VELMIN. Bob GIBSON, John SEWARD, Garry HUGHES, and John COOKE.**

SECRETARY'S Report: **John BEECHAM** also gave his congratulations to **Dora THOMSON** on her appointment as Assistant Secretary

WELFARE Report: **Jim CAVANAUGH** reported that he had attended

the funeral of **Noreen McMURRAY** but was unable to attend the funeral service for **Milton PRY** due to family commitments. **Jim** is going to visit **Jim MATHEWS** in hospital. He contacted John and **Joanne WHEATLEY** and it was good to see **John COOKE** at the meeting and on the mend.

Bruce THOMSON has contacted **Graham Bishop** and **Irene WILSON**, wife of **Bob WILSON** and advises that **Bob** is not in the greatest of health **Irene** was pleased with the contact and wished to say hello to branch members.

SOCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT: **Gary MATTHEWS** reported on the social lunch at Burleigh Sports Club in November and the Christmas lunch on 10th December, 2024 which was attended by 36 members.





Our chairman presented **Russell ROBERTSON** (our newest member) with his membership card

Bruce THOMSON

Tweed/Gold Coast Branch

E: Tweedgrfpa@retiredpolice.com.au

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

Meeting held Thursday 20 February 2025, this was our first meeting for the year at 99 On York, which was attended by 13 members.

Our welfare officer reported on a few members doing it tough:

Mick POOLE. Gary HODSON. Martin KELLY. Col TRITON is in a nursing home at Batemans Bay. A call to any of our members is always welcomed especially when not feeling the best.

An outline procedure to follow re applying for hearing aids was submitted if you suffer from hearing loss / tinnitus which was as result of working on Police Vessels. This was forwarded to our sub branch and has been appreciated by our members.

We had two guest speakers attend the meeting:

Commander Marine Area Command **Chief Inspector Joe McNULTY** and Crime Manager Det. Inspector **Siobhan MUNRO**. They gave us an insight into the progress of the command and the way in which the whole command works on every aspect of crime at the Water Police. The presentation was very informative and well received by the group.



Photo Shows: Back Row: **Det Insp Siobahn Munro, Grant Thompson, Dave Buchanan, John Whitehead, Tom Bradley, Jeff Gilchrist, Darren McGuire, Bob Adams, Len Ware, Ross Cramp, Bruce Tape.**

Front Row: **Brian Friend, Frank Mahoney, Vic Rulewski, Commander Joe McNulty.**

Vic Rulewski

E: waterpolicerfpa@retiredpolice.com.au

WIDE BAY

We look forward to your contribution in our next edition.

NOTICEBOARD

State AGM

Date: On Monday 28th July 2025 commencing 11am

Where: At Club York 99 York St Sydney

Further details closer to the date will be posted on the website www.retiredpolice.com.au

UPCOMING REUNIONS

**GO TO YOUR RFPA WEBSITE
FOR THE MOST RECENT INFORMATION.**

www.retiredpolice.com.au

2026 FRIENDSHIP WEEK

Friends,

Arrangements have been made for Friendship Week for 2026

Where: **Belmont Lakeside Holiday Park**, 24 Paley Crescent Belmont South 2280,

When: 7 March to the 14 March 2026.

Bookings: Phone number for bookings **1800626438** or **(02) 49454750**.

Caravan sites have been arranged and you will need to book a site with the size of your caravan. Cabins have also been acquired and they are single and double bedroom units.

Some are currently booked for the Saturday night, but will be available from the Sunday 8 March through to the 14 March. If you want to arrive Saturday for a cabin book early to secure a one or two bedroom one.

When making a booking mention the Retired Police Week. Look forward to seeing you there in 2026

Website: lakemacholidayparks.com.au

regards

Charles Halloran APM mobile 0418198532.

THE WAY WE WERE

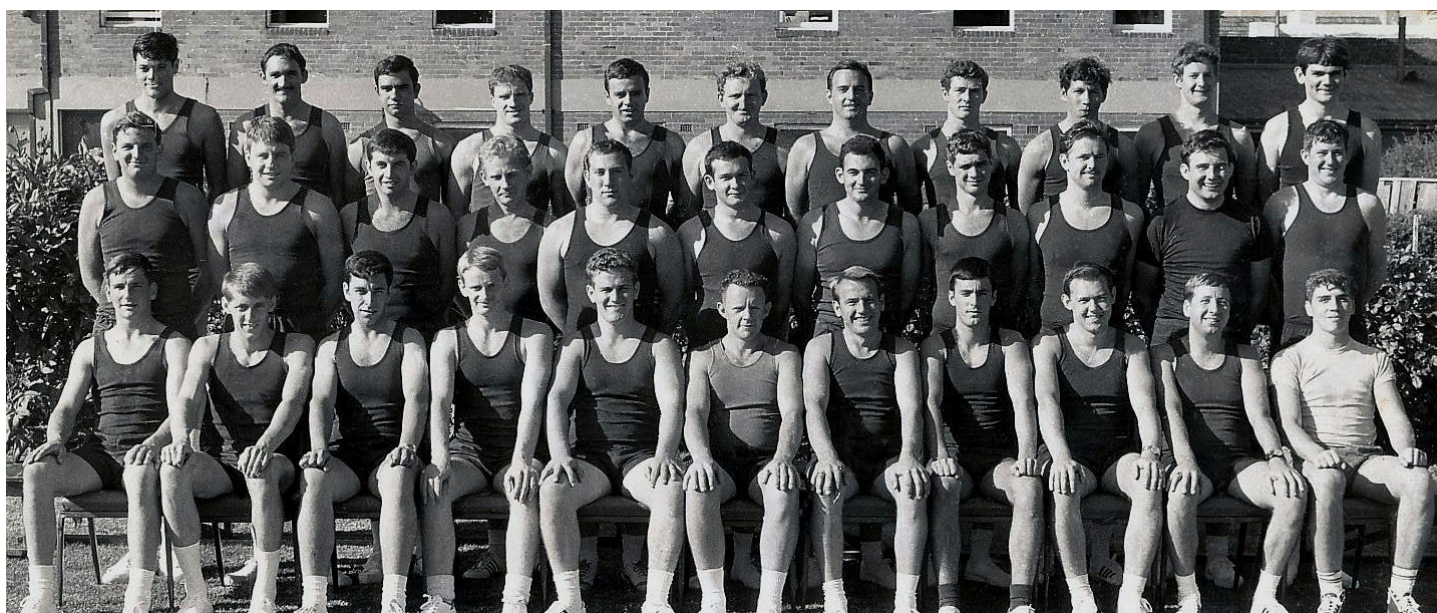


INSPECTORS' COURSE NO. 20 – 6 JULY, 1987 TO 24 JULY, 1987.

BACK ROW: J.R. CORKERY, G.W. BELL, B.A. STAPLES, E.J.H. LOWE, I.J. CAMPBELL, J.W. MARHEINE, R.R. KANE.

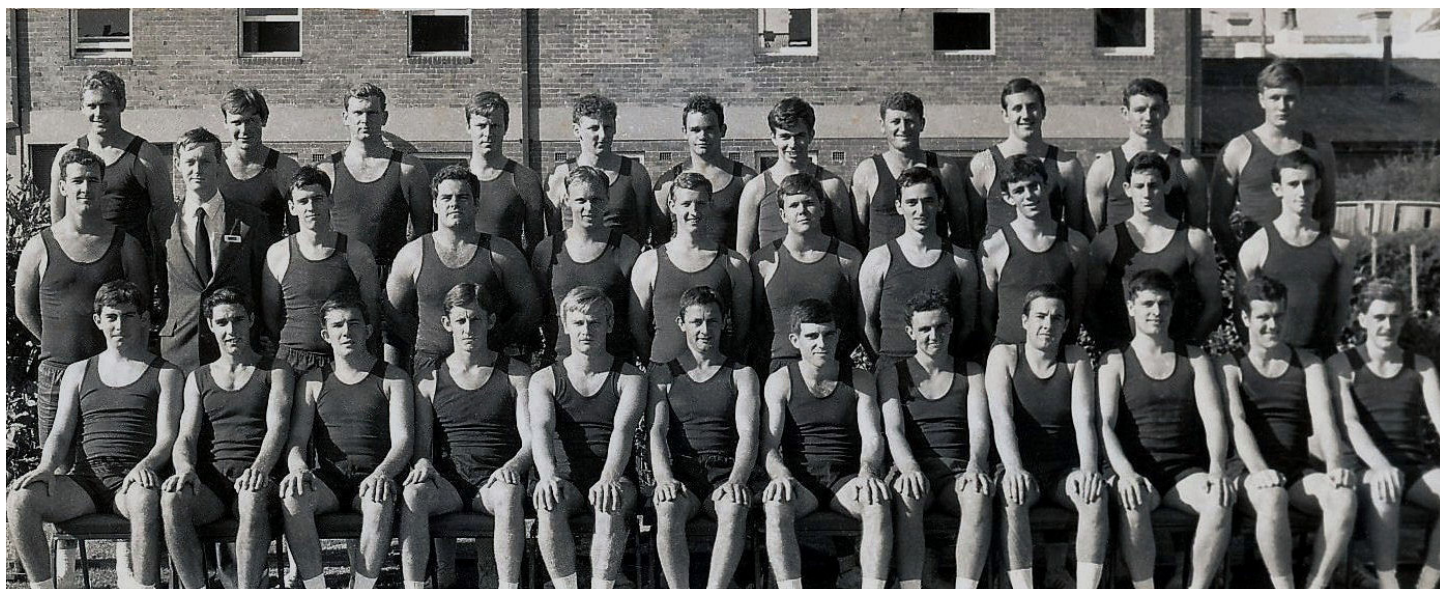
MIDDLE ROW: R.A. STYLES, C.V. BONETT, N.W. ALLEN, R.C. WOODS, D.K. FERGUSON, B.M. LOOMES, P.T. MCGARRIGLE, W.J. GALVIN.

FRONT ROW: B.J. DENING, P.J. HOPKINS, R.T. WHITE, (ASSESSOR), N.O. TAYLOR, (PRINCIPAL), C.W. LONG, (DIRECTOR), W.W. MARTIN, F.A. FULLER.



CLASS 134 (A) 2/4/1973

THE WAY WE WERE



CLASS 134 (B) 2/4/1973



CLASS 134 (C) 2/4/1973



CLASS 134 (D) 2/4/1973



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	BRANCH	DECEASED
BANKS	Brian Patrick	86	9958	Mid North Coast	9/03/2025
BRANSON	Hugh	77	16226	Unattached	28/02/2025
BRODERICK	William Francis	92	9369	Central Coast	22/01/2025
DURRANT	Patricia Joy	89		South Coast	14/01/2025
GORDON	Lindsay John	93	6673	Kiama	31/01/2025
GRAHAM	Donald John	97	5876	Hunter Region	6/02/2025
HILDER	John Richard Bertram 'J'	87	8344	Mid North Coast	15/01/2025
KILPATRICK	Shirley Alice	98		Sydney	1/02/2025
LONG	Clement William (Clem)	82	10056	Dubbo District	27/02/2025
LUKES	Alastair Martin (Al)	69	16869	Mid North Coast	20/01/2025
MCINERNEY	John Edgar	89	9937	Northern Rivers	19/03/2025
PRY	John Milton	97	5827	Sydney	28/01/2025
SEALE	Gregory John	80	10646	Coffs Harbour	24/03/2025
SMITH	APM Roger David	86	9290	Murray River	24/03/2025
SMITH	Brian	77	12365	Macarthur	12/02/2025
STANFORD	John	75	15951	Peel	13/03/2025
TAYLOR	Douglas James	77	16922	Unattached	16/01/2025
TELFORD	Reginald Gordon	81	12669	Coffs Harbour	25/02/2025
WALPOLE	Dennis Lee	82	11140	Unattached	20/01/2025

RFPA Benefits and Discounts Partners

Visit the RFPA Website for details on how
Financial RFPA Members can access exclusive RFPA Member
discounts from these RFPA Business Partners



Retired & Former Police Association of NSW (Inc.)

RFPA Website

retiredpolice.com.au

RFPA Secretary

secretary@retiredpolice.com.au