



The R.F.P.A. GAZETTE

(Established 1931)

Registered office

PO Box 201

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www.retiredpolice.com.au

“RFPA NSW PATRON – COMMISSIONER KAREN WEBB APM”

ANSTO VISIT

Illawarra Branch members visit ANSTO (Australian Nuclear Science & Technology Organisation) at Barden Ridge.
See Illawarra Branch Report in this edition for full details.



HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE

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



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RFPA Member Benefits Scheme now active

DISCOUNTS NOW AVAILABLE

The RFPA 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 RFPA website at **retiredpolice.com.au**, click on **Membership** and then click on **RFPA Member Discounts and Benefits**.

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



I begin this report from where I finished the Autumn report in which I mentioned that Sandy and I were looking forward to travelling to Palm Cove, North Queensland. Well members I must say that we were not disappointed with our week away.

Along with Senior Vice President, **George Weissel**, his partner **Michelle Primrose**, Parramatta – the Hills members **Nicki Pavlov** and **Naomi Baldwin** we travelled by **Virgin Airlines** to Cairns and the joined Secretary **Ian Lovell**, his wife **Glenda** and Parramatta the Hills Members **John** and **Susan Wakefield** at THE REEF RETREAT, Palm Cove. We were greeted by our hosts and RFPA Members **Jim Thompson** and his partner **Joanne Robinson** and shown to our accommodation.

Day 2 and it was the **Sky Rail** with 2 stops on the way to admire one of Australia's World Heritage Rainforest regions, rivers, unique flora and fauna. Then onto lunch at the local Kuranda hotel which was an R & R location in WW2 for the Americans.

From then on it was a week of great camaraderie and fellowship where we enjoyed both the scenic locations and wonderful restaurants. The days went quickly and the afternoon happy hour get togethers were a chance to catch up on the day's activities. On one afternoon we were joined by Former Cadet and **Police Assoc Executive Phil Dunn** and his wife and his wife **Julie** - and on that occasion Happy Hour was somewhat extended as we all remembered former colleagues and experiences.

A visit to Port Douglas was a must and we headed for lunch at the **Tin Shed**. We were joined by **RFPA Member Jim Wilson** and two other members of the Police Family being the Club President and former **VicPol member Peter Lewis** and **Former AFP member Steve Rogers**. After an enjoyable meal a number of us took a cruise on the paddleboat 'Lady Douglas' to perhaps sight some crocodiles in their natural habitat. We were not disappointed.

We were all in agreeance that our time in Palm Cove was wonderful and would recommend it to our members for a holiday stay.

If you're interested phone The Reef Retreat direct on 07 4059 1744 and speak with **Jim Thompson**.

On 2 May By invitation of **Ch. Superintendent John Klepczarek APM** I was invited to attend the Attestation Parade of Class 365 at the Goulburn Police Academy. This Class of 302 was the largest class to graduate in 11 years. At this Ceremony I was seated next to the Southern Tableland Branch Secretary **Ian Radford**. We met and spoke with both serving and former Police and of course some of the graduating class members.



Ian Radford from Southern Highlands Branch at Goulburn Academy



At Goulburn - David Harrington (retired police) from Broken Hill pictured with 2 daughters and 1 son in law all in the job

On 11 June **Ian Lovell** and I were invited to attend the Newcastle Police City District Awards Ceremony at Fort Scratchley, Newcastle West where there were presentations of both National and State Police Medals along with Commissioner's and Regional Citations. The Ceremony was well attended by the Police Minister, Local Dignitaries, senior Ranking Police and of course the recipients families.



A/Asst Commissioner Kylie Endemi, Asst. Commissioner Dave Waddell, Dep. Commissioner Paul Pisanos, President RFPA Paul Wynne. A/ Superintendent Steven Benson and Secretary Ian Lovell.

The State Annual General Meeting will be held at Club York, York Street, Sydney on Monday 28 July commencing at 10am.

Again we are pleased to announce that our Reef Retreat Partners, **Jim and Joanne** are donating a week's stay at their facility as the prize for our Annual Financial Membership Draw. The winner will be drawn at the AGM and must be financial as of 28 July, 2025.



Reef Retreat Happy Hour

In closing I would encourage members to look at our Business Partners who are offering benefits and discounts to financial members of the RFPA. Committee Member **Dave Drew** has done a fantastic job in organizing these benefits for you but it is up to you to take advantage of them by using those businesses when you are considering your travel, spectacles, hearing aids, tyres and vehicle servicing etc. Look for the partner stores on our RFPA website retiredpolice.com.au or for more information phone **Dave Drew** 0426818717. God Bless

Paul Wynne

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SECRETARY'S REPORT

The 2025 Annual General Meeting is upon us. Nomination and proxy voting forms, as well as a copy of our Articles of Association (Constitution) are on the website.

Formal Notice is hereby given that the AGM will be held at Club York, 97 York St Sydney commencing 10am on Monday 28 July 2025.

Any Member who thinks they have a worthwhile contribution to make to the benefit of the RFPA is encouraged to nominate for the position they would like to occupy. If you or your Branch have any items to be discussed at the AGM, please send them to the Secretary as soon as possible, but in any case, by close of business on 21 July 2025. **Any proxy forms need to be with the Secretary before 10am on Sunday 27 July 2025 for verification of membership and related authority to appoint a Member.**

As reported elsewhere in this gazette, the Reef Retreat at Palm Cove was the venue for a short holiday for a few of us. We all enjoyed **Joanne and Jim's** first-rate accommodation and hospitality, along with the professional connections they enjoy with local tourism operators and car hire firms. Their knowledge of the best that tourism has to offer in the area was used to our advantage and we reckon that this was just the first of many holidays most of us will have there.

Earliest arrivals were **John and Susan WAKEFIELD**. Following a small mishap John was the beneficiary of Joanne's formal training as a health professional, and sported a Betadine and Band-Aid style for a couple of days. Photographs were suitably censored.

Cynthia McCLOUGHAN had been living the dream in her lovely 'Curlew Cottage' at the fabulous Kewarra Beach until the love of her life, **Allan SMALL** passed away last year. Cynthia is doing her best, and was buoyed by our visit. Her good friend 'IJ' (known to nearly every one of us) from the Central Coast keeps in regular touch, and **Phil DUNN** makes local contact.

On day one **Glenda and I** had a chance meeting with **Phil DUNN** and **Allen MILLER** at the Clifton Beach shopping centre, where they were clearly fixtures and were acknowledged by numerous passers-by while we had coffee. **Allen and Lorraine** are trying to sell their house at Clifton Beach (advertisement) and move to where their daughters are in Melbourne, but they're still in FNQ until they sell. We made friends with the local fish at Yorkey's Knob Boating Club for a fabulous meal and drinks. **George WEISSELL** and myself are now the club's newest members, (saving on food and drink, but no idea about boating). A chance sighting of a local kookaburra in the rigging of a launch, with an Ozzy flag and the big 'Knob' in the background made for a patriotic Moment.



The next day Kuranda was calling and the local pub in Thongon Street and markets had a workout. Naomi and Nic's friend who works on the Sky rail arranged front row seats and several excursions for those who could cope with the heights, and the rest of us drove up onto the Tablelands. The climb up from Smithfield to Kuranda is the start of the 4,007 km Savannah Way to Broome. We turned back.

We arrived in numbers at the 'Tin Shed' at Port Douglas, where **'Jimbo' WILSON** and club president **Pete LEWIS** (VicPol) and **Steve RODGERS** (AFP) mates are involved in running the club with possibly the best views

and food in the country. They had reserved a table for 12 and the stories matched the views. If **Peter GOUGH** hadn't flown away with the Flying Doctor the previous day, we would have met up with him too. **George** and **Michelle** took the inland route, then most had a short trip in the paddle-wheeler 'Lady Douglas' and spoke with a few crocodiles. The Captain Cook Highway on the way back is the most scenic road I've been on.

Unfortunately, we missed some more Members we would like to have met, but time was against us. **Edward** and **Rhonda O'MALLEY** at Moorabool (we had made telephone contact), **Paul** and **Tina GREEN** at Cape Tribulation, **Paul** and **Lorraine MCNAMARA** at Clifton Beach and **Kip GILLIES** at White Rock are on the list for next time.

Happy hours at the Reef Retreat with our hosts was a highlight of the week. It's amazing what comes out when you sit down with former Police Association executive **Phil DUNN** and his extremely fit and well-accomplished kayaker wife **Julie**. She was representing Australia the next day, but still had time for a drink with us. Discussions continued to the small hours, with President Paul networking with old colleagues whose identities required clarification and conversations until Sandy called a halt to the proceedings. Other nights were interrupted by State of Origin, by 'Rattle and Hum' food and drinks and 'Vivo' breakfasts, and the need for early sleep for some of us.

I strongly recommend a look at Palm Cove for your next adventure. **07 4059 1744** is the number.

We are ready to test a new **subscriber-based communication system**, where you (the Member) become a subscriber. (It's been in use at Northern Beaches for some time, and Murray River and Brisbane & Northern Suburbs will be used for the first tests. The final details will, come to us after a test period being undertaken by **Dave WHITEMAN**. Everyone with an email address that works will receive a test message following the test period, with an option to cancel or subscribe; your choice to continue receiving or to stop them coming permanently whenever you like.

The annual Membership Draw will be held at the AGM. We offer our thanks to Gold Sponsors Joanne and Jim at the Reef Retreat Palm COVE for their continuing generosity in donating a seven day stay at their wonderful establishment for the fourth time. The RFPA will contribute further to this prize in terms of car hire and airfares, making it a good reward for being financial with us as of 28 July 2025.

Police Bank continues to support us in many ways. The Directors and management of the bank are keen to provide the best service they can. Financial services wholly owned by the bank **Chelsea Wealth (02 40324400 and 02 47215088)** add the dimensions of financial planning and troubleshooting. They are located at Penrith and Newcastle, and like Police Bank itself, have mobile staff to address financial situations. Banking services are sometimes difficult to understand when local branches are not available, but the decline in face-to-face contact we have all been used to is an inevitable consequence of doing business these days. Assistance with on-line banking is available through the liaison facility available to all RFPA Members. Our contact is **Boyd STEWART 0438976094**. He is a great trouble-shooter and very mobile man who has helped many of us with banking issues.

One of the Police Bank's Directors, known to most of us is **Nick KALDAS**. His work over many years in policing, formal enquiries into Veterans' Suicide and other policing commitments in Iraq, Lebanon and now Abu Dhabi have been the highlights of a unique career. **For his unmatched and highly decorated policing and public service, Nick was awarded Australia's highest civilian honour on the King's Birthday, being made a Companion of the Order of Australia [AC].** We have sent our congratulations to him and wish him well in his latest policing venture.

Ian Lovell

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS, PHONE, EMAIL

Contact **the Secretary with any changes to address, phone or email.** This is particularly important for the annual Member Prize Draw at the AGM which will again be 1 week's accommodation at the Reef Retreat Palm Cove (Cairns region FNQ). **If you win and cannot be contacted the prize is re-drawn.**



EDITOR'S REPORT

New and exciting news

...from the RFPA Committee of Management!

We are pleased to announce a **new subscriber based RFPA Mailing List**. A simple efficient and convenient way to stay informed sent straight to your email!! (just like you opt in for the ALDI, Bunnings, Coles etc

brochures) This initiative enhances our existing communication platforms including the RFPA Gazette, Facebook Page, Website and branch meetings.

You can now **opt In** for an **Email update** of events and happenings in the RFPA. Go to the website www.retiredpolice.com.au, menu, latest news, self-serve forms, "RFPA Mailing List Sign Up". This is like subscribing to any other email list so you can get the latest information sent straight to you. As with other info emailed from other sources, **you can always unsubscribe**. Just fill in and return the form on the website and submit.

On-line Gazette - 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
God Bless,

Paul Wynne & Sandy Benson

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Deadline for receipt of your photos and articles for the Spring (July August September) edition is 17th September 2025.



WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT

June is named after the Roman Goddess Juno and June is also BOWEL CANCER AWARENESS Month. If you are receiving the free Bowel Cancer Kit make sure you take advantage of this test. It could save your life!!

Just a reminder that if anyone from your branch is in need of a cheery phone call, please let me know. Sometimes a phone call from a former "brother in blue" can lift the spirits of someone not travelling all that well.

Ian Moore

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sandy,

Firstly, on behalf of the members of the Riverina RFPA and especially from me, thank you very much for our Christmas outing being on the cover of the gazette.

Thanking you again,
Graeme Holmes
Secretary Riverina

Editor's Reply:

Graeme,

It was a good quality photo and fitted in with our aims to have as many branches as possible on the cover at some time but it depends on the resolution of the photos and the subject matter! Yours was really good and did embody our aims of Fellowship, Welfare and Friendship. We often receive a great photo of a single person rather than a group and given our restricted space we have to make choices. Glad the Branch received it well. Thanks.

Sandy Benson

Sub Editor, RFPA NSW Gazette

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Worth Thinking About
Adapting to a Changing Society: The Future of Community
Organisations (RFPa being one such example)

In today's fast-paced, information-driven world, social clubs, community organisations, and once-secretive groups are facing increasing challenges in attracting new members. e.g. Masonic Lodge, RSL, Lions, Rotary, Probud, Toastmasters, Men's Shed. While some have embraced modern strategies—actively promoting their benefits not only to their aging members but also to the broader community—others risk fading into obscurity.

To secure their future, organisations must evolve. Those unwilling to adapt will experience declining membership, eventually becoming unsustainable. The key lies in embracing new technologies and using them to share their purpose, engage with a more informed audience, and tell their story in a way that resonates with a new generation.

Who wrote that? Me!

Have a pleasant day.

Dave Whiteman

TESTIMONIALS RE RFPa MEMBER BENEFITS

Letter to all members

I recently had my 6 monthly eye check following both eyes having had surgery for new lenses and also to check on the progress of my MD (macular degeneration). I go to **Specsavers** and was pleased to be able to download the Partner Discount Voucher. This was a no fuss procedure. I recommend that members take advantage of the offers which **Dave Drew** organised for our membership.

Sandy Benson

Good morning,

I would just like to say how happy I was with going to **Amplifon**, as over the years my hearing has gone downhill. I arranged a consultation with Amplifon at Dee Why and was very impressed with the service.

Nichola, Kate and Jo were excellent in their customer service and explanation on how hearing aids work and suggested what type I should purchase. But, the best part is that I was given a \$2,200 discount on the purchase for just being a member of the RFPa, all for my \$28 annual membership.

Regards

David Drew

Let us know your experience with our Member Benefit Partners so we can share with all RFPa members

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING
NEW MEMBERS

SURNAME	CHRISTIAN NAME	BRANCH
ALLISON	ROBERT	SYDNEY
ANFORTH	PAUL	BRISBANE & NORTHERN SUBURBS
BALL	WALTER WILLIAM	HUNTER REGION
CALANDRUCCIO	CORAL	NORTHERN BEACHES
CONNORS	JOHN WILLIAM	NORTHERN BEACHES
LANE	IAN	MACARTHUR
MACDONALD	JOANNE ROBYN	MURRAY RIVER
MCKEATING	DONALD ROBERT	BRISBANE & NORTHERN SUBURBS
MURRAY	FIONA ALISON	MURRAY RIVER
MURRAY	KAREN	HUNTER REGION
NEAL	GREGORY DAVID	PENRITH BLUE MOUNTAINS
RUSSELL	MARK	MACARTHUR
WALKER	NARELLE ROBYN	BRISBANE & NORTHERN SUBURBS

BRANCH REPORTS

BRISBANE

Hi Everyone,

Our April AGM and lunch on Saturday 5.4.25 at Norths Leagues and Services Club was another great day with some new members and some members that we hadn't seen for some time.

The AGM was completed with the same committee from 2024/5 being returned for the 2025/6 period. In addition, 2 OBEs were presented to **John Ham** and **Wal Barnett** and some new Members Cards were also presented with membership numbers on them that will assist when accessing the discounts that are only available to Financial RFPa members.





Attendees: Steve & Lynell Turner, Marilyn and Gerald Fiddis, Cliff Barrett Sally Matheson, Carol & Merv Mellings, Ken Fogarty, Bob Leembruggen, Donald McKeating Pat Casey, Pieter & Penny Strik, Ron Everingham, Dale De Martino, Graham Rutter, John Ham (OBE Presentation) Wal Barnett (OBE Presentation)

Tuesday 6th May Bi-monthly mid-week lunch at the Bribie Island RSL was enjoyed by everyone that attended and the hit was the seafood platter for \$12 (members special, lol).

Unfortunately, numbers were down a little bit due to some late withdrawals including from **Kerry** and **Marlene Beggs** due to personal issues and **Ken Fogarty** (our normal photographer) with car issues which meant **Lynell** stepped into this important role and with the great photos below, looks like she might have to do it fulltime, just kidding Ken, lol.



Sat 7th June was our Bi Monthly meeting and Lunch and without our resident photographer **Ken Fogarty** present there were no photos taken as we were caught up talking about Christmas in July and of course the real Christmas. This year the popular view was that we make it late November instead of the 1st Saturday in December but venue still to be decided at this time.

We have welcomed some new Financial RFPA members to our Branch, **Donald McKeating, Gary Weaver, Jack Naylor, Dave Rogan, Paddy De Mezieres** and **Brendan Lane**, members are encouraged to find like-minded people to help our branch grow.

Regards

Steve Turner

Chairman and Secretary

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CENTRAL COAST

One can only look at the world stage and wonder what incredible horrors the participating actors will inflict on their neighbours next. The numbers of dead and injured are mounting beyond imagination yet those powers who could intervene seem loathe to take any action. We tend to think that, in our little corner of the world, we are far from the decimation of European countries but then, we have our own horrors in the form of floods and bush fires. Perhaps, in our small pocket on the Central Coast, we can feel a little at ease – but only a little – and we need to be vigilant, take care of ourselves and those dearest to us and hope that tumultuous events will pass us by. We must make the most of every day and see each day as a blessing.

The Branch Meeting was held at the Ourimbah RSL Club, Ourimbah, on Tuesday, 17th June, 2025, commencing at 11 a.m., chaired by current Chairman, **Geoff Talbot**. Attending were **Father Jim Boland and Carmen, Peter Caddy, Ernie and Bev Carmichael, Barry and Marj Clark, Bill Connors, John and Joan Corbett, Neil Dick, Peter and Anne Drinan, Bruce and Jan Gibson, Grant Harridge, Ray Hatcher, Keith Hockley, Bede Irvine, Russ Jackson, John and Anne Kent, Bryan Lowe, Brian McVicar, John Marheine, Steve Martlew, Cecil Neller, John and Noelene Nicholas, Chris Olen, Ron Richmond, John Roger, Geoff Talbot, Russ Whitcher**,

The Chairman, Geoff, welcomed new Member, Cecil Neller; and he was invited to provide a brief summary of his service. Cecil told the Meeting that he joined the Police Force in 1957. In his early service he was stationed at Paramatta, then transferred to Bankstown. In his last couple of years, he became a relieving sergeant in the Licensing Section in the city.

Geoff also welcomed **Steve Martlew** who has been an absent Member for some years. Steve said that he had joined the Branch in 2011 after he retired from the Police Force in 2010, but has not been back since. Steve said that he had been stationed at Wee Waa during his service but was stationed at Hornsby when he retired and then subsequently just travelled around.

Our Welfare Officer, **Barry Clark**, presented details to the Meeting of those Members who are not travelling so well. **Trevor Carroll** is regaining his speech. Surely good news. **Neil Ashman** is currently not well, has lost all confidence in driving and is virtually tied down at home.

Barry has also been in contact with **Bill Ide**, currently in a retirement village in the Umina area. He said Bill is happy in his present location and is doing as well as can be expected. Apparently Bill attended an Anzac Day function at the retirement village and he said he was proud to wear the Retired Police retirement cap presented to him some time back.

SOCIAL CLUB.

Russ Whitcher advised of events on Wednesday, 27th August, 2025, (a delayed Christmas in July event), at a location to be announced at a later date and the pre-Christmas mixed lunch will be held at the Royal Hotel, Wyong, on Wednesday, 26th November, 2025, commencing at 11.30 a.m.

Peter Drinan told the Meeting that **Mr Dick Whitaker**, who has been guest speaker at two of our Meetings, delivered his address on “**Bumper**” **Farrell** at the Hunter Branch Meeting recently and apparently was received very cordially.

Bruce Gibson said that he has recently read the book written by **Nick Kaldos**, the former Deputy Commissioner of Police in NSW. Bruce said that the book is well worth reading and he highly recommended it. Chairman Geoff said that he has read the Commission report by Nick Kaldos into Veteran Suicide and said he found it very interesting.

Chris Olen told the Meeting that he had recently visited the newly renovated Newcastle airport and underwent a tour of the new additions. He said that customs officers conducted a tour of their area and explained their operations

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting was conducted immediately after the General Meeting at the Ourimbah RSL Club on Tuesday, 17th June, 2025, The Meeting commenced at 11.42 a.m. and **Barry Clark** occupied the chair to conduct the Meeting.

All previous office holders were returned.

Chairman Geoff then congratulated the various office holders on the work carried out during the previous year, including **Brian McVicar** for his work involving the sausage sizzles. He also thanked the Members for the re-election of the office holders for the coming year and thanked all Members for their attendance at the Meeting.

Tuesday, 20th May, 2025, was a fine but very dull day in a period of drenching rain and severe flooding on the North Coast. Who could blame them for going to the sizzle rather than walking around soggy golf courses or playing bare foot bowls. And, after all, this was May and you really did need your warm woolies on. But the dedicated team, under the supervision of head chef, **Brian McVicar**, prepared their usual outstanding meal which was welcomed by all those who ventured out that day, armed with their umbrellas and stories of bygone days. And, again, if you missed out. well, serves you right!!

THE LADIES COFFEE CLUB.

How wonderful to see those great girls back doing what they do best: talking about us while we're at the Meeting! But would we have it any other way. We so gratefully acknowledge the effort with which they have looked after us for so long, pandied to our every need and treated our shortcomings with the greatest patience and care. And the remarkable thing about it is: They're still doing it. So why would we not acknowledge the work they have done, very often behind the scenes – sometimes even without our knowledge – but always with the best intended outcome. If only we had realised this earlier in our lives, we may have become much smarter at an earlier age.



AND WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD.

When we watch world events it is difficult to hold positive views about the future of the world – even the future of mankind. In such a modern age, one which has embraced such a high degree of technology, one can only wonder why one greatly developed country would want to invade another. Yet we are seeing it on the television every day, every night. And that's in other parts of the planet. In our own small part of the world, we are seeing violent attacks by teenagers, attacks with machetes, car theft and then there is the rapidly increasing feature of domestic violence. In our little corner of the world we need to see every day as a blessing, we need to care for ourselves and those dear to us and just hope that the problems so prominent in the big cities just do not come our way. And let us pray that this is not a forlorn hope.

With best wishes to everyone.

John E. (Ernie) Carmichael.

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CENTRAL TABLELANDS

We look forward to your contributions for our next gazette

COFFS HARBOUR

Well the rain belted down, but lucky enough Coffs Shire did not see the worst of it, like Taree, Kempsey, Port Macquarie communities etc. My thoughts go out to the stranded cattle, horses and other farm animals as well as crops destroyed etc. It has left communities stranded and homeless. There is going to be a lot of work cleaning up the mess. Those affected, don't complain, but get on with the job. Complaining is not going to do any good. One needs to hope for the best and plan for the worst when you consider Mother Nature's continuing cycle changes that we are witnessing in our lives.

Well done to all our Emergency Services, and deepest sympathy to the families of lost ones. I was watching Current Affair the other night, which was about homeless people squatting in houses in Lismore that have been purchased back from the Government for demolition. One lady being interviewed stated how safe it was living in a house with

stilts on the edge of the river thinking that they would be out of reach of the next flood.huh???

I attended Sydney this year for Dawn Service with my family at Victoria Barracks and to take part in the Sydney Anzac Day Parade. I marched with former NSW former/retired Police Veterans' mates. I then walked back to the beginning of the March and caught up with my own Infantry Battalion mates that I served alongside with in Vietnam.

It was the first time in 7 x years that I had been down to Sydney for Anzac Day. It was a blessing to be surrounded by family and close mates due to the recent passing of my younger brother.

WELFARE

I am happy to report that most members are in good health, and safe after the devastating rainfall. **Peter Chilton** is home. I have not received any news of any of our members in Hospitals.

Cheers

Garry Heskett

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DUBBO

We look forward to your contributions for our next gazette.

HUNTER REGION

A warm welcome to our most recent additions to our branch membership; **Karen MURRAY, Walter BALL, Tony NICHOLSON and Clelia PARK.** Their admission takes our active numbers over 200, which is quite an increase from earlier days. Surveying our people and reducing the number

of formal meetings has proven to be a winner. Guest speakers are now becoming a regular feature, with **Russell OXFORD** having spoken last year and re-engaged for 12 August, and a great recounting of the life and policing adventures of **Bumper FARRELL** delivered by **Dick WHITTAKER**, former Sky News weather man on 11 June at Club Macquarie.



Steve RODGERS (AFP), Susan and John Wakefield, Club president Pete LEWIS (VicPol), Ian Lovell, Jimbo' WILSON, Paul Wynne, George Weissel (Nick Pavlov AWOL)

We were made very welcome at a recent lunch at Charlestown Bowling Club by another new member **Michael GRAY**, who is the club's CEO, but was formerly one of NSW's finest. Thanks Michael, and we'll be back soon.



Ian Lovell with Cynthia McLaughlin

Our condolences go to both **Terry CLANCY** on the passing of **Cathie** in April, and to **Arnold JACKSON** on **Pat's** passing just last week. Both couples had been married for many years, and the two lovely ladies had backed their husbands up as **legendary 'lockup keepers' wives** since the 1960's.

On Wednesday 9 July arrangements for the 30th anniversary commemoration of the murders of **Peter John ADDISON VA** and **Robert Bruce SPEARS VA** at Crescent Head in 1995 are in place. Port Macquarie Police District will conduct the ceremony. Our members **Elaine NICHOLSON** and **Sueanne WATT**, Peter's Mum and Sister, will be travelling, along with a number of our colleagues. The tragic event was to change the safety regime of those who worked as NSW Police at the time in terms of staffing, weaponry and communications capacity. RIP **Peter and Robert**.

Ian Lovell

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ILLAWARRA (WOLLONGONG) AND KIAMA BRANCHES

On Monday 31 March 2025 at 10am, 12 of our members had a very informative tour of the Lucas Heights (ANSTO) Reactor. Tour was conducted by "Julie" an Excellent Guide who explained the Research being conducted at the Centre. We visited many buildings in the Centre where different "research" is being conducted across a "wide range of fields" including "Medical Research". This facility operates 24 hrs a day as you cannot switch off the "Nuclear Reactor", also there is much needed "High Security" within the Centre. (The attached photo only shows 11 members present (1 member had to leave early) Members then dined at the "Cafe/Dining Room Area" within the centre.



John Starling OBE with Dave ROUTLEDGE (Chairman) (left) and Neil Harris (Sec) (right)

Also on Monday 19 May 2025 at 11.30am Members of the Illawarra (Wollongong) Branch combined with Kiama Branch Members at the "Windang Bowling Club" to partake in an Excellent Luncheon at the Club. Also present was Former Snr Sgt John STARLING who received his Veterans Certificate (OBE) from Neil Harris (Secretary of Illawarra Branch)

Attached are a number of photos of those enjoying the outing with a total of 22 members present from both Branches.





Kiama & Illawarra Branch Luncheon Photos at Windang Bowling Club on 19 May 2025

Regards
Neil Harris
 E: illawarrarfpa@retiredpolice.com.au

MACARTHUR

Macarthur RFPA Charity Golf Day

What a great day the Golfing Gods delivered for the Macarthur RFPA Charity Golf Day. We had 14 teams hit off in the freshness of the early morning dew with the winning team for the 2nd year being the **Narellan Police Team of Paul Albury, Thomas Dodd, Daniel Schiavello, and Paul Richardson**. Other winners on the day were **Barry Butt** and **Tim Addison** for the Nearest to the Pin with the Longest Drive being **Matt Harvey** and **Ben Wilson**.

Many thanks to our Major Sponsors, **The Police Bank, Club Menangle, Campbelltown Catholic Clubs, Barry Jones of Jones XL Security and Glen Cantrill of IDP** and all of the other supporters that assisted in the raising of over \$18,000 which made this a fantastic success.

Also, thanks to **Lakeside Golf Club** whose benevolence will enable us to purchase the KanMed Baby Bed Warmer System for the Special Unit Section of the Neonatal Department at **Campbelltown Hospital**.



2025 Golf Day participants.



Brian Harding OBE presented by John Carroll



Alan Moule OBE presented by Ron Reuben



Police Bank Liaison Office Boyd Stewart with Roger Ford



Chris Broughton and team



L to R Paul Albury, Thomas Dodd, Gerald Kenneally Paul Richardson, Daniel Schiavello

The Macarthur RFPA held their June Meeting at West Leagues Club, Leumeah with 39 members and friends in attendance.

Present were **Ron Reuben, John Carroll, Roger & Lorraine Ford, Allan & Marnie Carr, Peter & Susan Millar, Ian & Jo Baloglow, Richard & Lillian Cordwell, Michael Timms, Sonia Roberts, Les Green, Danny Doherty, Bruce Williams, Mal Sinton, Geoff McNevin, Graham Rule, Allan Heaney, Bob Barnett, Gary Clark, Bob Lawlor, Len Attard, Sonya Mathew, Robert Thomsett, Ian Betts, Wally Koenig, Peter Gillam, Alan Randall, Pamela Smith, Shane Howard, Allan Moule, Robert Hynes, Brian Harding, Dennis Smith, Phil McIntosh and Geoff Allen.**

The main discussion was the outstanding success of the Charity Golf Day with the raising of \$18,320.00 for the purchase of the KanMed Baby Bed Warmer System for the Special Care Unit of the Neonatal Department of Campbelltown Hospital.

Other issues raised included the installation of the Lockers at Menangle Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade who were the recipients of last year's Charity Golf Day which has now finalised our commitment.

The introduction of exclusive business benefits to our Macarthur Branch Members who have already taken advantage of those savings on a daily basis.

At the Meeting **Alan Moule** and **Brian Harding** were presented with their OBE Certificates commemorating their achievement.

Next Meeting will be held on the 8th August.

Roger Ford

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MANNING GREAT LAKES

We look forward to your contributions for our next Gazette.

MID NORTH COAST

Recently elected Chairman of the MNC branch, **Laurie McGrath and his wife Marcia** in their beautifully restored **1909 Reo one cylinder car**. It's fully roadworthy and registered. **Laurie and Marcia** turned a lot of heads in the main street of Port Macquarie as they drove it to a Branch BBQ.



Laurie and Marcia McGrath in their 1908 REO

A bit about the Red REO The 1908 REO (Ransom E. Olds) was a vintage automobile known for its simplicity and reliability, similar to the earlier Olds Curved Dash Model. It featured a single-cylinder engine, wheel steering, and was offered as an inexpensive 8/10 horsepower runabout. Many examples were finished in maroon with black fenders and black leather upholstery. One particular 1908 REO was famously owned by August Fischer, who struggled to learn to drive it due to the English language manual. The car eventually ended up at the Museum of American Speed after a long history of family ownership.

Jim Cranna

Publicity Officer, Mid North Coast branch

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MURRAY RIVER

The social calendar down on the Murray River showed no signs of slowing, with plenty of social get-togethers and unfortunately, the odd celebration of life.

On Wednesday 26th March 2025, members attended the Purple Chicken Cafe in Albury for a Coffee & Chat. This cafe has several disabled staff working there and doing a great job..

We had several celebrations on the day with our new member **John Jansen** attending and being welcomed to our branch. John was in the ACT Police which changed of course to the AFP and whilst there worked in different states, including NSW where he held Special Constable status, so he knows a fair few NSW Police due to a long period of work with them. Also, our member **Kylie Weekley** has been studying since 2013 doing her Bachelor of Policing and then moving to a Law degree. Just two days before she had been in Sydney for her admission to The Supreme Court of NSW. Congratulations Kylie

We also had several other Coffee and Chats to catch up in various locations and also dinner at the at Mail Exchange Hotel and lunch at the Albury Commercial Golf Club



Brian Rosewarne and Debra Hargreave

Several members participated in the ANZAC Day March down Dean St, Albury. A smaller but enthusiastic group this year due to members marching with other groups and some having other ANZAC Day commitments. After the march, many went up to Monument Hill for the 10am service and some backed up again to the monument at 7.30pm for the 100th Anniversary of the opening of the Monument. A long day especially for those who also went to the Dawn Service at 5.30am.



(Anzac Day) Beth Docksey, Aiden (Flag Bearer), Peter Dwyer, Ken Zegiel, Peter McLaren, Jaxson, Jessie (Flag Bearer), David Graham, Tina Smith, Hal Smith and Christine Bentley.

In May we held a combined lunch for Riverina and Murray River at Yerong Creek Bowling Club – a bit of a drive but the food and friendship was amazing and all agreed that we would love to go there again. Some even had to have the chocolate lava cake dessert to top of the generous portioned meal.



(Murray River/Riverina Joint Get Together) L-R Betty Hamilton, Val Clarkson, Janet & Barry Scott, Graham & Beth Docksey, Ken Zegiel, Cheryl & Brian Rosewarne, John & Sandra Holstein, Bill & Elaine Hines, Graeme & Louise Stephens, Chris Bentley, Dennis Guerin, John Clarkson, Don Hamilton.



Roland KUBANK (NSWPF and AFP) & Neil GALLOWAY (NT Police)

Our Branch embraces the talents, experience and abilities of our associate members, whether it be with well-being support or social organising. Our members **Chrissy Eddes** and **Chris Bentley** organise all these outings for us, no mean feat given that Chrissy lives in Melbourne, but we allow her to work from home. There is always something happening on the Murray River; so if you are passing through the area, chase us up and we will try and meet for a coffee and chat at the very least. Recent visitors included **John and Claire Crockett** from the South Coast and **Bruce and Leonie O'Malveney**.



Beth with John Crockett



Beth with Bruce O'Malveney

Beth Docksey, APM

E: murrayriverfpa@retiredpolice.com.au

NEW ENGLAND

The New England Branch has recently had a meeting in Inverell in which former secretary **Greg Chie** received an award for his service to the New England Branch. Greg had performed the role of secretary for many years. This followed **Monty Eshman** also receiving an award for his many years of service as Treasurer of the New England Branch.



Beth with Bruce O'Malveney

New England Branch Next meeting: 11am Thursday the 4th September 2025 at the Glen Innes & District Services, Club Glen Innes.

John Walkowiak

E: newenglandrfpa@retiredpolice.com.au

NORTHERN BEACHES

We look forward to your contributions for our next Gazette.

NORTHERN RIVERS

Greetings from the Northern Rivers Branch. Thankfully this time recent flooding did not occur in the Northern Rivers. We feel for those in the Hunter; Manning, Mid North Coast, Kempsey and other areas affected by terrible flooding. If only there was some way to channel all the water to other parts of Australia like Victoria that are experiencing drought conditions.

Our last meeting for the Northern Rivers Branch was held at Evans Head in late May 2025. We only had a small gathering of 11 people but it was a very enjoyable catch up followed by a great Chinese meal. We thank the staff at Evans Head Bowling Club who looked after us on the day. Those present were: **Charlie Halloran, Kerry Halloran, Glenn Taylor, Liz Taylor, Ron Maher, Con Venardos, Bill Nugent, Barry Hurren, Robyn Hurren, Alba Pugh and Geoff Pugh.**



Ron Maher receiving his Veteran Member certificate

During our meeting our President **Barry Hurren** presented our member **Ron Maher** with his Veteran Member certificate. (See Photo) Congratulations to **Ron**.

Our next meeting is likely to be at Casino on a date to be announced.

Regards

Glenn Taylor, Branch reporter

E: nriversrfpa@retiredpolice.com.au

NORTHERN SUBURBS (FORMERLY HORNSBY & DISTRICTS)

Our Branch has had some great meetings and social events this year, with our meetings at Hornsby RSL Club alternating with coffee/lunch at Asquith Bowling Club. Everyone enjoys themselves and a great opportunity for former workmates to catch up.



Our April meeting was attended by (back row) **Phil Scott, John Andrews, Trudi & Warren Cole, Ken McKnight, Alan Pollock, John Schell, John Graham, Verity Greenwood-Graham, Greg Muir, Ross Beattie, Les Potter** and (front row) **Bruce Williams, Bill Shute, Bill Leadbeatter, Bill Johnson**. Apologies were received from **Wal Gaffney, Alan Doak, Peter McDonnell, Rohan Smith and Robyn Bartlett**.



A new member to the retired ranks, **Robyn Bartlett**, is pictured here with **Ross Beattie** and **Alan Pollock**, with **Bill Leadbeatter** in the background.

Our June meeting included the AGM for our Branch, with the Committee now comprised of **Verity Greenwood-Graham** (Chair), **Greg Muir** (Secretary/Treasurer), **John Graham** and **Ross Beattie** (Welfare Officers) and a big welcome and congratulations to **Greg Bertoldo** on volunteering as Social Secretary.

The attendees were **Dave Loudon, Greg Bertoldo, Trudi & Warren Cole, John Andrews, Bill Shute, Alan Pollock, Verity Greenwood-Graham, John Graham, Alan Doak, Bill Leadbeatter, Ross Beattie, Peter McDonnell, Philip Scott, Bruce Williams and Greg Muir**. Apologies were received from **Les Potter** (recovering from a bad fall), **Ken McKnight, Rohan Smith, Robyn Bartlett, Wal Gaffney, John Schell**.

We had a very interesting presentation by **Julie Dominish**, Director of Bushland Shire Funerals. Julie and her husband **Mike** have had a lot to do with the homeless people in the Hornsby Shire, leading Julie to establish a caring rapport with families following the death of a loved one. Julie gave us an insight into the things that we should consider for ourselves and loved ones. Our Branch has also created a short session involving a volunteer member presenting 'Five minutes with.....'. This meeting was my turn and hopefully provided some entertainment for everyone. However, we all agreed that what is said in the meeting stays in the meeting.

Our future meetings are held at 11am (coffee upstairs at 10am) in the Boronia Room, Hornsby RSL Club on the first Thursday of August and October this year, with coffee and lunch meetings from 11am on the first Thursday of July, September, November and December (Christmas lunch) this year. All are very welcome to join us.

Best regards

Greg Muir

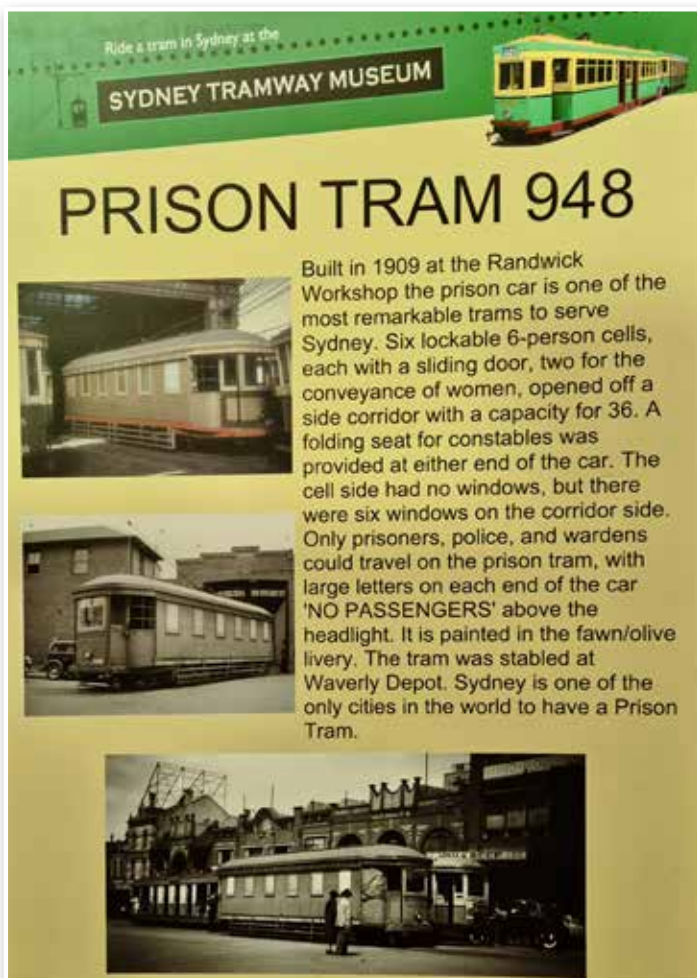
E: hornsbyrfpa@retiredpolice.com.au

PARRAMATTA - THE HILLS

On the 26 March several of our members travelled to the Sydney Tramway Museum at Loftus. The vintage trams and signage there took some of our vintage members down memory lane with the Prison Tram a definite highlight. After an informative tour which included inspection of the numerous exhibits on display and a ride or two on working trams, our group enjoyed a hearty lunch at the Bundeena RSL Club.



L to R Paul Wynne, Ian King, Sandy Benson, Heather King, Nick Pavlov, Naomi Baldwin, Gary Raymond, Rita and Terry Psarkis



Guest Presenter at our Branch meeting on the 8 April was RFPA Webmaster **Dave Whiteman**. During an informative and entertaining presentation, **Dave** guided us through the RFPA website, focusing on the area of Member Discounts.

On the 13 April several of our members thoroughly enjoyed a performance of Peter Quilters 'Glorious' by The Castle Hill Players at the Pavilion Theatre, Castle Hill.

Several members of our Branch enjoyed an extraordinary day of sightseeing on the 16 April in and around the Penrith area. After a delicious breakfast at the historic Long's House the group inspected the Manufacture precinct at the former Crane Copper Tube Factory before taking in the "sea breeze" at Penrith Beach, Ponds. Then onto the Museum of Fire where our host Ben, took us on a journey through the history of NSW Fire and Rescue illustrated by the amazing display of equipment old and new.



FIRE MUSEUM L to R Janice McKinnon, Dave Hain, Annette Willett, Sandy Benson, Paul Wynne, Nick Pavlov, Naomi Baldwin, John Rand, Darell Maher and Elaine Bennett

These members joined a very large gathering for the ANZAC Day Dawn Service at Seven Hills RSL. Special mention must go to **Paul Smith** for the professional and dignified manner in which he carried out his duties as Parade Commander during the pre-ceremony march.



Anzac Day Dawn Service. L to R Paul Smith, Tom Baena, Sandy Benson, Naomi Baldwin, Paul Wynne and Nick Pavlov

On the 15 May several members of our Parramatta/The Hills RFPA branch travelled to the Panorama Restaurant at Bulli Tops for a day filled with stunning views, good food and great company.



Panorama House Bulli Tops – LtoR Michael Berwick, Janis McKinnon, Elaine Bennett, Annette Willett, Juanita Vettier, Sheila Jackson, Anne Stone, Graham Stone, Nick Pavlov, Naomi Baldwin Paul & Darlene Reynolds, Sandy Benson, Paul Wynne, David Hain

Our branch meets for **Coffee at 10.00am every Thursday** at various locations. Anyone visiting the area is welcome to join us. Just ring **Paul Wynne** on 0414 465 963 for this week's location.

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

The Riverina Branch kicked off Autumn with a trip to Gundagai on Monday 17th March, with a coffee and lunch social outing with **Bev and Sandy Mellis** from 10.30am at the Gundagai Services Club.

Twenty members and associates(wives) attended on the day. The day went well, and we finished at around 3.30pm, as we had run out of old war stories. As a sign of respect to **Sandy** three members forwarded notices of apologies due to being away on holidays etc. I'm sure both Sandy and Bev thoroughly enjoyed the day, you could tell with the big smile that was on their face all day.

On Monday 7th April twelve members associates attended the beautiful Romanos hotel at Wagga for morning coffee and a very delicious lunch. The weather wasn't that kind on the day hence the low numbers but for those that attended enjoyed themselves and we will be keeping the hotel on our "need to do again" list. Thanks to **Barry Scott** for organizing the social outing.

Members of our branch attended a luncheon with members of the Murray River branch at Yerong Creek on Wednesday 14th May. Although our number of members was quite small those that did attend were passionate about doing it again. Thanks to **Bev** at Albury for arranging the outing.

A general meeting was held on Monday 19th May at the Wagga Wagga RSL where our Welfare officer **Kevin Barber** reported on visits and phone calls that he made to our members that are not well. These members are **Norm Dean, Bob Hogno, Ron Beard, Geoff Wolseley, Bob Tuck, Sandy Mellis and Col Walters**. We hope that these members will be up and about soon.

The photo attached shows the following members that attended Gundagai in March 2025. **Lois and Kevin Barber, Jeff and Lorna Abel, Janet and Barry Scott, Julie and Keith Giddings, Bev and Sandy Mellis, Chris and Crissy Brown, Rae and Fred Loneragan, Marg Holmes, Virginia and Barry Winkler.**



Riverina Branch social

Thanking you ...

Graeme Holmes

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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

On Tuesday 15th April we met at Easts Club, Bondi Junction for our "Roving Coffee Catch-Up". Attending this get together were: **Margaret & Keith Thornell, Allan Simpson, Belinda Dunn-Toemoe and Warren McKinnon**. We had a number of apologies due to illness and other members assisting with child care.

Two of our esteemed members, **Peter Tippet and Darcy Cluff**, were presented with their OBEs by our Chairperson, **Kent Vild**, at our General meeting at Club York on Tues 20th May 2025. Both members gave a short acknowledgement speech and we adjourned to celebrate their awards by partaking of lunch and a few beverages.



Revesby Workers Club was our go to for 17th June coffee catchup. Whilst we were waiting for all our members to arrive we were joined briefly by the local Member for Banks, **Mr Zhi Soon**. Members who joined us were **Alan Randall, Allan Simpson, Guy & Denise Pianta, Mr Soon, Dr Tony Moynham, Margaret & Keith Thornell**. As our numbers grew we moved to a quieter location with **Vaughn & Adriana Reid** and myself being captured enjoying our coffees.



(L to R) Alan Randall, Allan Simpson, Guy & Denise Pianta, Mr Soon, Dr Tony Moynham, Margaret & Keith Thornell. As our numbers grew we moved to a quieter location with Vaughn

Belinda Dunn-Toemoe
Treasurer & Social Secretary
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TWEED/GOLD COAST

Our meeting in April was a normal bi-monthly meeting and the following members attended:

Jeff FOWLER, Bruce and Dora THOMSON, Jim and Liz LUTHERBURROW, Ken and Esther JENKINS, Russell ROBERTSON, Jim and Olive CAVANAUGH, Gary and Maree MATTHEWS, Garry JARDINE, Col VELMIN, John SEWARD, Mike NELSON and W. FRENCH.

On the Welfare front - **Jim CAVANAUGH** reported that he had taken **Jim MATHEWS** to his doctor and also to hospital. Jim is now under hospital care. **Fred LOGAN** is now unable to come to our meetings and Jim suggested that perhaps a small group of us could visit Fred at his home for a morning tea. It was agreed that this was a good idea and Jim was asked if he could arrange a visit if possible as Fred's wife is also unwell

Bruce THOMSON advised that he had made two visits to see **Graham BISHOP** in John Flynn Hospital and also made a home visit to see **Graham and wife Lesley**. Graham has recovered well and on the improve. **John SEWARD** was also in John Flynn Hospital, but is recovering well as is his wife.

Our branch had a lunch at the Burleigh Bears Football club on 13th May and was well attended and the food offerings at the club were well appreciated. It was great to see **Patrick MEDWAY** attend the lunch after a long absence.

Our guest speaker at the meeting was **Kate HOCHMUTH**, a **physiotherapist** from NSW Health at Tweed Hospital. **Kate** is a case manager for transition to age-care programs which includes rehabilitation and identifying causes and effects of balance issues which can and does lead to falling problems and the injuries that can be sustained from falls. This is generally associated with an ageing population where certain factors such as mobility, medical issues, surroundings at home and nearby, and changes in lifestyle habits that can contribute to long term balance and falling problems.

Kate told an engrossed audience of the need to identify where some changes needed to be made with normal day to day activities which could help alleviate some of these problems. There is a free booklet available from the NSW Govt Health website which examines all the issues and problem solving to help our senior citizens that may suffer from these conditions. The booklet is called **"Staying Active and on your feet"**

and is highly recommended by **Kate** to our members. There were many questions from members, obviously this is a pertinent topic considering the various ages, medical histories and general interest in their health.

Many thanks were given to **Kate** by all members attending, for a very enjoyable and informative talk and **Kate** later joined members for lunch, and the questions were still forthcoming. As I said at the meeting, if you believe you don't have a balance issue, try standing on one leg with your eyes closed for 30 seconds. Mother nature will soon let you know.

Our May social was held at the Burleigh Bears Football Club with 24 members attending for an enjoyable meal and friendship.

Bi-Monthly and A.G.M. Meeting held on 10th June, 2025, held at Currumbin RSL Club

MEMBERS PRESENT: (24) Gary JARDINE, Terry and Betty PERKINS, Geoff CHESTER, Jeff FOWLER, Bob GIBSON, Col VELMIN, John BEACHAM, Bruce and Dora THOMSON, Liz LUTHERBURROW, Matt LUTHERBURROW, Ron GRAHAM, John and Joanna WHEATLEY, Jim and Olive CAVANAUGH, Les ZAHN, Ken and Esther JENKINS, Patrick MEDWAY, Russell ROBERTSON and Jim MATHEWS.

Apologies were received from 10 members.

The saddest of news on the passing of **Jim LUTHERBURROW**. **Jim** was a former Chairman of the branch for 9 years and a founding member. **Jim** was passionate with all matters relating to our Branch both with attendance at meetings and socials with his wife **Liz**. He will be sadly missed. **Jim's** son, **Matt LUTHERBURROW**, who was a former member of NSW Police Force, attended the meeting with his mother **Liz**. **Matt** addressed the meeting speaking proudly and fondly of his father's Police service, having received a Bravery Award for the capture of an armed and dangerous hold-up criminal whilst he was eating his lunch in a police vehicle. **Jim** was delighted and encouraged his son to join the Force even though he had left the job. Many memories of good and sad times during their respective careers but was always bolstered and supported by wife and mother **Liz** aka "The Rock". LEST WE FORGET.

Welfare Officer for Gold Coast, **Jim** and **Olive CAVANAUGH** have been busy in support of **Liz LUTHERBURROW** and delivered flowers to her on behalf of the branch. They have also visited **John COOKE** at the Mater Hospital, Brisbane following his recent serious operation. Welfare Officer for Tweed, **Bruce THOMSON** visited **Garry HUGHES** in John Flynn Hospital after a serious back surgery (well on the way to a good recovery). Numerous calls were made to members recovering from illnesses or injuries. A catch up call was made to **Patrick MEDWAY** who had not been seen for a while. A new email address was uncovered and now in the loop. **Patrick** attending our last social and general meeting despite failing eyesight and hearing. Wonderful to see his return.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This meeting was Chaired by **Russell ROBERTSON**. All positions were declared vacant. Results from the elections were as follows

Chairman:	Garry JARDINE
Deputy Chairman:	Gary MATTHEWS
Secretary:	Vacant
Treasurer:	Bruce THOMSON
Assistant Secretary:	Ron GRAHAM
Assistant Treasurer:	Dora THOMSON
Social Secretary:	Gary MATTHEWS
Welfare - Tweed:	Bruce THOMSON
Welfare - Gold Coast:	Jim and Olive CAVANAGH.
Exec Committee:	Jim MATHEWS; John BEACHAM.

Russell ROBERTSON confirmed all positions that were taken, offering his congratulations. **Chairman Garry JARDINE** thanked **Russell** for conducting the AGM. His thanks went to his Executive Committee's work and support for the last year and the year ahead.

At the conclusion of the A.G.M, members present were invited to pizzas and drinks on the Deck dining area of the RSL provided by the Branch which was enjoyed by everyone.

Bruce THOMSON

Tweed/Gold Coast Branch

E: Tweedgcrfpa@retiredpolice.com.au

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

Meeting held Thursday 22 May 2025, this was the second meeting for the year at 99 On York, which was attended by 12 members and received 20 apologies.

Our welfare report on a few members doing it tough: **Mick POOLE** back in hospital, from a relapse of his bile duct procedure. **Dean PEARCE** has lung cancer. **Gerald PERKINS** still upright and breathing seen on the 1st May by one of our members. **Col TRITON** I believe there is no change to his Dementia.

An outline procedure was to be re-distributed to the members upon request if anyone is suffering **hearing loss / tinnitus**.

Retired Water Police day is approaching and it was suggested that it be named in honour of our departed Secretary **David Buckley** a motion was put forward that it be named **Bucko's Splash**.



Water Police

Vic Rulewski

E: waterpolicerfpa@retiredpolice.com.au

Editor's Note – re abovementioned tinnitus, go to the RFPA website www.retiredpolice.com.au and look for member benefits – we have recently partnered with Amplifon for hearing aids.

WIDE BAY

We look forward to your contribution in our next edition.

NOTICEBOARD

EVENT: NSW RFPA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025

DATE: MONDAY 28TH JULY 2025 COMMENCING 10AM

WHERE: AT CLUB YORK 99 YORK ST SYDNEY

UPCOMING REUNIONS

GO TO YOUR RFPA WEBSITE FOR THE MOST RECENT INFORMATION.

www.retiredpolice.com.au

59 YEAR REUNION – CLASS 106 OF 1966

When: 11th and 12th September, 2025

Where: Club Mingara, at Tuggerah

Contacts: Lee Rankin 0407206327 lvrarkin@bigpond.com

Irene Juergens (IJ) 0402063140 tomsie3@bigpond.com

Phil Martin 0413771770 phil.martin@optusnet.com.au

RSVP: Please advise if interested so a booking can be made.

An information package for venue, accommodation and times will be available as soon as numbers are confirmed.

2026 FRIENDSHIP WEEK

Friends,

Arrangements have been made for friendship week for 2026 at the

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

Web site: lakemacholidayparks.com.au

Regards

Charles Halloran APM

mobile 0418198532.

REUNIONS HELD

**NSW POLICE ACADEMY CLASS 211 40TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION HELD AT THE NSW POLICE ACADEMY, GOULBURN.
8 - 9 APRIL, 2025 .**



Back row (L - R) Rod Grant, Sam Khoudair, Barry Doherty, Peter Meagher, Jim Pasfield, Chris Kolder, David Driver APM, Mark Noakes APM, Craig Richards.

Front Row (L - R): Fiona West APM, Kathy Newton, Michael Considine, Ken Schneiders, Michael Bowditch.

On the 9 April, 1985 a group of 82 recruits walked into the NSW Police Academy at Goulburn to commence their initial training course and became Class 211. .

Fast forward 40 years and a small group of that **Class 211** gathered again at the same location to renew our special bond of that initial training course and to have a walk down memory lane with a tour of the Academy.

It was a fantastic reunion which started on the 8th April with us all checking in and staying overnight in Academy accommodation.

Some of us enjoyed a visit to that old watering hole, **The Gordon Hotel** before we all got together back at the Academy bar and dining area, the Eagles Nest for a sumptuous 3 course dinner.

There were many stories of our time at a very sparse Academy with very few buildings and only eight accommodation towers, the classrooms found in the main building area. There was much laughter at some of the antics we got up to during our training, of course the tough encouragement of our instructors and the relief on the 21 June 1985 when we attested on the grass of the sports oval which was the parade ground.

It was a lovely gathering of 15 classmates where there was much happiness and fellowship and an excellent meal! A message from one of our instructors, **Sergeant David Harvey** was read out to the dinner group. He was not able to attend but had fond memories of many of our class members. We paused to remember four known deceased classmates, one of whom had died on duty. There were quite a few apologies read out of those classmates unable to be there.

On Wednesday morning 9 April, we were given the tour of the Academy with **Sergeant Steve Gardner** providing a wonderful guide of the whole training facility...just amazing!! So many new buildings with the availability of high tech scenarios, fantastic sports buildings and ovals to give the present day recruits the best training possible.

Each one of our Class 211 members who attended the 40th Anniversary Reunion agreed that it was a fabulous and memorable occasion, made so much nicer by the welcome from all staff involved at the NSW Police Academy. Our sincere thanks to the Principal, **Superintendent John Klepczarek, Sergeant Steven Gardner, Allison Croker, Nick Mitchell and Georgia Caton** for all the arrangements so we could enjoy a great event!

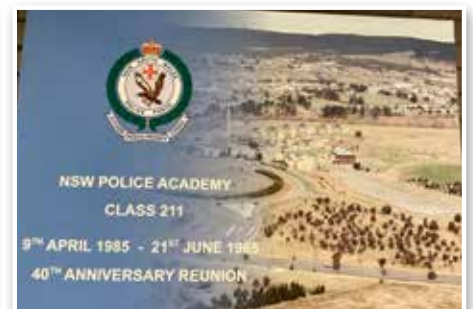
Attendees: **Barry Doherty, Chris Kolder, Fiona West, Sam Khoudair, Michael Considine, Michael Bowditch, Kathy Newton, Mark Noakes, David Driver (serving Assistant Commissioner), Rod Grant (serving Chief Insp marched out to retirement 2/5/25), Peter Meagher, Virginia Meagher, Jim Pasfield, Craig Richards, Ken Schneiders, Shaun Roach.**



With our guide for the NSW Police Academy tour, Sergeant Steve Gardner. Also joined by our classmate Shaun Roach who was unable to attend the dinner.



Our special Anniversary Reunion identification at the Police Academy.



The Class 211 40th Anniversary Reunion poster designed by Barry Doherty showing the Police Academy as it was when we commenced initial training in 1985.



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
BARKWITH	Fay	97		Unattached	2/04/2025
COOK	Ian Malcolm	85	10439	Unattached	25/03/2025
GALVIN	William John 'Bill'	84	10580	Brisbane & Northern Suburbs	20/05/2025
GLASHEEN	John Patrick	79	12231	Unattached	16/06/2025
HARDY	Roger Douglas	82	10319	Wide Bay	4/05/2025
INMAN LLB	Brian Frederick	89		Northern Beaches	18/05/2025
LUTHERBORROW	James W. 'Jim'	84	9653	Tweed/Gold Coast	29/04/2025
MCINERNEY	John Edgar	89	9937	Northern Rivers	19/03/2025
MCPHEE	Keith	87	9147	Parramatta-The Hills	23/05/2025
MUSSING	Desmond Anthony	82	11476	Penrith Blue Mountains	13/04/2025
SCHRODER	Garry Warren	85	10299	Unattached	27/03/2025
SCOTT	Todd Munro	53	27415	Mid North Coast	10/05/2025
SEALE	Gregory John	80	10646	Coffs Harbour	24/03/2025
SMITH APM	Roger David	86	9290	Murray River	24/03/2025
STANFORD	John	75	15951	Peel	13/03/2025
STOKOE	Archibald	93	7265	Illawarra	8/04/2025
WEBB	Colin Bernard	62	20996	Unattached	24/05/2025
WHITEMAN	Gordon Davis	93	8480	Dubbo District	22/04/2025
WILLARD	Peter Anthony	72	21095	Southern Tablelands	31/03/2025

Northern Beaches Branch Gazette Report – Winter 2025

Can you believe how quickly the year is flying by? We're already approaching the **Winter Solstice!** It's been great to see our meeting attendance continue to grow. Our March meeting saw around **40 members and friends** in attendance, and our May meeting was also well-attended with **36 people** joining us.



In April, we had a well-attended lunchtime catch-up at the Terrey Hills Tavern, with 32 Members & guests.

We are getting ready for a special **Christmas in July** celebration! We're having a river cruise and lunch aboard the **Nepean Belle** in July, partially subsidised by our branch.



Our bi-monthly meetings, held between our regular gatherings, are becoming incredibly popular—all thanks to our Social Secretary, Liz WHITEMAN for her hard work.

Congratulations to Chris CHURCH, Col COLMAN and Ross PARRY on gaining their OBEs.



Bill Bush presents Ross Parry's OBE Certificate



Bill Bush presents Chris Church his OBE Certificate



Dave Whiteman presents Col Colman his OBE Certificate

Recently, our members Deb ANDERSON and Alex VOGT reached out to Dr. Sophie SCAMPS, Federal Member for Mackellar, requesting Australian flags for use in honouring our fallen members at their funeral. Typically, flags are provided by Police Protocol and must be returned after the funeral; however, our branch feels strongly that families should keep the flag draped over their loved one's casket. This initiative

originated from the dedicated efforts of two members of the Northern Beaches RFPA branch, supported by the branch Executive.

Thanks to Dr. SCAMPSs' support, her Deputy Chief of Staff, Charlotte BONNAR, presented several Australian flags to our branch during the March meeting. One of these flags was then presented to Coral CALANDRUCCIO and her family.



Deb Anderson and Dave Whiteman accept the Australian Flag from Charlotte Bonnar.

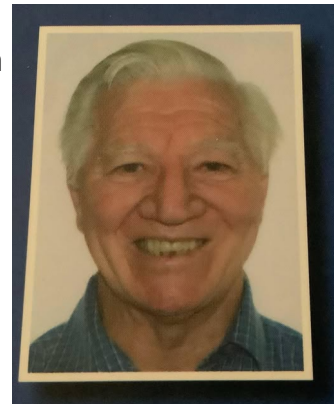


Coral Calandruccio and Family accept Ted's Vale Sash

The Executive of our branch is now producing on a regular basis a Newsletter for our Northern Beaches members. It will have a lot of useful information that will be in addition to the RFPA Gazette, including features from the RFPA Discounts and Benefits Scheme.

As a group, we want to take a moment to acknowledge and honor our Veteran member, Brian INMAN LLB. He has been a long standing member of not only the Northern Beaches RFPA but the NSW Police family for many years. Brian was a senior member of the NSW Police public service and his blood runs as blue as any of us who wore a uniform.

Remember to Look Down, Step Up and No Ladders. Over 50% of hospital admissions for the over 65 group are the result of falls.



Ian FINLAYSON and Julie BERTOLDO
Northern Beaches RFPA Branch Reporters.

NSW Police Intake Class 131 of 1972 latest reunion.

On 20th & 21st June 2025. Members of class 131 gathered at Wyong NSW for the 53rd Class Reunion. Which was held at the Royal Hotel Wyong.

Approximately 40 class mates and their partners attended to reunion hosted by class mate Geoff Doring.

The class mates also thoroughly enjoyed a very in-depth presentation, delivered by former detective chief inspector Russell Oxford of one of his many policing experiences.

Each year 131 class mates travel great distances, some from interstates, to the various destinations to attend same and all enjoy the catch up with class mate bringing their stories for all to enjoy. New faces, Lola Scott and Alan Warwick were welcome warmly to the reunion, and its hoped many more will continue to roll up each year.

Attached are 131 class photos taken during this years 2025 reunion.



Alan Barwick, Les De Belin, Russell Oxford, Lola Scott, Jackie Milledge, Carmel Flavell, Steve & Cathy Shields, Mark Brady



Alan Barwick (hypnotising) Lou Haslam & Mark Brady



Billy Eggins, Russell Oxford, Lou Haslam, Mark Brady, Noel Carrigg, Geoff Cox, Jackie Milledge, Lola Scott, Carmel Flavell (nee Mulheron)



Ken Fogarty, Mark Brady, Geoff Cox, Noel Carrigg, Steve & Cathy Shields, Lou Haslam, Russ Whitcher, Lola Scott, Jan & Joe Turner



Jaquie Milledge, Geoff Cox, Les De Belin, Russell Oxford



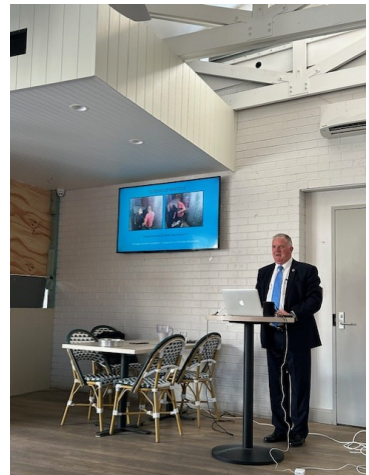
Les De Belin, Carmel Flavell (nee Mulheron)



Noel Garrigg, Steve Shields, Lola Scott, Joe Turner



Russ Whitcher, Mark Brady, Lou Haslam, Geoff Cox



Presentation by Russell Oxford



Terry Jacobsen enjoying a cup of tea

RFPA Benefits and Discounts Partners

Visit the RFPA Website for details on how
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discounts from these RFPA Business Partners



Retired & Former Police Association of NSW (Inc.)

RFPA Website

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