

# NEW MEMBERS

## NEW MEMBERS

Karl Attenborough  
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Andrew Clarke  
Richard Cooke  
Shane Darlington  
Ben Johnson  
Nicolas Mikael  
Stephen Monaghan  
Nathan Pfister  
Morgan Ramsay  
Mark Taylor  
Mark Wright

## DPP 27

Sinan Acar  
Brendon Adams  
Sarah Alexander  
Jason Aulina  
Tony Armitage  
Michael Armstrong  
Phillip Arnold  
Michael Aslin  
Simone Banner  
Brett Barling  
Craig Barlow  
Edward Bartley  
Erica Bennett  
Deepak Bishwakarma  
Anthony Blair  
Tony Blake  
Andrew Bonnici  
Andrew Brooks  
Ben Bryden  
Kylie Bunch  
Miles Burden  
James Butler  
Ted Bye  
Tania Cajna  
Rebecca Cambridge  
Kaylene Candy  
Peter Caridi  
Evva Christofi  
Aaron Clarke-Melnyk  
Anthony Clifford  
Sharyn Coffee  
Carmel Comerford  
Luke Conliffe  
Megan Cox  
Robin Crick  
Samantha Cross  
Adrian Cumerlato

Nadia Cunynghame  
Susanne Dahal  
Rodney Davenport  
James Davidson  
Michael Davis  
Gemma Davy  
Elizabeth Dean  
Dimitrios Delatis  
Linda Diab  
Matthew Dixon  
Jamie Doyle  
Kevin Duarte  
Grace Durrington  
Stephen Eagar-Deitz  
Michael Elliss  
Patrick Elliss  
John Esho  
Mark Fahndrich  
Rosa Fali  
Paula Farmer  
Michael Foscholo  
Craig Fowler  
Mitchell Friend  
Nathan Gabriel  
Rodney Gainsford  
Susan Gannon  
Sarah Gentle  
George George  
Matthew Gillett  
Matthew Glynn  
Briana Godfrey  
Michael Golding  
Mina Grace  
Kandy Grant  
Michial Greenhalgh  
Justin Griffiths  
Vasco Grujevski  
Michael Hadzic  
Laura Hallett  
Joseph Halloran  
Erin Halpin  
Matthew Hanly  
Michael Hannaford  
Benjamin Harrison  
Lisa Harvey  
Lee Heggie  
Christopher Hellyer  
Donald Henderson  
Peter Henkel  
Matthew Hewett  
Grant Hines  
Warren Hitchon

Darrin Hooper  
Shane Housego  
Daniel Houweling  
Justin Howard  
Michael Howard  
Adrian Hughes  
Nathan Huisman  
Michael Hurley  
Michele Hurlly  
Benjamin Jennings  
Garth Jensen  
Mathew Johansen  
Belinda Johnson  
Karen Kavanagh  
Troy Keep  
Jason Kennedy  
William Kirby  
Matthew Kitchener  
Michelle Larkin  
Benjamin Leckey  
Matthew Lee  
Steven Lees

David Leeson  
Dean Lenertz  
James Leocata  
Rebecca Little  
Rodney Lockley  
Kristy Madden  
Beau Maher  
Leonardo Mangabat  
David Marr  
Andrew Martin  
Samuel Martin  
Ashraf Matar  
Adam Mathieu  
Daniel Maybury  
Tanya Mcallister  
Darren Mcardle  
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Barbara Mosen  
Werner Muller  
Steven Murrell  
Christopher Neill  
Adam Newing  
Evan Nichols  
Mark Nisbet  
John O'Brien  
Tammy O'Neill  
Ashur Oshana  
Achille Palermo  
Maria Papanicolaou  
Jessica Parfrey  
Melanie Parker  
Mark Pearse  
Amelia Pellegrino  
Carie Perriott  
Jason Peters  
Brenden Petersen

Jody-Lee Phillips  
Kylie Phillips  
Gabriel Polias  
Bruce Porter  
Grant Price  
Karlie Pritchett  
Paul Purcell  
Hailey Reece  
David Rees  
Miranda Renshaw  
James Richardson  
Manuel Rivas  
Caroline Roberts  
Scott Roberts  
Shane Roberts  
Amy-Louise Robertson  
Eryn Robertson  
Luke Robinson  
David Romeike  
Darren Rose  
David Rosso  
Alexander Ruebner  
Kiera Russo  
Danielle Ryan  
Cheryl Scott  
Melissa Selby

Dannielle Shack  
Daniel Sharman  
Vicki Shipley  
Benjamin Short  
Lauren Shuttleworth  
Kamalpreet Singh  
Brendan Small  
Belinda Smith  
Cameron Smith  
Craig Smith  
Troy Sonter  
Therese Steele  
Jessica Stengord  
Veronica Stephens  
Michaela Stevenson  
David Stewart  
Robert Street  
Steven Surnicky  
Paul Tamblyn  
Margarita Tan  
Lachlan Tancred  
Michael Taylor  
David Theodore  
Douglas Thompson  
Brooke Thorne  
Viviene Todd

Jay Tonkin  
Nicole Tonkin  
Louise Tsolakis  
Brian Tulk  
Jason Turnbull  
Andrew Tyler  
Constantine Tzanis  
Giovanna Vitelli  
Murray Wakefield  
Ceri Walker  
Peter Wallbridge  
Nicholas Waterhouse  
Kate Waterworth  
Cassandra Weekes  
Thomas Wellings  
Phillip Wells  
Alexandra Wheatley  
Paul Wickham  
Ben Willshaw  
Benjamin Wilson  
Renee Wood  
Shane Woodhouse  
Anna Zajac

# HUMAN STORIES FROM THE VALLEY OF HELL

Reviewed by **Ted Bassingthwaight**

*The View from the Valley of Hell:*

*Four Years in the Middle East*

By Mark Willacy

Published by Macmillan Australia

Rrp 35.00

Recent newspaper headlines beseech an imminent new peace in the Holy Land. While other headlines even more optimistically promote the recently retired British Prime Minister Tony Blair, as a new peacemaker for the troubled Middle East and in particular the conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians. To suggest that a western politician can mediate a truce between the Jews and the Arabs in the Middle East is surely an exercise in futility. One may reflect on the spectacle of the former US President, Bill Clinton standing in front of the White House with the Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat and the Israeli Prime Minister, Yitzak Rabin. Then in a very public demonstration of solidarity these two mortal enemies shook hands to cement the Oslo Peace Accord of 1993. In 1995 Rabin was assassinated by one of his own countrymen, arguably for that handshake. Years later a right wing Jewish leadership relentlessly laid siege to Arafat's compound at Ramallah which probably hastened his death.

The path Tony Blair is carefully treading as the spokesperson for the international quartet, namely the United States, Russia, the European Union and the United Nations is well worn and littered with the detritus of racial and religious hate. What is the real motivation of this unlikely group of developed nations? Could it be to divide and conquer the Arabs as has been tried in past times by less sophisticated Christian invaders?

What is so intriguing about the Middle East that it has attracted the attention of most, if not all, developed countries since the formation of the Jewish state in 1948? The Jews in Israel and the millions of disenfranchised Palestinians living within the disputed borders of Israel, have been at war with each other and with their neighbours such as Syria, Lebanon, Iraq and Iran since the partition by the British.

The Americans and her willing allies have now, under the guise of the false premise that Iraq was developing weapons of mass destruction, become hopelessly embedded in a war of attrition. They are

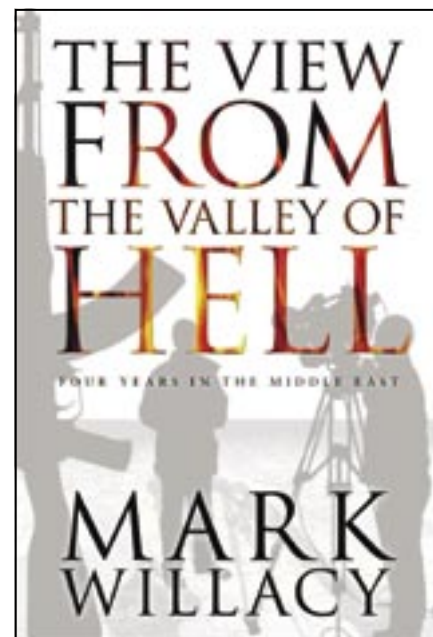
fighting not only Islamic fanatics from across the Islamic world, but both the Shiite and Sunni population of Iraq whom they professed to save from the hanged tyrant, Saddam Hussein.

There is another story in the Middle East. Without undervaluing the importance of the wider historical, cultural and political issues that both seemingly enhance and destroy Arab life it is stories about the individual Arab or Jew that really resonate when all seems hopeless in the Middle East.

Mark Willacy, Australian journalist, husband and compassionate observer is one of the better storytellers of the real tragedy that is never-ending in the Middle East. In *The View From The Valley Of Hell* Willacy details his life as it traverses the diverse lives of the many Arab and Jewish men and women he used as guides, translators and fixers during his four years of reporting on the Middle East for the ABC.

The foreign war correspondent is a unique breed. It just so happens that Australia has produced a number of notable foreign correspondents, who in many different ways, have revealed to the unsuspecting world the horrors of war and the effect of political obsequiousness. In the modern context, news is instant and more often than not supported by audio visual evidence. One only has to type 'IED' into a web search engine to see how omnipresent war and the horrors of war are in the collective psyche.

One such correspondent was Wilfred Burchett<sup>1</sup>. Burchett was multi-lingual and he used this to his advantage. He was also unashamedly left-wing or as he professed 'progressive'. He was the first western journalist to report from Hiroshima only days after the US dropped an atomic bomb on that defenceless city. He displayed a selfless bravery not known among his peers. It is this selflessness and dedication to tell the truth that rings true across the pages of, *The View from the Valley of Hell*.



Willacy has seen it all in the Middle East. He has seen the abject poverty of the multitude of Palestinian refugees, who press a very convincing case of human rights abuse by the Israelis in and around Israel. This word picture is balanced by the tortured scene he describes inside the Park Hotel in the coastal city of Netanya after a Hamas suicide bomber disguised as a woman, detonated a bomb killing among others, a Holocaust survivor, a father and his daughter and three separate married couples. This single act of wanton cruelty resulted in the usual heavy military response by the Israeli government with Yasser Arafat's compound in Ramallah pounded into submission.

Willacy drops the reader into the action throughout *The View from the Valley of Hell* through his very personal description of what he sees and hears and how it affects him. This shift from objectivity does not adversely impact on the credibility of his stories but adds a feeling of humanity in an oft times inhuman situation.

Following the invasion of Iraq, Willacy finds himself back in Baghdad for the second time since the invasion. He was ordered out of Baghdad by an apparently risk averse ABC management just prior to the original invasion by the Americans and her allies in early 2003. As one would expect from a foreign correspondent, he was not happy to miss the story of a lifetime but

in hindsight with an estimated 194 journalists and assistants killed in Iraq since the invasion in 2003, Willacy may have been saved from a premature death.

Undeterred by the unrelenting pressure from both Iraqi and coalition officials to monitor journalist output in Baghdad, Willacy and the many other foreign journalists have consistently produced factual and timely information for both television and radio throughout the conflict.

A significant and important part of Willacy's story is the verbatim accounts of the many innocent Arabs of all faiths in Iraq. Firas is a twenty-three-year old man who in a fit of rage, exacerbated by a quarrel with a neighbour, verbally insulted Saddam Hussein and his mother. For this heinous crime he was sent to Abu Ghraib prison where his interrogator placed pliers on his tongue, taking out a small piece only to repeat this three more times. What is more amazing about this one story of so many similar stories in *The View from the Valley of Hell* is that this man survived.

Flibbertigibbet means to be talkative and scatterbrained. At odd times the detail of the lives and experiences of the people Willacy meets, lives with, relies on and trusts is close to flibbertigibbety making *The View from the Valley of Hell* all that more personal to the reader and subsequently that much more emotional. ■

1. Wilfred Burchett, *At the Barricades*, Macmillan, 1981.

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**BANKSTOWN DETECTIVE TIES FOR SALE:** Bankstown Police Ties are now available for purchase in the BK D's office. The tie celebrates over 50 proud years of plain clothes policing in this area since the inception of the 19th Division and commemorates a history that many legendary Detectives have been a part of. The polyester tie is durable, blue in colour with white stripes and is of the traditional BK D's design with the Australian Wedge-tail Eagle carrying a golden set of handcuffs. The cost is \$30 and the tie is available to any person. These ties will become a collectors' item. Please contact Paul STAMOULIS, Trent ATKINS or David TUCKER if you are interested in purchasing this tie.

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**COOLANGATTA/RAINBOW BAY:** extremely large 2 bedroom en suite unit one street back from beach. Can see ocean. Huge relaxing patio. Dishwasher, colour TV, DVD, own laundry. BYO linen or hire by arrangement. Walk to restaurants, Twin Towns clubs. Bus at corner to theme parks, etc. Brilliant holiday venue. \$480 per week off peak, \$650 school holidays, \$1000 Christmas. Phone: 03 5261 2889 or 0418 599 324.

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**JINDABYNE:** A quality 3 bedroom home, sleeps 8. Ideal for summer or winter family holidays. TV, video, HiFi. Rates from \$450 per week. Phone Glen or Michelle (02) 4576 5286 or 0403 534 350.

**KIAMA:** mod s/c town house 2 b/r ens, sleeps 8, ocean views just metres to surf beach short walk to CBD, secure complex lock up garage, from \$600 p/w Ph Mike or Carol 0411 236 846 or kiama462@yahoo.com.au.

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[www.snappedforlife.com](http://www.snappedforlife.com). Grahame 0402 109 893

### WEDDING & PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY

Candid & Natural Photography. I personally photograph every Wedding Negatives available with all packages Sixteen years experience [www.imagephoto.com.au](http://www.imagephoto.com.au) email: [info@imagephoto.com.au](mailto:info@imagephoto.com.au) tel: 02 9542 7312

### YOUR WEDDING

**PHOTOGRAPHS:** By professional photographer with 30 years experience. Please call Mike Combe 02 9527 6360

### WANTED TO BUY

### RECENTLY RETIRED POLICE SGT REQUIRES ITEMS FOR DISPLAY:

i.e. rubber baton, pith helmet, photos, badges, books, cap & uniform. Anything considered. BRUCE TAYLOR, REGD #16728 PH. 02 6765 2339, 0413 811 100 or [brucetaylor60@hotmail.com](mailto:brucetaylor60@hotmail.com)

## BACK TO NEWCASTLE POLICE TRAFFIC OFFICE REUNION

To all PSB, STP, HWP, BAS General Traffic, Traffic Facilities, School Lecturers, Parking Police who worked at Newcastle Traffic Office, Scott Street, Newcastle over the years until its demise are invited to a reunion.

**Date:** 9 September 2007 at 12.30pm

**Venue:** Club Macquarie, Main Road, Cockle Creek

**Cost:** \$35.00 inclusive of meal, beer, wine, soft drink

**For tickets contact:** Bruce Tarrant, btarrant@aapt.net.au; Brian McIlvenna, 02 65576473 and Richard Face, rface@hunterlink.net.au

No tickets available at the door

## TEN-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF QUAKERS HILL LAC

**Date:** 14 September 2007

**Time:** 7 pm until midnight

**Venue:** Parramatta RSL, cnr Macquarie and O'Connell Streets, Parramatta

**Cost:** \$70 per person, inclusive of three course dinner, beer, wine and soft drinks

**Dress code:** formal, officers' mess dress

Tickets are now available to be purchased for the dinner. A payment system has been implemented to give you the option of paying off the tickets.

This will be a fantastic night and a unique opportunity for all old and new Quakers Hill staff to celebrate a great police station.

Partners and family members are strongly encouraged to attend.

**Contacts:** Debi McIntosh, mcin1deb, Sharon Brown, brow2sha, Bridgette Jacka, jack1bri, Mick Anderson, ande1mic, Jenny Hilder, hild1jen, or Sue Veronesi, vero1suz or ring Quakers Hill LAC, Ph 9678 8999 EN 76999.

## RETIREMENT FUNCTION SGT WILLIAM JAMES AIRS

**Date:** 14 September 2007

**Time:** 7 pm-12 pm

**Venue:** Liverpool Catholic Club, Cnr Joadja & Hoxton Park Roads Hoxton Park, NSW, 2171

**Cost:** \$55.00 per person. 3-course meal & beverages (beer, wine and soft drinks)

\*Please inform organiser if you have special dietary needs\* Partners welcome. No tickets at door

**Dress:** Smart

Payment: Cash / Cheque (payable to 'William Airs Retirement Function')

**Contact:** Abir Jalalaty, (jala1abi), 9827 5002 / 0408 660 448

**RSVP:** 27 August 2007

## RETIREMENT DINNER SUPT DAVID 'SHORTIE' SHORROCKS

**Date:** 21 September 2007

**Time:** 7 pm.

**Venue:** Campbelltown Catholic Club, 20-22 Camden Road, Campbelltown.

**Cost:** \$65, includes 3-course meal, limited wine and soft drink.

Entertainment provided by the Police Band.

**Contact:** Rose Yazbek on ph: 8835 4707, Sgt Mick Ward on ph: 0400 306 390, Snr Sgt Peter Borg on ph 8805 4725

No tickets at the door.

**RSVP:** 10 September 2007

## THE SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK GOLF CENTRE OPEN DAY

**Date:** 7 October 2007

**Time:** 11 am to 4 pm

A fun-filled day for all the family including a 15-minute free golf lesson, golfing tips, face painting, fairy floss, sausage sizzle, major prize drawn (at 3pm) and much more.

All contributions received from the sausage sizzle, gold coins, will be donated to the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia. For more information about the Sydney Olympic Park Golf Centre go to [www.sopgolf.com.au](http://www.sopgolf.com.au) or call 9764 6300.

## DARLO, KINGS CROSS, SYDNEY DISTRICT GET-TOGETHER

Former and current members who were stationed at any of the above locations during the 80s are welcome to a get-together lunch.

**Date:** 13 October 2007

**Time:** 12 midday

**Venue:** The Garden Buffet Restaurant, Star City

No booking needed, just turn up.

For further info contact Annette McDonald on MCDO1ANN or 31096 or 4352 0096 Dave Martin on MART1DAV

## UNITED NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL DEPLOYMENT GROUP POLICE REUNION

The NSW Police Branch of the United Nations Police Association of Australia invites Australian Police who have served with United Nations or IDG overseas operations to attend a reunion in Sydney from Sunday 21 October to Wednesday 24 October.

A number of activities have been planned which will culminate on 24 October, United Nations Day with a march through Sydney streets to the Cenotaph, Martin Place, for a wreath laying ceremony.

The march will be followed by an official United Nations Day reunion at State Parliament House hosted by the NSW Minister of Police David Campbell.

To register your interest please contact Denis Percy, national president, 0419 422 801 or via email, [ozpercy@bigpond.com.au](mailto:ozpercy@bigpond.com.au)

For more information and UNPAA applications visit [www.unpaaa.org](http://www.unpaaa.org)

### **SOUTH REGION REUNION, 1989–96**

An invitation is issued to all officers, NCOs, administrative staff and partners.

**Date:** 25 October 2007

**Time:** 6.30 for 7.30 pm

**Venue:** Queanbeyan Kangaroo Rugby League Football Club, Queanbeyan

**Dress:** smart casual/jacket and tie

**Cost:** \$35.00 pp (includes 3-course meal and some drinks)

**RSVP:** 30 September

**Contact:** Bruce Gibson, [bjgibson@tac.com.au](mailto:bjgibson@tac.com.au), ph: 0409 773 784 or Kevin Wild, ph (02) 6021 1175 or 0402 323 203.

### **DOHERTY AND DOHERTI CHARITY GOLF DAY**

This event is held in memory of former Police Officers Ted Doherty and Joe Doherty who both coincidentally died from cancer. The event is held on behalf of the Cancer Council of New South Wales event No S0/07/005. This annual event has now raised in excess of \$20,000.

**Date:** 29 October 2007

**Venue:** Illawarra Country Golf Course, Princes Highway, Helensburgh. 3-man Ambrose, players to muster at 6.30 am for a 7 am shot gun start.

**Cost:** \$50 per person that includes a sausage sizzle breakfast, BBQ lunch, refreshments and raffles at the Centennial Hotel Helensburgh. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd and prizes on every hole.

This event is a sponsored event supported by local Members of Parliament and businesses.

For registration or further inquiries contact Lawrie Drury, 0410 300 198, or email [drur1law@police.nsw.gov.au](mailto:drur1law@police.nsw.gov.au).

### **REUNION OF CLASS 99/99A**

Those who were sworn in on 11th May, 1964 (Reg No 10989-11090) are invited, with their partners, to a reunion to be held at Port Macquarie.

**Date:** 17 November 2007.

**Time:** 6.30 pm for 7 pm

**Venue:** Renaissance Room, Port Macquarie Panthers.

**Cost:** \$40 pp will include 3-course meal with some wine. Other drinks at bar prices.

For further information contact Jim Cranna on 6584 3376 or [portjames@bigpond.com](mailto:portjames@bigpond.com) or Garry Williams 6582 1263

### **PROPOSED REUNION FOR CLASS 229**

Expressions of interest are sought regarding a full reunion of class 229 attested 18/9/1987 for the celebration of 20 years' service to be held sometime in late September. The venue is yet to be determined (Sydney city or harbour cruise) or contact below with any other suggestions.

Please forward notice of interest with name, class ID and number of persons attending so numbers may be gauged. Also any retirees you know of are welcome if whereabouts and contacts are known.

**Contact:** Greg Lapham @Macquarie Fields HWP, LAPH1GRE, or John Crawford CRAW2FOR.

### **OLD CIB REUNION**

For Detectives who worked at any squad in the CIB before it was disbanded in 1988. From Central Dets, to Hat Factory to Remington Bldg.

**Date:** 30 November

**Lunch:** 12-4.30 pm

**Venue:** in city, location depending on numbers.

Forms for expressions of interest at [www.cibreunion.com.au](http://www.cibreunion.com.au) or phone Don Macmillan 9745 4272

### **BLUE LINE GAMERS**

Want to hook up with other police for some LAN and online PC gaming? Gaming LANS and online sessions held regularly.

Join [www.bluelinegamers.com](http://www.bluelinegamers.com) for scheduled dates. Games played include Call of Duty 2, Dawn of War, Red Orchestra and others. All enquiries via email to [nemesis@bluelinegamers.com](mailto:nemesis@bluelinegamers.com).

### **INNER WEST RETIRED POLICE**

All retired Police are invited to attend our social meetings at The Briars, Greenlees Sports Club, Concord, on the last Friday of each month, commencing 12 noon.

**Contact:** Chas Devine 4938 0466, Bob Rolfe 9874 7586 or Max Mitchell 9743 1548.

### **FAR SOUTH COAST RETIRED POLICE SOCIAL GROUP**

Come and join us at 12 noon for lunch at the following venues in 2007, wives and partners are most welcome.

5 Sep Narooma Services Club

3 Oct Batemans Bay Bowling Club

7 Nov Moruya Golf Club

5 Dec Catalina Golf Club

Further information contact Les Carter on (02) 4472 3632 or [lesmarycarter@aapt.net.au](mailto:lesmarycarter@aapt.net.au)

## BLUE KNIGHTS LAW ENFORCEMENT MOTOR CYCLE CLUB

Blue Knights has members in most states of Australia and regularly holds rides and rallies where members get-together with their brothers and sisters in law enforcement from all over Australia. Among the Blue Knights members, 'There are no strangers, only friends you haven't met'.

Please contact Ray 'Robbo' Robinson (retired member) on rob1ray@bigpond.net.au for further information or visit www.bk1aust.org.

## NSW POLICE WIVES & FRIENDS SUPPORT GROUP

An invitation is extended to all Police wives, partners, widows, mothers or any friends who have an interest in our Police Service to join our group.

### Meetings

27 September, 26 October, 26 November  
President, Elaine Chapman (02) 9651 4349,  
Secretary Stephanie Lander (02) 9543 1630.

## NSW POLICE BOWLING CLUB PROGRAMME

Sep 19	Woy Woy	1.00 pm	Fours
Oct 10	Mounties	1.00 pm	Fours
Oct 24	Blacktown City	9.30 am	Triples V Royal
Nov 14	Mt Lewis	1.00 pm	Fours
Dec 6	Riverstone	1.00 pm	Fours

President: Rod Howard, 02 4737 8804  
Secretary: Steve Martin, 02 4722 2569  
Bowls Secretary: Ron Webb, 02 9627 7571.  
Email: nswpolicebowls@yahoo.com.au

## POLICE ASSOCIATION OF NSW ASSOCIATES BRANCHES

### CENTRAL COAST ASSOCIATES

Meet at midday on the third Tuesday at two-month intervals at Ourimbah RSL Club, Pacific Highway,

Ourimbah. Any change will be notified.  
Branch Administrator: Brian McVicar (02) 4333 9971.

### MID NORTH COAST ASSOCIATES

All Associate members, partners, widows, retired Police and new members are invited to attend our meetings as follows.

### Meetings

4 Oct Sawtell Golf Club  
6 Dec Nambucca Heads Bowling Club (AGM)

Meetings commence with morning tea at 10.30 am followed by lunch at 12.30 pm. Please contact any of the following by the Monday prior to the meeting: Jack Spencer (02) 6658 2119, Neil Mason (02) 6655 5570 or Betty Frost (02) 6655 6508.

### NORTH COAST ASSOCIATES BRANCH

All Associate members, partners, retired Police and new members are invited to attend our meetings for 2007 as follows:

### Meeting dates

4 September B.B.Q. at 17 Wyuna Cresc, East Ballina.  
11 December, AGM followed by Christmas function.

Meetings commence at 11 am and are followed by fellowship and lunch. All members are asked to advise email address for contact purposes to the administrator at joncrick@bigpond.net.au or phone 6681 3586.

**Chairperson:** Maurie Lloyd 6686 7247

**Administrator:** John Crick 6681 3586 or email joncrick@bigpond.net.au

### NORTHERN ASSOCIATES BRANCH

Your social committee as usual is well prepared for 2007 and provide the following proposed dates and venues for luncheons;

9 October Heritage Gardens, Pokolbin  
11 December Christmas luncheon Belmont 16' Club  
Don't forget to RSVP by Friday before the luncheon to:  
Ron Bender (02) 4946 5545, Terry Seery (02) 4946 1242, John Gilbert, (02) 4946 8656, Alan Crumpton (02) 4946 6477.

## NSW POLICE GOLF CLUB FIXTURES

11 Sep	10am	Bankstown	Single Stableford Matchplay Rd
25 Sep	11am	Pymble	2BBB Stableford
9 Oct	11am	Long Reef	Single Stroke 3rd Rd Champs
25 Oct	10am	Killara	Single Stableford Matchplay Rd
5-8 Nov		Port Stephens Golf Tour	Course details, accommodation etc TBA
22 Nov	10am	Ryde-Parramatta	2BBB and Matchplay Rd
4 Dec	10am	The Coast	Single Stableford Matchplay Rd
18 Dec	10am	X'mas party	Liverpool Mystery

Andy Barker (secretary), phone: 0422 736 776, email: agbarks@aol.com or bark1and@police.nsw.gov.au

Of course you are also welcome to attend the business meetings conducted at the PCYC, Young Road, Broadmeadow on the alternate (odd) months commencing at 2 pm where many members meet with long lost acquaintances for the exchange of information.

### **SOUTH COAST ASSOCIATES**

Meet at 11.00 a.m. on the third Monday of each alternate even month at the Illawarra Master Builders Club, Church Street, Wollongong. Branch Administrator: Bob Cocksedge 0438 089 369.

### **SOUTHERN METRO ASSOCIATES BRANCH**

**Next meeting:** 21 September 2007.

From 21 September 2007 all future branch meeting starting times have been bought forward to 10 am to cater for a complimentary cup of cappuccino coffee in the coffee shop of the SUS Club, turn left as you enter the club, between 10 am and 10.30 am. The meeting proper will then commence at 10.40 am.

Our guest speaker this month will explain how to have an overseas holiday without tears. The two Bobs are in the BBQ mode again as a BBQ has been arranged at a new council park in Karimbla Road, Miranda east of Kiora Road, the location is the old County Council Electricity Depot. When: Friday 19 October 2007, starting time 11.00am, good parking and excellent children's play area so bring the family.

For catering please contact Bob Coombs 9528 6331.

The Christmas lunch is booked in at the SUS club for 12 noon Friday 7 December 2007. Place this date in your diary now.

**John Armstrong:** Administrator, 9520 8133

**Tony Day:** Chairman, 9525 4330

### **RETIRED POLICE ASSOCIATION OF NSW**

All retired police, police widows and their partners are invited to attend the monthly meetings of the Sydney Branch of the Retired Police Association of NSW Inc, which meets on the third Tuesday of each month from 11am at the City of Sydney RSL Club, George St Sydney.

The Association has interesting guest speakers at their meetings, which are always well attended. For further information contact the chairman, Kent Vild on (02) 9683 1264 or the secretary, Barry Hocking on (02) 9644 2985 or email: [retiredpolice@optusnet.com.au](mailto:retiredpolice@optusnet.com.au)

### **BRISBANE & NORTHERN SUBURBS BRANCH OF RPA**

The Brisbane & Northern Suburbs Branch of the Retired Police Association of NSW meets regularly on the first Saturday of each month at 11 am. Our venue is the Norths Leagues & Services Club, 1347 Anzac Avenue, Kallangur, Queensland.

Members, visitors and guests are most welcome. We have a guest speaker at every meeting. The club has great facilities, fine food, cold drinks, and great coffee shop. So do come along and join us. All enquiries to Secretary, Kevin Ramm, 07 5429 8777, email [kevinramm@smartchat.net.au](mailto:kevinramm@smartchat.net.au), Branch Chairman, Kerry 'Tiger' Beggs, 07 3410 7305 or Treasurer, Doug Eddy 07 5498 5007.

### **GOLD COAST BRANCH OF RPA**

Gold Coast Branch of the Retired Police Association of NSW meets regularly on the 2nd Monday of each month at 11am at the Currumbin RSL Club, Currumbin Creek Road, Currumbin. Members, visitors and guests are welcome.

If you have any inquiries please contact Brian Landon on 0755 987362 or Jim Lutherborrow on 07 5564 1943.

### **NORTH METRO BRANCH OF THE RPA**

The North Metropolitan Branch of the RPA was formed in 1990 and meets quarterly on the second Wednesday of January, April, July & October at the Dee Why RSL.

Membership is open to all Police who have retired, resigned or been medically discharged. Our meetings commence at 10.30 am (usually very brief) followed by lunch and social gathering at the RSL.

**Contact:** Branch Secretary Bill McIntosh 02 9971 9698

**Chairman:** Geoff Green 02 9982 9663

### **POLICE POST TRAUMA SUPPORT GROUP**

Do you think you may be suffering from depression or anxiety? Have you been diagnosed with a depressive disorder? Need to speak with someone? We are not medicos, just ex-members who understand. Formerly known as the PTSD Support Group, we meet at 11.30 am on the third Thursday of each month. The venue is the Jade room of the Campbelltown RSL Club. Serving or former members welcome. If you'd like more information contact [esther@esthermckay.com](mailto:esther@esthermckay.com) or phone Bob on 4731 4488.

### **FOR SALE**

*Police Under Pressure* is a book about real police, particularly NSW Police and the accumulative psychological effects of police work. Written by clinical psychologist Dr Roger Peters, who has worked professionally with more than 3,000 police, *Police Under Pressure* examines PTSD, burn out and stress in relationships. It teaches resilience and the ultimate skills of survival. This book will certainly assist families of police officers who may struggle to understand what occurs in those involved in civilian combat and human tragedy on an every day basis. *Police Under Pressure* costs \$24.95 or \$4.95 for the e-book. For more information or to obtain a copy, visit [www.heas.com.au](http://www.heas.com.au)

## ESPYING THE EXPIRED...REGO THAT IS!

Have you ever wondered just how observant our highway patrol officers are? One HWP officer recently attended the scene of a person attempting to hang himself in his back shed. The dedicated HWP officer pulled up in the driveway and followed the informant into the shed. He ran between two cars parked inside the shed up to where the man was hanging from the roof. Together with the informant, the HWP officer cut the man free and commenced CPR. After several minutes of CPR by the HWP officer and the informant, the ambulance officers arrived and took over. When the commotion was over, the duty officer asked our rescuer, 'What was the first thing you saw when you entered the shed?' Back came the truthful reply, 'The expired rego label on one of the cars as I ran past it!'

On a brighter note, the person has made a full recovery and is back at work.

## GRAPE INSULT

When life deals you lemons, someone advised, make lemonade. Can this same philosophy be applied to grapes? One day a duty officer was jogging, whilst off duty, when he was hit in the head with a missile thrown from a passing school bus. He hotly pursued the bus and managed to stop it. Employing the LEPRSA safeguards he identified a number of suspects, and secured the bus' surveillance tape. He then returned to the crime scene and located the subject missile – one Chardonnay grape. An assault event was created and later disseminated to the LAC; however, rather crushingly, they declined to investigate it and the case was suspended.

## A TALE OF TWO NORMANS

A Senior Constable from a border LAC was to appear and give evidence at District Court. Prior to getting into the witness box, the Senior Constable received a call from his wife asking him to pick up an item from the local Harvey Norman outlet. Not wanting to forget the errand, he wrote the words 'Harvey Norman' on the back of his hand. Once in the box the Senior Constable went about answering the questions truthfully and to the best of his knowledge. All went well until he was asked a question in relation to a duty officer whose surname is Harvey. In answering the question the Senior Constable inadvertently called the duty officer 'Inspector Harvey Norman'. Realising the mistake he quickly corrected himself. However, instead of keeping the slip up amongst him and the few people inside the court house, upon returning to his station the Senior Constable informed his work mates.

## COSTLY TO KILL A MOCKING BIRD

A Victorian police officer who used a rifle to shoot and kill a swooping magpie in a Melbourne backyard, was found guilty and fined \$2,000 according to AAP reports. The Court was told the officer fired a shot from his privately-owned .22-calibre rimfire rifle at a magpie who was menacing his two children and other adults. The constable, who will face a disciplinary hearing to determine his future in the police force, was found guilty of discharging a firearm in a populous place and destroying protected wildlife. However the Judge did not record a conviction against the officer saying she had taken into account his unblemished record prior to the magpie incident.

## WINNER

Congratulations to JA, the winner of our recent funny story competition, he knows who he is! For your chance to win a cash prize, please send your true, funny, scary, sad or macabre moments of life in the job to [policenews@pansw.org.au](mailto:policenews@pansw.org.au)

## YOU WANT ME TO DO WHAT?

