



NEWSLETTER

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RETIRE POLICE ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA inc

Newsletter Issue:

January 2020

Email: rpatas1@gmail.com

Patron: Sir Max Bingham QC, BCL, LLB, LL

Secretary Kerrie Whitwam

President David Plumpton

Treasurer Steve Collidge

WELCOME TO A NEW DECADE JANUARY 2020

FROM THE DESK OF PRESIDENT DAVID

Hello once again and I hope this newsletter finds you all in good health and content with life. Hope you all had a great Christmas and the New Year has started as you would have wished.

As we roll into 2020 you have a new member on the Executive – Steve Harrop has joined us and will be working hard to do whatever he can for all members.

As you would be aware we lost quite a few members in 2019, it was a sombre year and not one I hope we repeat. However, our membership has steadily increased – many joining through contact over our Facebook page.

For me 2020 will be focused on putting together a strategy to ensure members gain access to Tasmania



Police professional services when suffering from any disability, illness or injury, (particularly mental health issues) arising from their service. Our treasurer, Steve Collidge, has wholeheartedly thrown himself into assisting to achieve the best we can for members and whilst there may be a way to go it is achievable – as proven in Victoria.

As last year, there will be a number of functions throughout the year, throughout the State, and hopefully I will see you at one or two over the year

Again, thank you for your support and hope to see you soon.

Cheers

David Plumpton

WHAT ARE WE DOING IN 2020

28th January (Tuesday) 12 midday
Social Function and Get together
Globe Hotel cnr Davey and Antill Streets, Hobart

2nd February (Sunday) 11.30am for 12nd start.
NW Barbeque at Turners Beach,

5th February (Wednesday noon for 12:30pm) -
Northern Branch monthly meeting at Riverside Motor Inn

4th March (Wednesday noon for 12:30pm)
Northern Branch monthly meeting at Riverside Motor Inn

27th March (Friday) 6.00pm for 6.30pm
Northern Ladies Night at the Riverside Golf Club

15th April (Wednesday) 12md for 12.30pm
NW Branch Lunch meeting
at Bass and Flinders Motel, Ulverstone

21st May (Thursday) 11.30am for 12.30pm
Queensland RPAT Lunch, Southport Surf Club,
McArthur Parade, Main Beach Queensland.,

9th July (Thursday) 11.30am for 12 noon
Northern Mid-year Commissioner's Luncheon,
at Riverside Golf Club.

20th August (Thursday) 11.30am for 12:30-pm
Queensland RPAT Lunch, Alexandra Headland Surf Club,
167 Alexandra Parade, Alexandra Headland, Queensland

16th September (Wednesday) 12 noon for 12:30pm
NW Lunch meeting,
at Bass and Flinders Motel, Ulverstone

29th September (Tuesday) National Police Remembrance Day,
Police Academy, Rokeby (TBC)

18th October (Sunday 11:30am for 12 noon)
Southern Branch Partners lunch
at Shoreline Hotel, Howrah

16th November (Monday) 11.30am for noon)
Ye Old Traffic Police Luncheon,
Black Buffalo Hotel, North Hobart

19th November (Thursday 11.30am for noon)
Queensland RPAT Lunch
at Southport Surf Club, McArthur Parade,
Main Beach, Queensland

1st December (Tuesday 11:00am)
RPAT Annual General Meeting followed by
Commissioners Lunch at Police Academy,
Rokeby (at 12 noon)

9th December (Wednesday 11:30am for noon) All welcome
Northern Christmas Luncheon at the Riverside Golf Club
Includes Northern Branch AGM

Note—all members and partners are welcome to attend all functions unless specified to contrary

In the North-Western part of the State

Forthcoming events are:

Sunday, 2nd of February

BBQ on the banks of the Forth River, at Turners Beach.

All members and wives/partners welcome. Meat and salads provided by the Branch.

BYO refreshments, deserts and a **chair**.

NW members and wives/partners free. There may be a small charge for non NW Branch members.

It will be 11am start for a 12md start to cooking.

Advice to Rockie re attendance for catering purposes required by Friday 31st January.



Wednesday, 15th April

normal lunch meeting at the Bass & Flinders Motel, Eastlands Drive, Ulverstone.

12md for a 12.30pm start. All members and partners/wives welcome.

Advice to Rockie re attendance for catering purposes required by Friday 10th April.

Rockie can be contacted

on 0427 870 064 or

email rockielee@bigpond.com

On the last Sunday of each month

We have a regular but informal get-together at the Ulverstone Golf Club.

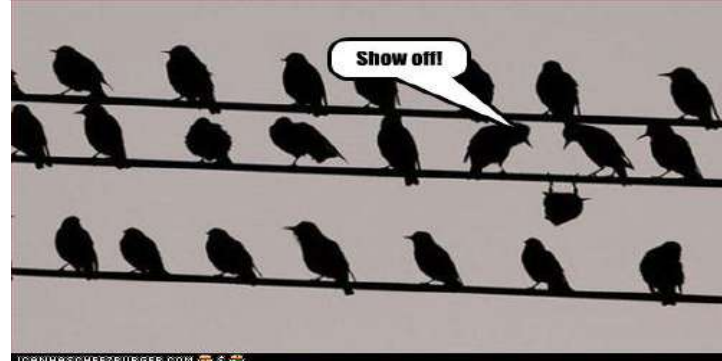
Food, refreshment and music available for reasonable prices.

For more information contact Greg or Sue Hyland –

0407 871 757 or

0409 841 740 or

gshyland3@bigpond.com



10% discount on selected items upon presentation of your RPAT card!

SPOT ON FISHING TACKLE HOBART
87-91 HARRINGTON STREET, HOBART 7000
Ph: (03) 6234 4880
Email: fishconn@bigpond.net.au

Finding a woman sobbing that she had locked her keys in her car, a passing soldier assures her that he can help.

She looks on amazed as he removes his trousers, rolls them into a tight ball and rubs them against the car door.

Magically it opens.

"That's so clever," the woman gasps. "How did you do it?"

"Easy," replies the man. "These are my khakis".

NAME BADGES AND CAR STICKERS

Greg Hyland is still arranging Name Badges for members. These require a lapel pin, that every member should have received when joining RPAT.

However, a new lapel pin can be arranged at a cost. The name badge cost is \$16.00.

The newest item is the popular Car Sticker.

In the last 12 months, 77 stickers sold

These have been printed as an inside sticker, measuring 150 L x 50 H. They are \$3.50 each (including postage).

It depicts the standard award ribbons issued to all Police Officers.

To arrange a purchase you can send Greg an email at

gshyland3@bigpond.com

Bank payment details are:- G.T. Hyland; **BSB 807009 Acc 30087506**

PLEASE put **YOUR NAME** in the description when you fill out the deposit slip.

Once your money is deposited, I will send out your stickers.

Police Association of Tasmania Offers

Contact the PAT at 107 New Town Road, New Town or by ringing (03) 6278 1900 between 9am and 5pm business days for information about discount offers.

Southern Branch News



In October 25 members and partners attended a lunch at the Shoreline Hotel.

It was an ideal opportunity for members to show appreciation of their partners.

Of course we re-hashed many of our work experiences, but it was an enjoyable day.



The Commissioner's luncheon and the Annual General Meeting were held at the Police Academy on Tuesday 3rd December. It was well attended with 106 members at the Commissioner's luncheon. The food (as always) was excellent.

Coming up on Tuesday 28th January we will be having a get together at the Globe Hotel in Davey Street from 12 noon onwards.

It will be an informal time where you can drop in for a drink and a chat (and something to eat if you wish) from the counter meal lunch menu.

All being well we are anticipating more of these functions later in the year.

More information from Tom Lahl (0409 320 683)

Services Guide

Legal

Nick Beattie, Barrister & Solicitor, Highfield House
L1, 114 Bathurst Street, Hobart Tas 7000
ph (03) 62346420

Email admin@nickbeattie.com.au

Web nickbeattie.com.au



No Coffee warmer??? I can fix that!!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO 2019 AGM

Well 2019 is nearly over and I must say in some respects I won't be unhappy to see the back of it. We have been saddened with the loss of quite a few members, ex work colleagues or their family members. It just seems that this year we seem to be saying goodbye far too often.

On a more positive note our membership has actually increased with members departing TasPol joining and ex colleagues joining up having re-contacted through our Facebook Site. Whilst social media can be a pain the RPAT Facebook site has proven to be quite successful in keeping contact between ex-members. The site is not only for RPAT members but all ex police officers and State Servants and we have had a few join as a result of finding us on Facebook. Whilst it may not be for all it has certainly proven beneficial for quite a few.

On a practical note I have to say my efforts on the mental health of members front have not proven as successful as I would like. Whilst I managed to obtain a partnership with *Relationships Australia* and their assistance in producing a *Community Action Plan*, I was unable to convince the Commissioner of Police to provide ex-members with access to Tasmania Police Psychological assistance or well-being programs. This is a work in progress and it may be I have to take a more strategic approach. However, my aim is to have a program similar to Victoria Police, where ex-members have such access and there now exists a Police Veterans Card and Program. I am committed to getting us there.



This year has seen the RPAT move its meeting location from the Bellerive Police Station to the Police Association Offices in New Town. This has proven a particularly successful move, not only for office arrangements but cementing and strengthening our relationship with the PAT. My thanks to Col Riley, Andrew Bennett, Mark Kadjiolka and staff for their collegiality and friendship.

Can I also take this opportunity to thank each and every member of the Executive committee for their advice and assistance. We say goodbye to Syd McClymont, who after many years of dedicated and committed service in a variety of roles, but more particularly as Secretary leaves the Executive. I offer my sincere thanks for his outstanding work and guidance.

I have met many of you over the past 12 months and that is probably, for me, the best part of being President, attending the various events and meeting members I haven't seen in such a long time. Remember, most of us spent the majority of our working lives relying on one another and just about "in one another pockets" so please take the chance to catch up with one another in 2020, you will be surprised how good it can be.

David Plumpton APM

Why was the computer so tired when it got home?

Because ... it had a hard drive

RPAT Executive Committee appointed at 2019 AGM

President:

David Plumpton (Michelle) 0417 309 114
davidplumpton@yahoo.co.uk

Vice Presidents:

South

Tom Lahl (Carol) 0409 320 683
tomlahl1@bigpond.com

North

Jim Byrne (Geraldine) 0419 331 490
jamesby@bigpond.com

North West

Rockie Lee (Cheryl) 0427 870 964
rockielee@bigpond.com

Secretary/ Public Officer

Kerrie Whitwam 0409 235 725
kerriewhitwam@hotmail.com

Assist. Secretary

Gary Eastwood (Julie) 0414 933 917
garyandjulie@me.com

Treasurer:

Steven Collidge (Sally) 0417 866 827
collidge@netspace.net.au

Newsletter Editor:

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rax08766@bigpond.net.au

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arbuck467@gmail.com

George Piechowiak (Sue) 0409 257 332
g.piechowiak@bigpond.com

John Hinchin (Debbie) 0417 970 060
oonahglen@gmail.com

Stephen Harrop (Sylvia) 0419 504 742
sharrop@bigpond.net.au

Imm. Past President

David Fleming (Gill) 0419 595 128
davefl@bigpond.net.au

Retired Police Association Representative for Legacy Fund:

Mark Beech-Jones (Jo Green) 0418 396 267
beech1263@gmail.com

Auditors as Appointed by Executive Committee for 2020 Financial Year

Alan Swinton. swintonab@gmail.com
Gregory Chambers yolkahama@gmail.com

What does a nut say when it sneezes?

Cashew

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Total Membership is 479
includes 8 Life / Honorary Members

Members: Male - 449 (93.6%); Female – 30 (6.3%)
South - 274 (57.6%); **Northwest** — 65 (13.5%)
North - 84 (17.1%); **Interstate/Overseas**— 56 (11.6%)
Associate Members — 13

Members 80+ - - 84 (17.5%)

RPAT Members who passed away in 2019

Max ARNOLD,	David ASKEW,
Doug BAKES,	Kerry BESSELL,
Vernon CLARK,	Terry DALTON,
Snowy EDWARDS,	Ross GIBBONS,
Laurie LEAVER,	Colin LEWIS,
Neil LITTLEJOHN,	John (Jock) McJANNETT,
Derek MORGAN,	Ron SCHMIDT,
Neville WALKER,	Brian WEBB,
Graham WHITE	

Other workmates who passed away in 2019

Bill BLACKLOW,	Frank BURR,
Doug CORNELIUS,	Ross DAVIES,
Don DREWETT,	Peter GATWARD,
Cosmos KRAMBOUSANOS,	
Mitch KRUSHKA,	Bernie MCCANN,
Richard MURRELL,	
Byron PATON, (brother of David)	
Kenneth REECE;	Gerald THOMAS;
Anthony TIMMERMAN, (eldest son of John);	
Ray TOMLIN,	Reginald WELLS
Ivan WHITE	

Partners of workmates who passed away. In 2019

Patsy CHILDS (wife of Ray)
 Lorraine DANIELS (wife of Kerry) ;
 Win GRAY, (wife of Alan);
 Beryl MORGAN, (wife of Bernie)
 Barbara ROCHFORD, wife of Max)

Serving Member who passed away in 2019

Simon DARKE,

ODE TO A POLICE OFFICER

As the sun surely sets, Dawn will see it arise,
 For Service above self, Demands its own prize,
 You have fought the good fight,
 Life's race has been run,
 And peace your reward, For eternity begun,
 And we that are left, Shall never forget,
 Rest in Peace, friends and colleagues,
 For the sun has now set,
 We will remember,
 WE WILL REMEMBER THEM,
 Hasten the Dawn.

The Ode was originally written by West Australia Police Senior Sergeant Des Noonan in conjunction with the West Australian Police Chaplin, Reverend Barry May.

The Shed

David Brooks is Co-Ordinator of The 'Shed' (Veterans and Community Wood Centre) located at No. 1/33 Nunamina Avenue (located next to the Kings Meadows Indoors Bowls Club).

David can be contacted on 0400 518 924 or email vcwc@outlook.com.au All members are invited to call in and see his group at work. (Open Tues, Wed, Thurs)

HOW AND WHEN DO I PAY MY ANNUAL DUES???

The Treasurer has received a number of enquiries in recent weeks requesting the RPAT Bank Account details and how much is the Annual Subscription fee. To cover these issues the Treasurer provides the following information for members:

- *Subscriptions become due on the 1st January each year,*
- *Subscriptions are still \$15 per year and have not increased since 2012,*
- *A family rate of \$20 per couple is available to husbands / wives who both fall into the "Ordinary Member" classification,*
- *Associate Members rate is \$5 per year,*
- *Subscriptions can be paid by direct transfer to RPAT's MyState Account –*
- *BSB 807 009 Account Number 60118738,*
- *Please include **your member's name** on any Bank transaction so the Treasurer may reconcile your payment, and*
- *Our records indicate that there are still 21 members who have been un-financial since the end of 2018.*

Steve Collidge,
Treasurer

APHORISM— a short pointed sentence that expresses a wise or clever observation or a general truth;

1. The nicest thing about the future is that it always starts tomorrow.
2. Money will buy a fine dog, but only kindness will make him wag his tail.
3. If you don't have a sense of humour, you probably don't have any sense at all.
4. Seat belts are not as confining as wheelchairs.
5. A good time to keep your mouth shut is when you're in deep water.
6. How come it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark to become one who wants to stay out all night?

Members addresses & contact details

Have you changed your address, phone number, or email address since joining RPAT ?

Did you advise **Gary Eastwood?** Or are you not sure?

Gary would sooner be told twice than not at all.

Phone No **0414 933 917**

Email garyandjulie@me.com

or rpatas1@gmail.com

NORTHERN BRANCH NEWS

The Northern Branch has regular meetings with a meal at the Riverside Motor Inn on the first Wednesday of each month (12md for 12:30pm) Next meeting will be on Wednesday 5th February.



On 11th December about 60 RPAT members attended at the Riverside Golf Course for the Annual Lunch. It was very pleasing to see several members travel from Hobart and Burnie just for this function.



Future Functions at the Riverside Golf Club are:-

Friday 27th March; 6pm for 6:30pm —Ladies night

Thursday 9th July 11:30am for 12md
Commissioner's luncheon

Wednesday 9th December 11:30am for 12 md—
Northern Annual general Meeting & Luncheon

Bus riders in Bridport, Dorset England often have an unusual companion on their way to and from work each day – an adventurous, 15-year-old cat named Artful Dodger.

Dodger, a beautiful orange tabby, regularly boards the bus at the stop near his house and takes a 10-mile round trip, much to the amusement of the bus passengers and drivers. Sometimes, Dodger even hops on a lucky rider's lap for a cuddle.

The bus drivers and regular passengers know Dodger, and always make sure he gets off at his stop at the end of each journey. Some passengers even bring Dodger food and treats each day.



Dodger's owner, Fee Jeanes, said she was extremely surprised when she discovered the cat's secret life. One of her daughter's friends said she saw Dodger on a bus 10 miles from the family's home.

Fee tells the London Telegraph, "I couldn't believe it and panicked. I got into my car to go off and look for him and then at that moment the bus pulled up near our house and lo and behold he got off."

She soon found out that wasn't the first time Dodger had gone cruising the city by mass transit. "That afternoon I saw Dodger climb on board another bus and I rushed to tell the driver. I was shocked when she told me Dodger was always on there and liked to sit on the seats because they are warm from where people have been sitting."

The bus company, First Buslines, told the Telegraph that they don't mind if Dodger hitches a ride with them, saying, "Given this cat is elderly we suspect it would be eligible for free travel, perhaps a bus puss, if such a thing existed."

What should you give to a sick lemon?

Lemon aid

A BIG BREATH OF FRESH AIR

DONATE LIFE THANK YOU DAY

For RPAT member Ken Fletcher the simple act of breathing is the greatest gift, though it's something most people take for granted. Ken has been on a long and arduous journey for a set of working lungs.

33 years ago Ken was diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis. Though the doctors had tackled it with drugs, his lungs began to suffer years later. The first sign was noticing that he was more short of breath than usual while playing sport. Then his health suddenly declined while on holiday with his wife, Jan, in 2014.

"We went on a caravan trip to Cairns and further up", Ken said, "We were with some friends having a few beers, and I was good as gold. Jan's nephew asked me if I wanted to come round for a beer and some tea. I said "that would be good."

"He gave me, (and I remember because I haven't had it since) a can of XXXX. I was drinking it and I thought "Jeez, I've got a headache'. It took forever to drink this beer."

"We flew back to Launceston to attend a wedding in Hobart."

I still had a headache and was feeling a bit lousy. We went to Hobart for the wedding and I said to Jan, "I don't think I can go."

I went to the doctor the next day and he prescribed some antibiotics. Then a few days later. I was on the plane back to Cairns. "Probably shouldn't have done it, but my car and caravan were up there, so I got the plane to Cairns - thinking "I'll get over this."

I went to bed that night, got up at 6:30am and said to Jan, "take me to hospital".

I really struggled to walk when I got off the plane. Jan organised me to be admitted to hospital in Cairns where they found my oxygen levels had dropped to 65.

I don't really remember much after that for about four weeks. Jan asked the doctors why they couldn't put me under. (which they eventually did).

That night Jan received a call from one of the nurses to tell her that they had not put Ken under during the day as they did not know whether they would be able to get him back.

While Ken was unconscious the family discussed possibilities of organ donations and turning the machines off.

After Ken's Lung capacity had been boosted up he was taken to the Alfred Hospital to be considered for a transplant. Whilst there he broke his femur which brought his lung capacity down again.

On the 12th day after surgery, whilst lying in a bed in ICU, the doctor came in and said, "I think we might put you in this afternoon, because we have a set of lungs for you"

Following the transplant Ken's quality of life improved. He went from wheelchairs, to walkers, to crutches and even to walking on his own. His breathing was so good — "it was nice to be able to breathe"

This lasted for 10 months, when Ken had a shortness of breath while polishing the car. He was told that this was due to the fact the make up of the new lungs weren't right and that they had given up.

Ken's health dropped and he was in the wheelchair again until they received a phone call from the Alfred Hospital that they had a set of lungs for him.

They arrived at the airport and received a phone call to say the transplant lungs were not suitable, and that the operation was too risky. *So it was back home again!*

A further phone call was received that transplant lungs were now available. This time they got to the airport roundabout before being told the lungs were not suitable—*so it was home again*

A further two days later the phone rang again (at 3am) - The doctor said "Come on over we've got a set of lungs for you.."

All the way over Jan kept her phone off. She did not want to receive a call to say the operation had been cancelled. *"It was so nerve wracking."*

In a turn of luck Ken was wheeled into the surgery that afternoon.

Ken now thanks his donors and their families every day for their incredible gift.

So many things have happened, I've been cut open quite a few times and now new lungs have been put into me and I can do things— I can bike ride. I can play golf, I can swim.

Recently we even visited Europe and West Australia.

This year I was able to attend the Northern Police Luncheon on 9th December

Pretty much everyone I see, I don't hold back. I tell them and say to them ***"are you on the register?"*** or ***'have you told your loved one your wishes?***

Every year thousands of Australian lives are saved through the generosity of deceased and living organ donors and their families.

One of our RPAT members has been saved through an organ donation. ***Are you registered as an organ donor??***

Signing up to the Australian organ donor register can be done at donatelife.gov.au

**Donate Life Thank you Day was on
Sunday 17th November**

CATHOLIC SHAMPOO

While shopping in a food store, two nuns happened to pass by the beer cooler. One nun said to the other, "Wouldn't a nice cool beer or two taste wonderful on a hot summer evening?"

The second nun answered "Indeed it would Sister, but I wouldn't feel comfortable buying beer as I am certain that it would cause a scene at the check-out counter."

"I can handle that without a problem" she replied as she picked up a six-pack and headed for the check-out.

The cashier had a surprised look on his face when the two nuns arrived with a six-pack of beer.

"We use beer for washing our hair" the nun said, "A shampoo, of sorts, if you will."

Without blinking an eye, the cashier reached under the counter, pulled out a package of pretzel sticks and placed them in the bag with the beer.

He then looked the nun straight in the eye, smiled and said, "The curlers are on the house."

Ye Olde Traffic Polite Men

On 18 Nov 19 we had 40 members attending the Old Traffic Police luncheon at the Black Buffalo Hotel. It was a good day with some members travelling long distances to attend.



These prizes were made possible due to the generous long term support over the past 21 years of the Black Buffalo Hotel, Shoreline Hotel, Horseshoe Inn and members.

From the profits on the day we have donated \$130 to the Cancer Council for Prostate Research in Tas. This brings out total donation to the Cancer Council to \$1,360.

To those members who have donated generously over many years in different ways thank you.

The Committee would like to especially thank Garry Askey-Doran for his generous support over many years.



There were 32 raffle prizes won on the day these included food vouchers, meat trays, bottles of wine and glasses etc.



Our next function will be on **Monday 23rd November 2020** at the Black Buffalo Hotel starting at 11.30 am. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME**

Any enquires please contact LEO HUTCHINGS
0418 103 719 email hutchie8@bigpond.net.au
or BRIAN BICK
03 6239 9380 email cireido@bigpond.com.au

*Will you be there to enjoy our company in November??
and help us to raise more funds for Prostate Cancer Research*

Where do animals go when their tails fall off?

To a re-tail store.

What happened to the frog's car when it broke down?

It was toad away.

The Coin & Stamp Place



Established 1979

- ★ Medals mounted for wearing
- ★ Medals framed for display
- ★ Retirement Frames and Remembrance Frames
- ★ Ribbon bars and miniature medals supplied

Approved medal mounters for
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Phone/Fax: 03 6224 3536
Email: info@thestampplace.com
Website: www.thestampplace.com

Shop 3, Trafalgar on Collins
110 Collins Street, Hobart, Tasmania, 7000

Wonder why the word funeral starts with FUN?

Why isn't a Fireman called a Water-man?

How come Lipstick doesn't do what it says?

If money doesn't grow on trees, how come Banks have Branches?

If a Vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a Humanitarian eat?

How do you get off a non-stop Flight?

Why are goods sent by ship called CARGO
and those sent by truck SHIPMENT?

Why do we put cups in the dishwasher
and the dishes in the Cupboard?

Why is it called 'Rush Hour' when traffic moves at its slowest then?

How come Noses run and Feet smell?

Why do they call it a TV 'set' when there is only one?

What are you vacating when you go on a vacation?

Who thinks this stuff up?

What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus?

Claustrophobic

My friend was always annoying me with bird puns.

But I decided toucan play that game.

When do ducks wake up?

At the quack of dawn.

Hospitality

Wilderness Hotel. Derwent Bridge.

Contact Dave and Carol Fitzgibbon on 6289 1144

THE PROGRESS OF POLICEWOMEN OVER THE YEARS

CONTINUATION—from RPAT News, October 2019

Katarina Carroll, who will take over the role as the first female police commissioner in July, graduated as an officer in 1983 at just 19.

She rose through the ranks to hold several positions, including Assistant Commissioner (Far North) in 2010.

During her first year in uniform, her senior sergeant told her women had no place in the Queensland Police Service.

"I haven't seen him again thankfully," she said.

"When I started there were only 4 per cent of women in the police service and it's about 30 per cent now, so it has changed dramatically over the last 20-30 years, thankfully so.

"I suppose I'm evidence, that you can come up through the ranks and achieve what you want to achieve in life."

Ms Carroll said during her time as a young officer, it was particularly difficult for women, with a small number falling away when they got married or had children.

"There were even less women as we got promoted," she said. "Thankfully in recent years it has changed dramatically for us."

One of the academy's newest recruits, Margo Menkens, said she would encourage women to join the force.

"Apply, because the training does prepare you ... if you're feeling hesitant, the practical skills will definitely help you feel more accustomed and to feel confident to be on the road," she said.

Queensland will get its first female Police Commissioner after Katarina Carroll was announced as the new head of the police service.

Ms Carroll is the current commissioner of the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) and will take over the top job in the Queensland Police Service (QPS) in July, following the retirement of current Commissioner Ian Stewart.

She is the first woman to lead the state's police service in its 155-year history.



Ros Peters (now 81)

"It is a privilege and honour to be chosen as the next commissioner," Ms Carroll said.

"I'll be working hard over the next five years to make sure I keep this wonderful state safe."

Ms Carroll started her career with the Queensland Police Service in 1983 and rose through the ranks to hold several positions, including Assistant Commissioner (Far North) in 2010.

At the time, she was one of only two women at the rank.

She was also in charge of security and planning operations at the G20 summit in Brisbane in 2014, before spending four years at the helm of QFES.

Ms Carroll said she was ready for a new challenge.

"Certainly I do have plans that I'd like to unveil with my organisation ... and a lot of that sits around prevention — together working with community and other agencies at a local level, place-based — but also to take that tough stance on serious crime," Ms Carroll said.

Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk said Ms Carroll was an outstanding choice for the position, selected from a handful of other hopefuls.

"Commissioner Carroll was the best person for the job but I'm also delighted she'll be the first female police commissioner Queensland has had," Ms Palaszczuk said.

"This sends a strong message to young girls that you can do anything in this state.

"She has worn the uniforms of two branches of our emergency services and stood by us in our toughest times, including cyclones Debbie and Marcia, not to mention the 2018 bushfires."

In 2013, Ms Carroll recalled that in her first year in uniform, three decades earlier, her senior sergeant told her that women had no place in the Queensland Police Service.

She has two children.



Today's recruits (weighted down)

HOW TO MAKE A VODKA CHRISTMAS CAKE (Just for the cooks)

I've had requests for a Vodka Christmas Cake recipe, so here goes. Jennifer made ours a week ago.

1 cup sugar, 1 tsp baking powder, 1 cup water, 1 tsp salt, 1 cup brown sugar, lemon juice, 4 large eggs, nuts, 1...bottle Vodka, 2 cups dried fruit.

Sample a cup of Vodka to check quality. Take a large bowl, check the Vodka again to be sure it is of the highest quality, then repeat.

Turn on the electric mixer. Beat one cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl. Add 1 teaspoon of sugar. Beat again.

At this point, it is best to make sure the Vodka is still okay. Try another cup just in case. Turn off the mixer thingy. Break 2 eggs and add to the bowl and chuck in the cup of dried fruit.

Pick the fruit up off the floor, wash it and put it in the bowl a piece at a time trying to count it. Mix on the turner. If the fried fruit gets stuck in the beaters, just pry it loose with a drawscraper.

Sample the Vodka to test for consistency. Next, sift 2 cups of salt, or something. Check the Vodka. Now sh!t the lemon juice and strain your nuts. Add one

table. Add a spoon of sugar, or somefink. Whatever you can find.

Greash the oven. Turn the cake tin 360 degrees and try not to fall over. Don't forget to beat off the turner. Finally, throw the bowl through the window. Finish the Vodka and wipe the counter with the cat.

Which candle burns longer—a red one or a green one?

Neither—they both burn shorter.

Have you heard the joke about the butter?

I'd better not tell you, you might spread it.

QUEENSLAND NEWS

On Thursday 21 November we held our third RPAT lunch in Queensland for the year. The lunch was held at the Southport Surf Club and was mainly supported by those members now living in Queensland. Ron Philpott was however in the area visiting family and was able to attend the lunch, and John Morgan made a specific trip up from Melbourne to attend.

Most Queensland members have missed the fires as they are further north.

However Gary's daughter at Surfers has been suffering smoke for the past few weeks and it has been quiet bad down that way.



Members attending are from left to right - John Morgan, Lee Renshaw, Ron Philpott, Chris Chivers, Chris Gray, Julie Eastwood, Fish Bligh, Kate Renshaw, Gary Eastwood and Glenn Frame. A guest at the lunch was Butch Hudson who appears to have dodged the photo, or our photographer managed to miss capturing him in the photo.

Letter to Editor

Interesting Coincidences?

My wife Constable Jennifer Lathey joined TASPOL in 2000, and resigned (effectively retired) the same day I did, 3 June 2016.

One of our four children, Constable Kristin Males joined TASPOL in 2003 and remains a current serving member.

Of interest for your article is that mother Jen and daughter Kristin served at the same time between 2003 - 2016, and are believed to be the only simultaneous serving mother - daughter police women combination in Tasmania Police (according to TASPOL Media and Marketing back in 2016).

Kind regards Glenn Lathey

Thank you Glen, I am certain that there are many other similarities—I am waiting for some one to send me the information.

Roy Axelsen, Editor

A Wife asks her Husband, "How many women have you slept with?

Husband proudly replies, only you, Darling;

With all the others, I was awake!

Hospital Visiting Hours are; 10am - 4pm.

I was walking past the mental hospital the other day, and all the patients were shouting '13! 13! 13!'

The fence was too high to see over, but I saw a little gap in the fence and looked through to see what was going on.

Some bastard poked me in the eye with a stick.

Then they all started shouting '14! 14! 14! . . .

Queensland functions for 2020

Three Queensland lunches are programmed for 2020 and are detailed below.

21st May, 2020, (Thursday) 11.30am for 12.30pm, Southport Surf Club, McArthur Parade, Main Beach (Surfers Paradise) Queensland.

20th August, 2020, (Thursday) 11.30am for 12.30pm, Alexandra Headland Surf Club, 167 Alexandra Parade, Alexandra Headland (Sunshine Coast) Queensland.

19th November, 2020, (Thursday) 11.30am for 12.30pm, Southport Surf Club, McArthur Parade, Main Beach (Surfers Paradise) Queensland.

Claude the Hypnotist

It was entertainment night at the Old Folks Home and the Amazing Claude was topping the bill. People came from many Old Folks Homes in the district to see the famed hypnotist do his stuff.

As Claude went to the front of the hall, he announced, 'Unlike most hypnotists who invite two or three people up here to be put into a trance, I intend to hypnotize each and every member of the audience.'

The excitement was almost electric as Claude withdrew a beautiful antique pocket watch from his coat.

'I want you each to keep your eyes on this antique pocket watch. It's a very special watch. It's been in my family for five or six generations.'

He began to swing the watch gently back and forth while quietly chanting, 'Watch the watch, watch the watch, watch the watch.....

The crowd became mesmerized as the watch swayed back and forth; light gleaming off its polished surface.

Hundreds of pairs of eyes followed the swaying watch, until, suddenly it slipped from the hypnotist's fingers and fell to the floor, breaking into a hundred pieces.

'Shit', yelled the Hypnotist...

It took three days to clean up the Old Folks Home...

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