

THE

DRUM

THE NORTHERN TERRITORY POLICE, FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES MAGAZINE

AUGUST 2009



THIS ISSUE

NT Police host annual Commissioners' Conference
Move over Hamilton Island – the best job in the world is right here!
Volunteers the best for NTES
Squad 30 – 30 year reunion

Commissioner's Message



Our second edition for the year, the August Drum again demonstrates the Tri-service's commitment and impact on all areas of the Territory community.

Congratulations to Police, Fire and Emergency Services members who continue to be recognised and awarded both locally and nationally for their dedication to doing a great job and, performing above and beyond their role; in one situation, an auxiliary's quick thinking even saved a man's life.

I am also proud to highlight the commitment that the Tri-service has to continuous improvement, as evidenced in the diverse and ongoing training courses taking place across all areas of the agency. Our Police, Fire and Emergency Services members put a high priority on developing their skills and capabilities and being aware of the latest technologies available to them, so that they can provide the best services possible.

We pay special tribute to Brevet Sergeant Glen Huitson, with 2009 marking 10 years since he was tragically killed while performing his duty. Although 10 years have passed, Glen continues to be remembered fondly by family and colleagues; his family commemorates his birthday each year and a shade structure has been built in his honour, constructed by volunteering Police officers.

A special mention should be given to all our Fire and Rescue and Emergency Service volunteers who play a crucial role within the NTPFES and do an outstanding job, in their own time and without pay. Given the geographical spread of the Northern Territory, volunteers have an integral role in providing emergency assistance and in many remote situations, are often first on the scene.

Lastly, I would like to thank all NT Police, Fire and Emergency members who continue to creatively and enthusiastically engage the community through various activities, sporting events and fund raising occasions far and above the call of duty.

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The **Drum** is the official magazine of the Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services.

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Front Cover

A group from the Emergency Department at Royal Darwin Hospital, the Northern Territory Institute of Sport and NTFRS were all involved in a multi agency study to determine the most appropriate cooling methods during the rest phase of the work rest cycle.

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NTFRS cool off

Territory fire-fighters are helping develop better ways to keep themselves cool during fire fighting incidents.

Members of the Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service (NTFRS) recently took part in one of the largest research projects ever undertaken in Australia when they joined forces with other agencies to find the best ways to cool down while fighting fires.

The research project compared different methods of cooling for emergency personnel at protracted incidents.

A group from the Emergency Department at Royal Darwin Hospital, the Northern Territory Institute of Sport and NTFRS were all involved in the multi agency study and have been working together to determine the most appropriate cooling methods during the rest phase of the work-rest cycle.

The study requires NT Fire and Rescue members to actively participate in fire fighting, Chemical Biological & Radiological or Hazardous Material exercises for 35 minutes before being broken into groups to test various cooling techniques.

During this cooling period; core temperature, blood pressures, pulse rates, tympanic temperatures and core temp reduction rates were measured at regular intervals. Groups then returned to the exercise after a 20-minute rest period, and repeated the work/rest cycle a further two times.

The research team tested 120 NTFRS, Air Services fire-fighters, hospital and Saint John Ambulance personnel and gathered over 6000 individual observations.

During the exercise 60 splash suits, 60 SE 400's (positive pressure respirators), 180 Breathing Apparatus (BA) cylinders and 60 BA sets were used. 240 questionnaires were completed and the research team have now moved into the data analysis phase in preparation for a preliminary report.

"NTFRS values the safety of its personnel highly and by participating in this activity we will gain invaluable knowledge on the best way forward to manage the welfare of our personnel at protracted incidents," said the NTFRS Director Mr Greg Nettleton.

"The NTFRS is very proud of its members who volunteered their time to participate and assist with running the exercises, without volunteers this testing would not have been possible" he said.



Top **Members experience what conditions would be like in a decontamination unit.**

Middle left **Confined space exercise.**

Middle right **Cooling off in the ice baths.**

Bottom **Bill Gleeson gets his blood pressure taken during a cooling off period.**

NT Police Host Annual Commissioners' Conference

By Glenda Ramage

The Police Commissioners' Conference of Australasia and the South-West Pacific Region (PCC) was recently hosted by the Northern Territory Police.



Left The conference was attended by eight national and five international jurisdictions. Top right Commissioner of Police Paul White presents Sir Hugh Ord OBE, Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland with a conference gift, a traditional aboriginal painting. Above Enjoying the welcome BBQ at Sky City. Back row Assistant Commissioner John McRobert, Dr Tim Turner Ed.D, Deputy Commissioner Bruce Wernham. Front row Deputy Commissioner Kathy Rynders, Sue Keelty, Commissioner Andrew Scipione, Joy Scipione, Nicole Rose.



Top photo front row **Bilawarra Lee, Sergeant Rosanna Breed, ACPO Lisa Burkenhagen, Auxiliary Pauline Williams.**
 Back row **ACPO Michael Cussens and Auxiliary Ken Williams**
 Middle **Deputy Commissioner Kathy Rynders and Sue Wilkinson meet some of the local wildlife.**
 Above **ACPO Michael Cussens performs on his didgeridoo.**
 Right **The resident crocodiles put on a great show for our interstate and international guests.**



A high quality agenda provided a valuable opportunity to meet and collaboratively discuss a wide range of policing issues. The theme “Leading and Managing Change” with a sub-theme of “Serious and Organised Crime” was supported by an excellent field of international and local speakers.

Improving how jurisdictions work with one another is the primary objective of all Police Commissioners’ Conferences (PCC) as there is no single answer to the complex challenges Police face.

Of particular interest were key note presentations by Sir Hugh Orde OBE, Chief Constable of the Police Service of Northern Ireland, who spoke about the Northern Ireland Police Service; Dr Timothy Turner, Supervisory Special Agent (retired), Leadership Development Institute of the FBI Academy, Quantico, USA, who discussed the need for emotional intelligence in law enforcement; and Mr Solomon Trujillo, ex-Chief Executive Officer of Telstra Corporation Limited.

The PCC provided delegates with the opportunity to examine different regions and jurisdictions and discuss with their counterparts important strategic policing issues. The conference was also an excellent opportunity to obtain a better understanding of the differing conditions, environments and issues that face Police services.

Delegates were given a real taste of the Territory at the official conference dinner, hosted by the Chief Minister Paul Henderson. Dinner was held at Crocodylus Park and yes, crocodile was on the menu. Guests were given the opportunity to handle some of the park animals and during a short park safari were invited to feed the crocodiles.



In one pen is an enormous blind crocodile. Upon hearing footsteps on the boardwalk of the pens his head was already raised out of the water and he was listening intently. A young Melbourne lass, also feeling a tad nervous, had an insect crawl on her leg and immediately stamped her foot several times to shake it off. Old man croc thought it was the dinner bell and roared out of the water slamming into the side of his pen with enough force to reverberate the entire board walk.

The Territory contingent tried desperately not to fall over laughing, the Melbourne lass was in hysterics and the rest of the party stood unmoving for a moment trying to figure out what exactly had happened.

His Honour Mr Tom Pauling, Administrator of the Northern Territory, hosted a reception for conference delegates during which he gave an entertaining and thought-provoking speech based on the conference theme of Leading and Managing Change in Policing.

His speech revolved around looking back at our history to track change and also see what issues remained consistent. Two stand-out issues were –

Territory Police staff, when established in 1870’s, consisted of an Inspector, a Corporal and 5 Constables with horses;

The first entry into the city’s death register recorded the passing of William Read who died from “drowning dragged overboard from a boat by an alligator” and the first police fatality (1872) when Mounted Constable Davis had a dip in the sea and was taken by a crocodile; only a few weeks ago we witnessed police and emergency services searching rural lagoons, and then the Daly River for recent victims of croc attacks.

Overall the general consensus from both National and International delegates was that the PCC provided a most valuable forum for the exchange of ideas and strategies, and for discussion on future directions and challenges in Policing, and, most importantly, that Territorians were extremely warm and welcoming and the Territory itself, is simply the most beautiful place on earth!

Keeping the NT Fire Lighting Free

With almost six months a year without rain, understanding how bushfires start and the best way to combat them is critical knowledge for our local firies.

Recently, bushfire investigator Ralph Smith was flown in from Western Australia's Fire and Emergency Services Authority to help teach our NTFRS to better understand fire behaviour and its effect on local vegetation. Participants were also tasked with investigating each other's fires to determine where and how the fire started.

NTFRS' Acting District Officer, David Pettit is already a trained structure fire investigator but was keen to learn the new skills required to investigate bushfires.

David says that Territory firefighters are very aware that the majority of bushfires they respond to are caused by human activity.

"More than 70% of fires are unexplained and deemed to be a result of human intervention," he said.

"Therefore, it's great to see that the Fire and Rescue Service, along with Bushfires NT and Police have taken a proactive approach to catching bushfire lighters across the Northern Territory."

The training included how to quickly identify and protect the area where the fire was most likely to have started.

Investigators can then be called in to determine the cause and provide a comprehensive report for the prosecution



should the suspected fire lighter be identified.

"To catch fire lighters we need the cooperation of local witnesses" said David.

"Some one will usually see something that will fit together with other evidence to lead us to the fire lighter, so community involvement is paramount to our success," he said.

On completion, 15 firies from across the Territory became nationally accredited bushfire investigators.

Report suspicious behaviour and do your part to Keep the NT Fire Lighting Free by calling 131 444.

Top **Fifteen NT firies took part in the recent Bushfire Behaviour Course run by Western Australia's Fire and Emergency Services Authority.**

Below left to right **NTFRS Acting District Officer Dave Pettit with Western Australian Fire and Emergency Services Authority's bushfire investigator Ralph Smith during the training course. One of the aims of the course was to teach firies how to find the source of a bushfire.**



Auxiliaries Awarded for Action

Senior Auxiliary Debra Carter and Auxiliary Tara Tarca with their Commissioner's Letters of Recognition

Two Territory Auxiliaries have been awarded the Commissioner's Letter of Recognition for their part in saving a man's life after he threatened suicide.

While most Territorians were enjoying their dessert or getting ready for bed on the night of 25th of February this year, Auxiliary Tara Tarca and Senior Auxiliary Debra Carter were doing their job – and a very good one at that.

Answering a call from a male threatening suicide and self harm, Auxiliary Tarca not only maintained a calm disposition, but she also found out who the mysterious caller was.

She recollected a similar call taken months previously. She managed to locate the particulars of that incident and was able to identify the caller, who was then subsequently tracked down by Police.

“Due to the type of comments he was making and unusual nature of the threats, I recalled a similar case months earlier and was able to track him down that way, which I'm very pleased about,” she said.

After 50 minutes of conversation with Auxiliary Tarca, Senior Auxiliary Debra Carter took over negotiations.

Her negotiation skills were of such a high standard that the trained negotiators allowed her to continue in their presence, rather than take over.

When asked how she felt about that she simply said,

“I am very glad to have been able to help. I have the gift of the gab and in this circumstance it paid off,” she said.

Tara and Deb were awarded with a Commissioner's Letter of Recognition, presented by Deputy Commissioner Bruce Wernham at the Auxiliary Squad 34 Graduation, for their dedication to duty far exceeding what might reasonably be expected.

Deputy Commissioner Bruce Wernham commended both Tara and Debra on their professionalism and dedication to duty.

“You have both demonstrated leadership and negotiation skills beyond what is required and your efforts reflect well on the reputation of the Joint Emergency Services Communication Centre and the Northern Territory Police Force,” he said.



Top Award for Top Cop



A Policewoman of more than 30-year's standing has been awarded the Australian Police Medal (APM) in the 2009 Queens Birthday Honours List.

Commander Anne-Marie Murphy was nominated for the medal in recognition of her distinguished and dedicated police service, in particular for her work in the area of welfare and police legacy.

Northern Territory Police Commissioner Paul White said the award recognised Commander Murphy's long and distinguished career and her exceptional contribution to policing in the Northern Territory.

“She has made an outstanding contribution to the Northern Territory Police over her long career and has driven a great deal of positive change in many areas and I congratulate her for this award,” Commissioner White said.

Commander Murphy joined the Northern Territory Police in October 1978 and has held a range of positions within the Criminal Investigation Branch (CIB) Unit, Communications Section, Traffic Section, General Duties policing, Legal Services and Crime and Services Command. In

1999, Commander Murphy became the first woman appointed as the Officer-in-Charge of the Northern Crime Division (now Major Crime). During her time in that role from 1999 to 2002 she managed the 65 members of the CIB, leading numerous major crime investigations.

In 1992 she became the first woman in Australia to be elected as president of a police union when she became President of the Northern Territory Police Association. She served on the executive for 12 years and became a Life member in 1994. She held the position of inaugural NTPFES Welfare Coordinator for three years from 1995 and travelled extensively in the Northern Territory as part of this role.

On being advised of her award Commander Murphy said she was honoured to receive such recognition for her work and that she had always felt privileged to be a part of the NT Police Force.

“This award is the highest recognition in Policing in Australia so I feel particularly honoured and proud. Being a member of the Northern Territory Police has been rewarding and provided me with unique opportunities and diversity in my career. It is the best Police Force in Australia.”

Police On Fire

While chasing smoke, being engulfed in flames and rising to the occasion is often considered a fire-fighter stereotype, it was NT Police Force members that saved the day.

Last October, Constable First Class, Troy Cramp and Constable Walter Todd observed smoke coming from the Francis Bay Mooring Basin and, upon arrival witnessed a seven metre vessel "Matoza Lady" engulfed in flames.

They quickly located a nearby fire hose and were able to extinguish the flames.

Deputy Commissioner Wernham said the members acted with great personal risk to themselves and undoubtedly prevented loss of major property.

"First Class Constable Cramp and Constable Todd's swift response and decisive action in dangerous circumstances, undoubtedly prevented a major loss of property and it is for their commitment to duty that they are most deserving of recognition," he said.

Both members were presented with a letter of Commendation by Deputy Commissioner, Mr Bruce Wernham at an Executive Meeting in July 2009.



Left to right **First Class Constable Walter Todd and First Class Constable Troy Cramp, receive Letters of Commendation from Deputy Commissioner, Mr Bruce Wernham**

3, 2, 1, Blow!

Territory Response Section (TRS) members conducted a training exercise in early May, which ended in cars and vans being destroyed and left one media liaison officer speechless.

Police from every jurisdiction, several TRS members and Defence Force personnel attended the secret location in the outer Darwin area to conduct explosives training.

The Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Device (VBIED) exercise was funded by the National Counter Terrorism Committee (NCTC) and was conducted to develop methods for countering home-made explosives located in vehicles.

Apparently it is common practice to use explosives to force building doors, walls and windows open in certain situations.

The whole exercise took six months to

organise and was over in a matter of hours as police mounted Improvised Explosive Devices (IED's) to the vehicles, stepped back, counted down and pressed "Go!"

In the end, four sedans and a van were the victims of the training exercise.

Senior Sergeant Peter Schiller, Officer-in-Charge of the Territory Response Section, said that it was a great opportunity to practice specific skills.

"The boys worked extremely hard to organise the event and gained a lot of valuable experience out of the exercise. Lessons learnt during these activities may one day need to be applied in the counter terrorism environment."

"Safety is our top priority in situations like these and every precaution was taken to ensure a safe yet realistic exercise for everyone involved" he said.



TRS explosives training utilising IED's to open car doors.



CATS Visit Utopia



Top **During the program students are asked to trace their own hands and write five places of safety and five people they can talk to and trust.**
Above **Students at Utopia proudly display their artwork during a recent program to teach the community about sexual assault support.**

problems of child abuse and domestic violence, so communities will identify with these issues and to encourage them to report it.

“It’s to encourage the kids and make them understand that they can feel safe and it’s alright to talk about it.”

Carmen said the advantage of having a multi-agency team going to the remote communities was each agency could engage with the community from a different aspect of the situation.

“I think the kids and the other community members now have a far better understanding of the support systems in place after our visit. As far as the program is concerned, we’ll continue to modify it as we feel the need, but I think overall it was a fantastic start and we really got through to the kids.

“For instance, we watched the reactions of the kids. These people are obviously very shy talking about things like this, but it makes them more comfortable discussing it among themselves. Then we just mingle amongst them and we actually get quite a lot of good information this way.”

Police from Taskforce Themis who are on the remote communities will be given the resource material and trained in its delivery to ensure an on-going commitment to the community.

Carmen and her team now plan to visit the community of Mutitjulu to deliver their program at the invitation of the community.

“Hopefully this will be just as successful as the Utopia visit and will be just the next step in giving people the tools they need to eradicate sexual abuse and domestic violence in remote communities.”

Northern Territory Police working in the Child Abuse Taskforce have taken to the road to educate people in remote communities about sexual assault.

The program was the brainchild of Detective Sergeant Carmen Butcher – head of the Child Abuse Taskforce, Southern. Carmen rounded up other stakeholders such as staff from FACS, the Women’s Shelter, the Mobile Outreach Service and the police Domestic and Personal Violence Unit.

“We needed to develop a program which encouraged kids and made them feel safe. It needed to get the message home that it was alright to report sexual abuse and to identify the people they could safely talk to about it.

“To get this message across we had to go out and see the kids in their own environment and teach them how to trust us.”

As part of the program Carmen and her team used various resources such as story telling using SARC’s book called “No, no the Seal” which is about inappropriate touching.

“We also used the model from the Kimberly Protective Behaviours Project where they trace their own hand and write on it where the places of safety are and who the five people are that you can trust,” Carmen said.

“We talk about who will believe you and talk to you.

“We also used a child sexual assault video called Big Shame diagrams to illustrate good feelings and bad feelings which the kids colour in. We found if they’re colouring in or somehow involved in an activity they’ll talk more and consequently it’s easier for us to get our message across.”

Carmen said the community acceptance and encouragement of the program had been extremely gratifying, as was the support the team received from the other agencies.

“The community response was excellent. They were really receptive and the teachers went out of their way to help us. They were really keen for us to do it and to continue doing it.

“We went to the Clinic School the first day where we saw approximately 20 to 25 children. In the afternoon we went to Soapy Bore Outstation School where we did a session with five boys and girls and a modified session with the younger ones on “feelings”.

“Then on Tuesday we went to Ampilatwatja where we had a morning session with approximately 30 junior and middle school students, and then we did an afternoon session with twenty senior boys and girls.”

Carmen said the plan was for the team to visit at least ten communities a year, and train police at these communities to continue reinforcing the message through education.

“The intent, of course, is to create community ownership of the



Destination Oenpelli

By Renae McGarvie



It's 11am on Tuesday 5th May 2009, destination Oenpelli (*Gunbalanya*).

Buses are loaded, seat belts are on and fastened . . . 20 recruits from Squad 100 are off on a two – day Aboriginal Cultural Awareness excursion.

First port of call was to The Windows on the Wetlands Visitor Centre, situated along the Arnhem Highway at Beatrice Hill. Recruits were in awe of the fantastic views from the lookout points and participated in the interactive displays about the ecological process that occurs in the wetlands.

We stayed overnight at Goanna Camp, home to the Junior Police Rangers, where Superintendent Fuller, Sergeant Hall, ACPO'S Lorraine Jones, Lisa Burkenhagen and Michael Cousins gave an interactive presentation on Aboriginal Culture. Recruits found this to be informative and well presented. Questions came in abundance, especially from our interstate recruits.

Second stop along the way was Ubirr rock, with an early departure allowing us to arrive there by 9am. A beautiful place where over 1500 years ago Aboriginal people camped in the rock shelters to take advantage of the variety of foods available from the East Alligator River, the Nadab floodplain and the surrounding woodlands. Food items were often painted on the walls, to pay respect to that particular animal, and to ensure future hunting success.

Finally, just a short drive to our final destination Oenpelli (*Gunbalanya*) where we were welcomed by acting Officer-in-Charge Constable Ben Higgins, Senior Constable David Booth and ACPO Shaun Hill who had made arrangements for us to visit the Injalak Art and Craft Centre where an abundance of delicately made screen-printed fabrics, woven baskets and traditional bark paintings are made by some of the best Aboriginal artists in

Top **Looking out from Ubirr rock**
Left **High tide at Cahill's Crossing meant our recruits had to wait for the water level to drop to cross to Oenpelli**
Bottom left **Squad 100 recruits and trip coordinators Renae McGarvie and Shane Shewring.**
Bottom right **Oenpelli art centre.**





This page top left
**Escarpment of
Ubirr Rock.**

Top right **Trainee
Constable Garry
Humphries takes
in the view.**

Right **Goanna Park
camping grounds.**

Australia. We were then given a tour of the township and welcomed by the locals. Once the tour was over we headed back to the police station, where ACPO Hill was cooking some Barra and wallaby for us to taste, and one of the traditional owners shared lunch with us and answered any questions we had, again a real eye-opener for our interstate recruits.

Our stay there was cut short due to the river rising at Cahill's Crossing so we buckled up and headed for Jabiru where we had a quick tour of the police station and Senior Constable Nowak gave an overview of the station district and responsibilities.

Overall the trip was a great insight into what a remote community is like and how communities in a broader sense differ to the majority of places within Australia.

Recruit's perceptions regarding community work and lifestyles were challenged and by the end of our trip many appreciated the unique challenges of working with indigenous Australians in remote localities within the Northern Territory.

A special thanks to Superintendent Fuller and his staff at Indigenous Police Development Department for making this trip possible and truly remarkable.



Brigadoon Lands in Nyirripi

Students at the Nyirripi Primary School improved their knowledge of other cultures recently, when Senior Constable Astley Tually of the Nyirripi Police Station was asked to speak to them about his Scottish heritage.

So, wearing a kilt, sporran and bonnet, Astley attended the school and spoke about the clan system in Scotland and about his ancestral connections to Clan Stewart of Athol.

The class viewed pictures of Scotland on the internet and Astley played them a selection of bagpipe tunes from a CD.

Astley said it was gratifying to see how enthusiastic the students were to learn about another culture and country from so far away.

"The kids were really taken with my kilt, they had never seen one before and I'm glad to say they loved the bagpipe music which obviously shows good taste" said Astley.



**Students from the
Nyirripi Primary School
were intrigued with
Scotsman Senior
Constable Astley
Tually's outfit.**

Brevet Sergeant Glen Huitson's 10th Anniversary – the legacy endures.

Monday the 3rd August 2009 marks 10 years since Brevet Sergeant Glen Huitson was tragically killed while performing his duty in the vicinity of the intersection of Old Bynoe Road and the Stuart Highway.

Glen was extremely popular with all who knew him, joining the NT Police in January 1987 from Western Australia. He served in Alice Springs, Daly River, Kalkaringi and Adelaide River. It was during his time as Officer in Charge at Adelaide River that he was called to his last, fatal job.

Glen met his wife Lisa during his stint at Daly River where Lisa worked as a teacher. They were married a couple of years later in 1993 and had two children, Joseph and Ruby. Ruby was just 9 months old when her father was shot and killed.

Lisa, Joseph and Ruby now live in New South Wales by the beach, enjoying life with fond memories of a loving husband and father.

Lisa says both children take after their father.

"In Ruby, there is a definite resemblance to Glen and in Joseph it is his quiet nature and his dry sense of humour. Both have mannerisms that remind me of Glen," says mum, Lisa.

Joseph, now 12 years of age, is a keen AFL player while Ruby, aged 10 enjoys tennis and dancing. They both enjoy an active beach life full of boogie boarding and surfing.

Special days are remembered with the 'lighting of Dad's candle' and his memory is truly alive with photos, videos and plenty of stories.

The 10 year Memorial Commemoration Service, organised by the NTPA, will be held under a permanent shade structure

This shade has been largely constructed by volunteering police officers over the past few weeks, efforts which are hugely appreciated by Lisa Huitson who is attending the service with Glen's family and friends.

NT Police Legacy has, and continues to have an active support role, not only in sending birthday and Christmas cards to the children, but also in monetary support in paying school fees. Legacy ensures the late Brevet Sergeant Huitson's children receive the best education and possible start in life.

For more information on NT Police Legacy, email police.legacy@pfes.nt.gov.au



Far left **Ruby and Joseph celebrate Puss' 4th Birthday.**
 Left **Ruby dressed up for Harmony Day.**
 Bottom left **Senior Constable Riva Zio putting some finishing touches on the slab for the shade structure.**
 Bottom right **Joseph's AFL Under 12s Premiership Medal and Coach's Award.**



Viper Has Large Paw Prints to Fill

Senior Constable David Young and Viper, NT Police's latest drug detection dog.



Viper, the two-year-old Labrador, is the latest addition to NT Police Dog Operations Unit. Brought in to replace Monte who retired in January, Viper has some mighty large paw-prints to fill.

Viper comes from the Australian Customs Service dog breeding program in Melbourne and so far, he has completed 10 weeks of a 14 week course, making him quite a “raw” dog.

According to Customs he is the “rawest” dog they have given to another jurisdiction.

“I have quite a job ahead of me to get him to Monte’s standard but I’m very much looking forward to the challenge” Senior Constable David Young said.

At the moment, Viper can detect cocaine, ecstasy, heroine and methamphetamine. Senior Constable Young recently introduced Viper to cannabis as another odour for him to detect and it shouldn’t be long before he is competent in locating that as well.

Once again the Customs Detection Dog Program has supplied the Dog Operations Unit with a great product for NT Police, continuing the great relationship between both agencies.

“It will be difficult to replace Monte and the success he gave the NT Police but I’m sure Viper will be just as good once he learns the ropes” says Senior Constable Young.

NT Police now have a total of 11 dogs that participate in various activities including drug detection and the tracking of offenders or missing/lost persons.

Sandy Enniss – 30 years in the public service

Sandy Enniss has recently celebrated 30 years in the Northern Territory Public Sector.

Sandy commenced work with Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services on 11 December 1978, as the mail clerk in Registry before moving to work in what was then known as the Personnel Section (HRM), maintaining personnel files and helping with staff movements. In 1984 she began in Payroll and worked her way up to officer-in-charge of Salaries.

Sandy remained in Salaries until 1998 when the then Department of Corporate and Information Services took responsibility for payroll of the NT Public Sector.

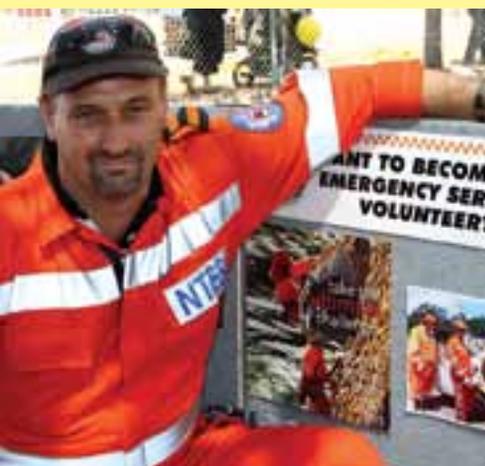
Spending two years with DCIS, Sandy returned to NTPFES in April 2000 as PIPS Support Officer. This role changed slightly over the years to include civilian recruitment and Sandy remained in this position until April 2008. Spending a short three months with the then Department of Employment, Education and Training, Sandy returned to NTPFES in the position of Human Resource Project and Policy Officer. Sandy is currently in the HR Support Co-coordinator role with the Human Resource Management division of NTPFES.

Congratulations Sandy on a successful career with Northern Territory Government and thank you for your hard work and commitment over the last 30 years.



Sandy Enniss enjoys a special celebration with co-workers for her 30 years of service.

IT'S SHOWTIME!



Step right up! Step right up! Clowns, rides, fairy floss – and the Tri-service. This year's Fred's Pass Show was the best Tri Service display yet.

With NTES taking community photos, the fireies setting off alarms and supplying a free water stop point and the police chatting with members of the public it was always going to be a great, and noisy, weekend.

Show Committee member, NTES' Annika Woerle said the show is a great way for PFES to work together as a team and have a bit of fun.

"As the only tri-service in Australia, it is important that we show we are a team.

"Fred's Pass Show and the rest of the Northern Territory show circuit are a great way for us to work together in the planning and execution of the show.

"We always have friendly banter over which section will look the best and who comes up with the most original idea for engaging the community. Naturally NTES won," she said.

To support her claim a member of the community commented that the only free item she'd received at the show consisted of the beautiful photo the NTES volunteer team took of her daughter in the NTES boat.

"It's a great photo and I will definitely keep it and think of NTES' generosity when I look at it," the community member said.

To add to the excitement of the Fred's Pass Show was the 'Volunteer Games.' Volunteers from St Johns Ambulance, NTES and the fireies broke into teams for a rescue and stretcher race through an obstacle course into the back of an ambulance, which was followed by the fireie volunteers showing up NTES in a Tug 'o' War,

"No one's actually sure who won. I think we all cheated but it was great fun and a good laugh," said Ms Woerle.

A great community engagement opportunity, the show circuit is also imperative to the recruitment of volunteers for both NTES and NTFRS.

This year's Fred's Pass was particularly successful for both NTES and NTFRS.

"We've organised training sessions and BBQ's in both Darwin and Palmerston to encourage attendees of the Fred's Pass Show to continue on as volunteers. We're very happy with the progress and look forward to next year." Ms Woerle said.

Above left **Community Education Officer Paul Rubie lets kids ride on the historic Fire Engine.**

Above **Kids had a great time dressing up in the NTES uniform with the assistant of NTES volunteer Tracy Howe.**

Left top **Volunteers and NTES staff perform a mock rescue for the crowd**
Left centre **NTES Volunteers went head to head with fireies volunteers in a tug-o-war**

Left bottom **NTES volunteer Richard Howe was more than happy to help out at the show.**

Bottom right **Senior constable Karen O'Dwyer takes the opportunity to have a chat with parents and kids.**



Move over Hamilton Island – these guys reckon they've landed the

Best Job in the World

Right left to right
New recruits Leon Peacock, Jim Zamolo, Daniel Orwin.

Right middle **The recruits perform a search and rescue at Darwin Airport smokehouse.**

Below left to right **New Recruits, Daniel Alwin and Mark Chyarteris. Blain Cornford, Andrew Thompson.**

The suits have been fitted, the training begun – the first 2009 Fire and Rescue Service Recruit Squad are here, and here to stay.

The eleven new recruits all believe a job with the fireies is a 'job for life' and an enjoyable one at that.

Recent Government announcements mean that two more recruit squads will take place over the next year recruiting full time staff for the Darwin and Alice Springs regions.

A new station will mean more jobs, so the NT Fire and Rescue Service is heating up for some campaigning to get the best people for the job.

Director of NTFRS, Mr Greg Nettleton said the Government's announcement is supported by NTFRS.

"It's great that the Government have acknowledged the need for more Fire and Rescue personnel and we look forward to welcoming new members to our great team," he said.

The recruits started in May and finish their training in September and a new squad is expected to start in late 2009.



Thirty years ago, 52 keen young recruits, were welcomed into the Northern Territory Police Force by the then Police Commissioner Peter McAulay, and the then Chief Minister and Attorney General Paul Everingham.

Squad 30 –

Over the next 30 years many things changed and some of those young recruits are long gone, but NT Police Squad 30 marked the occasion in February this year with a reunion party in Darwin.

One of the organisers – Superintendent Lorraine Carlon – said the highlight of the three day event was dinner at Lewinski's in the Darwin CBD, however special events were arranged for almost every minute of the three days.

Supt Carlon said it was gratifying to see 22 out of the original 52 recruits turned up for the 30 year reunion.

“We managed to locate all but three of the original squad members before the reunion, and that was great,” Supt Carlon said.

“Sadly two people had passed away at the time of the reunion. These were Rod Paskins and Ken Smith, but as for the rest, four of us are still with NT Police, 17 are still in law enforcement or related occupations elsewhere and seven have retired. Nineteen entered careers and lifestyles outside of law enforcement after leaving.”

Among those who are still with NT Police are Assistant Commissioner Graham Kelly, Commander Kate Vanderlaan, Superintendent Lorraine Carlon and former Detective Senior Sergeant Les Martin, who is a retired member that has returned to the NT Police within Task Force Themis. Another notable member was Commander Greg Dowd who retired a week after the reunion.

Graham Kelly is the Assistant Commissioner of Operations Service and is based in Darwin. During his career he has worked throughout the Territory in both Crime and Operations at various remote and regional localities. He was promoted to the rank of Assistant Commissioner in 2003.

Kate Vanderlaan became the first woman to become a Commander in the NT Police Force in 2003. Earlier in her career she spent five years in the traffic section and earned the distinction of being the first female motor cycle patrol officer in Australia. Kate currently commands the Ethical and Professional Standards Command.

Lorraine Carlon is the Superintendent of the Operational Intelligence Section, Crime Command. During her career she also spent many years involved in the area of domestic violence prevention and was instrumental in the implementation of the Domestic Violence Unit.

Commander Greg Dowd retired from the NT Police just after the reunion. At the time of his retirement he was in charge of the Strategic Planning Command.

Former Senior Sergeant Les Martin was also part of Squad 30. Les retired in 2007 after many years in Operations and Crime, but has since returned as a civilian logistics officer with Taskforce Themis. Detective Senior Constable Stan Fensom was another Squad 30 member, however, Stan too has recently retired.

Superintendent Carlon said the reunion had been a wonderful chance for the squad to renew old friendships and catch up on what everyone was doing.



Vale–Garth McEvoy

12/11/1954–17/7/2009

In a sad irony Squad 30's reunion earlier this year was the last time many of his friends saw Garth McEvoy.

Garth joined the Northern Territory Police in February 1979 along with 51 others, including Assistant Commissioner Grahame Kelly. On Friday, July 17 this year Garth was at a breakfast meeting in Jakarta in his role as Commercial Manager for Thiess Indonesia when an explosive device was detonated by terrorists in the restaurant of the Marriott Hotel. Garth was killed in the blast.

Assistant Commissioner Kelly said Garth's death was a tragic and cowardly act.

“After he left NT Police in 1983 he was involved in several different enterprises before gaining his Law degree. He eventually went to Indonesia and was working for Thiess for the last couple of years.

“It has been an absolute honour to have known Garth and it has been my greatest privilege to count him as my mate for more than 30 years. Barbara and I and our five sons will miss him dearly. The world became a sadder place at his passing.”



- 30 Year Reunion



Above **52 keen young recruits form Squad 30.**
Top right, **Squad 30 reunites 30 years later in 2009.**

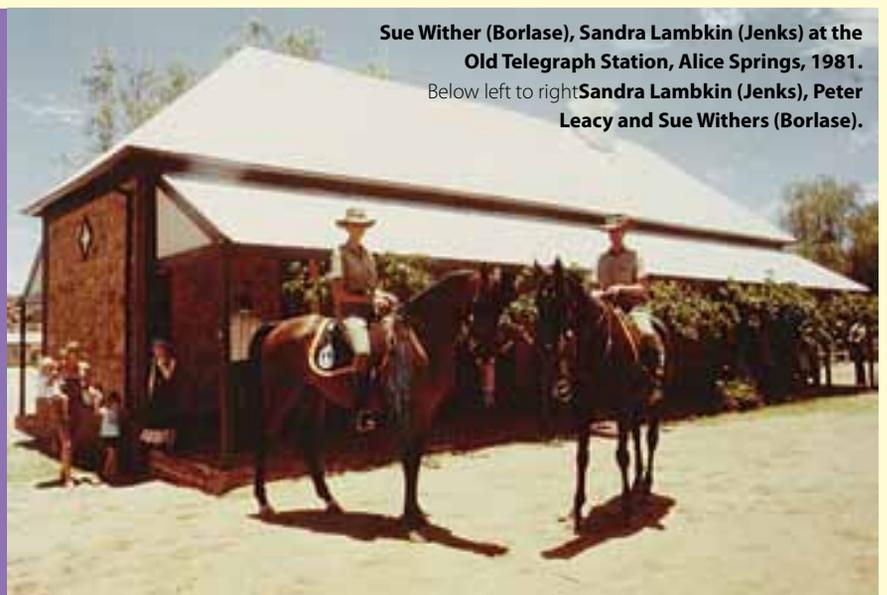
Left left to right **Rob Trenergy, Jeff Bates, Steve Liebelt, Dave Camiss, David Pearce.**

Below left to right **Sandy Lambkin, Kate Vanderlaan, Julie Vass, Lorraine Carlon and Sue Withers.**



Sue Withers (Borlase), Sandra Lambkin (Jenks) at the Old Telegraph Station, Alice Springs, 1981.

Below left to right **Sandra Lambkin (Jenks), Peter Leacy and Sue Withers (Borlase).**



During Squad 30's 30th anniversary reunion in February, an unscheduled stop at the Mounted section led to a reunion of another kind for two squad members. Sue Withers (Borlase) and Sandra Lambkin (Jenks) met up with Peter Leacy, an ex – NT Police member now working with the Army.

Peter, Sue and Sandra were all foundation members of the Mounted Police Club started in Alice Springs in 1980. The success of the Club and its activities, along with the sheer determination and hard work of Peter Leacy, eventually led to the re-establishment of the NT Police Mounted Section.

Some of the Club members owned their own horses but most were 'acquired' by Peter, as were many of the saddles, the stables and land and all sorts of other gear. All members paid for a bridle, which became Club property and all contributed to the horses' upkeep. Alice Springs local, Ted Egan, helped to raise the profile of the Mounted Police Club by holding fund-raising concerts.

Sue and Sandra were the first NT Police women to be sanctioned to ride in Police uniform. They originally performed only ceremonial duties in their own time but such was the public response that they were occasionally used for paid duty as well.

Not surprisingly, the three old friends met later at a bar where, they re-lived their 'glory days' and filled in the news of the 25 years since they last met.



Josh Celebrates Christmas in May



While most of us know it as the 25th of December, nine year old Joshua Smith celebrated his Christmas on the 28th of May with our Fire and Rescue Service personnel.

When Joshua woke up on Christmas Day last year it was to find out his Christmas present – a Motovert mini bike had been stolen. Police investigated and got the bike back but it was badly damaged.

Josh couldn't afford the repairs so he went out washing cars, doing chores and fixing the neighbours yards to raise money to fix his bike.

But, when the Palmerston boy saw our NT Firies and Firie volunteers out fundraising for the Victorian Bushfire Appeal at Oasis Shopping Centre, Joshua did what most normal kids wouldn't even consider doing – he handed over all the money he'd saved (a few hundred dollars) to our Firies.

Josh said he was upset about his bike but he knew there were people worse off than him.

"I gave all of my money to the firefighters because I knew it would help all of those poor people in Victoria. They needed it more than me," he said.

Touched by his generosity, our Fire and Rescue Service Crews came to the rescue. They collected donations from PFES employees and organised through the mechanical workshop and Precision Motorcycles to have the bike fixed.

NTFRS community Education Officer, Paul Rubie said Josh's act is just one example of the kindness that Territorians showed after the devastating Victorian Bushfires.

"Just shaking a bucket the weekend that Josh donated his

money raised more than \$10,000 which shows we have a very caring, giving community that came to aid when it was needed.

"Fixing Josh's bike and providing him with a \$500 voucher to buy a helmet and safety gear is just one way that NTFRS can say thank you and give back to the community who have been so supportive of us," he said.

When presented with the voucher from Precision Motorcycles, Josh's mum wiped away tears of joy as she watched her sons face light up as he sat on top of his new bike for the first time.

"It was a pretty bad Christmas for us, so for this to happen and the Fire and Rescue Service to be so wonderful is just fantastic," she said.

Not only has Josh got his bike back, his dad returned from his 9 month Defence Service in mid June.

While his smile said it all, Josh just had one thing to say to our Firies and everyone that made this day so special for him "THANKS. THIS IS GREAT!"



NT Fire Brigade Recruits cheer as fireman Paul Rubie and Precision Motorcycles' Darren Clement give Joshua Smith his fixed bike.

A World of New Media Amy Sloan

I recently attended the Emergency Media and Public Affairs Conference that was held at the RACV Club, Bourke Street, Melbourne.

It was made up of an impressive bunch of people from all different backgrounds and agencies, all sharing knowledge and information about emergency management during the recent Black Saturday bushfires in Victoria.

Although there were numerous brilliant speakers throughout the conference, the highlight for me was definitely Bruce Esplin, the Commissioner of Emergency Services in Victoria.

He spoke about the Victorian bushfires, namely Black Saturday from a Victorian's perspective. He spoke of wanting to

harness the community spirit which now exists in those devastated communities and building that community spirit into other communities throughout the country.

He also explained that many Police Media Units across the country are now utilising new media, such as text messages, Facebook, Twitter and other blog sites to get important messages and broadcasts across.

Did you know that on the night before Black Saturday, 3-5 million text messages were sent out within a three hour period, 80% checked the message and 97% valued the information that was received.

Throughout the fires, there was a 1000% increase in visits to fire related websites within Australia and one trillion hits to

news websites.

The ideas have been taken on board by the NTPFES Media and Corporate Communications Unit who are considering similar techniques for both everyday business and emergency broadcasts



All in a Days' Work



On Wednesday the 3rd of June, Constable Kerin Souey was awarded with a Certificate of Appreciation for her recent, single-handed efforts in apprehending a 25-year-old male.

Commissioner Paul White said it was important that events like this don't go unnoticed,

"On Tuesday 19 May, Kerin attended a residence on Waler Road in Marlow Lagoon to respond to reports of an intruder on premises.

"Whilst waiting for another patrol, she jumped the fence, ground stabilised the intoxicated offender, hand-cuffed him and waited for the other vehicle to arrive.

"To show my appreciation for her outstanding police work, I would like to award her with this Certificate of Appreciation" he said.

Upon hearing she was to receive the award, Kerin said "I am very proud to receive the award, however it is my job and I love it".

Before joining the NT Police force as an Aboriginal Community Police Officer in 2006, Kerin worked as a receptionist for several years.

She graduated and became a Constable in February 2008 and has been based in Palmerston ever since.

The 40-year-old mother of four said her children are all very proud of her and went on to say "it is all part of a day's work".

Constable Kerin Souey accepts her Certificate of Appreciation from Commissioner of Police, Paul White.

Fitness Focus for Our Future

Who are our future employees? How do we identify them? How can we ensure we receive quality applications?

These are the questions asked by organisations on a day to day basis and the NT Police Force is no different. The answer – find out who you want and engage them.

Saturday the 2nd May 2009 saw the first recruitment "Try & Train" open day for the public.

The theory – invite interested parties to an open day where they can talk to current recruits from Squad 100, trainers and Officers as well as the Recruitment Department about what it means to be 'Police fit'.

Jess and Joel from Hot 100 presented live from the PMC Basketball Courts to encourage interested parties to come down and participate in the entry level fitness test, find out more about a career in policing and the 'realities of the road'.

Professional Fitness Trainer at the College, Catie Kirke, said the day was a great success as it specifically targeted people interested in a career in Police and provided the opportunity for them to find out more information about fitness techniques that will assist them to pass their Assessment Centres.

"Providing an open and honest forum for interested applicants to talk to real members and current recruits about the job is of great importance" said Catie.

"I spoke with all participants and provided them with guidelines and advice to assist them to improve their fitness results.

"Many participants deemed themselves to be fit individuals but hadn't trained in the specific activities required for the entry test. Now that they know exactly what to do, and how to do it I have no doubt that they will fare well when it comes to the actual Assessment Centre," she said.

Approximately 50 people turned up to find out more about the Career with a Cause. One of which is current NTPFES civilian employee Stacey Mousley.

Stacey achieved the highest BEEP Test score for the women (8.4) and said she has been interested in Policing for a number of years and felt that this open day has made the Assessment Centre less intimidating.

"I've always been interested in a career with Police and am very keen to learn about Policing in remote communities so it was great to talk to real officers that had done the real work.

"While I consider myself a fit person it was great to be able to participate in this open day and see exactly where I'm at with my fitness. Even though I had more than enough points to pass I actually thought I'd score higher than I did.

"Now I know exactly what to practice to raise my score I'm much more confident and not as intimidated to walk in on Assessment Centre day. I know what to expect now," Ms Mousley said.

Consultation has proven that Recruits apply because they've spoken to or know someone in the job. Therefore, the Open Day was organised by the Recruitment Department to provide community members with the opportunity to find out as much as they can about this important career.



Police trainer Catie Kirk puts Stacy Mousley through her paces. Photo courtesy NT News.

Volunteers the Best for NTES

Indigenous students from Maningrida recently set off to complete a special NTES training course.

The nine students, ranging from 16–20 enjoyed special NTES training and have now completed the Volunteer Member Induction Course (VMIC) with qualifications contributing to their senior certificate.

Next semester they will complete their first aid certificate with the ultimate goal achieving their Certificate II in SES Rescue.

Arnhem Area Manager for NTES, Mr Keith Hutton said this training is an important program for the Maningrida community and NTES volunteers should be commended for their contributions.

“The entire program was pieced together by the volunteers and the training made appropriate for the students.

“Volunteers really are the backbone of our organisation. Jo Killmister (Unit Officer) and David Wallace (Equipment Officer) have run this program from inception to completion with such success the school is investigating the potential of running a weekly session for senior students next year,” he said.

Each of the students have gained confidence and experience during the course and are eager to continue their training with the NT Emergency Service, with some of the adult participants hoping

to complete their General Rescue.

While slightly apprehensive due to only recently completing his Certificate IV in Workplace Training and Assessment, David Wallace need not have been worried. His development and delivery of this course has proven he is a capable and competent facilitator.

“Personally, I would like to thank the volunteers from Maningrida for their ongoing dedication to the community and surrounding districts. The expert response NTES provides the region is nothing short of amazing” said Keith.

The unit consists of 20 volunteers who are on call 24/7 which means not only their own personal commitment, but a commitment from the whole community.

Their families and places of work often release their employees to fight fires, attend road accidents and recover stranded community members from bogged vehicles or stricken vessels.

“They are the only expert response continually providing important services to the community with no financial remuneration. Well done to all of our volunteers. You truly are the best for NTES,” Mr Hutton said.



Top **Students practice basic radio procedures.**

Middle **Performing first aid on a basic casualty.**

Above **The written assessment is also an important component of the training course.**

Left **Students in the Maningrida cadet unit.**

NTES Welcomes New Members

Following on from a successful volunteer recruitment campaign and the Fred's Pass Show weekend, NTES held a volunteer welcome night for new members at the Palmerston and Darwin units.

So far the Palmerston unit have received

six new applications and the Darwin unit have received two.

The welcome night included a showcase of the NTES toys including the trucks, boats, cars and equipment. Participants got to try their hand at putting on the outfit, trying some activities and then finished the

evening with a social BBQ.

Organiser of the BBQ and Area Manager for the Darwin Region, Ms Alison Heath, said the event is a great way to attract new members but also provide a social outlet for current members.

"Potential new members were welcomed to the Palmerston and Darwin event but it was also great to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of current members.

"We wouldn't be anywhere without them and greatly appreciate everything they do for NTES," she said.

Darwin's recent social volunteer night said farewell to Mr Richard Howe, the Unit Officer of DVU.

"He was a great Unit Officer and we'll be sad to see him go but wish him the best of luck with his future endeavours," Ms Heath said.

Members of the NTES Darwin unit



Emergency Service Vessel Arnhem *A New Lease On Life*

By Annika Woerle
Public Education Officer, NTES HQ

Left **Ron 'Bunji' Gilmore, Maritime Section Leader – Darwin Region puts the Arnhem through it's trials.**
Below **The Arnhem with trailer capabilities to allow for launch from a number of different locations, predominantly Cullen Bay and HMAS Coonawarra.**

In recent months the Northern Territory Emergency Service (NTES) vessel *Arnhem* has undergone a major refit in preparation for deployment in the Darwin Harbour and local coastal areas.

With a \$50,000 Federal Government grant the vessel now boasts an enhanced navigation system, radar, chart plotter and compass as well as a Man Overboard warning system.

The 7.2 metre vessel is the main training and deployment vessel for NTES.

With fully-qualified Skippers and Cockswains, NTES volunteers are trained in nationally and internationally-recognised qualifications including those of deckhand and skipper. The qualifications are community and industry-recognised standards.

With the *Arnhem* back in service it has sparked renewed interest within the NTES membership, in the area of maritime coastal operations.



Imagine If...

The Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service (NTFRS) held a desktop training exercise in May, as a way of introducing their new Incident Management Plan.

The exercise, held at the Marrara Fire Station, started at 8:30 am and ran throughout the day as Fire and Rescue members fought tirelessly to contain the enormous “imaginary” blaze that began near the Arnhem Highway. It then continued to spread rapidly in a North West direction, narrowly avoiding homes and property as it travelled across Pioneer Road.

The aim of the exercise was to put systems in place to allow for better planning and incident control in the event of a large scale fire and how those in the emergency operation centre can work with those on the frontline and other first response officers.

Hazard Reduction Officer Patrick Skewes said that as part of the exercise, the NTFRS worked closely with local property owners and other agencies to contain and extinguish the blaze.



“Thankfully the property owners had suitable fire breaks of 4 metres in width which assisted greatly in the speed in which we were able to extinguish the fire.

“These Desktop Exercises have been held every year since Ash Wednesday in 1983.

The latest exercise was a great success, as members from across the board worked together, learning new techniques and attempting to iron out any issues or problems we may face in the event of a large scale fire.



Northern Territory emergency personnel work hard to contain the blaze during the desktop exercise.



Intelligent Life at PMC

The second in a series of intelligence courses were held at the Peter McAulay Centre in May.

Officers from the Victorian Police State Intelligence Training Unit have been in Darwin delivering introductory and advanced training to more than 100 police officers working, or with an interest in, the Intelligence field. Training was also delivered to PFES civilian staff and members of the AFP, Defence, NT Corrections and the Chief Minister’s department.

The training will form the basis for a new Territory Intelligence Model which is based on the highly successful Victorian model.

The inaugural introductory course was held in Darwin over a two-week period in December 2008. The course proved so successful, further courses were held in March and May, 2009. Senior Sergeant Steve Wood, Sergeant Andy Ryan and Sergeant Richard Wallace from Victoria Police designed, delivered and co-ordinated the courses.

Sen Sgt Wood said: “It was a pleasure to train members who were as keen and

dedicated as the members from NT Police. Many course participants were being introduced to the field and appreciated the knowledge and skills that were being delivered.

“I was struck by the genuine passion that the NT members have for the intelligence profession and their work. Their work ethic reflected this during the course and greatly impressed me,” Sen Sgt Wood said.

In addition to delivering the training courses, Sen Sgt Wood has spent two months in the NT assisting the Territory Intelligence Division to design and introduce the Territory Intelligence Model.

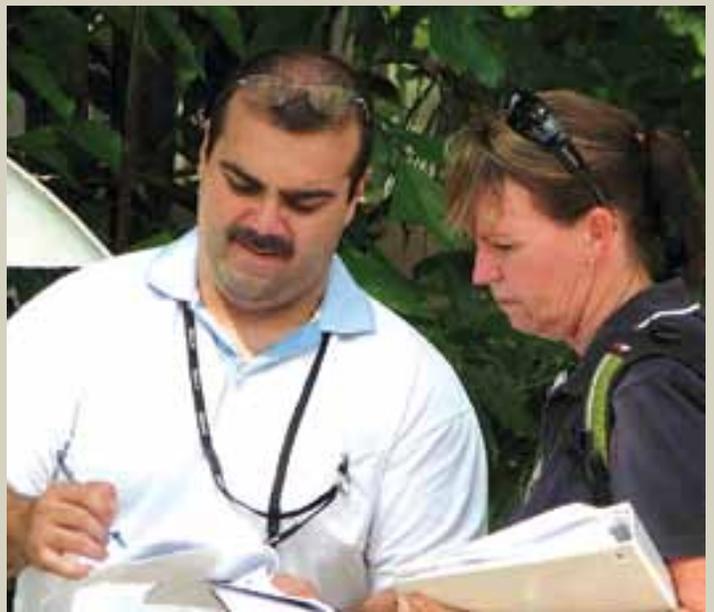
To assist with the successful introduction of a new model, training sessions for management were conducted in Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs. Additional resources such as information packages, an electronic training package, templates for tasking and coordination, guidelines for managers and standards for intelligence practice have also been designed.

Senior Sergeant Wood also designed and delivered the first Advanced Intelligence Course in Darwin which covered topics

such as intelligence collection at crime scenes, target selection and management, network profiling and intelligence assessment post operation.

“The Advanced Course was very successful and it was great to see members learn new skills and then practice these skills in the field. The members were introduced to new intelligence products that will assist in raising the profile of intelligence in the NT.”

Constable Paulo Fernandes and Senior Constable Heather Donald out in the field during the recent Intelligence course in Darwin.



Volunteers Lead the Way



From the top **Group shot of Chris's team. Chris is far left back row Damien (front green t-shirt) and his team practice the team building exercise. Group shot of Damien's team. Damien is far 3rd from left back row. Chris steps through the obstacle as part of the team building exercise**



Fire and Rescue Service Volunteers Chris Peberdy and Damien Shaw have recently completed a National Volunteer Leaders Program at the Australian Institute of Police Management (AIPM) in Manly NSW.

The Volunteer Leaders Program is a five-day intensive program developed by the Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council (AFAC), which aims to develop the leadership potential within the volunteer services so that leaders and organisations are better prepared for future challenges and changes.

This program is designed for current and emerging leaders of Volunteer Emergency Services and Associations and focuses on developing leadership capabilities, extending industry knowledge and forming strategic alliances. It is attended by volunteers from Australian and New Zealand fire and land management agencies and Australian State Emergency Services.

Through a range of activities including team building exercises, role plays, classroom exercises and practical examples participants learn how to be more effective leaders and how to be better team members.

When asked about what he thought about his time at the AIPM Chris said, "This course taught me more about the relationship between team members and team leaders and has improved the leadership skills I already have. Good leadership can be the difference between life and death"

Damien said the skills he has gained helped him improve his leadership and understanding of his brigade and his service. "This course has provided me with the inspiration to change and with the networking I have done I believe we can bring the volunteers together even more and move forward," said Damien.

It was a personal fire experience that made Damien want to be a fire fighter. "As a kid living in Humpty Doo I had a grass fire come towards our block. Out of no where the local brigade, who I had never met, came in and saved our block. Since that day I have always wanted to be a Fiery" said Damien.

Damien originally joined the Koolpinyah Volunteer fire Brigade in 1995 where for four years he was a firefighter enjoying putting out fires and

doing strategic burns to prevent loss of property. In 1998 he moved back to the NT and transferred to the Humpty Doo Volunteer Fire Brigade where he is still a member.

In 2000 Damien was promoted to Team Leader, a position he held for four years before being elected to Vice Captain in 2004. After a short break from the Brigade due to work commitments Damien returned and was elected to the role of Captain in March 2008. Damien is also currently the Chairman of the Northern Territory Firefighters Competition Committee and is a member of the Volunteer Training Committee.

Chris joined the Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service in 1998 as a member of the Katherine Fire Emergency Response Group which was a combined service with the Northern Territory Emergency Service and High Angel Rescue Team. During this time Chris was involved with the Katherine floods rescue and recovery effort as well as responding to numerous road crashes and fires.

"I became a volunteer fire fighter to help the community and learn new skills. Volunteers are important because they are the backbone of small communities" said Chris.

Chris is also a member of the Australian Federal Police and works as Operational Safety Trainer providing firearms and defensive tactics training. In 2003 Chris was working in Canberra with his paid job when he was able to assist in the response to the bush fires the devastated Canberra and surrounding areas. Later in the same year Chris was deployed to the Solomon Islands as part of the participating police force.

In 2006 Chris transferred his volunteer membership to the Howard Springs volunteer fire brigade which is the busiest volunteer fire brigade in the Northern Territory, attending around 200 calls per year. Chris was picked as part of a Northern Territory strike team which deployed to country Victoria in 2007 which provided him with valuable insight into how large wildfires are dealt with in the southern states.

Damien and Chris' position in the National Volunteer Leaders Program was sponsored by funds raised by the Dulux and Bunnings paint promotion that runs in Bunnings stores nationally through January and February.

Walking for Charity



Charity fund-raiser and ultra marathon world record holder Deborah De Williams was given a hand by the Avon Downs Police recently in her quest to raise money for breast cancer research.

Deborah is running around Australia to raise awareness about breast cancer. She is, herself, a breast cancer survivor, and has already completed a walk around Australia back in 2004. This year however, she is aiming to be the first woman to run around to country.

Deborah began from Parliament House in Hobart on the 25th of October last year and is nearly half way. In this time she has worn out 16 pairs of shoes. Deborah hopes to raise \$300,000.00 for breast cancer research.

On the 30th of March this year, Deborah ran into the Avon Downs Police station to be greeted by the entire population of four. Avon Downs Police voluntarily maintain a Driver Reviver Stop to encourage drivers to take a break every two hours during long trips. From the proceeds, they were happy to donate more than \$100.00 to help Deborah's cause.

Deborah De Williams gratefully accepts the donation from Cameron Higgins at Avon Downs Police Station on her run around Australia for breast cancer.

St. Ken & His Dragons

St. Ken and his Dragons may not boast the golfing prowess of Tiger Woods or the fashion sense of a Vogue runway, but that didn't stop Ken Williams, Pauline Williams, Kylie Anderson and Kath Gordon getting involved to raise money for a great cause.

The brightly clad foursome spent a day decked out in all things pink to participate in the annual golf fundraiser for Dragons Abreast.

"The golf day was a huge success and I was definitely the prettiest piece on course" said Ken.

"It's great to support these wonderful events and I can't say it was a tough way to spend the day.

"My swing definitely improved as the day wore on and I'm thrilled that we have been able to raise valuable funds for Dragons Abreast," Ken Williams said.

Our 'pretty in pink' members won 3rd prize in the costume competition – first place must have been pretty spectacular. Ken won the prize for longest drive but as to the final score at the end of the day the team remained tight-lipped.

"I don't think we should talk about that. There's definitely not a career in golf for us, but Kylie Anderson is a very good gardener – lots of turf rearranged", Pauline Williams said.

Right **Ken Williams at the annual Dragons Abreast fund-raiser.**
Below left to right **Kath Gordon, Pauline Williams, Ken Williams and Kylie Anderson came third in the costume competition.**



Community Spirit Alive and Well at Footy Grand Final

NTES Unit officer Jo 'Killa' Killmister gets foamed. Kids enjoying the foam and water. The Maningrida NTES unit BBQ was well received.

The recent Maningrida Football Grand Final provided an excellent opportunity for the Maningrida Volunteer Unit to host a recruitment drive and fundraising BBQ.

With six volunteers working on the day, including Unit Officer Jo 'Killa' Killmister, the team raised around \$2300 for Unit Emergency Equipment and supplies, and received up to 20 Volunteer Member requests.

The Unit is currently on a well-deserved break over the school holidays, however training will resume next school term, whereby the potential volunteers can have a go and join the team.

"The day was a great success for the NTES Maningrida Volunteer Unit and we all had fun," said Killa, adding "let's see the rest of the holiday excitement reserved for community events and not call-outs. Stay safe out there."



More Than Just a Game



Friday night football in Minjilang.

Over the past six months, Minjilang locals have been introduced to football (soccer) and according to Senior Constable Peter Dwyer, it has become a permanent weekly fixture in the community.

Peter passionately refers to soccer as "the world game" and insists that the locals have adopted it as their favourite sport over the more traditional Aussie rules.

"Most of the locals have never kicked a round ball before, however their natural talent and enthusiasm meant it wasn't long before some very competitive games were taking place."

Peter happily reports that Friday night indoor soccer sessions are now a permanent weekly event in Minjilang.

"Friday nights have brought the community together, with school kids, youths, elders, council workers, teachers, store managers and police, teaming up for seven-a-side games, and having a great time" he said.

The Mamaruni school in Minjilang now has football as a part of its daily P.E sessions and three of the school's students were selected to attend a soccer academy in Darwin last month.

Apart from acting as a fun, healthy way to bring the community together, Peter said that soccer was also helping with getting kids to attend school.

"It was agreed from the start that children who didn't attend school during the week, wouldn't be able to play. Feedback from the school has been that attendances have increased over the past semester and that

soccer is the primary reason" said Peter.

Peter's passion for the sport has been well received in the community and he is keen to ensure that its benefits continue, even after his remote service is over.

"The local Sports and Recreation co-ordinator has been keen to learn the rules and coaching methods, which will hopefully give the game some longevity and sustainability in the community."

Service Medal – Canine Style

Our very own Drug Detector Dogs Scent and Monte have been recognised for their long and dedicated service to the NT Police.

The Labradors aged approximately 70 dog years have worked in the service for a combined total of 16 years. The dogs have spent almost half of their time with the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service, where they were trained, and half their time with NT Police.

Between the two they have located a

combined total of over 100 kg's of cannabis, 15,000 ecstasy tablets and \$300 000 worth of cash.

In June the president of the Australian Defence Force Trackers and War Dogs Association, George Hulse, awarded the hounds with a Canine Service Medal, recognising five years of exceptional service in the force.

Monte retired several months ago and Scent is to follow in his footsteps, retiring to live with his handler later this year.



Above Left to right **Scent and Monte stand proud with their new medals.**
Left **The Canine Service Medal.**



Farewell Mark Jeffs

The Commissioner of Police met up with Superintendent Mark Jeffs in Perth on 16 April 2009 to present him with a plaque in recognition of his service with the Northern Territory Police Force.

Superintendent Jeffs officially resigned from the NTPF on 20 March 2009 after almost 28½ years of dedicated service.

Superintendent Jeffs commenced his policing career with the NTPF on 29 September 1980. Upon graduation he served in Alice Springs in General Duties, Traffic and as the Coroner's Constable before transferring to Nhulunbuy in July 1984. He later transferred to Darwin and was promoted to Sergeant in February 1988 before transferring to Tennant Creek later that year. He returned to Darwin in October 1990 where he served the remainder of his career. Within the Greater Darwin Region he worked in various locations including Darwin, Palmerston and the Rural Region, Corporate Services, Road Safety Division, Foundation Studies and Crime Prevention, including promotion to Senior Sergeant in December 1993.

Since his promotion to Superintendent

in July 2000, Superintendent Jeffs distinguished himself through a number of Northern Territory Police road safety and crime prevention initiatives. Major achievements include performing the pivotal role of Project Director for the SPEAR project and orchestrated the replacement of the NT Police Incident Management System and the Computer Aided Dispatch System. Superintendent Jeffs also designed and developed the Joint Emergency Services Communications Centre to combine Police, Fire and St John Ambulance communicators into the first multi-agency communications centre in Australasia. Whilst leading the Road Safety Division, Superintendent Jeffs developed and implemented the 'Beat the Heat' road safety/anti-hooning initiative and maintained a close involvement through the ongoing management and coordination of the program right up until his retirement. In his role as the Superintendent Foundation Studies, Superintendent Jeffs managed the PFES College team that was responsible for the provision of recruit training, encompassing the substantial increase in recruitment following the O'Sullivan Assessment.



Commissioner Paul White recognised Mark Jeffs' 28 years of service to the NT Police.

Fired Up for Arafura Games

By Peter Wright

Left to right **Senior Station Officer Graham Johnson, Leading Firefighter Skevos Politis, Leading Firefighter Anthony Smith and Senior Firefighter Peter Wright.**



ate last year the NTFRS was approached by Golf NT, the governing body of golf in the NT, to enter a team in the Arafura Games.

With the blessing of Director Greg Nettleton and further encouragement from Assistant Director Paul Herrick, who commented that “The NTFRS enjoys participating in community events such as the Arafura Games and encourages its members to play sport as part of a healthy and active lifestyle,” we managed to find four members with a golf handicap of 12 or less, low enough to meet the entry criteria.

With support from Golf NT, the Arafura Games organising committee accepted our nomination.

Played over four rounds of 18 holes in blustery conditions, the best three scores from each team were counted each day. With some stiff competition, other teams represented Australia, the NT, the Australian Defence Organisation, Macau China, Singapore, Malaysia and Far North Queensland, we finished in a respectable 6th out of 11 teams.

Senior Auxiliary Sue Wright also represented the NT as a part of the women’s representative golf team who picked up a silver medal at the Games.

Yidiyu

Senior ACPO Lorraine Jones of the Indigenous Policing Development Division was recently presented with a plaque to recognise her contribution to the division, including coming up with the division name “Yidiyu”.

Lorraine, who was formerly stationed at Timber Creek, came up with the name after taking part in the Lookrukin Leadership Program in 2006. The term Yidiyu translated basically means “us mob sitting talking and learning together”. The plaque was the Division’s way of acknowledging Lorraine’s important and ongoing contribution.

Pictured with Lorraine are some of the original members of the Division. Sgt Steve Hall, Sgt Rossana Breed and Ms Katarina Skene



2009 ANZAC Day NTPFES v Army



Final Score **NTPFES 68** defeated **Army 63**.

ANZAC Day 2009 saw the much anticipated match between the Army and the NTPFES at TIO Stadium as the curtain-raiser to the NT Thunder game.

The match came about after Brad Freney from the Police received an enquiry from the Army looking for a team to have a game against. One thing led to another and Brad quickly had the Furies involved and some sponsorship from various parts of the organisation.

A training schedule was quickly thrown together, *'anyone wanting a run was to meet at the college oval on Thursday before the game'*.

A media spokesperson was democratically appointed on behalf of the side in Travis Edwards and he was appointed Captain at the same time. Travis's first and only media presentation occurred when he was given a number to call ABC Radio on the Thursday before training. Travis went straight to air, and when the reporter let him know that the Army had been training for six weeks before the game, Travis was forced to admit that their first training was to occur that night.

The Thursday night training saw a reasonable turn out of players in their

peak of fitness. In total, over thirty names were collected and assuming it was a social match, asked the Army if they were prepared to have a large bench so everyone could get a run. Their stern response was that it was a squad of 24 and that was final.

Such was their commitment to the game the Army Captain had ordered his soldiers that they were not even allowed a morning run for ANZAC Day.

Saturday afternoon saw the Army at the oval at 3.30pm dressed and doing warm ups whilst our blokes swaggered in for the 5pm bounce.

As usual a couple of the "red hot gunna's" did not show and we ended up fielding 23 players. ACPO Rocky Kennedy travelled in from Maningrida for the match and ACPO Errol Martin drove in from Maranboy to make up the numbers.

Only one player asked to play in the back line with the majority letting the coach know that they were as good as Gary Ablett in the forward line.

We started our warm-up with a couple of kicks and one of our Furies, Peter Simon, made a quick call for some replacement boots during the warm-up after the soles of his fell off after they'd been sitting in his cupboard for the past

few years.

The first quarter saw the army kick three goals whilst we were still tying up our laces. Luckily, we managed to peg them back with a couple of quick goals to save face in the first quarter.

Shane Shewring showed his magic during the game in the back line saving a couple of goals against us. Phil Rout in a coaching blunder ended up in the forward line and kicked an inspirational goal to celebrate his opportunity to get out of defence.

Undoubtedly our centre men in Ricky Nolan, Travis Edwards, Shane Carroll and Steve Malseed controlled the centre with experienced players Herbie Hoban and Mark Derksen supporting them.

NTPFES finished triumphantly against the Army team, who have already asked for a rematch. We may let them suffer for a while, because at the moment we have the bragging rights, but an annual event may well be on the cards.

In closing we must thank Community Policing, NT Police Association, Fire Service and NTES for their donations and support in supplying guernseys, shorts, socks and strapping. Also Brad Freney and Shane "Jacko" Carroll for organising the match.

Rear left to right
Peter Simon, Nick Feeney, Phil Rout, Richard Howie, Shane Shewring, John Toohey, Mat Crichton, Mark Derksen, Shane Carroll, Rocky Kennedy, Neil Joyce, Tony Fuller (Coach), Anthony Smith.
Front **Steve Malseed, Troy Stephens, Nick Maloney, Craig Green, Andrew Brennan, Travis Edwards (Capt), Errol Martin, Ryan Clay, Anthony Hoban, Brad Freney, Rick Nolan.**

Year 1 Excursion to Ramingining Police Station

When the Ramingining Community Education Centre approached their local police to have an excursion through the station, Senior Constable Paul Deller and Senior Constable Jason Whieldon were more than happy to show the kids through.

Paul said that the school excursion was a great way to engage with the school kids and get to know them individually.

“The excursion is a relaxed and friendly way to talk with kids and build their trust. We give the kids a tour of the inside of the station and show them the inside of the cells, the police boat and the patrol car. They particularly love playing with the sirens.”

The group of Year 1 school kids proudly showed off their own individually decorated police hats, which they had made in preparation for their excursion.

“The kids ask plenty of questions and are curious about what being a policeman is all about” said Paul.

School excursions of the Ramingining Police station have become a popular talking point amongst the kids, and our local police are happy to facilitate the excursion.

“When the kids are having fun in Police company, it’s a really good platform to chat with them about being good and reiterating that the Police are there to talk to about anything, at anytime” said Paul.



The group of year 1 students at Ramingining enjoyed their excursion.





In the spotlight Rebecca O'Brien

Melbourne secretary turned Northern Territory bush cop – Senior Constable Rebecca O'Brien – swapped her pin stripes for khaki's and says that being OIC at remote Police station Imanpa is the best career she's ever had.

Tell us a bit about yourself Bec?

I am originally from Brisbane but moved to Melbourne where I was working as a secretary for a stockbroking firm for two years before relocating to Darwin. I lived with my brother who was already in the Police force for about one year prior to joining the NT Police in 2004.

Why did you decide to join NT Police?

What appealed to you?

I've always wanted to be a Police officer. The camaraderie between the members and being in a position to help people always appealed to me.

Where have you worked within NT Police?

I was posted to Alice first and whilst there I relieved at Kulgera, Hermannsburg and Yulara. I then transferred permanently to Yulara and now I've been at Imanpa for the last year and a half

Best thing about living remote?

Everyday is different. You're always meeting new people, dealing with new challenges and the money is good too.

Biggest challenges?

The distance. You never truly understand the tyranny of the distance between communities; the hours of driving to respond to a call out. A while ago prior to the Finke Police station being established we had to travel to Finke after receiving a call about a domestic dispute. It took us over 4 hours driving to get there because it was the middle of the night and when we arrived everyone was asleep.

Memorable moment?

Having to search for a lost tourist around the Olgas. We had to search for him with a helicopter through the Olgas. It was pretty breath-taking, the pilot took the chopper right in, I thought we were going to hit the side of it!

Scariest moment?

A bloke who had come back to the community after being released from jail.

He committed some fresh offences two days after his release and when he saw us coming for him, he started throwing rocks at us; he hit the Police car, me and my partner. With all the commotion, the whole community came running down yelling and waving their hands. It was the first time they had seen the Taser and thought that I had shot him.

A memory you'll never forget?

When I was relieving in Kulgera, we had to attend a car accident and we had just responded to a call-out in Finke so it took us around 4 hours to get back there. It was starting to get dark and we hadn't eaten all day and one of us had to stay with the crime scene. To make matters worse, it was freezing and we didn't have enough petrol to run the heater all night. My partner drove to Curtin Springs which was about 40 mins away and when the local shop owner heard we had to stay all night at the crime scene, he drove out to us with a generator and food and brought massive chunks of wood for a fire. Lucky really, it got down to -4 degrees that night.

Funniest thing?

It's hard to remember the funniest moment; I always try to have fun. I have definitely had some fun and memorable times working with neighbouring stations either at road blocks or reported incidents.

What do you do outside of work hours?

We always seem to be waiting for the phone to ring. Being a highway community, there is always something happening. But that's ok, I'm certainly never bored.



What has it been like trying to adjust to life at a remote community?

Huge contrast from working in the city; life is definitely different out here. Even law enforcement has to be handled appropriately to each situation.

What have been the most noticeable changes in the community since you've been there?

Imanpa is located on the highway, so it's always a busy community and we deal with a variety of issues. Definitely there is not so much alcohol anymore, and therefore less alcohol related problems.

The community is friendlier now and are happy to have a permanent Police presence. When I got here, they had only had Police in the community for 6 months before, so they were still getting used to the idea.

Proudest achievement?

I'm proud of the differences I have made to everyday life in the community. The women of the community thank me and that's rewarding.

Could you ever work 9-5 again?

God no.

What's next for Bec?

I'm not sure really, I'm not in any hurry to leave. If the opportunity came up to see somewhere new I would like to head up north at some stage, towards some water, but like I said, I'm not in a hurry. I certainly have no desire to work in the city again if I can avoid it.

Below left **Rebecca assists in a medical evacuation in the absence of a local nurse.**
Below **Bec spends a lot of time getting to know the local kids.**



thanks and praise

The commissioner officially recognised the following extraordinary people for their hard work and dedication over recent months.

Auxiliary Tara Tarca and Deb Carter received a letter of recognition for the outstanding job they did in relation to a male who was attempting suicide. See full story on page 5.

A letter of recognition was also awarded to **Brian Holman** for his assistance in creating, developing and implementing a structured call taking program for integrated Computer Aided Dispatch.

Constable Dion Bowdern was awarded a Commissioner's Commendation for his brave and selfless efforts in responding to a structure fire at Kuringal Flats.

A certificate of appreciation was awarded to **Acting Commander Nouvelle Reed** in recognition of her role as conference director for the hosting of the Conference of Commissioners of Police of Australasia and the South West Pacific Region. A certificate of appreciation was also awarded to **Glenda Ramage** for her role as conference coordinator for the conference.

Pauline Hore, Donna Moody, Jan Lawless, Tim Price and Vicki McKenna from the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs were all awarded with a certificate of appreciation for their outstanding contribution and support of Task Force Themis.

Special congratulations to **Pauline Williams** who was selected as the 2008 Auxiliary of the Year. She has been a member of the Northern Territory Police force since April 2004 and has been actively involved in a range of areas that complement the vision and mission of NT Police.

Thanks & Praise

To: pfes.media@nt.gov.au
Subject: Feedback from PFES Internet site

Recently I was involved in a car accident 20/04/09, at the BP Palm lights at 8.45am Stuart Highway Pine Lands.

The Firies, Ambo's and Police attended. I cannot thank the men and women who attended enough. They were so professional and polite they put me at ease with my injuries.

I have let every one know if they are to have an accident to ensure it is near Palmerston, as the service was second to none.

I thank you all who attended and assisted, I am proud to know that we have trusted professionals in the service.

Thankyou, Julie Timms Morgan

From: Amy, Tamara
Sent: Sunday, May 03, 2009 11:38 AM
To: Cussens, Michael; Gargan, Michelle; Gilmour, David; Tomaszewski, Nathan; Marinov, Ivan
Cc: Wheeler, Graeme
Subject: Promis Nr 4290800 - MVA winnellie.

Hi guys,

Just wanted to pass on my gratitude and thanks on behalf of my father Ian Amy (hilux driver) and my family in relation to your attendance at the above crash yesterday. You'll be happy to know that my dad was released from hospital after 6 hours observations and the addition of about 12 stitches to his head. He was very appreciative of all your efforts at the crash and was most impressed by the first unit on scene which I believe was Michael and Michelle.

Thanks again guys. Keep up the good work

NT Police Commissioner
Ref: Stolen Vehicle on 12th March 2009

This is a short note to thank your staff for the assistance provided to myself in recovering my vehicle and tools. They achieved the operation in a matter of hours. They were very courteous and understanding and best of all they were both very young. So the future looks good for the department.

Thank you, Charlie Reilly

WU

