



SA POLICE LEGACY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2019



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The SA Police Legacy Board

President - Senior Sergeant Mark Willing
Vice-President - Sergeant Jodi-Lee Black

Board Members:

Barry Lewis – Elected
Costa Anastasiou – CEO, Police Credit Union
Inspector Campbell Hill – Commissioner's Representative
Glenn Thomson – Elected
Sergeant Jane O'Connor – Elected
Joanne Sanderson – SAPOL Employee Assistance Representative
Karen Cucchiarelli – Manager, SA Police Legacy
Kath Wilkin – Widow's Representative
Mark Walker-Roberts – Elected
Samantha Attard – Elected
Samantha Strange – Police Association of South Australia Representative
Liaison Officer (Vacant)



CORRECTION

The invitation to High Tea (20 Feb), posted with the annual Christmas Cards, incorrectly stated that attendees will meet the new Liaison Officer and see our new Logo. Whilst a recruitment plan is underway, a replacement may not be on board by the High Tea. Please join Jodi-Lee Black, our Vice President, as she hosts our High Tea. More information regarding our logo will come in due course.



PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Hello everyone, I hope this edition of our newsletter finds you well and you have had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year.

As I write this update, I am recovering from the hikes I have completed in preparation for the Kokoda trek I am undertaking with one of our wards, Tom Koerner. I know Tom is very honoured to have been selected and I am proud to be able to accompany him on the trip.

Our social events continue to be very well received and the Facebook images of the recent Christmas lunch remind me of the valuable role we play in bringing friends together. I hope to see you at our next social event, the “high tea” on 20th February at The Police Club.

SA Police Legacy could not do its work without our large group of supporters. In early December I hosted a meal with many of our supporters including staff from the Police Credit Union, Police Health and Cops for Kids. Over 30 supporters attended which provided me with the opportunity to thank them for their enthusiasm and commitment in supporting SA Police Legacy.



We continue to remember the dedication, commitment to service and the deeds of bravery of police officers who have passed. I was honoured to speak on radio 5AA on Remembrance Day with one of our legatees Jane Kite. Listeners not only heard Jane's story, but were also provided with an insight as to how SA Police Legacy supports police families.

It was a pleasure to attend the recent Course 30 graduation and award the SA Police Legacy Fitness Award to Probationary Constable Madison Davies. Congratulations Madison.

In December we said goodbye to our Liaison Officer Karen Robinson and I thank her for the dedication, commitment and compassion she has provided to this organisation and its members.

I wish departing board member Bronwyn Killmier well and thank her for her passion and commitment to the board and supporting police families. There was very keen interest from members wishing to join the Board of SA Police Legacy and I welcome new board members Samantha Attard, Jane O'Connor and Mark Walker-Roberts. I thank our Board and our Manager Karen Cucchiarelli for their ongoing energy and commitment to supporting police families.

2019 continues to shape up as an exciting year and I encourage you to read the newsletters and follow us on social media.

Take care,

Mark Willing - President

PLEASE JOIN US LEGATEES' HIGH TEA

All Legatees are invited to attend our first event for 2019! We will be getting together over a delightful High Tea at the Police Club. Please return your RSVP slip which was posted with your Christmas Card.

Legatee High Tea

Police Club - 27 Carrington St, Adelaide
Wednesday, 20th February 2019
10:30am-12:30pm



WELLBEING GRANT

Have you claimed your Wellbeing Grant?

Wellbeing Grants are offered to Wards aged 0-18 years and provide \$500 per year (until Nov 2019), for activities which enhance a child's wellbeing (mind, body, spirit).

This grant is currently on offer until November 2019 and available due to the generous donation of \$30,000 from Cops for Kids. Previous grant recipient, Darcy (below) used her Wellbeing Grant towards fees for her place within the Australian Girls Choir. Well Done Darcy!

To apply for the grant, complete an application form or email info@policelegacysa.org.au for more information.



AGM UPDATE

On Monday 19th November 2018, at 4:30pm, the Annual General Meeting was held. During this meeting the following Resolutions were passed.

Resolution 1:

Accru Harris Orchard were again selected to conduct financial audits for FY18/19.

Resolution 2:

Two Honorary Life Members were elected, Mr Charlie Rumbelow and Mr Brian Smith. Both will be formally recognised at the 2019 Mid-Year Legatee Luncheon.

Resolution 3:

Four Board Member positions were filled. Jodi-Lee Black and Glenn Thomson were re-elected and we welcome two new Directors, Samantha Attard and Jane O'Connor. Jodi-Lee, Sam and Jane are all serving Police Officers and Glenn is a retired Police Officer.

Resolution 4:

Constitutional Changes were passed and were as follows:

- Update definitions including Approved Duration, Child, Domestic Partner, Legatee, Spouse, Ward and Eligible Applicant.
- Add 'Discretionary Aid' to the definitions (Welfare Grant)
- Update the Associations Purpose to reflect new wording "The objects of the Association are: to render aid to Eligible Applicants for an Approved Duration..."

The updated constitution has been submitted to The Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission and will soon be available for reading via their website www.acnc.gov.au.

EVENTS 2019

We're looking for ideas on what events you would like us to run in 2019.

We'd love to know what types of events you'd like to see this year, for Legatees and Wards. Please write to us or email info@policelegacysa.org.au and we will keep you all updated on our 2019 events calendar.



ANNUAL LEGATEE CHRISTMAS LUNCH

What a fabulous day we had at our Annual Legatee Christmas Lunch on Sunday 2nd December. It was so pleasing to see over 100 Legatees and Special Guests come together and enjoy the festivities. We welcomed our Patron, Commissioner Stevens and his wife Emma, and appreciate them taking time out of their busy schedules. President Mark Willing spoke of the year that was, and after the formalities it was time to enjoy the sounds of duet, Nuts and Crackers! Thank you to everyone who came along, we wish you a very healthy and happy 2019.

POLICE OFFICER GRADUATIONS

SA Police Legacy proudly supports our newly graduated Police Officers.

President Mark Willing presented Probationary Constable Madison Davies (right) with the SA Police Legacy Health & Fitness award at a graduation ceremony in November 2018.

We wish Madison and her fellow course mates all the very best in their new policing careers.



TRIP OF A LIFETIME KOKODA EXPERIENCE

The Kokoda Trail or known to the diggers as the Kokoda Track, is more than a just bush walk, it's a trekking adventure you'll never forget!

The 96 kilometre Kokoda Track still bears its battle scars in the shape of scattered ammunition, guns, helmets and stirring campfire stories. Trekking the Original Kokoda War Track is a rite of passage all Australians should aspire to achieve. There are steep rugged mountains, treacherous ridges, jungle terrain, unforgiving rivers and rain forests with giant trees that will tower over you and look down, mocking you, at every opportunity.

Sound like a life-changing experience?

We think so, and that is exactly the opportunity we strive to offer our Wards!

Partnering with NSW Police Legacy, we are proud to be offering a 9-day Kokoda Experience to SA Police Legacy Ward, Thomas (Tom) Koerner. Tom will be travelling with President Mark Willing and many others from Police Legacies nationally, walking the Kokoda Track with Our Spirit on a PNG Adventure that embraces the local culture and experiences nature at its wildest.

Tom and Mark will experience the highs and lows of the treacherous Kokoda Track, guided by experienced Australian leaders – with comprehensive local knowledge and customs, and an unwavering passion for the Kokoda history, hidden battle sites, treasures and most importantly its legacy. They will complete the trek with a sense of courage, endurance and mateship, without the ultimate sacrifice that our diggers made before us.

This opportunity was offered to all SA Police Legacy Wards aged 16-21 years of age and we were pleased to receive so many nominations. A rigorous selection process commenced and the tough decision was made on who would be the candidate for 2019.



Here is what Tom had to say...

"I would firstly like to thank SA Police Legacy for this amazing opportunity. The year 2019, marks the 10th anniversary of my Dad's passing – I was only 10 years old at the time and had no real understanding of what struggles he went through. Now that I am 19 years old, it would be an amazing tribute to him and also a great way to build on my own resilience. The trek will give me an understanding of what sacrifices the soldiers made in 1942, and will give me the strength to overcome tough times ahead in my own life".

Congratulations Tom! A tough training program is ahead but we know you'll enjoy the rewarding feeling at the end.

For more information on the Kokoda experience please visit 'Our Spirit'.

<https://www.ourspirit.com.au/2019-kokoda-anzac-trek-12-day-trip>

Kokoda Fundraiser SAVE THE DATE

Friday 5th April, 7pm at Adelaide Bowling Club

Keep an eye on our facebook page for booking information.





INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP FUNDRAISING

Early on 16th of September 2018, SA Police Officer Jon, set off on his bike for a 100km bike ride, it was 3 degrees! Jon did this in honour of a lost friend and he raised over \$1100 for SA Police Legacy. This is what Jon had to say...

"I decided to fundraise for Police Legacy following the passing of a good mate earlier in the year. Up until then, I really didn't know what Legacy did. After hearing some of the great things that they do, and as my mate and I used to ride bikes together, when I saw the (Police Week) ride advertised it just made sense to do it. The fact that Police Legacy do so much with such a small contribution from members each fortnight is amazing. I know every little bit helps so I just wanted to try and do my bit to help."

Police Legacy would like to say, a big thank you to Jon, for being a true advocate for Police Legacy and we appreciate how he has helped SA Police families in need.

At the same time of year, a group of fit and determined SA Police Officers took on the Spartans Australia challenge in Queensland. Just take a look above at how muddy they ended up! We'd like to thank the team for raising a big \$300 for SA Police Legacy!

KAREN'S CORNER

Another year has come and gone and I reluctantly admit that the year has once again passed too quickly – there are still so many things on my 'to do' list that didn't quite make it to fruition.

It has been another great year of wonderful interaction and contact with our Legatees and Wards. We have added some to our 'membership' and we've sadly farewelled some too. It's a sad fact that no one looks forward to becoming a Legatee or Ward as such, as it means they have lost a loved one, but I take great satisfaction from knowing that those



who access Police Legacy's assistance are assured of being offered compassion, support and understanding. Police Legacy is there for the long haul, always ticking away quietly in the background.

We've been able to assist a number of serving police officers who have either personally experienced or had a family member experience serious health issues. One of the hardest things many of our people have to deal with is accepting the help and support that Police Legacy offers.

Many tell me they are overwhelmed and almost disbelieving at how much support we offer. All tell me that they are much happier giving than receiving help! I always try to convince them that it is now our turn to offer the help and they do us justice by accepting that help.

It is with mixed feelings that I have penned these lines as once again, it has been a truly great year for catching up and spending precious time with different Legatees and Wards (which I absolutely love doing), but it is also my last year with SA Police Legacy as the Liaison Officer.

I don't know what is around the corner for me but I am optimistic that another job I have loved as much as this will appear on my horizon. I know that my successor will be made to feel as welcome as I have been, and will no doubt put their own personal stamp on the much coveted role and I wish them every success. I will miss the daily contact with our wonderful Legatees and Wards. I have made many of what I hope and believe will prove to be lifelong friendships, that I look forward to maintaining and growing away from the office.



MEET LEGATEE PHIL PULLINGER

I'm an ex UK police officer who moved my family (wife Mim and children Melissa and Connor) to Australia in 2008, at which time I joined SA Police.

In October 2015, Mim discovered that she was suffering from a rare form of melanoma cancer. She had two initial operations and radiotherapy, and in 2016 much to our relief was given the all clear. Sadly the melanoma reappeared but Mim never gave up hope and she was accepted into a clinical trial using two immunotherapy drugs. Although these held the cancer at bay for some time, eventually her condition began to worsen. Mim had a number of radical new cancer treatments which were all successful to some degree but in June 2018, she faced two huge operations to remove further tumours with the intention of preventing further recurrences. Mim remained incredibly positive and throughout her treatment she was most concerned about maintaining a stable family environment for Melissa and Connor.

In August 2018, Mim went to hospital following one of her operations due to concerns about some unexplained swelling in her stomach. The doctors discovered that the melanoma had spread to her pelvis, liver and stomach and that she only had a few weeks to live. The whole family were in shock as we waited for the inevitable tragic loss. Only three weeks later Mim passed away peacefully at the Modbury Hospital surrounded by her family.

The list of things to do and people to notify was truly overwhelming. I was trying to run the family home - washing, ironing and shopping, whilst arranging the funeral and notifying the myriad of people from healthcare providers to relatives in England and many friends in both countries. Every day was a blur as my list of things continued to mount.

A few days after Mim passed away, Karen Robinson, the Liaison Officer from Police Legacy phoned me to offer Police Legacy's support. I vaguely remember the call, as my life was a whirlwind. She called to talk about Police Legacy and what they could offer our family. I had no idea whether I was even a member (which I am), but even if I wasn't, Karen explained that Police Legacy would support me. She told me that she didn't want to intrude in any way, but would ring me again in a couple of weeks just to check in on us. I will always remember the sound advice she gave me that helped me through my journey. She explained to me that police are often reluctant to accept help from people for a variety of reasons. We are much more comfortable giving than receiving. She was right, that was certainly me. I was



proud and didn't want charity from anyone. I was reluctant to ask for help or accept it but after a few days, friends and colleagues began to arrive on my doorstep with frozen meals and unending offers of support. I accepted their help and the kindness that I have been shown still brings tears to my eyes. I'm so grateful Karen convinced me to swallow my pride and accept help – it has made our lives much more manageable.

True to her word, Karen rang me two weeks later. She asked about my children and their education fees and told me that Police Legacy wanted to assist me financially. They said they would support my son Connor for the next three years with birthday and Christmas presents and provide a significant donation towards his school fees and other allowances towards his wellbeing. Even though Melissa is now an adult, they committed to financially supporting her for the next year of her degree. Karen sent me simple straightforward forms that required very little effort to complete and the lack of red tape was a great relief. Within a very short period of time I received money from Police Legacy towards the children's school fees and a Wellbeing Grant towards Connor's drama school fees.

We are still hurting from the loss of my darling wife Mim but one day, with the help of our extended family, friends, colleagues and Police Legacy, the family will be able to see our new path and continue our life journey.



GO SIXTY PLUS



Are you over sixty? Our **GO SIXTY PLUS** package is designed to help you maximise the potential of your assets, so you can enjoy your lifestyle. Our **GO SIXTY PLUS** Relationship Manager, Linda Ginever is always happy to help! Give her a call on **0438 859 797** for a free no obligation chat.



Police Credit Union
Better Banking

Terms, conditions, fees, charges, membership and lending criteria apply. Full details upon request. Please consider your circumstances before deciding if the product is right for you.



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THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

