



Canberra Trip - 2009

There was a buzz of anticipation in the air at Southern Cross bus terminal recently as 90 legatees and 6 supervisors climbed aboard the two busses for the annual Police Legacy trip bound for Canberra. These breaks away give legatees a chance to continue friendships forged when their spouses were serving officers and also to form new supportive alliances with others from within the police family. Amongst the many planned activities on the trip was a visit to the National Police Memorial for the Annual Police Remembrance Service.

There was also time for enjoying the sights, with visits to Government House where the group enjoyed an intimate tour of the building, Parliament House for some behind the scenes gossip, The National Gallery for art lovers and the miniature village of Cockington Green so pristinely laid out.

Floriade gave the group a chance to see all the wonders, colours and the spectacle of the biggest flower festival in Australia, a spectacular celebration of Spring, set in Canberra's Commonwealth Park.

Stops included Mulwala for the first night's accommodation (pictured the group by Lake Mulwala) and an evening in Albury on the return journey. As each day came and went bonds grew stronger and friendships were cemented, the chorus of where are we going next year had begun.

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National Police Memorial



Government House



Government House Dining Room



Cockington Green



Cockington Green



Floriade



Floriade



Floriade

Victoria Police Memorial Service

Loreen Thompson represented Victorian Legatees, laying a wreath at the Victoria Police Remembrance Day Service held at the Police Memorial in St Kilda Road on September 29th. Loreen said "I am pleased and proud to be a part of the ceremony honouring my late husband Russell and his colleagues."



Reconnection Day 2009 (photos opposite)

The Academy was the venue for the 2009 Reconnection day which saw families travel from across the state to experience many areas of policing. LSC Gavin Bennett was our very informative tour guide for the day.

Gavin started the tour with a look at the Chapel and explanation of the history of the building followed by a multi media/interactive display in the auditorium about the recruitment phase of policing.

The cool outside air had us bracing ourselves for the start of the adventurous part of the day. Much excitement to find members from the Mounted Branch, Dog Squad and Water Police complete with horse, dogs, and jet skis.

Constable Melissa Scannell put her horse Randwick through his paces. Randwick was very patient, enjoying all the attention as everyone patted him. Then onto the jet skis to get the feeling of what it would be like to ride the waves. LSC Nathan Gardiner gave an excellent insight into the work done by the Water Police and the uses the Jet skis are put too. The Dog Squad's turn and LSC Andy Adams stepped up with his 2 very affectionate Labradors, Trakka and Frisco, for an interactive display, though it seemed at times the dogs just wanted to play and find new friends.

Down to the firing range, swimming pool, gym, rope course and venture off to the village to hear more about recruit training and check out some of the facilities.

Time for lunch so off to the dining room, for a delicious meal and a chance meeting with Chief Commissioner Simon Overland and Deputy Commissioners Kieran Walsh and Ken Lay gave the children the perfect opportunity for a few questions before starting off again.

As we wandered down to the walking track a noise could be heard growing louder and louder, above our heads appeared a Police Helicopter. Everyone remained at a safe distance as the crew, LSC Rachel O'Brien, LSC Mark Weekly and Constable Warwick Young brought the chopper in and turned off the rotors. Much excitement as the children climbed aboard to get a feel for flying.

Many thanks go to Sergeant Steve Barnett from the Academy for assisting with organising the day, to Gavin for his very informative and fun tour and to the members who attended and made the day fun and exciting.



Air Wing



Mounted Branch



Dog Squad



Pilots in the making?



Everybody in



Chance meetings over lunch

Regional Lunches

Regional Lunches are drawing to a close for the year with only a couple remaining. There has been unprecedented attendance this year and we hope this momentum will continue into 2010.



East Bentleigh



Box Hill



Echuca



Ballarat



Bendigo

21st Birthdays

Congratulations to Luke Baird and Jason Cazaly who both celebrated their 21st birthdays recently. Pictured is Luke receiving his gift from new Board Member Craig Pearson and Jason with Lindsay Cummins representing VPL.



Luke Baird 21st

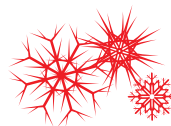


Jason Cazaly 21st

Christmas Lunch at The Sebel Hotel

Christmas invitations have been sent out. Be sure and get your reply in promptly so that catering for this huge event can be finalised. If you haven't received your invitation please call the office on 9347 5194.

Due to the increase in numbers this year the Christmas Lunch is at **The Sebel Hotel, 65 Queens Road, Albert Park**, opposite the beautiful Albert Park Lake. We look forward to seeing you there.



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