



Interstate visitors

As is common for our organisation to take children away interstate to give them (and their parents) a break, NSW Police Legacy brought their children to Lorne for a week of surf, walks and a fun excursion in Melbourne.

Whilst in Melbourne our Vice President Superintendent Kevin Sheridan and CEO Laurie Snowball (pictured at rear) caught up with the group enjoying lunch on the banks of the Yarra.

The NSW children are pictured with their newly presented replica Victoria Police caps.

Government House Open Day

Saturday 26 January 2008

All citizens of Victoria and visitors to the State are invited to visit Government House, Melbourne on Australia Day 2008. Visitors will be able to view the State Apartments, the Private Apartments and the Governor's Study. Many of these rooms are not normally open to the public. Refreshments available for purchase. There will be entertainment for children. Open from 10am until 3 pm. The police memorial is in nearby St Kilda Road. If you haven't done so already, have a look at this great memorial to police who have paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Road Safety for young police legatee drivers

We have had a good response to our offer to pay for young legatees to attend the Jim Murcott driver education program. If there are any other young legatees who would like to go to this course or if you just want more information, please contact our office.



Regional fellowship lunches

Our very popular regional fellowship lunches continued during 2007. These legatees are pictured at the Box Hill Golf club with our treasurer Inspector Doug Hocking and local police representative Senior Constable Andrew Beaumont.



issue 23 december 07

VPL President's Christmas Message 2007

Whilst we are extremely proud of our efforts and achievements to date our journey continues as we constantly look for new challenges and ways to improve our current services and ways of doing business. Victoria Police Legacy (VPL) continues to evolve and there have been further changes in a number of areas including staffing, Council/ Board representation, eligibility for services and philosophies. The year commenced with the return of Laurie Snowball who became our new Chief Executive Officer and was later joined by Rachel Russell as the Field Officer. We also welcomed Senior Sergeant Liz Batten and Sergeant Martin Park to the Board during the year. Some of this year's highlights include amendments to the new and previous relationships policies, reconnecting with those eligible for support and services, the inaugural VPL Kids Connecting With Police Program which will see young legatees exposed to a diverse range of policing, hosting a contingency of New South Wales Police young legatees and the establishment of Friends of Legacy, whereby VPL provides support and forums for the parents of deceased police.

Continued overleaf...

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- > VPL President's Christmas Message 2007
- > Legatee children reconnection program
- > Interstate visitors > Regional fellowship lunches
- > Government House Open Day
- > Road Safety for young police legatee drivers

Continued from front...

This year saw us explore opportunities for interoperability and/or partnerships and networks with other like organisations that care for police families or through our increased role in advocacy. As a result of a VPL suggestion, Victoria Police recently facilitated a one day Caring For Police and Their Families Workshop focussing on the various Victoria Police work groups and external organisations that care for and support police and their families when they suffer the loss of a loved one or a member of the Police Force or family member is seriously injured or gravely ill. A number of issues, opportunities and areas for improvement have been identified. The 2007 National Conference was held in Adelaide and had as its theme, 'The Relevance of Police Legacies' which challenged current paradigms. 2008 promises to be another interesting and busy year with a number of additional activities planned to complement current support and services and our business processes and policies will continue with a focus on erring on the side of inclusion rather than exclusion when it comes to those requiring support and assistance. This includes a bus trip to South Australia for the Military Tattoo that will also take in the Warrnambool Regional Lunch and a whole of family interstate holiday. There are also a number of strategic business projects to be commenced and as the National Secretariat, we will also host the National Police Legacy Conference.

I would also like to reinforce a point that I regularly make and that is whilst there is often bad or adverse publicity relating to police and policing, it is important to recognise that Police Legacies embody a very positive aspect of our policing culture; that is, looking after your mates, colleagues and most importantly, their families when loss or hardship befalls them. VPL will continue to provide high quality support and services to police families who have suffered the loss of a loved one and strive to enhance that support and service.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all VPL staff, Laurie, Rachel and Kate, who have worked extremely hard during this year and supported the transition undertaken. Thank you to the Board for their input throughout the year and on behalf of VPL and all Legatees, I acknowledge the support of those members of Victoria Police who contribute financially to VPL fortnightly and those who directly/indirectly support Legatees.

On behalf of VPL Staff and Board, I wish you and your families a very Happy and Safe Christmas and New Year.

Roger Schranz
President



Legatee children reconnection program

Police Legacy has commenced a program to provide children of police who have died, opportunities to remain close to the organisation that was so much part of their lives prior to death of a parent. The pride families had through their partner's/parent's service in Victoria Police remains strong but surviving parents often tell us that the one thing their children miss is the contact with police friends and the wider police family.

To address that, Police Legacy will ensure that each year a special visit is arranged for our children so that their opportunities to see 'behind the scenes' and talk informally to police continues.

The first of the visits was to the Water Police headquarters in Williamstown where a large group of children and parents were given a great insight to the importance of policing on the waters in Victoria.

A big thank you to all those involved who went out of their way to give the Police Legacy group a memorable day.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year... To members of Victoria Police From Police Legacy children

Below: Children pictured at Christmas party at Scienceworks early in December 2007

Below: Ella Carr with Santa
Below Right: Santa takes a last minute request!

