



# Community Supporting Police

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*We have enjoyed another busy year with CSP and the support of all members in many different ways has helped us to achieve our goals. We have many projects on the go and it is gratifying that so many people are willing to help share the load.*

*We send greetings for a safe and happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.*

- Management Committee  
- December 2011

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LAST SIX MONTHS

### The Opening of Dyas Homestead



Dyas Homestead and the two plaques



Those present at the Opening

One of the most impressive events held recently was the official opening of *Dyas Homestead* at Einasleigh which is situated 220Km south-west of Innisfail.

The Einasleigh Police Station was originally built as the Port Douglas Police barracks and in 1909 was transported by bullock dray to Einasleigh. The police complex still retains the two cell watchhouse and the Aboriginal tracker's residence at the rear of the homestead. It was officially decommissioned as a police station in August 2005.

The former Police Station was rarely used but held a special place in the hearts of the police in the area. To make better use of the facility, Inspector Rolf Straatmeier, Mareeba District Officer, sought the approval of the QPS to use the residence for rest and recreation for those members

who worked in remote areas of the State. This was approved, the Mareeba Branch of CSP was formed and work began to restore the building.

The Official Opening took place on 21 October 2011 and was carried out by Deputy Commissioner Ian Stewart. Two plaques were unveiled, one to recognise every Police Officer and Black Tracker who were stationed at Einasleigh and the other to recognise the history of *Dyas Homestead* and CSP.

The hard work undertaken to restore the residence was well rewarded by the appreciation shown by those who attended. We sincerely congratulate the members of the Mareeba Branch of CSP who ensured this dream became a reality. May they enjoy it for many years to come.

## The Official Opening of Windsor

CSP has occupied the former Girl Guide Hut situated in Jolly Park, Windsor for two years and during that time a great deal of refurbishment has taken place. We are indebted to many Firms and volunteers who have donated goods and time to make it a wonderful home for CSP.

The Official Opening of Windsor took place on Saturday 3 December and two plaques were unveiled by Deputy Commissioner Ian Stewart APM. The first acknowledged the donation of the building from the Girl Guides Association, Queensland and the second acknowledged the many people who have helped to restore the hut.

There was a large attendance, including the State Commissioner for Girl Guides, Mrs Monica Elliott, Region Commissioner, Mrs Peggy Campbell and many former Windsor Guiding personnel. They voiced their pleasure in seeing their premises well maintained and used by an organisation that supports the Queensland Police Service.



Some of the many guests enjoying afternoon tea following the unveiling of the plaques.

Police Commissioner Bob Atkinson was hoping to perform the ceremony but was unavoidably detained and we were very pleased that Mr Stewart was able to step in. Mr Atkinson called in to Windsor later in the day and donated a painting and clock for Windsor and they were hung without delay.

Since then, the Queensland Police Credit Union has kindly donated \$1000 towards the cost of painting the exterior of Windsor and this will happen early next year.

## Blue Ribbon

CSP members Greg Early, Evan Newton and Pat Dryden are on the Blue Ribbon Committee and responsible for the distribution of Remembrance Day ribbons throughout the State.

There were a few hassles this year which resulted in our very loyal band of helpers not being available on the date finally chosen for the working bee. They were circumstances beyond our control to which our members can all relate.. However, stand by for a call for help in 2012.



The above photo is of Carol McKay (hidden) Evan Newton, Jan and Evan Morgan (Police Legacy) and Jennifer Newton. Overseeing operations from behind the scenes were Greg Early (Chairman of the Committee), Bill McKay and Pat Dryden. Windsor has proved of immense benefit for this project.

With the tragic death of Damien Leeding, extra ribbons were requested from all over Queensland and the committee was kept busy locating and posting as many ribbons as could be found.

Proceeds from the Blue Ribbon Appeal, after costs have been met, are divided between Police Legacy, CSP and another organisation. This year, it was *Angel Flight* and consequently \$6000 has been presented to them. They were very grateful and a Certificate of Appreciation has been received.



Helping Hand, the sub-committee of CSP, receives the majority of its funding through payroll deductions. Since its inception, in excess of \$1.5 million has been dispersed to members of the QPS who have needed financial support.

## Merchandise

Jessica Farrington accepted responsibility for CSP merchandise in February and has been doing a great job. She has introduced new items and is constantly on the look-out for different ideas. She will willingly follow up any suggestions you might care to make. The merchandise is advertised on the CSP web-page ([csp.asn.au](http://csp.asn.au)) and Jessica also sells many items on E-Bay.

The preparation and posting of the stock is a large job and Jessica will take advantage of the offer of help early in the New Year from two Volunteers in Policing to help with some time-consuming jobs.

Once again we were grateful for the chance to be part of the Camping & Caravan Show and the Police Exhibit at the RNA which involved a lot of time for members to work on the stall. We have had other opportunities and thank Evan Newton, Debbie Nicholson, Pam and Ken Guyatt, Col Diachkoff and Jessica for manning stalls at events to which we have been invited.

The CSP stall in front of the canteen on the last payday before Christmas is always a money-spinner and 2011 was no exception. With thanks to Debbie Nicholson, Kate Bailey, Jessica Farrington, Evan Newton, Pam and Ken Guyatt and Peter Johnson, approximately \$3852 worth of stock was sold and a raffle realised \$254. Goods for the raffle were kindly donated by the Commissioner.



Peter Johnson, Ken Guyatt and Evan Newton at the Stall at Police HQ.

## Behind the Crime

Three presentations were held during 2011 and they were well attended. CSP is extremely grateful to Acting Inspector Debbie Nicholson and Sergeant Kate Bailey for their assistance with these presentations.

Our next *Behind the Crime* will be presented by Police Commissioner Bob Atkinson and the crime will be the Sian Kingi murder. Mr Atkinson was the Detective on this case. It will be held on Friday 23 March 2012. If you are interested, obtain your tickets on-line now.

## Emergency Accommodation



A new unit was made available to CSP in Brisbane early this year and it is situated close to hospitals on the south-side.

With one house and five units to maintain, Mrs Dot Stumer and Mr Gavin Molloy are kept very busy. They can also call on Ken Guyatt for assistance in the handyman line.

Maintaining the residences is not only hard work but has to be fitted in between occupancies and as the accommodation is in constant use, it requires a lot of juggling, particularly with carpet cleaning, pest control etc. Dot and Gavin work in close liaison with the Police Chaplaincy and together they manage to place as many people as quickly as possible. If it is not possible to provide a place at either the house or units, those who require help are placed in motels at CSP's expense.

The accommodation is greatly appreciated by the QPS as it provides one less worry for its members and families who find it necessary to travel to Brisbane for medical treatment or other emergencies.

## Generally Speaking

We continue to recognise the community commitment by the recruits at the Police Academy with the presentation of the **Ted Butler Award** at each Induction Parade. Mrs Rita Butler, wife of former Inspector Ted Butler, presents the award.

**The Branches** are working successfully to their own agenda. Branches operate in Toowoomba, Rockhampton, Townsville, Cairns and Mareeba, and with location, needs differ. What they all need are more members from the community to help them.

Each Branch has its own accommodation which requires funds for maintenance and on-going costs. We congratulate them for ensuring that the well-being of the members of the QPS and their families are being met in the regions. Again, they work in close liaison with Chaplains and HSO's.

Every second year a **Country Meeting** is held and in 2011 it was our pleasure to travel to Cairns for the meeting.

Representatives from Townsville (new President Gerard Byrne); Mareeba (Inspector Rolf Straatemeier); Rockhampton (Inspector Darren Somerville) and Chaplain Doug Foster (President CSP Cairns) were in attendance. We missed not having Toowoomba Branch with us but they have assured us "next time for sure".

Each Branch gave an up-to-date report and in return President Bryan Brown informed the meeting on what is happening "down south".

An interesting Guest Speaker and dinner in the evening with partners and friends made it a very enjoyable event.

Sincere thanks to Doug and the Cairns Branch for inviting us and for their hospitality over the weekend.

The **Annual General Meeting** of CSP was held on 14 September. These meetings are well attended due to an interesting Guest Speaker and home-made supper thanks to the Mt Coot-tha Trefoil Guild (Girl Guides).

**AGM Cont.**

The Guest Speaker was Senior Constable Wayne Metcalf who took part in the *Marathon des Sables* (the race across the Sahara). Wayne did not complete the race but deserves an accolade for even attempting it. What's more, he wants to try again. It is hard to imagine that there is a waiting list to be allowed to do this run. In thanking Wayne, Tony Lake said he was glad it was Wayne doing this and not him.

The previous committee were re-elected which shows that they are either very good at what they do or can't find anyone else!

Assistant Commissioner Paul Wilson, South Eastern Region addressed the meeting and thanked CSP for their help to the QPS.

**The Police Commissioner's Christmas Carols** came around again (very quickly we all thought) and once more we were asked to provide the evening meal for the entertainers on the Friday night. Peter Johnson fronted up with a burner and large boiling pot that took care of all the hot dogs in one fell swoop.

Each year we try to come up with something different for this evening meal but always fall back on the good old hot dog. This year The Royal Chef at Sherwood and Homestyle Bakeries (Toowoomba) donated the saveloys and rolls for which we are most grateful.

The **Carols** the following night were most enjoyable and we learned during the evening that proceeds as a result of photos taken would be donated to CSP.

**Letters From Timor** is the title of the book produced by Police Chaplain Graeme Ramsden and Graeme gave a PowerPoint presentation of his time in Timor at the last General Meeting. If you would like a copy, please contact Graeme at Police Chaplaincy.

**Anita Bell**, CSP member and famous author has a best-seller – *Diamond Eyes* – which is being considered for a movie by Geoffrey Rush. Good luck Anita.

**In conclusion, CSP gratefully acknowledges the support of their Patron, Commissioner Bob Atkinson, members of the Senior Executive and the Police Media Section.**