

Contact

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*The committee meets
on the 3rd Wednesday
each quarter.*

The contents of this newsletter are strictly for the information of members of the Northern Territory Police Museum & Historical Society Inc. Unauthorised use is prohibited.

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Newsletter of the Northern Territory Police Museum & Historical Society Inc

"THEY ALSO SERVED"

An interesting and entertaining public meeting is to be held on **Wednesday 21 February 2001** commencing at **7.00pm** in the **Theatrette of the Police College**.

Three Police Wives will provide us with an incite into their roles over the years.

Christine Cox has been busy working on her manuscript titled "A Copper's Wife" and she will provide snippets of information for you to marvel at.

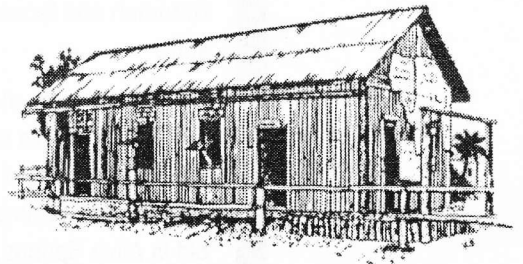
Margaret Bates will provide a different perspective. Margaret spent most of her years as a wife of a city policeman from Victoria and will enlighten us on her experiences.

Norma Grant, who was formerly a police-woman prior to becoming a police wife will tell us of the changes in the force over the years.

The evening will finish off with the usual drinks and nibbles.

The cost will remain the same as the previous meetings – \$5.00 per member and \$8.00 per non-member. Please advise if you will be attending this evening.

We look forward to seeing you all at the first of our Public Meetings for 2001.



MUSEUM DISPLAY NO. 2

The Museum Management Committee have once again begun working on the second display.

The working title for the display is "**The Last Hanging**", and will provide visitors to the exhibition with an understanding of:

- * The reality of capital punishment;
- * The social climate of Darwin in the 50s, and
- * The Policing process in the post-war decade.

The exhibition will be located in the old

Infirmaary building of the Fannie Bay Gaol and should be ready for public viewing in April/May this year.

The display is being worked on by both the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory – Territory History Unit and the Northern Territory Police Museum and Historical Society Inc.

Anyone with any information in relation to the Grantham Murder should advise the Secretary of the material that they might like to include in the display.

PAUL FOELSCHER MEMORIAL SERVICE

It is the custom of Lodge "Foelsche" to hold a short Memorial Service for the late Inspector Paul Foelsche, the first NT Police Inspector.

The service is held on the anniversary of his death, January 21, in the Pioneer Cemetery, Goyder Road, Darwin at 5.00pm.

Members are cordially invited to attend this service. Light refreshments will be served after the service in the Masonic Hall adjacent to the cemetery.

Parking is available at the rear of the Masonic Hall with entry from Stokes Street, Parap.

We look forward to seeing some of our members there.



LIFE AS A POLICEMAN'S SON

Our second Public Meeting was held on **1 November 2000** in the Theatre, Police College, Berrimah and focussed on "Life as a policeman's son".

A keen audience of around 45 history enthusiasts attended this evening. Creed Lovegrove gave an account of his life as the son of a policeman in Alice Springs and Darwin. As a five year old in Alice Springs, young Creed learned a lot from the police and the trackers. Many a tale he told of his adventures around the station.

Two movies were also shown on that evening. They were 'Outback Patrol' and 'The Bush Policeman'.

Both movies in black and white were produced in the 1950s. The late Bob Darken starred in the first short documentary film as a young constable as the Officer In Charge of the Harts Range police district in Central Australia. Camel and horse patrols were the norm. Bob and his Aboriginal trackers would set out on patrol – often for months at a time – leaving the wife and children to run the place in his absence.

The movie emphasised the important role of the

police trackers. A bent blade of grass, and even a drop of dried sweat that left a residual spot of salt, could point the way that the 'quarry' had travelled. In the film, the meticulous skills of the trackers lead to the finding of the man, who'd wandered away from his camp, still alive but exhausted.

The second film provided information of the work carried out by police, also in the 1950s where Tas Fitzer of Daly River and Sam Parsons of Timber Creek starred. It also gave a short example of how Police training was achieved in that era – outside on wooden bench seats with the dust, flies and sweat – a far cry from today's facilities.

(Thank you to Christine Cox for the above comments in relation to this meeting – greatly appreciated. Ed.)

FIRST DISPLAY ON THE MOVE

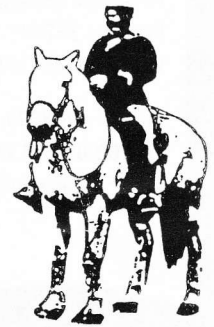
The first display was dismantled early in January and has now been packaged ready to be forwarded to Katherine for display there.

The location of the Katherine display has not yet been confirmed, but it is hoped to be in a central location.

The display will remain in Katherine for approximately two months before being sent to Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, and Borroloola.

It is anticipated that once this display has circulated and returned to Darwin, the second display will be ready to be travelled.

Any comments or suggestions in relation to displays etc would be greatly appreciated.



2001 – AUSTRALIA'S CENTENARY OF FEDERATION

For those members who may be interested, Bill Wilson has contributed a chapter into a book that has been published for the Australian Centenary of Federation.

Bill will be a guest speaker for the Northern Territory Historical Society on Wednesday 28 February in relation to his contribution towards the book.

The evening will be held at our office, House No. 3, Peter McAulay Centre, Berrimah. After the initial talk,

guests will be invited to view our displays within House No. 2.

All members are welcome to attend this evening.

More information can be obtained by contacting Bill direct on 8988 1104.

*GENERAL
MEETINGS
2001 – CATCH
THEM ALL!!*

WORKING BEE

Members are invited to participate in a Working Bee to be held at House No. 2 – where our museum exhibits are being held.

Please advise your availability to assist us by contacting Janell on 8922 3374. It is to be held on **Saturday 10 February** commencing at **10.00am**. It should be completed in a couple of hours – de-

pending on the numbers of volunteers who attend.

Those who attend will be treated to a sausage sizzle and drinks afterwards.

I await your phone call – remember the office is only manned of a morning – but please leave a message on the answering machine.

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**We will soon be on the
WEB - keep watching!**

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

At a recent meeting of the committee it was decided that we should attempt to implement a regular "volunteer day" to enable us to at least commence work on sorting, cataloguing and recording our historical items.

We are suggesting that volunteers could come in for one morning a month for about 4 hours to assist in this project. There are a variety of jobs that will always need to be done.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Janell and leave your details including preferred days etc.

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

This project has been discussed by the Committee and it is envisaged that we will be able to provide some training to interested members in the near future.

The project is aimed at doing interviews with all members who leave the Police Force after ten years of service. It is also hoped that interviews can be done with former members with a similar length of service.

This will provide us with a wonderful reference library.

If any member is interested in being trained to do this - please let Janell know so that you can be advised of training details etc.

PUBLIC MEETING - MAY

At our recent meeting a decision was made in relation to our Public Meeting for May 2001.

This forum, providing information on fingerprinting and the latest technology will be presented by the following speakers:

Denzil McManus - introduction of fingerprints to the NT Police;

John Maloney - latest technology;

And

Del Jones - live scanning & DNA.

Both John & Del are yet to be confirmed as speakers.

It should be a most informative evening and one not to be missed. A date is yet to be set.

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