

A day for reflection and remembrance



The Remembrance Day Parade

Not all eyes were on Canberra this National Police Remembrance Day. Friends, family and colleagues of those who have paid the ultimate price when serving their communities attended the annual ceremony at the Police Memorial in Melbourne.

Among those at this year's service were family members of Constable David Anderson who died in the line of duty in 1856 near Wangaratta – the third Victoria Police Force member to die in the line of duty.

"We also acknowledge the presence of loved ones who have in recent years, indeed in recent months and weeks, have experienced the loss of loved ones, friends and colleagues," said Reverend Jim Pilmer, Senior Police Chaplain and Life Member of The

Police Association.

"We recall with great gratitude those police officers who have given their lives in the line of duty, especially those 150 men and women who over the past 153 years have paid the supreme sacrifice whilst serving with Victoria Police.

"We gather now to honour their memory and support their loved ones with our presence, our thoughts and our prayers."

Chief Commissioner Nixon reminded us that of the 150 members who have died, 30 have been murdered. And that police are people too – they are mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, sons and daughters.

"It is important that we remember these members for their bravery and commitment to maintaining law and order. It is a significant day for police and their families and the wider community.

"This year another eight former members were added to the Victoria Police Honour Roll which remembers those who have died in the line of duty...those who have fallen as a consequence of protecting this wonderful community," said Chief Commissioner Nixon.



Executive Member Rod Brewer



Association Secretary Paul Mullett and Executive Member Dermot Avon talk to members after the ceremony



Mark Rose, Paul Mullett, Ossie Muir, Dermot Avon, Rod Brewer and Chris Kennedy after the ceremony

Those added were Constable William Clark, Constable David Digby, Constable Edward Gray, Constable Andrew Henderson, Constable Robert Lindsay, First Constable Frank Mannix, Constable Daniel Mullaly and Constable Victor Nelson. Some of these men served as long as 150 years ago.

Police Minister Tim Holding said National Police Remembrance Day is our opportunity to remember and give thanks.

"We remember the service of Victoria Police men and women who have lost their lives in the line of duty. We remember the sacrifice they have made, the supreme sacrifice in ensuring our community continues to be a safe place. We remember the quality and the spirit that they brought to their policing responsibilities. We remember their compassion, their integrity, their professionalism, their skill and their expertise.

"We remember also that as well as being police officers they were also

family members. We remember today their work colleagues and particularly their families.

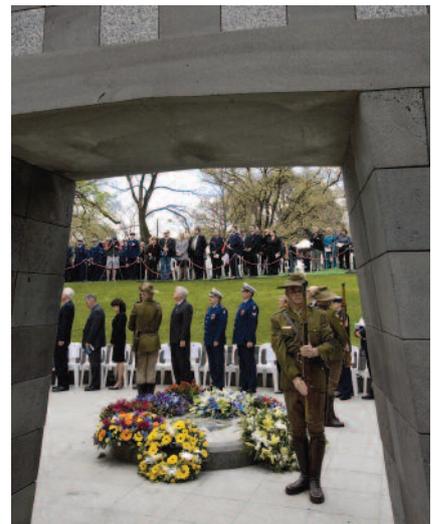
"Today we give thanks to thousands of men and women, not only from Victoria Police, but from police organisations across Australia and across the world, We give thanks for the service they give in protecting our community.

"Today, of all days, we remember and we give thanks."

Walter Mikac lost his wife and two daughters in the Port Arthur massacre. He has channelled his grief, his insight and his energy into a range of positive approaches of life. Walter Mikac's address to the service can be read in full on page 15 of this issue of *The Police Association Journal*.

Wreaths were layed to honour the fallen. Executive member Rod Brewer laid the wreath on behalf of The Police Association.

At the end of the day Candles of Remembrance were lit in the Police Academy Chapel.



The guard at the Police Memorial

Police Ode

*As the sun surely sets,
Dawn will see it arise,
For Service above self
Demands its own prize.*

*You have fought the good fight,
Life's race has been run,
And peace your reward,
For eternity begun.*

*And we that are left
Shall never forget,
Rest in peace friend
and colleague
For the sun has now set.*

*We will remember
WE WELF
R.E.M.E.M.B.E.R*

Hasten the dawn.