



FROM THE LINE

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WA Police welcomes new Assistant Commissioner

Today, Nicholas (Nick) Andrew Anticich was appointed to WA Police to take up the position of Assistant Commissioner (Specialist Crime). He will commence the position in August at which time a rotation of Assistant Commissioners to portfolios will be announced.

Mr Anticich has a strong background in policing and senior executive experience in law enforcement. For the past five years he was the Director of Operations of WA's Corruption and

Crime Commission. Prior to this he was a member of the AFP for 24 years and attained the rank of Commander. He was the General Manager Western Operations for two years before his retirement from the AFP. During his police career he has been stationed in Canberra, Sydney and Perth and carried out criminal investigations in most Australian states as well as international crime operations that have taken him overseas on numerous occasions.

Mr Anticich spent nearly ten years investigating organised crime with the former National Crime Authority (NCA). There he was the National Director (Perth) with the responsibilities of Cybercrime and Professional Standards. He has been involved in serious organised crime investigations relating to narcotics, money laundering, South East Asian Organised Crime, Established Criminal Networks and OMCGs. He was also the Chief Investigator South East Organised Crime NCA in Sydney. As Manager (Investigations) NCA Perth, Mr Anticich oversaw NCA involvement in OMCG taskforce operations with WA Police. He was the Director Operations for AFP in WA and for a short period performed the role of National Manager Counter-Terrorism AFP Canberra.



(L-R) New Assistant Commissioner (Specialist Crime) Nick Anticich signs his appointment to WA Police with Acting Commissioner Chris Dawson.

With a Masters Degree in Public Policy and Administration, a Graduate Diploma in Executive Leadership and a Graduate Certificate in Police Management, Mr Anticich is well qualified for his new job. He has also attended and completed the Australian Institute of Police Management Police Management Development Program (1996) and Police Executive Leadership Program (2000). He was born in Perth and is married with two children.

Two other senior appointments also occurred today.

Divisional Detective Inspector Charles Carver at Operation Jupiter has been appointed as the Detective Superintendent Organised Crime Division. He joined WA Police in 1983 as a cadet and served in metropolitan and country stations, but most of his career has been as a detective within the Specialist Crime Portfolio. He has also served as OIC of Risk Assessment Unit before transferring to help set up Operation Jupiter. Mr Carver was awarded the Commissioner's Medal of Excellence in 2006 for implementing significant crime and community safety strategies impacting on the city and Northbridge precincts.

Senior Sergeant Mark Ridley, OIC at Infringement Management and Operations has been appointed to the rank of Inspector and will become a team member of the Enhanced Speed Enforcement Program. His career with WA Police commenced in 1995 and he has served in metropolitan and country locations. As a Senior Sergeant he was the Regional Coordinator in Regional WA and was then seconded as Acting Inspector to the Office of the Police Minister.

All three appointments were ratified by the Governor in Executive Council today.

Employee Assistance Program update

Since its launch in October last year, the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) has been well received across WA Police and its uptake has steadily increased. The latest reported figures to the end of April 2009 show a 25% increase in general usage from when the program started.

The external counselling service provided by PPC Worldwide is available to all WA Police employees and their immediate families at no cost. The confidential service is designed to help the agency's employees reduce stress by giving them an opportunity to discuss any range of concerns or issues with professional external counsellors. EAP services can be accessed by calling **1800 198 191**. Additional information is available online at www.au.ppcworldwide.com or follow the link from the WAPOL intranet under 'Quick links'.



As well as face-to-face and telephone counselling, the program also provides PPC Online which is an internet-based resource for both workplace and personal issues. PPC Online has an extensive library of informative articles and self-help tools. To log on to PPC Online, go to www.ppconline.info/au, for the username, enter: wapol and then: wapol2 for the password. There is one password for all WA Police personnel with confidentiality for EAP services assured at all times.

Do you have a story idea for *From the Line* or a positive police story that you would like to tell?

Call the Corporate Communications Unit in Public Affairs Branch on 9222 1964 or email From the Line SMAIL

National Police Certificates moving online

Application forms for National Police Certificates are now available both online through the police internet website www.police.wa.gov.au and at participating Australia Post outlets. Applicants complete the form online and print it off to lodge their application in person at Australia Post, where their signature is witnessed by an Australia Post officer. Guidelines and Frequently Asked Questions are available online, and applicants can find their nearest postal outlet on the Australia Post website.

Cycle for charity

WA Police employees, families and friends are invited on a spring bike ride along the Kep Track for the Commissioner's Family Mountain Bike Ride on Sunday 11 October. Participants depart and return to Mundaring Sculpture Park for a 15km or 30km ride. The WA Police Pipe Band and *The Filth* will play after the event. Registrations open later this week on www.police.wa.gov.au or call Tammy D'Costa at Public Affairs Branch on **9222 1225** for more details. All proceeds go to Camp Quality.

'Step Back in Time' with Regional WA

Regional WA is calling for police officers to volunteer to work at this year's Police Exhibition at the Royal Show which runs from Saturday 26 September to Saturday 3 October at the Claremont Showgrounds. This year's theme is 'Regional WA – Step Back in Time' and the exhibition will feature Aboriginal displays, the Pitman and Walsh murder scene, a WA Police and FESA Cyclone Room plus much more. Call Brett Dias in Public Affairs Branch on **9222 1316** or **0403 367 702** for more information.

Sports Federation achiever award

The WA Sports Federation has awarded Constable David Croghan from Water Police with the sports achiever award for the second quarter of 2009. Constable Croghan competed with around 850 other competitors in the 2009 Marathon Des Sables, a gruelling 203 km marathon held in the Sahara Desert over a six day period in March. By running in the event he also raised close to \$30,000 for the 'Make a Wish' foundation.

From the Line loses its Editor

After three years as *From the Line* Editor, Julian Reeve resigned yesterday from WA Police to take up a new challenge in the UK. Until such time as a new Editor is found, Corporate Communications Team Leader, Helen Everett, will look after *From the Line*. If you have any police stories that you would like to see in *From the Line*, call her on **9222 1964** or email **From the Line SMAIL**.



Is your content up-to-date on the police internet website?

See the [Website Publishing Guide](#) on the intranet for an Internet Update Request form and more information

www.police.wa.gov.au

Reflecting on our history

On 14 March 1853 Superintendent (and later Commissioner) John Augustus Conroy began his police service as the first OIC of Western Australia Police. He led an organisation (then called the Police Force) which had been pulled together from three separate policing establishments - foot police, Convict Establishment police and mounted police).



Waterside Police Station, circa 1858.

The *West Australian Almanac* of 1854 revealed the first large scale purpose built police station, the Waterside Police Station, had a complement of one superintendent (Mr Conroy), his deputy, a sergeant, two mounted men, 11 foot constables and two trackers. The station was located in what was then Bazar Street, just south of WA's Government House.

The above photograph shows this early police complex as it was in about 1858, before landfill cut the buildings off from the river front. It comprised a police station, offices, a barracks, stables, store rooms, two lock-ups and a cottage. By the early 1870s the commissioner's office and the station had been moved as crowding was already a problem in an expanding Police Force.

Court attendances – survey says?

Frontline Business Improvement is constantly on the look out to improve operations for frontline police and the team is keen to learn about the amount of police resources involved in court attendances, particularly officers who are required to attend court and then not called to give evidence.

An on-going survey was commenced in May with the assistance of Prosecuting Division and is being sent to all police officers who attend Petty Sessions matters at the Central Law Courts. Early results show that 59% of all hearings do not proceed on the day for reasons such as a last moment plea of guilty, no appearance by the defendant and adjournments.

On top of this, trends are indicating that 63% of police officers who attend court spend at least half a day away from their workplace even if the matter does not proceed and when officers are required to give evidence, 67% of the time they are in the witness box for less than 30 minutes.

According to Frontline Business Improvement Manager, Acting Superintendent Jon Tuttle, these preliminary trends are showing a significant impact to WA Police resources but to further quantify the real impact to the agency, more feedback from officers is sought.

"It's important that all officers who've been sent a survey complete and return it, as it is their information that will demonstrate the need for change. While early trends indicate that WA Police is investing a lot of resources into court activities, it's vital to capture as much data as possible from those officers who are impacted most," he said.

"The survey only takes a few minutes to complete and all responses will help pave the way for frontline change and improvement."

Further details about the survey can be obtained from Senior Sergeant Michael Peters at Frontline Business Improvement or email [Frontline Business Improvement SMAIL](#).

Police Block

Alcohol restrictions are working so well in Halls Creek that local police are no longer required to work excessively long hours. Instead, members of the Halls Creek Police Social Club decided to put their free time to good use and create their own private campsite, the 'Police Block'.

Located less than 20kms from town, the campsite has been set up with accommodation quarters, ample running water for drinking and washing, a 'long-drop' bush toilet, gas BBQ, lighting and other equipment needed for a comfortable stay in the outback.

The site was mainly developed by staff during 'busy bee' events over several weeks, along with the support of its landowners, several local businesses and other government agencies. The campsite is centered around a large fire pit and it can be used to unwind or socialise with work colleagues, family and friends.

Not only is the Police Block helping to foster better relations among staff, it has policing benefits as well. Recently, off-duty officers attending the site arrested several people who had illegally entered the land with a rifle and butchering knives to steal cattle for meat.

The Police Block was completed in June 2009 and it has already been used for several work functions and to entertain special visiting guests. More enhancements are planned and for police officers considering a transfer to the Kimberley, the Police Block is only one of many attractions on offer. For more details about working in the Kimberley, call Acting Sergeant Jason Barber at Halls Creek Police Station on **(08) 9168 9777**.



Halls Creek Police Social Club members work on the Police Block's fire pit. (L-R) are Fiona Fraser, Constable Percy McDonald, Constable Dan Cochrane, Sergeant Jason Van Der Ende, Detective First Class Constable Anna Shaw (now at Perth City Detectives), A/Sergeant Jason Barber and First Class Constable Pete Willing.

Midnight Basketball – helping ‘at risk’ youth



Inspector Neville Dockery (13) and District Superintendent Ian Thomas (6) defend against a determined opposition.
(Photo courtesy of Ian Westmore, OCP).

The first Midland Midnight Basketball tournament has finished with a Grand Final play-off and trophy presentation on Saturday 4 July. Many local celebrities, VIPs and sport stars attended the event with a team from East Metropolitan District Office led by Superintendent Ian Thomas playing the champions. The final score was 34-19 in favour of police but the highlight of the tournament was engaging the community’s young people.

Coorganiser of the tournament, Ian Westmore from the Office of Crime Prevention, said the program had been a huge success with over 90 young people attending Midvale’s Swan Recreation Centre each Saturday night.

The Midnight Basketball program was originally set up in the USA where local police noticed high crime rates and antisocial behavior among young, unemployed people was at its highest between midnight and 4am. In an effort to reduce this, ‘neighborhood’ basketball games were introduced to engage them and provide an alternative activity.

To play in a basketball tournament, participants must firstly attend a workshop that provides information on life-skills topics such as managing finances, finding employment, anger management, self respect and alcohol and substance abuse.

East Metropolitan Crime Prevention Unit’s First Class Constable Robyn Cottman said the program targets ‘at-risk’ youth, mainly in the 12–18 years age group, and it has been an effective way of tackling antisocial behavior, burglary and damage to property in Midland and the surrounding suburbs.

“I’ve no doubt that the main reason for it being such a great success in this District is due to the strong commitment and support we’ve had from People Who Care, Midland PCYC, the City of Swan, OCP, Healthway, PDAPCC, local volunteers and Inspector Neville Dockery from our District Office who has not only taken on a coaching role, but has helped us overcome quite a few obstacles along the way,” she said.

The next tournament will commence in early October.



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