

# Un-named Aboriginal female SAPoL member

12/01/2024

## Un-named Aboriginal female SAPoL member

AKA ?

\* Nickname: ?

Late of ?

Relations in 'the job':

"possible" relation in 'the job': ?

South Australia Police Training Centre – Class # ? ? ?

South Australia Police Force

Regd. # ?????

Rank: Commenced Training at South Australia Police Academy as  
a Police Cadet on Monday ? ? ?

Community Constable

Probationary Constable- appointed ? ? ?

Constable – appointed ? ? ?

Constable 1st Class – appointed ? ? ?

Detective – appointed ? ? ? ( YES )

Senior Constable – appointed ? ? ?

Leading Senior Constable – appointed ? ? ?

Sergeant 3rd Class – appointed ? ? ?

Sergeant 2nd Class – appointed ? ? ?

Final Rank: = Detective Brevet Sergeant

Stations: ?, Whyalla ( Community Constable ), Port Adelaide station ( family Violence Unit ) – Death

Time employed ( Paid ) with SaPol Police: From: ? ? 2015  
to 8 January 2024 = ? years,

Service ( From Training Date ) period: From ? ? 2015 to  
8 January 2024 = ? years, Service

Retirement / Leaving age: = ?

Time in Retirement from Police: ?

**Awards:** National Medal – **granted** ? ? ?

1st Clasp to National Medal – **granted** ? ? ?

2nd Clasp to National Medal – **granted** ? ? ?

**Born:** ? ? ?

**Died on:** Monday 8 January 2024 ( between 2p – 3pm )

**Age:** 30s years,

**Organ Donor:** Y / N / ?

**Cause:** Depression – Suicide – Firearm – at work

**Event location:** Port Adelaide Police Station, South Australia

**Event / Diagnosis date:** Monday 8 January 2024

**Funeral date:** ? ? ? TBA

**Funeral location:** ?

**LIVE STREAM** ?

**Wake location:** ???

**Wake date:** ???

Funeral Parlour: ? TBA

Buried at: ?

Grave Location: Section: Row: ? Plot: ?

Grave GPS: ?, ?

Memorial / Plaque / Monument located at: ?

Dedication date of Memorial / Plaque / Monument: Nil – at this  
time ( January 2024 )

Un-named is NOT mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance \*  
BUT SHOULD BE

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**FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED ABOUT THIS PERSON, THEIR LIFE,  
THEIR CAREER AND THEIR DEATH.**

PLEASE SEND PHOTOS AND INFORMATION TO Cal

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**May they forever Rest In Peace**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AustralianPolice.com.au/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NSWFallenPolice/>

**Australian Police YouTube Channel**

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# Female officer dead in station

## 'Devastating' tragedy

**George Yankovich**

A female police officer was found dead at Port Adelaide Police Station on Monday afternoon, with the Acting Commissioner Linda Williams announcing an inquiry into the sudden death.

It is understood the officer died between 2pm and 3pm.

"The sudden death of a police officer at the Port Adelaide Police Station this afternoon is being investigated. The cause of death is not thought to be suspicious," SA Police said in a statement.

"This death will be subject to a coronial investigation and the Acting Commissioner of Police has advised a Commissioner's Inquiry will also be undertaken.

"Support will be provided to all SAPOL employees following this tragic incident."

SA Police Association president Mark Carroll described the death as "a devastating incident".

"The tragedy at Port Adelaide is something that will im-



The tragedy is something that will impact so many people

**Mark Carroll**

**SA Police Association**

act so many people – family and friends, but also the entire police family and indeed the wider community," he said.

"Our colleague's death will be investigated so that we can understand the cause of this devastating incident."

Police Minister Joe Szakacs also offered his condolences.

"My heartfelt condolences go to the family, friends and colleagues of the police officer," he said.

"Her tragic passing will be felt deeply and grieved widely. I ask everyone to keep the police family in their thoughts."

**BEYOND BLUE:**

**1300 224 636**

**LIFELINE: 13 11 14**

Officer worked to turn around public's view of SA Police

# Beloved cop was a force for change



George Yankovich and Dylan Hogarth

A respected police officer found dead at a western suburbs station on Monday was living her dream by working to change the way the community views the force.

"I'd would like to help turn around the public's perception of police officers from a negative to a positive," she wrote as part of her nomination for the Port Adelaide Enfield Council's 2012 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Awards.

"I love the variety in my work and I love getting the opportunity to help people by making the best out of a bad situation."

Her award bio for Person of the Year listed another goal as to see the Aboriginal community represented more in SA Police, also advocating on behalf of many local elderly Aboriginal clients.

"She has shown a genuine concern and passion for the community in general and has had life experience which she shares openly with her peers," the nomination reads. "She stands up for what she believes in and is very passionate about her cultural heritage."

The Advertiser understands the detective handset sergeant had two young children, with reports claiming her body was found in the station's toilet between 2pm and 3pm, according to 7NEWS.

The officer was originally from Wyalala but then lived in Adelaide.

Before becoming a full-time police officer, she worked with SA Police as a community constable.

Community constables are uniformed staff who help officers engage with First Nations and culturally diverse communities, according to SAPOL's website.

After being sworn in as a police officer in 2005, she was assigned to the family violence unit at Port Adelaide



Elanya Blarney and Sue Rich of Millidge's cafe. Picture: Roy VanDerVeght



A Port Adelaide resident arrives at the station with flowers after the news broke. Picture: Roy VanDerVeght

**“ Her tragic passing will be felt deeply, and grieved widely**

**Joe Szakacs**  
Police Minister

said. "My heartfelt condolences go to the family, friends and colleagues of the police officer. Her tragic passing will be felt deeply, and grieved widely."

Premier Peter Malinauskas said several tragedies had unfolded recently and they were confronting.

"Anytime we see a tragedy of this nature involving anyone in our community it hurts," Mr Malinauskas said.

Port Adelaide Football Club offered its condolences saying: "The club extends our heartfelt condolences to their family, friends, and colleagues

at the Port Adelaide Police Station."

Millidge's Distillation owner Bee Rich said one of

her usual customers had started a tab to pay for the officers' morning coffees - as a kind gesture to let police know they were in people's thoughts.

Ms Rich said police were among her most frequent customers and she knew their orders, if not their names.

"We appreciate everything they do for our community," she said.

"We love the positive attitude they bring to us. They're very good to us. We're thinking of them."

Acting Commissioner Linda Williams immediately announced an inquiry into the

woman's sudden death.

A coronial investigation also will be conducted into the tragedy.

SA Police Legacy president Judi-Lee Black told The Advertiser the organisation would be supporting the woman's family for years to come, including the young children connected to the officer.

She said the charity - set up to support South Australia police officers and their families - would also support the many serving police officers who had been affected by the tragedy.

## 'Heartbreaking': Suicide suspected reason for police officer death in South Australia

A respected female police officer was found dead at a police

station. Now her cause of death has been revealed.

Sofia Dmitrieva

3 min read

**January 10, 2024** – 4:19PM

A respected female police officer found dead at a police station in South Australia is believed to have taken her own life in the women's bathroom of the building.

The officer was found at Port Adelaide police station on Monday afternoon and police have previously confirmed the death was not being treated as suspicious.

The detective brevet sergeant, aged in her 30s, is believed to have taken her own life between 2pm and 3pm on Monday, *7News* reports.

Online reports from eyewitnesses claim police officers inside the station at the time heard a loud bang within the building leading to the discovery of her body.

The Indigenous mother of two's name and photos have not been revealed due to cultural reasons.

The woman moved from Whyalla to Adelaide, where she initially worked as a community constable. The role involved her helping police engage with First Nations and culturally diverse communities.

She was nominated for the City of Port Adelaide Enfield's 2012 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Awards for her work within the First Nations community.

"(I) would like to help turn around the public's perception of police officers from a negative to a positive," she wrote as

part of her nomination for the Person of the Year award.

“I love the variety in my work and I love getting the opportunity to help people by making the best out of a bad situation.

In her nomination blurb she also wrote about her passion for serving the community with her ultimate goal to see the Aboriginal community represented more in SA Police.

“She has shown a genuine concern and passion for the community in general and has had life experience which she shares openly with her peers,” the nomination reads.

“She stands up for what she believes in and is very passionate about her cultural heritage.”

In 2015 the woman was sworn in as a full-time police officer and was assigned to the family violence unit at Port Adelaide Police Station.

Four years later she married her wife, who is also a South Australian police officer.

The deceased police officer was the granddaughter of a celebrated Aboriginal writer and poet who had more than 61 works published throughout their career, *Daily Mail Australia* reports.

The grandmother is considered to be a “pioneer in First Nations Australia literature in South Australia”, becoming the first ever published Aboriginal female writer within the state, winning awards for her contribution to the arts.

South Australia Premier Peter Malinauskas said several tragedies had unfolded in South Australia recently and they were confronting.

"Anytime we see a tragedy of this nature involving anyone in our community it hurts," Mr Malinauskas said.

Friends and fellow police officers have posted tributes to the officer on social media and expressing their shock over her sudden death.

"I just wish I could see and hear you one more time. You were loved by us all, miss you forever," one person wrote on Facebook.

"R. I. P beautiful soul. If only we could hear her laugh again," a second person said.

"Absolutely gutted ... going to miss your bright bubbly face," another said.

Condolences from strangers have also been coming in, with people thanking the police officer for her work.

"R.I.P. your shift is over, thank you for you service. Condolences to your family

I'm sorry, my thoughts and sympathies are with those grieving," one person wrote

"My condolences to her family, friends and work colleagues....Its sad to see a beautiful angel returning where she's from. Hope her family, friends and colleagues are OK too," another person commented.

The Acting Commissioner of Police Linda Williams has advised a Commissioner's Inquiry will be undertaken into the circumstances surrounding this matter.

A coronial investigation also will be conducted into the tragedy.

Cause of death of female police officer found dead in South

## **Need to talk to someone?**

Don't go it alone. Please reach out for help.

**Lifeline:** 13 11 14 or [lifeline.org.au](https://www.lifeline.org.au)

**Beyond Blue:** 1300 22 4636 or [beyondblue.org.au](https://www.beyondblue.org.au)

**Kids Helpline:** 1800 55 1800 or [kidshelpline.com.au](https://www.kidshelpline.com.au)

**Headspace:** 1800 650 890 or [headspace.org.au](https://www.headspace.org.au)

**13YARN:** Speak to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander crisis supporter on 13 92 76 or visit [13yarn.org.au](https://www.13yarn.org.au)

Are you anxious? Take the Beyond Blue quiz to see how you're tracking and whether you could benefit from support

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**Female cop's heartbreaking last conversation with a colleague before she was found dead inside**

# Port Adelaide police station

- **UPDATE: Heartbreaking cause of death for female cop is revealed**
- **Cop found dead at Port Adelaide Police Station**
- **She was a married mother of two**
- **Colleague has shared eerie last conversation**
- **READ MORE: Female cop found dead in 'devastating' incident**

By Tita Smith For Daily Mail Australia

Published: 16:26 AEDT, 9 January 2024 | Updated: 12:35 AEDT, **10 January 2024**

A respected police officer told a colleague 'everything would be ok' just hours before she was found dead inside Port Adelaide's police station.

A police commissioner's inquiry and a coronial investigation have now been launched after the officer died at the station, in the city's northwest, between 2pm and 3pm on Monday.

Daily Mail Australia can reveal the female police officer was a mum of two and Aboriginal.

She married her wife, who is also a South Australian police officer, in late 2019.

Police have confirmed the death is not being treated as suspicious but have not revealed the cause.

They have also requested media outlets not to publish the name or photos of the officer in question due to 'cultural reasons'.

Reports from eyewitnesses online claim officers at the station heard a loud bang within the building before they discovered

her body.

Devastated friends and colleagues have paid tribute to the tribute to the officer who was nominated for 'Aboriginal Person of the Year' in 2012 for her work within the First Nations community.

She was remembered as a 'beautiful person' who had an 'infectious, loud laugh' which could be heard 'right across the station'.

One workmate said the officer told her 'It will be OK, bestie' during one of their last conversations on Monday.

'You said it a thousand times to me over the years,' her colleague wrote.

'It doesn't feel like anything will ever be OK again.

'I am shattered. I loved you so much, but you knew that.

'I will miss you forever.'

Another colleague recalled how kind she was when she first arrived at Port Adelaide and was struggling to adjust.

After the officer invited her out to socialise, they quickly bonded over their similarities – their 'terrible memories, distractibility and having both lost their fathers.

'The first day I met you your kindness and caring nature shone through. You went out of your way to make us and the kids feel welcome with invitations to kindergym and the park,' she said.

'I loved working in the same office as you. Your laugh, the lolly jar addiction, your big caring heart and your cracking sense of humour, always taking the piss.

'I loved your passion for your people. You were a proud First Nations woman and I loved your stories of your beloved 'Gary'.

'I learnt so much from you. You were such a light in my life.

'I wish you knew how much you are loved.'

A third cop said the officer affectionately dubbed her and another colleague as the 'angels'.

She said she would miss the officer's bright bubbly face and hearing her say 'well, well, well... if it isn't the angels' when she would walk by.

A former colleague added the officer's 'pain is now gone' and she will never be forgotten by those she left behind.

'Fly high and free sister in blue,' she said.

'Big hugs and love to your heartbroken family, RIP lovely.'

The tragedy has rocked the South Australian police community, which is still reeling just two months on from the alleged on-duty fatal shooting of Brevet Sergeant Jason Doig ( *killed 17 November 2023* ) and alleged hit-and-run death of SA Police Commissioner's son, Charlie Stevens.

Counselling support services have been offered to the officer's colleagues.

Acting Commissioner Linda Williams has announced the woman's death will be subjected to a police inquiry as well as a coronial investigation.

'The tragedy at Port Adelaide is something that will impact so many people – family and friends, but also the entire police family and indeed the wider community,' South Australia Police Association president Mark Carroll said.

'Our colleague's death will be investigated so that we can understand the cause of this devastating incident.

The state's Police Minister Joe Szakacs also shared his grief in a statement.

'My heartfelt condolences go to the family, friends and colleagues of the police officer,' Mr Szakacs said.

'Her tragic passing will be felt deeply, and grieved widely. I ask everyone to keep the police family in their thoughts.'

Female cop's heartbreaking last conversation with a colleague before she was found dead inside Port Adelaide police station  
| Daily Mail Online

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## **Tributes poured out for police officer found dead at South Australian police station**

Loved ones and co-workers of a female police officer found dead at a police station, prompting an inquiry.

Madeleine Achenza

less than 2 min read

**January 9, 2024** – 2:14PM

Loved ones and colleagues have paid tribute to a female police officer who was found dead at a South Australian police station.

The officer was found at Port Adelaide police station on Tuesday afternoon and the death is not being treated as suspicious.

Friends and fellow police officers have posted tributes to the

officer on social media and expressing their shock over her sudden death.

“Absolutely gutted ... going to miss your bright bubbly face,” one person wrote on Facebook.

“RIP you were such a lovely person, can’t believe it,” a second person said.

“You were so special, so kind and someone I truly cherished throughout my time in the job,” another said.

Police Minister Joe Szakacs said her death would be “felt deeply” and “grieved widely” by the policing community.

“My heartfelt condolences go to the family, friends and colleagues of the police officer,” he said.

“Her tragic passing will be felt deeply, and grieved widely.

SA police have described it as a “tragic incident” and support is being provided to all police employees.

The Acting Commissioner of Police has advised a Commissioner’s Inquiry will also be undertaken into the circumstances surrounding this matter.

This death will also be subject to a coronial investigation.

Police officer dead, Port Adelaide: Investigation after cops body found inside police station | news.com.au – Australia’s leading news site

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\* Story behind any Nickname:

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Nothing further, than what is recorded above, is known about this person at the time of publication and further information and photos would be appreciated.

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12 January 2024

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## Unnamed SAPoL member

12/01/2024

## Unnamed SAPoL member

AKA ?

Late of ?

South Australia Police Academy Class # ? ? ?

South Australia Police Force

Regd. # ?????

Service: From ??? to 25 December 2021 = ? years  
Service

Rank: Commenced Training at Police Academy on ???

Probationary Constable- appointed ???

Constable – appointed ???

Constable 1st Class – appointed ???

Detective – appointed ??? ( YES )

Senior Constable – appointed ???

Leading Senior Constable – appointed ???

Sergeant 3rd Class – appointed ???

Sergeant 2nd Class – appointed ???

Sergeant 1st Class – appointed ???

Inspector – appointed ???

Final Rank = ?

Stations: ?,

Retirement / Leaving age: = ?

Time in Retirement from Police: 0

Awards: National Medal – **granted** ? ? ?

1st Clasp to National Medal – **granted** ? ? ?

2nd Clasp to National Medal – **granted** ? ? ?

Born: ? ? ?

Died on: Saturday 25 December 2021

Age: ?

Cause: Suicide ( Method ? )

Event location: ? , South Australia

Event date: Saturday 25 December 2021 ?

Funeral date: ? ? ? TBA

Funeral location: ? TBA

( **click here to see Corona19 Virus Pandemic rules – this will be a limited numbers Funeral** )

any Future Wake location: ??? TBA

any Future Wake date: ??? TBA

( Due to current Govt. restrictions on ‘Gatherings’ due to Corona19 Virus Pandemic, some families may wish to have a Memorial Service / Wake with friends and family at a later date )

Funeral Parlour: ? TBA

Buried at: ? TBA

Memorial / Plaque / Monument located at: ?

Dedication date of Memorial / Plaque / Monument: Nil – at this  
time ( December 2021 )

**Unknown** is NOT mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance \*  
BUT SHOULD BE

**Unknown** is NOT mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance  
\*NEED MORE INFO

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**FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED ABOUT THIS PERSON, THEIR LIFE,  
THEIR CAREER AND THEIR DEATH.**

PLEASE SEND PHOTOS AND INFORMATION TO Cal

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**May they forever Rest In Peace**

**<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AustralianPolice.com.au/>**

**<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NSWFallenPolice/>**

**Australian Police YouTube Channel**

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Unfortunately a Serving Member, a Detective, from South Australia Police has succumbed to his demons and took his life today.

We extend our gratitude to this member and extend our condolences to family, colleagues and friends.

May he forever Rest In Peace.

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Nothing further, than what is recorded above, is known about this person at the time of publication and further information and photos would be appreciated.

Cal

25 December 2021

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# Glen Frederick BLACKER

12/01/2024

## Glen Frederick BLACKER

AKA ?

Late of Pt Broughton, S.A.

South Australian Police Academy Class # ? ? ?

### South Australia Police Force

Regd. # ????

Rank: Probationary Constable – appointed ? ? ?

Final Rank = ?

Stations: ?

Service 1 ( S.A. ): From ? ? ? to ? ? ? = ? years Service

Northern Territory Police Academy Class # ? ? ?

### Northern Territory Police Force

Regd. # 606

Rank: Probationary Constable – appointed ? ? ?

Final Rank = Inspector

Stations: ?

Service 2 ( N.T. ): From ? ? ? to ? ? ? = ? years Service

**Awards:** No find on Australian Honours

**Born:** Friday 16 March 1951

**Died on:** Wednesday 6 February 2019

**Age:** 67

**Cause:** ?

**Event location:** ?

**Event date:** ?

**Funeral date:** Tuesday 19 February 2019 @ 11am

**Funeral location:** The Port Club, 9 Queen St, Ablerton, S.A.

**Wake location:** ?

**Funeral Parlour:** S.A. Copper Coast Funerals, S.A.

**Buried at:** Centennial Park Cemetery, 760 Goodwood Rd,  
Pasadena, S.A.

**Memorial located at:** ?

GLEN is NOT mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance \*NEED  
MORE INFO

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**FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED ABOUT THIS PERSON, THEIR LIFE,  
THEIR CAREER AND THEIR DEATH.**

PLEASE SEND PHOTOS AND INFORMATION TO Cal

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**May they forever Rest In Peace**

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**Date listed:** 27/2/2019 **Inspector Glen Frederick Blacker**

**Reg. No. 606**

**16/03/1951 06/02/2019**

The President, Executive and Members of the Northern Territory Police Association express their condolences to family, friends and colleagues.

*"Our thoughts are with you at this sad time".*

**Publication:** NT News

Darwin

<https://www.ntnews.com.au/tributes/notice/3166007/>

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**Date listed:** 12/2/2019 **BLACKER, Glen.**

*"Go Power."*

A top bloke and great friend.

Will be sadly missed.

Rest in Peace.

Neil, Toni and family.

**Publication:** The Advertiser

Adelaide

<https://www.couriermail.com.au/tributes/notice/3152603/>

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**Date listed:** 16/2/2019BLACKER, Glen Frederick

RELATIVES and FRIENDS of GLEN are advised that his Service to Celebrate his Life will be conducted at The Port Club, 9 Queen Street, Alberton at 11.00 a.m to be followed by his Burial at Centennial Park Cemetery In lieu of flowers donations may be offered to the Animal Welfare League in Memory of Glen due to his love of all animals awl.org.au

<https://www.couriermail.com.au/tributes/notice/3155895/>

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BLACKER, Glen Frederick

(Former SA Police and NT Police Force)

16/03/1951 06/02/2019

Passed away suddenly Aged 67 years

Loved and loving partner and soulmate of Janet

Dearly loved and adored father and father-in-law of Jenni and John, Karina and Roger

Loved stepfather of Caroline and remembered and respected by her husband Tim

Loved and precious Poppa of Callie, Izzy, James, Alex; Tahlia, Amarli, Tyler, Emily; Murphy and Sailor

Loved and remembered by all his great grandchildren

Forever in our hearts and Treasured Memories we will keep

Dearly loved brother of Glenys

Much loved uncle to Steven and Karen, Cherie and Bruce

Great uncle to their families.

The Patriarch of our Family

Loving brother of Joan,

brother-in-law to Laurie (deceased)

Uncle to Jeffrey (deceased), Paul, Christopher and families

Taken too soon, will be sadly missed

Beloved brother of Colleen

Brother-in-law to Keith

Uncle to Sharon and Ian, Leslie and Camille, Carina (deceased) and Kylie and their families

Tragically taken too soon always loved and will be sadly missed

Please refer to future Advertiser for Funeral Arrangements

Kadina 8821 2253

coppercoastfunerals. com. au

Obituaries

Published in The Advertiser on 11/02/2019

<http://tributes.adelaidenow.com.au/notice/5638742689710080/view?random=1550426561176>

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# Warren John MATHESON

12/01/2024

## Warren John MATHESON

Late of Reynella, S.A.

**South Australia Police Force**

**Regd. # ?**

Rank: Constable

Stations: Darlington, Glenelg & Christies Beach

Service: From 20 June 1974 to 29 March 1982 = 7 years, 9 months, 9 days Service

Awards: No find on It's An Honour

Born: Thursday 6 June 1957

Died on: Monday 29 March 1982

Age: 24 years, 9 months, 23 days

Cause: Motor Vehicle Collision – Driver – Urgent Duty

Event location: Tapleys Hill Rd, Glenelg North, South Australia

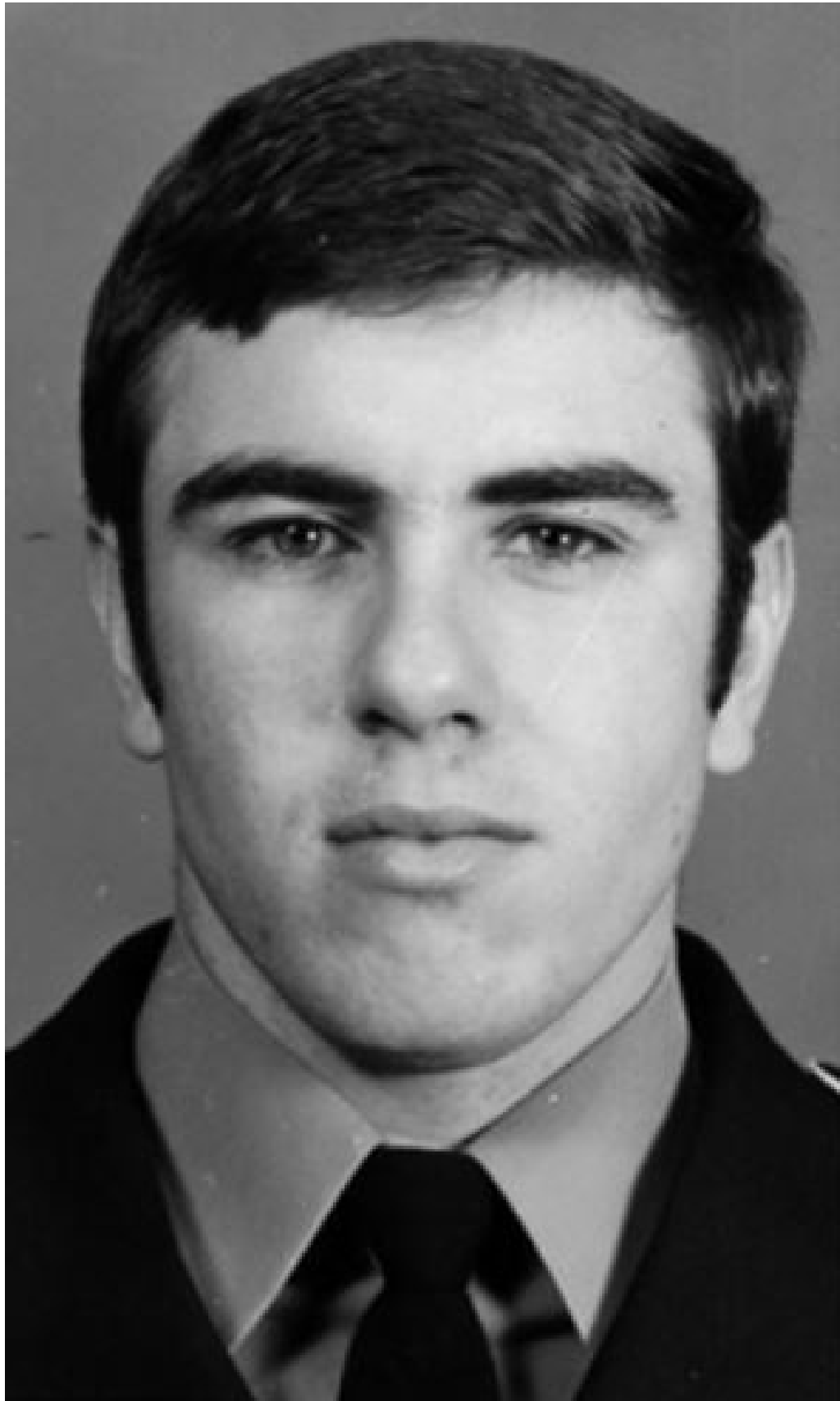
Funeral date: Thursday 1 April 1982

Funeral location: Mt Gambier, S.A.

Buried at: Carinya Gardens Cemetery, Mt Gambier, South Australia

Section: Water Lily Garden Grave: 14 Row: N

Memorial located at: ?





Warren Matheson had two small children when he died. The mother ( Barbara ) of those two small children kept in close contact with the parents of Warren after his death and are still in contact to this day. Warrens, now adult children ( Brett, 38 & Hayley, 36 ) ( in 2017) and their mother ( Barbara ) travelled from Qld to Mt Gambier in November 2016 and visited the grave of Warren. Warren now has two grandsons, now aged 5 & 1. The memory of Warren is still alive and the family will never forget the loss.

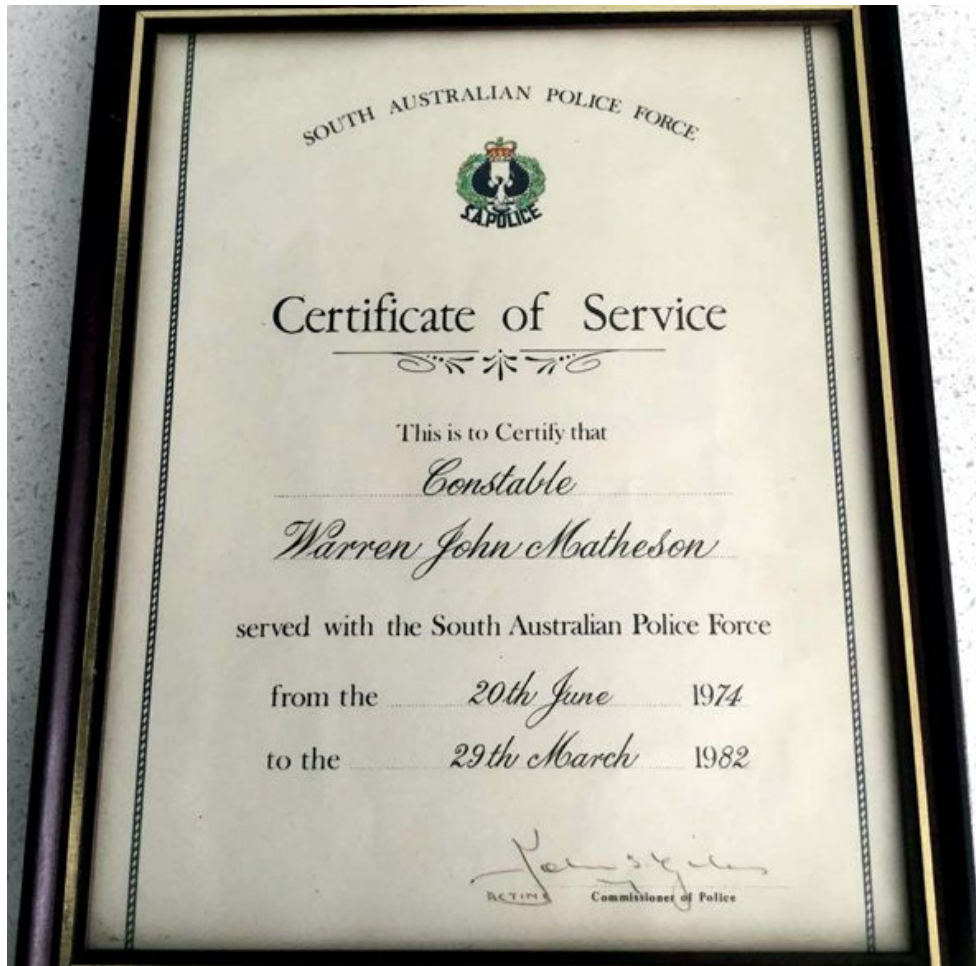


Warren Mathesons' now adult children ( Hayley, 36 & Brett, 38 ) ( as of 2017) as seen in November 2016 with Warrens' two grandsons, now aged 5 & 1.



This photo is Warrens parents Ian and Maureen

Matheson ( seated ) with the family celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary November 2016.



Certificate of Service

**WARREN is mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance**

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**FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED ABOUT THIS PERSON, THEIR LIFE,  
THEIR CAREER AND THEIR DEATH.**

PLEASE SEND PHOTOS AND INFORMATION TO Cal

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**May they forever Rest In Peace**

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March 29, 1982 | Two young constables, Warren John Matheson, 24, and **Matthew John Payne**, 22, died after the vehicle they were pursuing through Adelaide's south-western suburbs swerved into their police car. Police subsequently charged the driver of the pursued vehicle with a number of very serious driving offences.

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In loving memory of Warren John Matheson Died in the line of Duty 29th March 1982 aged 24 years Beloved elder son of Ian and Maureen Loving brother to Ann and Craig Cherished father of Brett and Hayley So dearly loved, so

sadly missed



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**29 September, 2010**

## **Police honour their comrades**

By Fred Smith (Cross Media Reporter)

Community members joined Limestone Coast police at a ceremony at the Mt Gambier Police Station on Thursday for the National Police Remembrance Day.

The presence of riderless horse at a ceremony at the Mt Gambier Police Station on Thursday was a time-honoured way of paying respects to the fallen.

Such gestures have been hallmarks of military and State funerals since the nineteenth century.

Local officers arranged for the riderless horse with boots

reversed in its stirrups to be part of the annual religious ceremony to mark National Police Remembrance Day.

The 16-year-old grey horse called "Limelight" was formerly a part of the South Australian Police Mounted Cadre.

In retirement, "Limelight" was brought to Mt Gambier by its former rider Senior Constable Stephanie Cooper.

After nine years with the Mounted Cadre, Senior Constable Cooper is now on general police duties in Mt Gambier.

She rode another horse "Star of Courage" to the ceremony while "Limelight" was led to it by Constable Barb Bushell.

The two horses stood guard while community members and police honoured those who had given their lives in the line of duty.

The wreath layers at the 45 minute ceremony included local resident **Maureen Matheson**.

She laid a floral tribute in memory of her **eldest son, Warren John Matheson**, who was killed while on police duty in Adelaide in 1982.

At the time of his death, he was a 24-year-old married father with an **infant son and daughter**.

He was laid to rest in the **Carinya Gardens Cemetery in Mount Gambier**.

Mrs Matheson said another young officer from this region was killed in the same motor vehicle collision which claimed the life of her son.

"He was 22-year-old **Constable Matthew Payne**, of Rendelsham.

"Matthew was not supposed to be on traffic duties with Warren on this day but his regular partner could not make this shift.

"Matthew is buried at Rendelsham.

“I have been coming to these annual ceremonies for several years.

“One has been held at Warren’s grave while another took place at the Rendelsham cemetery.

“In recent years, we have been holding the ceremony here at Mt Gambier,” said Mrs Matheson.

The other wreath layers were representatives of the Limestone Coast Police Local Service Area, SA Police Legacy, Mt Gambier City Council, District Council of Grant, MFS, SA Ambulance Service and the Rotary Club of Mt Gambier West.

A wreath was also placed on Constable Payne’s grave later in the day by Sergeant Richard Murphy, of the SA Police Legacy.

The master of ceremonies in Mt Gambier was Sergeant Andy Stott while the prayers were led by Police Chaplain and Mt Gambier Anglican parish priest, the Reverend Canon Brian Ashworth.

<http://www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2010/09/29/3025054.htm>

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First published 12 April 2017.

Updated 17 September 2025 with date calculations and updated NPM link.

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**Mathew John PAYNE**

12/01/2024

# Mathew John PAYNE

Late of Rendelsham

## South Australia Police Force

Uniform # 3164

Regd. # ?

Rank: Constable

Stations: ?, Darlington – Death

Service: From ? ? ? to 29 March 1982 = ? years Service

Awards: No find on It's An Honour

Born: Sunday 7 June 1959

Died on: Monday 29 March 1982

Age: 22 years, 9 months, 22 days

Cause: Motor Vehicle Collision – Drive – Urgent Duty

Event location: Tapleys Hill Rd, Glenelg North, South

## Australia

Funeral date: Thursday 1 April 1982

Funeral location: ?, Rendelsham, South Australia

Buried at: Rendelsham Cemetery – ( near Millicent ), 119  
McCall Rd, Rendelsham, S.A.

Section: ? Plot: 19S

Memorial located at: ?



**MATTHEW** is mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance

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**FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED ABOUT THIS PERSON, THEIR LIFE,**

## THEIR CAREER AND THEIR DEATH.

PLEASE SEND PHOTOS AND INFORMATION TO Cal

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**May they forever Rest In Peace**

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March 29, 1982 | Two young constables, **Warren John Matheson**, 24, and **Mathew John Payne**, 22, died after a vehicle they were pursuing through Adelaide's south-western suburbs swerved into their police car. Police subsequently charged the driver of the pursued vehicle with a number of very serious driving offences.

---

Engaged to Rosemary Osborne – wedding date was 2nd Oct 1982. Mathew was brought up in SESA Rendelsham on farm he really loved Police work very interested in Cattle Rustling for his future.

He was motor bike enthusiast as are his 'on the job' mates who are all now retired but they still ride the Wall to Wall every year.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
CONST. MATHEW JOHN PAYNE  
Born 7th June 1959, Killed on Duty 29th March 1982  
DEARLY LOVED SON OF  
FRANCES J. ROBERT  
AND LOVED BROTHER OF  
SUZANNE J. WILLIAM  
FOREVER REMEMBERED

IN MEMORY OF  
MATHEW JOHN PAYNE  
ERECTED  
BY HIS FAMILIES AT  
DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS



IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
CONST. MATHEW JOHN PAYNE

BORN 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 1959, KILLED ON DUTY 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 1982

*DEARLY LOVED SON OF*

FRANCES & ROBERT.

*AND LOVED BROTHER OF*

SUZZANNE & WILLIAM.

*FOREVER REMEMBERED.*



**29 September, 2010**

## **Police honour their comrades**

By Fred Smith (Cross Media Reporter)

Community members joined Limestone Coast police at a ceremony at the Mt Gambier Police Station on Thursday for the National Police Remembrance Day.

The presence of riderless horse at a ceremony at the Mt Gambier Police Station on Thursday was a time-honoured way of paying respects to the fallen.

Such gestures have been hallmarks of military and State funerals since the nineteenth century.

Local officers arranged for the riderless horse with boots reversed in its stirrups to be part of the annual religious ceremony to mark National Police Remembrance Day.

The 16-year-old grey horse called "Limelight" was formerly a part of the South Australian Police Mounted Cadre.

In retirement, "Limelight" was brought to Mt Gambier by its former rider Senior Constable Stephanie Cooper.

After nine years with the Mounted Cadre, Senior Constable Cooper is now on general police duties in Mt Gambier.

She rode another horse "Star of Courage" to the ceremony while "Limelight" was led to it by Constable Barb Bushell.

The two horses stood guard while community members and police honoured those who had given their lives in the line of duty.

The wreath layers at the 45 minute ceremony included local resident **Maureen Matheson**.

She laid a floral tribute in memory of her **eldest son, Warren John Matheson**, who was killed while on police duty in Adelaide in 1982.

At the time of his death, he was a 24-year-old married father with an **infant son and daughter**.

He was laid to rest in the **Carinya Gardens Cemetery in Mount Gambier**.

Mrs Matheson said another young officer from this region was killed in the same motor vehicle collision which claimed the life of her son.

"He was 22-year-old **Constable Matthew Payne**, of Rendelsham.

“Matthew was not supposed to be on traffic duties with Warren on this day but his regular partner could not make this shift.

“Matthew is buried at Rendelsham.

“I have been coming to these annual ceremonies for several years.

“One has been held at Warren’s grave while another took place at the Rendelsham cemetery.

“In recent years, we have been holding the ceremony here at Mt Gambier,” said Mrs Matheson.

The other wreath layers were representatives of the Limestone Coast Police Local Service Area, SA Police Legacy, Mt Gambier City Council, District Council of Grant, MFS, SA Ambulance Service and the Rotary Club of Mt Gambier West.

A wreath was also placed on Constable Payne’s grave later in the day by Sergeant Richard Murphy, of the SA Police Legacy.

The master of ceremonies in Mt Gambier was Sergeant Andy Stott while the prayers were led by Police Chaplain and Mt Gambier Anglican parish priest, the Reverend Canon Brian Ashworth.

<http://www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2010/09/29/3025054.htm>

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First published 12 April 2017.

Updated 17 September 2025 with date calculations and updated NPM link together with grave photo and new facial photo.

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# Ashley MEEK

12/01/2024

## Ashley MEEK

### ~~Unknown South Australian Policeman –~~ Suicide

South Australia Police Force

Regd. # 73719

Rank: Brevet Sergeant

Stations: ?, Lock, Cowell – death

Service: From ? ? ? to 5 March 2017 = ? years Service

Awards: ?

Born: ?

Died on: Sunday 5 March 2017 about 9.45pm at Cowell  
Hospital, S.A.

Age: ?

Cause: Illness – Depression – Suicide

Funeral date: Wednesday 15 March 2017 @ 10am

Funeral location: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 388 Montague Road Para Vista S.A.

Buried at: Kibby Gardens, Enfield Memorial Park, Browning Street Clearview

Memorial at: ?







ASH is NOT mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance \* **BUT SHOULD BE**

ASH is NOT mentioned on the National Police Wall of Remembrance \***NEED MORE INFO ( checked on 25 August 2022 )**

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Funeral location: **[codepeople-post-map]**

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**FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED ABOUT THIS PERSON, THEIR LIFE,  
THEIR CAREER AND THEIR DEATH.**

PLEASE SEND PHOTOS AND INFORMATION TO Cal

---

**May they forever Rest In Peace**

---

The funeral for Brevet Sergeant Ashley Meek, South Australia Police will be held at 10.00am on Wednesday 15 March 2017 at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 388 Montague Road Para Vista S.A. and then at Kibby Gardens, Enfield Memorial Park, Browning Street Clearview for a committal service.

Ashley was a decorated veteran, serving proudly with the Royal Australian Army in both East Timor and Iraq, as well as faithfully serving the people of South Australia.

Despite the incredible outpouring of grief following Ashley's death, what is abundantly clear is that Ashley was dearly loved by all his family and friends. Described as a champion bloke, we intend remembering Ashley the way that he lived, as a true hero.

Rest easy blue brother... your work here is done.

---

**MEEK, Ashley.**

The Commissioner of Police, Mr Grant Stevens, on behalf of all members of the South Australia Police, extends his deepest sympathy and condolences to Ashley's family, friends and colleagues. Brevet Sergeant Ashley Meek will be sadly missed

throughout SAPOL.

Obituaries

Published in The Advertiser on 11/03/2017

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Ben Quilty

Like This Page · March 6 2017 · Edited ·



This is Ashley Meek. Late last night in rural Australia Ashley took his own life. He was the **6th recorded veteran** of the last wars on foreign soil to have taken their own life in **2017**. Last year **75 Australian veterans** took their own lives.

For the last five years, ever since I was taken under the wing of the Australian Defence Force and toured through the war in Afghanistan I have heard one veteran after another, from every tier of Defence, from every part of Australia tell me how difficult receiving help is for them. It is not new news that The Department of Veteran's Affairs or DVA is a cumbersome and hopelessly ineffective bureaucracy. Young men and women who had served many tours of Afghanistan quietly called them the

DVE to me, or Department of Veteran's Enemies.

For too many years the DVA only counted suicides amongst enrolled Defence Force members as suicides associated with service. The young man I met who was homeless in Sydney last year after serving 5 tours of Afghanistan would not have been counted because he had been discharged in 2012 with PTSD. If Defence had discharged you for psychological illness and you suicided, then your death was not associated officially with your deployment. It was cruel, misleading and wrong.

Now the DVA is pushing for veterans to be administered as welfare recipients under the community services portfolio. I was sitting at my computer last night trying to get my head around what the changes would mean for some of my young friends who suffer from PTSD after their service in Afghanistan. At the same time I was pondering the Legislative Amendment before Parliament Ashley Meek took his own life. DVA is closing the services that they have offered veterans ever since the Vietnam War. Veterans' Access Network (VAN) offices around Australia have been steadily closing down. Instead of those services veterans will have no option but Centrelink.

Next time a Prime Minister commits tens of thousands of young Australians to war on the other side of the planet I hope that that same Prime Minister assures those young souls that they will be respected, supported and cared for when they return, and that no expense will be spared in their recovery. Otherwise, do not commit our youth to war..

Rest in Peace Ashley Meek

– with Season Bongkoj.

Please sign this petition for the memory of Ashley Meek and for the future well being of the thousands of veterans in our communities

<https://www.change.org/.../the-honorable-president-and...>

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# Aussie cop takes own life at hospital

Monday, 06 March 2017

By Megan Palin

A South Australia police officer posted “**F\*\*\* you SA Police**” on his Facebook before walking into a local hospital and taking his life in front of medical staff last night.

The man reportedly drove to **Cowell**, about a 500km drive west of Adelaide, before entering the District Hospital around 9.45pm, *news.com.au* reported.

It is not known if the officer was on or off duty at the time of his death.

A brief statement issued by SA Police said authorities were “preparing a report for the coroner following the death of a man at Cowell on March 5”.

“No other persons are being sought at this time,” the statement read.

A South Australia Police spokesperson told *news.com.au* they had “nothing further to add”.

Cowell District Hospital has been contacted for comment.

One of the police officer’s colleagues, who asked to remain anonymous, said the man “posted (a) ‘**f\*\*\* you**’ msg (sic) to SAPOL” on Facebook moments before he died

“The messages said **F\*\*\* SAPOL** and some other comments,” the source said.

The man, who *news.com.au* has chosen not to identify, has been

described on social media as “**a well respected officer, and former ADF member**, who will be missed by many”.

“This bloke was and will forever remain a dead set legend,” another person wrote.

“No one saw it coming. We got the watch now brother.”

“We are all better people having known you,” another said.

*News.com.au* last month reported a lack of welfare support and subsequent mental health crisis within the Australian Federal Police after an agent was believed to take her own life in the Melbourne headquarters on **February 7**.

The reports prompted several state police officers to also come forward and highlight that a lack of welfare support for work-related mental health issues including Post Traumatic Stress Disorder was also a problem in state policing.

“South Australia has just seen one of their officers (**take her own life**),” one police officer told news.com.au.

The source was referring to constable **Sharryne Grant**, South Australia’s longest serving female police officer, who died by suicide in **Adelaide** in **October last year**.

“Suicide within the ranks is being ignored state wide,” he said.

“Cops can’t speak out, because they are crucified by management.

“(Instead they) suffer in silence.”

Blue Hope director Mark Kelly told news.com.au the organisation had received “nearly 50 referrals from struggling police since Christmas”.

“We are under the pump trying to meet demand,” he said.

If you have information on issues within the AFP please contact

megan.palin@news.com.au.

**Where to get help: ( South Australian Numbers )**

- **Lifeline:** 0800 543 354 (available 24/7)
- **Suicide Crisis Helpline:** 0508 828 865 (0508 TAUTOKO) (available 24/7)
- **Youthline:** 0800 376 633
- **Kidsline:** 0800 543 754 (available 24/7)
- **Whatsup:** 0800 942 8787 (1pm to 11pm)
- **Depression helpline:** 0800 111 757 (available 24/7)

**If it is an emergency and you feel like you or someone else is at risk, call 000.**

- **Canterbury Support Line:** 0800 777 846

[http://m.nzherald.co.nz/world/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=2&objectid=11812998](http://m.nzherald.co.nz/world/news/article.cfm?c_id=2&objectid=11812998)

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We recently lost a friend and colleague to suicide because of **PTSD**. She left her son and partner behind because she **did not get the help she required**. We owe it to her **11 year old son** and for all the other partners, children and family members left behind by the officers who can see no Light at the end of the tunnel except by ending their lives. It has to STOP.



For too long, management of Australian Police Forces have silently accepted horrifically high suicide rates amongst our troops – Disproportionately higher than the Australian population.

We demand a national Coronial enquiry, seeking answers in a State by State basis. We want to learn what are the primary stressors amongst our Police, what is/can be done to minimise this, and greater support services for our Police.

**“F\*\*\* You SA Police”** – this was the last social media post of a **SA cop** who tragically took his own life just days ago.

“Suicide and bullying are rife within the police force. I’ve served as a cop in SA for 11 years now – I’ve battled first hand the toxic **“suck it up princess”** internal culture. It’s destroying, and costing lives.”

“I’m proud of my job, for keeping our communities safe from crime. We lock up murderers, protect domestic violence victims, and remove kids from horrific abuse. But what **I’m sick of is the bureaucratic crap, intimidation and abuse of power that goes on internally.**”

**“Stop sweeping the fact police are killing themselves under**

**the carpet.** This is too important. My colleagues are dying around me. For too long now, management of Australian Police Forces have silently, knowingly, accepted horrifically high suicide rates amongst our troops – disproportionately higher than the Aussie population.”

I am starting this petition on behalf of myself and colleagues who are seeking an enquiry into the cause of suicides by Police in each Australian State.

We need to learn what the primary stressors are among our Police to then decide how to minimise more tragic deaths from happening.

The ‘Thin Blue Line’ is getting thinner – Please help protect those who protect our community by signing and sharing our petition.

**This petition will be delivered to:**

- Australian State Coroners
- **Federal Minister for Justice**  
Michael Keenan MP
- **SA Minister for Police**  
Peter Malinauskas MLP
  
- **Qld Minister for Police**  
Mark Ryan MP
- **NSW Minister for Police**  
Troy Grant MP
- **Vic Minister for Police**  
Lisa Neville MP
- **ACT Minister for Police**  
Mick Gentleman MLA
- **Tas Minister for Police**  
Rene Hidding MP
- **NT Minister for Police**  
Michael Gunner MLA

▪ **Minister for Police; Road Safety; Training and Workforce Development; Women's Interests**

Hon. Liza Harvey MLA

[https://www.change.org/p/australian-state-coroners-ministers-for-police-urgent-enquiry-into-police-suicides-now?recruiter=272455936&utm\\_source=share\\_petition&utm\\_medium=facebook&utm\\_campaign=autopublish&utm\\_term=mob-xs-share\\_petition-reason\\_msg](https://www.change.org/p/australian-state-coroners-ministers-for-police-urgent-enquiry-into-police-suicides-now?recruiter=272455936&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=facebook&utm_campaign=autopublish&utm_term=mob-xs-share_petition-reason_msg)

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## Gawler soldier honoured

20 July 2016



MARCHING in the French National Day Parade and Western Front commemorative services, **Sergeant Ashley Meek** honoured fourth-generation cousin – and Gawler soldier – Lance Corporal Stewart Grigg last Thursday.

Sgt Meek, who has strong family connections in the Gawler area, serves in the **10th/27th Battalion, Royal South Australia Regiment**, and recently embarked on a month-long trip, joining the army contingent for the French National Day Parade.

“The experience was extra special due to having a family history and connection within my unit to the battles in France,” Sgt Meek said.

“Getting to escort the colours, which my family fought for, was the icing on the cake.”

Gawler-born L.Cpl Stewart Grigg was enlisted in the 27th Battalion on February 4, 1915, and was awarded three medals for his service – the 1914-1915 Star, the British War Medal and a Victory Medal.

He served in Egypt, Gallipoli and the Western Front, where he was killed in action during the battle of Agincourt on March 26, 1917.

“Although his remains are yet to be found, his memorial is located at Villers-Bretonneux in France and I intend to visit this site one day,” Sgt Meek said.

He said the trip was a chance to pay his last respects to the late L.Cpl Grigg.

During the Western Front commemorations, he was part of the firing party during the reburial ceremonies.

“It is a very big honour to have been selected as part of the army contingent for French National Day Parade, and, in particular, to go to the Western Front and participate in the commemorative events taking place there,” he said.

In the wake of the recent terrorist attack in Nice, France, Sgt Meek said Australian troops remained “positive”.

“We are here to do a job and pay respect to our forefathers, but France, as a whole, is quite vigilant,” he said.

“The hospitality of the French people and the army has been great.”

Sgt Meek will return home later this month.

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## 150 at Lock Dawn Service

29 Apr 2015, 11:30 p.m.



IN sombre silence, more than 150 people gathered in the cold pre-dawn to commemorate Anzac Day at Lock.

After an Anzac Day introduction by Neil Cummins, Noel Siviour shared three short extracts from the 2/48th Battalion records.

Noel's father, Lindsay Siviour, was in the 2/48th Battalion.

National serviceman Richard Cummins spoke of the charge of the Light Horsemen at Beersheba. His wife's grandfather, Cliff Cabot, was in the 3rd Light Horse Regiment that served in Palestine.

Local Lone Scout Kendall Meyers beautifully recited the poem For the Fallen.

Mark Siviour, who served in East Timor and the Solomon Islands, spoke of Thomas Currie Derrick, known as Diver Derrick, who received the Victoria Cross for his assault at Sattelburg, New Guinea in 1943.

Brevet Sergeant Ashley Meek shared Ben Roberts-Smith's heroism in Afghanistan during 2010 for which he was awarded the Victoria Cross.

Ashley Meek also read out the Ode of Remembrance, which was followed by the haunting bugling of Doug Monks' Last Post.

There was one minute of silence and then as Reveille was played, Brevet Sergeant James McFarlane raised the flag.

Reverend Sue Ellis of the Lock Uniting Church led the gathering with the Lord's Prayer.

Before she read the Soldier's Prayer, she spoke of Martin Andrews, a former priest, who was a stretcher-bearer for the Medical Corps.

Councillor Malcolm Hancock laid a wreath on behalf of the Elliston District Council.

Lone Scouts, Australian military, CWA and family members also laid wreaths and flowers in remembrance of the fallen and the ceremony closed with prayer and the benediction by reverend Sue Ellis.

LADS (Lock and Districts Services) president Wayne Hodge thanked all for attending and then the club provided a cooked breakfast for all.

<http://www.eyretribune.com.au/story/3044077/150-at-lock-dawn-service/>

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# Cannabis found on road

22 Apr 2015, 11:30 p.m



**FOUND:** Brevet Sergeant Ashley Meek with the cannabis found on the Eyre Highway.

A BAG of cannabis was found in the middle of the Eyre Highway at Penong and handed in to the local police station on Tuesday night.

At about 9pm a member of the public took the bag containing one kilogram of cannabis to the Penong Police Station.

They reported they were driving through Penong when they saw a large item sitting in the middle of the highway near the tourist information bay.

They stopped to inspect the object and when they realised what

it contained took it straight to the local police station.

Police are investigating where the cannabis came from and ask anyone with information that may assist to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

<http://www.westcoastsentinel.com.au/story/3028365/cannabis-found-on-road/>

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# John BENTLEY

12/01/2024

## John BENTLEY

South Australian Police Force ( 1849 – 1859 )

New South Wales Police Force ( 1864? – 1874 )

Regd. # Q 1488

NSWPF – 'Q' represents those Police joining between 1862 ( commencement of NSWPF ) – 23 February 1915 ( Commencement of NSWPF current numbering system )

Rank: Date of appointment – 10 September 1864

Mounted Constable NSW – 19 September 1864

Senior Constable – appointed 1 August 1863?

Stations: South Australia 1849 – 1859

NSW Rockley ( late 1863 ), Stuart Town, Hartley

Service: From 10 September 1864 to 2 December 1874 ( Dismissed ) = 10+ years Service

Awards: ?

Born: ? ? 1827 – England

Died on: 22 August 1881 at Mt Victoria, NSW

Age: 55

Cause: ?

Funeral date: ?

Funeral location: ?

Buried at: Great Western Hwy, Hartley, NSW

Memorial at: ?



**JOHN** is NOT mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance **\*NEED MORE INFO**

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**Funeral location: ?**

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**FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED ABOUT THIS PERSON, THEIR LIFE, THEIR CAREER AND THEIR DEATH.**

PLEASE SEND PHOTOS AND INFORMATION TO Cal

---

**May they forever Rest In Peace**

---

**\*further work needs to be done on this person**

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Clarence and Richmond Examiner and New England Advertiser  
(Grafton, NSW : 1859 – 1889),

**Tuesday 30 June 1874, page 7**

**HORRIBLE DEATH IN THE BUSH**

**From the Evening News**

On Tuesday, the **16th June**, a magisterial inquiry was held before **Thomas H. Neale. P.M.**, touching the death of a man whose body was found near the **Liddleton Estate House**, within **three miles** from **Hartley**, and from the statements of certain witnesses, as well as the sworn testimony of **Henry Allworth Ledger**, **constable John Bentley**, and a lad named **Thomas Muldoon**, it transpired that on last **Saturday fortnight** **Ledger** heard, at night, cries proceeding from near his residence, but why did he not go out and see who it was, and why the person was in distress, did not transpire, but on the **15th** a dead body was found within **300 yards** of the **Liddleton House**, and a more horrible spectacle was never beheld in the solitude of the Australian bush.

To all appearances the portion in life must have laid down exhausted by **cold and exposure**, and there unfriended and alone have "shuffled off this mortal coil." The right cheek was eaten away ; the left, or a portion of it, was gnawed off the bones. The body had on in the shape of clothing a pair of light tweed trowsers with black stripes, a pair of elastic side boots, and new blue worsted socks, with no clothing from hip upwards. On the arms of deceased were the following marks in tatoo, from which marks it is conjectured the unfortunate man had belonged to the **Royal Navy** : On the right arm, between elbow and shoulder, a sailor with a flag in his right hand standing in front of a cannon, mounted, on a man-of-war carriage ; below the elbow, under front of arm, the figure of Britannia ; on the left arm, between elbow and shoulder, the

representation of two female figures, and below the elbow a star, like the Compass star, with a heart and two arrows passing through crossways ; between the thumb and forefinger, same hand, five dots, and on each of the three first fingers a ring tatoood. The body indicated a man, when living, of about 20 to 30 years of age, and about 5 feet 6 inches in height, slender built, with a moustache and goatee beard, of lightish brown hair. If any person from this description can throw any light upon his identity, it is hoped for the sake of friends who are ignorant of the solitary death in our midst that they will communicate with **senior constable Maloney**, of **Hartly**, who I am sure, will be glad to have any clue to his name or friends,

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/rendition/nla.news-article61899281.txt>

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.

Married to Johanna SHEA from Kilkenny, Ireland.

.

Sydney Morning Herald      **Sat 4 July 1863**

Inspector of Slaughter houses and cattle – Western Police District

**Constable John Bentley** stationed at **Rockley**, NSW.

<http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/13081065>

The above article, dated 4 July 1863, conflicts with NSW State Archives & Records which state that John BENTLEY, # 1488, was appointed to the Police as of 10 September **1864**. The above article is more likely to be linked with John BENTLEY # 613.

Cal

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I believe that the grave, in the above photo, is correct for John BENTLEY, Regd. # **Q 1488**.

Cal 090418

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NSW Police Gazette      **19 August 1863**

**Promotions**

**Constable** to be **Senior Constable** from **1st August ( 1863 )**

**John BENTLEY ( No. 613 )**

.

NSW Police Gazette **1864** p83

Reduction **Bentley, John** March 14th **Senior Constable (No 613)**

.

NSW Police Gazette **1864** p307

**Bentley John** to be **constable (No 1488)** Sept 19th

.

NSW Police Gazette **2 Dec 1874**

Dismissals **Bentley John (No 1488)**

.

**John BENTLEY** was baptised on **13 Feb 1820** at **St Clement Danes, Westminster, London**

the son of James & Elizabeth Bentley nee Chatterton

( This John Bentley can't be # 1488 as # 1488 was born in 1827.

Cal )

.

a mounted policeman in **SA 1855-1858** and in **NSW 1864-1874** including **Rockley, Stuart Town & Hartley**. ( More probably # 613 )

.

He & Johanna Shea had 10 children.

.

Johanna born 1838 Kilkenny Ireland died in 1918 & is buried in **Blackheath**. ( Again – more probably # 613 as # 1488 wasn't born until 1826 – 1827. )

.

Message received via website on Friday 211016

<b>Name:</b>	Sandra
<b>Phone:</b>	
<b>Email:</b>	

I have a descendant named **John Bentley** who was a **mounted police officer** stationed in **Rockley** in the **late 1800s**. He was married to a Johanna Shea from Kilkenny Ireland Syd Morn Herald **Sat 4th July 1863**

Inspector of Slaughter houses and cattle  
Western Police District

**Constable John Bentley** stationed at **Rockley**

NSW Police Gazette **19 Aug 1863**

Promotions **Constables** to be **Senior Constables** from **1st August**

**Bentley John** (No **613**)

NSW Police Gazette 1864 p83

Reduction **Bentley John** March 14th **Senior Constable** (No **613**)

NSW Police Gazette **1864** p307

**Bentley John** to be **constable** (No **1488**) Sept 19th

NSW Police Gazette **2 Dec 1874**

Dismissals **Bentley John** (No **1488**) **Nov 5th**

**Message:**

John BENTLEY was baptised on 13 Feb 1820 at St Clement Danes, Westminster, London

The son of James & Elizabeth Bentley nee Chatterton and was a mounted policeman in SA 1855-1858 and in NSW 1864-1874 including Rockley, Stuart Town & Hartley. He & Johanna Shea had 10 children.

John died in 1881 at Mt Victoria NSW & is buried at Hartley.

Johanna b 1838 Kilkenny Ireland died in 1918 & is buried in Blackheath.

Are there any police records pertaining to my descendant mounted police officer John Bentley in NSW?

PS I am also aware that John Bentley had also previously been a mounted police officer in South Australia from 1849- 1859.

I have already obtained his police records from the South Australian Police Archives.

Kind Regards Sandra

( It would appear that Sandra has two different John BENTLEY's mixed together here )

Cal

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# Sharynne Lee GRANT

12/01/2024

**Sharynne Lee GRANT APM**

**South Australia Police Force**

" South Australia's Longest Serving female Police Officer dies "

Regd. # ?

**Rank:** Constable ( does not appear as though she progressed, Rank wise, past Constable in 41 years. In 2015 she was described as a " Career Constable " )

Stations: ?, Adelaide CIB, Victims of Crime Support Officer  
from 2004

Service: From ?? 1975 to 11 October 2016 = 41 years  
Service

Awards: Australian Police Medal ( APM ) – granted 26 January  
2016

Born: 20 January 1950

Died on: Tuesday 11 October 2016

Age: 66

Cause: ?

Funeral date: Friday 21 October 2016 @ 1.30pm

Funeral location: Adelaide Town Hall, 128 King William St,  
Adelaide

Buried at: ?

Memorial at: ?



Constable Sharynne Grant with her Australian Police Medal.

**SHARYNNE** is NOT mentioned on the Police Wall of Remembrance  
**\*NEED MORE INFO**

---

**FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED ABOUT THIS PERSON, THEIR LIFE,  
THEIR CAREER AND THEIR DEATH.**

PLEASE SEND PHOTOS AND INFORMATION TO Cal

---

**May they forever Rest In Peace**

---

**MS SHARYNNE GRANT APM 20/01/1950 – 11/10/2016**

Service: **21 October – 1:30pm**

Location: **Adelaide Town Hall – 128 King William Street,  
Adelaide**

Family and Friends of Sharynne are invited to attend her Funeral Service, which will be conducted on Friday, October 21, 2016 at 1.30pm entirely in the Adelaide Town Hall, 128 King William Street, Adelaide.

In lieu of flowers a donation in memory of Sharynne may be posted to SCOSA (Spastic Centres of SA), PO Box 49, Woodville SA 5011 or beyondblue, PO Box 6100, Hawthorn West, Vic. 3122. Envelopes will be available at the service

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## **Guestbook**

SIGN GUESTBOOK

“A lovely lady, now gone forever”

– Peter Maher **19th Oct 2016** – 05:57:03 PM

“Sharynne, I am very sorry to hear of your passing. You put in many years of service to SAPOL and your dedication to the force will certainly be sadly missed by all. My thoughts are with you, your immediate family and to your colleagues in SA Police. Your legacy will live on forever. May you now rest in peace Sharynne. Forever in our hearts, from one of your cousins Kevin Marsland, SA Ambulance Service”

– Kevin Marsland **18th Oct 2016** – 10:15:03 PM

“There are special people in our lives, who never leave us.... Even after they are gone”

– Carol Homewood **18th Oct 2016** – 09:25:50 AM

<http://berryfunerals.com.au/funeral-services/sharynne-grant-apm-1950-to-2016>

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## **The Journal for Women and Policing Issue # 38 2016**

Officer granted prestigious honour

Mathew Rodda

South Australia Police

Constable Sharynne Grant's 40 years of distinguished service with South Australia Police (SAPOL) has been recognised in the 2016 Australia Day awards with an Australian Police Medal (APM).



Constable Sharynne Grant with Commissioner Grant Stevens at Government House.

Constable Grant joined SAPOL in 1975 and worked in a range of operational areas before becoming a Victim Contact Officer in 1994.

For the past 20 years she has been committed to providing outstanding services to victims of crime and persons affected by trauma. Constable Grant brings to the role a passion for service to victims and an empathy for them that goes beyond mere words of comfort.

She has created special bonds, particularly with vulnerable victims, and made herself available, at work and in her own time, providing practical and emotional support to families and victims of crime.

Constable Grant's knowledge of procedures, processes, and services to victims and her commitment to assisting has been

invaluable to investigators.

"I'm thrilled and honoured to receive the APM," Constable Grant said.

"I've been passionate about assisting victims throughout my whole career, so this is the greatest reward I could ever achieve for my work.

"Many of the victims I have helped over the years have contacted me to share their kind words and excitement about my award recognition, which makes it even more special."

SAPOL's longest ever serving female officer, Constable Grant has previously been nominated for the South Australia Police Officer of the Year award and been awarded life membership by Victim Support Services.

<http://acwap.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Womens-Police-Issue-38.pdf>

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## South Australia

### Tributes paid to longest-serving female police officer the late Constable Sharynne Grant

October 13, 2016 11:05am



Constable Sharynne Grant pictured in 1987. Pic:  
File

**ACTING Premier John Rau and Police Commissioner Grant Stevens have paid tribute to South Australia's longest serving female officer after she died in the city on Tuesday night.**

Constable Sharynne Grant's death was not considered suspicious.

Mr Rau described Constable Grant as a "highly-respected and long-serving member of our police force".

"As South Australia's longest ever serving female officer, she was a guiding light for many of her colleagues," he said.



Tributes have been paid to Constable Sharynne Grant. Picture: FileSource:News Limited

"Constable Grant excelled in her career, and particularly so in her service as a Victim Contact Officer.

"(Her) passion for her role and empathy has provided tremendous support to victims and their families.

"Our condolences are with (Constable Grant's) family, friends and colleagues at this difficult time."

Mr Stevens described Constable Grant's death as "tragic".

"On behalf of all members of the South Australia Police, I extend our condolences to Sharynne's family, friends and colleagues," he said.

"On a personal note, I am deeply saddened by her death.

"It would be inappropriate for me to further discuss the circumstances of this matter, but in keeping with usual practice a report will be prepared for the State Coroner."

Constable Grant joined SA Police in 1975 and remained in the force until she died.

Her service to the community and support for victims of crime and those affected by trauma was recognised on Australia Day this year when she was awarded an Australian Police Medal.

In November last year, Constable Grant told *ABC News* it was "very emotional" being the longest serving female officer.

She said it was vital that women have a strong presence in the police force.

"I think it's very important, they do a wonderful job," she told the *ABC*.

"We've got a female deputy commissioner, she's fantastic, through the ranks, and they just do wonderful work, really wonderful work and equal work with the men.

"It's very emotional for me, being the longest serving and probably the oldest, it's very emotional."

Police Association of SA president Mark Carroll also passed on his condolences.

“Sharynne was a deeply respected member of the police community, loved my many and her passing is a terrible tragedy,” he said.

**IF YOU NEED HELP, CALL LIFELINE ON 131114**

<http://www.news.com.au/national/south-australia/tributes-paid-to-longestserving-female-police-officer-the-late-constable-sharynne-grant/news-story/734fe9387b547d087a5cff60b5dd34f8>

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## Snapshots of a century of women in police in South Australia

<https://www.australianpolice.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Snapshots-of-a-century-of-women-in-police-in-South-Australia.mp4>

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Policewomen at 100 anniversary march

Posted **1 Dec 2015**, 1:47pm

**Sharynee Grant (far right)** with other officers wearing different South Australian police uniforms from over the years at the march in Adelaide.

Hundreds of female police officers, past and present, have marched through Adelaide's CBD to mark 100 years of women in the police force.

South Australia appointed its first female officers as equals with their male counterparts, on **December 1, 1915**.

At the time, a large percentage of Adelaide's men were overseas fighting in World War I and calls were made to employ female officers.

South Australia's longest serving female police officer Constable Sharynne Grant has seen many changes over the years. Ms Grant has been a police officer for almost 41 years and said she was drawn to the force after meeting "a wonderful female police officer".

"I joined in 1975, I graduated that year, and I joined because of a wonderful female police officer I'd met in 1961," Ms Grant said.

"Lots of changes in uniform, and lots of changes in women just doing everything.

"I was the second group of females on patrols, on mixed patrols, and there are a lot more females now, there's 1,264." She said it is vital that there is a strong female presence in the police force.

"I think it's very important, they do a wonderful job," she said.

"We've got a female deputy commissioner, she's fantastic, through the ranks, and they just do wonderful work, really wonderful work and equal work with the men.

"It's very emotional for me, being the longest serving and probably the oldest, it's very emotional."

[http://www.iawp.org/pdf/100Years\\_SouthAustralia\\_article.pdf](http://www.iawp.org/pdf/100Years_SouthAustralia_article.pdf)

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**Channel Seven News, Adelaide      Trail Blazer dies      12**  
**October 2016**

<https://en.yahstar.com/7-news-adelaide/video/57fe0f70cebd2e9f088b47cd-7-news-sharynne-grant.html>

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### **SA Police News FB page**

South Australia Police will recognise a significant milestone in history on Tuesday (1 Dec) with a street parade in Adelaide's CBD celebrating a century of women in policing.

On December 1, 1915 South Australia Police appointed its first female officers as equals with their male counterparts. They were the first women police officers commissioned in the then British Empire and among the first in the world.

Over the next week, in recognition of 100 years of women in policing, we are publishing some short videos memories from police women past and present.

Today we feature **Constable Sharynne Grant** (SAPOL 1975-current), who shows how the 'history' of SAPOL is still unfolding today. Other snapshots can be seen on the SAPOL Facebook page, or YouTube account.

These women will be among those attending the parade, which will also feature the Band of the South Australia Police, mounted police, present and retired officers, PSOs, ASOs, historic uniforms and vehicles.

Tuesday's street parade – which starts outside Police Headquarters, 100 Angas Street at 10am – will move around Victoria Square, travel down King William St and end at Government House about 11am.

We hope to see you there!

***Above this – messages only refer to the 'street parade' of 1 December 2015.***

Danielle Lee Zára Drib ☐ ☐

October 12 at 1:37pm

Mark Langford Sharynne and all SAPOL personnel, thank you for your service

October 12 at 4:38pm

Ken Peglar Oh why why why. So sad.

4 · October 12 at 4:55pm

Chris Trezise Holly Trezise

October 12 at 5:35pm

Annelise Hansen Madz Ando could you please show your mum?

2 · October 12 at 5:58pm

Lisa Anderson Pretty sure the early female cops held their gun in their purse 🙄 ?

1 · October 12 at 6:06pm · Edited

Ruth McAvaney They (we) did indeed...along with high heels it was one of many challenges...

1 · October 12 at 7:32pm

Ska Tim Think this vid should now be taken down out of respect.

October 12 at 6:37pm · Edited

Catherine McMahon With respect I feel it should stay

10 · October 12 at 6:58pm

Barry Blun It should definitely stay.

6 · October 12 at 9:12pm

Wilson Mum She was very proud to be a police woman, she would want this video to stay. 💔 ? 💔 ?

3 · October 12 at 9:50pm

Sheridan Alm Cathy Hinge

October 12 at 6:37pm

Karen Althoff What a beautiful piece to remember Sharynne by. Thanks Mick Schooley for sharing it xxx

10 · October 12 at 7:05pm

Mick Schooley For those who know the woman and not just the copper, this I feel is a way of not just recognition of her service to society, but the warm and loving person she will always be ❤️ ♡

2 · October 12 at 11:45pm

Krystal Gray Tiffany Murdoch so sad 😞 ?

1 · October 12 at 7:50pm

Kylie Fraser RIP Sharynne Grant. You were an exceptional woman. xx

2 · October 12 at 8:37pm

Scott Hodder I had the pleasure of meeting her during some unpleasant times..she was lovely...special lady

1 · October 12 at 8:40pm

Stephanie Smith Saddest condolences to her family, friends and colleagues. What an amazing woman.

October 12 at 8:43pm

Brendan Bowes What an absolute gem of a lady. Had the pleasure of her company a few times. I would have voted this lady for PM.

2 · October 12 at 9:03pm

Margaret Jaensch RIP 💖 ?

October 12 at 9:32pm

Hayley Branch Congratulations Sharynne!

I enjoyed and feel privileged for the time we worked together.

👍 ?

You are an inspiration.

1 · October 12 at 9:54pm

Kimberley Capper Dianne Capper

October 12 at 10:05pm

Dianne Capper That was my uniform too in 1978 and yes it was attractive but not practical, handbag and all. I went on early patrol work with this lady after first graduating. As third person in the car of course as women never worked on their own, always with a male officer.

October 12 at 10:41pm

Jacquelyne Willcox Dear Shazzie darling. This is too much. RIP

October 12 at 10:16pm

JA Tee Peta Giles

1 · October 12 at 10:39pm

AJ Menz RIP Shaz your infectious laughter and smile will be sadly missed around the office.

1 · October 12 at 10:54pm

Neeta WillyWillshire RIP. Beautiful lady xx

October 12 at 11:26pm

Barb Young Fond memories RIP lovey x

October 12 at 11:29pm

Phil Main I had the privilege of knowing Sharynne for nearly 40 years. I worked with her closely at Adelaide CIB and marvelled at her skills in dealing with victims. I shared many great moment in court with her and reminiscing over our past policing career. I truly enjoyed this woman's company. For those who know her real story she will serve as a testament of true endurance and resilience.

I will deeply miss that beaming smile.

8 · Yesterday at 12:19am

Kerin Shearing Tommy Newton

23 hrs

Tania Giles Respect! 🙌 📄 🍷 ??

16 hrs

Matt Thomson Stella Thomson

15 hrs

Stella Thomson A lady who was a pioneer in the force. What a beautiful soul.

12 hrs

Ala Sheldon RIP Sharynne. A truly beautiful lady.

14 hrs

Darren Ward Deanne Ward

11 hrs

Cathy Sweeney Very Sad.

9 hrs

Bette Grant We met Sharon on a very recent overseas and quickly became friends. Our condolences to Sharynnes family, colleagues and friends. Wonderful caring lady


8 hrs

Marlene P Wood Thankyou for sharing Annie, she truly was one of the best.

7 hrs

Jayne Kwiatkowski Rest in peace – a worthy life – such a caring lady – I remember her when I worked at police many years ago

3 hrs · Edited

Annie Piert R.I.P Shazz, the world is a better place, that you did live and a sadder place, that you did leave us  ?

1 hr

<https://www.facebook.com/sapolice/news/videos/960820460661963/>

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**As recipients of the Australian Police medal, the awards recognise their distinguished service.**

Constable Sharynne Grant Constable Sharynne Grant joined South Australia Police in 1975 and worked in a range of operational areas before becoming a Victim Contact Officer in 2004.

For the past 20 years she has been committed to providing outstanding services to victims of crime and persons affected by trauma. She brings to the role a passion for service to victims and an empathy for them that goes beyond mere words of comfort. She has created special bonds, particularly with vulnerable

victims, and made herself available, at work and in her own time, providing practical and emotional support to families and victims of crime.

Constable Grant's knowledge of procedures, processes, and services to victims and her commitment to assisting has been invaluable to investigators.

In 2009 Constable Grant was nominated for the South Australia Police Officer of the Year award. She has also been awarded life membership by Victim Support Services and was recently recognised as SAPOL's longest ever serving female officer.

# Geoffrey Leigh BOWEN

12/01/2024

## Geoffrey Leigh BOWEN

Western Australia Police Force

on secondment to National Crime  
Authority, Adelaide, S.A.

Regd. # ?

**Rank:** Detective Sergeant

**Stations:** ?, Geraldton, C.I.B., Drug  
Squad – W.A., National Crime Authority –  
Adelaide – death

**Service: From 30 August 1976 to 2  
March 1994 = 17+ years Service**

**Awards: National Medal – granted 28 May  
1992**

**Born: ?**

**Died on: 2 March 1994**

**Cause: Murdered – parcel bomb**

**Event location: Former NCA Office, 124  
Waymouth St, Adelaide, S.A.**

**Age: 36**

**Funeral date: ?**

**Funeral location: ?**

**Buried at: ?**

**Memorial at: ?**

[alert\_green]**GEOFF** IS mentioned on the Police Wall of  
Remembrance[/alert\_green]

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**Funeral location: ?**

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**FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED ABOUT THIS PERSON, THEIR LIFE,  
THEIR CAREER AND THEIR DEATH.**

PLEASE SEND PHOTOS AND INFORMATION TO Cal

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Detective Sergeant

Geoffrey L BOWEN

Adelaide SA (on secondment from Western Australia Police)

2 March 1994

Jurisdiction:

Western Australia

Details of Death:

Murdered in Adelaide, SA whilst on secondment to the National Crime Authority. BOWEN was killed when he opened a letter containing a bomb at the Adelaide Headquarters of the NCA. He joined the Police Force on August 30 1976.

<http://www.npm.org.au/bowen-0>

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## 15 years since parcel bomb murder of Detective Sergeant Geoffrey Bowen



“I did an awful lot of healing with those women and that’s why I like to give back now.”

A brief but moving memorial service was conducted on March 2 in front of the NCA offices in the Adelaide CBD, where Detective Sergeant Geoffrey Bowen was killed by a parcel bomb 15 years ago. His widow, Jane Bowen-Sutton, is pictured with her two sons, Simon (L) and Matthew at the service.

“The stigma of being different—having your father murdered and blown up by a bomb was really difficult (for Matthew and Simon) in the beginning.

“Children can be quite cruel. One little boy at primary school used to make explosive noises as the boys walked past!”

Police Legacy board member Jane Bowen-Sutton was recalling the darkest days of her life, back 15 years ago when her husband Det. Sgt. Geoff Bowen was killed by a parcel bomb on March 2, 1994.

At the time Geoff, a WA Police detective sergeant with a great future ahead of him was on a prestigious secondment to the National Crime Authority in Adelaide. He was just 36 at the time of his death and he and Jane had two young sons, Matthew, seven and Simon, five.

Before going to the NCA, Geoff had already had extensive experience working in WA Police, including stints at Geraldton, the CIB (as it was then known) and Drug Squad.

“That’s what was so awful about his death. We thought he was so safe at the NCA,” she said.

The South Australian coroner found that Geoff was killed by a parcel bomb sent to him by an individual, whom he named. However 15 years later SA Police have been unable to successfully bring anyone to justice through lack of admissible evidence.

Last year, following an extensive cold case review (requested by Jane), the South Australian Government posted a \$1 million reward for information leading to the conviction of the parcel bomber. Jane remains hopeful that her husband’s murderer will eventually be brought to justice.

Over the last 15 years, with the support of Police Legacy, the Widows Guild, the Police Union and WA Police Health and Welfare branch, Jane has gradually rebuilt her shattered life. Five years after Geoff’s death she met and subsequently married another police officer, Sgt Phil Sutton, who had previously worked with Geoff, and of whom she cannot speak highly enough. She works as a teacher and her two sons have grown into young men of whom any mother would be proud.

Simon, 20, graduated as a police officer in June 2008 and Matthew, 22, is hoping to soon join him in the job, having already passed his entry exams, with the physical exams to follow.

“You think your life’s ended. You don’t want to go on when your husband is killed and your children are young,” said Jane. “My recovery is because of them, they were so little. I had to go on.”

She said the help she has received from Police Legacy, the Widows Guild and Mike Dean and the Police Union, in particular, over the years has been “amazing”.

“I hadn’t really heard about Police Legacy, which had only been formed in WA in 1992. Paul Newman (now an Inspector, working for the Deputy Commissioner) was the Police Legacy Welfare Officer and Board Member who flew over to Adelaide and really helped me through those early days and he still keeps in regular contact.”

Back in Perth, Jane said she networked with other police widows, through the Widows Guild and found their support invaluable.

“I did an awful lot of healing with those women and that’s why I like to give back now. They were very good to me. When I was first widowed they said to me: ‘It’s dreadful, but you’ll be alright. You’ll never be the same and it will take a long time’.”

As well as the support of the Widows Guild, Jane said the family had received Police Legacy education grants for the boys throughout the years, as well as being involved in numerous Police Legacy outings and events.

Jane said her two sons also benefited from a fundraising appeal, which she is very conscious occurred because of her husband’s highly public death. Matthew was recently able to put a deposit on a home and his brother will eventually follow suit with the money which Jane ensured was kept for their future welfare.

*Continued on page 11.*

From page three...

## 15 years since parcel bomb death of Detective Sergeant Geoffrey Bowen

As a member of the Widows Guild and Police Legacy Board member she is very keen to ensure that as many police officers as possible contribute to Legacy.

"Just remember Police Legacy is always there to help your family, should you be killed on duty or pass away through natural causes. It might be you or it might be your best mate. I think it's really important to be a part of Police Legacy and the Union."

As one might expect, Constable Simon Bowen, 20, is already a regular contributor to Police Legacy. Recently, while attending a memorial service for the five officers from Newman who were killed in a police plane crash, he addressed school groups.

Talking to some five-year-olds, poignantly he told them: "I was just about your age when my dad was murdered."

Jane said she is positive Geoff would have been extremely proud of both his boys.

"I have always made a point with the boys of saying: "Don't let it be an excuse to ruin your life. Their father's death affected them very deeply and it will always affect them, but it's not going to define them.

"It's been a challenge bringing up the boys, not having anyone charged and brought to trial. You have to bring them up to be good people, good

citizens, otherwise we would end up like the person who murdered Geoff."

Most people would agree that Jane has more than succeeded in her quest.

"Just remember  
Police Legacy is  
always there to help  
your family ..."

<http://policelegacywa.org.au/downloads/newsletters/4022TrueBlueApril09.pdf>

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▪ **November 24 2014**

## Plans for new medal to recognise slain, seriously injured WA police

Nicole Cox

### EXCLUSIVE

Every slain and seriously injured **WA police officer** would be automatically honoured with a special commendation medal to mark their selfless community sacrifice, under a new plan to be mooted at the WA Police Union conference today.

The idea, which is modelled on an award offered by **Victoria Police**, has been raised by outgoing union deputy vice-president **Jon Groves** and has won support from the state

opposition and families of officers killed in the line of duty.

**Opposition Leader Mark McGowan** will unveil a proposal at the police union's annual conference on Monday for a **WA medal**, similar to the **Victoria Police Star** and the US military decoration the Purple Heart, to acknowledge officers killed or seriously injured while on duty.

Under the concept, fallen officers including **Constable Damien Murphy**, who was run down and killed by a drunk and drugged driver in Craigie in **2007**, would be posthumously awarded the medal, along with those who sustain life-changing injuries – like Senior Constable Matt Butcher, who was left partially paralysed by a “flying headbutt” during a brawl in Joondalup in February 2008.

It would apply to all work-related injuries, including **psychological illnesses**, regardless of whether the conditions **first manifested on or off-duty**.

“The Victorian Government has struck a medal for police officers who are seriously injured or killed in the line of duty and it recognises the sacrifice, valour and contribution of those police officers,” Mr McGowan told Fairfax Media.

“It's only awarded rarely, but it is an appropriate recognition and certainly gives families of those who have died in the line of duty some additional recognition of their mother or father, husband or wife.

“It's also for those who are seriously injured in the line of duty – so officers who put their lives on the line and get injured as a consequence...that they are appropriately recognised for that.

“It is rare recognition, but appropriate recognition and I think that should happen here in WA.”

Mr Groves said a medal that acknowledged officers killed and maimed in the line of duty – and not only acts of bravery – was needed to highlight their community sacrifice and the risks that police officers come up against every day of their working lives.

“We need a medal that recognises the police officers in this state who have **paid the ultimate price – either with their lives or their health – in serving the community,**” he said.

“It’s something tangible for those who have been kicked out the door of WA Police, due to work-related illness or injury, to have in their hands to remind them of the good times and the good work they did for the community.”

**WA policeman Simon Bowen** was five years old when his father **WA Detective Sergeant Geoff Bowen** was killed by a **parcel bomb** at the **National Crime Authority** in **Adelaide** in **1994**.

**Detective First Class Constable Bowen**, who has served with WA Police for seven years, welcomed the idea saying a special medal would validate the ultimate sacrifice **his father** made.

“I think it’s a great concept in not only is it a keepsake, but it’s something else in the present that will identify the sacrifice and the memory,” he said.

“It’s a small token that you can just marvel at and look at it and say, for my situation, the memory of Dad is never going to be forgotten not only by me but by the blokes that he used to work with and generations to come.

“It’s a small bit of recognition. It would be humbling.”

**Tracey Ball**, who was widowed when her husband **Constable Peter Ball** was run down by a car and killed while chasing a suspected car thief in Cannington in August 1998, welcomed the police medal proposal.

The couple’s daughter, **Brianna**, now 17, was only 18 months old

when her father died in the line of duty.

“**Brianna** was just 18 months old so she really has no memories of her dad,” Ms Ball said.

“She’s very proud of him but she never really knew him, she never got the chance. So to have something physical and tangible that links who he was as a police officer, I think would be extremely important to her.

“My granddad served in World War I and we have his medals. Having those medals, we used to do the Anzac Day parade and we were so proud and patriotic. To have chance to have that for someone in the police force, I think would be awesome.

“I know the defence forces award medals posthumously and with Legacy the kids go on camps with the armed forces kids who talk about their dads’ medals whereas the police kids don’t have that, they don’t have anything.”

A WA Police spokesman said the force already offered several Police Commissioner’s awards for bravery and conduct including the Cross for Bravery, commendations and a group citation for conduct.

In addition, there is also the WA Police Medal for diligent and ethical service, service medals, the Commissioner’s Medal for Excellence, a Certificate of Outstanding Performance and a WA Police Cadet Medal.

The spokesman said the **Western Australia Police Cross** for Bravery could be awarded to officers killed or seriously injured after a specific act of bravery and members killed in the line of duty were also recognised on the WA Police Memorial Honour Roll and the National Memorial Honour Roll.

He said the “existing awards and medals are quite comprehensive” but declined to comment about the proposal for a medal for officers killed or seriously injured in the line

of duty.

“I am unaware of any proposals for new medals and the department does not make a habit of commenting on speculation or possible proposals,” he said.

### Comments:

- les bassednean, **Nov 24 2014** at 9:41am  
that is all well and good, but what do those officers who put their body on the line for their state, and then get arrested, interrogated, humiliated, insulted and shamed get?
- Mrs Elliott Watt (9038) **Nov 24 2014** at 11:37am  
I wonder if the medal will be awarded to officers with psychological injuries who have died from these injuries like PTSD, depression and anxiety? My husband died on duty from depression after 15+ years service...surely he, and other officers like him deserve to be recognized too?
- Long overdue Perth, **Nov 24 2014** at 9:40pm  
This issues has been raised for quite literally decades that I have been aware of, and yet the Dep't has chosen to ignore the injured in the hope they will leave. It is only if you suddenly become high-profile media interest then they cannot ignore you.  
The embarrassing fact is as things stand, all the officers who came to Matt Butcher's aid can be recognised, but there is literally nothing that can be given in acknowledgement to Matt himself as there was no "clever act" they can use for a special commendation. And not even Toxic Tony could spin a believable one for the actions of an unconscious man. This has been raised at the highest levels in emails that were ignored and not replied to.

If they finally come to the table on this one, great!  
Allow retrospectivity, even better. The men and women  
who put their life on the line so you can be safe  
deserve nothing less!

<http://www.watoday.com.au/wa-news/plans-for-new-medal-to-recognise-slain-seriously-injured-wa-police-20141123-11sgts.html>

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# **Lyncon Robert Dix WILLIAMS**

12/01/2024

**Lyncon Robert Dix WILLIAMS**

**aka Lync**

**( late of Medindie Gardens )**

**South Australia Police Force**

**Regd. # ?**

**Rank: Constable 1st Class**

**Stations: ?, Region B, Holden Hill  
Police Station**

**Service: From ? to ?**

**Awards: ?**

**Born: ?**

**Died on: 29 August 1985**

**Cause: Murdered in his police car**

**Event location: Ross Ave, Blair Athol,  
S.A.**

**Event location: [codepeople-post-map]**

**Age: 30**

**Funeral date: 3 September 1985**

**Funeral location: ?**

**Buried at: Centennial Park Cemetery, 760  
Goodwood Rd, Pasadena, S.A.**

**Grave location: Acacia D, Path DM, Grave  
537**

Buried with his mother: Margaret Yvonne WILLIAMS who was  
buried on 19 January 2012



Lyncon Robert Dix  
WILLIAMS

<http://www.npm.org.au/williams-2>

[alert\_green]**LYNCON** IS mentioned on the Police Wall of  
Remembrance[/alert\_green]

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South Australian Police Historical Society Inc.

**August 29th, 1985, Police Officer Lyncon Robert Dix Williams** from **Holden Hill police** was murdered at **Blair Athol**.

**First Class Constable** Lyncon (Lync.) Williams Aged 30 years, of Holden Hill Patrol Base, died **in** his patrol car after he responded with his junior partner to reports of gunfire at **Ross Avenue Blair Athol**. A 17-year-old shot him as he arrived on the scene. He had not even had the chance to step out of his car ahead of the fatal shot.

Police arrested and charged the shooter with murder. He was convicted and sentenced to imprisonment at the Governor's pleasure. A non-parole period was later fixed at 13-and-a-half years.

Police Association President **Peter Alexander** reflected on William's death as he laid a wreath at a Police Remembrance

Day memorial service. "I didn't know Lync Williams personally but, I'll always remember the circumstances of that murder", he said.

'I remember the shock of it and the grief for his family and workmates. It was a tragedy that was reflected right across the job.'

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