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AGREEMENT

MORE than 12 months of negotiations came to an historic climax on 5 August when an agreement was signed by the Commissioner, Major-General R.A. Grey, and the National Treasurer of the Australian Federal Police Association, Mr Gary Fulton, giving AFP members à 38-hour working week.

The concept of a 38-hour working week has been part of Government policy for a number of years and has been introduced progressively to various areas under the guidance of a National Negotiating Committee which consists of representatives from the Federal Department of Employment and Industrial Relations and the Australian Council of Trade Unions.

The AFP agreement was ratified by the Federal Police Arbitral Tribunal on 22 August and came into effect on 2 September. Its arrangements will be reviewed by the Tribunal in December.

The shorter working week is achieved by granting an 'accrued day off' in each four-week accounting period. Members work normal 8-hour shifts five days a week for three weeks, then 8-hour shifts for four days of the fourth week, averaging 38 hours of work. The 'accrued day off' is included in rosters for 6 monthly periods in advance and, where practicable, is taken with normal rostered days off.

Dinner guests: Chief Superintendent Bob Gillespie, Assistant Commissioner Ray McCabe, NSW Commissioner Mr John Avery, and Assistant Commissioner John Kelly, Australian Police College. Commissioner Grey and Mr Gary Fulton are pictured after the signing of the 38-hour working week agreement for AFP members.

DINNER

THE New South Wales Police Commissioner, Mr John Avery, was chief guest at the Eastern Region Commissioned Officers' recent formal dinner. Others to attend were Chief Superintendent Jim Willis, of the NSW Police, who is OIC of the Commonwealth/State Joint Task Force on Drug Trafficking, Superintendent Colin Pope, a Northern Territory officer who is on attachment to the National Crime Authority, and Detective Inspector Gerry Cunneen, who is New Zealand Police Liaison Officer.

The dinner was the first for the Eastern Region Commissioned Officers and was held at the Hunters Lodge Restaurant, Double Bay. Its success has ensured that it will not be the last. MR Peter Windsor, Editor of Platypus since January 1984, is moving to another Department. This is his last issue as Editor.

"The new Platypus has made a significant impact both within and outside the AFP," he said. "I have every confidence it will continue to provide a comprehensive and entertaining means of communication to members of the force."

PAY RISE

The recent 4.5 per cent adjustment to general policing salaries means the following pay scales are effective from 22 August:

\$
17480
18474
19043
19610
20845
21408
22534
23097
24930
26621
27976
35003
37440
40319
43389



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BRONZE AUZZIE

DETECTIVE Senior Constable John Barnes had good cause to feel lonely at the First World Police and Fire Games held at San Jose, California, recently. But he wasn't entirely alone.

John, who is with the Organised Crime Unit in Sydney, was the sole representative of the AFP at the Games, having entered the track events. He qualified for the 800m final, but found training and racing in the hot and heavy Californian conditions a severe strain.

He lined up for the start of the final, but despite leading through the first lap in 64 secs, he finished seventh.

Putting his disappointment behind him, he faced up to the 3,000m stee-plechase. He finished the course in his personal best time of 12 min. 20 sec. but found himself trailing in second last — a long stride from his bronze medal effort at the First Police National Games in Melbourne last year.

Came the final track event of the Games — the men's 4 × 400 metres relay. The NSW Police, under Alan Pollock, had entered a team but because of unforeseen problems, only Alan had made it.

With the blessing of the organisers, a team was put together from the Australian Contingent — Alan Pollock, John Barnes, and two other competitors from NSW and Queensland. They exceeded all expectations for a team that had never competed together before, finishing in a creditable time of 3 min. 59 sec. to win the bronze!

WORTH BOTTLING

ACT members have built up something of a reputation with the Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service.

A number of members give regular and significant blood donations through a special roster arrangement. And the Red Cross demonstrated its gratitude recently when the Chairman of the ACT Division, Mr Peter Watson, presented Assistant Commissioner Val McConaghy with a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the donors.

Acting Inspector Peter O'Boyle (Personnel and Services) said members gave blood regularly in response to specific requests from the Blood Bank.



Mr Peter Watson, of the Australian Red Cross Society, centre, presents the Certificate of Appreciation to Assistant Commissioner Val Mc Conaghy, watched by Dr R.G. Pembrey, of the Blood Transfusion Service.

"The system works well," he said.
"We have a list, a substantial one, of
ACT-based members categorised by
group.

"The list is held in the Operations Room at City Police Station and if a quantity of a particular blood group or groups is required, members with that blood type can be asked to respond."

Peter said the AFP blood donor list had been maintained for many years.

"However," he added, "if members not already on the list would like to contribute they'd be welcome.

"All they have to do is contact the Red Cross in Canberra to undergo the new screening procedures and blood typing.

"Once that is done they can then contact the Operations Room to have their names added to our blood donor list," he said.

FESTIVAL FAME

A LARGE, full-colour picture that typifies the spirit of community policing — and makes famous one member of the AFP — now hangs in the foyer of Canberra's City Police Station.

The picture (see back cover) shows Senior Constable Frank (Nobby) Clark, surrounded by children, shaking hands with a clown during the Canberra Times Twilight Procession — a major attraction of the annual Canberra Festival activities.

And to say 'thank you' for all the work done by the AFP during the festival the Canberra Festival Committee had the picture enlarged to a 100 cms by 70 cms print and framed.

Making the presentation, ACT Police Liaison Advisory Committee Chairman Mr Peter Kobold, MHA, commented: "In this role I often hear complaints about police. Today it's nice to be just handling bouquets — and they are thoroughly deserved."

Mr Kobold said the efforts of AFP members contributed significantly to the success of the Festival.

"I can best give an example of that by referring to the crowds at one Festival event — the Food and Wine Frolic, 1985," he said. "Estimates put the crowd at 150,000, and I can't even remember a single arrest.

"That shows considerable restraint on behalf of all AFP members concerned."

Accepting the picture from Mr Kobold, Assistant Commissioner Val McConaghy said the AFP had always been associated with keeping the peace at Festival Week activities.

"We're seen most visibly to be serving the people who pay our wages," he said.

And Frank Clark? He was given his own personal copy of the picture. The look on his face spoke a thousand words.