



FEBRUARY: More than 180 cannabis plants seized

A 56-year-old man faced court after a search warrant in the Canberra suburb of Downer uncovered 182 cannabis plants, approximately 300 cannabis seeds and two kilograms of dried cannabis.



MARCH: Safe return of missing children

ACT Policing issued an AMBER alert seeking the public's assistance to locate four missing children and a male known to those children.

As a result of the AMBER alert social media post, information was provided by the public within 45 minutes, leading to police locating the vehicle. A short time later, more information came in and police located and arrested the man. The children were located safe and well.

ACT Policing's Facebook post was shared over 1,000 times within 25 minutes of publishing, which was an incredible result.

JULY: 384 kilograms of cocaine seized and two charged

A joint operation between ACT Policing and the Australian Border Force resulted in ACT Policing's largest ever drug seizure. The operation began early in 2019 when ACT Policing received information relating to a crime syndicate operating in southern NSW and the ACT.

When the operation began, members examined a second-hand excavator at Port Botany in Sydney — it was subsequently discovered that the arm of the excavator contained approximately 384 kilograms of cocaine - worth an estimated \$144 million.

That's 384 kilograms of cocaine will never hit the streets, which was a great result for the Canberra community.



JULY: Tattoo business restrained

ACT Policing's Financial Investigations Team successfully applied to the court for the restraint of a tattoo business in the Canberra suburb of Belconnen.

In June police started proceedings in the ACT Supreme Court alleging that the business was laundering money for Outlaw Motor Cycle Gang members. The court granted approval for the business to be restrained and on 4 July it was closed by police.



SEPTEMBER: Illicit firearms targeted during national week of action

ACT Policing joined police jurisdictions across Australia in a national week of action targeting illicit firearms and safe storage by licensed owners. A number of search warrants were executed and resulted in the seizure of firearms and ammunition.

Across the week ACT Policing conducted 67 checks at properties in the ACT where a total of 365 firearms were stored.

One man was arrested and charged with two firearms-related offences. Police also examined the suitability for a number of individuals to continue to hold firearms. Five license holders were sent to be reviewed by the Registrar.

Snapshot 2019: looking back on the significant wins for ACT Policing

By **Emma Bailey**, Communications Officer, ACT Policing

2019 marked another full year for ACT Policing, with many operational success stories across the board. From large haul cocaine and cannabis jobs to firearms confiscation and investigating daylight shootings – there was more than enough to keep officers busy.



NOVEMBER: Forrest shooting

In response to a serious incident involving the shooting of a member of the community in the Canberra suburb of Forrest, significant resources across ACT Policing were deployed with outstanding success.

Within three hours of the shooting on Tuesday 5 November, the alleged offender was arrested and the firearm believed to have been used in the incident was recovered.

From the moment the incident was called in, significant resources were allocated and deployed to firstly assist the victim, to manage the two crime scenes and then arrest those responsible. The incident started when a man fired at a woman's vehicle through the driver's window.

The woman, who had sustained gunshot and shrapnel wounds, drove to Manuka Oval where she called for help and a security officer provided her with first aid.

This incident pulled together resources from the ACT's Woden and Gungahlin Patrols, AFP Forensics, Specialist Response Group-Tactical Response, Criminal Investigations (Nemesis, Homicide, Woden and City Crime), ACT Policing Video Operations, ACT Policing Traffic Operations, ACT Policing Intelligence, Media and Public Engagement and ACT Policing Communications.



NOVEMBER: Cook Islands visit

It was all hands on deck when the Cook Islands Prime Minister, accompanied by the Cook Islands Police Commissioner, conducted an official visit to Canberra.

The visit consisted of 20 motorcade movements in three days. Emergency Management and Planning took the lead in overseeing the event, including motorcade routes, staffing, logistics and welfare. Traffic Operations including Road Safety Operations Team members made up the motorcade, including the pilot car, outriders and rear escorts.