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**POLICE NEWS**  
The Voice of Police  
April 2022

# Inside the skirmish line

How police prevailed at Parliament

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COVER: March 2, 2022, at Parliament.  
Photo: BRADEN FASTIER/STUFF

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## THE BUZZ



“The answer is not to defund the police. It's to fund the police. Fund them. Fund them. Fund them with resources and training.”

United States President Joe Biden in his State of the Union speech last month.



# 700kg

The biggest drug bust in New Zealand history at Tauranga on March 16, of cocaine, breaking a record set just two weeks before when 613kg of meth was seized at Auckland Airport on February 23.

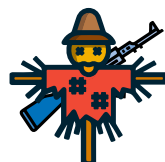


# 1900

The IPCA is going to be busy with the number of complaints against Police related to the 23-day occupation of Parliament grounds during February and March.

## ‘Straw purchasing’

The term used when a licensed firearms owner sell guns to criminals, as identified by officers working on Police's Operation Tauwhiro.



## “It was like a park and pot stop.”

A neighbour describes one of the busiest tinnie houses in New Plymouth, 500 metres from New Plymouth Boys' High School. A 31-year-old woman was sentenced to nine months' home detention for possessing and dealing cannabis, some to high school pupils. During the inquiry phase, a 17-year-old arrived at the house and asked uniformed police if she could buy cannabis. – Stuff



The number of spray paint cans discovered when Police apprehended two “taggers” on the Auckland Motorway last month.



# Pay delay for non-sworn unacceptable

**T**he Government's delay in fully funding Police management to pay non-sworn staff the 3.5 per cent increase due, and already being paid to sworn staff, has been gutting.

It has exposed the Government's naivety about the final offer arbitration process, the value of non-sworn staff to policing and the devastating impact of the delay on morale. The uncertainty and lack of explanation for the delay have caused unnecessary angst for staff, evident in the mass of communication I have received.

The negative feedback has been largely directed at Police management, but it really needs to be aimed at key government departments and bureaucrats.

It angers me that those people appear to have no understanding of the value of the tireless and dedicated service of non-sworn staff. Police would not be able to deliver the service the public needs and politicians expect without these people. They are the call takers who deal daily with the public in times of crisis. They are the dispatchers who are crucial to the safe deployment of officers and the urgent responses the public needs. They keep the doors of Police stations open. Without them, policing would soon grind to a halt, putting the public at serious risk.

It is particularly galling given that this important group of public servants are predominately lower paid and female: so

much for the concerns for the lower paid and pay equity.

This totally unexpected delay should never have happened. From the beginning of the pay negotiations all parties accepted that both sworn and non-sworn would be treated equally, and Police's final offer position put to the arbiter was costed for both groups.

## Without non-sworn staff, policing would soon grind to a halt, putting the public at serious risk.

Police ensured the relevant government agencies were fully informed, approved the Police negotiating position, understood the consequences of losing at arbitration and knew that any decision would have to be applied to Police employees as well.

Negotiations emphasised the needs of the lowest paid, in line with the Public Service Commission guidelines. For this very group to then be affected by funding arguments is particularly unfair.

At the time of writing, I am hopeful this funding impasse is on the verge of being settled, allowing us to confirm the deserved general wage increase for Police employees. The fact remains they should never have had to face this delay and the accompanying stress.

**A**nother inexplicable area of delay is the return to work of colleagues who were impacted by the vaccine mandate orders. I am not sure why they are not already back at work given the court order for the removal of the mandates, and more recently the Government's dropping of mandates for all but a few workplaces.

It is no secret to any of you that the mandates have been a divisive issue for New Zealand, and it is no different within Police where strong opinions are held on both sides of the debate.

However, it is time for the divisions to be put behind us.

I am in no way minimising the negative impact of the mandates on some members and their families, but those members want to get back to the job they are committed to, and I'd like to see them back.

They were valued staff before being stood down and will be valued when they return.

We need every one of them.

Chris Cahill



**Changing of the guard:** Retiring Police Sport chairperson Detective Senior Sergeant Brett Shields, left, who has been awarded life membership of the organisation, and his successor, Inspector Stefan McIntyre, from the Waitematā Māori, Pacific and Ethnic Services team, right, met Police Association president Chris Cahill last month as part of the association's ongoing support of the work they do for our members. **See p22 for more on Brett's Police Sport career.**





Cover Story

# Inside the skirmish line





## Teamwork and a carefully thought-out plan helped police prevail at Parliament on March 2.

**T**here was a moment on the skirmish line at Parliament on March 2 when police officers in the thick of battle with out-of-control protesters feared that the tables would be turned on them.

After successfully clearing hundreds of occupiers from Parliament's inner grounds, a phalanx of police were wedged against the closed iron gates at one end of the precinct near Lambton Quay, braving a hail of weapons, including paving stones, from a hard core of agitators on the other side.

Hamilton officer Senior Constable Derek Lamont was on a small hill just behind the gate. "At that point, I thought we were going to lose," he says. "I was preparing myself to get a kicking. Then, out of the corner of my eye, I saw three men in black walking past the Cenotaph. I thought, I hope I know what they are going to do, and then they released the 40-millimetre rounds."

STG and AOS members began firing non-lethal sponge rounds at protesters and it was a turning point for police, giving them time to regroup and successfully counter and disperse the remnants of the protest.

National controller Assistant Commissioner Richard Chambers says the decision to deploy the 40mm rounds was not taken lightly, "but given the situation facing us, that tactical option was necessary, and proportionate".

Staff on the ground believe it was a life saver. Derek says he is grateful to Police for "having the guts to authorise the deployment".

"There were still a lot more bricks being thrown and more fighting after that, but it allowed us time to regroup. Even at that point, they were throwing pallets over the fence onto officers."

Senior Sergeant Wayne Hunter, in charge of a section of 110 officers, was also on the hill by the gate. He could see officers being "hammered with the cobbles", and admits he too was worried the fight to regain Parliament grounds might be lost at that point.

**Despite the flak Police took for not acting sooner – opting for negotiation rather than confrontation in the early stages – planning for removal of the protesters had begun in the first week of the occupation.**

But the sponge rounds and the use of fire hoses on the police side were the tactics that made the difference, repelling the last resisters, some of whom had picked up a fire hose themselves and turned it on police until the 40mm rounds effectively dissuaded them from that.

**T**he country was watching via video and live streaming services from the moment the surprise police operation began to unfold.

In the gloom of the early morning, Eagle had arrived overhead, and hundreds of police began massing in the streets bordering Parliament.

The aim was to clear the grounds of an intractable and disorderly group of anti-government protesters who had embedded themselves there since February 9, setting up an unsanitary and illegal tent village, blocking roads with vehicles, harassing the public and refusing to move until their demands were met.

Richard Chambers can now reveal that, despite the flak Police took for not acting sooner – opting for negotiation rather than confrontation in the early stages – planning for removal of the protesters had begun in the first week of the occupation.

"Because we were dealing with a very emotive issue, we had to think carefully about how best to achieve our mission to clear the roads and restore peaceful protest," he says. "At the start, the appropriate strategy had been de-escalation to ensure safety."

"It was a complex situation. There were a lot of people there – about 1000 at the peaks at weekends – including young people. Behind the scenes we were working on a range of scenarios to find the best way to reach a peaceful conclusion and open the roads for Wellingtonians. ➔

Photo: BRADEN FASTIER/STUFF





“We also looked at what was happening overseas and liaised with police in Canada and other countries that had experienced similar protest activity.”

Police had separate plans for each street and location around the protest area, including an extraction plan for vehicles and structures that had been erected.

Richard and local controller Wellington District Commander Corrie Parnell drew on the skills and knowledge of tactical commanders, public order policing specialists, the New Zealand Defence Force, Police intel and health and safety experts.

FENZ, medical staff and several government departments, including Oranga Tamariki and Corrections, were part of the behind-the-scenes planning.

The operation involved more than 1100 Police staff, sworn, AOs and Police employees, over four weeks. “I don’t think there is a group in our organisation that hasn’t made a contribution,” Richard says.

Police arrived from around the country, along with resources – riot shield, helmets, high-vis vests, OC spray and goggles.

All this was happening while Police and the country were managing the impact of the Omicron surge.

On March 1, the day before the mobilisation to Parliament, dozens of staff received last-minute tactical training at a location in Porirua. Many didn’t know exactly what they were going to be doing the next day.

Wing 351 from the Police College had their March 3 attestation brought forward by three days so they could join the deployment.

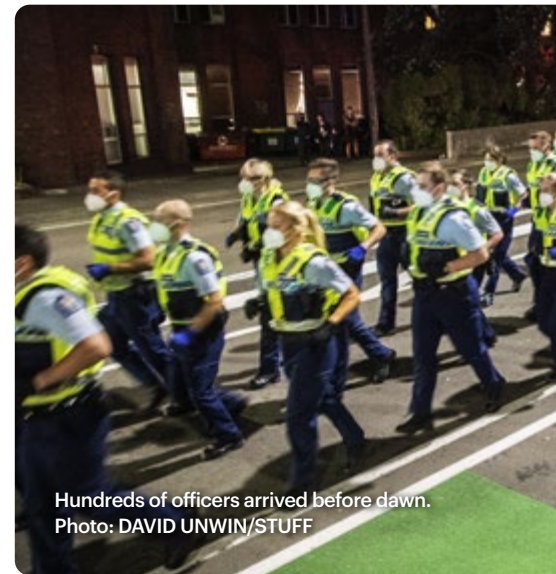
For them, and many other newer staff, it was the first time they had been involved in public order training, let alone an actual event.

Up to 600 officers were at Parliament on March 2. Skirmish lines were formed and forklifts, some of which were driven by qualified police, began to methodically remove vehicles that were blocking streets.

Police used diversion tactics to corral protesters into more controllable groups, while other police fanned out to create cordons, and more police sections entered the grounds of Parliament to begin a decisive clearing away of tents and structures.

They encountered significant violence. Officers who had helmets and riot shields were at the forefront, their colleagues with less protection were in behind, as they pushed against the protest lines, shouting in unison, “Move, move, move.”

Above their heads, projectiles and missiles thrown from the protest lines rained down. Fire extinguishers were set off in officers’ faces and thrown at them.



Hundreds of officers arrived before dawn.  
Photo: DAVID UNWIN/STUFF

The first of at least two fires broke out in a tent. A pall of black smoke enveloped those nearby, including Derek. “At one point we were surrounded by fire and couldn’t see because of the smoke. I was coughing and spluttering.

“We became very aware of missiles and accepted our colleagues pushing us out of the way because they could see what we couldn’t see.

“I fell down a few times. I wasn’t injured, but I saw officers who were injured being dragged away and the next thing I know they were standing next to me with a bandaged head.”

Through it all, they held the line.

Many had been on duty since dawn with neither a helmet nor shield between them. Many had limited tactical or public order training, and most had never encountered a riot on such a scale.

**“I fell down a few times. I wasn’t injured, but I saw officers who were injured being dragged away and the next thing I know they were standing next to me with a bandaged head.”**

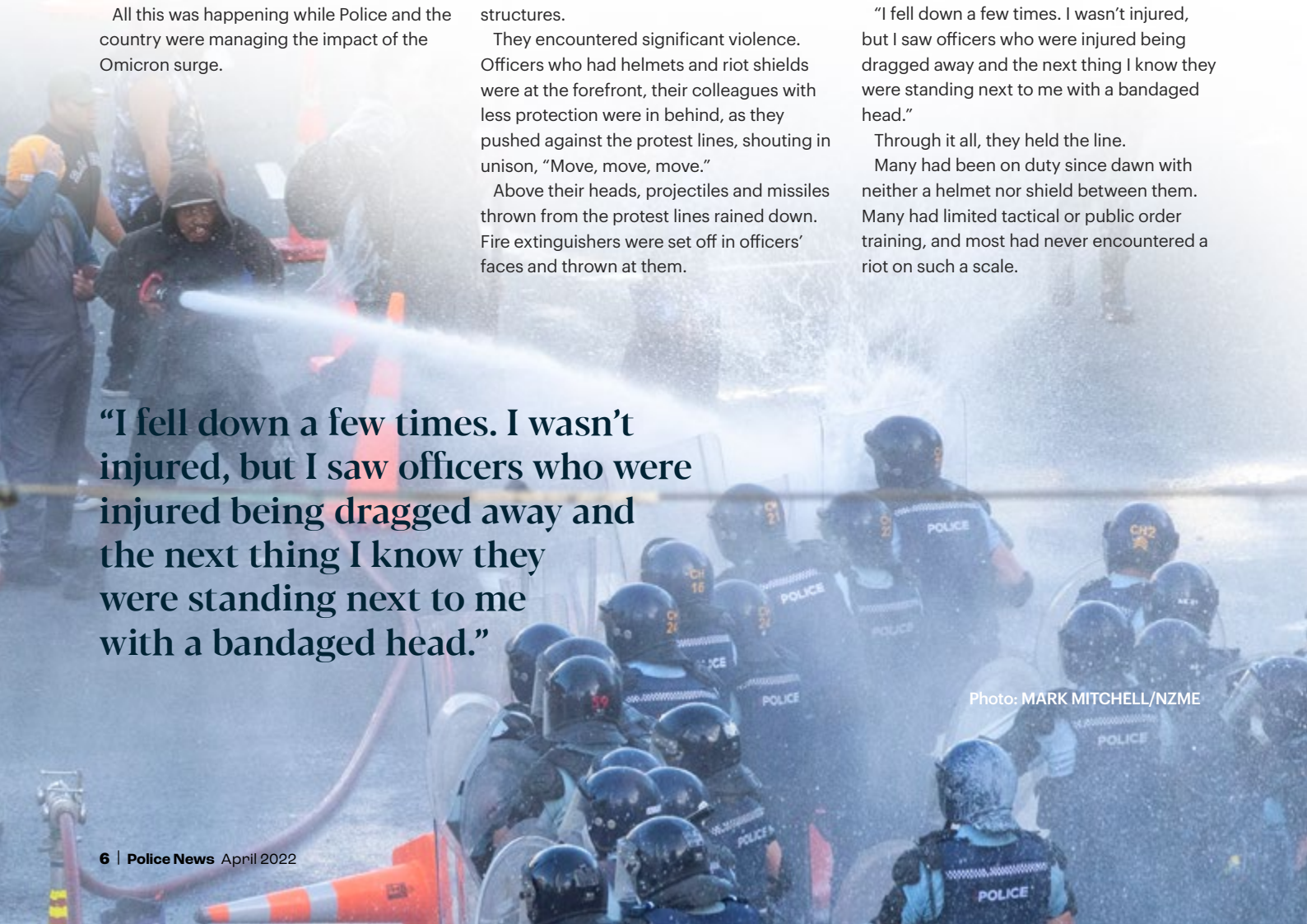


Photo: MARK MITCHELL/NZME





A view from Eagle of the fires and smoke that engulfed police and protesters later in the day. Photo: NZ POLICE

But what they did have was the rest of the team and a plan.

Derek says that when the riot kicked off, he was working beside people he had never met before, “but we jelled and worked together as a unit straight away”.

At the end, with control regained, and the last of the protest group dispersed or arrested, the combat-weary officers returned to the basement in Parliament around 8pm. Forty of their number had been injured.

“We regrouped in our original teams and walked into the basement,” Derek says. “It was probably one of the most emotional times I have ever had in Police.”

“The shield units, who had been on duty all day, battered and bruised, stood up and applauded the non-shield units as we walked in. Every officer was applauded. For a 56-year-old cop who has been in office based for a few years, it did bring a tear to the eye. Everyone was one team.”

Reflecting on the day, Richard notes, “there was not a single police person at the frontline or working behind the scenes who wasn’t prepared to keep working until we achieved our mission”.

When Wayne Hunter, 62, a road policing officer from Tauranga, arrived in Wellington, he was told he was going to be a section commander. “It was a bit of shock. We had three hours to

formulate a plan for 110 staff, including 40 officers who had just graduated.

“Logistically, it was huge. My biggest concern was, did we have the gear to do the job. Well, not really. We just had to carry on with what we had – our normal gear. But when people were moaning about not having some equipment, I was thinking that, because of the scale of the operation, we were lucky to have anything.”

Wayne was a 22-year-old constable during the Police response to the 1981 Springbok Tour, on duty at protests in Hamilton and Auckland. He admits he “enjoyed” it. “I didn’t have any responsibilities. I just got stuck in. We had to wear greatcoats because of the risk of Molotov cocktails. It was pretty hot. No vests then, but we did have the old helmets.

“All I did was have a good time,” he says of the 1981 protests. “This time, I thought, ‘I’m in charge of all these people, their safety and welfare. If I make the wrong decision and they get hurt, I’m not going to feel very flash about it.’”

And he did have his moments when he thought it was going pear-shaped. “If I saw a gap, I struggled not to rush in to fill it. I realised that as the commander I had to stay back. We had no radios, we just communicated by yelling at each other.”

Afterwards, Wayne says, he felt good realising that he did, in fact, have the skills for the job. “I didn’t think I had, but obviously, after being in police all this time, they come out when you need them.”

Also at Parliament that day was Police Association Region 5 director Sergeant Sarah Stirling. She too was able to call on her team policing background when she was needed to enter the fray.

“It was full-on straight away. Missiles were being thrown. I kept calling out, ‘Incoming!’ to alert others to put their hands over their heads. I put my head up at one stage and something sprayed on my face. It burned. Luckily, a paramedic was there and put water on my face. I had to ask for some goggles after that.

“I was in charge of nine of the new graduates from Wing 351. We were used in the first skirmish in the early afternoon. They were all into it and speaking to them later, they all reported what a great experience it was.

“It would have been an eye-opener for 80 per cent of the staff who were there.”

For her, it was “one of the best days” of her 40-year Police career. “It was good to have that win. We took so much crap, but we never broke the line. We were professional and resolute.

“In the days after, when we were cleaning up and securing the perimeter, so many people came up to us to say how grateful they were. It buoyed us up. We don’t usually get to hear from good people.”

Richard says he knew that teamwork would save the day. “There were moments where I was concerned for the safety of our staff, but I had confidence that they could deal with the situation as well as look after themselves and their colleagues.”

He acknowledges the comments about a lack of helmets and headgear, saying those concerns will be part of the debrief process of what will surely be remembered as one of the most significant operations in New Zealand’s policing history.

“There have been thousands of messages of support. There is not a person in Police who hasn’t had friends or family reach out to acknowledge the effort of that day.”

– ELLEN BROOK



# Flying



Tactical Flight Officer Alice Renouf surveys the land beneath her while simultaneously scanning multiple monitors to find a stolen vehicle.  
Photo: MATT CHATTERTON

**Auckland's Air Support Unit (ASU) completed 500 more calls for service in 2021 than the year before and it expects to attend 8000 incidents this year.**  
**Matt Chatterton reports.**

Since 2017, the Eagle crews have been operating 24/7, but the number of jobs they attend still surprises OC Sergeant Colin Ware.

"We're getting called to just about everything these days."

Up to 60 per cent of the calls they attend throughout Auckland's three Police districts are vehicle related, and changes to the fleeing driver policy have added to the workload.

"Now that everyone's thinking proactively and trying to plan things, where ground crews are not rushing into just instigating a pursuit, it means that Eagle ends up having a lot of time pressures in following a

vehicle for a long period of time waiting for something to happen on the ground."

Since *Police News* last joined the unit for a story in 2015, the number of attended events has nearly doubled and Eagle's budget for flying time has also gone up from 1800 to 3300 hours a year so the unit could go 24/7. The crews spend a little over three hours in the air per shift.

The unit – three Bell 429 choppers, two sergeants, 12 constables and three training positions, as well as nine civilian pilots on rotating shifts – has recorded a job success rate of 62 per cent.

In many ways, Colin says, its success rate is the reason behind the unit being so busy.

"For example, when we attend a job and find what we were searching for, that's good for everyone – less investigation time, better evidence and less chance of repeat offending. This naturally creates a higher demand for our service, but the challenge some days is staying within our budget."

Tagging along on a couple of shifts earlier this year, I experienced the level of demand first hand. During a search for a stolen vehicle in West Auckland, the three-person crew was called on for four other jobs in the space of 10 minutes – two stolen cars, a missing person, and a public disorder

event where a man "wearing a cowboy hat and holding a whip" was intimidating members of the public.

During the day, the crew had been monitoring anti-vaccination protest activity at Mt Eden prison where Destiny Church leader Brian Tamaki was being held.

Inside the cockpit, the officer in the back seat monitors several screens, checking number plates on a laptop or iPhone, and listens to the Auckland police radio channels, while the officer in charge sits in the front and operates the forward-looking infrared (FLIR)

camera with what can only be described as a juiced-up PlayStation controller with 28 command functions.

Staring down on Auckland at night, the orange and yellow glow from the city's lights could give the impression that everyone's tucked up in bed by 10pm, but the comms radio chatter tells a different story.

To the untrained eye, trying to find a "red Mazda Demio" among every other car in West Auckland, is almost impossible, but for this unit it's second nature. By the time I had figured out where we were meant to be looking, both officers had already found a car that matched the description and were homing in on the number plate.

Speeding drivers on the motorway, however, are glaringly obvious to anyone in the Eagle cockpit.

The team is seeing an uptick in firearms-related jobs, something that used to be a notable event, but Sergeant Mark Jamieson says he now expects one every day.

"Firearms are concerning to us, because we feel that we have a responsibility to the ground staff to provide as much support as we can to keep them safe at these jobs. Just last week, an offender was pointing a firearm back at police after a car chase."



# squad

Providing that safety net of surveillance and evidence gathering from 300 metres above has clear advantages for Auckland's Police districts and the unit empathises with the rest of the country that doesn't have an eye in the sky at their disposal.

During a five-week trial of the ASU in Christchurch in early 2020, Eagle attended 346 jobs and 210 people, including nine gang members, were apprehended thanks to the surveillance from above.

However, Christchurch is not getting an Eagle yet.

"Although, in our eyes, the trial was successful, and reinforced proof of concept, for a variety of reasons this has not yet resulted in duplicating the unit and creating a southern Eagle," Colin says.

**L**aser strikes continue to be a problem. Although they are not as frequent, Colin says they still come in waves. Between July 2020 and December 2021, the crew was targeted more than 20 times.

"One shift recently was hit twice by two different people. They were both caught and dealt with. The difference is we're

the only asset that can actually catch the offender. If any other aircraft gets lasered, they get away with it. We can hold them to account."

The Eagle crew uses the FLIR camera to track offenders and record the evidence as they direct ground teams to the suspect. In January, a man in Blockhouse Bay was arrested for striking both the Eagle and a commercial plane on the same night. He was easily identified out in the open in a backyard and could face up to 14 years in prison.

These days, some of the team's successes, all captured on high-quality video, are shared by the Police media team. The true-crime vids make compelling viewing, usually with a satisfactory resolution when the cuffs go on.

Complaints by disgruntled residents over the Bell 429 helicopter's distinctive sound still roll in, particularly in the warm summer months when Aucklanders leave their windows open at night. Colin says most people are understanding once the crew explains what they were doing.

"There's a fair degree of misunderstanding or misinformation that the New Zealand Police Air Support only trains at night just to annoy people. That's the wonder of Facebook nowadays."

## Further from the nest

Eagle's long-range capabilities have been called on multiple times in the past few years. Crews were involved in the response to the Christchurch mosque shootings, the Whakaari/White Island eruption and, this year, the protest at Parliament.

Sergeant Mark Jamieson was one of the crew who went to Wellington last month to provide air support as the ground around Parliament was cleared.

At the crack of dawn, the chopper's distinctive noise could be heard above the Beehive as it began identifying threats in the crowd as ground staff moved in.

"The effort from the staff on the ground was amazing," Mark says. "Also, the general support from the Wellington public was very noticeable after Wednesday. While we were flying the next day, another plane pilot and the air traffic control tower were offering Police their gratitude over the aviation radio."

The love didn't extend to the protesters. "There was one muppet who thought it was fun to laser us that morning. We can identify them very quickly using our cameras, but this guy was hiding well back from the skirmish line. I have no doubt a male that stupid would have carried on making bad decisions and would have been one of those pouring milk into his eyes later that day."

A training exercise with the AOS. The FLIR (forward-looking infrared) camera is visible at the front. Photos: NZ POLICE



## Month in the media

The Police Association appeared in 50 news stories across television, radio, print and online platforms in the month of March.

Topics include:

- + The Parliament protest
- + Police resources
- + How to deal with gang tensions
- + The ramifications of the revised pursuits policy – *“I don’t dispute it causes a level of frustration with some members,”* Chris Cahill said.
- + The rising number of assaults on officers
- + Police shootings
- + Gun Safe data
- + Police’s vaccine mandate
- + The association’s request to Police to help victims of war in Ukraine (see story p12)

Chris Cahill’s recognition of our members’ service at the Parliament protest garnered plenty of attention on Facebook, reaching more than 85,000 people in March.



# Pay round Q&A

Following the final offer arbitration decision in favour of the Police Association, here are some of the finer details of the association’s position.

## The constabulary two-hour toil rule

**When does the two-hour rule cease?**

From midnight Sunday, July 3, 2022, the two-hour rule will cease to apply.

**What was the rule all about in the first instance?**

It came from a time when there was an identifiable loading in constabulary salaries for overtime worked, so time off in lieu (toil) was only credited to members after they worked a certain number of hours each week. Originally, many moons ago, toil only accrued after five hours of overtime were worked in a week and the rule got as high as seven hours in a week and 12 hours in a fortnight!

**Can we still cash-up toil?**

Yes, you can. There are no changes to the cash-up provisions. The existing restriction remains: toil must be cashed-up with an equivalent amount of leave taken. You can match toil to be cashed-up with any leave type (other than sick leave).

**Can my application to cash-up be rejected?**

No. Police cannot reject a legitimate application. However, it won’t be paid until the leave type is taken, so if you cancel the leave, Police will cancel the cash-up.

## Short-notice shift changes (SNSCs)

**What is the new provision?**

“Any shift change with less than 14 days’ notice is to attract compensation of \$100 (taxable). Where notification of a change involves multiple shifts within the 14-day period, the first shift change will be compensated at \$100 and any subsequent shift change is compensated at \$50 per changed shift. This excludes voluntary changes initiated by employees.”

**Are you producing a guide on what does and doesn’t constitute a SNSC?**

Yes, we are in communication with Police on that and will be able to share it with members before July.

**When will it take effect?**

This will apply on and from Friday, July 1, 2022.

**Will it apply to Police employees?**

Yes, that is the intention.

What is the intent of the clause?

The association’s intention with this clause was twofold:

1. To minimise the number of SNSCs, eliminating those that are unnecessary or may have previously occurred through inadequate planning; and
2. to ensure recognition is given to members for any inconvenience associated with SNSCs, irrespective of whether they were avoidable or the result of an emergency.

Our pre-pay round survey of members indicated that SNSCs occurred most often due to staff shortages, followed by poor planning and unavoidable emergency circumstances.





*Iam Keen*

This column is written by a frontline police member. It does not represent the views or policies of the Police Association.

## Study interrupted

I hear the Omicron outbreak hit the Police College pretty hard with dozens of cases among the recruits. A lot were apparently doing it tough because they had to isolate in their rooms.

And many could have missed out on some vital components of their training, putting them at risk of not being able to graduate. It's pretty difficult to complete driver or firearms training remotely through your laptop.

I hope no contracts had to be renegotiated.

I suppose it's just another side-effect of this evolving pandemic. These days, BAU should be changed to "business as unusual".

## History in the clearing

Nothing was more unusual to me than the sight of hundreds of my colleagues, young and old, sweeping through the burning

grounds of Parliament to bring an end to its occupation last month.

It wasn't without risk. It was a long, active day in hot sun, being exposed to potentially toxic smoke from fires, getting drenched with water from fire hoses, then being pelted with bricks and other missiles. Never mind that several officers also ended up with Covid.

Despite that, I know of quite a few officers who wished they had been there that day and were just a little bit envious not to have been at the scene for that successful operation.

I suppose it will mean extra work for the "lessons learnt" department at PNHQ, but from my seat on the sidelines, the silver lining has been a much-needed boost to police morale.

One thing I can guarantee – someone at PNHQ would have placed an order for several hundred new

helmets within a day of the operation ending. I was thinking that even the old white helmet sitting on my filing cabinet would have come in handy.

## Non-sworn kick in the teeth

So, who the hell thought our non-sworn mates didn't deserve the same pay rise as the arbitrator rightly decided us sworn officers do? That is a crazy idea that ignores how crucial those workers are to the Police operation.

I do know that non-sworn have the right to strike. That would be a big call, but I imagine that there being no one on the end of a 111 call might bring some common sense back to the decision maker who got this so wrong.

## See ya and stay safe everyone

### Constable Iam Keen

To update Iam Keen with information, email [iamkeen@policeassn.org.nz](mailto:iamkeen@policeassn.org.nz)

# Counting Cops

Progress on the promised **1800** increase to constabulary staff from July 2017.  
The target for Police employee numbers of **485** extra staff was met in May 2019.



# Police email links will aid Ukraine

The Police Association has asked New Zealand Police to join a global policing effort to help with documenting war crimes in Ukraine.

The initiative comes from the International Council of Police Representative Associations, of which the association is a member.

President Chris Cahill has asked Police to set up an email address so that New Zealand-based families, friends and colleagues of people in Ukraine will have a safe place to send any evidence they have of the atrocities happening there.

"ICPRA has taken a strong stance in supporting the opening of an International Criminal Court investigation into the actions

of Russia. By collating evidence that may be of use to such an investigation, we can play a part in ensuring verifiable, time and date-stamped and geolocated evidence is legitimately collated," he says

"Joining this global effort alongside police unions from around the world is an important message of solidarity with our fellow police associations."

ICPRA warns that the purpose of the email is not for well-meaning and concerned citizens to inundate police forces with images and footage they have seen on social media, which would overwhelm police forces and hinder, not help, any evidence gathering.

"The people of Ukraine have extended family, friends, and colleagues all over the world. They have established communities within our nations and provide a vital link with the Ukrainian people currently living in Ukraine.

"They are capturing direct evidence of the atrocities unfolding before them. They are sharing this first-hand evidence with others outside the country. A sad reality is that many of those witnesses will lose their lives in the defence of their country. It is therefore essential that evidence they have already secured is not lost."

## Association subscriptions linked to pay increase

Police Association subscription rates for constabulary members will increase by 3.5 per cent from April 27. For fulltime constabulary members, this is an increase of 77 cents per fortnight to \$22.84.

The increase is linked to the \$3150 remuneration increase arising from the successful constabulary arbitration decision. While the remuneration increase is backdated to July 1, 2021, the subscription increase will not be backdated.

A further 3.5 per cent subscription increase, 80 cents per fortnight, will occur on July 6, 2022, following the second general remuneration increase of \$3300

that members will receive a few days earlier on July 1.

These subscription increases will also apply to our Police manager members (remunerated in Grades 20-24) and those on individual employment agreements above that.

The new rates for part-time members reflect a pro-rata application of these increases.

### Police employee subscription increase

Subscription increases for Police employee members covered by the A-J collective will occur from the first pay after members receive their pay increase.

### Why are subscriptions increasing?

Your association subscriptions are determined by conference delegates who always restrict any increase to the

general wage adjustments negotiated for members in Bands A to J.

The association's work extends beyond negotiating collective agreements and variations to those agreements. Our day-to-day work includes advice and advocacy on restructures, workplace relationship issues, grievances, health and safety, remediations and legal assistance for on-duty incidents. We also lobby politicians and provide media comment on matters of interest to members.

We ensure that services are delivered in an efficient manner, but the provision of a professional and wide-ranging employment relations service is not immune to cost pressures.

Association subscriptions provide 82 per cent of the association's funding. This funding is separate from the Police Welfare Fund through which members can buy health, life and general insurances and access our Holiday Homes.

## Police Association subscription increases

Constabulary	Old Rate	April Rate	July Rate
32+ hours	22.07	22.84	23.64
25hr up to (but not including) 32hr	17.66	18.28	18.92
Up to (but not including) 25hr	13.24	13.70	14.18
Police employee/Authorised Officer	Old Rate	April Rate	July Rate
32+ hours	16.55	17.13	17.73
25hr up to (but not including) 32hr	13.24	13.70	14.18
Up to (but not including) 25hr	9.93	10.28	10.64



# Association pinpoints FPO concerns

With the long-overdue Firearms Prohibition Order (FPO) legislation finally before a select committee, the Police Association is taking the opportunity to raise key concerns.

**W**hile the association welcomes the bill, which was recommended by the 2017 Law and Order Select Committee Inquiry into Illegal Firearms, it says it is unlikely to be a game changer because it omits two significant aspects.

One is a lack of wide-ranging warrantless search powers, such as those provided for in the Australian legislation on which the bill is based.

Although the association accepts there may be reluctance among New Zealand lawmakers to replicate the sweeping search powers used in Australian jurisdictions, it has asked the committee to consider a compromise: legislate the power for police to stop and search the subject of an FPO while in a public place without having to demonstrate reasonable grounds to suspect the presence of a firearm.

The association argues that police in New Zealand need the ability to conduct warrantless searches to enable them to

more easily disrupt dangerous people who will be the subject of FPOs.

The other important omission in the proposed legislation is that breaching a family violence protection order has not been categorised as a qualifying “previous offence” for an FPO to be issued.



An illegal AK-47 and submachine gun recently seized by police and linked to the manufacture and supply of methamphetamine. Photo: NZ POLICE

In fact, the bill makes no specific mention of family violence offending in relation to a qualifying offence for an FPO. This seems an oversight when guns and family violence are such a lethal combination and family harm is rife throughout the country.

The association says including the breach of a protection order as a qualifier keeps the law in front of escalating violent behaviour against people at risk, rather than acting after the fact.

It is urging the committee to re-examine why breaches of a protection order do not meet the FPO threshold.

Also of note in the proposed bill is that there is no specific mention of gangs. In the New Zealand context, the need and value of FPOs always includes reference to the increasing number of gangs and gang members, their illegal access to and use of firearms and their risk to the public and our members.

The association accepts that the legislation is about more than organised crime groups, but

believes it will be difficult to capture gang members within the law's ambit if it must rely solely on the existing Crimes Act.

Overall, however, the association's submission to the select committee is supportive of the legislation.

## Spitting mad about assault laws

**T**he Western Australia Police Union (WAPU) is calling for tougher penalties on offenders who spit on its members.

WAPU president Mike Kelly said that in 2021, a quarter of WA police officers had suffered “a foreign body injury, nearly all being saliva” and half of those incidents were directed at the faces or heads of officers.

“We’re spitting chips about the soft penalties for offenders who commit the vile act of spitting on our members,” he said.

In 2020, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the union successfully lobbied the state government to amend the Criminal Code to include sentences of up to 10 years in jail for anyone who assaulted

frontline workers while having Covid or creating a belief, suspicion or fear that they had the virus.

However, the amendments are only for the life of the pandemic, and the act of spitting doesn’t trigger the mandatory sentencing provisions associated with WA’s “Assault Public Officer” offence because it doesn’t satisfy the test of causing bodily harm, Mr Kelly said.

“In the eyes of the law, spitting on an officer is viewed in the same light as pushing an officer and subject to the same lenient sanctions, both during and after the pandemic. Our members aren’t punching bags, and they certainly aren’t spittoons.

“With our borders coming down and our

Covid-19 cases going up, there’s a sharp increase in the need to deter offenders from committing the degrading, despicable, detestable act of spitting on our members, an act that’s become commonplace.”

In New Zealand, if someone spits or coughs on another person and infects them with a disease, they risk being charged under the Crimes Act, with a penalty of 14 years in prison. There are no specific penalties for spitting at first responders.

A private members’ bill in 2020 that sought to create a new offence of injuring a first responder or prison officer with intent, which has a mandatory minimum sentence of 6 months’ imprisonment, did not pass its second reading.



# ‘You can’t beat the feeling of representing your country’

The 2021 Police Sportsperson of the Year, former Black Stick Constable Ella Gunson, is looking forward to giving back to her Northland community after a decade at the top of international hockey.

**E**lla, 32, played 232 international matches as a midfield/defender for the New Zealand Black Sticks from 2009 to 2021, retiring last year after competing at the Tokyo Olympics where the team finished eighth.

Her achievements include a gold medal at the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games, a silver medal at the Delhi Commonwealth Games and a fourth-place finish at the 2012 London Olympics, which she calls her proudest achievement given the team’s underdog status heading into the games.

She has also played in several Hockey World Cups, Champions Trophy events, World and Pro League series and Oceania Cups.

A two-year hiatus from the Black Sticks in 2014 and 2015 to take up a hockey scholarship at Boston University meant Ella missed out on a starting spot in the 2016 Rio Olympics. She went as a reserve, but that omission provided plenty of motivation to make it back into the side for Tokyo.

“That was really good for character building and made me realise how much you take things for granted and then miss them when you don’t have them,” she says.

While training to make it to Tokyo, Ella graduated from Police College in December 2020 and was stationed in her home city, Whangārei.

As the Tokyo Olympics drew closer and training intensified, she was able to relocate to Auckland, as part of the North Shore Prevention Team, to be closer to the Black Sticks’ training facilities.

When she was named in the Black Sticks Olympic squad in June last year, members of the Prevention Team joined her for the announcement.

“That was amazing. It was so cool to see them there, they were all proud. That was really nice and special for me.”

Playing at the highest level of sport has been a dream come true for Ella and something she says she has been grateful for every time she has played.

“You can’t beat that feeling of representing your country and going out there with the Silver Fern on your chest. I enjoyed the feeling of not only representing my country, but my family and friends and, in particular, Northland.

“I’ve always been really proud to be from Northland, so I love that I could be out there for those people as well as myself.”

After retiring from the Black Sticks, Ella relocated to Northland to join the Public Safety Team in Dargaville.

“I’m loving life up north and focusing on police and playing social sport and just being able to be around more often to hang out with my friends. I think it’s time to move on and just have a bit more of a normal life.”

She still plays hockey for her local club – the Maungakareme Premier Women’s team in the Northland competition – and plans on playing for Northland in the annual national hockey tournament.

“It’s hugely important to me to give back to my local club because I was trying to toss up if I would still play hockey or not. I really like golf now and was wondering if I would just play golf, but then I thought about



Photo: NZ Olympic Committee





Ella, second from right, celebrates with her Black Sticks teammates.  
Photos: HOCKEY NZ

everything that Northland hockey has done for me, and I realised that I did need to give back in that way, to play at the grassroots and just be around hockey."

She's also looking forward to giving back to her community as a police officer.

"My mum was a nurse. She liked working in the community, and I think I've got a bit of that in me as well. I want to work for the community that has supported me, but I'd be lying if I didn't say that I'm also keen on having a little bit of excitement in my job."

She's found that her skills from elite-level hockey have transferred to her career in police, notably teamwork and being resilient.

"You have some real lows and real highs in hockey, and you have some setbacks, but you've

just got to keep going, and it's the same in Police."

She's enjoying the variety and learning opportunities that PST work offers, and would like to eventually work in CIB and be involved in search and rescue.

After her short time in Police, she says she is pleasantly surprised and humbled to be named as the 2021 Sportsperson of the Year.

– MATT CHATTERTON



## Referee/Umpire of the Year Senior Sergeant Andrew Bell (Counties Manukau)

Andrew is a boxing judge and referee who has been part of the NZ Professional Boxing Association for 21 years. A qualified WBA/IBF/WBO and WBC (the big four world boxing organisations) judge and referee, Andrew was called on to judge the WBO Oriental Heavyweight bout between New Zealanders Joseph Parker and Junior Fa in February 2021. He also judged the WBO Intercontinental Heavyweight title fight between Parker and Briton Derek Chisora, in the UK, which Parker won. Andrew is involved in the Revills Boxing gym in Pakuranga.



## Administrator of the Year Senior Constable David Cowie (Alexandra)

Dave is a ski coach and administrator who has been a volunteer/coach for the NZ Special Olympics winter programme for 12 years. He's been selected as the head ski coach for the New Zealand Special Olympic team to the World Winter Games in Russia in 2023 (the event was meant to be in 2021 and then in 2022 but was postponed because of Covid-19). He was also a ski coach for the 2017 World Winter Games in Austria. Dave has also been involved in multisport and adventure racing for several years and recently competed again in the GODZone Adventure race.



## Sports Team of the Year Manawatu Police Cricket Team (Blue Crusaders)

The Manawātū Police Cricket Team had an impressive year in 2021. They were unbeaten in the Central Districts Cricket Tournament against Hawke's Bay, Taranaki and Whanganui. The team is currently in second place in the local twilight competition and won their match against the Manawātū/Whanganui teachers. The team has 20 players from across Manawātū and Levin and provides great camaraderie on and off the pitch and actively promote Police's values in the community.





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## Top Spots

# Whangamatā

**Island adventures, nature walks and art**

**W**hangamatā is a seaside gem on the east coast of the North Island, with a stunning six-kilometre white sandy beach and a mystery treasure island.

For a long time, Whenuakura Island was a bit of a local secret. It was never intended to be a visitor attraction and for several years only locals enjoyed its charms. But the secret is out, and Whenuakura is considered a world-class eco-tourism and adventure experience.

It's one of four islands off the Whangamatā coast, privately owned but administered by the Department of Conservation as a wildlife sanctuary. Only a kilometre from the mainland, it takes about 45 minutes to get there by kayak or paddleboard, or a two-hour round trip with a guide, which is the recommended way to get the most from your visit.

Access to the interior lagoon can be difficult in some weather conditions and only kayaks and paddleboards can squeeze through the naturally formed tunnel to access the stunning turquoise lagoon at the heart of the island – the hole in the middle of the “donut” formed from the collapsed blow hole of an ancient volcano.

According to tour group Surfsup NZ, it's a deserted paradise where a castaway or pirate would feel right at home. There are several tour operators who go to the island and a reasonable level of fitness is required.

Back on the mainland you can explore the Wentworth Valley along the Wentworth Falls Track, an easy, two-hour return trip with two bridge crossings and a stunning view of the falls.

Another recommended outing for nature lovers is the Coastal Bird Reserve boardwalk at Opoutere, a short drive from Whangamatā at the southern end of the Wharekawa Harbour, which is a protected breeding ground for rare species such as the New Zealand dotterel.

For something less energetic, visit The Little Gallery, an artists' collective that has a national and international reputation for contemporary New Zealand art, with a range of works by Coromandel artists or those with a strong affiliation to the region.

**The Police Association has two Holiday Homes in Whangamatā (both from \$80 a night), each of which sleep up to seven guests. They both have a TV, washing machine, dryer, spare blankets, pillows, high chair, radio and a fenced yard. There are dates available at this holiday destination and several others throughout the country. Visit [policeassn.org.nz/products-services/holiday-accommodation](https://policeassn.org.nz/products-services/holiday-accommodation), or call us on 0800 500 122.**





# ‘Second opinion’ service for Health Plan members

The Welfare Fund’s life insurance partner, AIA, is offering all insured Police Association members and their families access to the highly regarded Best Doctors service.

The telehealth group provides medical second opinions on diagnosis and treatments using international medical specialists and New Zealand registered mental health clinicians.

If you or someone in your family receive a medical diagnosis, you can ask Best Doctors to provide an in-depth second medical opinion for any physical condition, and ask an experienced New Zealand GP any non-urgent medical questions over the phone or by video call.

AIA NZ CEO Nick Stanhope, whose father was an Auckland police officer for 45 years, says Best Doctors is a fantastic offering. “It is important to take a holistic approach to health and wellbeing, which is why we are thrilled to have this additional advice and support extended to include association members’ immediate whānau and family\*,” he says.

## Mental health support

The offer from AIA also includes access to Best Doctors market-leading Mental Health Navigator service, which provides direct online access to a multidisciplinary team of New Zealand registered mental health experts, including clinical psychologists and psychiatrists.

“We know mental wellbeing is an area of significant concern in New Zealand, with depression the leading cause of disability worldwide,” Nick says. “Through Mental Health Navigator we can help association members get the right advice and information to prioritise their mental health.”

Dr Lorelle Drew, the lead consultant psychiatrist for Best Doctors in New Zealand, says the need for mental

health services has been on the rise for several years and Covid-19 has seen an increase in this need for support and care.

“Access to services through virtual care has also been on the increase,” she says, “which provides benefits such as people being seen safely and without the stress and disruption of long travel, parking and childcare arrangements, for example.

“Through Best Doctors Mental Health Navigator it is much easier to access psychiatrists and psychologists with timelier assessment, treatment and recovery as a result.”

## Reassurance for families

Sean’s\* dad was diagnosed with bowel cancer late last year. After receiving the news from the oncologist at the local hospital, Sean contacted Best Doctors. Their team reviewed all the relevant medical notes and test results, and a bowel cancer specialist based in the United States provided an expert second opinion on the case.

A comprehensive report followed the specialists review, and this provided Sean and his family with a clearer understanding of the situation they were in, which helped put Sean’s mum more at ease. The report outlined the diagnosis and recommended treatment options available, and what each would mean for his dad’s diagnosis.

Having access to the Best Doctors service and the report as reference, Sean, his dad and the wider whānau felt they could make more informed decisions and move forward confidently with treatment.

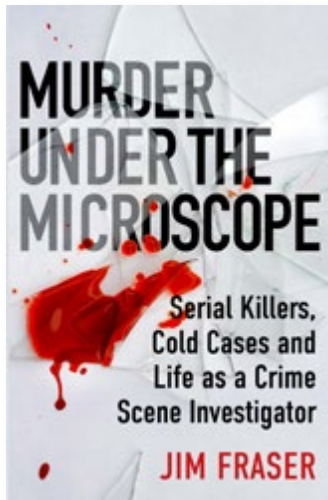
\*Not his real name

**To take advantage of the Best Doctors offer through AIA, Police Association members can create an online profile at [bestdoctors.com/new-zealand](https://bestdoctors.com/new-zealand). For more information, call 0800 425 005.**

\*Immediate family/ whānau includes a partner (spouse, civil or de facto), children (any age) and parents (including in-laws). **Note:** Mental Health Navigator is only available for those aged 18 years and over and residing in New Zealand.

# Murder Under the Microscope

by Jim Fraser



**F**or 40 years, Jim Fraser was a forensic investigator who lived on a diet of serious crimes committed throughout Britain. His abilities and experience led to him being one of the leading experts in the field, working on high-profile cases involving the worst of the worst.

In this book, he details his involvement in a variety of cases, from a brutal murder on Wimbledon Common to the mysterious death of a spy in a suitcase. He even analyses a case from 19th-century France – a serial killer who roamed free and killed at will in much the same way that modern-day murderers do.

In the matter-of-fact way you might expect from a scientist, Fraser outlines a litany of murder investigations that were

hampered by police errors in tactics, analysis or mindset. He is critical of police unwillingness to trust “outsiders” such as scientists, and it is hard to put up a defence to the facts as shown here.

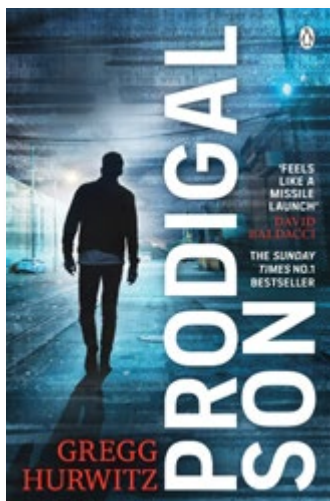
Several of the cases would have been solved faster if police had taken a wider view and not focused on the obvious, had dealt with physical evidence correctly and had accurately documented their investigations to avoid errors – all good lessons that any investigator would benefit from. It’s cringe-inducing to see some of the mistakes that were made.

It’s also interesting to see a serious crime investigation from a forensic perspective. For a change from the American-style true crime books by FBI profiler John Douglas and others, this is well worth a look.

**A litany of murder investigations were hampered by police errors.**

# Prodigal Son

by Gregg Hurwitz



**N**ature versus nurture. Can you change who you really are? And, if you can, should you?

In the sixth instalment of Hurwitz’s excellent Orphan X series, we take a plunge into Evan Smoak’s turbulent and traumatic past. Taken from an orphanage aged 12 and trained as a government-sponsored assassin, Evan eventually broke away from the Orphan programme to try to live a normal life.

Well, as normal as you can when you’re the “Nowhere Man”, a ghost who only the truly desperate can reach, an avenger who will wreak havoc to save the innocent while trying to atone for his own sins.

He never had a real family, never knew a life without hardship and bloodshed. His interest in Mia Hall, one of the neighbours in his apartment building, can never be fully realised; she’s a DA, he’s an off-the-

books assassin. Oil and water.

But what if you really want to change? Evan is tired of the killing, ready to hang up his boots. Nowhere Man will be taking no more calls from the desperate and downtrodden.

Until now.

The call is from an older woman. She knows intimate details about Evan. She says she’s his mother.

One more mission. A man is in trouble. Something to do with drone technology and the government. He needs help.

And he was in the kids’ home with Evan all those years ago.

Torn between wanting to know more about his past and his desire to have a normal life, Evan sets out to help one last person. He has no idea how much it will change him.

If you haven’t tried the Orphan X series yet, do it now. This is the best action-thriller series in the game, hands down.

**The best action-thriller series in the game.**





# A plug for electric cars



The PHEV can run like other hybrids on petrol or battery, or a combination of the two. Its battery can be recharged from a regular wall socket without the need for a dedicated charging station. Full charging takes about seven hours from a 240-volt socket.

**A**s Police begin trials for a PHEV (plug-in hybrid electric vehicle) Skoda frontline car, its Fleet Service Group manager, Inspector Brian Yanko, has stressed that no vehicle will get a “free pass” simply to fulfil the expectation now on government departments to decarbonise their fleets.

“We won’t put it in the fleet because it’s cool and trendy,” he says. “It has to meet our operational requirements.”

The PHEV trial is being done as part of Police’s commitment to reduce the environmental impact of its fleet, which has about 3500 vehicles, including 2200 liveried patrol cars. The long-term goal is to switch to non-petrol/decarbonised vehicles as advances in technology make that viable.

The PHEV is a version of the recently introduced Police patrol car, the Skoda Superb. During the trial, the liveried PHEV will be moved around frontline duties to assess its capabilities in different operational settings, and to get staff feedback on its performance.

It has already been tested for radio frequency interference, brake and road trials as well as performance testing at Manfeild, where, Brian said, it performed well with the added weight of Police kit and equipment.

Brian says it’s likely a PHEV patrol car will

be best suited to the sort of frontline duties that allow for downtime during which it can be recharged, which takes about seven hours from a standard 240-volt wall outlet.

The PHEV would not be suitable for a 24/7 metro environment “where the engine never cools down”, he says, but it could meet the needs of staff in other urban or rural settings, or in community roles.

“With a long-distance range capacity of 930 kilometres, we think this will be more than enough.”

Police has three PHEVs, one of which will be used as a pool car for the Police executive to fulfil a requirement that Government agency leaders should drive decarbonised work vehicles. An unmarked operational PHEV will also be put through its paces.

In a separate area of work, Police is also planning to evaluate some EV makes and models for pool cars for non-operational use. The initiative is part-funded by the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA), the branch of Government that supports the public sector in reducing carbon emissions, including encouraging the use of EVs.



## Dear Aunty

I was recently told I was needed for night duty, due to an operational matter, with only two days’ notice of a change to my roster. My partner and I share childcare responsibilities and coordinate our work arrangements to manage this. Initially, I was rostered on for day shifts and I had childcare organised for those shifts. Because we didn’t get a lot of notice, and because my partner was not able to change her shift, we had to arrange and pay for childcare. I would like to know what options we have for being compensated since we would not normally have had to pay for childcare and only had to do so because of a late change to my roster?

## Resisting a rest

### Dear Resisting a rest

This can be a challenging situation, whether it is for children or anyone else who depends on you for their care. You don’t mention whether you are a Police employee or constabulary, but this issue is covered by the clause “Dependent Care Expenses” in both collective agreements (Police employee 3.23 / constabulary 3.31).

This clause covers exactly the situation you have described. It is for reimbursement of actual and reasonable expenses in situations where you were unable to make alternative arrangements and have ended up with costs you would not normally have incurred in caring for dependents.

Although Police has discretion in making this payment, and a claim does need to be approved before being submitted, it should not be unreasonably withheld. In the first instance, I would discuss this with your supervisor.

So, while it won’t cover the cost of a night out on the town for you and your partner, there are options for reimbursement in circumstances such as those you have encountered.

**Email questions for Aunty to**  
[editor@policeassn.org.nz](mailto:editor@policeassn.org.nz).

## BRAIN TEASER

1. How many international games did Ella Gunson play for the Black Sticks?
2. Where will you find roads without vehicles, forests without trees and cities without houses?
3. How many noses does a slug have?
4. How many atoms are in a human body?
5. Where would you be if you were at 1 Museum St, Wellington?
6. Which country borders 14 nations and crosses 8 time zones?
7. What sport do the White Ferns play?
8. Which word in the dictionary is spelt "incorrectly"?
9. What is the only sport to have been played on the Moon?
10. How many hearts does an octopus have?

**Answers**  
 1. 232; 2. A map; 3. Four;  
 4. Seven octillion atoms;  
 5. The Beehive; 6. Russia;  
 7. Cricket; 8. Incorrectly;  
 9. Golf; 10. Three



Stu Hunter is a detective inspector based in Auckland who enjoys brewing and sampling craft beers.

## Supermarket beers

Over the life of this column, the majority of beer discussed has been sourced directly from the brewery, often from a far-flung part of the country or a specialist retailer. Some readers might be wondering about access to quality craft beers, so this month I will address that.

Gone are the days when we needed to live a short stumble from a local brewery, or the days

of complaining about online purchases being spoiled by courier delays (pro tip: if you can pick up directly from the manufacturer, do so, because beer does not fare well sitting around in a courier depot or being shuffled about inside a hot van).

All of the tasty beverages below were sourced from either a New World or Countdown supermarket in an average South Auckland suburb.



### Pernicious Weed Double IPA - 8%

★★★★★

#### Garage Project Brewing –

Golden copper-coloured pour with a thin white head. Massive grapefruit aromas in the glass that are echoed with a citrus alcohol sweetness on the palate. Very, very easy drinking.

#### *Would I shout a mate one?*

Without question. One of my favourite beers. Tastes sessionable, but at 8 per cent, proceed with caution.



### The Impenetrable Iron Juice Hazy Pale Ale - 6.9%

★★★★★

#### Epic Brewing –

Light straw-coloured hazy pour with a thick white head. Tropical aromas with a creamy sweet mouthfeel.

#### *Would I shout a mate one?*

Yes. Would appeal to a broad range of tastes.



### Nectaron Dynamite India Pale Lager - 6.2%

★★★★★

#### Behemoth Brewing Company –

Pale gold pour with a lacy white head. Stone fruit and citrus aromas that are repeated on the palate. Sweet lime characteristics in the background.

#### *Would I shout a mate one?*

Yes. Very moreish. Might tempt the lagerheads to branch out. Might convince hopheads that lager doesn't have to be boring.



### Brera Prosecco Pilsner - 6.5%

★★★★★

#### Urbanaut Brewing Company –

Light copper-coloured pour with a lacy white head. Biscuity aromas that are reproduced on the palate. Light body and eminently drinkable, particularly on a hot day.

#### *Would I shout a mate one?*

Yes. Refreshing and light.



### Hillbilly Milk Oat Cream Hazy - 6.5%

★★★★★

#### Lakeman Brewing Company –

Golden semi-hazy pour with a thick white head. Tropical aromas. Creamy mango fruit on the palate with lime citrus notes.

#### *Would I shout a mate one?*

Most likely. Won't set the world on fire, but a pleasant drop nonetheless.



### Stonecutter Scotch Ale - 7%

★★★★★

#### Renaissance Brewing Company –

Very dark amber pour with a caramel-coloured head. Yeasty aromas in the glass. Big malty body with chocolate fruit notes.

#### *Would I shout a mate one?*

Yes. A good hearty dessert beer as the evenings take a turn toward cooler nights.

**Availability:** At many supermarkets nationwide. Also in good liquor stores, online liquor retailers and direct from the breweries.



# Every wine deserves a chance to shine

It's understandable to assume that those who review and write about wines have a dream job. Surely, getting to taste all those wines must be fun?

I'm part of a team of three who taste and review wines every week. We do love the experience, but we all agree that it's a challenging role. Despite every effort, there are physiological and psychological biases that affect a reviewer's ability to maintain consistency, especially when tasting and comparing large numbers of the same variety.

A physiological bias known as "sensory adaptation" gradually reduces our sense of smell and taste, making it more difficult over time to recognise differences in wines. When this happens, it's best to stop and taste something neutral, then think or talk about something other than wine. A brief spell of distraction helps recalibrate our senses.

It's always great when we come across a standout wine. Unfortunately, it's not so great for the next wine up. Chances are, unless it's a standout too, it won't perform well. Once we've tasted every wine, we go back, change the tasting order, and try them a second time. This helps negate the position effect.

We each have our own rating system. With mine, I rate each wine's aromas, flavours, textural feel and finish. Taking a critical thinking approach to wine tasting is criticised by some writers, but for me it creates consistency and helps avoid the halo effect.

It takes time, effort and money for wineries to produce wine. How well their wines fare in wine shows, wine reviews and wine articles can affect their business. Therefore, it's important to give every wine a chance to shine.



## Leftfield Gisborne Albarino 2020

★★★★★ | Excellent 16.5 points

Expressive aromas of white peach, apricot, and a touch of salinity are followed by wine gum, melon and pineapple flavours. This is crisp, lively and full of flavour with a long, salivating finish.

## Mission Reserve Hawke's Bay Chardonnay 2020

★★★★★ | Excellent 16.5 points

Attractive notes of stone fruits, caramel, toffee and toast on the nose and palate. It's full bodied and flavoursome with good structure, balance and a long, creamy close.



## Wynns Coonawarra Estate Coonawarra Shiraz 2020

★★★★★ | Excellent 16 points

This one has red and dark fruits, toast, milk chocolate and mint aromas and flavours. It's medium bodied, vibrant and well balanced with a long, velvety finish.

## Nederburg The Winemasters Noble Late Harvest 2018

★★★★★ | Outstanding 17 points

A South African dessert-style blend of chenin blanc and muscat de frontignan with fruit salad, honey and raisin aromas and flavours. It's beautifully balanced with a long, unctuous finish. If you enjoy sweeter-styled wines, this is one of Countdown's best buys.



## Sports Diary

To contact Police Sport, email Kerry Fenton at [info@policesport.co.nz](mailto:info@policesport.co.nz)

### NZPA and NI Police Golf Championships

**When:** May 1-4, 2022

**Where:** New Plymouth

**Contact:** Grant Kennard, [grant.kennard@police.govt.nz](mailto:grant.kennard@police.govt.nz)

### NZPA Police Pistol Biathlon

**When:** May 7, 2022

**Where:** Auckland

**Contact:** Cyrus Robinson, [cyrus.robinson@police.govt.nz](mailto:cyrus.robinson@police.govt.nz)

### NZPA Tennis Championship

**When:** August 11-12, 2022

**Where:** Khandallah Tennis Club, Wellington

**Contact:** Mark Osbourne, [mark.osbourne@police.govt.nz](mailto:mark.osbourne@police.govt.nz)

### NZPA and Police Sport Winter Games

**When:** August 24-26, 2022

**Where:** Whangārei

**Contact:** Kerry Fenton, [kerry.fenton@police.govt.nz](mailto:kerry.fenton@police.govt.nz)

### NZPA Darts Championship

**When:** September 5-7, 2022

**Where:** Palmerston North

**Contact:** Kerry Outtrim (Ollie), [KO7083@police.govt.nz](mailto:KO7083@police.govt.nz)

### NZPA Ski and Snowboard Championships

**When:** September 26-28, 2022

**Where:** Mt Ruapehu

**Contact:** Jeremy Stewart, [jeremy.stewart@police.govt.nz](mailto:jeremy.stewart@police.govt.nz)

### NZPA Police Golf Championships

**When:** October 31-November 2, 2022

**Where:** Christchurch

**Contact:** Rob McCaskie, [robert.mccaskie@police.govt.nz](mailto:robert.mccaskie@police.govt.nz)

# Proud record

**P**olice Sport chairperson Brett Shields is stepping down after eight years at the helm to take on a new challenge in Sri Lanka and has been made a Life Member of the organisation.

Brett, a detective senior sergeant in the National Organised Crime Group the Council of Sport, now Police Sport, in 1990 while he was at the Police College.

A keen sportsman, he says it was Police Sport that enticed him into joining the service.

"When I joined Police Sport it was an outstanding group of people. It allowed me to meet people from all over the country who I'd normally never have interacted with and form lifelong relationships that I've maintained through my 30-year plus career, which has been pretty awesome."

Brett, who is based in Auckland, served on the Counties Manukau District Police Sport Committee for 16 years before joining the National Committee in 2010.

Three years later he was appointed chairperson of Police Sport following the retirement of JJ Johnson and a brief tenure by Rob Gold. Since 2014, Brett has also been a member of the Australasian Police and Emergency Services (AP&ES) Games board.

He played in the National Football League in the 1990s, joined the Police team about the same time and was selected for the NZ Combined Services football team during the 1990s. He has also coached and managed the NZ Police Women's team and still enjoys playing Twenty20 cricket for his local club in Manukau.

Brett was heavily involved in getting the hugely popular Police Association Winter Games off the ground. The annual event, which brings various codes together in an Olympic-style format, is one of his proudest achievements, along with the breadth of sports that Police Sport offers, including most recently e-sports.

One of the more challenging moments of his time with Police Sport came in 2011. The Australasian Police and Emergency Services (AP&ES) Games were due to be held in Christchurch the following year, but due to the February 22 earthquake, it was moved to Lower Hutt.

"At short notice we stood up a team and put the games on with nearly 2000 competitors, which was pretty awesome.

It was a very stressful time for people work-wise, and it gave those who could make it a bit of relief from the police pressures at the time."

Brett also led the 95-strong New Zealand Police team that walked away with plenty of silverware at the 2018 AP&ES Games in Mandurah, Western Australia.

Leaving his post at Police Sport comes with some sadness, he says, but he's confident that his successor, Inspector Stefan McIntyre, and the National Committee will keep up the good work.

Brett's new role in Sri Lanka is a three to four-year secondment in the capital Colombo. He'll be part of a team working to combat the smuggling and trafficking of people across Asia.

A keen golfer these days, Brett has already Googled how many courses there are in Colombo (six) and has made sure there's enough luggage space for his clubs, although he has yet to tell his wife, Louise, who's joining him on the new journey that begins later this month.

Police Sport general manager Kerry Fenton presented Brett with his life membership last month. "Brett's passion for sport, both in playing and administrative roles, has been second to none and he led us through a big period of change, including the name change from the Police Council of Sport to Police Sport."

The new chairperson, Inspector Stefan McIntyre, is the director of Whāngāia Ngā Pā Harakeke for the Waitematā District.

Brett Shields is heading to Sri Lanka on a secondment to help combat the smuggling and trafficking of people across Asia.







Football

# Wanderers, Rovers and Police

**T**he New Zealand Police men's football team faced off against the Havelock North Wanderers and Napier City Rovers in Hawke's Bay in February.

The locals showed no signs of pre-season rust in the friendlies – the Wanderers won the first match 4-2 while the Rovers romped home to a 7-3 win.

Police's goal scorers in the match against the Wanderers were Scott Henderson and Paul Langford, while Tom Mosquera and Scott Saurin scored in the Napier City Rovers match.

Despite the losses there were still plenty of smiles from the Police team after the matches.

There were plenty of acrobatic skills on display when the NZ Police football team (below) took on the Havelock North Wanderers in February. Photos: NZME







Te Uniana Whakanama Pirihimana

POLICE HELPING POLICE

# Get yourself sorted

**There are two simple steps that will help you get on the road to being financially sorted.**

## Start a safety net

**This is all about being ready when something unexpected happens such as a car repair, dental emergency or losing your phone.**

We've all experienced an unplanned expense, usually at an inconvenient time when it's the last thing you need to deal with. By setting yourself up with a "safety net", it will be much easier to weather a financial storm.

Independent money guide Sorted ([sorted.org.nz](https://sorted.org.nz)) suggests starting off with a \$1000 safety net that you continue to add to so you can build up a decent buffer.

It can be easier said than done to have \$1000 set aside – some people find selling stuff they no longer need or picking up a side hustle is a good way to start.

### Setting it up

- Have a separate online account set up for your safety net. A Police Credit Union (PCU) Bonus Saver or Achiever Saver account are ideal for this.
- Set up an automatic payment into the account. Did you know the Police Credit Union can set up a deduction direct from your Police pay to make it even easier to save?
- Save \$1000 or however much you need as soon as possible.

## Tackle your debt

**This is about shedding your high-interest debt so that you can start using your money for things that matter to you.**

High-interest debt such as a credit card, store card or payday loan can make it hard to get out of debt – it can feel like you are getting nowhere fast.

Tackling that debt and paying it off as soon as you can means you'll feel the relief of being debt-free faster.

You can consolidate or refinance your high-interest debt with the Police Credit Union to get your debt under control.

### Getting debt sorted

- List all your debts along with the interest rate charged on each debt.
- Pick the best way to tackle your debt – leave it as is, increase your repayments or apply for a debt consolidation loan to save time and money. You can apply for a consolidation loan with the Police Credit Union to be debt-free faster.
- Look forward to the amazing feeling of being debt-free.

**Visit the Police Credit Union website, [policecu.org.nz](https://policecu.org.nz), for more details or to get in touch.**

## Who can join the Police Credit Union?

At the Police Credit Union, we've got the financial back of all Police staff and their whānau.

Once you join us, you're a member for life and you can share the benefits of our free financial courses, scholarships and competitive rates on savings and lending with your partner and children, grandchildren, and even great-grandchildren.

### Membership is open to:

- Police staff
- Current (including contractors)
- Retired
- Resigned

### Family members related to the above as a:

- Spouse
- Partner
- Child (including adopted children and stepchildren)
- Grandchild / great-grandchild

**Find out how we can help you reach your financial goals and how to join at [policecu.org.nz](https://policecu.org.nz)**



## Restoring the rule of law

I am on leave without pay from Police while studying at Victoria University, Wellington.

My campus and faculty building were illegally occupied by the Wellington protest during February and March, and the buildings were defaced and subject to arson attacks. The staff and students at those buildings were threatened and abused during that illegal occupation.

The situation was remedied by the decisive and courageous action taken by police on March 2. Whether you were on your normal duties in Kaitia or Invercargill, or on the frontline at Parliament that day, you played your part in restoring order and the rule of law to Wellington.

I can assure you all that your actions were supported by the majority of the staff and students. I was in a Zoom seminar with the dean of the Law Faculty when she received

the call that the building had been recovered from the mob, and her relief was palpable.

So, a massive thank you to every single member of New Zealand Police who performed their duty, wherever it was, and whatever role it was, during this dangerous and difficult time.

**TOM ANDREWS**  
Wellington

## I'm proud of you

Protests and demonstrations aren't new, neither is accompanying violence towards police – regardless of statements by prominent Springbok protest leaders (the burnt synthetic fabric of my greatcoat during the 1981 tour was testament to that).

I spent some time watching the live feed of the protest at Parliament on television and saw some of the violence and aggression police had to put up with. Whatever was happening on Parliament

grounds, you all looked so good. I am proud of you.

The moment I enjoyed most was the sight of a young woman on the final day who hurled a missile at the police ranks and turned to make a getaway, only to find her outstretched arm grabbed by one of the group she had targeted. The expression of dismay as she was pulled through police ranks was to be treasured.

**ARTHUR JONAS**  
Nelson

## You showed your mettle

Having been afforded a unique opportunity to spend time with police at Parliament through the three-week "siege" on the building and environs, including acting as an informal tour guide on occasions, I can assure commentators, including ex-police who might be concerned that they're "not as good as we »

## Public feedback

"I would like to express my sincere thanks to all Police who have been involved in dealing with the rabble at Parliament in Wellington. Your members model great character with what they endure to keep us safe, at the same time exercising restraint against those who revel in lawlessness and violence. I am sorry that police are subject to such mindless hatred and opportunistic violence."

"Bravo NZ police force. You made me feel proud and safe today."

"You all did fantastic job in trying times, showing restraint in dealing with persons who are determined to destroy our democracy and freedom."

"A big 'thank you' to the police who showed such commitment and fortitude in bringing an end to the protest environment that was such a debilitating and shameful exhibition of lack of responsibility by many protesters around Parliament."

"You must reinforce to your members they have the support of the silent majority."

"I want to pass on my support for the work the NZ Police have been forced into. The abuse thrown at those on the frontline is sad to hear. I hope your members are not taking this personally. They have a lot of support from the majority of New Zealanders."

“were” that, from my observation, they’re better.

The excellently planned operation to clear and, importantly, hold the grounds was timed to perfection – launched when New Zealanders had come to the understanding that force would be necessary.

The men and women of New Zealand Police whom I saw enduring abuse, criticism and, of course, the inevitable boredom between stints “out the front”, showed remarkable patience and professionalism.

**“I observed a stoicism and determination that was rewarded when the operation to reclaim all the occupied space succeeded, probably beyond even the planners’ expectations.”**

Even when the first attempt at clearance failed, I observed a stoicism and determination that was rewarded when the operation to reclaim all the occupied space succeeded, probably beyond even the planners’ expectations.

As New Zealand watched the day unfold, it was the discipline of the police present that ultimately guaranteed success.

I walked proudly among my parliamentary colleagues afterwards, knowing that the display of professionalism they witnessed had absolutely convinced them that the coercive arm of the state, which police are, can be trusted to use such power responsibly, effectively and minimally.

The usual criticisms will soon resume, but they have been blunted for the immediate future by the actions of a team who, when tested, showed their mettle.

Bloody well done. You did us proud.

GREG O’CONNOR  
Wellington

## No head gear?

My policing days were last century – whistles, wooden truncheons and

notebooks – but at least we all wore helmets to police Bastion Point, the Springbok Tour and the Queen St riot.

I was very surprised that in a time of stab-proof vests, reflectorised jackets and occupational health and safety, I saw staff during the clearing of Parliament with absolutely no headgear.

Surely, with the awareness nowadays of the serious long-term consequences of concussion, all staff should be equipped with the headgear necessary to protect themselves?

MARK LEYS  
Auckland

## Inadequate protection

I am a former member of Police. During the recent protests outside Parliament, I was appalled at the injury rate to officers trying to lawfully preserve the peace.

I was concerned about the inadequate clothing that members were wearing. For example, a lack of full-face masks, only short-sleeve shirts, insufficient shields and little or no protection from close encounters with “spitters” and missiles.

In any situation under the Health and Safety Act, it is the responsibility of the employer to provide sufficient resources for employees and, if not, be responsible for hazards and health and safety matters in a combined relationship to prevent these problems

MURREY DEARLOVE  
Auckland

## A time to heal

Of the 2.7 per cent of staff who provided feedback on the proposed Police vaccination policy, I was with the minority position against it.

I won’t relitigate my reasoning, except to say I believe the Government mandates disproportionately tackle the Covid threat at the expense of fundamental human rights.

I welcome the High Court’s decision to quash the Police mandates, and I’m optimistic the ruling will have implications on wider Government policy.

However, this is not a time to gloat or despair. I sincerely hope we take this decision as an opportunity to heal the divisions within our organisation and come back stronger from the experience.

I look forward to welcoming our friends and colleagues back home.

DEAN BURGER  
Porirua

## Firearm facts

I was pleased to read the figures in The Buzz in the March *Police News* relating to firearms seizures and arrests made under Operation Tauwhiro [1369 firearms seized and 1161 arrests between February 2020 and December 2021].

As a firearms vetter of 17 years’ service, I am often asked, “How many firearms do the police take off gang members? Or is it just us licensed ones that get the checks and questions?”

I have cut the small item from the inside cover and will tape it to my laptop bag. Within a short time, I will have it stored in my “neck-top computer” and be able to quote it without reference. Thank you.

RALPH BEALE  
Southland

## Erebus recovery details

I am writing to record my concern at errors in the obituary for Inspector Greg Gilpin (*Police News* February 2022).

My letter is in no way intended to detract from the wonderful work Greg and the whole Erebus recovery team did on the mountain. Those men are to be admired and celebrated for their courage and resilience. We met Greg and the team on two occasions when we returned to New Zealand in recent years and enjoyed catching up with them all. We were very sad to hear that Greg has passed away and extend our sincere condolences to his family.

For many years, two inaccuracies relating to the Erebus recovery operation have appeared in various media, including within Police.

1. The Erebus recovery operation was planned, managed and led by Inspector Bob Mitchell, who appointed Greg Gilpin, then a sergeant, as the site co-ordinator.
2. It was Inspector Mitchell who devised the grid search system and it was set up by the surveyors on his instruction. The system was developed as a result of his interest in chess and is now used internationally for body recovery at major crash sites.

Inspector Mitchell and the Erebus recovery team carried a huge weight of responsibility to ensure a successful operation and it is essential that their history is recorded accurately and fairly.

MARGARET MITCHELL  
Dartford, Kent, England



# Get in touch

## New Zealand Police Association

Phone 04 496 6800  
Freephone 0800 500 122  
Email [enquiries@policeassn.org.nz](mailto:enquiries@policeassn.org.nz)

## Police Health Plan 0800 500 122

For benefit information and claim forms, visit our website, [www.policeassn.org.nz](http://www.policeassn.org.nz)

## Police Fire & General Insurance

Online quotes and information see "Insurances" at [www.policeassn.org.nz](http://www.policeassn.org.nz)

or call 0800 500 122  
or 04 496 6800  
Claims 0800 110 088

## Police Home Loans 0800 269 4663

## Police Credit Union

Freephone 0800 429 000  
[www.policecu.org.nz](http://www.policecu.org.nz)

## GSF information 0800 654 731

## PSS information 0800 777 243

[www.policesuper.co.nz](http://www.policesuper.co.nz)

## Senior Employment Advisors District

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### Auckland City District

Natalie Fraser 027 268 9423

### Counties Manukau District

Stewart Mills 027 268 9407

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Steve Watt 021 191 5368

### Police employee representative

Tina Dower 021 198 6185



## Assaults on police

The Police Association keeps track of assaults on police, injuries to members and firearms incidents. This helps us provide assistance and keep a record of these events. If you have been assaulted or injured while on duty, or involved in a firearms incident, notify your committee rep, who will email the details to [assaults@policeassn.org.nz](mailto:assaults@policeassn.org.nz).

**For urgent advice after a police shooting or critical incident, call 0800 TEN NINE (0800 836 6463) – a 24 hour/seven days a week service.**

## MEMORIAL WALL

*Our sympathies to all our members' families for those who have passed away in recent months. We remember...*

HAWTHORN, Bryan	10 May 20	Resigned	Christchurch
LAUGESSEN, Michael	8 Feb 22	Partner	Waihi
COURTNEY, Bryan	12 Feb 22	Retired	Upper Hutt
WIEKART, Henriette	16 Feb 22	Police employee resigned	Auckland
LAW, Richard Selwyn	22 Feb 22	Retired	Blenheim
WEAL, Douglas	24 Feb 22	Retired	Whanganui
ROBIESON, Roy Stuan	13 Mar 22	Partner	Wellington
MOORE, Michael	16 Mar 22	Retired	West Melton
SAWERS, Valeria	16 Mar 22	Widow	Christchurch
WALKINSHAW, Brian	17 Mar 22	Retired	Levin
WOODLEY, Elizabeth (Lizzie)	19 Mar 22	Serving	Levin

## Have you moved recently?

If so, make sure you let the Police Association Member Services Centre know by email – [enquiries@policeassn.org.nz](mailto:enquiries@policeassn.org.nz) – or freephone – **0800 500 122**. They will update your details in the membership system so you don't miss out on important communications and *Police News* deliveries.







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