

NSW POLICE OFFICERS (INCLUDING COLONIAL POLICE) KILLED ON DUTY

WITHIN SUTHERLAND AND ST GEORGE POLICE LOCAL AREA COMMANDS

OR ELSEWHERE AND INTERRED IN WORONORA CEMETERY

SINCE 1845

(1) **R/N Nil.** CPL STEPHEN KIRK KILLED ON DUTY AT HEATHCOTE 12.11.1845 AGE 32

(2) **R/N NIL.** TPR LUKE DUNN KILLED ON DUTY AT HEATHCOTE 21.11.1845 AGE 33

Above Colonial Police hand no registered numbers and died prior to formation of NSW Police Force on 1 March 1862. Their plaques to be placed on a seat near the Local Police Wall of Remembrance.

(3) **1217 SGT 1/C W.R. (WILLIAM) SMITH KILLED ON DUTY AT PORT KEMBLA 01.09.1951 AGE 53**

(4) **6325 CST G.F. (GARNET) MORTLEY KILLED ON DUTY AT WATERFALL 1.6.1953 AGE 25**

(5) 6252 CST E.H. (EDWARD) DILKS KILLED ON DUTY AT COROWA 21.10.1954 AGE 28

(6) 2353 SGT 2/C C.W.J. (CECIL) ELLIS KILLED ON DUTY AT SYDNEY 29.4.1956 AGE 58

(7) 7671 CST W.J. (WILLIAM) LORD KILLED ON DUTY AT RANDWICK 23.12.1958 AGE 24

(8) 10280 CST C.D. (COLIN) ROBB KILLED ON DUTY AT AUBURN 7.9.1963 AGE 28

(9) 8663 CST 1/C C.E. (CYRIL) HOWE KILLED ON DUTY AT OAKLANDS 20.12.1963 AGE 31

(10) 9181 CST A. (ALLAN) SHAW KILLED ON DUTY AT BELMORE 11.5.1964 AGE 24

(11) 11093 CST C. (COLIN) ROY KILLED ON DUTY AT KIRRAWEE 12.5.1967 AGE 28

(12) 4367 SGT 2/C A.B. (ADAM) SCHELL KILLED ON DUTY AT BOBBIN HEAD 8.10.1968 AGE 52

(13) **13373 P/CST W.D. (WARREN) BURNS KILLED ON DUTY AT SUTHERLAND 30.10.1968 AGE 25**

(14) 11542 D/CST 1/C D.R. (DENIS) WARE KILLED ON DUTY AT SUTHERLAND 2.10.1970 AGE 32

(15) 12679 CST J.E.M. (JOSEPH) GIBB KILLED ON DUTY AT MIRANDA 23.1.1972 AGE 28

(16) 9606 S/CST N.C. (NEVILLE) PARKER KILLED ON DUTY AT SANS SOUCI 12.11.1972 AGE 34

(17) 6063 SGT 2/C J.T. (JOHN) GILL KILLED ON DUTY AT HURSTVILLE 12.5.1973 AGE 47

(18) 5981 SGT 1/C J.T. (JOHN) COLBERT KILLED ON DUTY AT KINGSGROVE 11.3.1979 AGE 58

- (19) PW73 D/SGT J.C. (JILLIAN) HAWKES (Rtd) KILLED ON DUTY AT MILSONS POINT 22.4.1986 AGE 46
- (20) 22775 P/CST D.T. (DANA) HEFFERNAN KILLED ON DUTY AT RANDWICK 17.4.1987 AGE 20
- (21) 20008 CST 1/C M.J. (MARK) BURNS KILLED ON DUTY AT TAMWORTH 17.3.1988 AGE 25
- (22) 22455 CST J.I. (JOHN) BURGESS KILLED ON DUTY AT ANNANDALE 29.4.1989 AGE 29
- (23) 22101 CST K.J. (KENNETH) SHORT KILLED ON DUTY AT YARRAWARRA 11.7.1990 AGE 27.
- (24) 13782 SGT J.S. (JOHN) PROOPS KILLED ON DUTY AT ENFIELD 22.5.1993 AGE 42
- (25) 14157 S/SGT R.K. (RAYMOND) SMITH KILLED ON DUTY AT CALGA 13.7.1998 AGE 47
- (26) 18315 S/CST J. (JAMES) AFFLECK, KILLED ON DUTY AT GLENN ALPINE 14.1.2001 AGE 43

Killed outside of area of commemoration and Cremated at Woronora Crematorium but not interred there.

Killed in area of commemoration, cremated at Rookwood Crematorium but not interred there.

Killed in area of commemoration but not cremated or interred in Woronora Cemetery.

Researched by Phil Peters, Retired Editor – Australian Police Journal and Chairman – Southern Metropolitan Associates Branch of the Police Association of New South Wales (assisted and confirmed by Senior Sergeant Brook Russell – NSW Police Protocol Unit - **Updated 25/3/2015**).

THE BRIEF CIRCUMSTANCES OF NSW POLICE OFFICERS (INCLUDING COLONIAL POLICE) KILLED ON DUTY WITHIN SUTHERLAND AND ST GEORGE POLICE LOCAL AREA COMMANDS OR ELSEWHERE AND INTERRED IN WORONORA CEMETERY – SINCE 1845

Researched by Phil Peters, Retired Editor – Australian Police Journal and Chairman – Southern Metropolitan Associates Branch of the Police Association of New South Wales **(and double checked by Senior Sergeant Brook Russell – NSW Police Protocol Unit)**. The following information was gleaned from books (see References), Coroner's Reports, newspaper items, Google, local knowledge, etc.

- (1) Corporal Stephen KIRK, Reg'd. No. Nil, Aged 32. Killed on duty at Heathcote on 12 November 1845.

and
- (2) Trooper Luke DUNN, Reg'd. No. Nil, Aged 33. Killed on duty at Heathcote on 21 November 1845.

'Burnt to Death - By Bushfire – both mounted troopers (NSW Colonial Police) were former soldiers who had been seconded to Sydney's Mounted Police Force and they were stationed at Campbelltown Police Station. On Wednesday, 12 November 1845 these two mounted policemen, in company with an Illawarra publican, were riding along the new Wollongong Road (between the Georges River and Wollongong) through Bottle Forest

(now Heathcote). Bushfires were raging in the area and despite being warned by a local landowner, the men set off towards the bushfires.

The Sydney Morning Herald (dated 21 November 1845) reported this incident as:

"... about an hour after their (the troopers and publican's) departure, Mr McAulay's (the publican) horse came up to the door of Mr Nicholson's (the landowner's) house; McAulay's hat was off, he was not holding the reins, and he was much burnt and confused, so that he was only able to request to be lifted off his horse. He said one policeman was burnt. Mr Nicholas (sic) most promptly and considerately despatched five or six men to search for, and, if possible, to aid the policemen. After going about three miles they met Luke Dunn crawling along, dreadfully burnt, on his hand and knees, and scarcely able to move. The men carried him back to the house, while others went on to the place where Dunn said he had left the remains of Kirk, burnt and quite dead. His hands were extended upwards as if in the act of praying; both horses were dead. Dunn said that seeing his comrade's firearms go off, he returned to go after him, and in so doing got so much burnt, otherwise his injuries would have been comparatively trifling.

Corporal Stephen Kirk was burnt to death in the bushfire on that Wednesday, 12 November, while the gallant and courageous Trooper Luke Dunn who (in the greatest of Australian [and NSW Police] traditions) 'went back for his mate', lingered on for another nine days, no doubt in extreme agony, before he finally succumbed to his serious burns and passed away on Friday, 21 November 1845."

At the time of their deaths both troopers were seconded soldiers attached to the Mounted Police Force and were stationed at Campbelltown Police Station. Stephen Kirk was aged 32-years and Luke Dunn was aged 33-years.'

Note: At the time of this tragedy there were almost 100 men in the Sydney Police Force and about 32 mounted police stations across the State. The two colonial police killed in this incident were members of the Military Mounted Police, which had been formed in 1825. It was disbanded in 1850 when it was replaced by a civil mounted police unit. This in turn was destined to be absorbed into the new state police force which was created on 1 March 1862 by Captain John McLerie.

Ref. (1) p21

Ref. (2) p17

(3) Sergeant First Class William Roy SMITH, Reg'd. No. 1217 Aged 53. Killed on duty at Port Kembla on 1 September 1951.

'Heart Attack – on Saturday afternoon the 1 September 1951 Sergeant First Class Smith and a constable attended the Commercial Hotel, Port Kembla in relation to an intoxicated man causing trouble. The drunk resisted and after a struggle the police managed to gain control and walked the man to the police station. Although suffering some physical discomfort after the melee, the sergeant remained on duty. However, a short time later the sergeant began to lose the use of his arm and experienced considerable pain. He was immediately taken to Wollongong District but unfortunately passed away at 7.10pm that evening. His

funeral took place at Woronora Crematorium with his ashes being interred elsewhere. The Sergeant is survived by his wife Doris, his two daughters and grandchildren.

William Smith was born in 1895 and joined the NSW Police Force on 9 September 1921. At the time of his death he was stationed at Port Kembla Police Station.'

Ref. (1) p140

Ref. (2) p142

(4) Constable Garnet Frederick MORTLEY, Reg'd. No. 6325, Aged 25. Killed on duty at Waterfall on 1 June 1953.

'Motorcycle Crash – on Wednesday, 27 May 1953 Constable Mortley was riding a Police Public Safety Bureau motorcycle outfit and returning to Sydney after an escort to the south coast. Whilst travelling along the Princes Highway near Waterfall the front tyre on the cycle burst, the outfit then collided with a truck and Constable Mortley was thrown to the roadway sustaining compound fractures and severe head injuries. He was conveyed to Kogarah's St George District Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries 5 days later and passed away (on Monday the 1 June 1953).

On Wednesday, 15 July 1953 the Sydney Coroner recorded a verdict of accidental death at the inquest on Constable Mortley. The constable and his wife had only recently prior to his death celebrated the birth of their daughter, Christine. His funeral took place at Rookwood Crematorium with his ashes being interred elsewhere.

Garnet Mortley was born in 1928 and joined the NSW Police Force on 17 January 1949. At the time of his death he was attached to North Sydney Police Public Safety Bureau's (Traffic Branch). Constable Mortley resided at Croydon with his wife. They had celebrated the birth of their baby daughter, Christine, just prior to his death.'

Ref. (1) p141

Ref. (2) p147

(5) Constable Edward Henry DILKS, Reg'd. No. 6252, Aged 28. Killed on duty at Corowa on 21 October 1954.

'Motor Vehicle Crash – at 5.15pm on Thursday, 21 October 1954 Constable Dilks together with the District Licensing Inspector (a sergeant) were returning to Corowa from an inspection at Brocklesby when just north of the Hopefield Silos, the rear offside tyre on their vehicle blew-out causing it to swerve, leave the roadway and overturn several times. Both occupants were thrown from the vehicle. As a result of this crash, Constable Dilks was killed instantly and the sergeant suffered severe injuries. Constable Dilks was survived by his wife and their two children.

Edward Dilks was born in 1926 and joined the NSW Police Force on 18 October 1948. At the time of his death he was stationed at Corowa Police Station.'

Ref. (1) p144

Ref. (2) p149

- (6) Sergeant Second Class Cecil William James ELLIS, Reg'd. No. 2353, Aged 58. Killed on duty in Sydney on 29 April 1956.

'Heart Attack – on Wednesday evening, 18 April 1956 Sergeant Ellis and another sergeant arrested two men in Liverpool Street Sydney. The offenders were then march off towards Central Police Station, one to be charged with drunkenness and the other with indecent language, nearing the courtyard of the police station the offender detained for indecent language began to resist arrest, struggling violently, punching and kicking the two sergeants. After being subdued the offender was taken inside the police station where he continued to climb out of the dock and attempt to assault any police close to him. The assault, followed by the effort of constantly restraining the offender exhausted Sergeant Ellis and the following day (19 April) he suffered from severe chest pains and was placed on 'Sick Report'. Unfortunately, despite receiving medical attention he suffered a coronary occlusion and passed away nine days later (on the 29 April 1956).'

Cecil Ellis was born in 1898 and joined the NSW Police Force on the 1 February 1927. At the time of his death he was stationed at Central Police Station.'

Ref. (1) p144

Ref. (2) p154

- (7) Constable William John (Bill) LORD, Reg'd. No. 7671, Age 24. Killed on duty at Randwick on 23 December 1958.

'Motorcycle Crash – at 5pm on Tuesday, 23 December 1958 Constable Lord was riding a Police Public Safety Bureau motorcycle in Alison Road, Randwick when he became involved in a high-speed pursuit of a speeding motorcycle. At the intersection of Wansey Road, another vehicle began to turn in front of the oncoming police motorcycle. The driver of the turning vehicle attempted to take evasive action but a collision occurred and the constable was thrown from his cycle onto another car. Although admitted to Sydney's St Vincent's Hospital, he succumbed to his injuries and passed away a short time later.'

Bill Lord was born in 1934 and joined the NSW Police Force as a Cadet on the 2 June 1952. At the time of his death he was attached to North Sydney Police Public Safety Bureau's (Traffic Branch).'

Ref. (1) p149

Ref. (2) p167

- (8) Constable Colin Douglas ROBB, Reg'd. No. 10280, Age 28. Killed on duty at Auburn on 7 September 1963

'Motor Vehicle Crash – on Friday, 7 September 1963 Constable Robb was the observer in a Police Special Traffic Branch car being driven by another constable when they became involved in a high-speed pursuit along Parramatta Road at Auburn. Whilst attempting to overtake the offending vehicle, the police car collided with another car, causing the police car doors to burst open upon impact and Constable Robb was thrown out of the vehicle and onto the roadway where he sustained fatal injuries. He passed away before medical assistance arrived at the scene. The constable driving was not seriously injured.'

Colin Robb was born in 1935 and joined the NSW Police Force on 5 March 1962. At the time of his death he was attached to North Sydney's Special Traffic Branch.'

Ref. (1) p155

Ref. (2) p177

- (9) Constable First Class Cyril Edgar HOWE, Reg'd. No. 8663, Aged 31. Killed on duty at Oaklands (near Wagga Wagga) on 20 December 1963. (Posthumously promoted to Sergeant Third Class).

'Murdered - Shot – In the evening of Thursday, 19 December 1963 Constable First Class Howe detained an offender near Oaklands and spoke to him about a stolen chequebook. He then directed the offender to drive his vehicle to the local police station while he followed in the police vehicle. En-route the offender sped away and was pursued by the constable for several kilometres. When the offender finally stopped, the constable approached his vehicle to find him taking cover behind his vehicle door (the doors opened backwards from the central pillars on which they were hinged). The offender then produced a shotgun and shot Constable Howe. The constable although seriously wounded, crawled back to his police vehicle and took cover and returned fire until his automatic pistol jammed. The constable then sought further cover by crawling underneath the police vehicle, there he cleared his pistol and fired another shot before it jammed again. The offender before he made good his escape, fired again at the police vehicle taking out the vehicle's headlights, steering and the police sign on the roof. Constable Howe then wrote the offender's name several times in his police notebook before dragging himself back into the police vehicle. He was only to drive it a few metres before it ran into a ditch. After being found the constable was able to detail the events leading up to the shooting.

Constable Howe was rushed to the Wagga Wagga Base Hospital but despite undergoing a five-hour operation he passed away at 10.45pm on the 20 December 1963.

Constable First Class Howe was posthumously promoted to Sergeant Third Class and awarded the Queen's Police Medal for Gallantry and the Peter Mitchell award. The offender later committed suicide.

Cyril Howe was born in 1932 and joined the NSW Police Force on 1 April 1957. At the time of his death he was stationed at Oaklands Police Station.'

Note: The circumstances surrounding Sergeant Howe's death (pistol repeatedly jamming) led to the introduction of revolvers as general service issue to NSW Police. These in turn were replaced by Glock semi-automatic pistols in the late 1990s.

Ref. (1) p155

Ref. (2) p177

- (10) Constable Allan SHAW, Reg'd. No. 9181, Aged 24. Killed on duty at Belmore on the 11 May 1964.

'Motor Vehicle Crash – at 9pm on Sunday, 10 May 1964 Constable Shaw was a member of a three crew police wireless car patrolling the Belmore area when they received a radio message alerting them to a break and enter offence. Whilst the police vehicle was travelling along Reginald Street, another vehicle drove through the intersection of that street and Drummond Street, failing to give way to the police car. The vehicles collided and

as a result of that crash, all three police were thrown out of the wireless car onto the roadway. The injured were conveyed to Canterbury District Hospital, Constable Shaw was in a serious condition and the next day succumbed to his injuries and passed away at 5pm on Monday the 11 May 1964.

Allan Shaw was born in 1939 and joined the NSW Police Force on 17 November 1958. At the time of his death he was stationed at Redfern Police Station.'

Ref. (1) p156

Ref. (2) p179

(11) Constable Colin ROY, Reg'd. No. 11093, Aged 28. Killed on duty at Kirrawee on 12 May 1967.

'Motorcycle Crash – shortly before 9pm on Wednesday night, 10 May 1967 Constable Roy was riding a police solo motorcycle along the Princes Highway, Kirrawee returning home after the completion of his rostered shift. At the time he was travelling behind a utility, the driver of which was looking for a service station. When the utility driver saw a service station on his right hand side, he put his right indicator on, the driver then spotted a closer service station on his left. With his right indicator still on he turned left in front of Constable Roy who had begun overtaking the utility on the near side. The vehicle struck the constable's motorcycle forcing it off the road and into a low brick wall in front of the service station. Constable Roy sustained severe head injuries from the crash and conveyed to Sutherland District Hospital in a serious condition where two days later he succumbed to his injuries and passed away on Sunday the 12 May 1967.

Colin Roy was born in 1938 and joined the NSW Police Force on 17 August 1964. At the time of his death he was stationed at North Sydney's Special Traffic Patrol.'

Ref. (1) p158

Ref. (2) p271

(12) Sergeant Second Class Adam Boland SCHELL, Reg'd. No. 4367, Aged 52, Killed on duty at Bobbin Head on 8 October 1968.

'Murdered - Shot – In the early hours of Tuesday morning, 8 October 1968 Sergeant Schell in company with a probationary constable attended Halvorsen's Boats, Bobbin Head following a report of a Break and enter in progress. On their arrival police were met by the caretaker and the sergeant accompanied him to check inside the premises, leaving the probationer outside. A short time later the probationary constable apprehended two offenders who ran towards him from the same direction in which the sergeant and caretaker had gone. Police reinforcements arrived a few minutes later and established the sergeant and caretaker were critically wounded in a storeroom. Sergeant Schell had been shot five times in the head and body. The caretaker had also been shot in the head. Sergeant Schell was rushed to Hornsby Hospital but passed away a short time later. The offenders were sentenced to life imprisonment.

Adam Schell was born in 1916 and joined the NSW Police Force on 3 July 1939. At the time of his death he was stationed at Pymble Police Station.'

Ref. (1) p159

Ref. (2) p188.

- (13) Probationary Constable Warren Dennis BURNS, Reg'd. No. 13373, Aged 25. Killed on duty at Sutherland on 30 October 1968.

'Motorcycle Crash – on Wednesday afternoon, 30 October 1968 Probationary Constable Burns was undergoing police motorcycle training under the supervision of a Police Instructor in the Royal National Park, south of Sydney. As Constable Burns followed his instructor along Farnell Avenue through the Park, his motorcycle skidded on the gravel shoulder of the roadway stuck a guidepost and then collided with a tree stump. Constable Burns was thrown from his motorcycle into a tree, sustaining fatal injuries. He was conveyed to Sutherland District Hospital where he passed away a short time later.

Warren Burns was born in 1943 and joined the NSW Police Force on 5 August 1968.22 June 1970. At the time of his death he was stationed at North Sydney's Special Traffic Patrol.'

His grave is located in Grafton's Clarence Lawn Cemetery.

Ref. (1) p160

Ref. (2) p189

- (14) Detective Constable First Class Denis Robert WARE, Reg'd. No. 11542, Aged 32 Killed on Duty at Sutherland 2 October 1970.

'Accidently Shot – Detective Constable Ware was part of a specially formed squad attempting to apprehend an armed and dangerous rapist who had been operating in the Sutherland area. A decoy car was set up at Loftus Oval on 2 October 1970, with a number of police both inside it and in the surrounding darkness. During the stakeout, one of the police officers could not be contacted on his portable radio, and when the decoy vehicle left the oval for a short time, Detective Ware went to find out what had happened. As he neared the man with the faulty radio, he was mistaken for the rapist and shot. Constable Ware had not answered when challenged and almost walked over the policeman on the ground. Visibility and conditions were extremely poor at the time. The detective was rushed to the Sutherland District Hospital where he passed away a short time later.

Denis Ware was born in 1937 and initially joined the NSW Police Force on 27 February 1961 and after resigning, re-joined again on the 16 August 1965. At the time of his death he was attached to Cronulla Detectives.'

Ref. (1) p162

Ref. (2) p195.

- (15) Constable Joseph Edward Matthew Gibb, Reg'd. No. 12679, Aged 28. Killed on duty at Miranda on 23 January 1972.

'Accidently Shot – on Sunday afternoon, 23 January 1972 Constable Gibb with two other constables were in a police vehicle in Shirley Road, Miranda and after seeing a stolen vehicle, gave chase. During the brief pursuit the stolen vehicle drove into a dead-end street and collided with a fence. Three offenders emerged from this vehicle and fled to a nearby house with Constable Gibb and another constable pursuing them. As the offenders

split up the police each fired a warning shot into the air. Constable Gibb caught up with the offender he was chasing as he attempted to scale a fence and as the constable seized him the offender began to struggle violently. While he was grappling with this offender the constable's service revolver discharged and he was shot in the chest. Constable Gibb was conveyed to the Sutherland District Hospital where he had passed away prior to arrival.

Joe Gibb was born in 1943 and joined the NSW Police Force on 15 May 1967. At the time of his death he was stationed at Miranda Police Station.'

Ref. (1) p164

Ref. (2) p199

(16) Senior Constable Neville Charles PARKER, Reg'd. No. 9606, Aged 34. Killed on duty at Sans Souci on 12 November 1972.

'Motor Vehicle Crash – at 11am on Monday, 23 October 1972 Senior Constable Parker was driving a police special traffic patrol vehicle along Rocky Point Road Sans Souci near Fraters Avenue when the vehicle travelled over a wet, greasy patch on the roadway, skidded and collided with a light pole. The senior constable sustained severe internal injuries from the crash. He was conveyed to Sutherland District Hospital in a serious condition and some 20 days later succumbed to his injuries and passed away on Sunday the 12 November 1972.

Neville Parker was born in 1937 and joined the NSW Police Force on 29 February 1960. At the time of his death he was stationed at Sutherland Police Station.'

Ref. (1) p155

Ref. (2) p201

(17) Sergeant Second Class John Thomas GILL, Reg'd. No. 6063, Aged 47. Killed on duty at Hurstville on 12 May 1973.

'Heart Attack – About 6.50am on Saturday morning, the 12 May 1973 Sergeant Gill left his Hurstville home to drive to work at Campsie Police Station. On finding his car wouldn't start the sergeant pushed his vehicle about 70 metres in an attempt to start his car on a downgrade. Sergeant Gill then sat back in the driver's seat and collapsed. A neighbour called the ambulance which conveyed him to Kogarah's St George District Hospital where he passed away on arrival.

John Gill was born in 1925 and joined the NSW Police Force on the 12 April 1948. At the time of his death he was stationed at Campsie Police Station.'

Ref. (1) p165

Ref. (2) p203

(18) Sergeant First Class John Thomas COLBERT, Reg'd. No. 5981, Aged 58. Killed on duty at Kingsgrove on 11 March 1979.

'Motor Vehicle Crash – at 11pm on Saturday, 10 March 1979 Sergeant Colbert commenced duty as the supervising sergeant in the Hurstville Division. Following an inspection of Kingsgrove Police Station, the sergeant set out for Peakhurst Police Station. At 1.20am on Sunday, 11 March 1979 the sergeant parked behind a panel van in Morgan Street, Kingsgrove where he spoke to the occupants of that vehicle. Sergeant Colbert then returned to the police car and as he opened the driver's door, he was struck by a passing motor vehicle and killed instantly.

John Colbert was born in 1921 and joined the NSW Police Force on 2 February 1948. At the time of his death he was stationed at Kingsgrove Police Station.'

Ref. (1) p171

Ref. (2) p244

(19) Detective Sergeant Jillian Cupit HAWKES (nee FRAZER), Reg'd. No. PW73, Aged 47. Killed on Duty at Milsons Point on 22 April 1986.

'Arrest Injuries – Detective Senior Constable Hawkes and another detective attended Sydney's (Milsons Point) Luna Park in relation to a complaint on 30 July 1977. While the offender was being escorted from the park, he began to struggle violently and kicked Detective Hawkes' legs out from under her. When she fell to the ground the offender continued kicking and stomping on her. As a result she suffered an injury to her right leg, later which developed a malignant bone tumour. The leg was later amputated and after being fitted with an artificial leg Detective Hawkes returned to work. Unfortunately, the cancer was not completely eliminated and on 17 December 1982, she was discharged from the force medically unfit. On the 19 April 1986, at the age of 47, Detective Sergeant Hawkes lapsed into a coma and died three days later (on 22 April 1986).

In 1979 the then Jill Frazer was awarded 'Policewoman of the Year' for that year - for outstanding bravery when assaulted while arresting an offender that resulted in the amputation of her left leg and ultimately led to her death.

Jill Hawkes was born in 1939 and joined the NSW Police Force on 16 August 1965. At the time of her death she had been retired 'Hurt on Duty' for 3 years and 4 months.'

Ref. (1) p177

Ref. (2) p236

(20) Probationary Constable Dana Therese HEFFERNAN, Reg'd. No. 22775, Aged 20. Killed on duty at Randwick on 17 April 1987.

'Motor Vehicle Crash – on Friday, 17 April 1987 Constable Heffernan was travelling to work at Waverley Police Station. At the intersection of Avoca and Darley Roads, Randwick another vehicle drove through a red traffic light and collided with the constable's vehicle. Constable Heffernan suffered severe head and internal injuries during the crash and had passed away a short time later upon arrival at the Prince of Wales Hospital.

Dana Heffernan was born in 1967 and joined the NSW Police Force on 4 April 1986 1948. At the time of her death she was stationed at Waverley Police Station.'

Ref. (1) p179

Ref. (2) p239

(21) Constable First Class Mark John BURNS, Reg'd. No. 20008, Aged 25. Killed on duty at Tamworth on 17 March 1988.

'Double Fatal Motor Vehicle Crash – on Wednesday, 16 March 1988 Constable Burns was a passenger in a police vehicle being driven along the Oxley Highway by another constable. Both constables were attached to the State Drug Crime Commission at the time and were engaged in an operation in the area. Whilst negotiating a right hand bend in the highway, the driver lost control of the vehicle, which crossed onto the incorrect side of the road and collided with a semi-trailer. Constable Burns passed away the following morning, Thursday 17 March 1988 in the Tamworth District Hospital. The driver was killed instantly.'

Mark Burns was born in 1962 and joined the NSW Police Force on 12 October 1981. At the time of his death he was attached to the State Drug Crime Commission.'

Ref. (1) p182

Ref. (2) p244

(22) Constable John Irving BURGESS, Reg'd. No. 22455, Aged 29. Killed on duty at Annandale on 29 April 1989.

'Motor Vehicle Crash – on Thursday, 27 April 1989 Constable Burgess was driving a caged police vehicle with another constable as observer in Booth Street Annandale and they were responding to an urgent call for assistance from Gaming Squad Police. At the intersection of Johnston Street the police vehicle collided with a semi-trailer and deflected onto a power pole. As a result of this crash, Constable Burgess suffered severe head trauma and passed away 2 days later (on the 29 April 1989) in Prince Alfred Hospital. The constable observer eventually recovered from his serious injuries he received in this crash.'

John Burgess was born in 1960 and joined the NSW Police Force on 28 October 1985. At the time of his death he was stationed at Balmain Police Station.'

Ref. (1) p186

Ref. (2) p250

(23) Constable Kenneth John SHORT, Reg'd. No. 22101, Aged 28. Killed on duty at Yarrawarra on 11 July 1990.

'Motor Vehicle Crash – on Wednesday, 11 July 1990 Constable Short was the observer in a police vehicle which was travelling along the Old Princes Highway at Yarrawarra and responding to an armed holdup at the Jannali Branch of the ANZ Bank. When approaching the intersection of Old Bush Road, the police vehicle suddenly swerved across the road and collided head-on with another car that was travelling in the opposite direction. Constable Short was killed instantly.'

Ken Short was born in 1962 and joined the NSW Police Force on 9 April 1985 and sworn in on the 22 June 1985. At the time of his death he was stationed at Engadine Police Station.'

Ref. (1) p188

Ref. (2) p254

(24) Sergeant John Sidney PROOPS, Reg'd. No. 13782, Aged 42. Killed on duty at Enfield on 22 May 1993.

'Heart Attack – on Saturday, 22 May 1993 Sergeant Proops in company with a probationary constable went to a dwelling at Enfield to arrest an offender for a breach of a Domestic Violence Order. The offender resisted arrest and during the struggle the sergeant suffered a heart attack. The probationary constable attempted to revive the sergeant who shortly after was conveyed by ambulance to Western Suburbs Hospital where he passed away upon arrival.

John Proops was born in 1950 and joined the NSW Police Force as a Cadet on 20 February 1967. At the time of his death he was stationed at Enfield Police Station.'

Note: It was also interesting to learn that Sergeant Proops while attending another domestic dispute some years earlier, survived a spear-gun wound to his chest. Apparently, the spear lost much of its penetrating force after striking the sergeant's police notebook in his tunic pocket.

Ref. (1) p195

Ref. (2) p260

(25) Senior Sergeant Raymond Keith SMITH, Reg'd. No. 14157, Aged 47. Killed on duty at Calga on 3 July 1998.

'Motorcycle Crash – about 6.10am on Monday, 13 July 1998 Senior Sergeant Smith (a police motorcyclist) was killed instantly after a piece of wood fell from a truck, hitting him and causing his cycle to collide with a rock wall whilst travelling along the F3 Freeway towards Sydney at Calga. The truck driver (possibly not being aware of the event) did not stop.

Ray Smith was born in 1950 and joined the NSW Police Force on 22 June 1970. At the time of his death he was attached to the Traffic Support Group at Parramatta.'

Ref. (1) p195

Ref. (2) p271

(26) Senior Constable James AFFLECK, Reg'd. No. 18315, Aged 43. Killed on duty at Glenn Alpine on 14 January 2001.

'Murdered by Motor Vehicle – about 8.40am on Sunday, 14 January 2001 police were attempting to stop a stolen four-wheel-drive vehicle during a high speed pursuit along the Hume Highway from Mittagong travelling towards Sydney. Approval was given to place road spikes on the roadway and Senior Constable Affleck with other police did this near the Mark Evans Bridge, Glenn Alpine. When the offending vehicle reached the spikes

the driver swerved from one side of the road to the other, hitting the senior constable, who was killed instantly. The driver was later arrested and charged with murder.

Jim Affleck was born in 1957 and joined the NSW Police Force on 18 September 1978. At the time of his death he was attached to the Campbelltown Highway Patrol.'

Ref. (1) p196.

Ref. (2) p279

References:

(1) Book – 'Beyond Courage' The Circumstances of NSW Police Officers who have Lost Their Lives – by Danny Webster, Published by The Police Association of NSW (Third Edition), 2012 - 236pp.

(2) Book – 'In the Line of Duty' A tribute to Australia's fallen Police Officers – by Allan L. Peters, Bas Publishing, 2013 - 304pp.

(3) Various items – Coroner's Reports, newspaper articles, local knowledge and items, dates, etc. from Google searches...

Updated 30/3/2015