



Past & Present Women Police Association

PPWPA Update | Winter 2023



02 President's Message

03 Member Profile

04 February 2023 Policewomen
Reunion Lunch

05 cont.

Sandy Langlands Grant

06 Update on Death and Disability
Insurance (DDI) for members
aged 55 and over

07 cont.

PPWPA Polos

08 The Restorative Engagement
& Redress Scheme

09 & 10 Vale

11 PPWPA Membership
Leaving a gift in your will

12 PPWPA Events

13 & 14 Sandy Langlands Grant
Application

Contact Us:

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E: ppwpacontact@gmail.com

Facebook: [facebook.com/groups/PPWPAVictoria/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/PPWPAVictoria/)

W: www.ppwpa.com





02 President's Message

Hi all,

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the recent resignation of Janet Mitchell from the role of President. Janet will remain a dedicated member of the PPWPA committee and will impart her experience to all our members and the committee. Thank you, Janet, for your 8 years of commitment to the committee and your term as President, big shoes to fill, but I'll give it a go until the next AGM and committee election.

What a turn out for the Angela Taylor Memorial Run/Walk this year, the numbers continue to grow every year. Congratulations to S/Sgt Alex O'Toole and Helen Walker (retired) on being the first PPWPA members to cross the line in the 5km run and 5km walk respectively. Their names will be engraved on the perpetual trophies kept in our display cabinet at the Academy. This event is one that PPWPA will continue to support, so let's try and up the ante, next year and increase our member participation. Get those walking/running shoes out and prepare now for April next year.

The committee members are working hard at progressing our 30th Anniversary celebration lunch and we will have some amazing merchandise, special guests, and other memorable items available on the day to ensure we celebrate the occasion. Make sure you have a 'Save the Date' in your calendar for Sunday 22nd October 2023. Bring along a friend past or present member or colleague, aim to fill a table of 10. The more the merrier. This event is a great event to promote to our younger serving members as they are the future of PPWPA.

Our 2023 Sandy Langlands Wellbeing Grant nominations are up and going. If you believe that a member requires some special care or some time out to repair and rejuvenate, nominate them for one of our grants. Better yet nominate yourself. Your health and wellbeing should be your number one priority nothing else is more important.

We are honoured to congratulate Detective Senior Sergeant Joy Murphy APM, recognised by the International Association of Women Police as the longest serving female police officer in the world. Joy who is now in her 51st year of policing was awarded a Medal of the Order of Australia for service to the community through emergency response organisations in the 2023 Kings Birthday Honours List. Congratulations Joy for your dedication to policing and your service.

After reading Joy's bio my 32 year's service seems like I just graduated. One thing that I have learnt from being a part of the PPWPA family is we are a group of women that celebrate amazing achievements and by coming together it gives us the opportunity to learn. On that note I would like to leave you with these words – Pass the truth to the next generation by teaching them early what we learnt late.

I look forward to being your president until the next AGM and can't wait until our next event

Cheers

Gerry McKenna Inspector – Local Area Commander Yarra Ranges





03 Member Profile

Inspector Gerry McKenna

After qualifying as a hairdresser in 1990, I decided to change direction and hand in my hairdryer for a gun. Graduating in October 1990 my training station was Sandringham. The start of my life in the greatest show on earth. During my 33 years I have been lucky enough to see amazing changes for women in policing. My career has been predominately crime oriented with the majority of my time investigating drug related crime. I am currently the Yarra Ranges Local Area Commander and loving the community aspects but also supporting and mentoring members.

One of the most memorable changes to the job that I have noticed is the flexible working arrangements and the number of members that are initiating this process. The introduction of welfare/quiet rooms that are multi-purpose for nursing mothers, prayer rooms or time out areas for members that have attended traumatic events.

I have been fortunate enough to be involved in PPWPA for the past 4 years and also Australasian Council of Women in Policing (ACWAP) for 4 years. This has given me the opportunity to engage with some amazing women worldwide and make some lifetime friends. Last year I was fortunate to be selected to represent Victoria Police in Canada at the International Association of Women Police (IAWP) event in Niagara Falls.

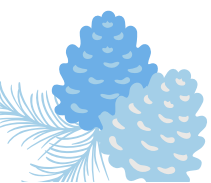
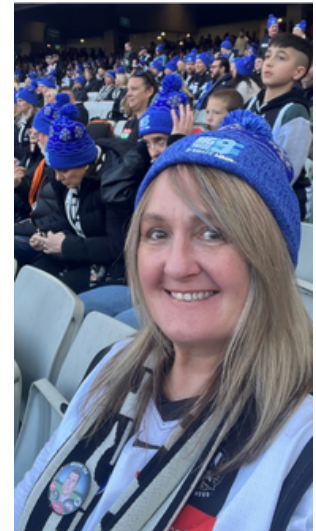
Policing has developed my ability to assess people's intentions and at times makes me a little non trusting of strangers, which assists me on Tinder 😊. One of the disadvantages of this means I close off to people that and get the "vibe". (We all know what that vibe is, I'm sure)

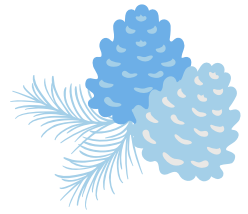
Outside of work I am a single mum to a 16 year old daughter, who keeps me on my toes and teaches me all about the good things in life, how I'm an on call ATM, social media inept and how to decipher the new English language.

My favourite down time, and I say to assist my wellbeing, is to travel the world. My daughter and I have seen some amazing places and our plan is to visit every Disney in the world. We have Tokyo to go as we have a Disneyland cruise booked in February, this could end in tears considering I get sea sick.

I love basketball and of course the best team in the AFL is Collingwood, and I can see a grand final in my near future.

My best advice for policewoman starting their career is to learn your trade, don't rush it and find a mentor and support person. These people don't have to be women just someone you trust and jell with. Don't get tied up with all gossip and crap that you hear along the way, but most of all believe in yourself.





04 February 2023 Policewomen Reunion Lunch

For the February reunion lunch, we returned to one of our favourite old haunts, Billy Bells Hotel in South Melbourne, which has undergone a significant renovation. We enjoyed the ambience of the rooftop Main Hall, with sweeping city views of Melbourne's skyline. It was lovely to welcome new faces to the lunch as well as our loyal attendees. Beryl and Kieran Klemm travelled from Londrigan, near Wangaratta after a few years absence. Lil Irwin was not able to make it but as usual, Moira Prosser was there.

Our President, Janet Mitchell, welcomed everyone to the lunch.

Marnie Sheehy lit the memorial candle in remembrance of our members and policewomen, who had passed since we last met.



- Nuala Woods
- Faye Sheehy
- Yvonne Eastaugh
- Leanne Smith



25-year membership pins were presented to:

- Sue Krauklis (29 years) – Inaugural membership secretary 1993 to 1995 and committee member 1996
- Edna Meadows (29 years)
- Lyn O'Keefe (29 years)
- Megan Billington (28 years)
- Lisa Edwards (25 years)





05 February 2023 Reunion Lunch cont.

We had many laughs, re-connected with colleagues of the past, continued friendships, and formed new ones.

Most went home with a raffle prize after the draw of the “world longest raffle”. Thanks to those who brought a prize to add to the raffle table.

Rhonda Brown extinguished the candle at the end of the day.



Sandy Langlands Well-being Grants 2023

Applications are now open for the 2023 Sandy Langlands Well-being Grants.

The individual grants of up to \$200 are available to provide practical support for our members. These grants provide an opportunity for members to focus on their own health and well-being needs and also to reach out to other members and make an application on their behalf.



The grant criteria are deliberately broad and recognise a holistic approach to addressing health and well-being needs.

The 2023 grants are again sponsored by BankVic and we thank them for their continued support.

Grant applications will close on September, 12 2023.

Any enquiries to ppwpacontact@gmail.com

The application form is at the end of this newsletter or can be found on our website at www.ppwpa.com



06 Update on Death and Disability Insurance (DDI) for members aged 55 and over

Some of you may have heard about the recent changes to Death and Disability Insurance (DDI) cover for Victoria Police members and those who have retired on grounds of ill health since 1 July 2022. TPAV has been involved in lengthy negotiations with the Government to fill the gap in DDI for members aged 55 years and over. The gap has prevented members between 55 and 60 years of age from accessing DDI cover. This has meant that these members were only entitled to a retirement benefit from ESSSuper, equivalent to their accrued benefit.

TPAV advises that their negotiations with Government have concluded and that, for the first time, members aged between 55 and 60 years can now access a form of DDI cover. This extends to those who have retired on grounds of ill health since 1 July 2022.

The result is an insurance-type product that will benefit members who have turned 55 and retire because of ill health. This will eventually be reflected through an amendment to the Emergency Services Superannuation Act. Until the amendment is achieved, Government has agreed to establish a dedicated fund to provide the benefit to eligible members. Eligibility for the payment is determined based on the threshold for an ill-health benefit under the Emergency Services Superannuation Act.

The benefit is paid as a lump sum that is calculated with regard to your age and a percentage of your final average salary, as follows:

| AGE | % of Final Ave Salary |
|-----|-----------------------|
| 55 | 100 |
| 56 | 80 |
| 57 | 60 |
| 58 | 40 |
| 59 | 20 |
| 60 | 0 |

The contingency fund will operate retrospectively from 1 July 2022. This means that if you have left the Force on or after 1 July 2022 between the ages of 55 and 60 years on grounds of ill health, you may be entitled to a lump sum payment in accordance with the above table. Please note that the payment will be in addition to your accrued ESSSuper benefit.

The scheme is administered by the Department of Justice and Community Safety (DJCS). They will liaise with Victoria Police to ensure eligible members receive their appropriate lump sum payment. cont.



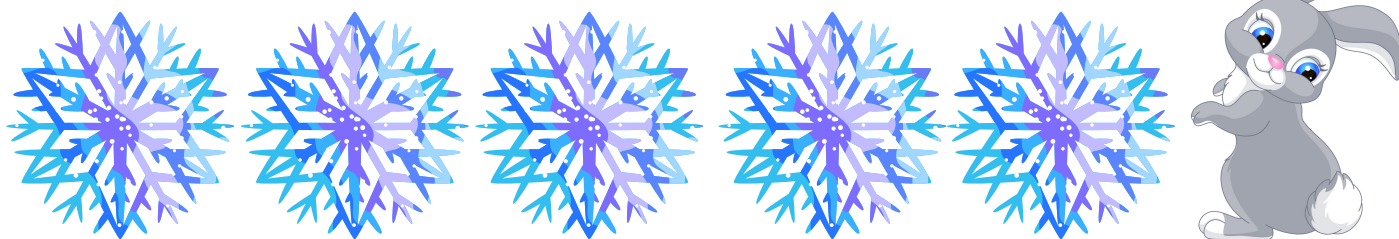
07 Update on Death and Disability Insurance (DDI) for members aged 55 and over (cont.)

How to make a claim

There are four possible scenarios that may apply, depending on your situation:

1. Current members can apply to ESSSuper in the usual way indicating they are retiring on grounds of ill health. ESSSuper will obtain your permission to provide your details to DJCS to enable eligibility to be assessed.
2. If you have already retired since 1 July 2022 and have advised ESSSuper at the time you were retiring because of ill health, ESSSuper will request your consent to provide your details to DJCS. They will contact you to arrange an independent medical examination. If the examination concludes you meet the test for a disability benefit under the ESS Act, then DJCS will determine the quantum. If the initial examination does not assess you as meeting the test you will be sent for a second examination. Similarly, if you are assessed as having met the test, DJCS will determine the payment.
3. If you have already retired since 1 July 2022 and you didn't advise ESSSuper at the time that you were retiring because of ill-health, you should contact DJCS via email at policecontingencyfund@justice.vic.gov.au
4. A member has died since 1 July 2022. ESSSuper will advise DJCS who is administering the benefit and that a death certificate has been provided. DJCS will arrange payment to the deceased member's estate.

If you have any questions about the recent changes to DDI, you are advised to get in contact with TPAV on (03) [9468 2600](tel:94682600) or by emailing general@tpav.org.au



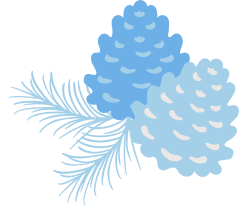
PPWPA Polos

Our new polos have proven very popular. We are selling them at \$34, which is cost price, including GST, plus \$9.55 postage. They will available at our next lunch in October, 2023. It is recommended to order one size larger than your normal fit.

STANDARD FIT - ADULT SIZING - SHORT SLEEVE

| | SIZE | 8A | 10A | 12A | 14A | 16A | 18A | 20A | 22A | 24A |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|------|-----|
| Back Length | A | 63.5 | 66.5 | 68 | 69.5 | 71 | 72.5 | 74 | 75.5 | 77 |
| 1/2 Chest | B | 45 | 47.5 | 50 | 52.5 | 55 | 57.5 | 60 | 62.5 | 65 |
| 1/2 Hem Circumference | C | 46 | 48.5 | 51 | 53.5 | 56 | 58.5 | 61 | 63.5 | 66 |





08 The Restorative Engagement & Redress Scheme

***Please be aware that this article discusses sexual harassment.**

Since its establishment, the Restorative Engagement and Redress Scheme has helped many members who have experienced workplace sexual harassment and sex discrimination to seek support and be heard.

The Scheme offers a range of options to former and current Victoria Police employees who have experienced workplace sex discrimination or sexual harassment, including counselling, a restorative engagement process and financial payments.

It is facilitated independently of Victoria Police by the Department of Justice and is all about acknowledging the wrongs that have happened in the past.

Participants may choose to participate in restorative engagement, which involves taking part in a conference (a private meeting) with a senior representative of Victoria Police to discuss their experiences, ask questions, and raise awareness of organisational improvements and strategies to prevent others experiencing what the participant experienced.

Restorative engagement conferences are available face to face through an online video meeting, or through the telephone or letters. They are a safe and constructive discussion. It does not involve any alleged perpetrator. Rather, it is an opportunity to share your personal experience with a senior Victoria Police representative in a confidential environment.

Senior Victoria Police staff have undergone specialised training to act as a Victoria Police representative in the restorative conferences.

Participants' feedback about restorative engagement has been positive, with members reporting they felt believed, the Victoria Police representatives were empathetic and authentic, and that the process was healing for them.

TPAV has supported members through the restorative engagement process, including by attending the conferences as a support person.

If you have a lived experience of workplace sex discrimination or sexual harassment within Victoria Police, we encourage you to consider participating in the Restorative Engagement and Redress Scheme.





09 Vale

Faye Sheehy (V108928)

Faye Sheehy was a much-loved member of the Victoria Police family as evidenced by the two tributes provided for us.

Janet Mitchell writes, PPWPA retired VPS Faye Sheehy passed away on 31 December 2022. She was the much-loved mother of our members, Marnie and Sally. Faye worked with Victoria Police for a total of 20 years between 1959 and 2003. Faye was a friend to all, an ally and supporter. During Faye's service at the Police Academy chapel, the Rev. Jim Pilmer observed in his introduction, "This isn't a full honour's Police Funeral, but it might as well be - we have the Chief Commissioner and three Deputies present. The chapel was full with many wonderful stories told. If you knew her, the stories will make you smile, if you didn't, you might wish you had. Faye was a friend to all, an ally and supporter. She is greatly missed.



Rod Porter, another friend of Faye's writes:

Faye was born on 24th October 1938 in St Kilda. She attended St Kilda Primary School with Graham Crawford, a life-long friend of Faye's, and who later became a Superintendent with Victoria Police. Her friendship circle was wide and varied: another life-long friend was 'Prisoner' star, Sheila Florence.

Faye was not only talented but also beautiful: she was runner-up in the Victorian Beach Girl Contest in 1957. In 1958, she won three State badminton championships and played an exhibition match with the Prime Minister of Singapore, Lee Kuan Yew. She later said she let him win so as not to embarrass him.

Like her friendship circle, Faye's work life was varied. She did many voice overs for ABC television and radio. She worked on the movie 'On the Beach', filmed in Melbourne in 1956 starring Gregory Peck and Ava Gardner.

In 1959, Faye joined Victoria Police as an unsworn and commenced work at the Police Depot until 1962. Faye later worked as a personal assistant to a number of the Executives at Channel 2, Elsternwick & at Channel 9.

Taking time off after the birth of two daughters, Faye returned to Victoria Police in 1987 as a receptionist at St Kilda Road Police Complex. In 1991, she transferred to Prahran Police Station. After the deaths of Steven Tynan and Damian Eyre, Rod Miller and Gary Silk, Faye was relentless in ensuring that a memorial wall in the foyer of the police station was erected in their memory. The project earned her a Chief Commissioner's Commendation, presented to Faye by the then Chief Commissioner, Christine Nixon.

Remembered as true and loyal friend, Faye had a knack for cheering up those who were down. With a great sense of humour, inappropriate language and a pen chance for talking over people, Faye was dearly loved and held in high regard.





10 Vale

Yvonne Robyn Eastaugh 18435 PW44

Yvonne joined Victoria Police on May 13, 1974. Working in many areas, she was stationed at Russell Street General Duty, A District Women Police General Duty, South Melbourne Policewomen's Duty, CIB Investigation Duty, CIB Drug Bureau, Licensing Gaming and Vice, Heidelberg Supervisor Duty and CIB Drug Squad, Kew.

Yvonne resigned on July 1, 1989 at the rank of Senior Sergeant.

Awards and Medals:

Commended for "initiative, diligence and intelligent interrogation, which resulted in the apprehension of four female offenders for theft, unlawful possession and several other summary offences" – 9/12/1975

Commended with one other for "courage, initiative and outstanding dedication to duty during an investigation which resulted in the arrest of four persons for trafficking in drug and a seizure of a large quantity of Indian Hemp" – 30/5/1980

Awarded the Chief Commissioner's Certificate for "professionalism, imitative and excellent teamwork displayed over a period of twenty-two months as a member of a joint Victoria Police and Australian Federal Police Task Force which resulted in the arrest of a number of persons on twelve counts of conspiracy to import narcotics into Australia" – 31/10/1983.

Commended for "dedication, initiative, and courage leading to the arrest of a potentially violent offender" – 12/2/1985.

Yvonne passed away on January 16, 2023 at the age of 69 years.



Leanne (Lee) Smith @ Pottage @ Chapman - 21345

Lee joined Victoria Police on November 27, 1978 and was stationed at Force Reserve (Training Station Prahran), Prahran Women Police, Traffic Operations Group – No. 3 Division Nunawading.

Lee resigned on April, 13 1985 at the rank of Constable.

Lee passed away on February 3 at the age of 66 years.



*Condolences to Faye, Yvonne and Lee's family & friends
May they rest in peace*



11 PPWPA Membership

The membership fee is due on 1 July 2023 for the 2023/2024 financial year.

The fee increased to \$20 from 1 July, 2020, however we still have some members who are only paying \$10. If you are paying your membership by annual direct debit, please check with your bank to ensure that the amount is \$20.

We are continually reconciling our membership list and have been emailing any member who is in arrears with membership. Thank you to the members who have responded.

Members who are not financial will be removed from the Facebook group and will not have the benefit of ongoing membership for the awarding of 25 & 30 year membership pins.

Account name – Past & Present Women Police Association

Account No - 912774S1 for BankVic members or A/C 100050864 for other banks.

BSB - 704230

If you have changed your home/postal address since joining, please let us know your new address to ensure you continue to receive our updates.

Leaving a gift in your will to PPWPA



Have you considered leaving a gift to the PPWPA?

By leaving a gift in your Will, you can assist the PPWPA with its work of continuing the friendships and connections made between women during their policing careers and beyond.

All gifts would be greatly appreciated and valued and would significantly help the PPWPA to offer ongoing benefits and support to members including scholarships and one-off grants.

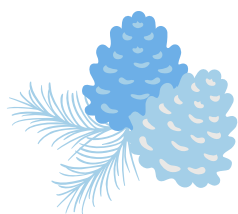
If you have a current Will, you should ensure that you regularly review and update it to reflect your current circumstances. If you wish to leave a gift to the PPWPA, you can make a Codicil to your current Will.

If you are yet to make your Will or are in the process of updating it, please contact us at ppwpacontact@gmail.com and we can provide you with the relevant details of the PPWPA and wording for the clause for you to include in your Will to leave us a gift.

The gift in your Will can take many forms e.g. a specific asset such as shares or other particular items of value or simply a pecuniary gift of a certain dollar amount.

Consult your legal advisor to ensure the option you have chosen best reflects your intentions and discuss your decision with your family and loved ones. This will ensure they understand and support your reasons for choosing to assist the PPWPA in such a special way.

Once you have remembered us in your Will, please let us know.





12 PPWPA events for your 2023 Diary



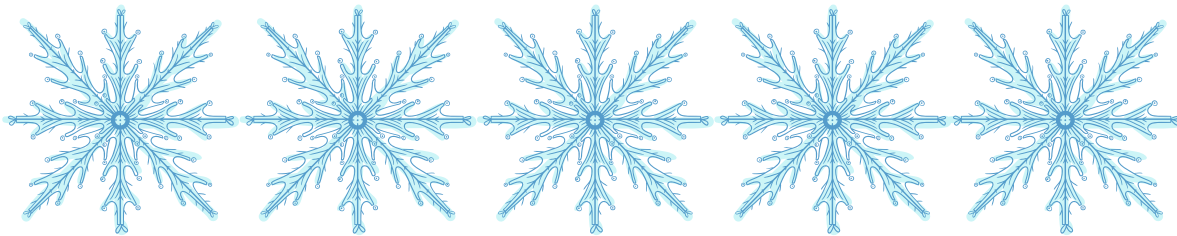
Friday September 29
Blue Ribbon Day and National Police Remembrance Day



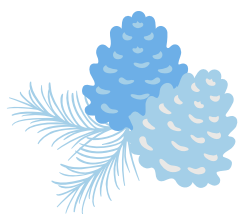
Sunday October 22 - Save the Date

PPWPA 30 year celebration lunch.

Planning is underway for this special event and more details will be available soon.



*Sandy Langlands Well- being Grant Application *next* page





Sandy Langlands Well-being Grant Application

The Past and Present Women Police Association of Victoria Inc.
ACN: A 0035417P

Sandra Joan Langlands, APM, Commander 17373 (Retired) was the inaugural president and a life member of the PPWPA.

The Sandy Langlands Well-being Grants are a lasting memorial to honour Sandy, who was very much a 'people-person'. She was always willing to give someone a hand and encouraged them to reach their full potential. In keeping with her kind, caring traits, the criteria for the grant has a very wide scope: how will the grant improve the well-being of the applicant.

Personal Details

Full Name:

Address:P/C:.....

Mobile:Home Ph:

Email:

Application Details

Summary of application:.....

Please attach details (up to 500 words) of the activity or item that you are seeking funding for, outlining the expected benefit of receiving a grant.

Amount applying for:

Terms of Grant

- Application to be made on this application form.
- Applicant must be a current financial or Over 70's member of the PPWPA
- Must have been a member of PPWPA for the 12 months preceding the close of applications.
- Five (5) grants of up to \$200 each are available annually.
- If an application is unsuccessful, the applicant may reapply the following year, however a person may receive a grant only once per three years.
- The application must describe the benefit expected from the grant.
- An application may be made on behalf of a person meeting the above criteria or by another member of the PPWPA.
- All decisions of the PPWPA Committee are final and will not be discussed.
- An application may be made prior to paying the costs involved: however, funds will not be transferred to a recipient until an appropriate receipt (or copy) is received by the PPWPA.
- Applications close on 12 September, 2023.

All enquiries to: ppwpacontact@gmail.com

Please forward your completed application form to: ppwpacontact@gmail.com or

Post to: **PPWPA, PO Box 104, Sandringham. VIC 3191**



The grants are kindly sponsored by **BankVic**