



the CITATION

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY POLICE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

No.8. November 1996

VALE YOUNGIE

It is with sadness that we report the passing of a Life member of our Society, Peter Young.

"Youngie" died peacefully in his sleep on Friday night, 8 November, 1996, after a very long battle.

He was busy on the phone the week before, reminding everyone that it was "that time of Year" again.

Meaning it was his birthday! (15 November) and as custom would have it.....all the "oldies" would gather at "Youngie's" with a plate in one hand and a few tinnies in the other, and celebrate another year for Pete.

Unfortunately Pete didn't make it to the Saturday night as arranged, but at the gathering after the funeral, everyone, and I mean everyone, had a "Youngie" story to tell.

Our condolences to Rita, Brigid, Katie, Jim and Michael and their families.

"UP THERE CAZALEY!"



Members, past and present, pay tribute to a former officer Thomas Cameron Brash White, as they mark his grave in the Alice Springs Memorial Cemetery.

Left to right: Supt. Iain Morrison, Chaplain, Rob Kirwood, Supt. Warrick Owen, Supt. Bob Payne, Sgt John Nixon, Sen. Constable Mike Petery, Mr Bill Waudby, Mr Perry Morey, Sen. Constable Bob O'Keefe, Sgt Rob Burgoyne, Sen. Sgt. Trevor Bell, Mr Bob Darken, Sgt. Garth Macpherson and Alice Springs Mayor, Andy McNeill.

Photo courtesy of the Centralian Advocate

WE REMEMBER A COLLEAGUE

Our members in Alice Springs were busy in September, continuing one of the charters of the Society, in maintaining Police graves around the Territory. They marked the grave of a former Police Officer, Thomas Cameron Brash White. This is a story by Garth Macpherson.

TOM WHITE

• 22/11/1888 - 10/8/1959

Thomas Cameron Brash White, in total, served as a police officer for 34 years: 2 years in South Australia and 32 years in the Northern Territory.

He retired in Alice Springs on his 60th birthday and went to work for Transport and Works, in charge of stores and equipment. He did not enjoy the best of health in his later years, and he died on 10 August 1959. Two days later he was buried in the Church of England section of the Memorial Cemetery at Alice Springs. (Section 5, Row B, Plot 21)

The grave was unmarked but through enquiries with the Council it was soon located.

Bob Darken, an old mate of Tom's, heard that the NT Police Historical Society were planning to erect a slab and marker on Tom's grave, and he was keen to become involved.

Donations were received from Centre Landscaping in the form of cement and pre-mix, and my daughter's boyfriend, a builder by trade, donated some reinforcing wire and tools to finish the job. I had a small brass plate for a marker, (cut to size by Steel Connections), and with the engraving and lugs completed, it was placed on the grave. For a couple of amateurs, the job turned out fairly well, then it was just a matter of attending a couple of times a day to water down the concrete to stop it cracking.

On October 3, 1996, a short service was conducted by the Police Chaplain, Rob Kirwood, with several members attending. Former members included Bob Darken, (ex Mounted Constable and Pastoralist of Mount Wedge Station) Perry Morey, (son of the late legendary M/C Ted Morey) and the Alice Springs Mayor, Andy McNeill (former Assistant Commissioner in Alice Springs.)

Bob Darken was at his best when called upon to say a few words in honour of his old mate, who incidentally was nick-named "Revolving Tom" by ex-member Dave Moflin, for his habit of using the words "turn around" in his conversations. Those who remembered Tom White described him as a big jovial man, well liked and respected and always ready to help his fellow man. He was also a very good Aussie Rules footballer, a skill which he has passed onto his younger son Alan, who played over 100 games for West Adelaide. Copies of photographs and a video have been forwarded to the White family.

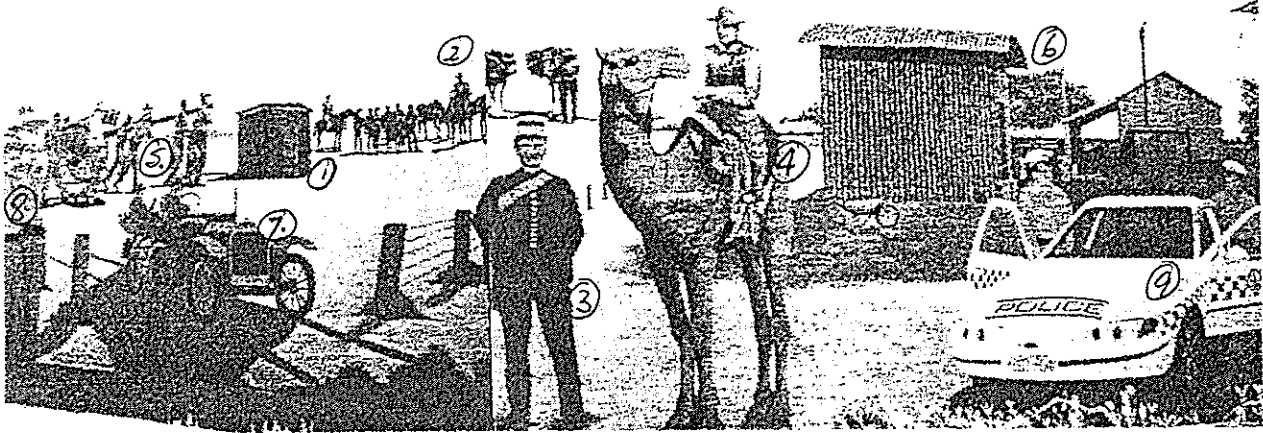
National Trust of Australia (NT)

STUART TOWN GAOL MURAL

In 1995 a tree collapsed in the walkway between the Alice Springs Court House and the Police Station. This got the local research officer for the National Trust thinking. Bruce Strong decided it would be a good idea to brighten up the area by painting a mural on the Court House wall.

In front of this wall stands the old Stuart Town Gaol, listed on the National Trust, and after Bruce received all the permission from the all the right people, it was decided that the mural depict the old and the present day of the Northern Territory Police.

The principal artistic work was by Bob Kessing of Desert Graphics, and he was ably assisted by Kay Kessing, Julie Burdis and Sue Richter. The mural was financed by the McDouall Stuart Branch of the National Trust, through the kind permission of the Office of Courts Administration, the NT Department of Law.



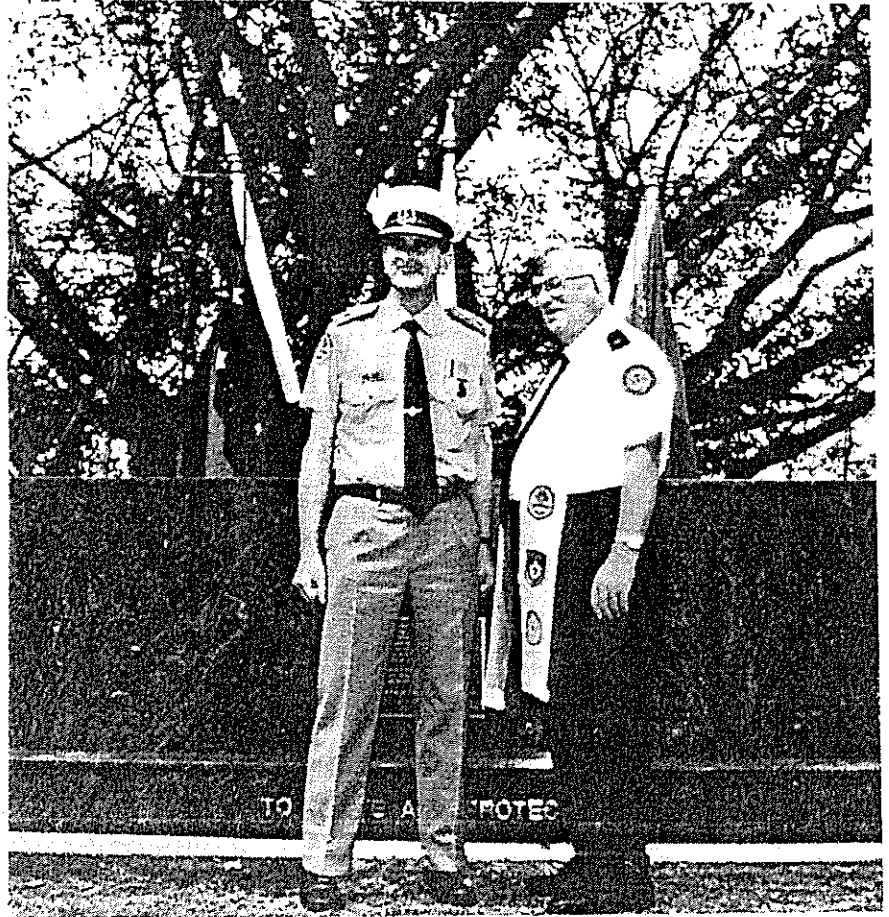
1. This depicts the old timber slab that was used at the Heavitree Gap Police Station until the Stuart Town Gaol was opened. It was only used to hold prisoners for short periods of time.
2. During the period to 1911, while the Northern Territory was under South Australian jurisdiction, prisoners were often sent south to Port Augusta, or north to Darwin for trial. This often necessitated walking prisoners to the nearest railhead.
3. A typical uniform of South Australian and Northern Territory Police in the late 1800's and 1900's.
4. Camels were introduced for police patrol work in the early 1880's. They were invaluable for long desert patrols. Motor vehicles came into increasing use in the 1920's and 30's. The final camel patrol took place in central Australia in 1953.
5. In this scene prisoners are working under the watchful eye of a warder in the 1930's. In the very early days this was one of the many duties carried out by the police.
6. This scene depicts the police station at Anthony Lagoon on the Barkly Tableland. The building at left was typical of the prison cells at such remote stations in the 1950's and later.
7. A very early police motor vehicle patrol, before 1920. It is depicted here on the border with Queensland, near Camooweal.
8. The modern Northern Territory police Force included female and Aboriginal officers.
9. Today's police patrol vehicles are a far cry from the first motor vehicles.

Special thanks to the McDouall Stuart Branch of the National Trust for use of their 'handout' details.

Memorial Wall Dedicated

The National Police Remembrance Day in Darwin this year, (27 September 1996) saw the dedication of a Tri-service Memorial Wall. It has been erected in Bicentennial Park on the Esplanade, opposite the Darwin Hotel. Made of granite, the wall is shaded by several trees and especially a large Banyan tree, from over the cliff, gives a tranquil setting for such a memorial.

Mr Mike Reed, the Deputy Chief Minister unveiled the plaque, and it was dedicated by the Police Chaplain, Dennis Dell.



Commissioner Brian Bates and the Police Chaplain, Dennis Dell at the dedication of the Memorial wall.



POLICE REMEMBRANCE BOOK

Another project which has been on the backburner for a long time, has finally been realized. A Remembrance Book which depicts all (as far as we can ascertain) the names, dates and the circumstances of Members who have died whilst serving members of the Northern Territory Police Force.

The Government Printer, Mr Ken Riley donated the work and leather in the cover, and he presented the bound book, to the Commissioner of Police Mr Brian Bates in September, on behalf of the NTGP and the Northern Territory Police Historical Society.

The book is on permanent display in the foyer of the Peter McAulay Centre.



Mr Ken Riley presenting the Remembrance Book to the Commissioner, Brian Bates.