



FROM COMMISSIONER ATKINSON



NATIONAL  
POLICE  
MEMORIAL

## National Police Memorial dedication and Remembrance Day

On Friday, September 29, I was fortunate, as part of a group representing the Queensland Police Service (QPS), to be present at the official opening of the National Police Memorial in Canberra.

The Queensland contingent included a number of officers who personally knew some of our members recorded on the memorial, along with other serving and retired police and families who are part of the Queensland Police Legacy Scheme.

After the official opening a formal function was held, with Queensland Police Minister Judy Spence able to attend in recognition of the event's importance.

My thanks to those of you from the Service, and our wider police family, who were able to make the journey on behalf of Queensland to be present at this solemn event.

In preparation for the formal opening ceremony each Commissioner was invited to provide a contribution to the official program, with Queensland's reproduced below:

*Whilst there have been many changes since the Police Department was established in Queensland in 1864, one aspect is constant: that the primary role of police is to provide for the safety and security of the communities they serve.*

*Safety and security underpin every aspect of our current and future quality of life.*

*The provision of safety and security is not without risk. Police have no choice in responding immediately to occurrences that are inherently dangerous.*

*No matter how professional, experienced, well trained and equipped an officer may be, there will sadly but inevitably be times when the dark forces of fate combine and an officer's life is lost.*

*That ultimate sacrifice deserves recognition and remembrance. This national memorial is an important contribution in that regard.*

It is a timely reminder of the balance that all police officers face in their day-to-day duties – between

the inherent dangers of law enforcement and the fundamental priorities of safety for all members of the public, including police officers.

From this issue of the *Police Bulletin* I hope readers will gain an understanding of the historical significance of the National Police Memorial dedication and the outstanding efforts and commitment that went into making it a reality.

I would like to formally thank Chief Superintendent Steve Hollands, Ethical Standards Command and Inspector Paul Fogg, Office of the Commissioner for their personal contributions to the preparation and planning for the attendance of the Queensland contingent.

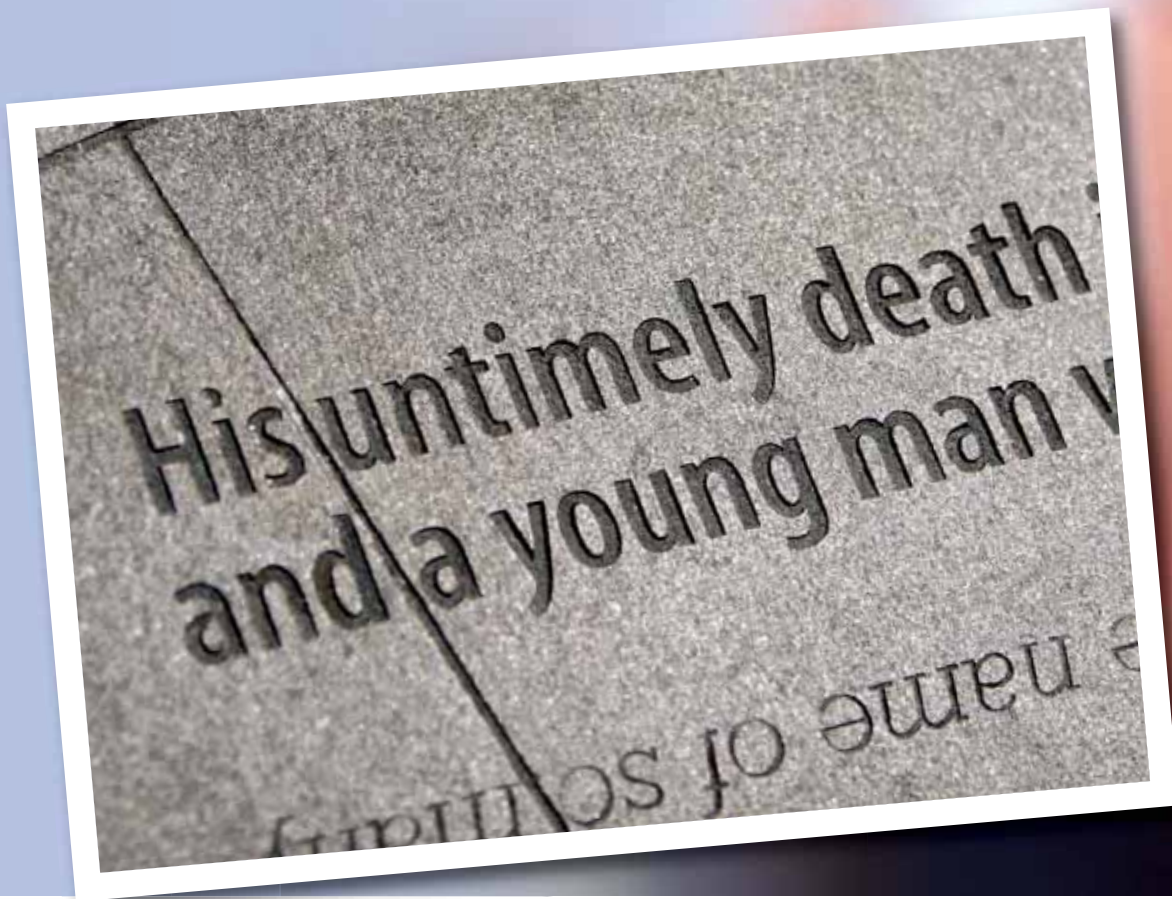
The personal stories told in this issue of the *Police Bulletin* highlight the extreme sacrifices Queensland police officers have made for their communities.

It is important to remember the good work of the fallen officers who have gone before us and to recognise their contribution to

making our communities safer, whether by attending future National Police Remembrance Day services or through the wearing of a blue ribbon.

I encourage all QPS members to reflect on the articles contained in this edition, and to honour those who are mentioned.

In addition, I trust you will all stay as safe as possible as you go about your important duties on behalf of our community.



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#### **Statement of purpose**

*Police Bulletin* is a free bi-annual public information document intended to provide a record of initiatives and achievements, an insight into the operations of the Queensland Police Service and base research to interested members of the community. Each edition is available from police stations, district and regional offices, and Police Headquarters, Brisbane.

#### **Front cover**

Inspector John Brand with his tribute to Senior Constable Lyle Hoey - a former colleague and friend who was killed in the line of duty (see page 18). Cover photographs by Senior Constable Deon Williams, QPS Photographic Section.

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The stories contained in this issue of the *Police Bulletin* are representative of the 135 police officers on the Queensland Police Service Honour and Remembrance Rolls. Thank you to all the family members and police officers who told their stories and contributed to this issue.



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