



# Tune in to Police Media for the latest news

They may not know the branch but anyone who has read, watched or listened to the news in Queensland will be familiar with its work.

The Queensland Police Service (QPS) Media and Public Affairs Branch (MPAB) offers a 24-hour statewide service to police and the media.

Through media organisations and the QPS website, the branch keeps the community informed of current policing activities, crimes in the community, significant arrests and safety messages.

MPAB members issue numerous media releases a day, coordinate media conferences and liaise with police and journalists to help form the basis of police-related news coverage in Queensland.

Media releases can incorporate comfit images of the offenders, photos of missing people and security vision of a crime in the hope someone will come forward with information which could help solve a case.

Members of the branch hail from a range of backgrounds including journalism, corporate communication and operational policing.

In addition to staffing the media operations room, they attend major incidents or crime scenes to help police with media management and ensure accurate and timely information is released.

Recent examples include community unrest in the far

northern town of Aurukun, a counter-terrorism exercise in Cairns, the annual Schoolies festival on the Gold Coast and incidents linked to the Echo Shine investigation of sexual assaults on Brisbane's north side.

MPAB staff members also coordinate events such as the annual Police Commissioner's Christmas Carols, public affairs campaigns such as Crime Prevention Week, QPS publications and provide media training to police.

Media training is delivered at various phases of a police officer's career and can take the form of theoretical presentations or practical role

play exercises at various locations throughout the state.

The branch also encompasses the Police Pipes and Drums – which played to rave reviews as Australia's sole representative at last year's Edinburgh Military Tattoo in Scotland – the Police Museum and Graphic Design Services.

For up-to-date police news, visit the QPS website at [www.police.qld.gov.au](http://www.police.qld.gov.au) go to the "News and Alerts" menu and click on "Media releases". ■