

Committed to providing a safer community for all Queenslanders

Sadly, September has seen the passing of another member of the Queensland Police Service (QPS) with the death on September 9 of Senior Constable Greg Hogan, Officer in Charge, Rolleston Police Station.

A Memorial Service for Greg was held in Rolleston which was very well attended by the Rolleston community and by family, friends and colleagues from around Queensland. Greg's funeral service was held at Dalby.

It was pleasing to see the level of community support for Greg, his family and the QPS.

It was obvious that Greg was held in high esteem by the community he served. It reaffirms the importance of police to the Queensland community particularly in small country towns.

The QPS operates in an increasingly dynamic environment. It is responsible for providing 24-hour-a-day policing services to a population approaching four million across an area over 1.7 million square kilometres.

Policing has necessarily changed over recent years from focusing on state-based issues to a broader approach that ranges from unique local-based strategies to national and international collaborations.

Increasing demands upon policing organisations, including the QPS, require a focus on improving performance.

The key area in terms of organisational performance for the QPS has been the Operational Performance Review (OPR) program which was introduced in 2001. OPRs are intended, among other things to:

- improve the Police Service's efficiency and effectiveness by focusing on results, good practice and successful initiatives

- encourage and develop advanced planning processes across the Police Service
- promote problem-oriented, intelligence-led policing across the state.

The OPR process involves the performance of each of the 29 districts statewide being analysed through a close examination of crime and clear-up rates, as well as a range of other measures such as human resource management and financial management.

The QPS contributes significantly to the national agenda. To improve policy and also cooperation, a series of meetings are held each year between Australian and New Zealand Commissioners and also Police Ministers. This year the QPS has hosted the series of conferences.

The many important items considered by the conferences have included a number sponsored by Queensland.

These include a National Child Abduction Alert System; DNA Future Directions Strategy; Establishment of an Australian National Victim Image Library; and Discharge of Psychological Duty of Care Obligations for Police Personnel.

A subject central to meetings of Commissioners and Ministers since 2001 has been the issue of counter terrorism.

Addressing the risks posed by terrorist activities comes in many forms and the QPS is a key stakeholder in national arrangements to prevent, respond and recover from a terrorist event.

At the national level the QPS is represented on the National Counter-Terrorism Committee.

The QPS maintains the Specialist Services Branch (SSB), Counter Terrorism Coordination Unit and the Security



Intelligence Branch. All of these areas support our counter terrorism capability in various but coordinated ways.

SSB, which features in this issue of the *Police Bulletin*, comprises the: Diving Squad; Dog Squad; Emergency Ordnance Response Team (Bomb Squad); Marine Technical Unit; Mounted Unit; Negotiators; Public Safety Response Team; Railway Squad; Special Emergency Response Team and the Water Police.

SSB is but one of the many areas of the Service that contributes to the overall policing response to Queensland.

While there is always scope for improvement and no room for complacency, the people of Queensland can have confidence that their police service and its 13,000 members, both officers and staff members, are committed to their primary goal of providing for the safety and security of all people in our state.