

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

For the Period 1st July to 30th June 1980

Presented at the Branches Annual General Meeting
31 July 1980

The Branch programme during the past year has been a full one and has, it is suggested, catered for a variety of people who have a real interest in crime prevention. It is perhaps noteworthy that while attendances at some of our meetings have been disappointing, we have, in fact, shared our activities with in excess of two hundred and fifty individuals during the past year.

Following our last Annual General Meeting the first major event was the National Conference held in Hobart in August. This was the Council's Tenth Biennial Conference and it was very pleasing to see such a good representation for Victoria, most of whom were members of the Council and of course our Branch. The Tasmanian Branch who hosted the Conference, excelled themselves, and we have already extended to them our congratulations and thanks.

A total of fourteen speakers including His Excellency Sir Zelman Cowen, Governor General of the Commonwealth of Australia, who opened the Conference, addressed themselves to the theme of the Conference, "The Community and Crime Prevention". The quality of the speakers and the manner in which they handled their subjects was extremely high and I would urge those of you who were not able to be present to secure a copy of the Conference Proceedings. These are available from the Secretary for \$8.

The Branch programme for the year follows:

23 August Madame Inez Dussuyer
 Department of Criminology
 University of Lyon ii
 France

Madame Dussuyer who was one of the speakers at the Hobart Conference very kindly agreed to speak to Branch Members at very short notice.

Our speaker drew on her research into public attitudes to police in France and what the public believes to be true about crime, the inaccuracies of this, and the resultant implications.

There is a general pre-occupation about crime and in a number of quarters a considerable momentum to "do something" about the problem. While in some degree concentrating on the police role in crime prevention, Madame Dussuyer did not minimise the importance of other social control agencies.

She referred to three possible styles of policing — the "reactive" which consists of a high state of readiness to respond quickly — the "preventive" which relies on high visibility — the "pro-active" which seeks to reinforce social discipline and mutual trust in communities.

Madame Dussuyer's address was both interesting and stimulating and the questions that followed ultimately had to be discontinued as time ran out.

23 September Mr. David Biles
 Assistant Director (Research)
 Institute of Criminology
 Canberra
 Crime Prevention — The Size of the Problem

Mr. Biles has had a long association and very real interest in the Criminal Justice System which started in this State.

Our speaker advised that in 1962-1965 the crime rate in Australia was 756.5 per 100,000 of population but by 1977-1978 it had increased 1952.6 per 100,000.

Mr. Biles then suggested that while there was a general

tendency towards an increase in crime in Australia as a whole, the different crime rates for different States and Territories were of particular interest and worthy of close scrutiny. He further suggested that the effects of social, economic and educational policies should also be examined.

He concluded his address by suggesting that while crime is clearly a matter of wide-spread concern he did not feel that his findings could justify panic or a demand for even harsher penalties. Mr. Biles added that violent crime rates in Australia are generally low by international standards.

Those of you who are interested in Mr. Biles' paper can obtain it from the Australian Institute of Criminology.

13 October All day Seminar held at LaTrobe University
 The Unconvicted Prisoner — Problems of
 Today and Tomorrow

The Seminar was opened by Mr. John Van Groningen formerly Superintendent at Pentridge Prison. Mr. John Dawes, Director Correctional Services Division, Department of Community Welfare Services spoke on "Future Plans".

Mr. Colin Bevan, Assistant Director (Training) of the Australian Institute of Criminology addressed himself to "Minimum Standards".

Doctor Robert C. Myers, Psychiatrist spoke on the "Problems of Remand Prisoners".

The main part of the afternoon session was devoted to "Problems and Solutions" and the following formed a panel:

Mr. M.W. Gerkens Stipendiary Magistrate
Mr. G. Madden Public Solicitor
Mr. D. Weedon Prison Governor Pentridge
Mr. T. Trevaks Ex-Prisoner
Inspector D. Scott Prosecutor Victoria Police
Mr. M. O'Brien Victorian Association for the Care and
 Re-settlement of Offenders (VACRO)

Each of the panel presented a 10-15 minute paper and then answered a wide range of questions.

The day concluded with six resolutions from the floor to be communicated to the Minister for Community Welfare Services, the Attorney General and the Minister for Health.

Ms Cheryl McKinna, a member of our Committee, then summed up today's proceedings in a most able and concise manner.

Unfortunately our tape recorder was out of order and a delay in the printing of the day's proceedings has resulted. They will be available very shortly.

25 October Evening Meeting
 General Branch Meeting

The evening was devoted to General Branch business and there was no guest speaker. Your Committee was anxious to ascertain the views and wishes of the membership and were extremely grateful to those who attended. The programme that followed was very much the result of the meeting.

22 November Evening Meeting
 Speakers
 Mr. Ross Vincient, Security Manager,
 Clark Rubber Pty. Ltd., and
 Detective Senior Sergeant John Muir
 Crime Prevention Bureau
 Victoria Police
 Community Involvement in the Preven-
 tion of Stealing from Employers

Continued from previous page

Both speakers covered a very wide area much of which was new to those present. We also learned of the considerable co-operation that exists between the security side of private enterprises and police although at some levels of management, there is a reluctance to, "rock the boat".

Theft from employers occurs at all levels and in a wide variety of ways. Detection requires increased skills by more people.

The very extensive role played by the Victoria Police Crime Prevention Bureau came as a surprise to many. We were equally surprised to learn that their advice is sometimes not utilised until too late.

More selective employment practices, more staff training, better stock control, improved management techniques were but a few of the steps mentioned as a way to reduce this problem.

28 February Evening Meeting
Speakers —
Ms Beverly McIntyre, and
Ms Sheila Walsh
The Education Role in Crime Prevention

Our speakers for this evening have a long experience in the educational field and in preparing their papers drew on their personal experiences in working with children while attending school.

One spoke from the point of view of a Guidance Officer and some of the difficulties that arise with problems at school and at home and the resolution of such problems between students, teachers and parents by Guidance Officers.

The second speaker who has undertaken voluntary work with one of the Community Welfare Services Department Attendance Centres, devoted some of her time to literacy problems and the consequences of this.

A message that came through very clearly was that, there is an urgent need for people to involve themselves on a voluntary basis with both offenders and those at risk, in the provision of remedial teaching.

27 March Evening Meeting
Speaker
Mr. William Clifford, Director
Australian Institute of Criminology
The Community Role in Crime Prevention

Mr. Clifford, whose association with the field of criminal justice and corrections spans many years, gave us a clear indication of the part an interested community can play in crime prevention. Our speaker stressed that Police Forces or for that matter, Government, are unable to undertake crime prevention without the co-operation and support of the community and further suggested that it would be undesirable to attempt this.

I would expect our Branch members to closely examine Mr. Clifford's paper and develop a plan for the implementation of at least some of our speaker's proposals.

17 April Evening Meeting
Speaker —
Senior Sergeant, Police Woman Janet Lowe
Police Women and Crime Prevention.

Senior Sergeant Lowe who is a very experienced and competent member of the Victoria Police Force pointed out that Police Women have always invested heavily in crime prevention.

While in no way distracting from the work undertaken by their male counterparts our speaker suggested that police women tend to have a better understanding of family dynamics as a lot of their work involves their dealing with children and mothers. Invariably they handle the victims of rape. Not

infrequently a degree of counselling is necessary in many of these cases.

22 May Evening Meeting
Speaker —
Senior Sergeant Gavin Brown
The Complexity of the Changing Police
Role in the Eighties

Senior Sergeant Brown based his paper on experience gained in an experiment conducted in an inner-suburban area — Integrated Community Policing.

The modest increase in resources allowed, resulted in some reduction in crime but considerably increased feelings of security by citizens.

White two smaller Police Stations ceased to function on a 24 hour basis, those that continued to provide a 24 hour service were able to provide a quicker response to calls which resulted in greater community satisfaction with the work of the Police.

19 June All day Seminar
Security — A Key to Your Future

This day was sponsored by the Victorian Branch in co-operation with the Retail Traders Association of Victoria, the Victorian Security Institute and the Victoria Police.

Under the Chairmanship of:

Mr. R. Hall, Assistant Commissioner (Crime)
Victoria Police.

Our speakers were:

The Honorable H. Storey, QC, MLC,
Attorney-General of Victoria,
who gave the opening address;
Mr. Peter Bible, Security Manager,
James McEwan & Co. Pty. Ltd. — Retail Stock Shrinkage
Mr. P.M. Bennett,
Chief Superintendent
Criminal Investigation Branch (Operations),
Victoria Police — Armed Robberies
Mr. J.D. Reilly,
Acting Assist. Commissioner (Narcotics),
Australian Federal Police — Drugs and Drug Related Offences
Mr. T. Guinan,
Aust. Protection Industries Pty. Ltd. — Commonsense and
Technology in Victorian Retail Industry
Mr. W. Mallett,
Security Consultant,
Mayne Nickless Pty. Ltd. Melbourne — Preventive Measures
for Use against Armed Robberies
Mr. J. Muir,
Detective Senior Sergeant,
Crime Prevention Bureau
Victorian Police — Minimising Drug Related Offences
Mr. D. Biles
Assist. Director (Research)
Australian Institute of Criminology,
Canberra — Summation of Day's Proceedings.

The printing of the days proceedings is currently in hand and copies are expected to be available shortly.

This seminar was, in our view, an extremely successful one and we are indebted to our co-sponsors, mentioned above.

13 July Visit to Jika Jika

Although outside the scope of this report, your out-going committee, through the courtesy of Mr. John Dawes, Director of Correctional Services, Department of Community Welfare Services, was able to arrange for members of the Branch to visit Jika Jika Pentridge.

Approximately thirty-five of our members spent over two hours in this new and as yet, un-occupied, new security complex which must rate as the most modern in Australia, and possibly the world.

Our members really appreciated the opportunity given by Mr. Dawes, and also the valuable Saturday hours given by Governor W. Tipping.

Your out-going committee has arranged a meeting for August 28th of which Mr. Robert Smith is to speak on "Terrorism and Hostages - Is Australia so Remote".

Also on 25 September we had hoped to devote the evening to "White Collar Crime in Australia", but this has not been finalised and we are unable to confirm the September meeting.

The incoming committee is of course, free to change these plans but as mentioned in last year's report, your committee felt that it was desirable for plans to be made in advance and allow the new committee more time to formulate plans. In the past it has been difficult for the incoming committee to organise meetings within the first two months of election.

I think you will agree with me that our activities during the year under review have been extensive. This has only been made possible by the co-operation and time given by our many speakers and to each of them we say a very sincere thank you.

All of our evening meetings have been held on the 8th floor of the Department of Community Welfare Services offices and we are deeply indebted to Mr. B.D. Bodna, Director-General for Community Welfare Services for his continuing interest and generous support.

Your committee continued to meet on a regular basis and attendances have been very good. A total of thirteen formal meetings have been held during the past year.

During this year your committee has given increasing attention to membership. For a State with a population of 3.8 million people our membership should be considerably higher.

out the aim and objectives of our Council. Your Committee

asks that each member use these to enlist the support and membership of people who have a real interest in crime prevention. We have set ourselves the target of trebling our membership this year. With your support and effort we can do this easily.

A.C.P.C. Forum published by the National Council, has maintained its previously high standard and there were five issues during 1979. Again we congratulate the Council on their efforts.

Several changes in the Committee occurred during the year. Mr. W. (Bill) Cuddihy who has been deputy chairman since 1973 offered his resignation last year but was prevailed on to stay. However Bill's many other commitments forced him to tender his resignation last year and this was accepted with considerable regret. His interest and support since joining our committee has been very considerable and contributed much to our success. We thank you, Bill, most sincerely and look forward to seeing you at our general meetings.

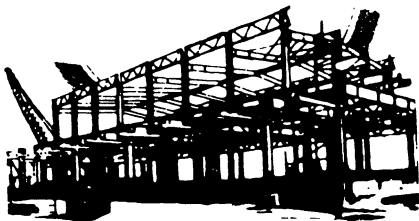
Nancy McConnan, who joined us as assistant secretary, found it necessary to resign last year. Although with us for a relatively short period, Nancy's willingness and organisational capacity helped us very considerably and we were very sorry indeed to lose her.

Tod Trevaaks, Detective Senior Sergeant John Muir and Barbara Penhall joined the committee during the year and each has contributed much and willingly shared the work load.

To every member of the committee including those who have resigned, I would like to say a personal thank you. Their willingness and spirit of co-operation has made my job much easier. Thank you each and every one of you.

Geoff Cuddihy

TREVOR JONES STEEL FABRICATIONS



DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION OF STEEL FRAMED
★ BUILDINGS ★ FACTORIES ★ MACHINERY SHEDS
★ TRUCK BODIES, ETC.

CRANE AND FORK HIRE SERVICE AVAILABLE

Call Deniliquin Phone: (058) 81 1921
Stewart Street, Deniliquin, NSW

DOUG YETMAN MARINE

1204 Lytton Road,
Hemmant. 4174

Chrysler Marine Engines
Sterndrives & Diesels
(Inboard/Outboard)

Diesels 50 H.P. to 200 H.P.
Petrol 150 H.P. to 330 H.P.

☆ Factory Approved Installations

☆ Wide Range of Spare Parts
(New & Used)

☆ Service and Workshop

Facilities Available

Phone 390 5090

A/Hours 208 9549

New Ford Falcon GL

Excitingly different in a new size that's
shorter and sleeker on the outside yet
designed efficiently inside to give more
passenger room

A world-class family car

On show now at

UFER FORD

**BENARABY ROAD,
SOUTH GLADSTONE**



Telephone (079) 79 1133 and
Hansen Road, Gladstone. Telephone (079) 72 3444