

**65 march
out as
year
nears end**

Forty-three constables graduated at the Australian Federal Police College, Weston, on 26 October in the last graduation parade for Protective Service constables wishing to convert to general policing.

The parade was reviewed by the Officer-in-Charge ACT Region, Assistant Commissioner Val McConagh.

The graduates were in Courses 7 and 8 of 1984, and had just completed 20 weeks of training.

Dux of the 24 officers in Course 7 was Constable Leanne Walton and most-improved was Constable Chris Kirkman.

Dux of the 19 officers in Course 8 was Constable Ken Harding and most-improved was Constable Brett Swan.

On 23 November, Course 9, with 22 members, graduated. The Commissioner, Major-General Grey, reviewed the parade. Dux of the course was Constable Debbie Simpson and most-improved was Constable Markus Schuermann.

Course 10, the last for the year, will graduate this month.

Top dogs grip crowd at airport field day

The audience of N.S.W. police, aviation experts, fire-fighters, ambulance personnel and a large, visiting Chinese delegation waited.

A loud hailer crackled and an unmistakably American voice boomed: "Ladies and Gentlemen, the AFP's display will show the abilities of attack and sniffer dogs."

The voice was that of Constable Lenny Coughlin; the venue Sydney's International Airport; the occasion the annual emergency services field day.

And the first 'act', the Airport fire services, was a hot and spectacular one to follow.

They simulated an aircraft fire and with thick, oily smoke clouds billowing hundreds of metres into the air, out came the foam fire cannons to rapidly extinguish the blaze.

Then it was the AFP's turn, as eyes turned to the small, four-cylinder car parked in the middle of open country.

Again the loud hailer crackled and Lenny Coughlin continued: "This is a genuine display. The dog doesn't know that explosives have been hidden somewhere in the vehicle."

"His handler does, but even he doesn't know where they have been placed."

The handler was First Constable Brian Earsman, the dog Mischa, a four-year-old German Shepherd.

Slowly dog and handler advanced



• Eastern Region Commander, Assistant Commissioner Ray McCabe (centre), with Mrs McCabe, inspects a helicopter of the New South Wales Police Air Wing. Looking on are Inspector Roache (far left) and Senior Constable Churchill.

anced and went through set and practised procedures. Mischa earned her keep by locating the explosive in the boot and somewhere inside the car.

"Next," said Lenny Coughlin, "it's attack dog Byron's turn to show his style."

Byron and handler First Constable Mario Mastroianni had the stage. And their routine was the much more spectacular.

"Halt," shouted Mario at the top of his lungs as they spotted an intruder — another Eastern Region Bomb Response Squad member, Richard Hawley.

Instead of stopping, he turned and fired — and fired again — as

Byron raced towards him. The dog swiftly brought him to heel by grabbing his arm (suitably padded for protection).

No amount of shaking could loosen Byron's grip and when the intruder made a second escape bid while being handcuffed, again Byron brought a quick and smart end to the proceedings.

In both cases, the routines had gone like clockwork. The audience applauded. The official Chinese visitors appeared the most impressed of all.

Mario Mastroianni had the parting words when he quipped: "The dogs are like film stars — they love to put on a show."

Head start in brains battle

Never let it be said that police aren't up on current affairs, politics, history or geography.

Canberra Region IPA members and friends who competed in the recent 'Battle of the Brains' quiz competition can settle any argument on that score.

As usual, the quiz caused great interest, competition and camaraderie among all who competed for a TAA trophy and silver tankards donated by Design Time International.

"It was the fourth successive brains quiz competition, being a straight knock-out competition for teams of three — IPA members plus one other — the questions covering the four subjects mentioned above.

As the IPA's regional newsletter said, the winning team, 'The Roarin' Fraudies' of Danny Howard, Gordon Williamson and Geoff Crawford, may have had its difficult

times, but it was never headed.

By far its closest shave came from the 'Whipped Cream' team of Bob Heggie, Roy Yeeles and Bob Hunter in the very first round. They tied on 35 points apiece.

However, in a tense final, which saw their opponents 'Three of a Kind' (Dave Kennemore, Rosemary Kennemore and Tim Gulliver) neck and neck up to round six, the Roarin' Fraudies went ahead by seven points in the final two rounds to win by 42 to 35 points.

Trophies were presented on behalf of the Commissioner by the Chief of Staff, Chief Superintendent Peter Dawson, with Peter Budworth acting as adjudicator, Mick Richardson as 'quiz inquisitor' and Bob Mitchell as scorer.



• Members of Eastern Region's Bomb Response Unit with stars 'Mischa' and 'Byron'. They are Constable Richard Hawley, First Constable Brian Earsman, Sergeant Bill Williams, First Constable Lenny Coughlin and Senior Constable Mario Mastroianni.

Tropic dress

Australian Federal Police in the Northern Territory have changed their uniforms from khaki to traditional blue.

With the Protective Services Branch becoming part of the Department of Administrative Services, there will be fewer AFP officers wearing uniforms in the north.

But because of tropical heat, blue shorts and dark blue socks with a grey wide-brimmed hat will be made available for officers who do not wish to wear long, dark blue trousers.

AFP members will now be distinguishable from Northern Territory Police, whose members wear khaki uniform.



• The judge's table, Peter Budworth, Mick Richardson and Bob Mitchell.



• The winning team, Geoff Crawford, Gordon Williamson and Danny Howard, receive the TAA Trophy from Chief of Staff Chief Superintendent Peter Dawson.