

Barton College loses long-time worker



Mrs Irene Shelley (c) at her retirement function with Commander John Dau (l) and Commander Rod Leffers (r).

AT the retirement function for Mrs Irene Shelley at Barton College, a staff member said, "Irene has always brought a little sunshine into the hallways of the College and she will be sorely missed by us all."

The recruits and course members who have passed through the College over the past 12 years would have to agree. Irene retired as Housekeeper to Barton College on Friday 27 March and was treated to a send-off over a morning tea hosted by Commander Rod Leffers. Commander Leffers thanked Irene for her dedication to the smooth operation of the College and wished her well in her retirement.

Originally from Parramatta, Irene came to Canberra in 1978 after a three-year stint in New

Zealand. She started at Barton College in June 1980. She said, "I was originally employed as a temporary housemaid, but when the demand for courses increased I was made permanent." Originally employed by the Commonwealth Accommodation and Catering Service she and many of her fellow workers were kept on when services to the college were taken over by Advanced Food Services. Irene said she could write a book about all the pranks she has seen played at the college, especially around graduation time. "It was all in good fun," she said, but added that she has cleaned a lot of shaving cream off mirrors over the years. She said that she has enjoyed meeting course members from all over Australia and the South Pacific Region and was so inspired by one young man's description of his home State that she travelled to Western Australia to see for herself. She has seen many changes at the College since 1980 but the friendliness and co-operation of the police staff have remained constant and made work a pleasure.

With seven grandchildren, Irene said that she will have a busy retirement, but plans to work in the garden of her Canberra home in the quieter moments.

Corrections

to Platypus 34

- Northern Region's review of 1991's activities contained a misprint on page 3, column 1, line 18; the figure should read \$344,205.75 not \$34,205.75.

- On the lift-out calendar, the phone number for Philip Castle, Northern Region's Media Liaison Officer, should read: (07) 368 5916.

AFP photographer takes out national competition

AFP photographer, Col Ellis, attached to the Photographic Unit at Weston has won the 17th Exhibition of Police Photography of Australasia and the South West Pacific Region.

The exhibition was held in conjunction with the Conference of Commissioners of Police in Brisbane from 4-9 May.

Col won first place in the General category and was also placed overall competition winner for his photograph "Impending Storm", reproduced on the back cover of this issue.

"A great deal of dedication and planning went into capturing the shot," Col said.

"It took six months of watching weather reports and chasing impending electric storms in Queensland."

The winning photograph was taken near Rockhampton.

Col used a Mamiya RB67 camera with a 90mm lens and colour transparency film.



AFP photographer, Col Ellis